



# ***HOUSTON'S UNITED NATIONS DAY 2023 CELEBRATION***

**United Nations Association - Houston  
Wednesday, October 25  
The Junior League of Houston**

#USAforUN



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**HUMAN  
RIGHTS**

**75**

**Equality, Freedom and Justice for All**



Opening Reception Musicians: Houston Jazz Collective

Greetings Emcee .....Todd Duplantis

National Anthem .....Beatrice Emanuel-Sims

Welcome .....Daniel Stoecker  
*President, UNA-Houston*

**\*\*Universal Declaration of Human Rights by The Alliance Refugee Youth Mentoring Program  
Participants\*\***

**\*\*Dinner\*\***

Cultural Entertainment

Spoken Word Performance by LeChell “The Shootah” R.H.

Vocal Performance by Armando Hernandez

Keynote Speaker ..... Ann Johnson  
*Texas House of Representatives, District 134*

Presentation of Global Citizen Award 2023.....Nasruddin Rupani  
*Founder of Rupani Foundation & Ibn Sina Foundation*

Presentation of Global Citizen Award 2023.....Houston Afghan Resettlement Collaborative  
*The Alliance/ Daniel Stoecker, Catholic Charities/ Cynthia Colbert,  
Interfaith Ministries/ Martin Cominsky, YMCA of Greater Houston/ Stephen Ives*

Introducing Global Houston Model UN Program.....Partners

Thank You/Closing .....Dr. Rima Adil *Co-Chair, UN Day*



**Welcome to Houston's annual UN Day celebration**, with this year's program commemorating the **75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, fundamental rights to which all of us are entitled. All of the 30 articles in the Declaration are equally important human rights, interdependent and indivisible, expressing the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family. It is the most translated document in the world and has been ratified by every country. Much still needs to be done towards achieving these rights.

The United Nations Association of the USA, Houston Chapter (UNA-Houston) is among a movement of Americans dedicated to supporting the hope and promise of the United Nations. We gain inspiration from this Declaration, the UN Charter and The Global Goals. We believe that each of us can play a part in advancing the UN's mission for peace and justice in a more sustainable world.

Through our programs and initiatives, we are dedicated to educating, inspiring, and mobilizing Houston area residents to strengthen the United Nations system, promoting constructive United States leadership in that system, and achieving the goals set forth in the UN Charter. I invite you to join us throughout the year as a UNA-Houston member or partner.

Thank you for joining us tonight.

Daniel Stoecker, *President*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Daniel Z. Stoecker'.



## PREAMBLE

- ◆ Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,
- ◆ Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,
- ◆ Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,
- ◆ Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,
- ◆ Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,
- ◆ Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
- ◆ Whereas a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge,
- ◆ Now, therefore,
- ◆ The General Assembly,
- ◆ Proclaims this Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.



Shabana Aman  
 Amir Khan RaesKhail  
 Zahraa Hussein Al Abdallah  
 Mfurakzi Divine  
 Dteumerici Kamabale  
 Volodymir Shevchenko

Afghanistan  
 Afghanistan  
 Syria  
 Congo  
 Congo  
 Ukraine

Dari  
 Dari, Pashto  
 Arabic  
 Swahili  
 Swahili  
 Ukrainian





## EDUCATION



## ATHLETICS



# HELPING REFUGEES THRIVE

*Our mission is to embrace and empower those who seek refuge in the United States, providing the support, guidance and resources they need to build brighter futures.*

## FOOD SECURITY



## EMPOWERMENT



## SCHOLARSHIPS



## RELIEF

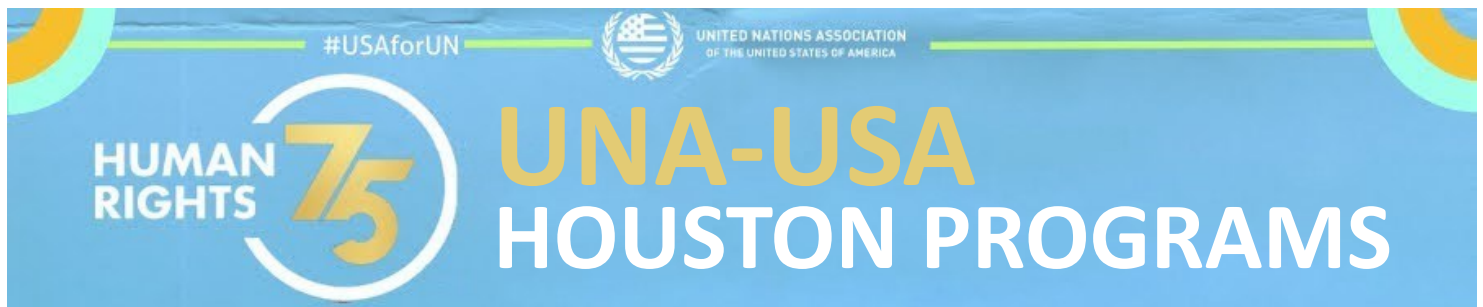


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# JOIN THE MOVEMENT



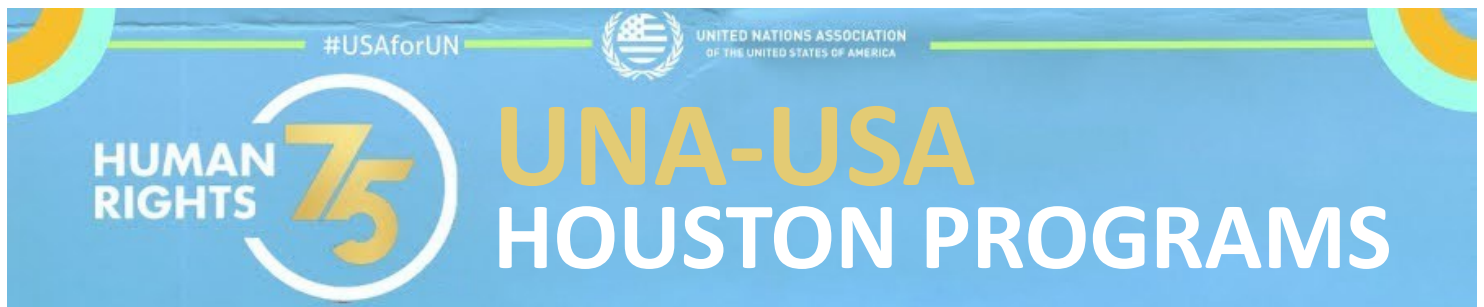
**Global Houston Model UN** – An innovative educational program that engages middle and high school students from districts throughout the region to learn in exploration of current world issues through interactive simulations and curricular materials. Global Houston Model UN cultivates literacy, life skills and the attitudes necessary for active citizenship.

**United Nations Association – Houston Chapter, The World Affairs Council of Greater Houston and Houston Community College** are excited to announce the first Global Houston Model UN Conference on March 23, 2024 at the West Houston Institute! Represent countries from around the world and solve the world's most pressing global issues! Sharpen your negotiation and communication skills by creating coalitions, debating solutions, negotiating terms, and drafting resolutions to tackle worldwide issues and conflicts. Show Colleges and Universities your passion as a global citizen while connecting with like-minded peers and global change makers.

**Houston's annual UN DAY Celebration** commemorates the signing of the United Nations Charter October 24, 1945 and renews our hope for and promise of nations to come together through the United Nations to find global solutions to global challenges.



**Dialogue With Diplomats/Cultural Dinner** series present quarterly opportunities for members and friends to share a meal and conversation with a distinguished diplomat from Houston's Consular Corps on international issues and the Global Goals from a particular nation's point of view.



**International Women's Day** (March 8) celebrates the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender equality, not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a prosperous, peaceful and sustainable world. UNA-Houston is currently championing an initiative for the City of Houston to declare support for the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).



**World Refugee Day** (June 20) was established in 2001 by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to honor the courage, strength and determination of women, men and children forced to flee their homes under the threat of persecution, conflict and violence. Since 2003, UNA-Houston has honored refugees as a participant in Houston's annual World Refugee Day event in association with the City of Houston, Houston Refugee Consortium, and many community partners.

**Human Rights Day** is observed by the international community every year on December 10, recognizing the day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Each year, UNA-Houston programs have included hosting speaker forums, sponsoring international choir performances or participating in community-wide commemorative festivals or marches.





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FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

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HUMAN  
RIGHTS

75

## PERFORMERS

## The Houston Jazz Collective



**Tim Ruiz– Bass**

The Houston Jazz Collective is a 501(c) non profit organization that prides itself on showcasing the rich legacy of Jazz in Houston. We strive to accomplish this by producing and hosting cultural, jazz and tribute related events. Past events have featured critically acclaimed Houston based or native Houston musicians that have gone on to achieve great international notoriety.

Some of these people have included but are not limited to Frank Lacy, Kirk Whalum, Billy Harper, Bob Dorough and Chris Dave. Some of the past events produced have been

“The Cobb 100” which featured Shelley Carroll and Kirk Whalum paying

tribute to the late great saxophonist Arnett Cobb.

Though the Houston Jazz Collective is a producer of events and educational outreach programs, it is also known as a jazz band or stated another way, “a collective”. The collective is comprised of well known, as well as local musicians or any musicians that believe in our greater vision.

Past configurations of the The Houston Jazz Collective as a jazz performance group have included

Bobby Sparks (Dallas-based organist side-man for Prince, Tower of Power, Marcus Miller, 'Angelo), Mark Simmons (George Duke, Al Jarreau, Kenny Garrett), & Andre Hayward (Wynton Marsalis, Roy Hargrove, Chick Corea) .



**Ben Clifton-Piano**



**Samuel Knight-Drums**



HOUSTON JAZZ  
COLLECTIVE

HUMAN  
RIGHTS

## PERFORMERS

**Beatrice Emanuel-Sims** was born in Detroit Michigan, but raised in St. Louis, MO. She was raised as an only child by her grandmother for whom she is named after. She received her bachelor's degree in marketing and MBA from St. Louis University.

She is a serial entrepreneur and has owned several businesses. Her most successful business is Sweet GrannyBea's, a provider of delicious southern classic hard to find desserts. In association with Sweet Granny Bea's is Soul Food Sundays a YouTube Cooking Show dedicated to helping families get back into the kitchen to fellowship, have fun, and share a fantastic meal. She is also the author of a Cookbook called Traditions and co-Author of The Viral Network, a guide to business networking. She is the co-owner of a second business called Inspired Edifice, a real estate company. Additionally, Bea is a professional fundraiser and has over 20 years of experience in the field, personally raising more than \$15 Million over the span of her career. Most recently, she worked as a Major Gift Officer at Prairie View A&M University where she played a role in the securing a \$50 Million gift, the largest in the University's history.



**Armando Hernandez** is known with his comprehensive classical training and a rich history of captivating theatrical performances in diverse venues across Cuba. Completed intensive lyrical studies at the prestigious Universidad de las Artes (ISA) in Havana, Cuba, alongside an Engineering degree in Information Technology. Hernandez is enthusiastic and versatile, adept highly skilled in interpreting a diverse range of musical genres. He is Proficient in Spanish and English, fostering effective cross-cultural communication. He is emigrated from Cuba in pursuit of the freedom to express oneself and to fulfill the aspiration of performing as a Tenor in a leading opera company. Originating from Cuba, young tenor Hernandez arrived in the United States on June 16, 2022. His musical journey began in childhood, singing at a Baptist church, igniting a lifelong devotion to music. Combining his passion and profession, he is currently a proud member of "The Voices of Houston," a distinguished professional chorus based in the local area.

**LeChelle "The Shootah" R.H.** Born and raised in Brooklyn, LeChell "The Shootah" R. H. is a Black Queer multidisciplinary artist who creates socially engaged works exploring the complexities and taboos of intersectionality through the lens of queerness, femininity, and mothering in Black womanhood. Her mediums include poetry, photography, film, and mixed media visual arts. As a poet, LeChell is a 3x Womxn of the World Poetry Slam finalist, finishing second in the world in the 2022 competition, and a finalist of the inaugural Stonewall International Poetry Slam(2021). She is the author of two full-length poetry collections, "Cause Therapy Ain't For Black Folks from Qwest Press and the self-published collection Jaywalking. Additionally, she has penned the chapbook "Flat Feet, Diabetes, and A Pretty Smile." LeChell has been published in Defunkt Magazine and graced stages throughout the nation. Her performances can be found on Write About Now and Button Poetry.





## Ann Johnson

### Texas House of Representatives, District 134



**Representative Ann Johnson** is a former Chief Human Trafficking Prosecutor, former teacher, and small business owner who works as an attorney in our criminal justice system for victims of sexual exploitation and those who cannot afford a lawyer.

Ann earned a BA degree from the University of Texas and her law degree from South Texas College of Law Houston. She worked as a briefing attorney for the Honorable Leslie Brock Yates, then a Justice on the Fourteenth Court of Appeals following graduation. She then worked as a prosecutor with the Harris County District Attorney's Office until 2005, when she then entered private practice with her father, Jake, at Johnson Law Firm PC. Ann and her father represented individuals in civil, criminal and juvenile matters. One of her most significant cases was *In re B.W.*, 313 SW3rd 818 (Tex. 2010) in which the Texas Supreme Court reversed the Harris County District Attorney's prosecution of a 13-year-old child for prostitution and created a framework for protecting child victims of exploitation and human trafficking. Ann was a founding member of the Harris County GIRLS Court (now called CARE Court), a special court dedicated to assisting children lawfully brought to the juvenile justice system who may also be victims of human trafficking.

In 2013, Ann returned to the Harris County District Attorney's Office to be the Human Trafficking Specialist. Ann successfully prosecuted some of the worst traffickers and her work eventually led to the establishment of the Human Trafficking Section where she served as the Chief Prosecutor until 2017. In addition to holding exploiters accountable. Ann worked to modify Harris County's approach to better identify victims who were misidentified as offenders with a model of "arrest as recovery, not conviction." Ann also established S.A.F.E. Court after receiving a Department of Justice grant to provide support to those 17 to 25 - years of age arrested for prostitution.

Ann has been an adjunct professor of law at South Texas College of Law Houston since 2001. She teaches courses on voir dire and jury communication, trial litigation and criminal defense. She is also an active member of the Texas Children's Justice Act Task Force. Ann is honored to have been elected to serve as State Representative for Texas House District 134 in 2020. A Houston native and youngest of six children, Ann learned her values and work ethic at home. Ann's father, former State Representative Jake Johnson from Harris County (59th and 60th sessions. And her mother, Hon Carolyn Marks Johnson, a strong sense of the honor and responsibility of speaking for those who cannot speak for themselves.



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## **Todd Duplantis**

With more than 30-years-experience in broadcasting, Todd Duplantis has spent most of his life in front of a TV camera and behind a microphone. Todd is best known in the broadcasting industry for his extensive coverage of Houston's most notorious moments, including the Enron finance scandal and the tragic story of the Andrea Yates family.

Todd was the first helicopter traffic reporter for KRIV in Houston, then quickly moved to full-time news reporter and fill-in anchor. Never one to shy away from the more rigorous elements of reporting, Todd has provided in depth coverage of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita for KRIV. Most recently, after posting several "Facebook live" reports that went viral during Hurricane Harvey, Todd was contacted by WFTS, Tampa Bay's ABC affiliate to report for their evening newscast.

In recent years, Todd has transitioned to the public sector, bringing his news savvy to organizations such as Gulf States Toyota and Houston Community College. In his leadership roles with these organizations, Todd implemented broadcast journalism principles that enables his teams to develop relevant public relations content delivered quickly and efficiently.

Todd joined Houston Community College in 2012 as the director of public relations for the Southwest College. In June of 2015, he returned to broadcasting and television production as he was named director of HCCTV. During his time at HCCTV, Todd launched a hybrid podcast/TV studio, anchors live daily reports and hosts several talk and entertainment shows. In August of 2016, in addition to his duties at HCCTV, Todd was appointed interim public information officer and spokesperson for Houston Community College.





# Proudly Celebrating

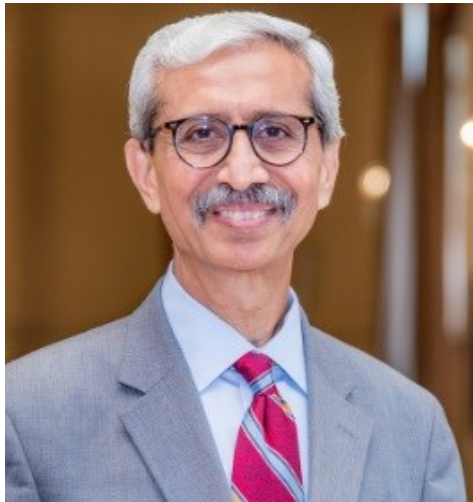
75th Anniversary of the  
Universal Declaration of  
Human Rights

Accomplishments of Honorees  
Mr. Nasruddin Rupani and  
Houston Afghan Resettlement  
Collaborative CEOs

*Opportunity for all.*







## **Nasruddin Rupani**

### **Founder of**

### **RUPANI FOUNDATION**

In the realm of Early Childhood Development, Mr. Rupani has displayed an unwavering commitment to providing quality education and care for young children, ensuring their holistic growth and development. Through innovative programs and initiatives, they have championed the importance of early learning and laid a strong foundation for countless children to thrive.

Furthermore, Mr. Rupani has been at the forefront of transforming education systems in these regions. Their tireless efforts have led to establishing inclusive and accessible educational opportunities for marginalised communities, empowering individuals of all ages with knowledge and skills for a brighter future. Right to ECD and access to quality education for every child is well manifested in SDG 4 as a global agenda. Hence contributing to UN agenda MR. Rupani, through his foundations, impacted over a million children and their families in the countries they operate.

In the face of climate change, Mr. Rupani has been a pioneer in promoting and implementing adaptation strategies to mitigate its adverse effects. Their expertise and leadership in sustainable development have inspired local communities and policymakers to adopt eco-friendly practices, ensuring environmental preservation for future generations. In the last ten years, his foundation enabled marginalized communities in Afghanistan to improve climate-sensitive livelihoods by planting over 20 million trees. Above all, Mr. Rupani has exemplified exceptional dedication in providing humanitarian relief to vulnerable populations in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and the USA. In times of crisis, such as COVID 19, Pakistan Floods 2022, and ongoing emergencies in Afghanistan, they have been on the ground, delivering aid, support, and hope to those affected by natural disasters, conflict, and socio-economic hardships. Their profound impact on the lives of countless individuals and communities is a testament to their unwavering dedication to global citizenship. Their selflessness, empathy, and transformative initiatives have brought about positive change and elevated the human condition in these regions. Without a doubt, Mr. Rupani is a true global citizen whose actions align closely with the UN's mission of creating a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. Their work embodies the spirit of international cooperation and solidarity, inspiring others to take up the mantle of positive change.





## **Houston Afghan Resettlement Collaborative (HARC)**

**The Alliance, Catholic Charities  
Interfaith Ministries, YMCA**

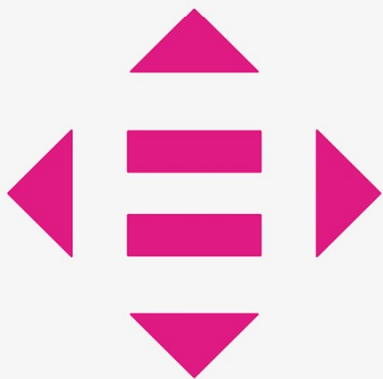
Four Houston based organizations operating refugee resettlement programs were asked by the US government to support the 2021 US humanitarian evacuation of approx. 85,000 Afghan allies with the relocation of approximately 6,000 afghans into the Houston area. Agencies started to receive individuals in August and September, with projections that the entire population would be resettled between October 2021 and March 2022.

The four nonprofit agencies - The Alliance, Catholic Charities, Interfaith Ministries and YMCA International – had never collectively resettled that many refugees in an entire year, particularly not in six months. Also, since this was an unplanned disaster response initiative, the federal government had not yet established the programmatic and funding mechanisms to fully support the relocation of this population. The agencies knew millions of dollars would be immediately needed to meet the sheltering and other urgent needs of so many people until federal programs would become operational to fully support other near-and-long term resettlement needs of these Afghan refugees. Facing this daunting disaster response challenge, the CEOs of the four organizations began to regularly meet with the intention to more closely collaborate to collectively find and share resources to meet time-sensitive emergency needs of these evacuees coming to Houston. The CEOs established the Houston Afghan Resettlement Collaborative (HARC) September 2021 for that purpose.

One HARC initiative was to establish the Houston Afghan Resettlement Fund (HARF) and campaign. An interagency agreement was established to coordinate and widely promoted giving to HARF through print, radio, television and online media. Houston Endowment kindly organized a forum for foundations to learn about HARF. In response to this humanitarian crisis and inspired by this unique collaboration, The Kinder Foundation and Houston Endowment each provide a matching gift of \$1,500,000. Houston Mayor Turner held a press conference with the HARC CEOs to confirm the City's support for welcoming our Afghan allies and their families, and promote giving to HARF. Additional funds were raised through generous donation from 188 individuals and foundation for a total of \$3,507,646 disbursed to the four organizations to serve the urgent needs of Afghan allies resettled as new Houston residents.

The HARC agencies continue to provide services to these 6,000 new Afghan residents through 2023, supporting their goals for integration, self-sufficiency, wellbeing and belonging.

# 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

[un.org/sustainabledevelopment/](https://un.org/sustainabledevelopment/)

## BEFORE COVID-19

INCOME INEQUALITY WAS FALLING IN SOME COUNTRIES



GINI INDEX FELL IN 38 OUT OF 84 COUNTRIES (2010-2017)

THE GINI INDEX MEASURES INCOME INEQUALITY AND RANGES FROM 0 TO 100, WHERE 0 INDICATES THAT INCOME IS SHARED EQUALLY AMONG ALL PEOPLE, AND 100 INDICATES THAT ONE PERSON ACCOUNTS FOR ALL INCOME

## COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS

THE MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS ARE BEING HIT HARDEST BY THE PANDEMIC



GLOBAL RECESSION COULD SQUEEZE DEVELOPMENT AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



RESOURCE FLOWS FOR DEVELOPMENT

\$420 BILLION (2017)

\$271 BILLION (2018)



54% OF COUNTRIES WITH DATA HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE SET OF MIGRATION POLICIES



## Children Everywhere Deserve Hope to Imagine their Future

Be the Peace - Be the Hope empowers underserved, low-income, minority students, including new immigrants and refugees, along with their teachers and families. We help them develop vital socio-emotional competencies, allowing them to increase their well-being, navigate life's challenges, foster success, become valuable community members, and work towards creating a brighter future.

Our supportive and guiding approach, using neuroscience, art, and mindfulness along with other disciplines, help to understand the unique experiences of today's children as they grow up in our society and infuse hope, love, and peace into their lives.

We believe that achieving collective change begins with individual transformation. By uniting our efforts, we all become integral parts of the solution, working together to create positive change for the betterment of our communities and beyond.

Join the movement! [www.BePeaceBeHope.org](http://www.BePeaceBeHope.org)

Contact us at: [info@bepeacebehope.org](mailto:info@bepeacebehope.org)





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# REDEFINING TOMORROW

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## RUPANI FOUNDATION'S NEW DAWN FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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In a lively Houston community center, amid giggling children and vibrant charts, Shahida Sultan from Rupani Foundation USA is a whirlwind of activity. Not far off, Neelofar Ali effortlessly shifts from paperwork to heartfelt chats with parents in fluid Dari. This isn't your typical school scene; it's the heartbeat of the 'Informed Parents' initiative, which champions quality Early Childhood Development for underserved families.

Initiated by Nasuddin Rupani, a business tycoon with a heart of gold, the Foundation gifts ECD courses to parents and children. And this initiative? It's a testament to Rupani's philanthropic vision.



Despite Houston's shimmering diversity, it battles daunting poverty rates. A jaw-dropping 300,000 children in Houston face the dark shadows of poverty. With limited access to quality daycare and looming closures of existing centers, the future looks bleak.

Enter Rupani Foundation USA – the city's glimmering beacon.

### Bridging the gap

"It's more than just numbers," asserts Mr. Rupani. Beyond economic barriers, cultural hesitations play a role. For many immigrant families, daycare isn't just daycare; it feels like sidelining rich cultural traditions.

But Mr. Rupani has a vision, "Parents, inherently, are a child's premier teachers. We're here to fortify that bond."

### Legacy Learning

The Rupani model? Simple yet revolutionary. Deliver stellar Early Childhood Education right to the doorstep. Neelofar highlights its magic, especially for immigrant mothers. The 'Informed Parents' program is not just for kids but enlightens their mothers too – a touch Neelofar lovingly dubs "Dual generation literacy".

"Imagine," Neelofar muses, "turning homes into learning sanctuaries. That's our dream." Mr. Rupani nods in agreement, the cornerstone of his mission: to empower every mother to be her child's ultimate educator.

In the heart of Houston, the Rupani Foundation USA isn't just teaching; they're transforming.

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The **Houston Chapter of the United Nations Association-USA (UNA-Houston)** is a non-profit, nonpartisan, 501c3 membership-based organization dedicated to building understanding of and support for the ideals and work of the UN among Houstonians. For the UN to function more effectively and to more fully achieve its goals, the UNA encourages the US to be actively engaged in all aspects of the work of the UN. UNA-Houston is the local chapter of the United Nations Association of the United States of America, which is a program of the **United Nations Foundation**.

Members and supporters of UNA-Houston recognize the contributions the UN system has made to maintain international peace and security, safeguard human rights, provide a mechanism for international law, promote social and economic progress, improve living standards, protect the environment, fight diseases and promote human rights. The UN provides the opportunity for countries to balance global interdependence with national interests when addressing international problems.

Since 1955, when Eleanor Roosevelt braved a visit to a segregated Houston to speak on behalf of the United Nations, UNA-Houston has been actively informing Texans on the work of this important world body to bring peace through dialogue and humanitarian action.

UNA Houston has been sponsoring year-round programs since the 1960s. The Houston Area Model United Nations (HAMUN), one of the largest and oldest programs of its kind, and UNA International Choir (now International Voices Houston) both grew in reputation and evolved into independent nonprofit organizations. Prominent among its current programs are Global Classrooms – now to become Global Houston Model UN, International Women's Day, UN Day commemoration, World Refugee Day, Human Rights Day, Cultural Dinners/ Dialogue With Diplomat, and other seminars and programs providing information, education and advocacy on the Global Goals for Sustainable Development."







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Matloob Khan  
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Sandija Bayot

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Dr. Rima Adil  
Carme Williams

## **Global Houston Model UN**

Sara Timms  
John Sigren

**Educate | Inform | Inspire**



*Raindrop Foundation Houston joins UNA-USA Houston in celebration of 75th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights on this United Nations Day.*



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AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

ISMAILI COUNCIL FOR  
THE SOUTHWESTERN USA

## Improving Quality of Life

With nine development agencies, the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) uses a multifaceted approach to improve the quality of life for the most marginalized communities, including South and Central Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East.

### Annual highlights

- Deliver **8 million** outpatient visits through more than **700 health facilities**
- Provide early childhood development to over **2.3 million** preschool children
- Teach nearly 1 million students through **200 schools** and **2 universities**
- Provide safe water to over **770,000 people**
- Generate **1.8 billion kWh** of clean electricity
- Provide financial services to over **50 million people**
- Train **40,000** community volunteers in disaster management & response
- Plant over **3.2 million** trees

### His Highness the Aga Khan and the Ismaili Community

His Highness the Aga Khan, the Founder and Chairman of AKDN, is the 49th hereditary Imam (spiritual leader) of the Shia Ismaili Muslims. Since 1957, as part of his mandate to guide the Ismaili community, he has been deeply engaged in issues relating to the quality of life and well-being of Ismailis and the countries and regions in which they reside. The Ismaili Muslims are a culturally diverse community living in over 25 countries around the world.

Please contact the Ismaili Council for Southwestern USA to learn more about AKDN's global initiatives, tour the Ismaili Jamatkhana and Center, or attend a local program in the Greater Houston Area.

[cpsouthwestusa@gmail.com](mailto:cpsouthwestusa@gmail.com)



In fragile and remote environments, progress is sustainable only if communities are ready to respond when disasters strike.



Our award-winning rural programmes help farmers manage their natural resources and generate alternative sources of income.





Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston's Refugee Services department, along with the U.S. State Department and Episcopal Migration Ministries, resettles legal refugees fleeing their homeland for fear of political, social or religious persecution. IM helps refugees from around the world make new lives in America. Over 90% of the clients we serve are productive members of the community within 6 months.

#### Programs of Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston

- Interfaith Relations and Community Partnerships
- Volunteer Houston
- SERVE HOUSTON
- Meals on Wheels and Animeals
- Refugee Services

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FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

At the Y, we know that positive change comes about when we invest in our community. When people have an opportunity to belong to the Y, the result is a more connected, inclusive and healthy community in which youth are nurtured, families strengthened, and the needs of all people are met.

**FIND A PLACE WHERE  
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Learn more about the YMCA of Greater Houston and how you can get involved.



**[ymcahouston.org](http://ymcahouston.org)**

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YMCA Mission: To put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all. Everyone is welcome.



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*All of us at Washburn & McGoldrick are honored to celebrate (or support) the important work of the United Nations Association and our colleague Carme Williams, CFRE, member of the Houston Board.*

## Contact Us



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# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice and tackle climate change by 2030.

