

## Saturday, October 27

*Gala Concert [optional/tickets required]*

### “Umm Koulthum National Orchestra of Egypt”

*Concert to benefit the Arab American National Museum*

8:00 – 10:00 pm  
*Detroit Opera House (bus transport provided)*

## Sunday, October 28

*Breakfast*

### AAI Leadership Meeting

(National Policy Council and Board of Governors)

9:00 – 9:45 pm  
*Greenfield*

### Networking Session for Young Professionals and Student Leaders

*Fairlane*

### Congressman Dennis Kucinich

Democratic candidate for President

Introduction: **Sarab Al-Jijakli**, Network of Arab American Professionals

9:45 – 10:15 am  
*Remaining sessions in Great Lakes Ballroom*

### Hon. Howard Dean

Democratic National Committee Chairman

Introduction: **Ramzi Dalloo**, Chaldean Democratic Caucus

10:15 – 10:45 am

*Video message*

### Senator Barack Obama

Democratic candidate for president

Presentation and discussion: Hon. **Anthony Lake**, senior foreign policy advisor

Introduction: **Samer Khalaf**, AAI National Policy Council, NJ Arab American Democratic Caucus

11:00 – 11:30 am

*Video message*

### Senator John Edwards

Democratic candidate for president

Presentation and discussion: Hon. **David Bonior**, campaign manager

Introduction: **Jack Hanna**, AAI National Policy Council, PA Democratic Party, Southwest Caucus Chair

11:45 – 12:15 pm

### Governor Bill Richardson

Democratic candidate for president

Introduction: **Norman Assad**, New Mexico Transportation Commissioner

12:30 – 1:15 pm

*Lunch and Closing Forum*

### “Yalla Vote 2008: Strategies for Success”

Introduction: U.S. Representative **John Dingell**

**Mark Steitz**, TSD Communications

**James Zogby**, Arab American Institute

1:15 – 2:30pm

With presentations from:

Arab American Women’s Leadership Council

**Maram Abdelhamid**, AAI Community Relations Associate

**Rudy Gharib**, AAI National Policy Council

Arab American Emerging Leaders Network

**Tarek Ismail**, AAI Community Relations Consultant

**Sam Jammal**, AAI National Policy Council

**Andy Sabino**, AAI Public Affairs Assistant

## Program of Events

## Friday, October 26

*Opening Luncheon Forum*

### United We Stand?

*The use of civil liberties, immigrant rights, and national security as wedge issues in the 2008 campaign*

**Kary Moss**, American Civil Liberties Union

**Grover Norquist**, Americans for Tax Reform

**Michael Ostrolenk**, American Conservative Defense Alliance

**Noel Saleh**, Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services

Moderator: **Linda Mansour**, Greater Toledo Arab American Association

12:00 – 1:15 pm  
*Great Lakes Ballroom*

### Congressman Ron Paul

Republican candidate for President

Introduction: **Fouad Ashkar**, NLC Host Committee

1:20 – 1:50 pm  
*Great Lakes Ballroom*

*Concurrent Sessions*

### \*The Collaborative for Arab American Philanthropy: Moving Beyond a Pilot Program (open for NNAAC members)

*Caucus meetings*

### Arab American Democrats

Facilitator: **Jack Hanna**, AAI National Policy Council,

Pennsylvania Democratic Party, Southwest Caucus Chair

2:00 – 3:15 pm  
*Greenfield*

### Arab American Republicans

Facilitator: **Sherine El-Abd**, AAI Board of Governors,

Women’s Republican Club of Middlesex County, President

*Southfield*

*Fairlane*

Coffee Break and Networking

3:15 – 3:30 pm  
*Great Lakes Ballroom*

*Concurrent Sessions*

### \*Building Partnerships for Success: How to Cultivate and Maintain Individual Donor Relationships

*Participants will receive effective tools for cultivating and maintaining individual donors for both financial support and volunteer time and expertise.*

Facilitators: **Nareman Taha**, Co-Director, Arab American Family Services,

**Maha Freij**, Chief Financial Officer, ACCESS, **Amjad** and **Cynthia Maali**

3:30 – 5:15 pm  
*Erie, Ontario, Huron*

### \*Charitable Giving is a Financial Investment: Strategies for Maximizing the Impact of your Giving

*This session will provide tips and tools for individual and corporate donors to help participants strengthen the impact of their giving.*

**Jeanette Mansour**, Program Consultant, C.S. Mott Foundation

**Jamie Kim**, Collaborative for Arab-American Philanthropy, ACCESS

**George R. Salem**, AAI Chairman

**Sherine El-Abd**, AAI Board of Governors

*Greenfield*

*\*Selected sessions are cosponsored by the AAI Foundation and the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC)*

## Friday, October 26

### Victory Reception

*Honoring Arab Americans in Public Office and Candidates*

Judge **David Allen**  
**Hussein Berry** for Dearborn School Board  
Connecticut State Senator **David Cappiello** for U.S. Congress  
**Abd Elgouhri** for Dearborn School Board  
Michigan State Representative **Barbara Farrah**  
Board of Zoning Appeals member **Nick Hawatmeh** for Warren City Council  
**Ferial Masry** for California State Assembly  
Connecticut State Representative **Selim Noujaim**  
**Sam Rasoul** for U.S. Congress  
Mott Community College Trustee **Sally Shaheen Joseph**  
Former New Hampshire HHS Commissioner **John Stephen** for U.S. Congress  
Judge **David Turfe**  
Master of Ceremonies: **William Hamzy**, Deputy Republican Leader, Connecticut House of Representatives

### Yalla Vote 2008 Gala Banquet

Welcome remarks from **Debbie Dingell**,  
Democratic National Committee, Vice Chair General Motors Foundation

Special recognition of **Ismael Ahmed**, director of Michigan Human Services Department

U.S. Senator **Debbie Stabenow**  
Introduction: **Ahmad Chebbani**, U.S.-Arab Economic Forum

**Mark Brewer**, Michigan Democratic Party, Chair

**Gerry Mason**, Michigan Republican Party, Vice Chair

U.S. Senator **John E. Sununu**  
Introduction: **Radwan Khoury**, Arab American & Chaldean Council

U.S. Senator **Mike Gravel**, Democratic candidate for President  
Introduction: County Commissioner **Richard Thomas**

Master of Ceremonies: **George R. Salem**, AAI Chairman

## Saturday, October 27

Networking Breakfast

*\*Training Workshops (concurrent)*

### Maximizing the Arab American Vote

**Rudy Lopez** from the Center for Community Change will lead a workshop presented by Wellstone Action, to provide the practical organizing skills needed to run effective, winning campaigns, focusing on base building (how to motivate, engage and expand your existing base) and Get Out the Vote (practical skills to run a well planned GOTV effort that builds power and leadership and impacts elections).

### Interactive Communication for Effective Civic Engagement

**Cole Krawitz** from the SPIN Project will lead an interactive online communications strategy workshop, presenting information on effective strategies for using online communications tools for advocacy and organizing

### Advocacy Rules for Nonprofits

**Jasmeet Sidhu** from the Alliance for Justice will train participants to navigate laws governing public policy activities, including lobbying rules for 501(c)(3) organizations.

### Political Technology and Micro-targeting

**Stephen Pontoni** from the Information Services Group will lead a workshop focusing on software and tools for voter contact work and on optimal strategies for canvassing and GOTV efforts.

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5:00 – 6:00 pm  
Great Room (Hotel Lobby)

7:30 – 10:00 pm  
Byblos Banquet Hall (bus transport provided)

8:00 – 9:00 am  
Great Room (Hotel Lobby)

9:00 – 11:45 am  
Superior

Greenfield

Allen Park

Fairlane

## Saturday, October 27

*Luncheon Forum*

### Left, Right, and Center

*Leading Republican and Democratic analysts and one of America's top pollsters share their predictions for the 2008 race*

**Peter Fenn**, Democratic Strategist  
**Ed Rollins**, Republican Strategist  
**John Zogby**, CEO Zogby International

### Arab Americans: Our Place in the Parties

*A reflection on the progress and challenges facing Arab American political leaders.*

Opening Remarks: U.S. Representative **Charles Boustany**  
**Edward Ayoob**, Barnes & Thornburg; former foreign affairs advisor to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid  
**David Cappiello**, Connecticut State Senate, candidate for U.S. Congress  
**Dennis Denno**, Chief of Staff to Michigan Senator Buzz Thomas  
**Randa Fahmy Hudome**, Fahmy Hudome International; former Associate Deputy Secretary of Energy  
Moderator: **Maya Berry**, Midamr Group; former Legislative Director to Congressman David Bonior

*Video message*

### Senator Hillary Clinton

Democratic candidate for president  
Presentation and discussion: Hon. **William Shaheen**, national co-chair  
Introduction: **Ahmed Saleh**, Al Dala American Benevolence Association

Coffee break and networking

### Keeping Them Honest

*How blogs have altered the dynamics of political accountability and opened dialogue on issues such as foreign policy and national security*

**Spencer Ackerman**, TPM Muckraker  
**George Ajjan**, The Aleppine Elephant  
**Steve Clemons**, The Washington Note  
**Reihan Salam**, The American Scene  
Moderator: **Rebecca Abou-Chedid**, AAI National Political Director

### “Middle East Policy and Electoral Politics”

*Predicting the flash points in the presidential race*

**William Quandt**, University of Virginia  
Moderator: **James J. Zogby**, Arab American Institute

Plenary Discussions with Arab American leaders on:

#### Iraq

**Newman Abuissa**, AAI National Policy Council, Concerned Iowans for Middle East Peace  
**Jamal Baadani**, Association of Patriotic Arab Americans in the Military (APAAM)  
**Michael George**, Chaldean Federation of America  
**Imam Husham Husainy**, Karbalaa Islamic Education Center

#### Palestine

**Samiah Bahhur**, El Bireh Palestine Society  
**Dr. Ahmad Jaber**, Arab American Association of New York  
**Dr. Mouhanad Hammami**, National Arab American Medical Association  
**Samir Mashni**, American Federation of Ramallah, Palestine

#### Lebanon

**Rebecca Abou-Chedid**, Arab American Institute  
**Edward Ayoob**, former foreign policy advisor to Senator Reid  
**Hassan Jaber**, Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services  
**Ali Jawad**, Lebanese American Heritage Club

12:00 – 1:15 pm  
Remaining sessions in Great Lakes Ballroom

1:30 – 2:30 pm

2:30 – 3:00 pm

3:00 – 3:15 pm

3:15 – 4:15 pm

4:30 – 6:30 pm