



International Press Club of Chicago  
in partnership with the  
International Women Associates (IWA)  
and MedGlobal presents



## TEARS HAVE NO COLOR: A CONVERSATION ABOUT SYRIAN REFUGEES

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Monday, January 29, 2018

George B. SWIFT School Auditorium\*  
5900 N. Winthrop Ave., Chicago, IL 60660

The Syrian Refugee issue will be revisited by a distinguished panel of speakers including, former Commissioner-General of United Nations Relief and Works Agency, current Commissioner for the Independent Commission of Inquiry on Syria at the UN Human Rights Council, and IWA 2015 Woman Extraordinaire **Karen Koning AbuZayd**, Consuls General of countries hosting the largest number of Syrian refugees, Turkey (**Hon. Umut Acar**) and Lebanon (**Hon. Bilal Kaban**), Jordan's Honorary Consul **Ihssan Sweiss**, and MedGlobal founder, Syrian physician **Dr. Zaher Sahloul**.

**The Two Million**, award winning 15 minute documentary directed by Chicago-based writer/director and IWA member Derin Baratka highlighting the challenges and difficulties facing refugee families in Turkey, will also be shown at the end of the program.

*"Syria is the biggest humanitarian and refugee crisis of our time, a continuing cause of suffering for millions which should be garnering a groundswell of support around the world."* **Filippo Grandi, UNHCR High Commissioner**

After six years of war, Syrian refugees are struggling to survive. Many are living well below the poverty line, unable to feed their children properly or continue their education. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) works hard to help by leading a coordinated effort across the region together with partners, NGOs and host governments, offering a lifeline to those in need. They are critically short on funds to respond and need our help, now more than ever!

- Registered Syrian Refugees by UNHCR: 5,437,603
- Over 5.4 million people have fled Syria since 2011, seeking safety in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan and beyond
- Over 3 million registered in Turkey, over 1.1 million in Lebanon, and 655,000 in Jordan
- 13.1 million people are still in need inside Syria; 6.1 million internally displaced and 2.98 million in hard-to-reach and besieged areas.

Join the conversation,  
help raise awareness,  
and be part of the solution...

### TO REGISTER:

Please visit [www.iwachicago.org](http://www.iwachicago.org),  
click "January SPOTLIGHT" under  
Upcoming Events

**FREE and OPEN to public  
Registration is Required**

Don't miss the opportunity to hear the current status of this ongoing human tragedy and to meet the former UN Commissioner-General, Consuls General, and the SWIFT School community.

**Directions:** Swift School is located at 5900 North Winthrop, on the corner of Thorndale and Winthrop, between Sheridan and Broadway. The school is serviced by the 144 and 147 express busses from Michigan Avenue and the 151 Devon bus. Bus 36, which stops one block west, runs all the way through the Loop from Harrison. There is street parking as well as staff parking with few spaces. Car Pooling is recommended. The Red Line L services the school with the stop at Thorndale.

\* **About George B. Swift Specialty School:** K-8th grade port-of-entry school within the Chicago Public School system serving low-income, immigrant and refugee students from 55 countries speaking 65 languages and dialects. IWA has a unique partnership and works closely with SWIFT, investing in the education of young students to become productive and engaged global citizens; providing volunteers as readers, tutors and mentors; funding educational enrichment workshops, coaching and test preparation classes; distributing books; and sponsoring special school projects and an annual essay contest.

