



# THE JERUSALEM YOUTH CHORUS

جوقة الشبيبة المقدسية      מקהלת הנוער הירושלמית

of the Jerusalem International YMCA

Micah Hendler, Founder and Director



הקרן לירושלים  
THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION

مؤسسة صندوق القدس



Jerusalem International YMCA

ימקא הבינלאומית ירושלים  
جمعية الشبان المسيحية الدولية - القدس



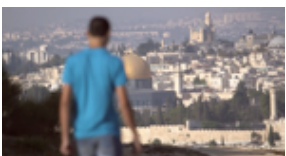
The YMCA Jerusalem Youth Chorus is a choral and dialogue program for Israeli and Palestinian high school students in Jerusalem. Our mission is to provide a space for these young people from East and West Jerusalem to grow together in song and dialogue. Through the co-creation of music and the sharing of stories, the chorus seeks to empower youth in Jerusalem to become leaders in their communities and inspire singers and listeners around the world to work for peace.

The YMCA Jerusalem Youth Chorus is an official program of the Jerusalem International YMCA and the Jerusalem Foundation. The Jerusalem Foundation, an independent community foundation dedicated to preserving an open, equitable and modern society in Jerusalem, supports the program at the YMCA, one of the few places in a city divided along religious, cultural, political and linguistic lines that people of all walks of life can and do feel comfortable.



The YMCA Jerusalem Youth Chorus has been featured on the [Late Show with Stephen Colbert](#), as well as in the [New York Times](#), on the [BBC](#) and on [PBS](#), in Haaretz, Alhurra and many other news sources. We have recorded with multi-platinum Israeli artist and peace activist David Broza in Jerusalem and in London with Duran Duran. Our recent music video, “[Home](#),” with YouTube superstar Sam Tsui, has amassed over 350,000 views. We have toured to Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States and have performed at venues as celebrated as the [Kennedy Center](#) in Washington, DC and as a featured ensemble at the Yale International Choral Festival.

The YMCA Jerusalem Youth Chorus is unique in its combination of music and dialogue programming, providing a transformative experience for our singers that yields both friendship and understanding on an individual and collective level across lines of religion, nationality, language, and culture. We go beyond simply singing together, delving deeper into one another’s identities, life experiences, communal narratives, religious traditions, and national histories through dialogue, all within the safe space of the musical ensemble and the strong personal bonds and community it creates.



Musically, the YMCA Jerusalem Youth Chorus seeks to reflect the values of equality and inclusiveness upon which we are based, truly making manifest the concept of beauty in diversity. As our members come often from vastly different musical traditions, we draw heavy influences from both East and West in our repertoire and musical style. As such, we seek to innovate and challenge boundaries musically as we do in the non-musical elements of our program.

Help us change the dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian relationship through song.

[www.jerusalem youth chorus.org](http://www.jerusalem youth chorus.org) | [micah@jerusalem youth chorus.org](mailto:micah@jerusalem youth chorus.org)