

All the world is a narrow bridge... but the main thing is not to fear.

Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Fund

Dearest Friends, Supporters, Extended Communities, and Grantees (past & present),

I wish I had been smart enough, had the *sechel* (wisdom), to have asked my mother about her experience in the devastating Spanish Flu in 1918 and other seemingly insoluble problems she and her generation faced and survived... As we each sit in our technologically connected isolation, I look to you and to the work of our Grantees for hope, optimism and resilience.

Life is a time traveler that passes from generation to generation...
Each of us is not merely dust destined to return to dust,
For we generate good, we create memories, we enrich life...
As we live and seem to die, we each carry life and pass it on - an eternal wave.

from "The Meaning of Life" by Aaron Freeman

We are pleased to share in our once-a-year report that your contributions assisted 26 young people who refused to accept inaction due to seemingly insoluble problems. These Grantees, truly an eternal wave, bridge a messianic dream and a commitment to the possible, to justice and equality for all peoples through their progressive social action in Cambodia, Guatemala, Mexico, India, Israel-Palestine, and the U.S. Amy Adina Fund Grantees are doers and builders, young adults who move from idealism into concrete action on their personal, communal, and professional journeys.

For some Grantees the virus significantly changed what their experience would be. We are amazed by their positive reactions, continued action, and personal reflections to the virus interruption. On the following pages, we highlight a few of these inspiring young adults.

Again, our heart-felt thanks to each of you for your contribution to this Fund. Started 33 years ago to honor the memory of, and to continue the activist values of our daughter and sister, Amy Adina, who died suddenly from a brain aneurysm at age 20, the Fund invests in young adults at a critical juncture in their professional development. We hope you will help more young Grantees join this powerful wave of moral voices endeavoring to build strong foundations for democracy and human rights, justice and equality for all people.

L'shanah tovah, a year of health, renewal, and good deeds as we reach out to strengthen one another,

Ruth and Mel (z"l) and the entire Schulman Family.

Please remember to VOTE as EARLY as POSSIBLE!



Amy Adina with her father, Mel, and mother, Ruth, in Jerusalem, Winter 1985.



Amy Adina's activism included the pursuit of civil rights, equity and justice in Israel/Palestine and throughout the U.S. The Fund is proud to support her legacy through its investment in young people at this critical juncture in their lives. "What is a legacy? It's planting a seed in a garden you never get to see." –Hamilton, *The Musical*.

ASHTON

Being forced by COVID-19 to work remotely with the [International Justice Mission Delhi](#), Ashton S. contributed to the IJM's rescue of 1,474 trafficked people. She also realized that the work, and not the world travel, was what engaged her "Your support allows me to continue to work for justice for all people. I love what I do, and it would not be possible without you."



IJM, Delhi, India

MAGGIE

Maggie H. graduated from UC Berkeley, served with City Year, then completed a Master's degree in Spain. With the Spanish Red Cross, she made nighttime rounds of the city to support people living on the street. Maggie received a grant from the Amy Adina Schulman Fund to work at [Nuestras Pequeños Hermanos \(NPH\)](#) in Mexico.

Maggie enjoyed getting to know the students and developing a "little academic community" with the hardworking and intellectually curious youth. She created a standardized exam prep course for middle school students in NPH's Chicas Poderosas program. "We often spent extra hours on historical and literary tangents that, while not strictly relevant to the test, made us bond as a group... [Learning about the] children's dreams inspired me... We were making those dreams possible."

Maggie said her experience at NPH offered her insight into the relationship between immigration, economic insecurity, and limited access to institutional support.

Now in the Bay Area, where a large segment of the homeless population is undocumented, Maggie is applying for middle school teaching jobs. "I'm hoping to work in a newcomer school to support students transitioning to [the United States]. Thank you for supporting me on this crazy adventure!"

Seedlings in the Mail

Ah, for people like us, followed by forwarding addresses and dossiers and limping causes it takes a crazy despairing faith... to plant pine and fir and beech for somebody else's grandchildren, if there are any.

– Marge Piercy

ARIELLE

Arielle B.'s background in nutritional science, holistic wellness, and farm education informed her belief that reconnecting to culture and traditional ways of tending the land can enhance individual and societal lifestyles while mitigating climate change.

With your support, Arielle volunteered at [Tent of Nations](#), a farm and community center located within a contested border [in the Bethlehem region](#) where a family has lived on their farm for over 100 years. The current family's attempt to re-register the land has been in court since 2014. Meanwhile, the IDF bulldozed hundreds of olive trees on their farm, citing the illegality of planting and building.

"What called me to the region were the olive trees, that are used as pawns in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. I wanted to hear their story." She said the trees taught her to listen.

Listening helped Arielle understand how she could help. She coordinated a care team when peers were hospitalized, supported a comrade suffering flashbacks, and offered to houseclean for activists fighting home demolitions, police violence, and tear-gassings.

"Care work and attention to the culture from which our activism grows is of real value. I step back into community organizing with a clearer vision of how we work toward freedom and dignity for all people..."

Today, Arielle works at a local farm and food justice organization.



↓ Seedling planted in 1987 at Camp Galil by one of Adina's Galil friends.



→ The seedling, now a beautiful tree, at Camp Galil in 2017.

MADDIE

Volunteering with Migrant Protection Protocols in Tijuana, Mexico, Maddie H. served migrants forced to wait in dangerous border cities while their court proceedings played out in the United States. Toward that end, she managed translation intakes from new clients and coordinated with remote translators. She also oversaw the completion and delivery of translated evidence to clients, which required keeping up with ever-changing requirements from local immigration judges and new immigration policies from the current administration. In addition, Maddie managed teams of volunteers doing data entry. She wrote in January to say, “I would like to stay at this project for as long as I can...Thank you so much for all your support!”

SARAH D.

Through MASA, Sarah D. taught Israeli-Muslim and Bedouin students in an Arab middle school near Haifa, which served the communities of Ras Ali and Khawalad. The Israeli school system allows students to attend Jewish religious or secular schools conducted in Hebrew or Arab schools conducted in Arabic. Most families choose schools that represent their identities.

Sarah sought coaching from her host teacher, Kholood, in language learning and cultural acceptance. She discovered language education is a major inequality. “Everyone in Israel learns English beginning in third grade. While all Arab students gain fluency in Hebrew, only 10 percent of Jewish Israelis become fluent in Arabic. This is not helpful in the effort to create mutual understanding. You can’t understand someone if you don’t get to know them; [that’s] easier if you speak their language.”



Sarah D. with colleagues.

Sarah now believes everyone in Israel should learn Arabic, English, and Hebrew. She wants to work in language education in Israel-Palestine to help build a shared society.

“When I left for Israel, I thought I would learn about my heritage; I did, but I am grateful I also learned about the other people who share the region.”

When Sarah’s father, a former kibbutz volunteer with a lifelong attachment to Israel, visited her, he received an unexpected education. Experiencing Ras Ali, touring the school where Sarah worked, and having tea at Sarah’s colleagues’ homes gave him a more nuanced view of Israel. “My Dad said he would never have had the opportunity to understand Arab culture without my placement in my school.”

LORNA

Lorna S. was a fellow at Hospitalito Atitlan in Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala. A native of Honduras, she didn’t anticipate a language barrier between herself and anyone in Guatemala. In Honduras, Indigenous and Maya languages had been replaced with Spanish. Lorna quickly discovered she needed to learn about Santiago Atitlan’s rich Maya culture. After walking around the hospital, and conducting home visits with the social worker and pediatrician on the first day of the fellowship, she enrolled in Tz’utujil language classes.



Registering patients for free consults with our doctor, and detecting anemia in children at a large coffee plantation with Rosa, our program coordinator.

A few months later, Lorna’s Tz’utujil language skills were strong enough to register patients in the community clinics, gather patient info, and offer instructions while taking vital signs. Before leaving Guatemala, she conducted a home visit with a social worker and understood almost everything the family said.

When Covid-19 spread worldwide, Hospitalito Atitlan developed plans

and protocols to address cases in the community, despite Guatemala’s underfunded and under-resourced healthcare system.

“The community swiftly, and with no formal guidance or directions, adapted their jobs, skill sets, and resources to address the evolving needs. Women weavers and artisans made cloth masks. Families cooked and delivered meals to households that became food insecure. My host sister created a library on wheels for children. Amid uncertainty and fear, true community collaboration, and solidarity brought us hope.”

Lorna’s fellowship terminated early due to Coronavirus. She returned to Chicago and decided to finish the fellowship remotely—writing grants to obtain medical equipment, PPE, and food donations. Lorna communicated with donors, managed sponsorships, and edited newsletters.

Now, Lorna works full-time at the University of Illinois at Chicago as a Clinical Research Coordinator for the Division of Infectious Diseases—coordinating clinical vaccine trials for novel Covid-19 vaccines. She is applying to medical schools and envisions a career that involves serving both of her communities—Chicago and Siguatepeque, Honduras—as a physician. “The support I received from the Amy Adina Schulman Fund allowed me to access my Guatemala fellowship. My experience there solidified and guided my decision to pursue a career in medicine.”



Yitzi riding a Bedouin Shepherd's Donkey in the Jordan Valley, October 2019

YITZI

Yitzi G. offers this advice to future grantees: "Though it is important to imagine and to place your experience and the way you will impact the world, it is equally, if not more, important to let the experience change and affect you... I made a

small difference with my actions... the land and people made a huge difference in me. Israel-Palestine taught me itself, and it taught me [about] the nature of the world, land, peoplehood, and home. I will carry those lessons through all the actions and ways of being, large and small, that are in my future."

IT'S EASIER THAN EVER TO INVEST IN THESE SMART, DEDICATED GRANTEES

All contributions are fully tax-deductible and used solely to fund Grantees; the Schulman Family covers all administrative costs required to operate the Fund, an IRS designated 501(c)3 charity. Your support makes an indelible impact on the trajectory of Grantees' lives in shaping a more just and compassionate world, and on the lives of the hundreds of people with whom each will make contact in the years to come.

A contribution to celebrate a special occasion or to commemorate a life-cycle event is acknowledged with a personalized card to the honoree or the family, notifying them of your thoughtful gift.

To make a gift using a credit card or PayPal, click the donate button on our website, www.AmyAdinaSchulmanFund.org. (International contributors: Please donate using our website. AASMF cannot accept checks from non-U.S. banks.) The Fund accepts employer matching gifts, as well as direct IRA donations and bequests.

If you'd prefer to give appreciated stock rather than cash, contributing from your IRA, or a bequest or legacy gift, contact Ruth at ruth@amyadinaschulmanfund.org.

We appreciate any gift to the Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Fund that is meaningful to you. Much thanks for all your moral and financial support.



Amy Adina Schulman Memorial Lecture

Rescheduled Again!

With the reality of the Covid-19, we have twice rescheduled the AASMF Annual Lecture from April and then September 2020. Hopefully in Spring or Fall of 2021, we will be able to welcome the [Reverend Dr. William J. Barber II](#) to The Jewish Center of Princeton. The proposed topic is "Building Bridges Towards Understanding, Equality, and Trust."



Photo: Becker1999 | Flickr | img_9955

An inspirational change agent, Reverend Barber was named a 2018 MacArthur Fellow for "building broad-based fusion coalitions as part of a moral movement to confront racial and economic inequality." He is the founder of Repairers of the Breach, "formed to educate and train religious and other leaders of faith to pursue policies and organizational strategies for the good of the whole

and to educate the public about connections between shared religious faith." Rev. Barber is co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign; a National Call for Moral Revival whose direct action has currently added a focus on protection for the U.S. Postal Service as the November election nears.

We hoped this event would honor the memory of Rabbi Adam Feldman (z"l) and his interfaith work in our community in this first year of his untimely death. We are committed to honoring Rabbi Feldman by bringing Rev. Dr. Barber here in person as soon as possible. We will welcome regional pastors, ministers, imams, rabbis, and members of their respective congregations into our sanctuary in The Jewish Center as Reverend Barber engages each of us in the difficult, complicated, and necessary conversation of building community bridges

In the meantime, we want to connect with you...

Please join us for a [Zoom 33rd Annual AASMF Memorial Lecture](#) later this Fall. Final negotiations indicate our lecturer will be a dynamic successor to our last four speakers: Mohammad Darawshe of Givat Ha'Viva; Israeli Jewish folksinger and Palestinian musical prodigy, David Broza and Ali Paris; Thomas Freedman of The New York Times; and Bernard Avishai, an American-Israeli political scientist. Stay tuned! Details will follow soon.