

For Immediate Release

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Tanenbaum Announces 2025 Gala Honorees: Celebrating Leaders Building Bridges in Education, Workplaces, and Interfaith Understanding

New York, NY, October 16, 2025: The Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding is proud to announce the honorees for its 2025 Gala: Peace Made Possible, taking place on Thursday, October 23, 2025, at The Edison Ballroom in New York City. This year's gala recognizes leaders whose work in education, interfaith understanding, and corporate leadership reflects Tanenbaum's mission to build respect and understanding across religious differences.

Tanenbaum will posthumously present the Philanthropic Bridge Builder Award to Dr. Leonard S. Polonsky CBE. Leonard, the late husband of Tanenbaum's President and Founder Dr. Georgette F. Bennett, understood the spirit and mission of Tanenbaum from the very beginning. Founder and Chairman of Hansard Global Plc and trustee of the Polonsky Foundation, Leonard embodied the principles of respect, justice, and community that remain at the heart of Tanenbaum's mission.

Nadine Augusta, Chief Impact Officer at Cushman & Wakefield, will receive the Corporate Bridge Builder Award for her achievements in enhancing business performance through culture, talent, and social impact. Nadine develops and implements strategies that increase client value, expand supplier inclusion, and integrate social and economic impact into the firm's growth. Nadine demonstrates how inclusive leadership can fuel sustainable business growth and community advancement.

Dr. Azza Karam, Founding President and CEO of Lead-Integrity, will receive the Marc H. Tanenbaum Award for the Advancement of Interreligious Understanding for her extensive work supporting interfaith understanding and inclusion. With decades of international leadership in education, human rights, and peacebuilding, including service on the United Nations Secretary-General's High Level Advisory Board on Multilateralism, Azza exemplifies the values of collaboration and dialogue at the core of Tanenbaum's Peacebuilding program.

Alison Overseth, Chief Executive Officer of the Partnership for After School Education (PASE), will receive the Adam Solomon Award for Excellence. Alison has spent decades championing opportunities for New York City's youth, working with hundreds of community-based organizations, higher education institutions, and corporate partners to expand access to high-quality after-school programming. Her pioneering commitment to education is aligned with Tanenbaum's efforts to equip educators with tools to teach inclusively and foster respect in classrooms.

Rev. Mark Fowler, Tanenbaum's CEO, shares: "The lives and work of this year's honorees are the antidote to the divisive narratives that often dominate our headlines. We're thrilled to recognize leaders who expand interfaith understanding, make youth programs more equitable and accessible, and who lead company-wide policies for inclusion."

For sponsorship opportunities, tickets, or more information, please visit <https://tanenbaum.org/2025-gala/>.

Tanenbaum promotes justice and builds respect for religious difference by transforming individuals and institutions to reduce prejudice, hatred, and violence. More information about Tanenbaum's offerings can be found here: <https://tanenbaum.org/>
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