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# FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS FOUNDATION

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **GREENWICH-BASED FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS FOUNDATION (“FAF”) IS ONCE AGAIN CALLED UPON BY MIDDLE EAST ROYALTY.**

**FAF’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PATRICK SCIARRATTA IS INVITED BY KING MOHAMMED VI OF MOROCCO TO THE FEZ CONFERENCE OF NOBEL LAUREATES. THEY WILL DISCUSS A VARIETY OF ISSUES EMERGING IN THE MIDDLE EAST.**

Greenwich, CT – GREENWICH-BASED FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS FOUNDATION HAS ANOTHER MOMENT OF PRIDE AS ITS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PATRICK SCIARRATTA, IS INVITED TO HIS SECOND ROYAL CONFERENCE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

KING MOHAMMED VI OF MOROCCO HAS INVITED MR. SCIARRATTA TO ATTEND THE **2011 NOBEL LAUREATES CONFERENCE IN FEZ**, FROM APRIL 30 THROUGH MAY 4. THE ALL-EXPENSE PAID TRIP WILL BRING MR. SCIARRATTA TOGETHER WITH GLOBAL LUMINARIES TO DISCUSS THE ROLE OF YOUTH LEADERS IN THE CHANGING MIDDLE EAST LANDSCAPE. *FROM THE INVITATION:*

*“This unique event will be held under the High Patronage and Chairmanship of His Majesty King Mohammed VI. It will be an opportunity for dozens of Nobel Laureates and prominent international players from the public sector and civil society, to get together and engage in a frank and open dialogue on the major challenges facing our society. The meeting will focus on human and social development that is a central theme on His Majesty’s agenda. The Fez Nobel Laureates Conference will galvanize this unique community of thinkers and leaders to come up with concrete initiatives on education, healthcare, culture, economy and on issues of special relevance to tomorrow’s generation.”*

This is the second time Mr. Sciarratta has been invited to discuss youth and other development issues in the Middle East. In 2008, King Abdullah and Elie Weisel invited Mr. Sciarratta to attend the Petra Conference of Nobel Laureates. There, they discussed ways to develop youth leaders for futures in the sciences throughout the Middle East and North Africa. This year’s gathering is much more timely and has youth on its agenda, not as an aside for future support, but as the main topic of the day. Youth under the age of 26 comprise as much as 70% of local populations in the Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA) region. Delegates invited to the Petra conference with Mr. Sciarratta included the Dalai Lama, Simon Peres, Abu Masr, *New York Times* columnist Nicholas Kristoff, and many others.

For over 35 years Friendship Ambassadors Foundation has helped people engage in cultural exchange, promoting mutual understanding, and global cooperation for development. “Through our years of service to youth, and as director of the Annual Youth Assembly at the United Nations, FAF remains concerned about the young people involved in the changes throughout the MENA region,” Mr. Sciarratta states. “They have worked and in some cases lived with our local young people here and we have been impressed with their education and aptitude.”

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“The fact that they have so few outlets for development led to the changes we are seeing today – I think democracy is most appealing to those who can see their own personal future in its hope. I want to encourage their success.”

**Friendship Ambassadors Foundation and Mr. Sciarratta are proud to have been selected for this honor. To arrange for an interview and discuss the conference and FAF’s work, please contact us at 203-542-0652.**

*Views from the June 2008 Petra Conference of Nobel Laureates, from upper left: A roundtable discussion at the conference; Patrick Sciarratta and Elie Weisel, over lunch; Patrick and the Dalai Lama at dinner; With Ruth Messinger in conference; Nicholas Kristoff addressing a panel.*



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