

Haifa Bint-Kadi is a first-generation Palestinian-American educated with an M.F.A. from Istituto d'Arte per il mosaico in Ravenna, Italy. She has been fabricating and installing public art mosaics since 1997. Haifa is also a teaching artist for Citylore in NYC and is a single mother raising two teenage daughters in the NYC area.

Ms. Bint-Kadi recently completed the design and fabrication of a series of public art sculptures for the State of New York at Suny Oneonta symbolizing SUNY Oneonta's commitment to diversity and inclusion "This sculpture symbolically represents Pangaea, the seven continents once being connected," says Bint-Kadi. "I love the idea of thinking about what it would be like to inhabit one land force where you could move about easily and what the development of culture would look like."

Bint-Kadi has been creating public art mosaics since 1993. The artist has received several awards including a Nations in Neighborhoods Federal Grant Award from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Bronx Museum of Art's Action Lab Award, and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Award. She holds a master of fine arts degree from the Istituto d'Arte per il mosaic di Ravenna in Italy and a bachelor's degree from Willamette University in Oregon.

Marcia Kannry is a third generation Jewish American. A former Zionist Professional of the Year Award Recipient (1985), and Regional Director for the Jewish National Fund, Marcia has created interfaith, intercultural and intergroup encounters for over 25 years. A tenant and human rights activist in Brooklyn, Marcia lived in Israel for six years and returned to the USA to graduate from the University of Pittsburgh, Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Religious Studies. She has also been a masters candidate fellow at the Robert F. Wagner School of NYU. Her particular focus is on the cultural roots of racisms (Islamophobia, Anti-Semitism) that develop through religious texts.

In recent years, Marcia has received numerous awards, including Citizens for NYC 2004 Honor for creating The Dialogue Project. Marcia was also Borough President Marty Markowitz's Iftar Honoree, at the 2006 Annual Ramadan Brooklyn Iftar at Borough Hall. Marcia is committed to religious pluralism and freedom of expression in her beloved Brooklyn, USA, and the Middle East. She combines her historical knowledge of the Abrahamic Faith traditions with conflict transformation skills that foster compassion, generous and active listening, and mutual respect though differences in perspective may exist.

Along with clergy and neighbors, Marcia created The Dialogue Project in March of 2001. The dialogues offer new immigrants and long time residents, Muslims, Jews, Christians and people of all faiths and ethnicities a safe place to develop trust, build relationships and forge partnerships around issues of mutual concern in their New York neighborhoods. Participants connect with like minded people on the ground in Israel and Palestine who are moving forward together.