## NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

February 15, 2017

To all Arabic-speaking Bahá'ís in the United States

Dearest Bahá'í Friends,

With great delight, we invite your participation in the sixth annual Arab American Conference, which will be held in the Chicago area during the extended weekend of August 17–20.

These conferences provide a splendid opportunity for individuals interested in the Arabic language and in Arab history and culture to meet others from the Arab American community and to share experiences, build bonds of friendship, and be stimulated by presentations given by renowned scholars, writers, and artists from North America and the Middle East. As in past years, all conference sessions will be conducted in Arabic.

This year's conference will focus on the topic of coexistence and the needs of the day and will encourage engagement in the contemporary public discourse on matters of importance to the Arab world. While the conference is sponsored by this institution, it is not intended to promote the Bahá'í Faith or any particular point of view, and friends from all backgrounds and beliefs are warmly welcomed.

For further information on the conference and for previous years' programs and presentations, we invite you to visit the conference website (at <a href="mailto:arabconference.bahai.us">arabconference.bahai.us</a>) —which will continually be updated as planning for the conference progresses—or to write to the conference task force (at <a href="mailto:committee@arabamericanconference.com">committee@arabamericanconference.com</a>).

Your participation in the conference is strongly encouraged and we ask you to extend this invitation to your friends in the larger community who have cultural connections to the Arab world.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Kennet El Eower

Kenneth E. Bowers

Secretary