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

December 14, 2017

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

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

We are delighted that the Arab American Conference continues to gain momentum year after year, and we are pleased to announce the dates and theme of the forthcoming conference next summer.

The 7th annual Arab American Conference will take place from August 16-19, 2018 in the Chicago area. Building on the theme from this year's conference—"Coexistence and the Future of Humanity"—the 2018 conference theme will be "Unity in Diversity." While not intended to teach or promote the Bahá'í Faith, the conference provides a wonderful opportunity for those interested in Arabic language, history, and culture to meet with others, build bonds of friendship, and enjoy presentations from renowned scholars, writers, and artists in sessions conducted entirely in Arabic.

In addition to supporting this initiative by participating in the conference itself, we also encourage you to share this invitation widely with other Arab and Arabic-speaking Bahá'ís and with your friends and relatives in the wider community with connections to the Arab world.

Information on past conferences can be found on the official website, <u>arabconference.bahai.us</u>. Further details about the 2018 Arab American Conference will be announced in future communications and posted on the website in due course.

We hope that many of you will be able to save the date for this wonderful opportunity to strengthen bonds of friendship among the Arab American community and to meaningfully contribute to the discourse on the social and cultural life of Arabs everywhere.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Kenneth E. Bowers

Secretary