

# The Arab American Democracy Coalition

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ARAB ★ AMERICAN  
DEMOCRACY COALITION



**Sunday, Feb. 16, 2024**

**Niko's Banquets  
7600 S. Harlem Ave. Bridgeview, IL**

**Candidate's Brunch & Forum**

# Welcome

AADC was founded in 1984 by Samir Khalil and several members of the Arab American community to organize and engage with our elected officials, local governments and candidates for public office. It was also founded in order to support and slate candidates of Arab American heritage for public office.

AADC is a diverse coalition of Arab Americans dedicated to improving our relations with our elected officials and government representatives. Our goal is to increase the number of registered voters statewide and to increase political involvement of our community and to ensure that Arab Americans have a voice in their government.

AADC serves the political interests of the Arab American residents of Illinois and businesses, and we are proud of our accomplishments. We regularly meet with elected officials, mayors, state senators, state representatives, U.S. Representatives, U.S. Senators, governors, and presidential candidates.

AADC is politically affiliated with the Democratic Party and is the only registered Arab American political organization offering this important service on behalf of the community.

Our team is made of individuals who believe the best way to reach our community is by offering outreach functions and informative events. We believe that by working together and be connected we can have consistent outcomes.

Our focus is on local elections in the State of Illinois. We offer information on national elections, but our priority is to focus on the election of individuals who are fair to everyone, who do not discriminate against anyone, and those who embrace diversity. We oppose discrimination of all forms.

# AADC Board

Ahmad Sows | President



Samir Khalil | Founder



Nivene Juede | Vice-President



Sonia Khalil | Board Member



Mohammed Jaber | Board member



Sophia Yasin | Board member



Ray Hanania | Communications



**Our AADC Board  
members are volunteers  
and they are not paid**

# Program

**Emcee:**

**Ray Hanania**

**Welcome:**

**Ahmad Sows, President**

**Message from our Founder:**

**Samir Khalil**



**Gerald Bennett**  
Mayor of Palos Hills



**Christopher Getty**  
Mayor of Lyons



**Steven Landek**  
Mayor of Bridgeview



**Roger Agpawa**  
Mayor of Markham



**Cyril Nichols**  
Former Illinois State Representative



**Mary Alexander-Basta**  
Mayor of Bolingbrook



**Abdelnasser Rashid**  
Illinois State Representative



**Monica Gordon**  
County Clerk



**Mayor Robert Straz**  
Palos Heights



**Sen. Michael Porfiro**  
II Senator 11th District



**Sen. Michael Hastings**  
II Senator 19th District



**Comr. Tara Stamps**  
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**Entertainment by Political Satirist and Comedian  
Amer Zaher**



We continue to add great speakers  
including those representing the Arab American community

# In Memory of Distinguished Community Leaders



**Miriam Zayed**

Miriam Zayed was a longtime member of AADC fighting for the rights of Arab Americans in the Chicagiland area. Miriam grew up in Chicago and later in Burbank, and was inspired by her father who played a key role in the religious health of Chicagoland's growing Arab and Muslim community.



**Nemer Ziyad**

Nemer Ziyad was a leader who dedicated his life to helping to strengthen the rights of Arab Americans, generous in his donations and support of many organizations including helping families and children in need.

## **Miriam Zayed Community Service Award**

The “Miriam Zayed Community Service Award” is named in honor of Illinois activist Miriam Zayed who strengthened the voice of Arab Americans in local government, politics, community service & in regional elections. The Award is presented by the AADC board and the family of Miriam Zayed including her daughter Lena Zayed Hussein. Watch for the next Award.

**In Memoriam**  
**to our**  
**longtime friend**  
**and**  
**Supporter**



**Ken**  
**Getty**

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**from your friends at AADC**

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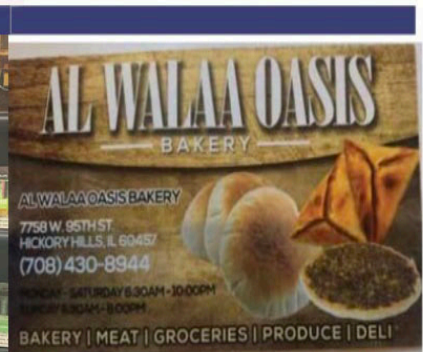
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**for its annual**

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& for empowering the Arab  
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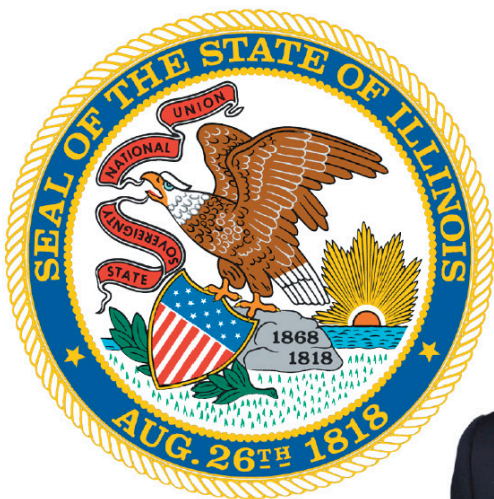
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**Best Wishes and  
Continued Success  
for the  
Arab American  
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**Christopher Getty  
Lyons Village President**

**Congratulations**

to the

**Arab American  
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for their continued support

of Democratic Candidates

for Public Office

**Steven Landek**

*Mayor of Bridgeview  
Democratic Committeeman*

# **Congratulations to the Arab American Democracy Coalition**



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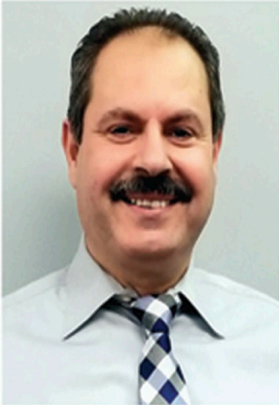
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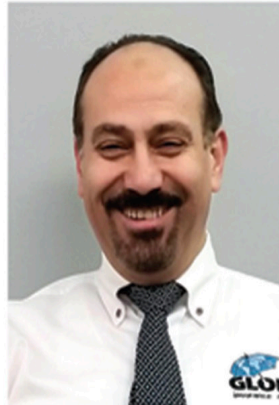


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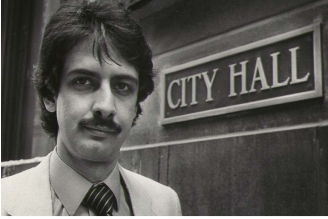


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**Saad Malley**  
4712 west 63rd st Chicago 60629

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## Award Winning Columns

5 days a week

## Mainstream

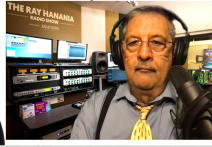
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**Mohammed Abdullah**  
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for hosting another great

**Candidate's Forum &  
Breakfast**

to bring our elected officials  
and our government  
together with our community



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All United's vision is to institutionalize a political power-building apparatus in Illinois that puts people at the center, ensuring once and for all that our voices are heard and our values are represented. Let's turn WhatsApp and social media energy into real political currency on the ground. The time to build power is now—join us and be part of this movement.

[www.AllUnited.org](http://www.AllUnited.org)





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From Khalil >

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23X NATIONAL CHAMPION  
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*Joseph Awinongya Jr. is a highly accomplished boxer with numerous accolades, including being a 23x time national champion. He started boxing at 5 yrs old, started college at 13, is currently on Team USA and is an Olympic hopeful for the 2028 Olympics. His dedication and commitment to the sport have made him a stand out athlete.*

Joseph Awinongya  
75kg

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