

# DARE TO OVERCOME

July 15, 2019

2:30 – 5:30 p.m.

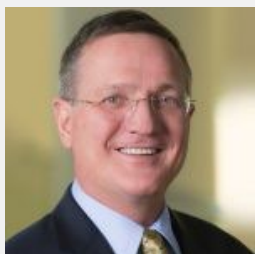
The world is increasingly visual, story driven and mobile dominated. It's urgent we identify, equip and mobilize leaders to create short films to share empowering messages. The **Dare to Overcome** film competition challenges women filmmakers from around the world to produce short films that showcase inclusivity and multi-faith living in the workplace and community.

In partnership with the **Religious Freedom & Business Foundation** and **Empower Women Media**, the **Religious Freedom Center** will be showcasing women's short films that are compelling explorations of the impact of freedom of belief and how this helps empower women, religious minorities and the displaced.

## Speakers



Iranian-American Shirin Taber directs the Middle East Women's Leadership Network and Empower Women Media. She is passionate about helping leaders produce media for their missions.



Brian Grim, Ph. D., is president of the Religious Freedom & Business Foundation and a leading scholar on international religious demography and the socioeconomic impact of religious freedom.



The Hon. Suzan Johnson Cook (Ambassador Sujay) is a distinguished lecturer at the Freedom Forum Institute's Religious Freedom Center. Nominated by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and appointed by President Barack Obama, she was the third U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, becoming the first woman, first African American and first faith leader to hold this post.

## Schedule of Events

2:30 p.m.	Registration and Reception
3 p.m.	Shirin Taber: Welcome and Introductions
3:15 p.m.	Dr. Brian Grim: Trends in Religious Freedom
3:30 p.m.	Clyde Taber: Story Telling That Leads to Movements
3:40 p.m.	Film Screening
4:25 p.m.	Break
4:35 p.m.	Film Maker Panel: Q&A
4:55 p.m.	Religious Freedom Experts Panel: Q&A
5:20 p.m.	Ambassador Suzan Johnson Cook: Call to Action
5:30 p.m.	Event Concludes

# Dare to Overcome Films

## “Love has No Borders”

Christy Anastas and Deborah Paul

A Palestinian and British woman join together to build a business to serve those in need.

## “A Different Way”

Ambassador Suzan Johnson  
and Lauren Merkley

The Rev. Dr. Ambassador Suzan Johnson Cook shares her experience as the first female chaplain for the New York Police Department and how interfaith relationships were essential in fostering hope and rebuilding a city after the events of 9/11.

## “Honour-Able”

Jennifer Bryson and Bess Blackburn

Muslim business owners share that what you wear should never limit what you can achieve.

## “Bleu”

Maryam Farahzadi

An Iranian film maker shares the challenge to accept differences as a quality of life, rather than a nuisance.

## “Equality”

Olfa Arfaoui and Randy Abbassi

A Tunisian female shares how women’s empowerment, with religious liberty at its core, is a pathway to peace and prosperity.

## “Clarkston”

Erin Berhardt

The Clarkston Community Health Center operates with a multicultural and interfaith volunteer base as they strive towards their goal of providing healthcare for all.

## “Global FC”

Mariya Dostzadah Good Brake

An Afghan woman uses her family business to serve the religiously mixed refugee community with a soccer program.

To enter the Dare to Overcome Film Competition or learn more about our media strategy, contact [shirin@visualstory.org](mailto:shirin@visualstory.org) or [www.empowerwomen.media](http://www.empowerwomen.media)

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CENTER**  
**FREEDOM FORUM INSTITUTE**



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