The Arts & Community Task Force Present:
Western Galilee Community Visionaries Delegation
December 3 - 11, 2014
Learn from experts who are making a difference for the people and culture of the Western Galilee.

LEARN FROM UNIQUE VISIONARIES
This delegation of four cutting-edge visionaries and experts from the Western Galilee offer their time to share information through lectures and informal/formal meetings.

DIANA BLETTER — A writer based in the Western Galilee—her first book, The Invisible Thread: A Portrait of Jewish American Women (Jewish Publication Society of America, 1989) was a National Jewish Book Award finalist. Her novel, A Remarkable Kindness, the intertwined story of four American women who are members of a burial society in the Western Galilee, will be published by Harper Collins in June 2015. Her writing appears in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Huffington Post, Tablet, among others. She is the First Prize winner of Family Circle Magazine’s 2011 Fiction Contest. Her memoir, The Mom Who Took Off On Her Motorcycle, was published in 2013. An engaging, dynamic speaker, Diana has talked to a wide variety of audiences—from B’nai Brith groups to university students. She gives workshops in creative and non-fiction writing and blog-writing. In 1991, Diana made Aliyah, direct from a New York suburb to a small beach village in the Western Galilee, Shavey Tzion. There, she and her husband raised their six children as well as an unofficially adopted Ethiopian daughter in a tight-knit blended family.

GALIT AVIRAM-COHEN — The manager for the settlement of Gita in Western Galilee, Galit has helped to establish various forums for women living in the Matte Asher Regional Council, she is also a member of Queen of the Desert, a tour group which takes women on jeep tours to various places around the world, and is the owner of a tour company located at Kibbutz Yechiam that provides services to tourist groups and families. Living in the Ghetto Fighters’ Kibbutz, Galit is married with three daughters and her parents, holocaust survivors, moved to Israel from Hungary after the war.

KINERET HADAR — Legal Adviser of the Akko Municipality and Akko Economic Corporation. She leads the legal department of the municipality, which provides legal advice on all problems arising in the course of the municipality’s activities, which includes: legal advice to the Mayor, elected representatives, managers and employees of the municipality; preparation of tenders and contracts; preparing by-laws for city council approval, writing internal operating procedures and guidelines, representing the municipality at all courts & tribunals in all civil and administrative litigation as well as administrative code enforcement proceedings brought in criminal court, etc. Kineret is married with three children and lives in the moshav of Kfar-Vradim.

DR. JANAN FARRAJ-FALAH — A Druze woman, Dr. Farraj-Falah is a researcher in the Jewish-Arab Center at Haifa University, and heads the Gender Department at the Arab College for Education in Haifa. In addition, she is the creator and manager of Hazon Acre, an association for Arab and Jewish women promoting coexistence, education, culture and peace. This association creates connections with women outside of Israel giving them a chance to meet, conduct national and international conferences, write educational material in Hebrew and Arabic, and create a Palestinian-Israeli periodical in three languages. She also leads the Golda Meir International Women’s Center operated by the Israel Foreign Ministry, where she lectures and hosts seminars about women building new realities.

COSTS
Each hosting community is responsible for housing, meals and ground costs during the delegation visit. Noa Friedman-Epstein, the coordinator for the Arts & Community Task Force will be joining this delegation.

WHAT IS PARTNERSHIP2GETHER?
PARTNERSHIP2GETHER is a program of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish Federations of North America, promoting people-to-people relationships through cultural, social, medical, educational and economic programs. This Partnership is between the 12 communities of the U.S. Central Area Consortium and Israel’s Western Galilee.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SCHEDULE THIS DELEGATION IN YOUR COMMUNITY:
Contact Noa Epstein, Arts & Community Task Force Coordinator at Noaep@jafi.org or noafe55@gmail.com

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