



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Film Screening and Book Reception with Iraqi Authors and Filmmakers**

**Minneapolis / St. Paul, MN (January 4, 2013):** On January 24, The Advocates for Human Rights will co-host a reception featuring Minneapolis-based Iraqi authors and filmmakers with the Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project (IARP), the International Leadership Program at the University of St. Thomas, and the Veterans Book Project. The featured Iraqi authors and filmmakers are refugees and immigrants who participated in Veterans Book Project workshops with IARP and The Advocates in 2012.

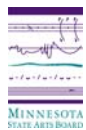
Free and open to the public, the reception will include screenings of four short Iraqi-produced films, books written by Iraqis and by American veterans, and the chance to meet the artists. The reception will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Schulze Hall Atrium on the University of St. Thomas' Minneapolis campus, 1000 LaSalle Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403.

Each book and film to be featured at the reception tells the story of an individual who has experienced the recent American-led wars. Iraqis who made books include a medical student, a refugee recently arrived in Minneapolis, and a high school student. Each individual book and film re-deploys volatile images with the aim of re-articulating and refashioning memories.

The films and books are available free of charge on IARP's website, [www.iraqiartproject.org](http://www.iraqiartproject.org). The resources were created in cooperation with the Veterans Book Project, artist Monica Haller, and filmmaker Nathan Fisher. The curriculum is available on The Advocates' website:

[http://www.discoverhumanrights.org/uploads/final\\_iraqi\\_voices\\_teaching\\_guide.pdf](http://www.discoverhumanrights.org/uploads/final_iraqi_voices_teaching_guide.pdf).

"What I say might sound serious or even extraordinary to you, but in truth it is only a small fraction of what most Iraqis go through. The challenges endured by the Iraqi people comprise some of the worst situations imaginable, from the start of civilization until now." - Iraqi Author, Veterans Book Project.



*This activity is made possible in part by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.*

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The Advocates for Human Rights, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Minneapolis, is dedicated to the promotion of internationally-recognized human rights. To learn more visit [theadvocatesforhumanrights.org](http://theadvocatesforhumanrights.org).

The Iraqi American Reconciliation Project is a nonprofit organization that works for reconciliation between Iraqis and Americans in response to the devastation affecting Iraqi families, society, and culture. To learn more visit: <http://reconciliationproject.org>.