

SARAH LAWRENCE COALITION FOR PALESTINE

STUDENTS • FACULTY • STAFF • ALUMNI

KITE

FROM KIMBALL

A newsletter from the
**SARAH LAWRENCE COALITION
FOR PALESTINE • VOLUME 6
SUMMER 2026**



VOL. 7 NO. 7 : MONDAY OCTOBER 19, 2026

*Welcome to our newsletter KITE, from
the Sarah Lawrence Coalition for Palestine.*

*KITE is open to contributions from within and beyond our
Sarah Lawrence community. If you or someone you know would
like to contribute—an event announcement, an event report,
an opinion piece, a response to something we've published,
a quote, a poem—please send to sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me.*

Copy deadline is Sundays at noon. Thank you.

5 Questions

We've had the honor of printing responses to these 5 questions from SL alums Sarah Ihmoud, Kathy Engel, Megan G, Miller Oberman, Randall Wallace, & Deborah Augustin, as well as from two current faculty members. We'd like to open our community-wide dialogue to anyone else who might be willing to answer them, whether by name or anonymously. As above, reach us at sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me.

Here are the questions:

1 Can you say a little about your connection to Sarah Lawrence?

2 Can you say a little about what your life has been like since October of 2023?

3 Something the Sarah Lawrence administration has said consistently since the fall of 2023: the rights of Zionists must be respected. Can you say a little about what that means to you?

4 What's the role of a college or university in a time of genocide?

5 What are the values of Sarah Lawrence that you respect?

Since our last newsletter:

• *Monday October 12* "The history of Western imperialism is bookended by genocides: the genocide perpetrated by Columbus against the Taino people after he landed in Ayiti in 1492, and the current US-Israeli genocide against the people of Palestine. 500+ years of barbarism and it must be stopped." [Jason Hickel](#)

[Metallica](#)'s James Hatfield: "And I just gotta say: Metallica's not here like some 'entertainers' to influence you with their bullshit, okay? We're here to forget about all that outside shit, okay? Metallica's agenda is love, energy, and heavy music, baby!"

Columbia last October: "The President's Advisory Committee on Institutional Voice called on the University to 'exercise restraint' when speaking to issues not directly pertaining to its 'paramount values' or 'fundamental commitments' in a Sept. 25 [report](#). These values, as defined by the committee, include 'research and scholarship, teaching and learning, and clinical care and service.'" [Spectator](#)

Polish PM: Israel Had Access to Data on Polish Opposition via Pegasus Spyware. A parliamentary investigation found that Poland's previous government paid \$7.65 million for Israeli-made spyware Pegasus and used it to target opposition politicians and legal officials. [Ha'aretz](#)

Israeli authorities have begun demolishing the homes of 80 Palestinian families in the village of al-Dahiyah in the Negev. [Mustafa Barghouti](#)

Israel's Destruction of Southern Lebanon Intensified After the Cease-Fire [NYT](#)

Over 20,000 students killed in Gaza, West Bank in 3 years of Israeli genocide [MEM](#)

Palestinian Education Ministry says more than 90% of Gaza schools destroyed during three years of war. [MEM](#)



• **Tuesday October 13** Leaked emails reveal former German intelligence chief's Mossad links. Former German intelligence chief [August Hanning](#) is accused of treason and spying for a foreign agency after allegedly obtaining about 2,000 classified BND documents and using them in dealings with intelligence officials from an unnamed foreign country. Berlin has not publicly named the recipient,

but emails obtained by *The Cradle* reveal a relationship between Hanning and former Mossad director [Danny Yatom](#). [Cradle](#)

“What’s Wrong with Civility?”, Dominique J Baker: “Shepherd’s book [Resistance From the Right](#) highlights how ISI [Intercollegiate Studies Institute], under the guidance of founder Frank Chodorov and its first president, William F. Buckley Jr., focused on creating pipelines for conservative faculty and increasing access to books and lectures focused on Western civilization—in all its [euphemistic glory](#)—and conservative authors...Their goal was to [reduce](#) students’ interest in and commitment to ‘collectivist’ values. This focus on the university happened because, as Shepherd told me recently, ‘The university is a gateway to culture, to political office, to sources of power.’ “All this brings me back to civility. The reason that I kept being reminded of ISI’s past work is that the general purpose of these new centers and programs—fighting polarization—ultimately ties back to ISI’s goals of prioritizing and privileging conservative ideals. As the focus on political polarization in American society has increased, so have some scholars’ attempts to [add nuance](#) and unpack the idea. Vanderbilt University historian Nicole Hemmer [wrote](#) that ‘the polarization of US politics was a deliberate project: over the past fifty years, right-wing activists within the GOP labored tirelessly to move the party to the right.’” [InsideHigherEd](#)

The bizarre, underreported story of how Palm Beach County, Florida, home to Trump’s Mar-a-Lago and once home to Jeffrey Epstein, came to hold more Israeli bonds than any country in the world. [Jeremy Loffredo](#)

• **Wednesday October 14** New York City Comptroller Backs Off Promise to Invest in Israeli Bonds. Mark Levine, a Democrat, said he remained a steadfast supporter of Israel, but the quality of the bonds had deteriorated amid conflict in the Middle East. [NYT](#) Darializa Avila Chevalier, a Democratic nominee for Congress and a member of the Democratic Socialists of America: “Teachers, nurses, sanitation workers and city employees across New York said they would not let their retirement savings bankroll the bombing of Gaza, and they won.”

Sally Rooney’s books will no longer be available in UK over her support for Palestine Action. Faber blames UK antiterrorism legislation for decision to stop distributing bestselling author’s works. [IrishTimes](#) “With her lonely stand for Palestine, Sally Rooney has exposed the contemporary literary world as a nest of cowards and careerists Where are all the Doris Lessings, Harold Pinters, John Bergers, Graham Greenes, Samuel Becketts that once raised their voices against war and injustice? Rooney stands almost alone.” [Matt Kennard](#)

“A newly published paper finds that colleges were significantly more likely to report terminations of international students’ legal status if they had previously experienced campus protests over the Israel-Hamas war, suggesting, the authors say, that these institutions were targeted for legal action against foreign students. The [paper](#) examines a spring of 2025 crackdown on foreign students, finding that

the odds of status revocations were four to eight times greater on campuses that had been protest sites the prior year. The presence of demonstrations, rather than institutional type or political control of a college's home state, was the strongest predictor of terminations." [Chron](#)

• *Thursday October 15* Children's book co-written by Alana Hadid and Jenan Matari pulled from Random House just before release, after disputes with editors over characterizations of 7 October. [Guardian](#) "Apparently, even a children's book about Palestine needs a disclaimer making sure everyone knows October 7 was illegal, while the Nakba, occupation and decades of dispossession are up for editorial debate. Alana and Jenin eventually walked away rather than publish a version they couldn't stand behind." [Abier Khatib](#)

"When we got suspended from Cornell for our peaceful, anti-genocide encampment, Cornell admin threatened to attach a permanent notice to our transcripts about the suspensions. Cornell chose to protect this rapist, and chose not to notify or warn Nova Southeastern University about him." [Nick](#)

Researchers from The Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto reveal a worst-case scenario found in the wild: [spyware silently infecting targets](#) as they browse past ads in their daily digital lives. Dubbing the attacks "AdFection," the researchers [documented a campaign](#) in which an Israeli-registered advertising firm allegedly connected to the servers linked to a spyware company and infected dozens of devices with its invasive malware. Citizen Lab believes this to be the first detailed technical evidence made publicly available of sophisticated spyware infecting devices via digital ads. Zero-click hacks are a holy grail for attackers and catastrophic for victims, because they can automatically install malware on devices without requiring any interaction or missteps from the target. [Wired](#)

Israel Was Inside *Al Jazeera's* Computers. Ads for earbuds carried spyware onto 45 *Al Jazeera* computers, the first proven case of its kind, in the same years Israel hunted down the network's journalists. [Ahmed Eldin](#)

"Colombia, under the direction of its new far-right president—who has celebrated the Gaza genocide as a model he hopes to replicate at home—has announced its departure from The Hague Group." [David Adler](#)

Out of roughly 2 million olive trees in Gaza before October 2023, only 150,000 remain. This is a loss of roughly 85% to 90% of the region's olive groves. [Ecocide](#) is the deliberate, widespread destruction of natural ecosystems necessary to sustain human life.

Dozens of masked Israeli settlers attack Palestinian-American citizen Haitham Tayseer Abdel Jaber in the town of Burqa, near Ramallah, during the olive harvest, leaving him with severe injuries. [MiddleEastEye](#)

• **Friday October 16** Dozens of masked Israeli settlers attack Palestinian villagers trying to gather their autumn olive harvest in Abu Falah, a West Bank village north of Ramallah, setting groves on fire and slinging rocks in a coordinated assault that fits a [pattern of accelerating settler violence](#) across the occupied West Bank. They also attacked Heidi Levine, a veteran photographer for the *Washington Post*, who remains hospitalized. [WashingtonPost](#)

Israel Held Most Palestinian Minors It Jailed in 2025 in Solitary, Nearly All Unsentenced. Prison Service data show 351 of 635 minors in custody were put in solitary, 92 percent of them unsentenced, including 115 held in administrative detention without charge. Some were isolated up to eight times. [Ha'aretz](#)

An Israeli officer calls Adham and gives him 2 options: 1- Go to the rooftop to be killed by a drone. 2- Or Israel will kill all of his family by bombing. He chose the rooftop. His last name is not Shalha, it's Maarouf. He was asked to go to the rooftop of the Shalha family home. [WarfareAnalysis](#)

"At this very moment, booby trapped robots carrying tons of explosives are being detonated in Gaza City, behind the Yellow Line Massive, terrifying explosions are shaking the city. These explosions have been ongoing for weeks. A single blast can destroy an entire neighborhood in a matter of seconds, wiping out every trace of it. Although I am hundreds of kilometers away from the targeted area, the blast was so powerful that I felt as if it had happened right next to us. The situation here is absolutely terrifying. Talk about what is happening in Gaza. Write about it and share it. What is happening here must not be allowed to pass in silence." [Tamer Nahed](#)

Albanian revolutionaries are removing Israeli-Emirati "smart" surveillance cameras from the streets of Tirana, installed by Israel's Mossad to spy on Albanians on behalf of Edi Rama's regime. Albanians are dismantling Edi Rama's "Zionist Big Brother" surveillance state. [Olsi Jazexhi](#)

Hamas Political Bureau's Dr. Bassem Naim: "2 years have passed since the martyrdom of the great leader Abu Ibrahim, Yahya Sinwar. His final image sums up the story of a people who will fight until their last breath for their freedom. He said it with his hands stained with his own blood: 'Freedom has a red gate, and every bloodstained hand knocks upon it.'" [SouthernAfricaEye](#)

[Giorgos Gogos](#) of the Greek Dockworkers' Union: "Solidarity. It's a magical word. It's a principle, it's a value for trade unions. We have been offered solidarity when we were fighting against privatization of our port in Pireus. Now the time has come to show our solidarity...We are blocking Israeli containers that have inside military steel, that are going to the military industry of Israel, to make bombs to kill Palestinian people...We are trying to form a common front against wars...Warfare is killing us, is killing our children."

• ***Saturday October 17*** Masked Israeli settlers attack diplomatic vehicles carrying representatives from France, Belgium, and Poland during their visit to the village of al-Taybeh during the olive harvest season, in full view of the Israeli occupation authorities. [Mustafa Barghouti](#)

"Three hours ago, israel slaughtered 14-year-old Mohammad Abu Hammad in a strike in Der el-Balah. The child was returning from school when he was killed." [Mosab Abu Toha](#)

"Today, Israeli bombardment of Gaza killed seven more Palestinian civilians, including a child. The bombardment of Gaza has not stopped for a single day since the ceasefire was declared. To date, Israel has violated the ceasefire more than 5,000 times, killing 1,511 Palestinians, including more than 340 children, and injuring 5,375 others. These relentless attacks continue to claim civilian lives and undermine the ceasefire, while the people of Gaza remain exposed to death, destruction, poor humanitarian conditions and immense suffering." [Mustafa Barghouti](#)

Three years since the Israeli attack on the Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital left more than 400 people dead. [Ghassan Abu Sitta](#) then: "Every Western politician who has declared unconditional support for Israel's war efforts on the Palestinian people has the blood of these children on their hands. That unconditional support is what led us to this massacre. The impunity that Israel believes it has from its Western allies is what has led to this massacre."

"The testimony of Ghassan Abu Sitta is so valuable because he was both a direct eye witness to the genocide's first atrocities, and an expert testimony from the pers. of medical science. In Ghassan's hands medicine is a diagnostic tool of colonial violence and a liberation practice." [Eyal](#)

[Weizman](#) "When It Stopped Being A War," October 17, 2023 [Forensic Architecture](#)

"On this day 3 years ago: After 11 days of livestreamed massacres, what did you do?" [Abubaker Abed](#)

"The Gaza Holocaust should've triggered such mass protests and civil disobedience days into it. If the airways, naval passages, and roads were blocked, genocide enablers in the West and Arab regimes couldn't have fuelled the genocide. It'd have brought them to their knees." [Abubaker Abed](#)

[Clarence Seedorf](#), speaking at his first press conference as Brazil's Corinthians soccer team's head coach: "The world is living through a complicated moment, with an ongoing genocide. I cannot be as worried as those who suffer from a war. We are privileged to be here talking about soccer."

• ***Sunday October 18*** "To whom it may concern: today, 75 innocent people recovered from beneath the rubble—where they had lain for a year and a half—were laid to rest." [Hasan Alrabay](#)

A routine morning update during the "ceasefire": At least 6 Palestinians have been killed and 26 others injured, including two fishermen off Gaza's coast, as Israeli attacks continue by air, land and sea. [Maha Hussaini](#)

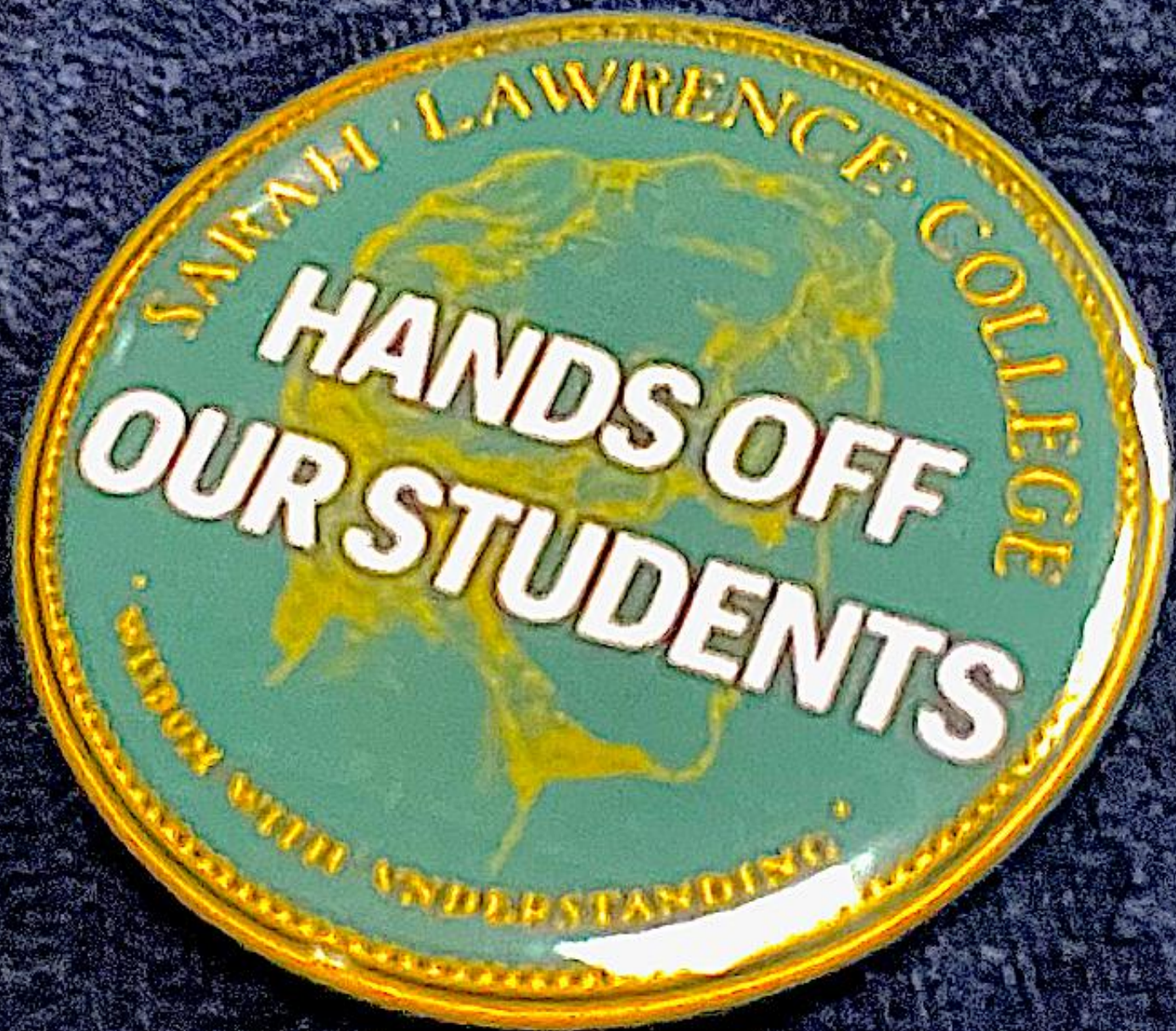
• [March 27, 2025 letter from the House Committee on Education & Workforce](#) to 5 colleges: Pomona, Bowdoin, Northwestern, Barnard, & Sarah Lawrence.

• [June 11, 2025 letter from the House Committee to Sarah Lawrence](#)

• [August 5 lawsuit](#) filed by 10 Sarah Lawrence students & one faculty member against the College & the House Committee, to prevent shared attempts to equate anti-Zionism & anti-Semitism & to interfere with pro-Palestine anti-genocide protest. Ongoing.

• [March 17, 2026](#) House Committee releases [report](#), with [Appendix](#) including the names of Sarah Lawrence staff and FSJP faculty in partially redacted emails turned over to the Committee by the College, without a subpoena.





• FROM THE FACULTY & STAFF •

Masquerades part 1

In the spirit of October, our messages this week and next will be focused on an essential tool of genocide: masquerade. A lie is a kind of masquerade; lies repeated make the alternate reality of propaganda, buying time for violence to unfold without resistance. Masquerade in the face of genocide—see the recent ‘celebrations’ of ‘Columbus Day’—tries to produce support, consent, or at least confusion and passivity in relation to theft. The alternate reality of masquerade makes resistance to genocide seem pointless, reprehensible, irresponsible, rude, maybe violent and in need of discipline. Unmasking masquerades doesn’t by itself change conditions; we of SL FSJP have been wondering whether it’s true that knowledge is power, without the organized ability to use that knowledge to make power move.

Here are our masquerades of the week. Please feel free to send us your own.

- **A newspaper.** *Masquerade:* The *New York Times* is a neutral, impartial observer of world events, the distinguished US newspaper of record. Its motto is All the News That’s Fit To Print. *Behind the mask.* “The *New York Times* is not unique among media outlets in manufacturing consent for war, for exploitation, for genocide. It is, rather, exemplary. The *Times*’ reputation for liberalism, for rigor, for non-partisan independence is precisely what makes it so dangerous, because it hides what it really is: a publication that exists to serve the interests of U.S. imperialism.” See Boycott, Divest, Unsubscribe: Writers Against the War on Gaza. [WAWOG](#).
- **An organization.** *Masquerade:* The Anti-Defamation League was founded in 1913 to fight anti-Semitism and racism. *Behind the mask.* “The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) is a major US political organization, yet its politics have gone largely unexamined. While the ADL is often portrayed as a defender against antisemitism and racism, its history shows that it is better understood as a proponent of the racial state and US empire. From ‘correcting’ the embarrassing racial difference of immigrant Jews to policing the leftist politics of Black, Arab, and Jewish groups, the ADL pursued a conservative version of civil rights paired with aggressive anti-communism. Even as it became an authority on white nationalism in the 1970s, the ADL joined with the emerging anti-left, anti-Arab, and pro-Western neoconservative movement.” See Emmaia Gelman’s [The Anti-Defamation League and the Racial State](#) (Robin Kelley: “Emmaia Gelman’s gripping book sent chills down my spine.”) (*Publisher’s Weekly*, starred review: “A gutsy, razor-sharp demystification of a powerful organization.”)
- **A university.** *Masquerade:* Columbia University is one of this country’s most respected institutions of higher learning. *Behind the mask.* “Being Palestinian at Columbia University is to be an inconvenience, a constant thorn in the side of the university. Being Palestinian means writing [op ed](#) after [op ed](#) to your administration, begging to have your humanity acknowledged. Being Palestinian means waking up everyday and seeing your people, those who share your name and those that look just like you,

people related to you, in the worst moments of their lives, pleading to the world in a language that is not their own, begging to stop the bombing and destruction." See [Layla Saliba's](#) "Being Palestinian at Columbia University."

- **An airport.** *Masquerade:* JFK is a civilian airport. *Behind the mask:* JFK is the place where Canadian/Syrian citizen Maher Arar was arrested and detained on September 26, 2002, before being deported to Syria for a year to be tortured. At the moment, it's the place explosives and weapons bound for the Israeli military are loaded onto planes every week. See [Break the Chain](#): NYC People's Arms Embargo campaign.

- **A war.** *Masquerade:* The heroic embattled state of Israel is surrounded by hostile neighbors and has with great skill managed to defend itself against all attempts to obliterate it. *Behind the mask.* See: "This graph depicting the Palestinian vs. Israeli death toll from 1940 to the present shows exactly when the genocide begins—and why it is a genocide." [Trita Parsi](#) See also [Genocide Watch's](#) "Special report: Gaza and the Ten Stages of Genocide."

DID YOU KNOW?

- Did you know that 3 Sarah Lawrence students were suspended last May for their participation in a political protest last January?
- Did you know that because merit scholarships are permanently cancelled after a suspension, these suspensions amount to expulsions?
- Did you know that 1 of those 3 students received a campus award which was rescinded without explanation?
- **Did you know that *Inside Higher Ed* just published an article called "Colleges Adopted 'Systemic Suppression' of Protesters, New Investigation Shows: Drawing on records, media reports and surveys, the ACLU and Amnesty International USA break down how colleges have 'disproportionately' violated the rights of pro-Palestinian students" ?**
- Did you know that 8 Sarah Lawrence seniors received disciplinary sanctions last May for participating in political protest last January?
- Did you know that 4 of those seniors were barred from senior week celebrations?
- Did you know that one brown Muslim senior was barred from commencement and from campus on commencement day?
- Did you know that 9 of the 20 students who faced disciplinary hearings for political protest were students of color?
- Did you know that the investigation and hearings process was outsourced to a controversial consulting firm called Grand River Solutions?
- Would you like to be part of a campus conversation about this? Email SLCseriousquestions@proton.me

ANTI-ZIONIST ANTIRACIST LIBERATORY RESEARCH



into
public culture
shared knowledge
commonsense

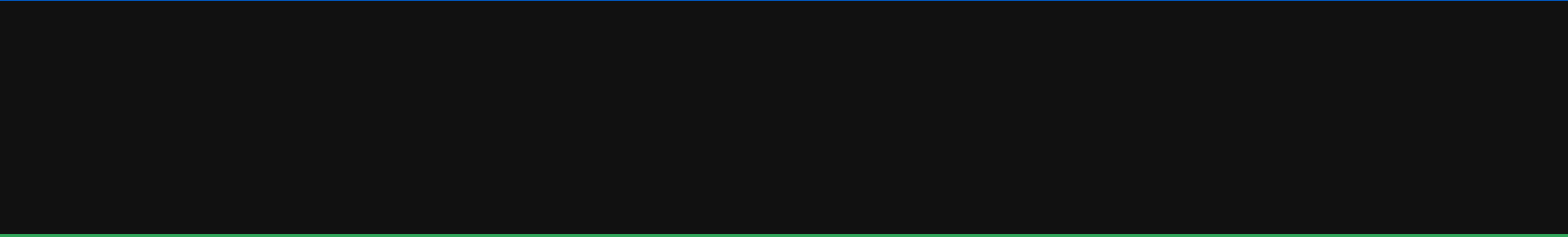
Exploratory meeting of the ICSZ Arts Council

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 6-8pm, Lower Manhattan. Food, ideas, & collabs. RSVP for address: catie@criticalzionismstudies.org

• FROM THE ALUMNI •

Fundraiser of the week

Meet Maryam:



**I'm back here again after a
while. 🍉**



Maryam took a brief hiatus from [Instagram](#) as the pressures and the toll of life under siege is hard beyond words! Maryam is a mother of three beautiful children and is also the lifeline for various neighbors. She has previously distributed water, food and medical goods and is doing her best to make sure her children make it to school.

She can be reached via Instagram and is receiving funds via PayPal [here](#).



qsultan1 and 5 others

London, United Kingdom
🎵 Freya Catherine, Jack...

Follow



WHAT A PRIVILEGE IT
IS TO "NOT TAKE SIDES"
WHEN IT ISN'T YOUR
CHILD UNDER THE RUBBLE







**"If I fall, I will fall
five-feet four-inches
forward in the fight
for freedom."**

-Fannie Lou Hamer

• FROM THE STUDENTS •

Weekly Rally and Outreach

AIPAC OUT OF WESTCHESTER

Not Another Nickel Not Another Dime, No More Money for Israel's Crimes

AIPAC OUT →

**Fund Westchester's needs, not
the US-Israeli War Machine**



Thursdays

Oct 1st Oct 8th Oct 15th
Oct 22nd Oct 29th

Yonkers

Park Hill Ave & S.
Waverly St
5:30-7:00PM







Briahna Joy Gray  @briebriejoy · Jan 31



They didn't protest Ezra Klein hard enough, actually.



Share full article



I think I should say, before I start this episode, where I am on the Epstein story. If you forced me to give you my best guess, I think this guy had a lot of powerful friends, and that he was a predator and a pedophile, and those sides of his life were mostly separate.

I don't think there is a list of boldfaced names. The reason I don't think there is a list is that there have been a lot of big law firms hunting for cases here. There is a lot of money to be made in suing anyone connected to Epstein. Very, very powerful firms — to say nothing of media organizations — that are capable of hiring excellent investigators are just not finding much.



ANTIZIONISM
IS NOT
ANTIGEMITISM!

KITE

will be published every academic
Monday. Contributions due Sundays by
noon ET: sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me

Comments from our readers

- "Thank you and thank you again for your words. I have been longing to hear your voice and didn't even know it. The fact that you are there at Sarah Lawrence is a source of comfort and my greatest thanks."
- "I read this newsletter every Monday morning. I imagine that it is a major undertaking to put this together. I so appreciate the team for keeping it going through the summer."
- "I'm always glad to receive this. Student and faculty journalists very much on the ball."
- "Finally: just amazing kudos for the work you are all doing at SL and the newsletter, as testament to organizing across groups and standing strong, is so powerful!"
- "amazing amazing work.

keep it up.

so erudite. so clear so human. amazing writing. can't be found anywhere else.

samud to u"

- "bless you
thank you for your service"
- "KITE is a great publication."
- "We love KITE, and will definitely consider submitting something. Please keep up the good work!"
- "fabulous work, people!"

hlawichan · Original au...

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Make a kite



Sarah Lawrence & Palestine

KITE is a newsletter from a coalition of Sarah Lawrence groups organizing for Palestine since the fall of 2023: faculty, staff, students, and alumni. We welcome all contributions, responses, and suggestions. You can reach us at sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me.

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