

**PHILADELPHIA'S**

# **NETWORK OF HATE**

**HOW A COALITION OF EXTREMISTS AIM TO  
UNDERMINE AMERICA AND FUEL ANTISEMITISM**



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Amid the proliferation of antisemitism, anti-Americanism and extremism that disseminated across America after Hamas' October 7, 2023 massacre of Israelis, Philadelphia stands out as a major center of concern.

In this report, Canary Mission uncovers and analyzes the deeper reasons for the anti-Israel fervor that overtook the city.

Our extensive research focused on events between October 2023 and December 2024. What we discovered was a disturbing strategy conceived by activists to turn the city into a hub of antisemitism, where support for terror was normalized.

This report carries with it great urgency, as this strategy is now being implemented throughout the state.

The plan used by Philadelphia's anti-Israel/antisemitic activists involved activating three areas of civil society:

- Community groups and political actors
- University students and professors
- K-12 students and educators

By concentrating on these three demographics, they effectively spread their extremist ideology to the next generation. These cohorts provided masses for anti-Israel rallies and backing for the various anti-Israel initiatives implemented across the city. Local politicians showed support for the movement, as well.

This report focuses on three main arenas:

1. The coalition and alliance building strategy, facilitated largely by Philly Palestine Coalition, successfully recruited intersectional, political and interfaith partners to spread support for terrorism and promote an anti-Israel agenda disguised as "social and racial justice."

2. The university ecosystem, comprised of the University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University and Temple University, where students and professors worked together for maximum impact.
3. Promotion of anti-Israel education by activist teachers, administrators and parents in the K-12 school system, which led to the indoctrination of children and harassment of Jewish students and teachers.

The report further explains how this radical network impacted Philadelphia's Jewish community, which experienced an unprecedented number of antisemitic incidents during the evaluated time period.

The appendices provide further data, including profiles of nearly 700 activists and information on 77 anti-Israel events held in the city.

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# KEY FINDINGS

## 1. **Ideological Foundations**

Several religious groups, including the Nation of Islam, the Muslim Brotherhood and the Quakers, laid the ideological groundwork for the explosion of anti-Israel and antisemitic incidents in Philadelphia that occurred following the October 7, 2023 massacre of Israelis by Hamas. These groups, active in Philadelphia for decades, primed the community to adopt anti-Israel and antisemitic rhetoric and activism.

## 2. **Philadelphia's Three Main Hubs of Activism**

Three groups worked together to produce the eruption of activism:

- Political and community organizations
- K-12 educators and administrators
- Students and faculty primarily driven by Students for Justice in Palestine at the University of Pennsylvania, Temple University and Drexel University

## 3. **Central Role of Philly Palestine Coalition**

Philly Palestine Coalition is the primary organizer of anti-Israel and pro-terror activity in Philadelphia. It coordinated messaging, street actions, teach-ins and protest toolkits. It was the lead organizer for over 75% of documented events in this report.

## 4. **Effective Coalition Model and On-Demand Mobilization**

Philly Palestine Coalition successfully replicated the strategy of New York's pro-terror, anti-Israel group Within Our Lifetime, merging university student activism with community organizing to amplify pro-terror messages and create a greater influence on the community.

Using this method, the group and its partners developed an adept mobilization system able to trigger city-wide disruptions across Philadelphia within 24 hours using a single shared graphic and Telegram blast. These coordinated actions resulted in prolonged encampments, highway shutdowns and widespread protests, and came at significant cost to Philadelphia taxpayers.

## 5. **Interfaith Facade**

In Philadelphia, a city historically shaped by Quaker traditions and interfaith cooperation, groups like the Council for American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Jewish Voice for Peace, If Not Now and American Friends Service Committee exploited its deep religious roots, providing cover for extremist messaging through prayer events, "Liberation Seders" and carefully staged religious outrage. Their actions effectively cloaked anti-Israel and antisemitic activism in the city's long-standing heritage of moral advocacy.

## 6. **Green-Card Holder Driving Anti-Israel Agenda**

[Ahmet Selim Tekelioglu](#), CAIR-Philadelphia's executive director and a U.S. green card holder, leveraged his protected immigration status to spearhead anti-Israel, anti-American and pro-terror messaging.

Under his leadership, CAIR-Philadelphia not only amplifies this agenda but also provides legal and public-relations cover for other activists who engage in the same extremist activity.

## 7. **Intersectional Coalition Building**

Philadelphia's intersectional coalition is uniquely expansive, connecting nearly 100 diverse groups spanning racial justice, LGBTQ activism, anti-colonial movements, Marxist collectives and more.

Philadelphia's numerous "racial justice" groups, influenced by a large population of Black Muslims, including Black Lives Matter Philly, Racial Justice Organizing Committee, Black Alliance for Peace Philly and many more, are closely aligned with pro-Palestinian activism as part of their "collective liberation."

Each group, with its distinct narrative, links anti-American and anti-Israel hatred directly to their respective causes, creating a powerful, unified front across the city.

## 8. **Socialist Networks Fueling Extremism**

The Philadelphia chapter of the Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL), together with allied socialist groups in Philadelphia, maintains a strong city-wide presence that couples anti-American rhetoric with praise for "armed resistance."

Their events and online channels circulate slogans glorifying revolutionary violence and creating an environment in which attacks like the May 21, 2025, Washington D.C. shooting of two Israeli embassy workers – allegedly carried out by self-described PSL

supporter Elias Rodriguez – is a natural outcome.

#### 9. **Political Support and Influence**

Numerous Philadelphia-area elected officials provided significant political backing to the anti-Israel movement by speaking at protests, minimizing antisemitism, dismissing Jewish constituents' concerns and pushing problematic legislation.

The anti-American group Philadelphia Democratic Socialists of America actively promotes its "Socialists in Office," including State Rep. Rick Krajewski, State Senator Nikil Saval and Councilmember Nicolas O'Rourke, highlighting their public support of pro-Palestinian activism, involvement in protests and coordinated efforts demanding divestment from Israel.

#### 10. **Infiltration of Anti-Israel Activism into Philadelphia's K-12 Schools**

K-12 educators from the School District of Philadelphia actively merge classroom teaching and community organizing by training fellow teachers, promoting anti-Israel lesson plans and mobilizing students for protests and encampments.

Political activist educators Sharif El-Mekki and [Ismael Jimenez](#) have significant influence over curriculum development in Pennsylvania, adding to the antisemitic environment rampant in Philadelphia's K-12 schools.

El-Mekki, who advised Governor Josh Shapiro's transition team, promotes racial justice curricula criticized as indoctrination, influencing statewide educational policy.

Jimenez, as the director of the social studies curriculum for the School District of Philadelphia, conducted anti-Israel training sessions for educators.

#### 11. **Unified University Movement**

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) chapters in Philadelphia have consolidated into a powerful and united front. Initially formed through the collaboration of Temple SJP, Penn Against the Occupation and Drexel SJP, this coalition successfully mobilized a large-scale anti-Israel, pro-terror protest movement, including the Penn and Drexel encampments.

In September 2024, their alliance was further solidified as [PHL-SJP](#) and expanded to include Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Swarthmore, Villanova and West Chester.



## 12. **Statewide Expansion Efforts**

The PPC coalition model is being replicated across Pennsylvania, with Palestine Coalitions forming in Lancaster, Harrisburg and Pittsburg. In addition, PPC, CAIR and DSA actively bus activists to locations across the state, reinforcing local anti-Israel coalitions.

This growing network increases their capacity for coordinated disruptions, amplifies anti-Israel messaging statewide and accelerates the radicalization of local communities.

# INTRODUCTION

Following the October 7 Hamas massacre of 1,200 Israeli civilians, Philadelphia's streets overflowed with hateful rhetoric at mass rallies and protests. Disruptive marches featuring pro-Hamas speeches and anti-Israel posters and graffiti littered the city.

The speed at which the city transformed into a frontline of hate-filled activism revealed how years of ideological groundwork had primed Philadelphia for an uprising.

In this report, we examine how numerous coalitions exploited intersectional language and progressive causes to mask virulent bigotry and support for terrorism. With backing from aligned politicians, institutions and media, these groups normalized incitement and disrupted civic life.

Drawing on social media, original protest footage and public statements, Canary Mission has identified the individuals and organizations that orchestrated the massive anti-Israel movement, enabling alarming antisemitic and anti-American trends to proliferate without check.

The report focuses on uncovering the three-point plan to spread anti-Israel hatred in Philadelphia: coalition building in the community, student activism at multiple universities and infiltration of the K-12 education system. The result is a comprehensive map of Philadelphia's anti-Israel organizations and their role in spreading antisemitism across the city, its communities, college campuses and public spaces.

Philadelphia's story is a warning. The convergence of revolutionary ideology, religious radicalism and political legitimization created a combustible environment in which terrorism is celebrated as social justice and hate is paraded as freedom of speech.

**This report is an urgent call to recognize the threat and confront it with accountability.**

# METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE

This report examines antisemitic, anti-Israel and anti-American activity in Philadelphia from October 7, 2023 through December 31, 2024. In this time period, Canary Mission documented 77 anti-Israel events, including rallies, demonstrations and public actions, with a focus on activities led or supported by Philly Palestine Coalition (PPC).

Event inclusion was based on:

- Organization or endorsement by PPC
- Occurrence at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn), Temple University (Temple) or Drexel University (Drexel)

Canary Mission also documented nearly 700 individuals linked to this insidious network. Individuals were included if they:

- Attended PPC-led events
- Participated in anti-Israel activism at targeted universities, including pro-Hamas encampments
- Signed public anti-Israel statements
- Wielded influence in relevant institutions (education, media, government, etc.) and were linked to antisemitic activity

Our research draws on social media data, media coverage, protest footage, academic materials and original profiles collected and analyzed by our team.

# WHY IS PHILADELPHIA A HUB OF ANTISEMITISM?



Although antisemitism spread across much of the U.S. after the October 7, 2023 Hamas terror attack, Philadelphia was particularly fertile ground for the proliferation of antisemitic ideas for several cultural, demographic and religious reasons.

Historically, the city has been home to groups representing denominations of Islam that regularly espouse antisemitism, including the [Nation of Islam \(NOI\)](#) and the [Muslim Brotherhood](#). For decades sermons in a number of the city's mosques have been [cited](#) for extreme antisemitic rhetoric and [support](#) for terror causes.

In addition, Philadelphia is the home of the Quaker community, dating back to its founding by William Penn, himself a Quaker. The influential Quaker social justice organization, the [American Friends Service Committee \(AFSC\)](#), has emerged as a leading voice in the anti-Israel, pro-BDS movement since the 1970s, when it aligned itself with the Palestinian cause.





Activists from these organizations had already been employed in Philadelphia's K-12 school system and universities when Hamas' horrific October 7, 2023 terror attack sparked a pro-Hamas movement and anti-Israel activism in the city.

## The Nation of Islam

The Nation of Islam (NOI) is an [antisemitic](#) religious group [led](#) today by [Louis Farrakhan](#), who often [refers](#) to Jews as "satanic." He has called Hitler "a very great man" and described Judaism as "a dirty religion."

Although NOI's headquarters are in Chicago, Philadelphia became an important city for the group in 1954 when Malcolm X, a charismatic NOI activist, [established](#) Temple #12, the first NOI temple in the city. Five additional temples were [opened](#) in Philadelphia over the next decade.

In 2020, the minister of the NOI [Mosque #12](#) and then Philadelphia National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) president Rodney Muhammad [shared](#) an antisemitic social media post. Media reports on the incident uncovered Muhammad's [history](#) of sharing

antisemitic content on both his personal and the mosque's social media accounts.

Philadelphia native and former Temple University professor [Marc Lamont Hill](#),

who was fired from CNN for [calling](#) for the destruction of Israel, met with Louis Farrakhan in 2016 and expressed his support for the leader.

Just two weeks after the October 7, 2023 terror attack, Hill was a featured speaker at an anti-Israel rally in Philadelphia. "The truth is that history didn't start on October 7," Hill [said](#), "...For 100 years, there's been a settler-colonial project. For 75 years, there's been ethnic cleansing...We demand a ceasefire now! But the work doesn't stop there. We demand decolonization. We demand an end to the occupation!"

Other community and student activists who have expressed support for NOI leader Louis Farrakhan include:

- [Asantewaa Nkrumah-Ture](#)
- [Brandon Hai Do](#)

In 1964, when Malcolm X formally [left](#) NOI, many community members integrated into the mainstream Islamic community in Philadelphia, which was mostly comprised of immigrants from the Eastern Hemisphere.

Today, Philadelphia is home to more than three dozen mosques. Estimates



place its Muslim population at around 300,000, or one-fifth of the city's population.

According to a 2017 Washington Post [article](#), "...some say [NOI leader] W.D. Mohammed's teachings are no longer relevant [in Philadelphia]. But the legacy lives on in the city's culture and politics and has helped define a modern-day Philadelphia that Muslim leaders say remains a magnet for Muslim immigrants and new converts."

## Muslim Brotherhood

One such Muslim immigrant to Philadelphia was [Ismail al-Faruqi](#), a Palestinian-American professor of Islamic studies and [founder](#) of Temple University's Islamic studies program. In 1980, he [opened](#) the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT), a registered non-profit organization in Pennsylvania.

Faruqi established the institute at the behest of the Muslim Brotherhood as part of its plan to spread its style of Islam throughout the U.S. and Europe.

To date, IIIT is considered to be the leading Muslim Brotherhood research institute in the West.

In his article "The Brotherhood's Westward Expansion," reporter Ian Johnson [explained](#) how the Muslim Brotherhood embraced antisemitism,

as well as general support for Islamic terrorist groups.

## American Friends Service Committee

Philadelphia is also home to a historic religious Quaker community. Although the Quaker [population](#) is only around 10,000-15,000 today, the central office of the [American Friends Service Committee](#) (AFSC), a Quaker organization and prominent social justice organization since its founding in 1917, is located in the city.

AFSC is a leader in the [Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions](#) (BDS) movement and regularly [promotes](#) false claims about Israel's actions, including accusations of "genocide" and "ethnic cleansing."

[According](#) to Alex Joffe and Asaf Romirowsky in an article titled, "The religious group known as the Quakers has sacrificed its founding religious principles at the altar of anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism": AFSC's views on Israel have "evolved from a nominally neutral, though not particularly sympathetic, point of view to a violently hostile stance. The group now engages in apologetics for anti-Israel terrorism, accuses Israel of crimes against humanity, and seeks to cripple Israel's economy and security."

In December 2024, the New York Times [refused](#) to run an ad from AFSC, which accused Israel of “genocide.”

As a leader of the BDS movement, AFSC urges universities, cities and unions to divest from Israel and provides resources and [tools](#) for doing so. It also [works](#) closely with extremist anti-Israel student groups, such as [Students for Justice in Palestine \(SJP\)](#) and [Jewish Voice for Peace \(JVP\)](#), to pass divestment resolutions on U.S. college campuses.

Several student activists affiliated with SJP also work at AFSC, including:

- [Zoe Jannuzi](#), Palestine Activism Program [coordinator](#), who was also an SJP student organizer
- [Roua Daas](#) is [active](#) with AFSC and also affiliated with SJP and the pro-terror activist group [Palestinian Youth Movement \(PYM\)](#)
- [Eliana Atienza](#)
- [Olivia Katbi-Smith](#)

AFSC runs a [U.S. Palestine Activism Program](#) that “provides resources, mentorship, and training to activists in the U.S.”

It also leads “national educational and advocacy campaigns,” engages “directly with decision-makers” and builds “connections between communities in the U.S. and Palestine.”

Its [resources](#) are highly biased and extremely one-sided screeds against Israel.

[Joyce Ajlouny](#), a Palestinian-American Quaker, is the general secretary of AFSC. Before joining AFSC, Joyce was the director of the [Ramallah Friends School](#), a K-12 Quaker school in Ramallah, West Bank, for 13 years.

Ajlouny [promotes](#) “the right of return,” a coded concept for the destruction of Israel as a Jewish state, and contends that Israel is perpetrating “genocide” against Palestinians on a daily basis. Her social media posts show [support](#) for well-known [antisemites](#) like Ali Abunimah and [Mohammed El-Kurd](#).

AFSC employs other fierce anti-Israel [advocates](#), such as Dalit Baum, who [wrote](#) a divestment resolution for SJP at Loyola University, and [Jennifer Bing](#).

AFSC is a large part of Philadelphia’s anti-Israel, antisemitic network. Not coincidentally, AFSC and the [Council on American Islamic Relations \(CAIR\)](#) in Philadelphia share the same [address](#): 1501 Cherry St, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

# KEY DRIVERS OF RADICALIZATION IN PHILADELPHIA



## Introduction

Utilizing both a top-down and a bottom-up approach, activists in Philadelphia radicalized a significant segment of the population long before October 7, 2023. Philadelphia was rife with anti-American, intersectional, anti-racist and socialist ideologies for several decades, leading up to the eruption of hate towards Jews and Israel supporters that followed the Hamas massacre on October 7.

The Philly Palestine Coalition (PPC) was the driving force behind the anti-Israel element of the radicalization.

PPC succeeded in spreading its message through the community by cooperating with other anti-Israel groups in Philadelphia and forging intersectional alliances.

This section will delve into PPC, other anti-Israel and intersectional groups in the network, as well as sympathetic local politicians they have partnered with, to show how they worked together to spread record levels of antisemitism and anti-Israel sentiment throughout the city and across the state.



## Philly Palestine Coalition: The Engine of Mobilization

Philly Palestine Coalition (PPC) [describes](#) itself as a “Philly-based Alliance of Palestinian, Black & Indigenous communities working to uplift Palestinian liberation.”

Immediately after the October 7 Hamas massacre of Israelis, PPC emerged as the unifying force that ignited the pro-terror movement in Philadelphia. PPC [justified](#) Hamas' terror immediately after the attack and accelerated its protest activity, organizing large rallies, die-ins and direct actions.



## PPC's Precursor: Philadelphia Free Palestine Coalition

PPC [includes](#) former [Philadelphia Free Palestine Coalition \(PFPC\)](#) members. PFPC described itself as “a united socialist alliance of activist organizations and political parties, dedicated to advancing the cause of Palestinian liberation from imperialism, settler colonialism and zionism.” The group was [active](#) in Philadelphia from 2020.

PFPC's original member organizations [included](#) many of the organizations that have been active with the PPC following October 7, 2023, specifically:

- [Philadelphia Socialist Alternative](#)
- [Young Democratic Socialists of America \(YDSA\)](#)
- [Philly Earth Alliance](#)
- [Students for Justice in Palestine \(SJP\)](#)
- [Jewish Voice for Peace \(JVP\)](#)
- [The League for the Fourth International](#)
- [Defund Temple University Police Department](#)
- [Sunrise Movement Philadelphia](#)
- [Black and Brown Coalition NJ](#)

The group demanded “the recognition of the rightful, sovereign Palestinian state” in accordance with the [Palestinian Declaration of Independence](#) as proclaimed in November 1988 during the [First Intifada](#) by [Palestine Liberation Organization \(PLO\)](#) chairman [Yasser Arafat](#).

In this declaration, the [Palestinian National Council \(PNC\)](#), the PLO's legislative body, proclaimed the establishment of the “State of Palestine” in Israel, with Jerusalem as its capital, and called for the continuation of the intifada against Israel.

## PFPC and PPC's History of Terror Support

In May 2021,  [Hamas](#) and [Palestinian Islamic Jihad \(PIJ\)](#) terrorists [fired](#) over 4,300 rockets from Gaza at [major population centers](#) in Israel. Israel [responded](#) by launching “[Operation Guardian of the Walls \(OGW\)](#),” carrying out targeted military strikes in Gaza.

During the operation, PFPC [expressed](#) solidarity with the “International Movement to Liberate Palestine,” [mobilized](#) around “the energy of the first intifada” and [declared](#) the onset of a “Third Intifada.”



Following a ceasefire that came into effect on May 21, 2021, the group's messaging became more intersectional, explicitly linking Palestinian liberation to Black, Indigenous and other global struggles against racism and colonialism.

PFPC [declared](#), "A ceasefire from Israel is NOT a Ceasefire for our CAUSE !!!!!" and [called](#) for members to "Join the Fight to Liberate Palestine!"

In October 2022, PFPC was renamed PPC following an internal scandal that included a PFPC member.

In May 2023, PPC [promoted](#) a Nakba Day rally on Instagram as a "march for Palestinian liberation, honor Palestinian martyrs, & say ZIONISM IS NOT WELCOME IN PHILLY!!!"

In September 2023, PPC [promoted](#) the [Palestine Writes Literature Festival](#) led by anti-Israel activist [Susan Abulhawa](#). Many PPC members were affiliated with the event, which featured openly antisemitic speakers, including singer [Roger Waters](#) and two convicted [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine \(PFLP\)](#) terrorists. The event was held at the University of Pennsylvania despite concerns voiced by the Jewish students.

***Read more about the Palestine Writes Festival [here](#)***

## The Coalition Strategy and Mass Mobilization

By October 2023, PPC had [expanded](#) its member organizations to include SJP chapters (or the equivalent) from Pennsylvania's most prominent universities – Temple, Drexel, Penn, Swarthmore, Brynmawr and Haverford – and began working with local chapters of national organizations, including the [Council on American Islamic Relations \(CAIR\)](#), [Palestinian Youth Movement \(PYM\)](#), Black Alliance for Peace (BAP), Workers World Party (WWP), Black Lives Matter (BLM) and others.



Philly Palestine Coalition was positioned to mobilize immediately after October 7, 2023, adopting a similar model to that of the New York-based pro-terror activist group [Within Our Lifetime \(WOL\)](#). The plan brought intersectional allies on college campuses and community spaces into mass mob protests against Israel on the streets, while bringing “the streets” onto college campuses.

At Columbia University, WOL activated “comrades” in anti-Israel campus groups to gain legitimacy and power in both arenas and achieve economies of scale in branding, social media presence, protest numbers and pro-terror messaging.

PPC mimicked this strategy. By increasing collaboration between on-campus and off-campus anti-Israel organizations under an umbrella coalition, PPC was able to mobilize vast numbers of pro-terror supporters who attended the group's demonstrations on Philadelphia's streets and campuses.

## PPC's Reaction to the October 7, 2023 Massacre

Immediately following October 7, 2023, PPC [declared](#) solidarity with Hamas in a statement that read:

*"We are witnessing the consequences of 75 years of Zionist settler colonial rule, 56 years of a violent, illegal, military occupation and 16 years of a brutal blockade that has suffocated the Gaza Strip and the 2.3 million Palestinians who inhabit it.*

*"As the dominant military and occupying power, Israel is solely responsible for the violence that has occurred since and long before October 7. Unwavering diplomatic and financial allies to Israel, particularly the United States and the \$3.8 billion dollars in military aid it provides annually (and additional funding now being contemplated), are equally to blame."*

The statement continued: *"The anticolonial, armed resistance out of the Gaza Strip was provoked by decades of Israeli state-sanctioned violence...As people living under a 56-year occupation, Palestinians have every right to defend themselves, their land, their families, and to oppose the colonial violence they face from their occupier."*



Philadelphia rapidly became [engulfed](#) in anti-Israel hate—in the streets, classrooms, city council meetings and interfaith community spaces. PPC organized more than 20 protests in Philadelphia in the first two months following the Hamas attacks. It mobilized high-profile anti-Israel activists to speak, including [Susan Abulhawa](#) and university [professors](#), such as [Marc Lamont Hill](#).



*Michael C. Wilson, October 8th 2023, Philly: Emergency Solidarity Rally, Philadelphia*

The group activated its intersectional network, [including](#) Muslim groups, charitable organizations and racial justice organizations.

PPC carried out a multi-layered plan to attack Israel, Jewish people and Jewish institutions in Philadelphia. Its tactics included:

- Successfully infiltrating educational institutions from [K-12](#) to [universities](#), [promoting](#) student [walkouts](#) on college campuses [citywide](#) and in [high schools](#), [promoting](#) teach-ins (co-sponsored by Samidoun, a front organization for the PFLP, a designated terrorist entity) and supporting the 2024 pro-Hamas encampments on college campuses.
- [Blocking](#) transportation centers, [protesting](#) on subways and [hanging](#) anti-Israel banners on [highways](#).
- [Promoting](#) pro-[Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions \(BDS\)](#) campaigns as an “effective way to support Palestinian Resistance, no matter where you are in the world” and [encouraging](#) Philadelphians to boycott “Zionist establishments” [and](#) companies selling Israeli products. PPC also advocated for BDS in commercial centers and [entertainment](#) events, targeted Israeli-owned businesses and [hijacked](#) cultural events and [institutions](#).
- [Co-organizing](#) a December 3, 2023 rally titled: “Flood Philly For Gaza,” where participants [chanted](#) in support of terrorism and [called](#) for Israel’s destruction. Protesters [joined](#) speakers in denying Hamas war crimes, as they [gathered](#) outside Goldie, an Israeli-owned falafel shop, [chanting](#): “Goldie, Goldie, you can’t hide, we charge you with genocide!”
- Advocating against Israel in the political sphere, [capitalizing](#) on the 2024 presidential election by [endorsing](#) the “[Uncommitted PA](#)” campaign and [protesting](#) Pennsylvania’s investments in Israeli bonds.
- [Organizing](#) protests outside the offices of U.S. senators John Fetterman [and](#) Bob Casey, [urging](#) activists to call their state representatives and [promoting](#) statewide capitol protests against Pennsylvania’s investment in Israel. PPC [endorsed](#) anti-Israel politicians and [called](#) on Philadelphians to “jam” the phone lines of council members.



- [Sending](#) organizers to speak at the October 19, 2023 Philadelphia City Council public comment session to [denounce](#) a [resolution](#) condemning the Hamas terrorist attacks. In April 2024, PPC [proposed](#) a draft for a ceasefire resolution, which they later withdrew from consideration because the final version of the resolution failed to accuse Israel of “genocide.”
- Organizing a December 11, 2023 [rally](#) in Philadelphia’s Washington Square Park and [condemning](#) politicians who expressed support for Israel in its war against Hamas. The rally [took place](#) during then-U.S. president Joe Biden’s visit to the city. Protesters [referred](#) to Biden as “Genocide Joe.”



Rami Ibrahim, October 12, 2023, All Eyes on Palestine Protest, Philadelphia



## Social Media and the Normalization of Terror

PPC also led a multi-front war against Israel on social media. It [accused](#) Israel of “ethnic cleansing” [and](#) “genocide,” [spread](#) and [amplified](#) false narratives, [shared](#) Hamas propaganda and [demonized](#) Israeli leaders.

On its Instagram page, PPC [expressed](#) solidarity with Palestinian “martyrs” (i.e., terrorists), [promoted](#) action calls from Palestinian groups in Gaza and endorsed terrorist groups like the [Houthis](#) and [PFLP](#). In August 2024, PPC [quoted](#) a statement by now-deceased Hamas leader [Ismail Haniyeh](#) promoting “a national global day in solidarity in Gaza and the prisoners.”



PPC [promoted](#) a community fundraiser, “Raising Funds for Direct, Material Support for Palestinian Liberation,” [advocated](#) against investment in Israel and [denounced](#) U.S. weapons sales to Israel.

## Notable PPC Activists: Nour Qutyan, Jordan Vaughan and Nada Abuasi

On October 8, 2023, PPC [co-organized](#) an “Emergency Solidarity Rally” in support of [Hammas](#) atrocities against Israeli civilians that had occurred the previous day. Chants during the march leading up to the rally featured various [calls](#) for Israel’s [destruction](#) and [celebrations](#) of Hamas terrorism labeled euphemistically as “resistance.”

At the rally, PPC member and spokesperson [Nour Qutyan](#) defended the previous day’s massacre, saying to the crowd: “Hammas...they will call an Islamic terrorist group. Hammas, what they are is they’re the resistance front...what they’re doing is defending their land, defending their people and defending their right to live.”

Qutyan continued: “Indigenous people have a right to resist occupation...and that includes violent resistance...”

As the rally ended in front of Philadelphia’s City Hall, Qutyan said: “What’s happening in Palestine is history...it’s going to inspire people...all around the world to also rise up.”

Qutyan later said: “We have to defend the resistance, because it’s freedom by any means necessary...by any means necessary.”

On October 12, 2023, PPC [organized](#) another [pro-Hamas](#) march titled: “Rally Against Philly Media Suppression of Palestinian Resistance,” outside the WHYY news outlet offices in Philadelphia to protest what it [claimed](#) was a “biased pro-Israeli narrative which subverts necessary context for the ongoing resistance to the Zionist occupation of Palestine.”

[Jordan Vaughan](#), an organizer with PPC, [addressed](#) the crowd, saying: “Long live the resistance! And land back by any means necessary!” The crowd cheered in support. The crowd again cheered when [Nada Abuasi](#), another PPC organizer, [said](#) that over “the last few days, the people of Gaza have broken out and reminded us of our right to resist!”

Nada Abuasi [read](#) PPC’s post-October 7 solidarity statement, including the group’s list of demands, which called for “the right of return for all Palestinians globally” and for “the United States to halt its complicity in enabling and financially funding” Israel.

Abuasi [said](#) that until PPC’s demands were met, “We offer our unequivocal support to the Palestinian people and the right to resist occupation and oppression by any means necessary.”

### Other Notable Activists Include:

- [Susan Abulhawa](#)
- [Samantha Rise](#)
- [Nora Elmarzouky](#)
- [Natalie Abulhawa](#)
- [Brice Patterson](#)
- [Krystal Strong](#)
- [James Ray](#)
- [Romance Albarqawi](#)
- [Tara Tarawneh](#)
- [Rami Ibrahim](#)
- [Madinah Wilson-Anton](#)

## The Revolutionary Network in Philadelphia

PPC is deeply interconnected with a nexus of local and national activist groups that claim to advocate for social justice. In reality, they share pro-terror, anti-Israel and anti-American agendas.

The coalition worked together in Philadelphia following October 7 to coordinate public protests against Israel and Jewish institutions.



The Heritage Foundation [described](#) PPC as part of a “[revolutionary ecosystem](#)” which includes a network of organizations endorsing “extremist messaging and action” with funding from left-leaning sources.

This “ecosystem” is characterized by mutual endorsement of activities, coordinated protests and shared resources among groups advocating for causes like Palestinian liberation, racial justice, labor rights and anti-colonialism.

The Capital Research Center’s 2024 [report](#), “Marching Toward Violence,” presents an extensive investigation into the organizational structure, ideology and tactics of anti-Israel protest movements in the U.S. following the October 7, 2023 terror attack.

The report [lists](#) PPC as one of over 150 groups it characterizes as “pro-terrorism,” revolutionary and increasingly militant, and states they are part of a coordinated national protest network fueled by anti-Israel and anti-American ideologies.

The report also lists multiple national organizations and their local satellites with whom PPC aligned following the October 7, 2023 terror attack to support Hamas terrorist activity and “bring the war home” (a term used to refer to the destruction of the U.S. government and institutions).

***Read more about this in our report “Bringing the War Home: The Palestinian War on America” [here](#)***

## Palestinian Youth Movement

[Palestinian Youth Movement \(PYM\)](#) is a pro-terror activist group that [spreads](#) incitement, [expresses](#) support for terrorists, [celebrates](#) intifada violence and [targets](#) Zionists and Israel supporters. PYM also [demonizes](#) Israel, [supports](#) violent protests and [promotes](#) the BDS movement.

PYM was a central organizer of the [Shut It Down for Palestine](#) coalition, which planned anti-Israel rallies and

mobilized crowds for pro-Hamas protests, walkouts and direct actions across the U.S. and internationally after the October 7, 2023 terror attack.

PPC endorsed, promoted and participated in Shut It Down actions, including the [National March on Washington](#) on October 29, 2023.

## American Muslims for Palestine

American Muslims for Palestine (AMP) is a national, nonprofit organization founded in 2006 by anti-Israel professor [Hatem Bazian](#).

It is headquartered in Illinois and has numerous chapters across the U.S.

On October 7, 2023, AMP released a statement that blamed the Hamas terror attack on Israel.

AMP claims that its “sole purpose is to educate the American public and media about issues related to Palestine and its rich cultural and historical heritage.” However, AMP has been embroiled in many controversies related to its history of antisemitism and links to terror organizations and terror financiers.

**See our blog “[American Muslims for Palestine Sued for Terror Financing](#)”**

In 2010, AMP and the [US Palestinian Community Network \(USPCN\)](#) actively assisted SJP activists in founding the umbrella organization [National Students for Justice in Palestine \(NSJP\)](#), which coordinates campus SJP chapters across North America.

In May 2024, a lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia by American and Israeli

victims of the October 7, 2023 Hamas terror attack against AMP and NSJP seeking compensatory damages.

The complaint alleged that both groups “work in the United States as collaborators and propagandists for Hamas.”

The lawsuit also notes that “AMP and NSJP are merely the current version of several prior entities that were already determined by the U.S. government to be supporters of Hamas.”

As the sponsor and facilitator of SJP on college campuses, AMP has been implicated in the planning, organizing and funding of pro-terror demonstrations in Philadelphia following October 7, 2023.

AMP was an official endorser of the [Shut It Down for Palestine](#) coalition and worked with PPC and CAIR-Philadelphia, a branch of the [Council on American-Islamic Relations \(CAIR\)](#), a Muslim Brotherhood front group, to organize protests.

On May 2, 2024, [Hatem Bazian](#), AMP and SJP founder, spoke at the pro-Hamas encampment at Penn.

## National Students for Justice in Palestine

In 2024, NSJP was the central organizer of the nationwide student

[encampment](#) movement and mass [protests](#) demanding university divestment from Israel and declaring solidarity with Hamas and other terror organizations.

In April 2024, SJP chapters in Philadelphia-area universities organized or played a leading role in pro-Hamas encampments and protests.

- On April 25, 2024, the “[Gaza Solidarity Encampment](#)” at Penn was [organized](#) by anti-Israel student activists with [Penn Against the Occupation \(PAO\)](#), Penn’s SJP chapter. PPC [organized](#) a [protest](#) which began at City Hall and ended at Penn. SJP members from Drexel and Temple universities [joined](#) marches and actions at Penn’s encampment.
- On May 18, 2024, the [Drexel Palestine Coalition](#), which included Drexel SJP, [launched](#) an encampment at Drexel.

## Samidoun & Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine

On October 19, 2024, PPC [issued](#) a solidarity statement with [Samidoun](#) condemning Samidoun’s [designation](#) as a terrorist entity and “sham charity” four days earlier by the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC).

The designation stated that Samidoun serves as an international fundraiser for the [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine \(PFLP\)](#), a [designated](#) foreign terrorist organization (FTO).

PPC further [defended](#) the PFLP as a “legitimate political force within Palestinian society at large” and claimed its military wing exists within a “framework of lawful and just resistance.”

On January 15, 2024, anti-Israel activist groups, including PPC and the New Jersey chapter of Samidoun, [held](#) a pro-terror rally in Philadelphia. The flyer for the event [featured](#) the logo of the PFLP. Rally speakers repeatedly [promoted](#) hatred of America and the Jews, while praising terrorists.

## Jewish Voice for Peace

[Jewish Voice for Peace \(JVP\)](#), the largest anti-Zionist Jewish organization in the U.S., [works](#) to weaken U.S. support for Israel. The group’s goal is to create a “wedge” within the American Jewish community by [opposing](#) the idea of a Jewish state as central to Jewish identity.

JVP joined with other anti-Israel groups in [blaming](#) Israel for the Hamas October 7, 2023 terror attack.

Philadelphia’s local branch, [JVP Philly](#), describes itself as “Anti-Zionist Jews in



Philadelphia organizing for Palestinian liberation.” Following the October 7, 2023 terror attack, JVP Philly [outlined](#) its program for the group:

- “Priority 1: Stopping the flow of material and financial support, especially from the Jewish community, that upholds Israel’s apartheid, occupation, and genocide.”
- “Priority 2: Defending the Palestinian liberation movement (especially Black, Brown, and Arab allies) from false accusations of antisemitism.”
- “Priority 3: Building up JVP Philly as an alternative to mainstream Jewish Zionist spaces, to provide a cultural, religious, and spiritual home for Philadelphia Jews who support Palestinian freedom and collective liberation.”

JVP [became](#) an “active member” of PPC and [joined](#) forces with [CAIR Philly](#) to end U.S. financial support for Israel’s war against Hamas and spread hatred of Israel throughout Philadelphia’s streets.

JVP’s tactics, in collaboration with PPC, included:

- Pro-[BDS](#) activities
- Advocating for a U.S. [weapons embargo](#) against Israel
- Anti-Israel [protests](#)
- [Anti-American](#) protests
- Political [disturbances](#)

- K-12 anti-Israel [education](#)
- [Disruption](#) of the city’s public transit system

JVP also targeted university campuses and partnered with SJP to foster antisemitism and spread hatred of Israel. JVP and SJP can be found [fundraising](#), [promoting](#), [attending](#) and [co-hosting](#) each other’s events, [sharing](#) student activists’ content and [defending](#) one another.

In fall 2024, students at Penn [launched](#) a JVP chapter to [provide](#) “a space for anti-Zionist Jewish students at Penn to come together.” [JVP UPenn](#), [touted](#) as “a political home on campus,” proceeded to [co-opt](#) Jewish holidays for anti-Israel [events](#) and [support](#) Penn’s SJP chapter (PAO) and [Penn Faculty and Staff for Justice in Palestine \(PennFSJP\)](#). JVP UPenn [accused](#) Israel of “ethnic cleansing,” “terrorism” and “genocide” and promoted BDS on campus.

## Council on American Islamic Relations

The [Council on American Islamic Relations \(CAIR\)](#) [describes](#) itself as a “nonprofit, grassroots civil rights and advocacy organization” and “America’s largest Muslim civil liberties organization.”

CAIR has its national headquarters in Washington, D.C., with over 30 regional

chapters across the U.S., including [CAIR-Philadelphia](#).

While the group's stated [mission](#) is to "enhance understanding of Islam, protect civil rights, promote justice, and empower American Muslims," in reality, the group [lobbies](#) on national, state and local levels for various anti-Israel initiatives.

In November 2023, CAIR co-founder and executive director Nihad Awad spoke at the annual AMP convention in Chicago, where he publicly [celebrated](#) Hamas's October 7, 2023 terror attacks on Israel.

CAIR-Philadelphia [participated](#) in joint [actions](#) and public statements alongside PPC and JVP, including a [rally](#) at the Pennsylvania State Capitol calling for divestment from Israel bonds.

CAIR Philadelphia also [provided](#) legal support for student protesters arrested at anti-Israel demonstrations on campus, held press conferences [defending](#) pro-terror activists and distributed "[Know Your Rights](#)" materials to advise community members on legal protections during protests.

Additional tactics used by CAIR, often in conjunction with PPC, include:

- Advocating for [BDS](#) and [fighting](#) anti-BDS laws in Pennsylvania

- Anti-Israel [protests](#)
- [Political disruptions](#) to advocate against Israel
- [Fighting](#) the IHRA definition of antisemitism
- Advocating for change in [K-12 education](#)
- Supporting [pro-Hamas encampments](#)

## Health Workers for Palestine

[Health Workers 4 Palestine \(HW4P\)](#) was founded in the UK in October 2023 by doctors to establish a global network of health professionals and advocates who campaign against Israel.

HW4P is now active in over 70 cities worldwide, including Philadelphia ([hew4palphilly](#)), where it [collaborated](#) with PPC, [JVP Philly](#) and other activist groups, including [labor unions](#) and [student groups](#), to [amplify](#) its message and coordinate [events](#).

HW4P Philadelphia have used the following tactics:

- Advocating for an [arms embargo](#) against Israel
- Staging "[die-ins](#)" at Philadelphia's City Hall and other anti-Israel [protests](#)
- [Co-sponsoring](#) protests "in solidarity with the resistance and demanding an end to all US support of Zionism"
- Political [disruption](#)

- Spreading anti-Israel [propaganda](#)
- Attempting to influence [K-12 education](#)

## Writers Against the War on Gaza

[Writers Against the War on Gaza \(WAWOG\)](#) is a coalition formed in October 2023 by writers, academics, artists, journalists and cultural workers “who are committed to the horizon of liberation for the Palestinian people, and who organize against Zionism and American empire from within the imperial core.”

On Instagram, [WAWOG Philadelphia](#) advocates “organizing for liberation from the river to the sea 🍉.”

WAWOG’s principles of unity support “armed resistance” (i.e., Hamas terror) and the “right of return,” which would be “secured through the complete dismantling of ‘Israel.’”

WAWOG claims BDS is a “moral necessity” and endorses “autonomous action against the police, the state, the empire” in the U.S.

In July 2024, Philly WAWOG [announced](#) their Movement School, which offered workshops promoting the terror organization PFLP.

In addition, Philly WAWOG:

- [Advocated](#) in Philadelphia for the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI)
- Promoted [anti-American](#) rhetoric and [political disruptions](#)
- Participated in anti-Israel [protests](#) and [events](#)
- Pushed for the [boycott](#) of local businesses owned by Jews or Israelis
- [Promoted](#) terrorism, [spread](#) propaganda and [chalkings](#) that [demonized](#) Israel in Philadelphia
- Supported campus [activism](#) and pro-Hamas [encampments](#)

## Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture

[Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture](#) is a [nonprofit](#) organization in Philadelphia dedicated to presenting and teaching Arab culture through arts, language and community engagement. Qatar Foundation International is [listed](#) as a past contributor.

Al-Bustan was [founded](#) by Hazami Sayed in July 2002. Prominent anti-Israel activist [Susan Abulhawa](#) served as a founding board member. Al-Bustan’s current executive [director](#) is Lisa Volta Zalloum, a former elementary school teacher.

In September 2023, Al-Bustan [served](#) as a community partner and [co-sponsor](#) for the [Palestine Writes Festival](#), an antisemitic hate event held

at the University of Pennsylvania. Several of its members, including [Banah Khamis](#), were listed among the “Staff & Volunteers.”

After October 7, 2023, the “[Al-Bustan News Service](#)” played a crucial [role](#) in shaping the anti-Israel narrative around the Hamas terror attack and in [amplifying](#) and documenting the pro-terror protests in Philadelphia.

An undated news release from Al-Bustan reporting on PPC’s October 8, 2023 protest [read](#): “On October 7, Palestinian resistance fighters affiliated with Gaza’s Hamas government broke through the Israeli constructed border

wall, which prevents Gazans from coming in or out of Gaza.”

The release continued: “Hamas says its October 7 operation, named Al-Aqsa Flood, was launched in response to years of ongoing Israeli aggression against Palestinians: including settler violence, the blockade of the Gaza Strip, and the desecration of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.”

Al-Bustan [coordinated](#) projects with anti-Israel Penn professors [Huda Fakhreddine](#) and [Ahmad Almallah](#). Recent Temple University graduate [Johara Shamaa](#) works with Al-Bustan as a [workshop instructor](#).

## Local Organizations, Community Groups and Cultural Spaces

PPC collaborated with a wide range of local organizations, [unions](#), community groups and cultural spaces in Philadelphia to build solidarity networks, organize joint actions and foster mutual aid among diverse groups.

These extensive partnerships united parents, teachers, artists, religious groups and institutions to ensure that in virtually every aspect of daily life, an individual would encounter anti-Israel messaging and that pro-terror activists would be given a platform from which to spread hatred of Israel.

Across demographics and faiths, community activists mobilized against Israel. [Families for Ceasefire](#) organized “family-friendly” marches and educational [events](#) to integrate children, caregivers and families in anti-Israel activism. Local educational and [sporting events](#), film screenings, public [libraries](#) and online [forums](#) all featured anti-Israel activists who demonized Israel.

## Batikh Batikh Collective

The [Batikh Batikh Collective \(BB\)](#) is a pop-up cinema and gallery in Philadelphia that organizes screenings and exhibitions of South-West Asian and North African (SWANA) women and queer artists.

The collective was [founded](#) in 2022 by [Sarah Trad](#), who [spoke](#) at a Philadelphia City Council meeting in October 2023 in opposition to a [resolution](#) condemning the Hamas terror attack.

Al-Bustan News [quoted](#) Trad as saying; “At Batikh Batikh, when we say ‘Free Palestine,’ we say ‘by any means necessary,’” adding: “So, even though we’re showing films about a bunch of corny love stories, we’re also showing documentaries about Leila Khaled.” The collective does not [accept](#) submissions with Zionist content.

On October 10, 2023, the collective [posted](#) on Instagram that the group “proudly practices BDS in its programming and operations.”

In January 2024, Batikh organized a Palestine film series. Rather than having individuals purchase tickets, they [asked](#) attendees to show proof that they’ve contacted their elected officials to demand a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

The programming [included](#) a documentary about the Palestinian Revolution and the history of the armed struggle of the PFLP and PLO to demonstrate “the power of documenting Palestinian resistance as a successful tool to oppose propaganda and continue the revolution.”

## Making Worlds Bookstore and Social Center

The [Making Worlds Bookstore and Social Center](#) is a nonprofit, worker-cooperative bookstore and community space located in West Philadelphia. It hosts cultural and educational events, including panels, teach-ins and fundraisers [featuring](#) prominent Philadelphia-based anti-Israel activists such as [Susan Abulhawa](#), [Eliana Atienza](#) and [Hannah Gann](#).

## La La Lil Jidar Collective

The [La La Lil Jidar Collective](#) is an artist and activist collective that works in [partnership](#) with PPC and uses exhibitions, public art, street media and cultural events to spread hatred of Israel in Philadelphia.

The collective’s programming and messaging are [designed](#) to “elicit an emotional response” and attempt “to draw parallels between the violence in Israel and the structural violence faced



by marginalized communities in Philadelphia, fostering a sense of shared resistance and solidarity.”

## **Intersectional Alliances—Collective Advocacy and Collaborative Resistance**

In Philadelphia, a wide range of intersectional alliances formed around anti-Israel advocacy, bringing together groups from various social and racial justice movements. The groups uniformly cast Israel as the offender for each “injustice” as characterized by the lens of their cause célèbre.

These alliances connect struggles against racism, colonialism, sexism, anti-Blackness, and other forms of neo-Marxist “oppression” to the Israel-Palestine conflict, designating Israel as the perpetrator and Palestinians as the victims.

Following the October 7 Hamas attack, Philadelphia saw the emergence and strengthening of intersectional alliances among activist groups engaged in anti-Israel and pro-terror activism.

On October 13, 2023, PPC [issued](#) a solidarity statement justifying the Hamas terror attack that local groups across the intersectional landscape endorsed. PPC spoke to each group in the language of their rallying cry, but the message uniformly [placed](#) Israel and the U.S. as the common enemy.

PPC [united](#) these intersectional groups in Philadelphia, with multiple groups co-organizing and participating in joint anti-Israel protests. The groups shared organizing strategies and messaging, made and shared social media posts and public statements and provided tactical support and legal defense to student activists.

Racial justice and Black liberation groups in Philadelphia, such as the [Racial Justice Organizing Committee \(ROJC\)](#) and the [Black Philly Radical Collective \(BPRC\)](#), which includes the Philadelphia chapter of Black Lives Matter and [Malcolm X Grassworks Movement](#), responded to the October 7 attacks by framing them as acts of “resistance” against what they described as Israeli “occupation,” “apartheid” and “systemic oppression.”

Rather than condemning Hamas's terror attacks, these groups [justified](#) or rationalized them by drawing parallels between the "systemic power imbalances" they claim exist in their own communities and Israel's alleged treatment of Palestinians.

For example, PPC advocated against "police aggression," enlisting abolitionist groups like [Philly Muslim Freedom Fund](#) by drawing [parallels](#) between the treatment of black and brown communities by Philadelphia police and Israel's alleged treatment of Palestinian terrorists.

Housing justice organizers [drew](#) explicit connections between their fight against displacement and gentrification in West Philadelphia and the plight of Palestinians in Gaza. The [Coalition to Save UC Townhomes](#) and [Save Chinatown Coalition](#) joined PPC's anti-Israel activism, [co-organized](#) anti-Israel rallies and mobilized residents and community members.

## Communist and Socialist Groups

Many socialist and communist/Marxist groups in Philadelphia [criticize](#) the role of the U.S. and Western countries in funding and arming Israel, viewing the conflict as intertwined with capitalist interests and military-industrial profits.

These groups [advocate](#) for ending U.S. support for Israel and call for an arms embargo as part of their opposition to "capitalist exploitation" and "imperialist wars." These groups also demand the "dismantlement" of America's "colonialist," "imperialist," and "capitalist" system, often calling for the U.S. ("the empire") to be abolished as a country.

Communist and socialist groups in Philadelphia, like [Philly Socialists](#), acted as PPC [foot soldiers](#) and [organized](#) "Door-Knocking" initiatives designed to "educate" Philadelphians on the conflict in Gaza. These socialist groups also issued public statements, organized educational events and mobilized their base to support PPC.

### **The Party for Socialism and Liberation**

The [Party for Socialism and Liberation \(PSL\)](#) is a communist political party in the U.S. with an active branch in Philadelphia. Founded in 2004, it [stands](#) "in solidarity with working-class and oppressed people around the

world who are resisting capitalist exploitation and imperialist domination."

PSL [identifies](#) as a Marxist-Leninist party and seeks the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of socialism in the U.S.

PSL calls for an immediate end to U.S. military aid to Israel and supports the Palestinian right to resist occupation “by any means necessary,” which includes endorsing armed resistance against Israel and explicitly rejecting the labeling of such resistance/violence as terrorism.

On October 7, 2023, following the Hamas attack, PSL [published](#) a statement expressing strong support for Hamas’ actions.

The statement read: “Resistance to apartheid and fascist-type oppression is not a crime! It is the inevitable outcome for all people who demand self-determination rather than living with the boot-heel of the oppressors on their necks...The actions of the resistance over the course of the last day is a morally and legally legitimate response to occupation.”

The statement applauded the actions taken by “Palestinian resistance forces” and rejected the notion that the attack against Israeli civilians constituted “terrorism.”

The Philadelphia chapter of the party, [PSL Philly](#), engaged in anti-Israel activism, including:

- Anti-Israel [protests](#) and Shut It Down [events](#)

- [BDS](#) and [calls](#) to abolish the Philadelphia Israel Chamber of Commerce
- Political [advocacy](#)
- Glorifying convicted terrorist [Leila Khaled](#)
- Traffic [disruptions](#), including [blocking](#) traffic on Ben Franklin Bridge (a major thoroughfare), a [shutdown](#) of Comcast headquarters in Philadelphia and disruptions at the King of Prussia [shopping mall](#)
- [Support](#) for SJP and pro-Hamas encampments
- Rallying for more Palestine (i.e., anti-Israel) education in [K-12 education](#)

[Naheda Dahleh](#) is a key activist for PSL Philly.

## **ANSWER Coalition**

[Act Now to Stop War and End Racism \(ANSWER Coalition\)](#) is an anti-war [movement](#) in the U.S. [founded](#) after the September 11, 2001 terror attacks that has organized campaigns against American foreign policy and Israel.

ANSWER Coalition, often [considered](#) a “front group” for PSL, was a central organizer of the [Shut It Down for Palestine](#) coalition, which planned and mobilized protests, walkouts and direct actions across the U.S. and internationally.

Following the October 7 attack, [ANSWER Coalition Philadelphia](#) worked with PPC and Philly PSL and [co-organized](#) events and demonstrations.

## **Democratic Socialists of America**

[Democratic Socialists of America \(DSA\)](#) is the [largest](#) socialist organization in the U.S., with 80,000 members and 250 chapters and organizing committees as of 2023. Since 2016, DSA has espoused the view that Zionism is a form of racism, imperialism and settler-colonialism.

Following October 7, DSA issued [statements](#) supporting Palestinian liberation and the right to resist, organized protests and circulated toolkits calling for the end of all U.S. aid to Israel and decolonization “from the river to the sea.”

In January 2025, DSA [released](#) a statement that said: “DSA will continue to fight for the end of apartheid, for a free Palestine from the river to the sea and for an end to US imperialism. We will stand in unconditional, unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people until liberation, and Israeli and US war criminals are brought to justice for all the atrocities they have committed, from the Nakba to today.”

[Philadelphia DSA](#) ([Philly DSA](#)) spearheaded the [Uncommitted PA](#)

movement in Philadelphia with Palestinian-American advocacy groups and other Pennsylvania DSA chapters, urging voters to cast “uncommitted” ballots in the 2024 Democratic primary to protest U.S. support for Israel and demand a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Philly DSA [launched](#) the DSA’s [No Appetite for Apartheid](#) campaign in the Philadelphia region, “with the goal of engaging local establishments to offer ethically-sourced alternatives and commit to a boycott of products complicit in Israel’s occupation and apartheid against Palestinians.”

Philly DSA’s key activists include: [James Ray](#), [Duncan Gromko](#), [Austin Binns](#), [Anlin Wang](#) and [Luke Mills](#)

## **Young Democratic Socialists of America**

[Young Democratic Socialists of America \(YDSA\)](#) is DSA’s youth and student wing, “organizing in our universities, colleges, and high schools to fight for the immediate needs of workers and students while building our capacity to fight for more radical and structural changes.”

In July 2024, YDSA formally [defined](#) Zionism as “a racist, imperialist, settler-colonial project.”

YDSA has over 100 campus chapters, including [Penn YDSA](#), whose members

[joined](#) the “Collective Walkout for Palestine” on October 16, 2023, and [collaborated](#) with anti-Israel campus groups in calling for divestment from Israel.

Key activist: [Katie Miernicki](#)

## **World Workers Party**

[World Workers Party \(WWP\)](#) is a Marxist–Leninist communist party in the U.S. founded in 1959 by former members of the Socialist Workers Party. WWP [defines](#) itself as “a revolutionary Marxist–Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast” that “not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society.”

The WWP has framed the Israel–Palestine conflict within the “struggles of workers and oppressed peoples everywhere” and calls for “workers of the world to unite.”

WWP [signed](#) a declaration of the Committee of Anti-Imperialists in Solidarity with Iran (CASI) that backed Iran’s ballistic attack on Israel in April 2024.

In its newspaper, *Workers World*, edited by [Betsey Piette](#), WWP openly endorses terrorism as “resistance” and supports terror organizations and terrorist leaders. Hamas and other foreign terror organizations are [characterized](#) as “resistance forces” in the “Axis of

Resistance” and Israel’s allies as the “Axis of Evil.”

Following the October 7 terror attack, WWP frequently [published](#) statements made by Hamas leaders, including [statements](#) made by terror groups on Telegram’s Resistance News Network channel. The group [glorified](#) Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar and [eulogized](#) terror leaders as Israel eliminated them.

Workers World also published the PFLP [statement](#) of support for the student intifada and [amplified](#) the calls of Gaza unions to U.S. workers to take action against Israel.

On October 8, 2023, WWP [published](#) an official statement in “solidarity with Palestine,” celebrating the Hamas terror attack as “a heroic example for people longing for liberation from imperialism around the world.” The statement blamed the “white supremacist Zionist state for the Hamas attack.”

The statement declared: “The Israeli regime’s murders, seizures of territories, illegal settlements and occupation made a response from the Palestinian people and their liberation organizations as inevitable as it was justifiable...The Palestinian movement and people have every right to strike back in whatever way they choose...”



Workers World Philadelphia (WWP Philly) mobilized rapidly to support PPC after the October 7 attack and was directly involved in PPC protests, co-sponsoring events and distributing posters for protesters to use.

On October 7, 2023, WWP Philly posted on Instagram a photo of signs for a pro-Hamas rally the following day, one of which read: "Resistance is JUSTIFIED."

On October 8, 2023, WWP Philly members spoke at an anti-Israel rally and march organized by PPC, praising the Hamas attack as a "job well done" and advocating for violence against Israelis.

The following are examples of WWP Philly activism:

- Amplified anti-Israel protests and actions in Philadelphia on social media and in the Workers World publication
- Supported and promoted the college encampments
- Endorsed PPC's statement that justified the Hamas attack
- Promoted divestment campaigns in Pennsylvania

Key Activists: Michael Wilson, Brice Patterson, Betsey Piette

## Philadelphia Young Communist League

Philadelphia Young Communist League (YCL) is the local branch of the Young Communist League USA. This radical-left, youth-led political organization advocates for communism and for transforming the U.S. into a socialist society through democratic struggle.

YCL endorsed PPC's statement that justified the Hamas attack.

## Philly Socialists

Philly Socialists is a "political organization dedicated to building a more just, democratic, & sustainable future." Philly Socialists promoted PPC rallies with "door-knocking" initiatives in West Philadelphia. In 2025, the group launched a "Philly Is No Sister to Genocide" campaign to remove Tel Aviv from the city's sister city program.

The group also promotes BDS and was a key organizational backer of the "Uncommitted PA" campaign, which called for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza and an end to U.S. military aid to Israel.

## Racial Justice and Black Liberation Groups

Many racial justice advocates cast the Israel-Palestine conflict as deeply connected to global fights against racism, colonialism and state-sanctioned violence. These groups justified and endorsed the Hamas attack and [called](#) to free Palestinian terrorists held in Israeli jails. PPC joined together with several local racial justice groups to spread their message and circle of activism.

### Black Alliance for Peace

[Black Alliance for Peace \(BAP\)](#) purports to be a “human rights project against war” that “seeks to recapture and redevelop the historic anti-war, anti-imperialist, and pro-peace positions of the radical Black movement.”

Ironically, BAP is virulently anti-Israel and, in practice, [pro-terror](#).

On October 11, 2023, BAP released a [statement](#) in support of the Hamas terror attack and called on Black and African communities to join anti-Israel protests and initiatives.

The statement declared: “We say that a colonized people have a right to resist occupation and fight for self-determination by any means necessary!”

The statement also said: “The Black Alliance for Peace stands in solidarity with the people of Gaza and all Palestinians under occupation in the

racist, apartheid settler state of Israel. We recognize the right of Palestine to exist and the right of the Palestinian people to resist occupation. We call on African/Black people to remember our long tradition of solidarity with Palestine.”

On October 7, 2024, a year after the attack, BAP wrote a [statement](#) titled: “The Meaning of October 7th: An Oppressed People Will Always Find a Way to Resist Oppression,” declaring “Black Alliance for Peace will never abandon the Rights of Palestinian People to Resist Zionist Colonialism ‘By Any Means Necessary.’”

[BAP-Philadelphia](#) engaged in anti-Israel [protests](#) alongside PPC.

Key activists: [Asantewaa Nkrumah-Ture](#), [YahNe Ndgo](#), [Joshua Reaves](#)

### Black Lives Matter

[Black Lives Matter \(BLM\)](#) attempts to draw parallels between the

experiences of Black Americans claiming to face police brutality, surveillance and incarceration and that of the Palestinians.

BLM Philly is a local [chapter](#) of the BLM Global Network and [part](#) of the [Black Philly Radical Collective \(BPRC\)](#). BLM Philly [joined](#) in and [promoted](#) PPC anti-Israel activism.

At an October 8, 2023 PPC rally, Rutgers professor [Krystal Strong](#), a speaker for BLM, said:

"We gotta make sure our so-called progressives who stand for justice except for when it comes to Palestine are more afraid of the people, are more afraid of us, than they're afraid of AIPAC [American Israel Public Affairs Committee] and their funders..."

Strong continued, invoking the "[Deadly Exchange](#)" conspiracy theory invented by JVP in 2017, which blames Israel for police brutality in America:

"The same police who are willing to kill you and me here in the streets of Philadelphia are going over to Palestine to learn the best methods to do so. The same people who are gentrifying our communities and sit comfortable stealing their land and creating these bullshit settlements in Palestine."

BLM Philly [co-organized](#) anti-Israel protests with PPC. On January 15, 2024, anti-Israel activist groups [held](#) a pro-terror rally in Philadelphia. Flyers for the rally [featured](#) the logo and slogan ("No to Zionism and Racism") of the [PFLP](#) terror group, a [designated](#) foreign terrorist organization. Rally speakers repeatedly [promoted](#) hatred of America, praised terrorists and spread antisemitism.

Key Activists: [Krystal Strong](#), [YahNé Ndgo](#)

### **Malcolm X Grassroots Movement**

[Malcolm X Grassroots Movement](#) is a national organization dedicated to Black liberation and "the struggle to free political prisoners, prisoners of war, and political exiles and Black resistance in and outside the U.S. Empire."

The group [expressed](#) solidarity with Gaza and accused Israel of "genocide," [advocated](#) for "resistance" and [condemned](#) U.S. support for Israel.

The Philadelphia [chapter](#) of the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement promoted anti-Israel [protests](#) with PPC and supported students at the pro-Hamas [encampment](#)

## Indigenous Rights and Global Liberation-Focused Struggles

Pro-Palestinian rights groups [claim](#) that “Israel is connected to the oppression of Indigenous people world-wide.” Following October 7, PPC coordinated with local Black, Puerto Rican and Filipino youth and student groups to advocate against Israel.

PPC [positioned](#) Israel and the U.S. as the “common enemy to Black and Indigenous liberation and autonomy across the world.

### Anakbayan USA

[Anakbayan USA](#) is a Filipino communist group that actively [encouraged](#) Filipino youth and students to join and support NSJP’s “Student Movement for Palestinian Liberation” pro-Hamas campus encampments and demonstrations.

The organization called for students to “seize our universities and force the administration to divest, for the people of Gaza” and to join the “Popular University” movement that demands university divestment from Israel.

Anakbayan [endorsed](#) the October 7 attacks and [signed](#) a declaration of the Committee of Anti-Imperialists in Solidarity with Iran (CASI) that backed Iran’s ballistic missile attack on Israel in April 2024.

[Anakbayan Philadelphia](#), the local chapter, [posted](#) on October 12, 2023: “Anakbayan Philadelphia stands with the people of Palestine in their fight for liberation and condemns Israel’s

Zionist campaign of displacement, ethnic cleansing, and genocide...As Palestine fights back, Anakbayan Philadelphia calls on fellow Filipinos and our partner organizations to support this cause and to reject our common enemy of U.S. imperialism which fuels the Zionist Israeli state.”

Anakbayan Philadelphia engaged in [anti-Israel](#) protests, [workshops](#) and events.

### Philly Boricuas

[Philly Boricuas](#) is a self-described “grassroots organization of Puerto Ricans organizing the diasporic community in Philadelphia.” The alliance between Puerto Ricans and Palestinians is based on the perception that both groups are resisting imperial powers – Puerto Ricans under U.S. colonial rule and Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

Following October 7, Philly Boricuas actively [collaborated](#) with PPC and

helped organize rallies and [prepare](#) educational materials.

indigenous lands by any means necessary.”

In April 2024, Philly Boricuas [issued](#) a “Palestine Solidarity Statement” that [accused](#) Israel of “genocide” and “apartheid” and [wrote](#): “Philly Boricuas uphold Palestinian right to resist occupation and to protect their right to

Key Activist: [Justin Roig](#)

## The Queer Intifada: Gender Rights and LGBTQ

### Queers 4 Palestinian Liberation

In their Instagram profile, [Queers 4 Palestinian Liberation \(Q4P PHL\)](#) describes itself as “Philly(Lēnapehòkink)-based, Palestinian, Black & Indigenous-led, anti-imperialist direct action collective 4 the liberation of colonized land ▼ ”

The inverted red triangle in their profile is a [symbol](#) of support for Hamas.

On December 1, 2023, the group [published](#) a statement that “affirmed” the group’s goals, including “the abolition of the Zionist state,” a one-state solution, the Palestinian “right of return” and the “right to resist by any and all means necessary.”

Q4P PHL [said](#) it organizes direct actions and protests “for the amplification of Queer Palestinian liberation from Zionist occupation.”

On March 16, 2024, Q4P PHL [led](#) a march at Philadelphia’s City Hall. The Instagram post advertising the event said: “...We at Q4P continue to assert that Queerness is a radical politic that has never been and never will be compatible with z\*onism!...”

On March 22, 2024, Q4P PHL, PPC and JVP Philly [organized](#) a protest at the Brooklyn Bowl event hall in Philadelphia against a concert scheduled that day by Jewish-American reggae singer [Matisyahu](#). At the event, protesters hung a sign that [read](#): “Israel is a Terrorist Organization.” Matisyahu gave the performance despite the protest.

On June 1, 2024, at the beginning of “Pride Month,” the group [disrupted](#) a gay pride parade in Philadelphia, with protesters [chanting](#): “PPP, KKK, IOF they are all the same.”



"IOF" stands for "Israeli Occupation Forces," a derogatory name [used](#) by anti-Israel activists to demonize Israel's army in place of its official [name](#), the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

The same day, the group [posted](#) an anti-pride statement on Instagram which [called](#) on "Queer & Trans people to denounce capitalism, colonialism & empire as anti-queer & organize to bring about an end to the Zionist occupation & to all systems & entities which enable & normalize genocide."



The statement [began](#): "We write this as Queers located within the rotting imperial core of the so called 'United States'..."

The post stated: "We call on queer people of conscience to ignite a global intifada against colonizers and capitalists who seek to use our identities, our beauty, our brilliance as justification for unimaginable violence. We reject all celebrations of pride if they are not grounded in the struggle to end genocide."

The term "intifada," which [translates](#) from Arabic as "uprising" or "insurrection," carries the connotation of violence.

The post further said: “We write this anti-pride statement as an honoring of the history of queer militant struggle against imperialism.”

The statement went on to [accuse](#) Israel of committing a “Holocaust” and “crimes against humanity” and “American pigs” of “raping & killing the unhoused & Black Trans youth.”

The statement [declared](#): “Resistance is for us” and “There is only one solution: intifada, revolution! The only route to a free world is through the destruction of the Zionist state.”

*“QUEER AS IN D34TH 2 AMERIKA.  
QUEER AS IN D34TH 2 ISRAEL.  
QUEER AS IN OFF THE PIGS.  
LONG LIVE THE QUEER INTIFADA.”*

Key activist: [Jordan Vaughan](#)

## Local Politicians: Legitimizing Extremism

Philadelphia’s transformation into a hub of radical anti-Israel activism has also been enabled by a cadre of local politicians who have repeatedly offered legitimacy, protection and political cover to extremist movements.

These officials did not merely sympathize with protestors; they visited encampments, amplified slogans, dismissed antisemitism concerns and publicly pressured institutions to reward activists who violated policy and disrupted civic life.

The actions of the politicians listed below reveal a coordinated, ideological alignment with protest movements that traffic in antisemitic, anti-American, socialist and anti-Israel rhetoric.

### Chris Rabb

Pennsylvania State Representative [Chris Rabb](#) has used his political position to defend radical educators, promote anti-Israel narratives and attack institutional responses to antisemitism.

Rabb has aligned himself with and actively promoted virulently anti-Israel groups in the region, including [CAIR-Philadelphia](#), [JVP](#), [If Not Now](#) and [Adalah Justice Project](#). Rabb has regularly appeared at events and rallies alongside organizations that glorify intifada, call for the elimination of Israel and excuse or enable antisemitic activism under the guise of social justice.

Rabb publicly [supported](#) CAIR-Philadelphia, praising its “unapologetic fight” and promoting its annual fundraiser despite CAIR’s [documented](#) history of supporting the October 7 Hamas attack.

Rabb [participated](#) in an interfaith iftar event organized by a coalition of anti-Israel groups, including CAIR Philly, JVP Philly, Adalah Justice Project, Rabbis For Ceasefire, Families for Ceasefire Philly, Philly for Palestine and others. The event was held against a backdrop of posters calling to “Free Gaza,” endorse “Intifada” and demand a “Free Palestine from the River to the Sea.”

Rabb joined anti-Israel protests in Philadelphia and declared his full solidarity with the movement. At a protest at City Hall on June 5, 2024, Rabb [addressed](#) the crowd, saying:

*“...When we come together, we are more powerful than any empire. They can't destroy us. They will continue to try, but they will fail. Because we are in solidarity...This is all of our fight, and I will continue to do what I can in my position because you all keep showing up...And I will do all I can to support you however I can. Power to the people. Free Palestine!”*

Rabb's support for street-level activism has extended into the education sphere, where he has consistently [defended](#) teachers who promote anti-Israel messages in the classroom, including [Keziah Ridgeway](#).

In an Instagram post, Rabb [stated](#) that discomfort in the classroom should not be mistaken for harm and that addressing global issues requires “intentionality and thoughtfulness.” Rabb tagged a range of activist organizations in his post, many of which have promoted anti-Israel rhetoric or organized protests.

## Rick Krajewski

State Representative [Rick Krajewski](#), whose district includes the University of Pennsylvania (Penn), has supported radical anti-Israel activists.

On November 2, 2023, just three weeks after Hamas terrorists murdered 1,200 Israelis and kidnapped 251 more, Krajewski [participated](#) in a ceasefire sit-in at Philadelphia's 30th Street Station alongside State Senator [Nikil Saval](#) and interfaith activists.

The organizers and participants, even in the immediate aftermath of mass atrocities, focused their outrage solely on Israel.

Between November 2023 and January 2024, Krajewski signed multiple public letters pressuring U.S. officials to call for a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas.

On March 19, 2024, Krajewski [joined](#) forces with Rep. Rabb and groups like [Families for Ceasefire Philly](#) and [Harrisburg Palestine Coalition](#) to demand divestment from Israeli bonds and denounce Israel's response to Hamas atrocities as an "unjust war."

On February 5, 2024, Krajewski [joined](#) activists from CAIR, JVP and PPC at an unauthorized protest inside the Pennsylvania Capitol, where he led chants of "Ceasefire now!" in support of the "Divest from Genocide" campaign. The event featured calls for Israel's destruction and support for violence in both Arabic and English and resulted in multiple arrests.

Krajewski expressed his solidarity with the pro-terror organization CAIR, [claiming](#): "Many of the groups I joined, like CAIR - Philadelphia Chapter, are doing powerful work bringing our community together and organizing for Muslim and interfaith safety, despite enormous threats and hate."

## Jamie Gauthier

Philadelphia City Councilmember [Jamie Gauthier](#) has consistently positioned herself as an ally of anti-Israel activism in the city.

In November 2021, Gauthier publicly [supported](#) the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, which was officially recognized in Philadelphia for the first time.

In April 2024, Gauthier [posted](#) a public thank you to Imam [Kenneth Nurideen](#) for delivering the invocation at a Philadelphia City Council meeting. Just months earlier, Nurideen had spoken at the "Stand Up for Gaza" rally, an anti-Israel protest organized by JVP, CAIR Philly and PPC, where participants repeatedly chanted for Israel's destruction.

## Nicolas O'Rourke

Philadelphia Councilmember [Nicolas O'Rourke](#) is another prominent voice at anti-Israel protests. He [spoke](#) at Philadelphia Palestine Day in December 2024 and has attended several street protests alongside members of radical groups.

O'Rourke introduced a City Council resolution calling for a Gaza ceasefire that ultimately [failed](#). He has [invoked](#) slogans like "From West Philly to the West Bank," aligning local social justice struggles with the global anti-Israel cause.

In June 2024, O'Rourke [introduced](#) a resolution honoring Gaza aid workers and reiterated his opposition to Israel and the U.S., stating: "The theology of and against empire is critical teaching in Israel and America, to me."

O'Rourke [co-opted](#) the Jewish holiday of Passover to advance an anti-Israel narrative during a "Passover seder" held at the pro-Hamas encampment at Penn. Invoking the festival's themes of liberation, he framed Israel as an "oppressor" and Passover as a time of "deliverance from a destructive way of life."

At the "seder," O'Rourke lamented celebrating "amidst ethnic cleansing in the Holy Land."

## Madinah Wilson-Anton

Delaware State Representative [Madinah Wilson-Anton](#), though not based in Philadelphia, spoke at a pro-Hamas rally in Philadelphia on October 12, 2023, just five days after the October 7 massacre. She appeared alongside PPC organizers who led chants, including: "There is only one solution—intifada, revolution!" and praised the "resistance" as justified.

Wilson-Anton has roots in radical campus activism. She [previously](#) co-founded and was president of the University of Delaware (UD) chapters of [SJP](#) and the UD [Muslim Student Association \(MSA\)](#). She continues to align herself with anti-Israel protest movements.

Wilson-Anton's trajectory from campus activist to elected representative exemplifies the long-term institutional impact of radical ideologies incubating in the university system.

## Local Politicians Support University Activism

While Jewish students at Pennsylvania universities faced chants of "intifada," glorification of terror and antisemitic harassment, representatives Rabb, Krajewski,



Gauthier and other local elected officials chose not to defend them. Instead, they [rallied](#) behind the anti-Israel protestors, assisting the pro-Hamas encampments and anti-Israel student protestors in various ways.

These politicians not only visited encampments and praised the organizers but also placed public pressure on school administrations to tolerate or even support protests that included open endorsement of terrorist violence and harassment of Jewish students.

Following weeks of national scrutiny over Penn's mishandling of antisemitism on campus, Pennsylvania Republicans in the state House voted against funding the university's veterinary school, citing Penn's refusal to condemn antisemitic campus activity.

When the measure failed to reach the required two-thirds majority, Rabb mocked them as disingenuous political theater, [posting](#) on X on December 13, 2023:

"More bluntly, #PAHouse Rs used #antisemitism as an excuse not to fund an #IvyLeague institution that's populated by 'liberal elites' (& #AmyWax) despite it being invaluable to PA's many rural communities.

Maybe they thought #PennVet is vaccinating animals w/ #CRT microchips."

Rabb [visited](#) pro-Hamas encampments at several schools, including Dickinson College, where he encouraged fellow lawmakers to do the same.

Rabb told student protestors that he came to show support, stating: "I have deep concerns with our president [Joe Biden], on this issue in particular." He emphasized that he was there not as a Democrat, but simply as someone who supports their cause.

Krajewski echoed Rabb's support of the pro-terror protestors. On April 20, 2024, Krajewski [wrote](#) an official statement opposing the revocation of PAO as a registered student group at Penn, despite the fact that PAO had been deregistered after promoting support for Hamas and repeatedly violating university policies.



"This decision will not combat antisemitism or improve public safety. It will only serve to reinforce the culture of repression that we are seeing take root in campuses across the nation when it comes to the genocide in Gaza," Krajewski stated.

Krajewski was a regular visitor to the pro-Hamas encampment at Penn. Speaking at the encampment and [posting](#) on X, he said: "Students have always risen up against apartheid and genocide. Today that legacy continues at Penn, Temple and Drexel. Free Palestine!"

Krajewski, Rabb, Gauthier, O'Rourke and other elected officials joined the Penn chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) in a [joint statement](#) urging Penn not to arrest or discipline any of the student protestors regardless of violations of campus policy or city code.

The statement praised the students' activism as "thoughtful, caring, and essential" and made no mention of the harassment, antisemitic chants, or threatening conduct against Jewish and Zionist students on campus.

Gauthier [extended](#) support to the students, encouraging them to contact her office with any safety concerns, even as the university had already declared the encampment unauthorized and in violation of university policies.

As the university began to crack down on the encampment, Krajewski reportedly [warned](#) members of the Penn encampment of a "credible threat" for a police sweep on May 10, 2024, "within the next 24 hours." This allowed encampment members to attempt to reinforce and defend the encampment.

During the encampment, on May 4, 2024, Rabb, Krajewski, Gauthier and O'Rourke were among eight Philadelphia-area politicians who [signed](#) a public letter calling on Penn to refrain from disciplining student protestors.

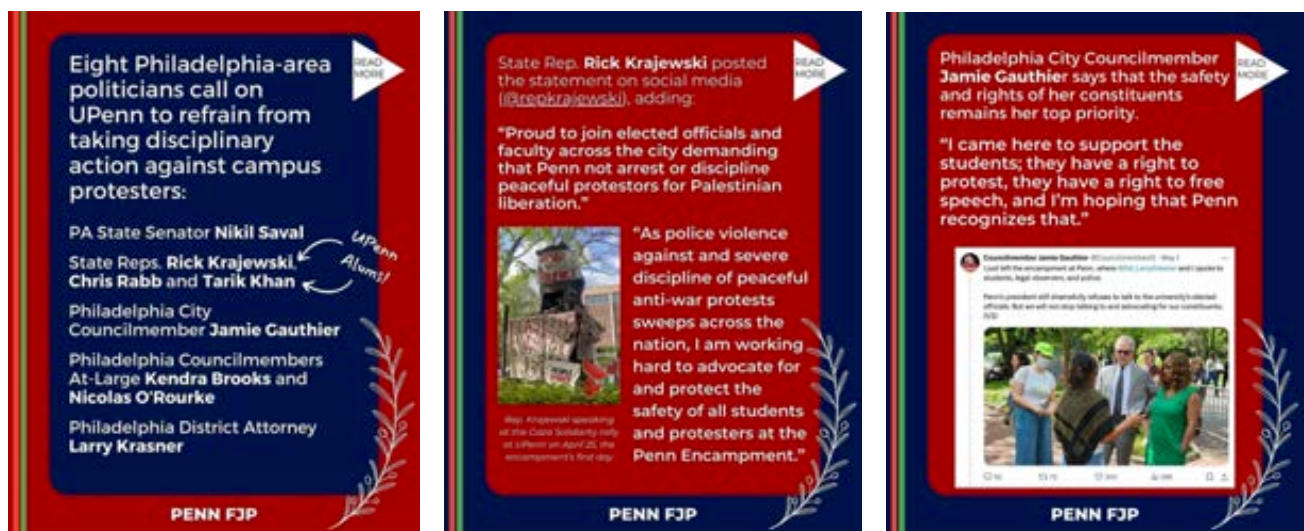
On May 1, 2024, Gauthier [visited](#) the encampment at Penn's campus alongside District Attorney Larry Krasner. While Krasner claimed his visit was a fact-finding mission, Gauthier [said](#): "I came here to support the students...They have a right to protest, they have a right to free speech, and I'm hoping that Penn recognizes that. And they also have the right to do that without penalty."

On X, Gauthier [revealed](#) that she was in "constant contact" with Philadelphia Police Department leadership to ensure student safety. These statements were made after

Penn's administration had already [declared](#) the encampment illegal and posted warnings that participants were violating university policies and state and federal law, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

When police tore down the encampment on May 10, 2024, Krajewski immediately [posted](#) his opposition. He and Gauthier subsequently [released](#) a joint statement calling for amnesty for student protestors and calling on Penn to drop disciplinary charges against any students.

Days after the Penn encampment was dismantled, approximately 75 anti-Israel activists established a new encampment at nearby Drexel University. Rabb was [photographed](#) making a solidarity visit to the encampment on May 19.

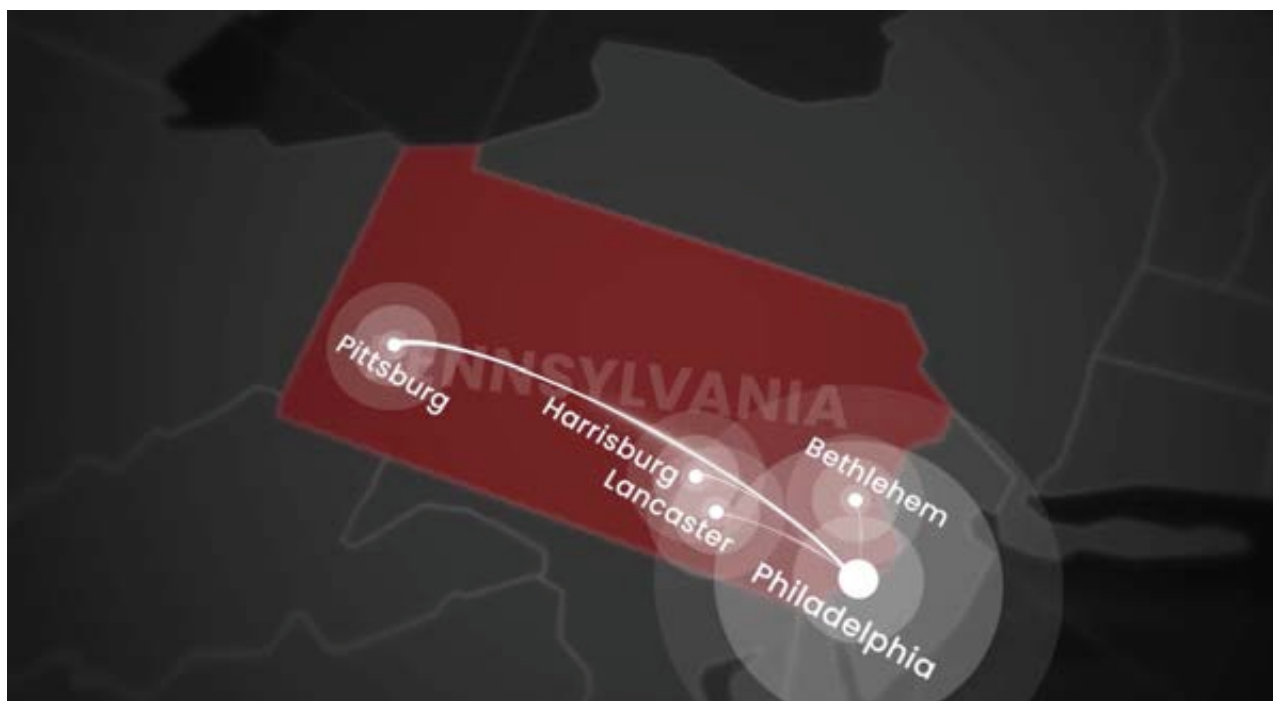


Despite generic condemnations of antisemitism, such as Gauthier's April 2024 [statement](#) that "antisemitism and all forms of hate have no place in our community," these elected officials helped enable a climate of radicalism on campus by lending political support and rhetorical cover to encampments filled with pro-terror messaging, inflammatory slogans and the intimidation of Jewish students.

## Coalition Building Across Pennsylvania

PPC utilized its coalition-building strategy, which proved successful in Philadelphia, and applied it outside the city to spread its influence and mission throughout the state.

PPC collaborated with other regional Palestine coalitions, including the [Harrisburg Palestine Coalition \(HPC\)](#) in central Pennsylvania, the [Lancaster Palestine Coalition \(LPC\)](#) and the [Pittsburgh Palestine Coalition \(PittPalCoalition\)](#). These coalitions emerged in the wake of the October 7 Hamas terror attack.



On November 9, 2023, HPC [held](#) its first event as an official endorser of the [Shut It Down for Palestine](#) coalition that planned and mobilized protests, walkouts and direct actions across the U.S. and internationally. All three coalitions [promoted](#) Shut It Down protests in their respective regions.

HPC [defined](#) its mission as “a coalition of Palestinians and allies of diverse backgrounds and ethnicities, joined towards a common goal of a free and liberated Palestine—from the river to the sea. We call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, a lift of the siege, and a full end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine.”

The key HPC activists are: [Omar Mussa](#), [Hadeel Salameh](#), [Nabila Taha](#)

These coalitions united in statewide [actions](#) and BDS [campaigns](#), [coordinated](#) social media campaigns and [action calls](#) and [promoted](#) anti-Israel [events](#) in each other's local communities. The groups [participated](#) in global actions "to escalate" pro-terror activism through [economic boycotts](#) and [general strikes](#) in Pennsylvania.

They also collaborated with national anti-Israel organizations, such as [CAIR](#), [JVP](#) and [NSJP](#) on statewide political advocacy campaigns and campus protests.

CAIR chapters in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, as well as DSA chapters in those locations, were the leading drivers of the [Uncommitted PA](#) initiative, which [encouraged](#) voters to cast "uncommitted" ballots in the 2024 Democratic primary to [protest](#) U.S. support for Israel's military actions.

To assist the coalitions, CAIR [offered](#) free legal services to anti-Israel protesters; shared "Know Your Rights" protest guides and [primers](#) on avoiding police; template [letters](#) to Pennsylvania lawmakers, universities and workplaces; and education materials on "[Anti-BDS Laws in PA](#)."

The groups joined together to [oppose](#) proposed [legislation](#) in support of Israel and to [endorse](#) anti-Israel politicians and policies.

On October 7, 2024, the anniversary of the Hamas attack, the Pennsylvania-based Palestine Coalitions [reposted](#) a post that said: "October 7th was native breaking free" and [denied](#) the Hamas atrocities, claiming, "The Israeli settler colony lied about what actually happened on October 7th to manufacture consent for the genocide it was going to punish native Palestinians with, for daring to break free."

## Joint Protest at Pennsylvania State Senate

In February 2024, anti-Israel coalitions and organizations came together at the State Capitol in Harrisburg to call for divestment from Israeli bonds.

[Omar Mussa](#), a leading organizer in Harrisburg, [spoke](#) at the event, which was intended to disrupt the Pennsylvania Senate's first day of its session. He condemned the Pennsylvania state treasurer for increasing investment in Israeli bonds after the October 7 attack.



At the event, protesters [unlawfully](#) entered the main rotunda steps inside the building, resulting in the arrest of many. At the same protest, activists [held](#) a banner that read: "Israel is a Terrorist Organization."

PPC organizer [Natalie Abulhawa](#) also [participated](#) in the demonstration and attempted to enter the building "to speak to our senators." Abulhawa was denied entrance by security guards.

## Interfaith Coalitions and Faith-Based Organizing

Since the October 7 attack, Pennsylvania has seen the emergence and strengthening of interfaith coalitions comprised of mosques, synagogues, churches and other faith-based organizations. Hundreds of faith leaders, activists, artists and community members have joined anti-Israel protests across the state.

These groups include Jewish anti-Zionist organizations (e.g.: [IfNotNow](#), [Rabbis for Ceasefire](#)), Christian groups (e.g., [Friends of Sabeel North America \(FOSNA\)](#) and [Mennonite Action](#)), as well as Muslim (e.g.: [CAIR](#), [Al-Hidaya](#) and [Philadelphia Palestinian Americans](#)) and Quaker organizations (e.g.: [AFSC](#)) – all actively advocating against Israel.

Events included responses to "calls from Gaza." For instance, on October 13, 2023, Philadelphia groups [organized](#) a "Jummah Prayer in Solidarity with Palestine" because "the people of Gaza have asked everybody to stand in solidarity with them on this day."

On November 16, 2023, anti-Israel activist groups [mobilized](#) outside the First Unitarian Church on 2125 Chestnut Street. The crowd [chanted](#) multiple times for Israel's destruction and [marched](#) to the office of U.S. Senator Bob Casey.

In February 2024, these same activists [organized](#) the "[Pilgrimage For Peace](#)," an eight-day, multi-faith, multi-racial march from Independence Hall in Philadelphia to the White House in Washington, D.C., held from February 14 to February 21, 2024.

Anti-Israel activist and antisemite Linda Sarsour [spoke](#) at the kickoff rally for the Pilgrimage for Peace at Mother Bethel AME Church in Philadelphia.

These interfaith groups use faith-rooted appeals to humanity, collective mourning and public pressure for political change. They often include historical and biblical [revisionism](#), charge Israel with committing a [holocaust](#) and [advocate](#) against Christian Zionism.

Clergy and lay leaders across Pennsylvania led prayers, songs and moments of silence for “victims” in Gaza, but [not](#) for the victims of the Hamas terror attack. Their solidarity is directed towards [Palestinians](#), not Jews or Israelis.

These groups urged religious groups across Pennsylvania to organize vigils and [public prayers](#) and promote [BDS](#). They issued public statements that demonized Israel and reframed the narrative of the Israel-Hamas war.

Faith-based activists also [visited](#) churches and other houses of worship to distribute materials, encourage prayers for Gaza and invite congregations to join advocacy for a ceasefire, further amplifying their anti-Israel message within local communities.

These groups accused Israel of genocide, [ethnic cleansing](#) and [apartheid](#). They [petitioned](#) elected officials and mobilized supporters to [oppose](#) U.S. financial and diplomatic support for Israeli military actions in Gaza.

In November 2023, a coalition of Jews and Palestinians called [Prayers for Peace Alliance](#) was formed with [support](#) from the anti-Israel organization [Nonviolence International](#). The group organized interfaith vigils, prayer events, “peaceful” direct [actions](#) and public advocacy against Israel.

While Prayers for Peace [declares](#) its mission is “dedicated to the causes of peace and justice” for all faiths, interfaith initiatives in Pennsylvania have been decidedly anti-Israel. Faith leaders, including rabbis, pastors and imams, have emphasized a shared duty to honor all lives lost, but in reality, they have mourned only Palestinian “victims.”

## Christian Groups

[Friends of Sabeel North America \(FOSNA\)](#) is a U.S.-based Christian advocacy organization and a major force behind BDS campaigns in the U.S.

The group frequently partners with JVP and SJP. It is [affiliated](#) with the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center, a Palestinian Christian movement founded in Jerusalem by Reverend Naim Ateek.

FOSNA renounces violence, but many of its members [justified](#) and [defended](#) the Hamas atrocities and called for continued violence against Israel.

While not headquartered in Pennsylvania, FOSNA regularly [partners](#) with local churches and activists for anti-Israel educational events, advocacy and public prayer events.

FOSNA, along with other Christian groups, [encouraged](#) students to protest with SJP and [supported](#) student protests and encampments.

As of April 2024, anti-Israel professor [Cornel West](#) was a member of FOSNA's advisory board. West made a solidarity visit to the University of Pittsburgh [encampment](#).

FOSNA participated in an anti-Israel delegation to Israel called: "[Zionism is a force of destruction](#)."

A [statement](#) published by FOSNA on October 7, 2023, read: "Today's violence was the inevitable outcome of Israel's persistent and systemic violation of the rights of Palestinians."

Another Christian group, Mennonite Action, [participated](#) in and [organized](#) anti-Israel protests. In April 2024, Mennonite Action signed an open letter in support of student anti-Israel protests and offered a [Campus Occupation Support Toolkit](#).

## Jewish groups

On November 2, 2023, PPC, [INN Philly](#) and JVP Philly [organized](#) an act of "civil disobedience" during a sit-in and rally at 30th Street Station, [disrupting](#) commuters during rush-hour traffic. It was reported that 500 faith leaders and supporters were in attendance. Around 350 people were arrested for blocking access to trains.

[Alissa Wise](#) is the former co-executive director of JVP and a prominent Jewish faith leader in Philadelphia's anti-Zionist network. In [2023](#), Wise founded [Rabbis For Ceasefire](#), a group that advocates for an end to fighting in Gaza and has partnered with antisemite and political activist [Linda Sarsour](#).

Wise [wrote](#): "The greatest obstacle to peace in the Middle East is Israel." Wise was barred in 2017 from traveling to Israel as per an Israeli law that prevents entry for activists whose objective is to "harm the state."

***Read more about Alissa Wise [here](#)***

[JVP](#) strategically seeks to place a "wedge" in the Jewish community, creating disagreement and discord among Jews over their support for Israel. The group partners with antisemitic Palestinian groups, both for ideological reasons and as a way to provide cover for those groups whose goal is to destroy the state of Israel.

Key activists: [Linda Holtzman](#)

## Muslim Groups

Muslim groups active in the interfaith coalition include CAIR, Al-Hidaya, [Philadelphia Palestinian Americans](#) and [Philly for Palestine](#).

These groups have openly [called](#) for the dismantlement of Israel, [promoted](#)

pro-terror protests and employed violent rhetoric toward Jewish Americans, in one case [writing](#): “We are going to stop them with every force we have!”

Anti-Israel activist [Ray Mustafa](#), who was [affiliated](#) with CAIR Philly and the [Philadelphia Palestinian Americans](#) community activist group, spoke at a pro-terror rally on October 15, 2023, [titled](#): “Philly Stands with Gaza.”

At the rally, Mustafa [said](#): “[Israel] had to invent the fake story about Hamas beheading children so they could prepare the world for what they’re going to do to the people in the Gaza Strip.”

Key activists: [Sam Kuttab](#), [Jonathan Kuttab](#), [Ray Mustafa](#)

## National Protests in Washington, D.C.

The Pennsylvania-based Palestine Coalitions coordinated and sent delegates to national protests in Washington, D.C., using their influence to try to impact national policy.



## **National March on Washington: Free Palestine – November 4, 2023**

The [National March on Washington: Free Palestine](#) was [held](#) on November 4, 2023. It was [organized](#) by anti-Israel organizations, including PYM, ANSWER Coalition, NSJP, American Muslim Alliance, The People's Forum, Al-Awda: The Palestine Right to Return Coalition, U.S. Palestinian Community Network (USPCN) and U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights (USCPR).

Pennsylvania Palestine coalitions [organized](#) buses and mobilized activists to attend the march. Pittsburgh Palestine Coalition coordinated travel from western Pennsylvania. The Harrisburg Palestine Coalition sent delegates and promoted the event locally. Lancaster Palestine Coalition organized local turnout and joined statewide efforts.

Local chapters of SJP, a national co-sponsor of the march, [participated](#), including SJP chapters from universities in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and other Pennsylvania cities.

Pennsylvania chapters of JVP joined national contingents at the march. Labor and faith-based groups also sent delegations.

[Asantewaa Nkrumah-Ture](#), an anti-Israel activist from Philadelphia, [spoke](#) as an organizer for Black Alliance for Peace, [saying](#): "We from the Black Alliance for Peace stand firm in solidarity with the Palestinian people and all of their resistance forces...We say yes...end all U.S. funding for racist Zionist Israel."

Nkrumah-Ture also [called](#) for the Palestinian "right of return" (a euphemism for the destruction of Israel as a Jewish state) and [claimed](#) that black civil rights leaders standing in solidarity with Israel were "getting paid by somebody, by AIPAC [American Israel Public Affairs Committee] or some members of Congress..."

## **National March on Washington for Gaza – January 13, 2024**

The [National March on Washington for Gaza](#) was held on January 13, 2024, in Washington, D.C. It was organized by the American Muslim Task Force for Palestine, a coalition of groups including American Muslims for Palestine (AMP), the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA), Muslim American Society (MAS), Muslim Student Association-National (MSA), Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA), Muslim Ummah of North America (MUNA), Young Muslims (YM) and ANSWER Coalition.

Speakers included [Noura Erakat](#) and [Omar Suleiman](#).



The groups [demanded](#):

- An immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza
- An end to U.S. funding of Israel's "genocide" in Gaza and the occupation of Palestine
- Accountability for Israeli leaders for alleged war crimes, including calls for the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate and charge Israeli officials
- A halt to all U.S. weapons transfers to Israel

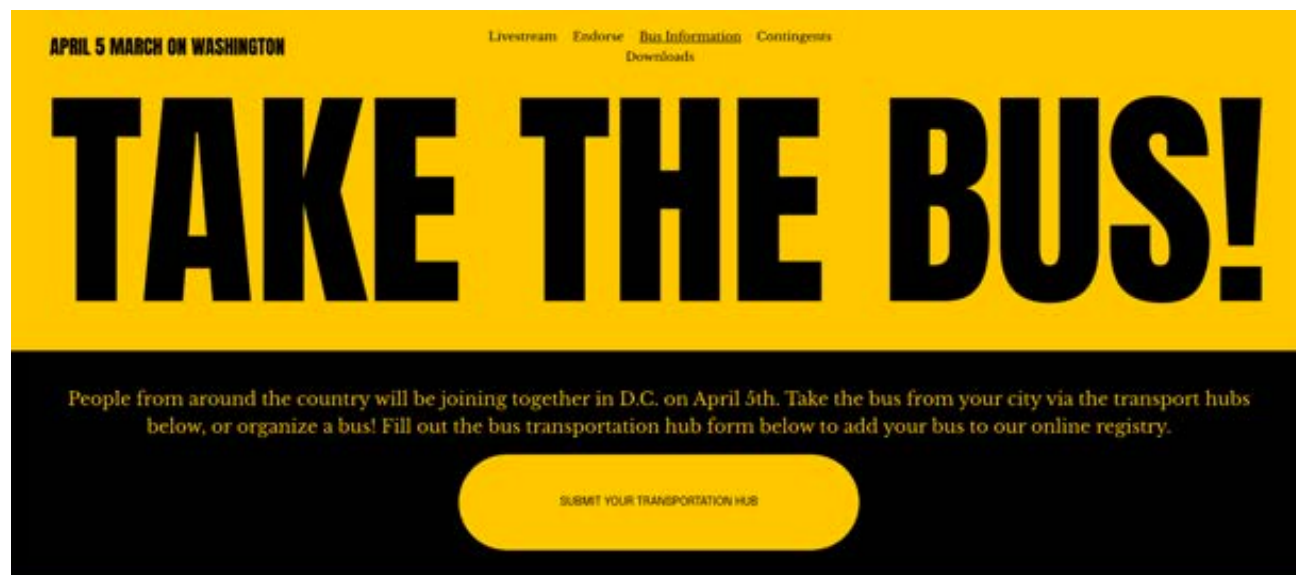
The Pittsburgh Palestine Coalition, along with [other](#) interfaith groups in Pennsylvania, was an official [endorser](#) of the march. HPC [organized](#) transportation for members to attend.

### **National March on Washington – April 5, 2025**

The [National March on Washington](#) was [held](#) on April 5, 2025, with activists demanding a ceasefire in Gaza, an arms embargo on Israel and an end to U.S. support for Israel.

Initial sponsoring organizations of the march [included](#) the Palestinian Youth Movement, The People's Forum, ANSWER Coalition, American Muslims for Palestine, Democratic Socialists of America, Jewish Voice for Peace, U.S. Palestinian Community Network, U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights, Palestinian Feminist Collective, AROC Action and Al-Awda.

Transportation was [organized](#) to send multiple buses of activists from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C



## Overlap with NYC Pro-Terror Network – “Travel By Any Means Necessary”

PPC and other Pennsylvania Palestine groups endorsed and, at times, participated in events in different locations, particularly, [Within Our Lifetime \(WOL\)](#) events in New York City. They also used their organizing power and social media followers to bolster activism in neighboring states.

Examples of this interstate activism include:

- A combination of Palestine coalitions and student groups, including Pittsburgh SJP, [endorsed](#) and [promoted](#) an NYC event organized by WOL, “Flood New York City for Gaza,” on [September 2, 2024](#)
- HPC promoted a fundraising [event](#) with Nerdeen Kiswani, the leader of WOL
- SJP chapters, including Drexel Palestine Coalition, supported the pro-Hamas encampments at Columbia and [criticized](#) Columbia’s administration for taking disciplinary action against pro-terror students
- Philly for Palestine [joined](#) NYC PYM in Brooklyn and [participated](#) in a [WOL](#) in Teaneck, New Jersey, “[protest and prayer](#)”
- HPC advertised an [event](#) in NYC on the Columbia campus called “Prayer and Protest for Palestine” in support of arrested student Mahmoud Khalil

# THE UNIVERSITY ECOSYSTEM





## Introduction

Following the October 7 Hamas terror attack on Israel, Philadelphia’s nexus of anti-Israel university institutions, student activists, pro-terror faculty and local community groups – with the guidance of national pro-terror organizations – built a formidable alliance to advocate against Israel.

Located within just a few miles of each other in West and North Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University and Temple University form a tightly connected academic ecosystem with significant overlap in student activism and organizing.

Drexel and Penn are especially intertwined. With campuses that sit side-by-side, they share physical space, infrastructure and often student engagement.

While each university hosts its own [Students for Justice in Palestine \(SJP\)](#) chapter or similarly aligned anti-Israel student organization, these groups do not operate in isolation. They work in close coordination, hold joint protests, share resources and messaging, and amplify each other’s campaigns.

This inter-campus collaboration has transformed what was once localized anti-Israel activism into a unified front that draws strength from its geographic proximity and shared ideological framework.



The university ecosystem in Philadelphia supported the goals of the student protest movement, i.e., the “[student intifada](#),” and the pro-terror, anti-American agenda of anti-Israel activists, both on campus and on a state/[national](#) level.

A [goal](#) of the student activists was to have university officials “validate their cause” by protecting their pro-terror activism from disciplinary measures, even though it destabilized the campus environment and alienated Jewish and pro-Israel students.

University presidents who [condemned](#) the Hamas attack were viciously [criticized](#) and [called](#) upon to give equal air time to a “both sides” narrative that placed a moral equivalence between Hamas terrorists and their Israeli victims.

SJP groups [demanded](#) that university leaders make public statements acknowledging that Israel was perpetrating a “genocide” and intentionally targeting healthcare facilities, schools and mosques in Gaza.



## Support for Terror

Support for terror (euphemistically referred to as “resistance”) was a [feature](#) of the student protest movement beginning from the October 7 attack. This was a driving [principle](#) of the movement.

Student and faculty groups [justified](#) the terror organization’s actions as “a necessary step towards the liberation of a colonized people.”

They [accused](#) the universities of being “active collaborators in the ongoing colonization, complicit in the machinery of apartheid and

genocide,” framing their activism as a response to institutional involvement in or benefit from the Israeli “occupation.”

## Divestment and Boycott

Student groups tried to [pressure](#) their institutions to [divest](#) from Israel and [called](#) upon supporters to “disrupt business as usual at the university and of its administrators, trustees and board members.”

University alumni were called upon to “withhold any and all financial donations” from the university, and institutions were urged to boycott research and educational partnerships with Israeli institutions.

Other objectives of the student activists included:

- Gaining the university’s assistance, endorsement and protection to amplify calls for Israel’s destruction to heighten political pressure against Israel
- Impacting fellow students who might be manipulated into joining anti-Israel student activism
- Creating two-way access and flow of resources between the “revolutionary ecosystem” and the “university ecosystem” to open university gates to the [Philly Palestinian Coalition \(PCC\)](#), anti-Israel activists across the city’s educational institutions and public schools, [legislative bodies](#) and [activist organizations](#) spanning the intersectional landscape

## Community Coordination

As was seen throughout the city, the student and faculty activists cooperated with the community to broaden their reach.

Anti-Israel activists like [Susan Abulhawa](#), [Marc Lamont Hill](#) and [Noura Erakat](#), gained access to Philadelphia's campuses and their students.

Student groups called on faculty, alumni and community members to participate in, promote and contribute to all campus events.

SJP chapters at Temple, Penn and Drexel sent student contingents to PPC rallies. They [promoted](#) "Shut It Down for Palestine" events, which were organized by national anti-Israel organizations like [PYM](#) and NSJP.

By aligning with student groups, Philadelphia's anti-Israel activists leveraged their power, resources and impact exponentially and vice versa.

This section of the report will lay out the main players who influenced the university ecosystem, the coordination tactics used to optimize impact, the contribution of faculty and administration to the protest movement and a review of the pro-terror encampment of April-May 2024.

## Main Players in the University Ecosystem



### Penn Students Against the Occupation of Palestine

[Students for Justice in Palestine \(SJP\)](#) was the central organizer of the “student intifada” across the U.S. The SJP chapter at the University of Pennsylvania is called [Penn Students Against the Occupation of Palestine \(PAO\)](#).

Many SJP groups operate under different names across North American campuses, for example, the [Palestine Solidarity Committee \(PSC\)](#) at Harvard University and [Students United for Palestinian Equal Rights \(SUPER\)](#) at Washington University.

These groups are [considered](#) part of the SJP network or its “informal affiliates,” sharing common “points of unity” and participating in similar activism, such as organizing [Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions \(BDS\)](#) campaigns and campus protests. National SJP (NSJP) recognizes these chapters as autonomous entities that operate independently, but are united by shared principles and goals.

Following the October 7 attack, PAO immediately [joined](#) NSJP and SJP chapters at Temple and Drexel in anti-Israel pro-terror activism and was [supported](#) by Penn’s

Faculty and Staff for Justice in Palestine (Penn FSJP). In April 2024, following its deregistration as an official student group, PAO [declared](#): “We Are All SJP.”

In late September 2024, PAO [joined](#) the Philadelphia Students for Justice in Palestine Coalition ([PHL SJP](#)).

## History of Incitement

In 2020, PAO [launched](#) the chapter to advocate for “influential political action on Penn’s campus and beyond,” including the university’s divestment from Israel. PAO’s activities drew participation from students, faculty and activists across the city and suburbs.

In May 2021, during Israel’s “Operation Guardian of the Walls (OGW),” PAO’s activity increased in frequency and intensity.

On May 19, 2021, PAO [released](#) a statement that accused Israel of ethnic cleansing, [war crimes](#) and [genocidal intent](#) and [called](#) on the Penn community to support “Palestinian liberation.”

In March 2023, PAO [hosted](#) “Israeli Apartheid Week,” which featured prominent antisemitic speakers, including [Mohammed El-Kurd](#) and [Noura Erakat](#).

In the 2022–2023 edition of the Penn Disorientation Guide, PAO [wrote](#): “Israel is a settler colonial state that uses apartheid to further its ethnic cleansing agenda.”

One month before the October 7 attack, PAO hosted and promoted the [Palestine Writes Literature Festival](#), which showcased virulently antisemitic and anti-Israel speakers, including known Nazi-supporter Roger Waters and PFLP terrorist Wisam Rafeedie.

Co-chair and founder of the festival, [Susan Abulhawa](#), was a leader of many anti-Israel rallies across Philadelphia.

## Poised for Action on October 8, 2023

Following the October 7 Hamas attack, PAO intensified its activism, organizing high-visibility protests, marches and die-ins and issuing demands for university divestment from companies linked to Israel’s military.

- On October 8, 2023, one day after the massacre, PAO and PPC held an “Emergency Solidarity Rally” at Rittenhouse Square Park.

- On October 11, 2023, PAO [issued](#) a “Statement of Solidarity with Palestine” that declared solidarity with the “Palestinian resistance of Israeli genocide and apartheid.”

The statement was co-signed by 11 student groups, including Police Free Penn, Fossil Free Penn, Radical South Asian Collective and Students for the Preservation of China.

- On November 8, 2023, PAO [projected](#) antisemitic messages onto several campus buildings, including the Penn Commons, Huntsman Hall and Irvine Auditorium. The messages stated: “From The River to the Sea, Palestine will be Free,” “Liz Magill: Call For Ceasefire Now,” “From the Sea to the River, Palestine will live Forever,” “Let Gaza Live,” “Zionism Is Racism” and “Penn Funds Palestinian Genocide.”

Earlier in the day, the campus had been defaced with similar messages written in chalk across the main campus thoroughfare Locust Walk and on banners hung on campus property.

### **Continued Activity Despite Revoked Status**

On April 19, 2024, Penn’s Office of Student Affairs (OSA) [revoked](#) PAO’s status as a registered student group, stating a failure “to comply with policies that govern student organizations at Penn, despite repeated efforts to engage with the group and to provide opportunities to resolve noncompliance.”

The revocation removed their authorization to host events on Penn’s campus or declare any affiliation with the university.

Its members hid under the PFSJP group activism. On April 24, 2024, over 40 Penn and local community organizations, including PPC, [signed](#) a statement of solidarity with PAO. Penn-affiliated groups that signed the letter included: the Freedom School for Palestine, Fossil Free Penn, Queer Muslims at Penn, Natives at Penn, Penn Reproductive Justice, and Police Free Penn. The letter [said](#) that the groups “will not rest until our universities cease repression, disclose and divest.”

On April 23, 2024, Penn FJP, PPC and [Penn Alumni for Palestine](#) released a solidarity statement with PAO’s mission and less than a week after PAO’s deregistration, the groups [launched](#) a pro-Hamas encampment on campus.

On April 25, 2024, a coalition of Penn students, staff and faculty, along with Philadelphia community members and students from Temple, Drexel and other universities, [launched](#) the “Gaza Solidarity Encampment” on Penn’s College Green. (Read more in the Encampments section [here](#)).

On September 12, 2024, PAO [posted](#) in support of the vandalism by an “autonomous group” of a statue on campus that had been defaced with red paint. PAO called the statue “a symbol of imperial violence and colonialism.”

On September 28, 2024, PAO [reposted](#) a statement on their Instagram story referring to the death of Hassan Nasrallah, head of the Lebanese terrorist organization Hezbollah:

The statement read: “When a leader departs, another rises. His soul departed to join his fellow martyrs, resisting until the last moment. While we today feel the bitterness of loss, we stand tall in facing this enemy who thought that targeting the leaders would break the will of the resistance and people. On the contrary, the ranks of the resistance in Lebanon and everywhere will increase in insistence on continuing the confrontation with this tyrannical enemy who understands only the language of force. The blood of these martyrs will form new fuel for the fire of resistance, which will not die down until the liberation of Palestine and all occupied Arab lands.”

PAO collaborated with PPC to hold anti-Israel events as late as [March 2025](#).

On March 21, 2025, PAO [participated](#) in a protest alongside alumni, community members and individuals from other schools outside the home of the university's president.

On March 31, 2025, PPC and PAO [held](#) an “All Out for Palestine Rally” outside Penn’s Hillel, which is located on campus. The rally was in response to a speaking event of Noa Tishbi and two survivors of the October 7 massacre. PAO [wrote](#) on their social media: “Noa Tishbi and her Zionist ghouls out of Philly!...join us...to affirm that Nazi Zionists have no place in our city...”



## Temple SJP

**Disclaimer. As of May 2025, Temple SJP's Instagram account was no longer active.**

Temple SJP was founded in the mid-2000s. After October 7, 2023, Temple SJP mobilized immediately. During October, they organized the following anti-Israel actions:

- On October 11, 2023, they issued an "Official Solidarity Statement" in response to "the call of action for all Arabs and Palestinians in the diaspora...to unite in support of the liberation movement." The statement said: "We believe that the Palestinian People have a right to stand up for their freedom and resist oppression" and held "the Zionist entity [Israel] responsible for the conditions that gave rise to the ongoing violence."
- On October 18, 2023, they posted an open letter to the university that identified themselves as "representing the Palestinian students and our partners in joint struggle."
- On October 20, 2023, Temple SJP members plastered the campus with signs accusing Israel of "genocide" and slogans such as "Long Live The Resistance!" "ethnic cleansing" and "Resistance until return within our lifetime."
- On October 25, 2023, they organized a "Collective Walkout for Palestine" to "protest to the ethnic cleansing and genocide of Palestinians in Gaza, and to honor our martyrs." Their goal was clearly stated: "We stand in full solidarity with Palestine, and we need the university to join us in that stance..." At the walkout, Susan Abulhawa, Omar Mussa, and PPC organizer Nour Qutyan, a Temple alum and former leader of Temple SJP, spoke. A sign at the rally said: "Zionism is genocide."
- On February 9, 2024, they held a walkout and rally, where pro-terror demonstrators held up signs calling for "INTIFADA 'TIL VICTORY!" and bearing the inverted red triangle, a symbol showing support for Hamas and Palestinian terrorism. Another sign accused Israel of "genocide."
- On February 17, 2024, Temple SJP held a "die-in" outside the main entrance of Charles Library on campus. Activists obstructed entry into the library in support of Rafah, a city in Gaza on the border with Egypt. Rafah was targeted by the IDF as a Hamas stronghold and the site of numerous arms smuggling

routes from Egypt into Gaza.

- In March 2024, Temple SJP organized a series of campus events for “Israel Apartheid Week” held from March 22-29. [Israeli Apartheid Week \(IAW\)](#) is [presented](#) as “an international series of events that seek to raise awareness of...Israel’s settler-colonial project and apartheid system over the Palestinian people” and build support for the BDS movement.

Beginning with the pro-Hamas encampment at Columbia in April 2024, anti-Israel activists on college campuses across the U.S. were [called](#) upon to “Escalate4Gaza.” Anti-Israel activists at Temple heeded the [call](#) by outside groups like PPC, who were echoing [messaging](#) from Hamas. Language of social media posts included open [support](#) for terror.

On April 23, 2024, Temple SJP [issued](#) three demands to the university, which [included](#) financial divestment from Israel, “an academic boycott by Temple administration of the state of Israel” and an acknowledgment by the university that Israel was committing “genocide.”

On April 25, 2024, Temple SJP [joined](#) the pro-Hamas encampment at Penn. Temple SJP’s president, [Rishi Arun](#), served as an organizer of the encampment. (Read more in the section about the [encampment](#)).

In an open act of antisemitism, on August 29, 2024, Temple SJP [organized](#) a march “demanding the university condemn Israel and divest in monetary support.” The march began at Charles Library on campus and ended at the Hillel Center for Jewish Life, where protesters harassed Jewish students.

## **Temple SJP Placed on Interim Suspension**

On September 26, 2024, Temple SJP organized a protest at a College of Engineering career fair and [targeted](#) the presence of weapons manufacturers. The disruption [led](#) to student arrests and [prompted](#) the university to place SJP on interim suspension starting October 2, 2024.

Following the suspension, SJP was explicitly barred from holding any meetings, activities, socials, or philanthropic events on campus pending the outcome of the conduct process. ([Temple LSJP](#) picked up some of the slack.)

After its suspension in October 2024, Temple SJP [continued](#) its anti-Israel activism primarily through off-campus organizing, social media advocacy and collaboration with SJP chapters at other universities.

While suspended, Temple SJP continued to advocate for Temple to divest from companies profiting from the Israeli military and to publicly condemn Israeli actions in Gaza, using digital platforms and coalition statements to advance these demands.

## Community Collaboration

SJP members participated in citywide and regional protests and rallies alongside other Philadelphia anti-Israel organizations.

Temple SJP [collaborated](#) with groups, such as PPC and JVP Philly. They [solicited](#) funds for SJP and joined larger demonstrations in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

Temple SJP maintained an active presence on platforms like Instagram until May 2025, where it continued to issue [statements](#) condemning university partnerships with weapons manufacturers and amplifying calls for a ceasefire and divestment.

The group used social media to mobilize supporters, [promote](#) PPC protests, share news, and coordinate actions not directly tied to the university.

## Activism Continues into 2025

In January 2025, Temple SJP [reinstated](#) teach-in educational events on campus, with a full [schedule](#) of events through April 2025. In March 2025, the JVP chapter at Temple (JVP Temple) stepped up to [offer](#) a “Zionism 101” teach-in.

As of May 2025, SJP is still not [recognized](#) as a student organization at Temple and is prohibited from organizing events using Temple’s name, branding, or resources.

Key Activists: [Rishi Arun](#), [Besan Zeidan](#), [Justin Roig](#), [Alia Amanpour Trapp](#)

## Drexel SJP

Like its counterparts at Penn and Temple, [Drexel SJP](#) immediately spurred into action after October 7, joining with PPC in anti-Israel protests, fundraising [efforts](#) and political

[initiatives](#). The coordination was further facilitated by [Nada Abuasi](#), a graduate student and prominent leader and spokesperson for Drexel SJP, who was an organizer for PPC.

Five days after the massacre, on October 12, 2023, Drexel SJP [released](#) an open letter condemning the university president John Fry's failure to "acknowledge the context for these tragic events [Oct. 7] and violence."

On January 24, 2024, Drexel SJP posted on Instagram that the group "is frozen and unable to host any events" and directed supporters to join the [Drexel Palestine Coalition \(DPC\)](#) and [Drexel Medical Students for Palestine \(DUCOM for Palestine\)](#). The details of what happened are not public, but Drexel did not officially suspend the chapter, rather Drexel SJP reported being hamstrung.

On May 18, 2024, following the [arrest](#) of anti-Israel activists who attempted to start a second encampment at Penn and occupy Fisher Bennett Hall, the Drexel Coalition [established](#) a Gaza Solidarity Encampment on Drexel's Korman Quad.

The protesters gathered at City Hall and marched to campus as part of Philly Palestine Coalition's Nakba Day march to call for a ceasefire in Gaza.

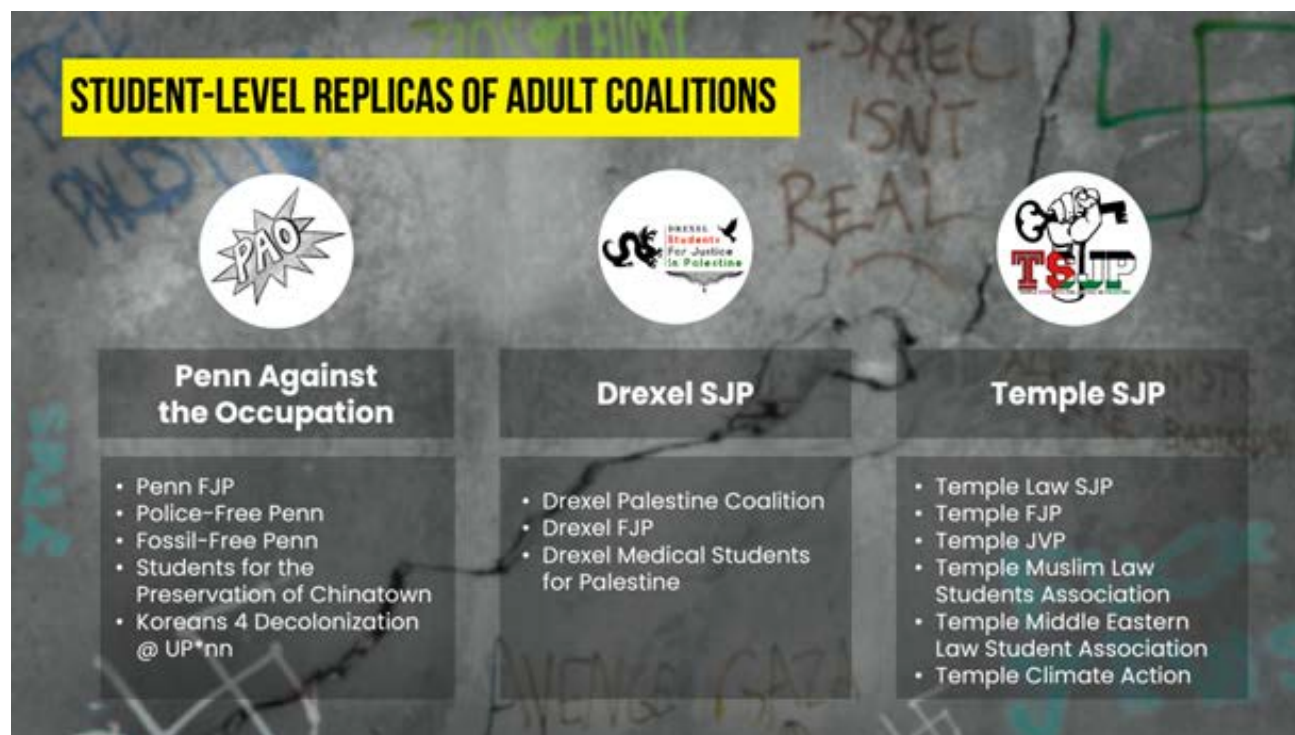
The Drexel Palestine Coalition [said](#) in a statement that the Gaza Solidarity Encampment demands "divestment from genocide and redistribution of funds toward investment in Palestine, disclosure of material and financial expenses and profits, defense against repression and censorship, and an explicit declaration that we are witnessing a genocide."

On May 23, 2024, Drexel president John Fry [ordered](#) the dismantling of the encampment.

Key Activists: [Nada Abuasi](#), [Banah Khamis](#)

## SJP Activism Connected to Community Organizing

SJP chapters at Temple, Drexel and Penn have engaged in coalition building on campus by allying themselves with anti-Israel student groups like the Muslim Student Association (MSA) and intersectional allies like Fossil Free Penn.



SJP has linked its activism to local issues, such as opposing Temple's proposed stadium and highlighting connections between settler-colonialism in Palestine and displacement in North Philly.

Drexel SJP [supported](#) residents of the UC Townhomes, [while](#) "drawing lines of parallelism about displacement in the West Bank and West Philly."

By connecting anti-Israel activism with local struggles, such as racial and economic justice, combating gender or racial discrimination, and resisting gentrification in North Philadelphia, SJP mobilized community activists and leveraged the resources of various community organizations.

A 2016 interview in [Jadaliyya.com](#) with an unnamed Temple SJP leader summarized the alliance between SJP and community organizations:

*"We believe student power is not possible without serving the people and the community. Students must join forces with the people if we wish to effect real political change instead of stagnating in feel-good echo chambers. While hosting discussions and raising campus awareness is the first step, it is crucial we connect and work with oppressed communities on the ground. As students, we are strategically located within the university and our access to education and power should be channeled into doing work for the movement. Our privilege and access should be utilized to benefit the people. The movement is made by the people, and for that reason, student leaders are accountable to the people. As a result, student organizers must join the people and become part of them."*

During the [encampments](#), student protesters "put out a call to our community and you all showed up from every corner of this city."

PAO wrote: "The power of this encampment is in our coalitional nature...We will refuse any attempt to splinter our movement into student or non-student, Penn or non-Penn that would seek to enforce false separation between the university and the rest of the city on Penn's terms."

PAO [mobilized](#) support to "protect each other and our movements" from legal enforcement. PAO [called](#) for "collective security practices as an expression of love and solidarity" and [pled](#) for jail support following arrests.

## **Coordination, Shared Strategy and Messaging**

### **Cross-Campus Coalitions**

In the year after the October 7 attack, the federal government began to investigate a number of universities for Title VI violations stemming from rampant antisemitism on their campuses.

Many universities responded by investigating, suspending or deregistering their SJP chapters and other anti-Israel student groups. These organizations, in turn, formed coalitions as a means to avoid responsibility and carry on their pro-terror activities.

The coalitions enabled student activists from multiple universities to amplify their message by organizing protests, issuing collective statements and making demands with unified messaging.



By pooling resources and supporters, these coalitions were able to stage larger, more visible demonstrations, which served to increase public attention and media coverage. This, in turn, put more pressure on university administrations and policymakers.

## Philadelphia SJP Coalition

The [Philadelphia SJP Coalition \(PHL SJP\)](#) was [formed](#) on September 27, 2024, just days before the first anniversary of the October 7 massacre.

The coalition described itself as a “cross-campus coalition of students from academic institutions throughout the greater Philadelphia area, in solidarity with the Palestinian people and their resistance against the Zionist entity.”



The stated purpose was to “unite and escalate the student intifada.” The coalition included Temple SJP, PAO, and SJP at Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr and Haverford colleges.

On October 12, 2024, PHL SJP [posted](#) on Instagram that it had launched its first action on “the anniversary of Operation: Al-Aqsa Flood,” the name Hamas assigned to its deadly attacks on Israeli communities, on October 7, to remember “our martyrs and our resistance.”

The group also [posted](#) a statement in support of the October 7 massacre, “The breaching of the literal prison walls that were imposed to subjugate and break the spirit of the Palestinian people was not merely a symbolic gesture of revolution, but a necessary step towards the liberation of a colonized people.”

The statement was replete with images of Hamas triangles that alleged an ongoing genocide in “Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, and Yemen” and reaffirmed Philadelphia students’ commitment to “a liberated Palestine within our lifetime.”

## Anti-American Propaganda



With increased disciplinary measures enacted on Penn, Drexel and Temple campuses, the coalitions [turned](#) against Philadelphia police and the “US Empire” as a whole. PHL SJP shared [resources](#) on how to act if stopped by the police.

On June 5, 2024, the Drexel Palestine Coalition [posted](#): “DUPD, KKK, IOF THEY’RE ALL THE SAME!!”

A social media [post](#) shared by PHL SJP read: “We will not be silent about the violence committed repeatedly against our comrades, at UPenn, Columbia, Temple, and universities across Turtle Island [America]...We refuse to let the empires dilute our

resolve through fear...Long live the Student Intifada...We will not rest until the US Empire falls."

On July 4, 2024, PPC [organized](#) a [protest](#) in Philadelphia to "stand with the resistance and support Palestine, not AmeriKKKA! We don't celebrate the legacy of genocide, colonialism, and slavery that July 4th symbolizes, but struggle for true LIBERATION for all."

Activists at the protest [chanted](#): "Empire will fall" and "Long live the intifada!" as they set American and Israeli flags and Independence Day banners on fire.

On July 5, 2024, PPC released a statement on the protest that [read](#): "July 4 is an imperialist holiday, where the US seeks to shove its red, white and blue Stars and Stripes down the throats of every US citizen. We have every right to protest this empire, and those who chose to burn the Stars and Stripes have every right to do so."

PPC then commented: "Empire will fall ▼ "



On October 7, 2024, PHL SJP and the Drexel Palestine Coalition [organized](#) a rally on Drexel's campus to mark the anniversary of the October 7 attack. Protesters at the rally [held](#) a sign that read: "Amerika is the Head of the Snake."

## Faculty and Administration Normalize Anti-Israel Activism and Antisemitism

On December 5, 2023, then-Penn president Liz Magill, along with the presidents of Harvard and MIT, was [questioned](#) by the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce. Each was asked if calling for the genocide of Jews constituted a violation of their university's code of conduct.



In testimony that has now become iconic, Magill, along with both of her colleagues, answered that it was “context-dependent.” Each tried to use the principle of free speech to justify her answer; each failed due to the sheer absurdity of America’s most elite institutions supporting such a concept.

Four days later, Magill [resigned](#) as president of Penn.

Yet, Magill’s departure did nothing to stem the complicity of the administration in permitting, tolerating and even condoning the months-long onslaught of antisemitic activity at Penn that began before October 7, 2023 and continued afterward.



## Palestine Writes Literature Festival

In September 2023, Penn's faculty and administration stood behind the [Palestine Writes Literature Festival](#), an event sponsored by Penn's Wolf Humanities Center that featured a veritable who's who of virulent antisemitic Israel haters. The festival was promoted by numerous academic departments and prominently [featured](#) on class syllabi.

Even though the administration was aware of the nature of the event, they declined to shut it down. They opted instead to [release](#) a statement voicing their apprehension about the speakers' "documented and troubling history of engaging in antisemitism by speaking and acting in ways that denigrate Jewish people."

Even this milquetoast response elicited outrage from Penn's faculty, who immediately pushed back, claiming the statement was Islamophobic and an example of "bigotry on the part of those who are hostile to Palestinian rights."

Ultimately, in the words of a [lawsuit](#) subsequently brought against the university by Jewish students Eyal Yakoby and Jordan Davis, Penn's "refusal to heed the pleas of Jewish students and organizations to distance itself from [the Festival] heightened the already dangerous and hostile anti-Jewish environment, and primed the pump for the torrent of anti-Jewish harassment and violence that would flood Penn's campus days later, following October 7."

## A 'New Low' for Penn

By October 11, 2023, Penn's SJP chapter, [Penn Students Against the Occupation of Palestine \(PAO\)](#), along with other student groups, had already released a [statement](#) in support of [Hamas](#). PAO praised "the Palestinian resistance" and put the "sole responsibility for the violence" on Israel.

The same day, Penn issued its own statement—a weak condemnation of the attack, which mainly concentrated on students studying abroad. It would take until October 15, 2023, and mounting pressure from donors horrified by the response's "moral relativism," for Magill to [issue](#) a forceful statement condemning the attack.

In an email to Magill obtained by The Daily Pennsylvanian, a student newspaper at the university, Jon Huntsman, Jr., a former trustee, governor of Utah and U.S. ambassador whose family has donated tens of millions to Penn, [wrote](#): "The University's silence in the

face of reprehensible and historic Hamas evil against the people of Israel (when the only response should be outright condemnation) is a new low.”

Vowing to cut off any further donations, Huntsman said the university had become “almost unrecognizable” due to its failed response to rampant antisemitism.

## ‘Freedom School for Palestine’

On November 14, 2023, dozens of Penn “community members” [occupied](#) the Reading Room of Houston Hall, the university’s student union, claiming to have set up a “Freedom School for Palestine,” which they billed as a week-long teach-in.

The group issued three demands to the administration:

- 1) A ceasefire in Gaza
- 2) Freedom of speech protection at Penn
- 3) Instituting “critical thought on Palestine” across campus

The administration’s initial response was to state: “We always work to balance open expression and university operations.”

When a number of students [refused](#) to leave the building when it closed at night, a clear violation of university rules, representatives from Penn’s police and the provost’s office first told them that if they chose to stay, they would be arrested. Shortly afterward, the administration relented, telling the students they could show their “PennCards” and remain in the building for only one night.

That night turned into weeks until the fall semester ended on December 21, 2023.

The students faced no disciplinary action except a “referral” to the university’s Center for Community Standards and Accountability (CSA), which oversees the resolution of misconduct complaints.



## Penn Faculty: Instigators and Activists

Penn's faculty were not disinterested academic observers of the violent, antisemitic atmosphere that raged at the university. They played an instrumental role in the classroom and on the campus and streets, where they justified terrorism, [initiated protests](#) and even used their bodies to [block police](#) when, after two weeks, the university finally instructed authorities to shut down Penn's unlawful and disruptive encampment.

Faculty were at the [forefront](#) of the post-October 7 disruptions, spewing false claims about Israel and Jews at protests and in the classrooms.

- On October 16, 2023, Penn English Professor [Ahmad Almallah](#) organized a campus-wide protest [called](#): "Collective Walkout for Palestine."

Speaking at the protest, Almallah denigrated the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), [claiming](#): "When for 17 years, a piece of earth was removed from the world, only to sustain the slow murder of its jailed population...its mothers who have been giving birth to human animals, according to the other side. SHAME!"

Also at the protest, Almallah led the chant: "There is only one solution, intifada revolution!" a call for the violent killing of Israelis.

- Political science professor [Anne Norton](#) also [spoke](#) at the walkout, claiming that the Gaza Strip, an area Israel completely withdrew from in 2005, was an "open-air prison" without self-government.

On October 7, 2023, Norton [posted](#) on social media: "Palestinians have the right to defend themselves." On December 3, 2023, she [posted](#): "There is nothing in 'intifada, revolution' that entails genocide."

At the "Freedom School," Norton gave a talk titled: "Islamophobia & Muslim Political Thought."

On December 9, 2023, Norton was the subject of a Change.org petition [demanding](#) her dismissal by Penn. The petition stated: "We believe that her actions and statements contribute to a hostile environment for Jewish students, which is unacceptable in any educational institution."

- History and Africana studies professor [Eve Troutt Powell](#) participated in and spoke at the October 16 walkout as well, saying: "...Governments cannot make peace with a genocidal government like the government in Israel right now."

She then accused Israel of not learning “the lessons of the Holocaust,” shouting: “That was the lesson! Never again!”

At the “Freedom School,” Troutt Powell opined about the “Nakba,” the Arabic word meaning “catastrophe,” which is how Palestinians refer to the establishment of the State of Israel.

## Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine

On January 18, 2024, a group of Penn faculty, staff and graduate students [formed](#) Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine (PFJP), saying they were “in solidarity with the ongoing and ever-urgent struggles of Palestinians resisting occupation...”

They decried that the university had aligned itself with the [definition](#) of antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), which has been adopted by 46 countries (as of May 2025), including the U.S.

- Professor [Margo Natalie Crawford](#), chair of the Department of English and director of the Center for Africana Studies, [promoted](#) the group’s formation on social media. Crawford also participated in and spoke at the October walkout.

On [November 1, 2023](#), Crawford [tweeted](#), quoting Edward Said; “...what the Israelis are now doing on the West Bank and Gaza is really repeating the experience of apartheid and what the United States did to the Native Americans.”

Eleven days after its formation, PFJP [staged](#) a “die-in” in front of College Hall, a historic building on campus that houses the offices of the president and the provost, as well as academic departments and classrooms. Eighty-six faculty members were [involved](#) in the protest; twenty blocked the entrance to the building for hours.

- [Bassil Kublaoui](#), a clinical pediatrics professor at Penn Medicine and the spokesman for the group, [said](#) the die-in was to draw attention to “the inaction of the university towards the Palestinian community and the racist, hate speech directed towards faculty, staff and students calling for Palestinian justice.”

Despite the fact that the protesters were in direct violation of university rules, which forbid demonstrators from interfering “with unimpeded movement in a University location” and “unreasonably with the activities of other persons,” the professors faced no consequences from the administration.

Two campus police officers were placed behind the entrance to the building throughout the demonstration, but took no action.

Most of the PFJP members who participated in the die-in wore masks, hats and hoods to avoid being identified.

- On March 9, 2024, PFJP, along with two of its members, Arabic literature professor [Huda Fakhreddine](#) and history and Africana studies professor [Eve Troutt Powell](#), filed a [lawsuit](#) against Penn, seeking an emergency injunction to block the transfer of information about antisemitism at the university requested by the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. The lawsuit called the request “a new form of McCarthyism” and likened the inquiry to a “tool of oppression in the 1950’s.”

Fakhreddine spoke at an anti-Israel rally on October 18, just 11 days after Hamas’ massacre of 1,200 Israelis, [saying](#): “We are here to mourn the victims of the monstrous Israeli attack on Gaza.”

## Faculty Participation in the Encampment

Faculty [were](#) also front and center at Penn’s 16-day pro-Hamas encampment, which took place from April 25 to May 10, 2024.

- English professor and PFJP member [Chi Ming Yang](#) spoke at the encampment, claiming that the students illegally occupying the university and hurling antisemitic insults at Jews were the victims. “We condemn Penn’s administration for failing to demonstrate accountability or care towards our campus community to honor the university’s guidelines on open expression, now used as an instrument of suppression,” Yang [said](#).
- History professor [Eve Troutt Powell](#) railed against Penn’s supposed involvement with Israeli investments, specifically [Ghost Robotics](#), which she called “scholasticide.” Powell urged Penn to stop using the university’s resources to “make killer robots.”

Professors who [spoke](#) out after making solidarity visits to the encampment waxed poetic about the encampment’s educational value, deliberately whitewashing its outright support for a genocidal terror organization whose stated goal is to wipe out all Jews.

- Graduate education professor Ed Brockenbrough [reported](#), “Characterizations of encampments as violent depend on invisible lines that erase the beautiful and pedagogical nature of the space.”
- Communication professor Sarah Jackson [called](#) the encampment a lively space for “education, debate, community, and politics.”
- Social work professor [Amy Hillier](#) said she regularly visited the encampment and described it as a place of “beautiful conversations.”
- Cinema and media studies professor [Karen Redrobe](#), who is also a member of PFJP, said the administration’s opposition to the encampment is reminiscent of 1930s fascist governments that targeted free speech and creative expression and the artists and scholars who studied them.

On May 10, 2024, when the administration finally called in police to clear the illegal encampment, Yang and four other Penn professors used their bodies to [block](#) Philadelphia police vehicles from leaving and entering campus.



Police escorted away all five faculty members with no arrests. Two were initially told they were under arrest, but they were not placed in zip-tie handcuffs or formally detained. Police officers merely pushed them away from the scene, possibly at the request of the administration.

In the end, their actions would have made no difference. All 33 people arrested at the encampment (of which only nine were students) were only given “code violations” (a civil citation) with no indications of an accompanying fine. None was charged criminally, and all were [released quickly](#).”

- Even though the protesters were calmly led or, in some cases, carried away by police, Arabic literature [Huda Fakhreddine](#) likened the arrests to the “invasion”

of the IDF into the Lebanese village of her youth. “To see my colleagues and my students brutalized today was just as harrowing,” Fakhreddine said.

The same day, political science professor [Tulia Falleti](#), chairwoman of Penn’s faculty senate, [announced](#) her resignation from the position in response to Penn’s disbandment of the encampment. (Falleti’s term was set to end in less than two months on June 30, 2024.)

- Six days earlier, Falleti [published](#) an op-ed in the Daily Pennsylvanian, alleging that the pro-Israel billboard trucks parked near campus were part of a “concerted, external political campaign against higher education institutions” and a stand against “academic freedom...and, in the case of our University, against a peaceful protest of students, staff, faculty, and local community members.” The trucks played a four-minute video loop of the October 7 Hamas attack on Israel.

Penn’s chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), led by president [Amy Offner](#), [held a press conference](#) condemning the encampment arrests, calling them a suppression of “nonviolent anti-war protest.”

## Sanctions Demanded Against Faculty

On March 28, 2024, 149 Penn alumni and students [sent](#) a letter to interim president Larry Jameson, calling for an investigation and sanctions against eight Penn professors for their antisemitic behavior.

The group stated that the professors were “in dereliction of their scholarly responsibilities” through their conduct and recommended a list of sanctions allowed by the Faculty Handbook. They also asked for additional consequences due to the “seriousness” of the professors’ actions.

“[The professors] are fostering an environment and a worldview that not only puts our children and community at risk, but one that encapsulates the antithesis of the very values and ideals that are the foundation of this university, this country, and a free society,” the signatories wrote.

The professors named in the letter were:

- [Anne Norton](#), who responded to the letter in an April 20, 2024 [tweet](#), saying: “Those who accuse me of antisemitism rely on — and perpetuate — a complete erasure of Palestinians...”
- [Eve Troutt Powell](#), who was a [featured](#) speaker at the [Palestine Writes Literature Festival](#).
- [Huda Fakhreddine](#), who [reportedly](#) posted on October 7: “While we were asleep, Palestine invented a new way of life,” and [clapped](#) at a protest after the speaker told Jewish students to “...go back to Moscow and Brooklyn and Gstaad, and f\*\*king Berlin where you came from...”
- [Fatemeh Shams](#) (Persian literature), who spoke at rallies supporting Hamas and circulated a petition on October 19, 2023, that declared: “At this critical moment, while Israel wages a genocidal war against our people in Gaza, using terrorism as a pretext that no longer fools anyone...”
- [Mohammed Alghamdi](#) (medicine), who was filmed helping to rip down posters of Israelis kidnapped by Hamas.
- [Ania Loomba](#) (English), a decades-long BDS supporter who spoke at the October 16 walkout and blocked a Jewish student from participating in the protest.
- [Dwayne Booth](#) (lecturer in communications), who [created](#) antisemitic [cartoons](#) filled with blood libels. The website where he shares his cartoons is [promoted](#) on his official Penn biography page.
- [Ahmad Almallah](#) (lecturer in English), whose profile picture on X is terrorist Ghassan Kanafani, a deceased member and spokesperson for the terror organization [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine \(PFLP\)](#). Almallah organized and spoke at numerous pro-Hamas protests, where he also led genocidal chants against Israelis.
- [Christopher Browne](#) (history) who [showed support](#) for the pro-Hamas encampment at Columbia in April 2024.





## “Gaza Solidarity Encampment”

On April 25, 2024, students and faculty at Penn, Temple and Drexel universities joined forces and [set up](#) a pro-Hamas encampment on Penn’s College Green, an open space located in the heart of Penn’s campus.

The encampment was [launched](#) with a citywide [march](#) organized by the [Philadelphia Palestine Coalition \(PPC\)](#). It began at City Hall and [merged](#) with a “Faculty & Staff Walkout” on Penn’s campus [led](#) by [Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine \(PFJP\)](#).

The encampment [issued](#) three demands of Penn, which protesters billed as “disclose, divest, defend”:

- 1) Disclose all individual and active financial holdings
- 2) Divest from corporations that “profit from Israel’s war on Gaza and occupation in Palestine” and all Israeli academic institutions
- 3) Defend Palestinian students and their allies by granting “amnesty” to all those involved in anti-Israel protests and reinstate Penn Students Against the Occupation (PAO), (a student group banned by Penn on April 19, 2024)

For the next 16 days, as high-profile activists visited the encampment in solidarity, protesters became more and more extreme in their [calls](#) for violence, [harassment](#) of Jews and incitement of antisemitic religious fervor.

Protesters [welcomed](#) speakers representing groups whose expressed purpose is to overthrow America.

During the encampment, protesters [expressed](#) support for terrorist organizations, [chanted](#) for intifada, [vandalized](#) university property and [harassed](#) Jewish students.

## Encampment Highlights

### Day 1 – April 25, 2024

The encampment began with [Chi-Ming Yang](#), a Penn professor, [accusing](#) Israel of “ethnic cleansing” and “war crimes” and calling for the Palestinian “right of return” (a euphemism that refers to the destruction of Israel as a Jewish state).

Yang was followed by Penn professor [Sukaina Hirji](#), who encouraged faculty to use their “power and privilege” to support the students.

The many signs at the encampment [summed](#) up the pro-terror sentiment of the protesters:

- “INTIFADA INTIFADA GLOBALIZE THE INTIFADA”
- “FREE PALESTINE! END THE OCCUPATION! INTIFADA ‘TIL VICTORY!”

### Day 2 – April 26, 2024

The Philadelphia chapter of the anti-Israel Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP Philly) [held](#) a Shabbat service. Protesters [recited](#) the “Mourner’s Kaddish,” a solemn prayer reserved

for deceased relatives or Jews killed in acts of antisemitic violence. JVP included Hamas terrorists in their skewed rendition of the prayer.

Speakers included extremist black activist [Fred Hampton Jr.](#), president and [chairman](#) of the [Black Panther Party Cubs](#), an organization dedicated to continuing the principles of the original [Black Panther Party](#) (a revolutionary Marxist political group that [advocated](#) for the use of violence and guerrilla tactics to overthrow the U.S. government).

“Zios get f\*ckt” was [graffitied](#) onto Penn’s Ben Franklin statue.

The term “Zio” is a [common](#) derogatory reference to Zionists, as well as an [often-used](#) antisemitic slur among white supremacists.



#### Day 4 – April 28, 2024

JVP Philly [held](#) an “emergency Passover seder,” where JVP leader [Linda Holtzman](#) twisted many Jewish traditions to fit the group’s anti-Israel narrative. (The traditional Passover seder tells the story of the Israelites’ exodus from slavery in ancient Egypt and their travel to Israel, the land promised to them in the Bible.)





*JVP Activist Linda Holtzman Speaks, April 28, 2024, Penn Gaza Solidarity Encampment, University of Pennsylvania*

Protesters **chanted**: "It is right to rebel, Israel go to hell!"

Referring to Hamas' military brigade, they **shouted**: "Al-Qassam, make us proud, take another soldier down!"

That night, protesters called for the violent murder of Jews in Israel, **chanting**: "There is only one solution, intifada revolution!"

## **Day 5 – April 29, 2024**

In the early morning hours, the Split Button, an iconic art installation in front of the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library (located near the encampment), was **vandalized** with graffiti reading: "Boo Penn! Free Gaza!", "Free Palestine" and "Penn funds genocide."

## Day 6 – April 30, 2024

A protester who covered his face with a keffiyeh **shouted** at Jews: “You guys are racist...you’re Nazi...You’re kid killers...You’re Hitler’s children!”

## Day 7 – May 1, 2024

**Rishi Arun**, an encampment organizer and SJP Temple’s president, **led** protesters in the chant: “Freedom is our demand. No justice on stolen land.” Behind him, a protester **waved** the flag of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a terrorist group.



*Temple SJP Activist Rishi Arun, May 1, 2024, Penn Gaza Solidarity Encampment, University of Pennsylvania*

## Day 8 – May 2, 2024

**Hatem Bazian**, the founder of two of the most extreme terror-supporting, anti-Israel organizations, **Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP)** and **American Muslims for Palestine (AMP)**, paid a solidarity visit to the encampment and **spoke** to protesters on the steps of the Ben Franklin statue.

Bazian advocated for a one-state solution (code for the destruction of Israel as a Jewish state).

Earlier, protesters had [covered](#) the face of the Ben Franklin statue with a keffiyeh, raised a Palestinian flag and [chanted](#) (in Arabic): “With spirit, with blood, we will redeem you, Aqsa!”

### **Day 9 – May 3, 2024**

[Mumia Abu-Jamal](#), a former [Black Panther Party](#) member, [addressed](#) the encampment via telephone from a state prison in Frackville, Pennsylvania, where he is serving a life sentence without parole for murdering a Philadelphia police officer in 1981.

Abu-Jamal [praised](#) the students for doing “the rightest thing in the world.”

Anti-Israel activist [Samantha Rise](#) led a children’s event organized by Families for Ceasefire Philly, [titled](#): “After School at the Encampment.” At the event, a woman led the children in [chanting](#): “Free Al-Aqsa, free al-Quds [Jerusalem]. And give back the stolen goods.”

### **Day 10 – May 5, 2024**

A “Rally for Palestine” was [held](#) in conjunction with the “greater Philadelphia community.” A comment on Instagram (where an advertisement for the rally appeared) [read](#): “Walk in at 34th and Walnut. Everything is open to the public.”

### **Day 12 – May 6, 2024**

Anti-Israel activist and professor [Marc Lamont Hill](#), previously employed by Temple and now at CUNY, conducted a “teach-in,” in which he [denied](#) Jewish history and the Jewish connection to the Land of Israel.

Hill also [promoted](#) violent protests, saying: “We don’t fetishize peace...we don’t romanticize peace...” and referred to the riots at Israel’s border during the 2018 “March of Return” (which many now see as the precursor to the October 7 attack).

A Jewish professor [tweeted](#) that protesters chanted “f\*ck the Jews” and American flags were desecrated.

### **Day 14 – May 8, 2024**

In a protest organized by the Philly Palestine Coalition, 300 “workers, union organizers and other activists” [marched](#) through West Philadelphia and onto the Penn campus in solidarity with the encampment.



Anti-Israel activist and Rutgers University professor [Noura Erakat](#) spoke to protesters, [saying](#): “Zionism kills. It is a racial, supremacist movement that protects no one...[Zionism’s] corpse lies here in these encampments.”

### Day 15 – May 9, 2024

The Ben Franklin statue on campus was graffitied with an [inverted red triangle](#), a symbol of Hamas, [along](#) with “Glory to the martyrs - student intifada” an “Intifada until victory!”

### Encampment Dismantlement

Throughout the encampment, the administration [offered](#) concessions to the protesters, who consistently maintained that their demands were non-negotiable. At one point, the university offered to pause disciplinary cases if the encampment ended; protestors refused and expanded the encampment in response.

On May 7, 2024, Penn police began working with the Philadelphia police department to [provide](#) civil disobedience training.

On May 10, 2024, the sixteenth day of the encampment, the university decided to dismantle it.

The university cited a number of factors that [led](#) to this decision:

- A "dangerous escalation" of the encampment, including threatening and discriminatory speech and behavior
- Repeated refusals by protestors to produce identification or comply with university policies. (Many of the encampment's leaders and participants were



- not Penn students and refused to show identification, which raised security concerns)
- Non-negotiable demands from the protests, such as divestment (which is illegal due to state laws), withdrawal of disciplinary actions and the exclusion of police presence

In addition, Penn was facing increasing external pressure from trustees and politicians, [including](#) Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro. The university was also concerned about potential congressional sanctions and donor backlash.

A [statement](#) by the president, provost and executive vice president about their decision to dismantle the encampment made a point to explain their decision as “viewpoint neutral” and centered around safety concerns and academic disruptions.

At 5:30 a.m., Penn and Philadelphia police arrived and gave the protesters two minutes to pack up their belongings and leave. Police then [disbanded](#) the encampment, [arresting](#) 33 people in the process, nine of whom were Penn students.

All were [given](#) “code violations,” a civil citation, with no indication of an accompanying fine.

None was charged criminally, and all were “[released quickly](#).”

Five Penn faculty members, including [Chi-Ming Yang](#) and [Dagmawi Woubshet](#), gathered at the intersection outside the encampment and [attempted](#) to physically block Philadelphia police vehicles from entering campus and leaving. Protesters chanted, “PPD, KKK, IOF, they’re all the same!”

Penn police who [searched](#) the encampment discovered “homemade weapons,” including heavy-gauge chains and smaller chains with nuts and bolts attached.

Hours later, protesters [entered](#) the gates of [Eisenlohr Hall](#), Penn’s interim president Larry Jameson’s house, and [set off](#) smoke bombs. They were subsequently pushed out by police.

Protesters [chanted](#): “Who do you serve, who do you protect, we know Zionists sign your checks!”

## The Day After – May 17, 2024

The day after the dismantlement, members of the encampment [attempted](#) to take over Penn's Fisher-Bennett Hall. The protesters [entered](#) the building, [secured](#) the exits with zip ties and barbed wire and barricaded the doors with metal chairs and desks.

Penn and Philadelphia police [intervened](#), arresting 19 individuals, including seven Penn students. Twelve people were issued citations for failure to disperse and failure to follow police commands and were later released.

Mimicking Hamas' name for the October 7 attack, "Operation Al-Aqsa Flood," the [Philadelphia Palestine Coalition \(PPC\)](#), NSJP [and](#) WOL [called](#) on supporters to "Flood UPenn for Palestine, protest the arrests" and "contribute to our collective safety."

## The Drexel Encampment – May 18-23, 2024

The day following the dismantlement of the Penn encampment, Saturday, May 18, 2024, protesters [erected](#) a "Gaza Solidarity Encampment" on Drexel University's Korman Quad.



The administration immediately put the school on lockdown to protect students from non-students who were streaming onto the campus. Classes were [ordered](#) to be held online.

Drexel president John Fry reported that protesters were “subjecting passersby to antisemitic speech, signs and chants.”

Drexel Palestine Coalition (DPC), a [non-registered](#) group at the university, claimed responsibility for the encampment and issued demands on the university, including:

- Adoption of the BDS movement against Israel
- Termination of the university’s Hillel and Chabad chapters
- Abolishment of the university’s police force
- Amnesty for any protester charged with violating university rules
- Reduction of the president’s salary by 60 percent and investment of the money in “local community efforts” and the rebuilding of Palestinian hospitals and universities

The encampment protesters dismantled police barricades, but no arrests were made.

On May 23, 2024, at 5:20 a.m., police arrived on bicycles and informed protesters that the encampment was unauthorized. Without any pushback, the protesters quickly [packed](#) up their belongings, including 35 tents, and – for the most part – left of their own free will.

In an online [statement](#), protest organizers claimed they had launched a “strategic retreat” to ensure the “safe passage of all people and resources out of the liberated zone.” They said neither city nor campus police delivered a warning to clear the encampment; rather, “we warned ourselves.”

The statement also said: “We succeeded in our aim to disrupt — a university-wide lockdown imposed by cowardly leadership and an excessive police presence drained university resources for six days.”

The group vowed: “We won’t back down, we will return, and we will come back stronger.”

## Notable Activists From the Penn and Drexel Encampment

### Students/Alumni:

- [Sophia Rosser](#)
- [Eliana Atienza](#)
- [Sonya Stacia](#)
- [Besan Zeidan](#)
- [Emma Herndon](#)
- [Charlie Gross](#)
- [Selma Farsakh Ulm](#)
- [Rishi Arun](#)
- [Alia Amanpour Trapp](#)
- [Cece Sadek](#)
- [Rayyaan Sohu](#)
- [Hussein Shamaa](#)
- [Ramsey Abdeljaber](#)

### Professors:

- [Huda Fakhreddine](#)
- [Ahmad Almallah](#)
- [Dagmawi Woubshet](#)
- [Chi-Ming Yang](#)
- [Sukaina Hirji](#)
- [Karen Redrobe](#)
- [Anne Norton](#)

### Professional Activists:

- [Linda Holtzman](#)
- [Nada Abuasi](#)
- [Nancy Fuchs Kreimer](#)
- [Ahmet Selim Tekelioglu](#)
- [Samantha Rise](#)
- [Noura Erakat](#)
- [Hatem Bazian](#)
- [Marc Lamont Hill](#)

## Outcome of the Encampments

The Philadelphia encampments were part of a pro-terror, nationwide antisemitic and anti-American movement ostensibly formed to raise awareness of the Palestinian cause. While neither encampment achieved its primary goals of divestment from Israel and disclosure of financial investments, the encampments brought together the dangerous players from this growing network in Philadelphia. At the same time, it shone a light on them, exposing their identities and their ultimate objectives.



# INFILTRATION OF K—12 EDUCATION

GENOCIDE IN GAZA  
T IN OUR NAME!







## Introduction

The [School District of Philadelphia \(SDP\)](#) is the [largest](#) school district in Pennsylvania and the eighth-largest school district in America, [serving](#) approximately 118,000 students in grades K-12.

Since October 7, there have been [unparalleled](#) levels of antisemitism and harassment of Jewish students and teachers in SDP schools.

Teachers and [administrators](#) routinely use their positions to indoctrinate students to become the next generation of Hamas-supporting college students and community activists. In addition, they use their social media platforms (which they make [available](#) to students) to disseminate antisemitic content and propagate hatred towards Israel in direct violation of district policy.

The district further allows the promotion of antisemitic content through sanctioned school events, “teach-ins” and class assignments.

Multiple SDP teachers have been speakers at and participated in pro-terror protests [organized](#) by [PPC](#).

These Philadelphia teachers are also aligned with “racial justice” activist organizations, which draw [parallels](#) between the Palestinians and the black and indigenous communities in Philadelphia. Their rhetoric frames “Palestinian liberation” as integral to the “collective liberation” of these “marginalized communities.”

They also [blame](#) the budget deficits in the Pennsylvania educational system on the state’s investment in Israeli bonds and [call](#) for divestment from Israel.

Jewish students and parents who have raised concerns about antisemitism in SDP schools have faced retaliation and public denigration by teachers and administrators. This has created a culture of fear and reluctance to report incidents, further perpetuating a hostile environment for Jewish students and teachers.

When an antisemitic teacher who threatened Jewish parents with violence began to feel consequences for her actions, Philadelphia’s community groups came to her defense, [fighting](#) the SDP for the right of the city’s K-12 students to learn “about the Israeli military’s genocidal assault on Gaza and racial justice.”

In May 2024, SDP became the [subject](#) of a federal Title VI [investigation](#) by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) due to numerous complaints from Jewish parents reporting antisemitic harassment and discrimination within the school district.

**See more in the section below: [Lawsuits and Complaints](#)**

Due to the harassment and hostile environment, many Jewish students have left SDP schools, and Jewish teachers have retired early.

The disproportionate emphasis on anti-Israel activism in SDP parading as “social and racial justice” does not further the education of SDP students, of which [only](#) 20 percent are proficient in math and 35 percent in reading, as of 2023-2024.

## **SDP Enables and Disregards Antisemitism in Philadelphia's Schools**

### **School District of Philadelphia**

The School District of Philadelphia's (SDP) lack of proactive or effective measures to prioritize and address the safety and well-being of Jewish students amid a historic surge in antisemitism following October 7 signaled, at best, ignorance or negligence—and, at worst, indifference or intent.

In the months following October 7, Jewish parents, advocacy groups and community members filed numerous complaints to the SDP over antisemitic harassment, including students performing Nazi salutes, drawings of swastikas on school property and using slurs and threats against Jewish students. The district frequently failed to document incidents, did not assess whether a hostile environment existed and did not take meaningful steps to eliminate or prevent further harassment.

Complaints from Jewish parents and groups were [described](#) as being “almost entirely ignored for months.” Instead of addressing the hostile environment, the district sometimes responded by moving Jewish students to different classes or, in some cases, staff retaliated against parents who complained—such as doxxing a parent or publicly blaming them at meetings.

The district's response came more than a year later, in December 2024, following a federal intervention and a formal resolution [agreement](#).

### **Federal Complaints**

In 2024, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) investigated the SDP for [unparalleled](#) levels of antisemitism in its schools following two federal complaints. In December 2024, the OCR investigation [concluded](#) that the district did not comply with federal laws following antisemitic harassment and complaints.

### **April 2024 Complaint**

On April 9, 2024, following months of concerned parents, teachers and students alerting the SDP that their children faced repeated acts of antisemitism and bullying at school, the School District of Philadelphia Jewish Family Association [filed](#) a complaint with the

OCR “based on the hostile environment for Jewish students and teachers that has been building across the district for the past six months.”

The association [claimed](#) that since October 7, “...the District has stood idly by while its teachers and administrators have attacked Israel, Jewish people, and ‘Zionists,’ both in the classroom and from their public social media.”

The complaint documents almost two dozen incidents of alleged antisemitism within the school district, “ranging from a swastika drawn on a door to fliers describing Israel’s military campaign in Gaza as genocide.”

### **July 2024 Supplemental Complaint**

In July 2024, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) filed a second supplemental complaint with OCR, highlighting cases from schools across the district, which the ADL describes as “a portrait of systemic harassment against Jewish students.”

The supplemental complaint [alleged](#): “Over the past nine months, the SDP has knowingly allowed its K-12 campuses to become viciously hostile environments for Jewish students.”

The complaint outlined specific examples, including:

- An eighth-grade student, whose school was redacted in the filing, “was bullied so severely, and with a response from the school that was so heartless and inept, that he was forced to drop out of the SDP.”
- The complaint said a classmate had, in front of other students, said: “Praise Hitler” and performed a Nazi salute. The boy, fearing continued bullying, finished the academic year at a virtual school and has since transferred to a suburban school.

An SDP school counselor called the student’s mother, who inquired about the occurrence and told her that her son “should not bring his religion into school.”

No one from the school or the district ever followed up with the family, even though the student never returned to school.

- A student at the Penn Alexander School was repeatedly bullied by classmates since October 7. In the immediate wake of October 7, Student B’s peers would

corner her in the hallway, say “nasty things about Israel” and demand that she say “Ceasefire Now” and “Free Palestine.” They also repeatedly forced her to answer “Who are you for? Israel or Palestine?” Student B often returned home in tears and asked her mother: “Why does everyone hate us?”

- During a technology class in March, a classmate of that same student posted a “quiz” on Google Classroom that asked: “What do we hate?” The choices were Palestine, Israel and pork, with the latter two being marked as the correct answers.

The complaint alleges the school’s principal accused the student’s mother, who reported the bullying in December, of being “the problem” in a schoolwide meeting in May.

The complaint [argued](#) that “Certain teachers have used class time (and their publicly accessible social media accounts, in violation of Title VI obligations and relevant SDP policies) to propagandize to students that the Hamas massacre on October 7 was ‘military armed resistance’ and that people in Europe converted to Judaism because they wanted to stay in power...”

“They have done so in order to indoctrinate students with highly inflammatory rhetoric, tropes, and false information about Israelis and Jews,” the complaint continued.

## **SDP Officials**

### **SDP Superintendent Tony Watlington**

According to a Broad and Liberty [article](#), Robin Schatz, the Director of Government Affairs for the Jewish Community Relations Council, said that groups of parents started meeting with SDP Superintendent Tony Watlington in late fall about the problem of antisemitism in the school district in 2023, but “the conversations went nowhere.”

Those failed discussions led to parents filing the Office of Civil Rights complaint.

On December 18, 2024, the OCR investigation [concluded](#) that Watlington and his administration failed in their responsibility to protect Jewish students from antisemitic harassment despite receiving repeated and extensive complaints from Jewish parents and advocacy groups.

The very next day, Watlington [received](#) a national Superintendent of the Year award from the [District Administration Leadership Institute \(DALI\)](#), a national PreK-12 organization that provides leadership development opportunities for superintendents and senior staff across the U.S.

In a statement, Watlington [said](#): “This recognition belongs to our entire school community.” He further stated: “The progress we’ve made would not be possible without the collective dedication of the Board of Education, our staff, parents, students and unions. Together, we are shaping a brighter future.”

In November 2025, Watlington [attended](#) a conference in Philadelphia that featured anti-Israel Palestinian American educator [Abeer Ramdan-Shinnawi](#) and [Angela Davis](#), a prominent communist, Black Panther Party and BDS activist. Both [refused](#) to [condemn](#) the October 7 Hamas attack.

### **SDP Assistant Superintendent Jamina Clay**

In November 2023, [Jamina Clay](#) (Jamina Clay-Dingle), an assistant superintendent for the SDP, [resigned](#) from her role as a Colonial School Board member after she declared, in a since-deleted social media post, that the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) were a “terrorist organization” carrying out “genocide” against Palestinians.

Yet, the SDP took no action and continued to [retain](#) Clay as assistant superintendent. She [currently](#) oversees 10 schools in the district, providing leadership and instructional oversight.





**Ismael Jimenez—Director of the Social Studies Department of the Office of Curriculum**

Ismael Jimenez is the director of the social studies curriculum at SDP. Jimenez uses his position to push his activist agenda onto children in Philadelphia's schools.

Jimenez has said his role as an educator has been shaped by Malcolm X, former spokesperson for the Nation of Islam (NOI), who reportedly said that the Jews "sap the very lifeblood of the so-called Negroes (in America) to maintain the state of Israel." In a speech delivered on June 28, 1964, Malcolm X advocated for the right to resist oppression and injustice "by any means necessary."

In November 2020, Jimenez posted on Facebook that Israel was a "terrorist state."



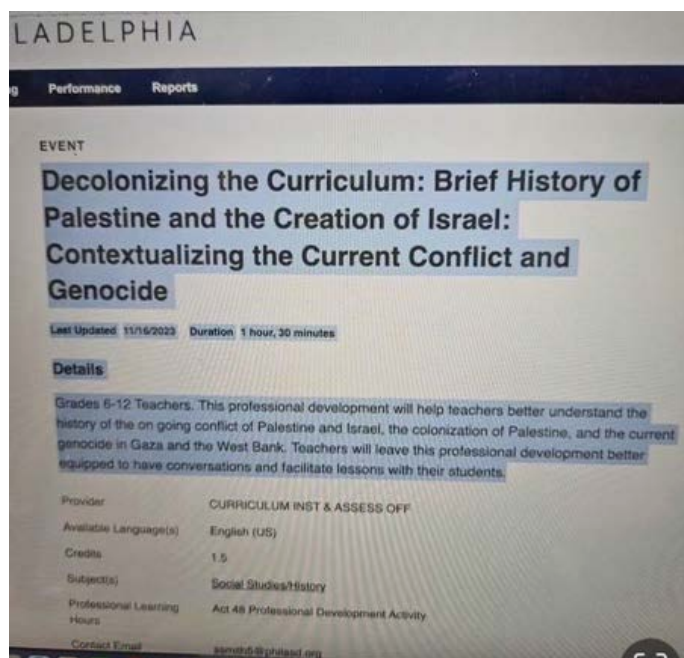
Following the October 7, 2023, Hamas terror attacks against Israel, SDP [issued](#) guidelines for teachers on how to discuss the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These guidelines were provided by the Social Studies Department of the Office of Curriculum, which is directed by [Jimenez](#).

The SDP guidelines included resource materials that suggested a “balanced approach” to the Israel-Palestine conflict and the current war, but in fact were decidedly anti-Israel.

One resource [titled](#): Processing the Violence in Israel and Gaza. From Facing History,” [included](#) materials on the “Current Violence” from PBS News, which [platformed](#) the response by “Hamas officials” as to “what promoted the attack.” “Hamas officials cited long-simmering tensions, including a dispute over the sensitive Al-Aqsa Mosque sacred to both Muslims and Jews.”

In November 2023, SDP offered teachers a professional development course [titled](#): “Decolonizing the Curriculum: Brief History of Palestine and the Creation of Israel: Contextualizing the Current Conflict and Genocide.”

The course description claimed that Israel was carrying out the “colonization of Palestine” and that Israel’s [war](#) against Hamas was a “genocide in Gaza and the West Bank.” A summary on the SDP portal said teachers would be “better equipped to have conversations and facilitate lessons with their students” about Israel.



After local news sites publicized the course, SDP removed it from the portal.

### Jimenez’s Anti-Israel Community Activism

Jimenez is a [founding member](#) of the [Racial Justice Organizing Committee \(RJOC\)](#), whose goal is “to push Racial Justice into all the corners of the Philadelphia School District.” This includes a decidedly [anti-Israel](#) narrative, which has become more extreme since the October 7 attack by Hamas.

The racial justice movement uses the principles of Critical Race Theory (CRT) to divide the world between oppressor and oppressed. Despite their history of persecution, Jews in this system are deemed to be oppressors (due to their societal success).

As [reported](#) by the Washington Examiner, Jimenez “held a [training](#) for newly hired teachers in the district in which he [argued](#) history should be taught from the perspective of the oppressed resisting oppressors and that nonwhite scholars should be prioritized when assigning texts. Additionally, he told newly hired teachers that maps often have a political agenda, [citing](#) disputed maps of Israel and Palestine as examples of this.”

On social media, Jimenez has [called](#) Israel a “racist apartheid theocracy terrorist sponsoring state” [that is](#) “connected to the system of white supremacy.” He also [posted](#) that educators should focus on advancing their political agenda rather than complying with state and local laws and regulations.

Jimenez is a prominent voice in Philadelphia’s racial justice organizations, which are pushing an anti-Israel agenda both in the schools and on the streets.

Jimenez is a key activist in [Philly Educators for Palestine \(PEFP\)](#), a [collaboration](#) between RJOC and Building AntiRacist White Educators (BARWE). In December 2023, BARWE released a [statement](#) that said: “We stand against the genocide of the Palestinian people...We join the call for a permanent ceasefire and a free Palestine, with a long-term political solution led by Palestinian people.”

PEFP is [affiliated](#) with many anti-Israel organizations in Philadelphia, including the Philadelphia chapter of the [Council on American Islamic Relations \(CAIR\)](#), [JVP Philly](#) and the [Philly Palestine Coalition \(PCC\)](#).

- On May 30, 2024, PEPF [organized](#) a rally outside the headquarters of SDP to condemn SDP’s removal or disciplining of teachers and students who created a hostile environment for its Jewish and pro-Israel constituency.
- On August 31, 2024, PEPF [participated](#) in “A Scholasticide Teach-In & Fundraiser” [titled](#): “Back to School: What About Gaza?”

Jimenez also co-founded the [Melanated Educators’ Collective \(MEC\)](#) in 2017, an abolitionist educator group that [helped](#) create and promote the [Black Lives Matter at School](#) curriculum in Philadelphia. The collective seeks to defund or abolish police departments and challenges the system of incarceration in the U.S. In July 2020, MEC

and RJOC [issued](#) a list of “10 Demands for Radical Education Transformation” for SDP, which explicitly [called](#) for the abolition of school police in Philadelphia schools.

On a podcast with [Center for Black Educator Development \(CBED\)](#) founder and CEO [Sharif El-Mekki](#) (who himself platforms virulently anti-Israel activists), Jimenez [said](#): “When we look at October 7th...this didn’t happen out of the blue, right? This is generations of folks who feel like their voices have been denied...”

### **SDP Assistant Principal Kimberly Byrd**

In February 2024, [Kimberly Byrd](#), the assistant [principal](#) of the Philadelphia High School for Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA), encouraged students to attend the “Philadelphia Citywide High School Walkout In Solidarity with Palestine,” an event [organized](#) by the anti-Israel organization [Philly Palestine Coalition](#). The [event](#)’s stated purpose was to “spread awareness of the ethnic cleansing and genocide in Palestine.”

Byrd sent a note “to all students via the school’s Google Classroom platform to encourage them to participate, assuring them, ‘All students are allowed to participate without any penalty,’ and ending the note with ‘Enjoy and be safe!’”

**Read more [here](#) about “Philly’s K-12 Schools Harassment of Jewish Kids & Parents”**

## Activist Educators and Organizers

### SDP Activist Educators

Philadelphia's educators have a history of anti-Israel activism and using their positions as teachers to spread hatred of Israel, Zionists and America in their classrooms and to incorporate anti-Israel and pro-terror material in their curricula. These educators include:

#### Keziah Ridgeway

[Keziah Ridgeway](#) is a Philadelphia social studies and history teacher who was removed from her classroom and reassigned offsite in September 2024 amid [accusations](#) of threatening Jewish parents and promoting anti-Israel views.

Ridgeway is currently being sued after [posting](#) ominous messages on her Instagram page, including: "Now I'm taking the gloves off" and "Ain't no fun when the rabbit got the" followed by an emoji of a face with a finger on the lips, implying the word "gun," as well as the [message](#): "Black owned [gun emoji] shops in Philly? Asking for a friend."

Jewish [parents](#) of Philadelphia high school students [reported](#) that Ridgeway used her position to denounce Israel and attempted to "install her hatred" of Zionism into Philadelphia classrooms.

Ridgeway justified the October 7 massacre and [called](#) for Israel's destruction. She also showed support for the pro-Hamas encampment at the University of Pennsylvania.





On October 9, 2023, two days after Hamas terrorists [attacked](#) Israel, Ridgeway [shared](#) on Instagram Stories Highlights (“Solidarity”) a statement from JVP titled: “THE ROOT OF VIOLENCE IS OPPRESSION” that justified Hamas’ October 7, 2023 terror attack on Israel. The JVP statement [referred](#) to Hamas terrorists as “Palestinian fighters” and [claimed](#) that “Israeli apartheid and occupation – and the United States complicity in that oppression – are the source of all this violence.”

Ridgeway is a leader of the [Racial Justice Organizing Committee \(RJOC\)](#), an organization of teachers, activists and community members “working to push Racial Justice into all the corners of the Philadelphia School District.” This includes pushing an [anti-Israel](#) narrative in Philadelphia public schools.

The racial justice movement uses the principles of Critical Race Theory (CRT) to divide the world between oppressor and oppressed. Despite their history of persecution, Jews in this system are deemed to be oppressors (due to their societal success).

Ridgeway is also a co-founder of [Philly Educators for Palestine \(PEFP\)](#), a [collaboration](#) between RJOC and Building AntiRacist White Educators (BARWE), two anti-Israel organizations.

Ridgeway also co-founded the [Melanated Educators’ Collective \(MEC\)](#), an abolitionist educator group that [helped](#) create and promote the [Black Lives Matter at School](#) curriculum in Philadelphia.

In May 2025, Ridgeway [filed](#) a federal lawsuit against SDP for discrimination with the backing of CAIR-Philadelphia.

## **Hannah Gann**

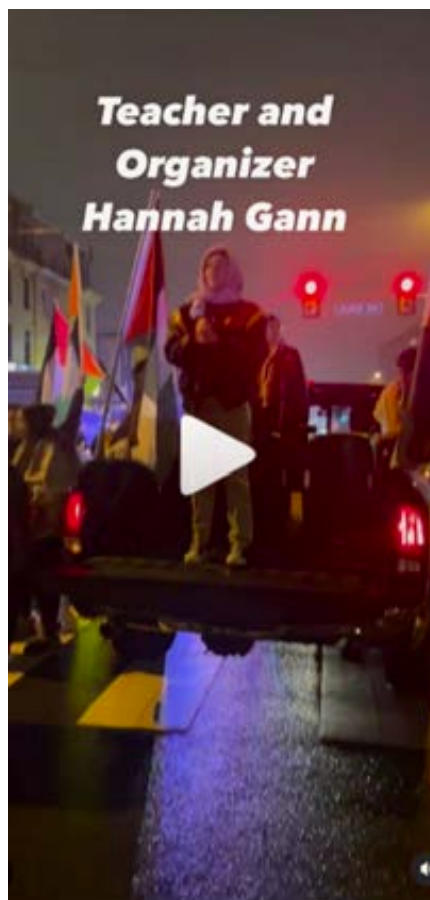
[Hannah Gann](#) is a history teacher and 10th-grade advisor with SDP and a key activist with [PEFP](#) and the [RJOC](#). Both organizations work to push anti-Israel propaganda and activism in Philadelphia’s public schools.

Gann is part of a cohort of SDP teachers who participated in protests [organized](#) by [PPC](#) supporting Hamas after their October 7 massacre of Israelis. At one protest on December 3, 2023, where Gann was a speaker, she accused Israel of “genocidal terror,” called police officers “pigs” and glorified violence.

Referring to the “courageous defiance” of youth, Gann said: “When a Palestinian child picks up a rock or a slingshot in the face of Israeli tanks or machine guns, we owe them

that same energy! We owe them to take it to these streets and f\*\*k the police until Palestine is free!”

Gann’s social media posts openly support terrorism against Israelis. One post [featured](#) a graphic with an inverted red triangle (a symbol of support for Hamas) with text that read: “you can’t support / palestinian liberation / without supporting / palestinian resistance.” The statement continued: “reject normalization / support the resistance.”



Another post featured a pro-Hamas graphic [titled](#): “DECOLONIZATION / IS A FORCE OF NATURE.” The graphic showed a hand emerging from underground while holding a weapon in a raised fist, alluding to Hamas terror tunnels. The graphic also showed paragliders descending from the air, as Hamas terrorists did when they invaded Israel and slaughtered its citizens on October 7.

Gann was also one of the key PEPF activists who took over SDP board meetings between May and June 2024 to attack Jewish parents and teachers testifying about antisemitism in SDP schools.

Gann was one of the RJOC leaders who organized a [teach-in](#) on January 13, 2024, directed at SDP teachers “to teach the truth and take a stand against genocide” and “prioritizing K-12 educators, those working in curriculum or those in positions that impact children in the classroom everyday.”

## **Norman Shaw MacQueen**

[Norman Shaw MacQueen](#) is a seventh and eighth-grade teacher whose role, according to his LinkedIn profile, includes “curriculum development.” He was elected as a staff representative to his school’s administration and was a member of its advisory council.

MacQueen is one of the founders of [PEFP](#). He is also a leader of the [RJOC](#).

On January 13, 2024, along with fellow SDP teachers [Ridgeway](#) and [Gann](#), MacQueen organized an anti-Israel [teach-in](#) directed at SDP teachers.

The teach-in was one of several events that pushed their anti-Israel curriculum to SDP teachers. RJOC [provided](#) teachers with “Educator Lesson Plans” and listed as a resource the pro-terror and anti-Israel [Teach Palestine Project](#), which MacQueen [promoted](#) multiple times online.

MacQueen was also one of the key PEPF activists who took over SDP board meetings between May and June 2024 to attack Jewish parents and teachers testifying about antisemitism in SDP schools.

On social media, MacQueen’s posts support terrorism against Israelis and express hatred of Zionists and Zionism. Examples from his Instagram include:

- A graphic that read: “Zionism is racism. Zionism is settler colonialism. Zionism is Islamophobia. Zionism is genocidal violence...” to which MacQueen commented, “#fromtherivertothesea.”
- A graphic of the following quote from Marxist philosopher [Frantz Fanon](#): “For the colonized, life can only materialize from the rotting cadaver of the colonist’... #freepalestine...”
- “Effective activism will never be ‘peaceful’...”
- A video of [Kathleen Cleaver](#), a former Black Panther Party leader, [saying](#): “Non-violence is a very non-functional approach...”
- A graphic that read: “These Zionists are no different from the swarms of white supremacist spectators cheering on the public lynchings of over 3,000 Black people.”

- “F\*\*k Amerikkka...we live on stolen land, and are currently committing genocide in Palestine, continuing the project of settler colonialism...”

## Andrew Saltz

Andrew Saltz is a Philadelphia English and technology high school teacher who defended Hamas terrorism and spread hatred of Israel. Saltz also promoted an anti-Israel school project in 2024.

On October 9, 2023, two days after Hamas terrorists attacked Israel, Saltz defended Hamas’ terrorism, posting on X: “...the whole things boils down to this: What do you want them to do? What does legitimate and effective resistance look like under these conditions?”

Saltz was one of the key PEFPP activists who took over SDP board meetings between May and June 2024 to attack Jewish parents and teachers testifying about antisemitism in SDP schools.

On March 3, 2024, Saltz posted on X: “Hey are you a teacher? do you want to have a provocative lesson about a student project involving Palestine being censored? Well the video is right here...” His post linked to a student video titled: “Oppression Art Podcast” (promoted by anti-Israel teacher Keziah Ridgeway) that drew parallels between the experiences of enslaved African Americans and those of Palestinians in Israel.

## Educational Activist Organizations

Following October 7, activist groups, including groups representing teachers and parents, pressured SDP to teach anti-Israel material in K-12 classrooms. Two such groups were the Racial Justice Organizing Committee (RJOC) and the Philadelphia Educators for Palestine (PEFP), many of whose organizers are members of both groups.

The leaders and members of these groups, who are current or former teachers in Philadelphia’s K-12 schools, have a history of displaying bias against Israel and support for terror, especially on social media, and have inserted that bias in their classrooms. Many have engaged in anti-Israel activism and are supporters of the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement.

## Racial Justice Organizing Committee

[Racial Justice Organizing Committee \(RJOC\)](#) consists of teachers, activists and community members “Working to push Racial Justice into all the corners of the Philadelphia School District.” This includes pushing an [anti-Israel](#) narrative in Philadelphia public schools.

Since October 7, RJOC has had an even more radical anti-Israel agenda.

RJOC was initially [formed](#) in 2016 as a subcommittee within [The Caucus of Working Educators](#), part of the [Philadelphia Federation of Teachers \(PFT\)](#), the union that represents more than 13,000 employees in the SDP public school system.

[Ismael Jimenez](#), director of SDP’s social studies curriculum, is a [founding member](#) of the RJOC.

RJOC and PFT were at the [center](#) of an antisemitism scandal in SDP schools in 2023 and 2024, which included the SDP offering an anti-Israel professional training course to teachers.

Additional RJOC anti-Israel organizing and activism include:

- On October 16, 2023, [Dana Carter](#), a former SDP teacher and RJOC’s “Racial and Social Justice Policy Liaison,” [reposted](#) an Instagram post from [PPC](#). The post [said](#): “...We all should be opposing and standing up against the genocide of Palestinians under Israel’s terrorism.”
- On November 8, 2023, RJOC [posted](#) a solidarity statement “on the violence many countries and peoples are experiencing as a result of colonization and current settler colonialist practices.” The statement continued: “As educators committed to racial justice and collective liberation we stand with the people of Palestine...and all other lands impacted by colonial violence around the world.”
- In [late 2023](#) and throughout [2024](#), RJOC [organized](#) “teach-ins” to promote their anti-Israel curriculum to “fellow teachers, schools, and unions around the country.”

## Teach-In for Palestine – January 13, 2024

On January 13, 2024, RJOC leaders [Keziah Ridgeway](#), [Hannah Gann](#) and [Norman Shaw MacQueen](#) organized a [teach-in](#) for SDP teachers “to teach the truth and take a stand



against genocide...prioritizing K-12 educators, those working in curriculum or those in positions that impact children in the classroom everyday."

The teach-in was held with the help of the anti-Israel organization [PPC](#) and the [W.E.B. Du Bois Movement School for Abolition & Reconstruction](#), which describes itself as "a political education program for aspiring revolutionaries and movement leaders."

RJOC [posted](#) that they "hosted over two dozen K-12 teachers and education professionals" at the event and gave a special "thank you" to PPC.

The teach-in provided teachers with resources for their classrooms that promote violence, antisemitism and hatred of Israel. Included in these resources were materials from [Teach Palestine](#), a project of the [Middle East Children's Alliance](#).

At this event, educators responded to prompts displayed on large posters by attaching [sticky notes](#) with their answers. A photo from the teach-in showed a board [titled](#): "Isn't Hamas responsible for most of the human rights abuses in Gaza? (not letting aid in, human rights, etc.)," which had notes saying: "No-apartheid is" and "No-but also Hamas wouldn't exist if it weren't for the Israeli occupation."

"What is our focus/goal?" one poster [read](#). Among the responses were: "put pressure on our political leaders to call for a ceasefire and end of the occupation," "mobilizing educators to be vocal in schools and teach students to resist oppression and injustice," "plugging into existing action and political groups to put pressure on political leaders" and "agitating within schools to get more support for political education about Gaza."

Multiple responses [mentioned](#) preparing students to engage in anti-Israel activism as a goal for their teaching. One response read: "Equipping our students with knowledge, information so they can take action." Another read: "Agitating within schools to get more support for political education about Palestine/working to protect more vulnerable teachers from backlash."

## Philly Educators for Palestine

Philly Educators for Palestine (PEFP) is a collaboration between RJOC and Building AntiRacist White Educators (BARWE), whose mission is to “[equip] white educators to continuously address their own unconscious biases and take an active role in fighting white supremacy in our schools, communities, and in ourselves.”



In December 2023, BARWE released a [statement](#) that said: “We stand against the genocide of the Palestinian people...We join the call for a permanent ceasefire and a free Palestine, with a long-term political solution led by Palestinian people.”

PEFP was [co-created](#) by SDP teachers [Norman Shaw MacQueen](#) and [Keziah Ridgeway](#). PEPF is [affiliated](#) with anti-Israel organizations, including the Philadelphia chapter of the [Council on American Islamic Relations \(CAIR\)](#), [JVP Philly](#) and [PPC](#).

On May 30, 2024, PEPF [organized](#) a rally outside the headquarters of SDP to condemn SDP's removal or disciplining of teachers and students who created a hostile environment for its Jewish and pro-Israel constituency.

[Accusing](#) Israel of "genocide and continued land theft," PEPF [called on](#) SDP to meet six demands. One [demand](#) was for the district to "condemn the ongoing genocide waged on the Palestinian people..." and "to release a ceasefire resolution." [Another](#) called on the district to "allow for the facilitation of honest, critical pursuit of history...including the history of Palestine."

On August 31, 2024, PEPF [participated](#) in "A Scholasticide Teach-In & Fundraiser" [titled](#): "Back to School: What About Gaza?" The event was organized by [Philly Healthcare Workers for Palestine](#) and featured "Philly Educators for Palestine speaking about the connections between under-resourced Philly schools and the PA-state funding of genocide in Palestine."

### **PEFP Members and Allies Overtake SDP Board Meetings**

In May and June 2024, PEPF organized a large turnout for SDP board meetings in which discourse became heated and hostile towards Jewish and pro-Israel parents.

According to an [article](#) in the Jewish New Syndicate (JNS), SDP teachers and members of Philly Educators for Palestine "monopolized virtually every speaker slot during the May 30 and June 6 SDP board hearings. They accused Philadelphia's Jewish teachers, parents and students and the SDP Jewish Family Association of being 'outside agitators' from the 'right-wing.' They handed out Marxist propaganda celebrating Ebrahim Raisi, the 'Butcher of Iran,' at their rally preceding the board meeting. They demanded that the Board acquiesce in their defiance of rules, procedure and order."

The article continued: "All of this antisemitic hatred is not only on display at SDP board meetings while the Board remains silent throughout. The people espousing these lying rants want their hatred to become School District policy. They want to carve this hate into the curriculum and thus engrave it on the minds of Philadelphia's children."

Minutes from the SDP's meeting on May 30, 2024 [listed](#) MacQueen as one the "individuals [who] spoke out against Zionism, the need to protect students from outside organizations, and the need to provide teachers with professional development to support them in supporting their students through uncomfortable conversations in the classroom. These individuals also called on the District to condemn genocide, take a stand in support of Palestine..."

Key activists: [Keziah Ridgeway](#), [Hannah Gann](#), [Ismael Jimenez](#), [Dana Carter](#), [Eliana Atienza](#), [Jethro Heiko](#), [Nick Bernardini](#), [Andrew Saltz](#), [Norman Shaw MacQueen](#)

## **Black Educator Development and BLM Philly in K-12**

RJOC partnered with the [Melanated Educators' Collective \(MEC\)](#), an abolitionist educator group co-founded by [Keziah Ridgeway](#) and [Ismael Jimenez](#). In 2017, MEC helped create and promote the [Black Lives Matter at School](#) curriculum in Philadelphia.

### **Black Lives Matter at School**

[Jesse Hagopian](#) is a co-founder of Black Lives Matter at School, which [collaborates](#) with Rethinking Schools and the Zinn Education Project.

The official Black Lives Matter at School website includes a section [titled](#): "Teaching Palestine," which opens with an October 17, 2023 statement that reads:

"BLM@School wants to be clear in our recognition that this unfolding loss of Palestinian and Israeli lives is the direct result of decades of Israeli settler colonialism, land dispossession, occupation, blockade, apartheid, and attempted genocide of millions of Palestinians. Palestinians are reminding us that decolonization is not a metaphor or abstraction, but requires real, daily struggle.

"Education should be wielded in service of struggle. The ongoing fight to #TeachTruth in the U.S. must include Palestinian existence, resistance, culture, global contributions, and the ongoing struggle to realize a free Palestine. It also must directly name the ways that U.S. imperialism has fueled and supported apartheid and war crimes. Educators need resources, support, and protection that honor the enduring struggle for realizing Palestinian justice. This is our offering at this time."

The website lists resources from organizations and projects such as Teach Palestine, Rethinking Schools, the Zinn Education Project and Teaching While Muslim.

Also included as resources are:

- Palestinian Youth Movement's "[Our History of Popular Resistance: Palestine Reading List](#)," which states: "Our history is not defined by Zionism, but by our people's steadfast popular resistance to Zionist colonization and imperialism"
- Within Our Lifetime's [Rally Toolkit](#), which promotes violence

### Center for Black Educator Development

The [Center for Black Educator Development \(CBED\)](#) is a nonprofit organization based in Philadelphia. It was founded in June 2019 by [Sharif El-Mekki](#), who serves as its CEO.

CBED has [assets](#) of more than \$19.5 million in donations, which it has garnered from government and nonprofit organizations, including a \$560,000 contract with the Philadelphia School District. Other donors include the University of Pennsylvania's School of Education.

CBED's [mission](#) is to "achieve educational equity and racial justice by rebuilding the national Black Teacher Pipeline." Its [vision](#) is "a world where all black students are taught by high-quality, same-race teachers throughout their PreK-12 schooling."

To date, CBED has [trained](#) thousands of teachers in its brand of "educational activism."

In November 2025, CBED [hosted](#) "The Black Men in Education Conference" in Philadelphia, which featured:

- [Abeer Ramdan-Shinnawi](#), a Palestinian-American educator, who calls the founding of Israel the nakba ("catastrophe") and characterizes Jewish communities as "occupiers" and Israel as "apartheid." Ramdan-Shinnawi [says](#) that October 7 "wasn't the beginning of everything that happened" and questions U.S. support for Israel. She also says she "[adores] (s)" pro-Hamas and prominent BDS activist [Miko Peled](#) and finds him "amazing."

Ramadan-Shinnawi was the [keynote speaker](#) at a BLM at School event in February 2024.

- Angela Davis, a prominent communist, Black Panther Party and BDS activist, who characterizes Israel as a settler-colonialist apartheid state and advocates for the end of military aid to Israel.

In an April 2023 [podcast](#), El-Mekki scoffed at opposition to Critical Race Theory (CRT), characterizing such antagonism as “hysteria” and “anti-intellectualism,” which he said “is synonymous for America anyway.”

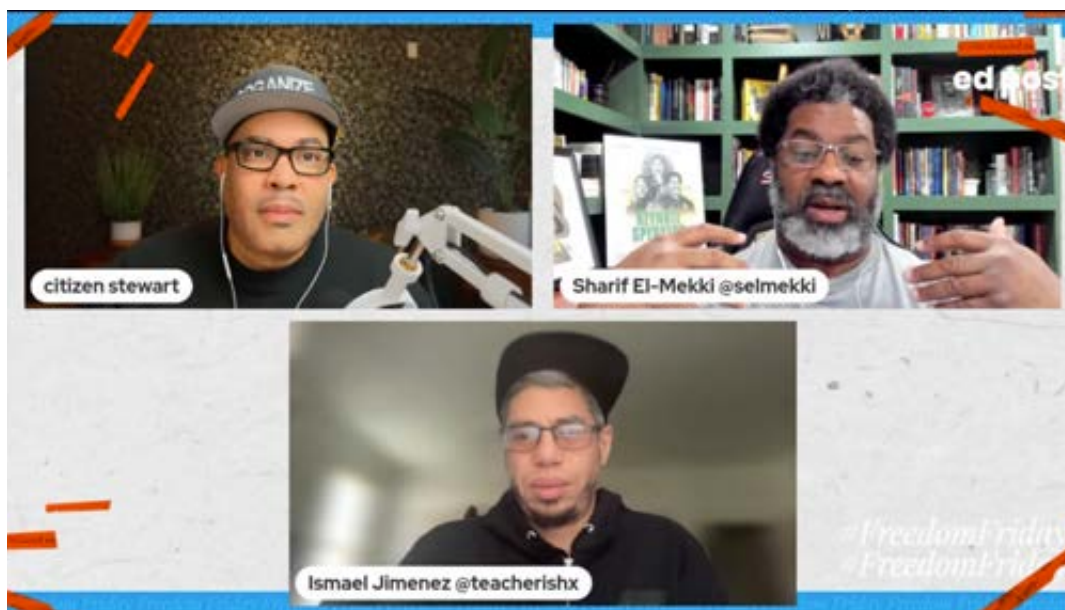
CRT [posits](#) that racism is the fundamental [organizing principle](#) of America and divides societal groups into oppressors and oppressed. Despite their history of persecution, Jews are categorized by CRT as “oppressors” due to their societal success.

El-Mekki’s “racial justice” education is based on the principles of CRT.

As [reported](#) in The Free Press, which ran a profile on El-Mekki on October 16, 2024, “A CBED [information packet](#) titled: “The Anti-Racist Guide to Teacher Retention,” developed with the Pennsylvania Department of Education, defines education as “a political act” that “can upend white supremacy and a racist history of using education as an oppressive social force.”

“Every lesson plan is a political document, and every classroom interaction a political statement,” the guide reads.

El-Mekki has collaborated with several anti-Israel, anti-American educators in Philadelphia, including [Ismael Jimenez](#), whom he regularly features in his Instagram posts. Jimenez has called Israel a “racist apartheid theocracy terrorist sponsoring state” that is “connected to the system of white supremacy.”





On November 3, 2023, El-Mekki featured Jimenez on his [podcast](#) “#FreedomFriday: Islamophobia, Anti-Semitism, and the Middle East.”

On the podcast, Jimenez [said](#): “When we look at October 7th...this didn’t happen out of the blue, right? This is generations of folks who feel like their voices have been denied...”

On November 25, 2023, El-Mekki [promoted](#) “An African Children’s Art Show Honoring Assata Shakur and the Cuban People.” [Shakur](#) was a member of the Black Liberation Army (BLA) who was known for her involvement in various criminal cases in the 1970s and was convicted in 1977 for the murder of a New Jersey state trooper. With the help of fellow BLA members, Shakur escaped from prison and surfaced in Cuba years later.

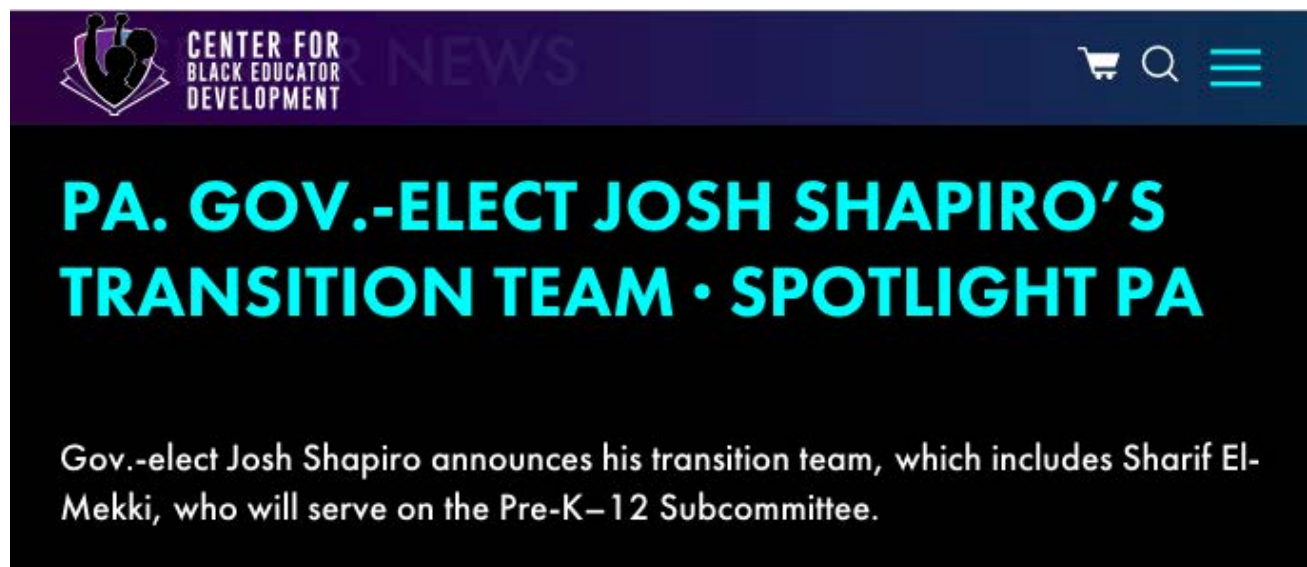
On April 30, 2024, El-Mekki [posted](#) on his Instagram page a picture of himself hand-in-hand with [Cornell West](#), a presidential candidate at the time. West has a history of antisemitic comments regarding Israel. Just days before the picture was posted, West made a solidarity [visit](#) to the pro-Hamas encampment at Columbia University.



El-Mekki was [educated](#) in Iran during his middle school years. He returned there as an adult and [praises](#) Iran's educational system today.

El-Mekki's parents were members of the Black Panther Party. In his profile picture on CBED's website, El-Mekki is [wearing](#) a Black Panther Party t-shirt.

El-Mekki's parents were also part of a cohort that went to Iran at the invitation of the Ayatollah Khomeini. According to The Free Press, CBED now has [contracts](#) with school districts in Fresno, California, San Antonio, Texas, and [New York City](#). Its "e-learning" option has expanded to include partnerships with over 20 universities, including University of Michigan, University of South Florida and Vanderbilt.



"In just five years, Philadelphia native El-Mekki has become a major influencer in public education in Pennsylvania and beyond," [states](#) The Free Press. "In 2022, he served on the Education and Workforce Advisory Committee of Governor Josh Shapiro's [transition team](#), and last month, he testified in front of Congress on the need for [more teachers of color](#)."

## Curricula, Indoctrination and K-12 Student Activism

Anti-Israel material in Philadelphia's K-12 classrooms includes curricula and resources [designed](#) to "help our students make historical explanations for today's violence." The curricula erase or distort historical facts about Israel and present biased, inaccurate information, delegitimizing Israel's right to exist.

The curriculum and [lesson plans](#) consistently frame Israel as an oppressor; accuse Israel of "apartheid," "occupation" and "segregation;" [promote](#) BDS and anti-Zionist activism and use inflammatory or antisemitic imagery. The educational materials lack balanced perspectives and include rhetoric and activities that marginalize Jewish and Israeli students.

These "educational" materials also [promote](#) an anti-American ideology by supplementing K-12 social studies and history modules with "social justice" learning and resources that redefine American history through the lens of the Far Left. The materials emphasize themes of racism, colonialism, white supremacy and systemic oppression as central to the American story.

### Teaching Palestine Educational Initiative

In April 2025, RJOC, PEFP and other community organizations in Philadelphia [promoted](#) "Teaching Palestine," an educational [initiative](#) and curriculum project developed by [Rethinking Schools](#), a nonprofit publisher and advocacy organization that promotes "social justice teaching" and "education activism."

These resources present biased, inaccurate information delegitimizing Israel's right to exist, demonize Israel and promote BDS. Since October 7, social media posts by these organizations or people associated with them [indicated](#) their support for Hamas and [criticized](#) U.S. support of Israel.

[Rethinking Schools](#), through its [Zinn Education Project](#), provides lesson plans and teaching materials to K-12 teachers across the U.S.

The editors of Rethinking Schools are Adam Sanchez, a former high school teacher in Philadelphia, and [Jesse Hagopian](#), who has [said](#): "Israel is trying to annihilate the past and the present and the future of people..."

Teaching Palestine was designed to provide educators with resources, lesson plans, and frameworks for teaching about the history and “current realities of Palestine and Israel” in K-12 classrooms.

A YouTube video of the Teaching Palestine “book launch” event was [posted](#) on May 9, 2025, featuring the book’s editors Samia Shoman (“[Lesson Plan for Palestine](#)”) and Jesse Hagopian (who [wrote](#): “Israel’s War on Gaza Is Also a War on History, Education, and Children”).

One lesson plan [titled](#): “Israeli Apartheid: A Simulation,” opened: “Mainstream news gives us the false impression that the violence in Palestine-Israel began with the Hamas attacks on Oct. 7, but those of us who study history have a different story to tell.”

On January 10, 2024, Zinn Education Project [published](#) an article titled: “Teaching About Palestine-Israel and the Unfolding Genocide in Gaza,” which blamed Israel for turning Gaza into a “graveyard for children.”

Teaching resources include a lesson plan titled: “[Teaching the Seeds of Violence in Palestine-Israel — A New Lesson](#).” The lesson [activity](#) begins “with the acknowledgment that there is tremendous violence today, but that the violence did not begin with the Hamas attacks on October 7 — it began long before. And that is the mystery students address in this activity: What is the source of this violence?”

## Teach Palestine Website

RJOC and PEFPP also promoted the [Teach Palestine](#) website, a project of the [Middle East Children’s Alliance](#) based in Berkeley, California. The initiative involved partnerships with educators, community groups and social justice organizations and included regular workshops, curriculum development and community-building events for teachers.

While the curriculum [presents](#) itself as inclusive of various perspectives through a “multiple narratives approach,” its structure and materials consistently [position](#) Israel as an “oppressor” and



focus on themes of settler-colonialism, resistance and liberation.

For example, one Teach Palestine high school curriculum [titled](#): “Teaching Gaza (2023-2024),” explicitly states that the events in Gaza since October 7, 2023, should not be taught as starting with Hamas’ attack. Instead, it contextualizes the current war as part of the longer history of Palestine/Israel, including colonialism, occupation and resistance.

Another Teach Palestine curriculum [titled](#): “Borders & Walls,” was designed to “help students see the similarities in the ideology behind the conquest of the Americas (the United States in this case) and Palestine.”

A “Youth Incarceration and Resistance in Palestine” [course](#) highlighted “acts of resistance” by Palestinian youth and featured Ahed Tamimi as a model of resistance.

Ahed Tamimi, who has a long [history](#) of physically [attacking](#) Israeli soldiers, is the daughter of Bassem Tamimi, who is [known](#) for [exploiting](#) young children as political props in staged confrontations with Israeli soldiers.

After October 7, 2023, Ahed Tamimi was [arrested](#) by the Israeli military after she [posted](#) an Instagram message that said: “Come on settlers, we will slaughter you. We are waiting for you in all the cities of the West Bank. What Hitler did to you was a picnic. We will drink your blood and eat your skulls.”

On its official [resource page](#), Teach Palestine includes Jewish Voice for Peace’s “Facing the Nakba,” a seven-part [curriculum](#) that “offers educational resources to U.S. Jews and a general U.S. audience about the history of the Nakba (“Catastrophe” in Arabic) and its implications in Palestine/Israel today.”

In May 2025, Teach Palestine materials were [used](#) in conjunction with “Teach Palestine Week,” which also included materials created by pro-terror and anti-Israel programs [Teaching While Muslim](#), including slide decks [titled](#): “Teaching Nakba Elementary Edition” and [“Explaining Scholasticide – Elementary Edition.”](#)

**Read more about activist teachers pushing an anti-Israel agenda [here](#)**

## Community Organizations

Social justice educators have aligned with local community organizations in their attempts to infiltrate the Philadelphia K-12 system and offer their materials to “family friendly” anti-Israel groups for dissemination in online teach-ins, virtual workshops and community spaces.

These groups have [spread](#) hatred of Israel and anti-Israel education into local [libraries](#), [demonized](#) Israel in “grief circles” held in Philadelphia streets, [met](#) with city council members to introduce anti-Israel legislation and [advocated](#) for state divestment from Israel.

These groups push anti-Israel indoctrination of school children. For example, a children-centered prayer service at City Hall was used to [promote](#) BDS. Jewish liturgy and rituals were [co-opted](#) and reframed with slogans calling for Israel’s destruction. Candlelight vigils [mourned](#) the children of Gaza and, pointedly, not the Israeli children who were murdered in the October 7 massacre.

### Philadelphia Parents for Palestine

[Philadelphia Parents for Palestine \(PP4P\)](#) is a coalition of parents with children in the School District of Philadelphia. [Jethro Heiko](#), its founder, [testified](#) at a school board meeting on May 30, 2024, and [brought along](#) his daughter, a high school student, to say: “You cannot continue to not allow us to speak about genocide.”

PP4P works with RJOC and PEFP to “push for the inclusion of curriculum that is more inclusive of Palestinian, Arab-American and Muslim voices and experiences, and eliminate curriculum that is rooted in Zionist teachings and agenda.”

The group’s since-deleted Instagram [bio](#) summed up its anti-Israel agenda: “US education is a pillar of the ongoing Palestinian Nakba [catastrophe] just like US spending. We support the alternative: Teaching Palestine [#droptheadlfromschools](#).”

PP4P [wrote](#): “We must end the ongoing Palestinian Nakba. Education is one of the main pillars that allows it to continue. Help us knock it down and replace it with an educational system worthy of our courageous, curious, smart and resilient children.”



## Families for Ceasefire Philly

Philadelphia Parents for Palestine is [affiliated](#) with [Families for Ceasefire Philly](#), a “multi-racial, multi-faith group of diverse parents, caregivers, and educators” who [organized](#) in January 2024 to “take action for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and an end to the occupation of Palestine.”

Families for Ceasefire host online [workshops](#) “about how to talk to kids about the ongoing genocide in Gaza...facilitated by two Arab facilitators...to strengthen caregivers ability to talk to kids about Palestine in age appropriate ways that builds their muscles for understanding and resisting injustice.”



In May 2024, the group co-hosted an event at the pro-Hamas encampment at Penn, involving young children in the cause. The [event](#) involved a children’s march, exploring the encampment, writing letters to kids in Gaza and a community dinner. They [summed](#) up the event: “The Families for Ceasefire Philly community is so proud of these students and grateful to them for the work they’re doing. They are inspiring the next generation.”

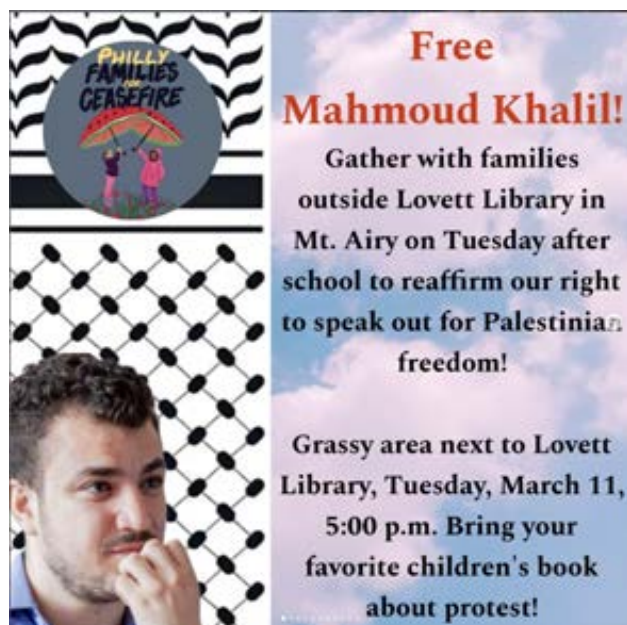
The group ran a virtual workshop on September 16, 2024, titled: “Talking to Kids About Palestine.” The workshop was [designed](#) to explain “tricky concepts in kids language” like “occupation,” which they explained as: “The people in charge of Israel sent their army to a place that wasn’t theirs, saying ‘This is ours now!’”

As part of its “[Kids Resources](#),” Families for Ceasefire promoted the [Woke Kindergarten](#) website designed by [Akia Gross](#). The [program](#) “invites kids to think about anti-imperialism, Palestinian liberation, & how Palestinians might thrive if the United States defunded the Isra\*li military.”

Woke Kindergarten [justified](#) the October 7 Hamas attack as an attempt by “Palestinian resistance” to “escape their Zionist occupier.”

In July 2024, the group printed a pamphlet [titled](#): “So You Want A Free Palestine? A resistance guide for kids.”

Key activists: [Alisha Berry](#), [Hannah Mermelstein](#)



## Al Bustan Seeds of Culture

Al Bustan, a community center, says it leads “workshops and educational initiatives for elementary and middle school students in Philadelphia.” Al Bustan also [offers](#) professional development workshops for K-12 educators and a summer [camp](#) for children ages 5 to 14.



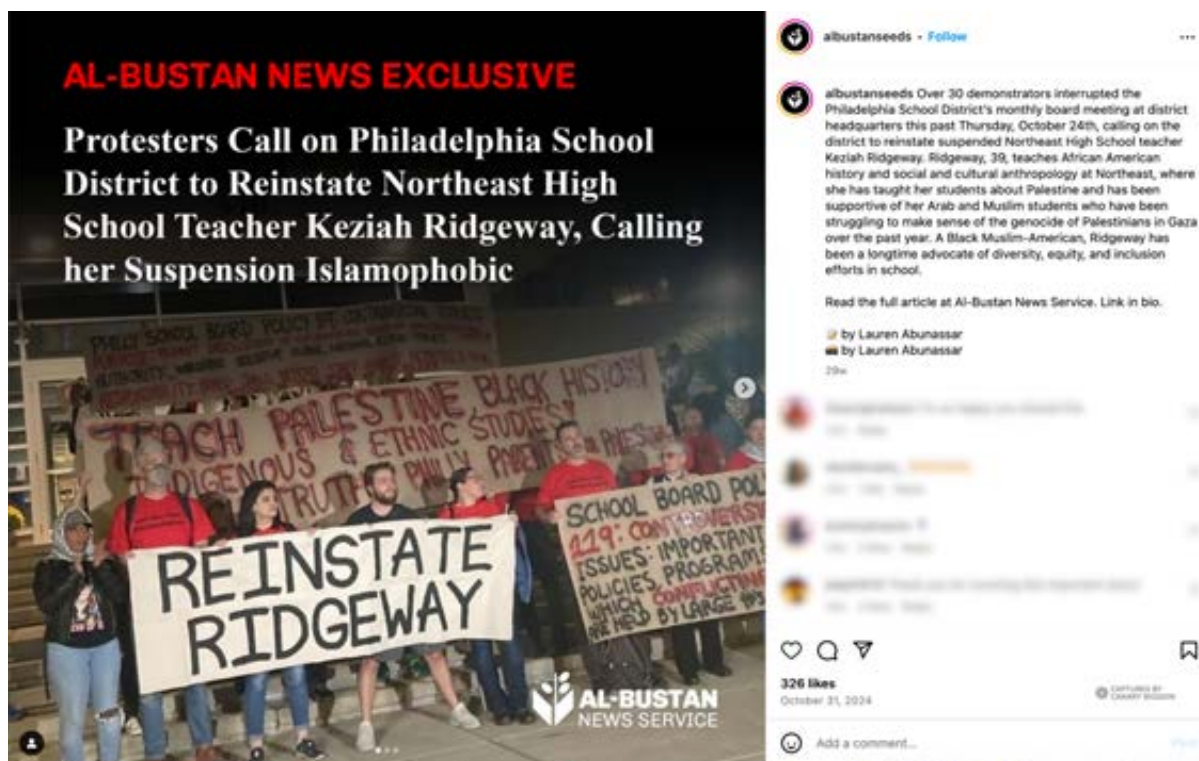
A 2022 [report](#) by the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Philadelphia chapter explicitly names Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture as one of several organizations in partnership with the School District of Philadelphia that have a “history of past, recent or current direct or indirect promotion of anti-Jewish/anti-Zionist/anti-Israel rhetoric or activity.”

The report alleges that Al-Bustan distributed maps omitting Israel and expressed “hatred-inciting anti-Israel rhetoric” on social media, suggesting the group’s activities could negatively impact Jewish students and the broader community.

Al Bustan hosts community [workshops](#) that have [featured](#) anti-Israel activists, including [Johara Shamaa](#), a former Temple SJP leader who was [arrested](#) for disrupting a job fair at Temple in 2024. Al Bustan has [hosted](#) numerous events with anti-Israel Penn professors [Ahmad Almallah](#) and [Huda Fakhreddine](#).

Since October 7, Al Bustan has [aligned](#) itself with the anti-Israel movement in Philadelphia. Al Bustan News [amplified](#) the positions of those who campaigned to get the district to teach anti-Israel material and [promoted](#) anti-Israel educator activists, such as [Hannah Mermelstein](#).





Al Bustan [platformed](#) and [supported](#) SDP teacher [Keziah Ridgeway](#), who faced disciplinary action due to her anti-Israel activism in the classroom and online threats against parents of Jewish students. Al Bustan [called](#) for Ridgeway's reinstatement following her dismissal.

Al Bustan also [promoted](#) Delaware State Representative [Madinah Wilson-Anton](#), who has advocated against Israel and for the [work](#) of anti-Israel Penn professor [Alison Glick](#).

In October 2024, Al Bustan [co-sponsored](#) an event with Penn FSJP.

The organization hosts [concerts](#), [art exhibitions](#), [movie screenings](#) and public art projects that [spread](#) hatred of Israel.

Al Bustan has also [highlighted](#) PFLP terrorist Ghassan Kanafani who announced the terror group's responsibility for the [Lod Airport Massacre](#) of May 1972 and was linked to the airport attackers. The attack [killed](#) 26 people and [wounded](#) 80 others.

# IMPACT ON THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## How the Rise in Antisemitism Post-October 7 Impacted the Jewish Community

On Saturday, May 3, 2025, in a Philadelphia bar, a student from Temple University ordered a sign for display that [read](#) "F\*\*K THE JEWS." The incident made headlines nationwide and even internationally.

For those tracking the sharp rise in antisemitic incidents in Philadelphia since the October 7 massacre, the sign came as no surprise.

Following the Hamas attack on October 7, when anti-Israel Philadelphians celebrated the massacre of Jews in the city's streets, the Jewish community experienced a surge in antisemitic incidents and an increasingly hostile campus climate. Anti-Israel and pro-terror activists resorted to such tactics against Jews and Israel supporters as intimidation, harassment, targeting and cultural erasure.

This section will cover the rise in antisemitism in the city, including vandalism targeting visibly Jewish institutions and businesses, boycott campaigns and unrest on the local college campuses, leading to several lawsuits and complaints by Jewish plaintiffs.

**For a list of major antisemitic attacks in Philadelphia from October 7, 2023, until the end of 2024, see [Appendix IV](#).**





## Rising Antisemitism: Statistics and Incidents

According to U.S. Representative Susan Wild, who represented the 7th Congressional District of Pennsylvania until 2025: "There is a dangerous pattern of antisemitism that continues to run rampant across our district, state and country. It is unacceptable, and we cannot simply condemn it when it happens—we must take concrete steps to prevent these potential acts of violence."

In the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) "[Audit of Antisemitic Incidents in 2024](#)," 465 incidents were reported in Pennsylvania alone, up 18 percent from 2023. Incidents include antisemitic harassment, vandalism and assault.

Pennsylvania ranked twelfth in the country in incidents per capita, reaching 3.56 per 100,000 residents. Further information from the ADL audit:

### Incident Breakdown

- Harassment: 337 incidents (+12% from 2023, #4 nationally, 72% of state total)
- Vandalism: 116 incidents (+35% from 2023, #7 nationally, 25% of state total)
- Assaults: 12 incidents (+140% from 2023, #4 nationally, 3% of state total)

### Primary Hotspots

- Philadelphia (189)
- Pittsburgh (74)
- Montgomery County (51)

### Overview

According to the ADL: "Pennsylvania experienced alarming escalations in violence, with antisemitic assaults more than doubling (+140 percent) in 2024. A troubling spike occurred around the October 7 anniversary, with a 76% increase in incidents compared to the monthly average.

"Jewish institutions in Pennsylvania experienced an above average rate of antisemitic incidents, with 121 incidents (26% of the state's total) compared to the national average of 18% for such incidents. The University of Pennsylvania became a particular flashpoint for extreme antisemitism, with vandalism including explicit threats such as "Kill Zios" and "Kill Your Local Zio Nazi." Campus incidents nearly tripled at some institutions, pushing Pennsylvania to #4 nationally for college/university incidents (90)."

## Antisemitic Incidents in Philadelphia

Philadelphia was the flashpoint of antisemitic incidents in the state, with more than double the number of incidents than in neighboring Pittsburgh and Montgomery County. Many of the incidents involved visibly Jewish institutions, such as restaurants and synagogues.

Anti-Israel activists also used boycott campaigns to attack Jews, targeting local Jewish and/or Israeli-owned businesses. Universities were another center of antisemitic incidents, with the University of Pennsylvania leading the pack.

### Goldie Restaurant

The most [publicized](#) attack was on a Jewish-owned kosher restaurant on December 3, 2023. Goldie, an Israeli-style falafel restaurant in Center City, Philadelphia, became the focus of a large anti-Israel protest.

Hundreds of demonstrators, organized by PPC, marched through the city, demanding a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. The protesters stopped outside Goldie, [chanting](#): “Goldie, Goldie, you can’t hide, we charge you with genocide.

The incident was [part](#) of the “Flood Philly for Gaza” demonstrations. Protesters also placed stickers with slogans like “Free Palestine” and

“This is genocide” on the restaurant’s exterior.

Goldie is co-owned by Israeli-born chef Michael Solomonov and his business partner Steven Cook.

Jewish Governor Josh Shapiro [responded](#) to the event, [writing](#) on X: “Tonight in Philly, we saw a blatant act of antisemitism—not a peaceful protest. / A restaurant was targeted and mobbed because its owner is Jewish and Israeli. This hate and bigotry is reminiscent of a dark time in history.”

### Nana’s Kitchen and Catering

Another Jewish-owned kosher restaurant in the Philadelphia area, Nana’s Kitchen and Catering in Narbeth, a suburb of Philadelphia, was also [targeted](#) by an antisemitic attack. On March 15, 2024, the restaurant was vandalized with the words “Free Gaza” spray-painted on its building.

According to a CBS [report](#): “Narberth has a thriving Jewish community, but since the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas-led attack in Israel many Jewish residents in the neighborhood said they have felt

a new sense of fear with growing antisemitism across the country.”

### **Temple Beth Hillel–Beth El**

A sign outside Temple Beth Hillel–Beth El in Wynnewood that read “Our Community Stands With Israel” was [vandalized](#) twice in late March 2024.

The first time, it was spray-painted and replaced. A week later, the new sign was spray-painted with a red [swastika](#).

### **Congregation Mikveh Israel**

In October 2024, Philadelphia's historic Congregation Mikveh Israel synagogue, founded in 1740, was [targeted](#) in a series of antisemitic attacks.

On October 20, a vandal defaced a religious statue outside the synagogue by writing profanity on it with a marker.

On October 22, an arsonist set fire to a dumpster adjacent to the synagogue, causing damage to a nearby window. Surveillance footage captured a man rummaging through the dumpster before it ignited.

Later, on October 22, two men attempted to break into the synagogue by trying to breach a fence and door.

### **Boycott Campaign**

In late October 2023, PPC launched a boycott campaign targeting Jewish businesses.

PPC's social media announcement [read](#): “Supporting BDS as a personal practice is both an easy & effective way to support Palestinian Resistance, no matter where you are in the world.”

PPC went on to describe the boycott, using far-fetched arguments and explicit antisemitic language:

- “A Boycott is an economic tool used against those who are accustomed to amassing wealth & holding economic power.”
- “A successful Boycott will isolate Israeli companies & institutions who are funding the Zionist Apartheid State.”
- “Boycott ‘Israeli’ Food & Zionist Businesses in Philly: Restaurants and businesses claiming to sell ‘Israeli’ food, fruits, vegetables, products are a part of an ongoing colonial campaign of stealing, appropriating, and profiting off of Palestinian food and culture as a means of erasing Palestinian existence.”
- “Virtually all Zionist establishments are complicit to some degree in Israel’s system of occupation and apartheid.”

## Lawsuits & Complaints

### Penn Students File Lawsuit

In December 2023, Penn students Eyal Yakoby and Jordan Davis [filed](#) a lawsuit against the University of Pennsylvania, alleging that the school had become “an incubation lab for virulent anti-Jewish hatred, harassment, and discrimination.”

The suit further [charged](#) that the school “enforces its own rules of conduct selectively to avoid protecting Jewish students from hatred and harassment, hires rabidly antisemitic professors who call for anti-Jewish violence and spread terrorist propaganda, and ignores Jewish students’ pleas for protection.”

Jewish students at Penn [describe](#) the harassment and discrimination they experience on campus and in the classroom as “relentless and intolerable.” To merely traverse campus to get to class or a dorm, Jewish students are routinely subjected to possible violence, antisemitic slurs and threatening chants, such as:

- “Intifada Revolution!”
- “F\*\*k the Jews!”
- “The Jews deserve everything that is happening to them!”
- “Keep walking, you dirty little Jew!”
- “Get out of here kikes!”

Buildings are routinely [vandalized](#) with antisemitic graffiti.

The lawsuit noted a September 2023 event [hosted](#) by the university, [Palestine Writes Literature Festival](#), where participants asserted that “most Jews [are] evil” and that Jews are “European colonizers.”

Two days before the lawsuit was filed, on December 3, 2023, an antisemitic student mob [rampaged](#) across Penn’s campus, chanting for the destruction of Israel and its citizens and vandalizing multiple Penn buildings. The mob then headed to the central business district of Philadelphia, where students attacked Goldie, a restaurant owned by an Israeli Jew.

Penn [filed](#) a motion to dismiss the suit on February 12, 2024; however, as of May 2025, the case remains ongoing.

## Brandeis Center and the U.S. Department of Education

On November 10, 2023, the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law [filed](#) a complaint against Penn with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR), alleging growing discrimination and hostility against its Jewish students.

The OCR responded by [launching](#) an investigation six days later. Although Penn is a private university, it receives around \$800 million annually from the federal government, meaning it is required to comply with the anti-discrimination laws of Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Less than a month later, Yakoby and Davis filed their lawsuit. The OCR responded by [dismissing](#) the Brandeis Center's complaint, saying the lawsuit made the same allegations. The Brandeis Center subsequently [sued](#) the OCR, alleging that the dismissal was unlawful according to the OCR's own rules (which require such legal action to be filed as a class action suit).

As of May 2025, the case remains ongoing.

## House Ways and Means Committee

In January 2024, the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee [launched](#) an investigation into Penn's tax-exempt status for alleged "failure" to protect Jewish students. The committee sent a letter to Penn President Larry Jameson, asserting that Penn's leadership has failed to comply with the anti-discrimination laws that make them eligible for tax exemptions.

There have been no public announcements that the investigation has concluded.

## Drexel University

In December 2023, the OCR opened an antisemitism investigation of Drexel University based on 36 reported incidents of antisemitic harassment and/or discrimination against Jews. Less than a year later, in August 2024, Drexel [entered](#) into a voluntary resolution agreement and promised to take proactive steps to prevent discrimination and to improve its response to new complaints.

At the time, the OCR found that Drexel "[generally failed to fulfill its obligations](#)" regarding its Title VI obligations. When the university did investigate antisemitic complaints, the OCR said "it misapplied the legal standard." The OCR noted that in the 18 months before

the resolution, there was a “growing, pervasive hostile environment” for Jews at Drexel that the university failed to address.

Individual incidents in the OCR complaint [included](#):

- Jokes made about Hitler and Nazis in a group chat
- “F— the Jews” written with a swastika drawn in a women’s bathroom in an academic building six days after Hamas’ October 7 attack
- Mezuzahs ripped down from dormitory doors
- A professor dismissing class early so students could attend an anti-Israel demonstration

On March 10, 2025, the OCR [notified](#) Drexel of “potential enforcement actions” if the university does not fulfill its Title VI obligations to protect Jewish students. The letter informed Drexel that the university was presently under investigation for violations.

## Temple University

In January 2024, the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) [launched](#) an investigation of Temple University, following reports of harassment against Jewish students. The investigation covered 2022–23, when 50 such incidents were reported.

In December 2024, Temple [resolved](#) the investigation through a voluntary agreement. Although no findings of noncompliance or wrongdoing were found, the university agreed to improve many practices for handling campus antisemitism.

The OCR investigation [found](#) that while Temple often took proactive steps to address individual incidents of antisemitism, it failed to assess whether the cumulative effect of these incidents indicated that a hostile environment for Jews existed at the university.

OCR noted that Temple’s response was fragmented across multiple departments with insufficient information sharing, which hindered a comprehensive approach to addressing the overall campus climate.

Since the resolution, Temple has responded to recent antisemitic incidents involving students with [suspensions](#) and ongoing internal investigations.



## Haverford College

Haverford College, one of the “Small Ivies,” is an elite liberal arts school located in an affluent suburb of Philadelphia. Haverford [received](#) an “F” in ADL’s 2025 Campus Antisemitism Report Card.

A group of Jewish students at Haverford [filed](#) a federal lawsuit in May 2024 against the college, alleging that it failed to protect Jewish students and created a hostile environment in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

An amended complaint, filed in September 2024, [states](#) that the college “doubled down” on policies that foster a hostile environment for Jewish students since the [initial](#) lawsuit was filed.

Barak Mendelsohn, a professor for 18 years at Haverford, [said](#) about the college: “It’s a pressure cooker” for Jewish students. Because Haverford is such a small college, harassment is impossible to avoid. “[Antisemitism] seems to be completely socially acceptable among the students,” he added.

Before October 7, Mendelsohn said he was an “educator and scholar.” Post-October 7, he was labeled a “Jew from Israel.”

According to the [lawsuit](#), the atmosphere on campus made Jewish students “agonize over how to suppress identifiably Jewish proclivities, gestures, or expressions, lest they be exposed as insufficiently Israel-hating Jews.”

“Nearly all of these Jewish students engage in agitated consideration...wherever they are going on Haverford’s campus to class, to the library, to a meal or to meet a friend [because they know] they are going to be met with attacks,” the lawsuit [continued](#).

The lawsuit [cites](#) numerous antisemitic events hosted by Haverford, including:

- A weeklong series of events, during which Israel was accused of intentionally infecting Arabs with the COVID-19 virus
- A showing of “Jenin, Jenin,” a film whose producer has acknowledged that it contains false accusations about the conduct of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF)
- An event, during which Israel was [described](#) as “a country with an explicit policy of maiming Palestinians rather than killing them so that it can subjugate the Palestinian people.”

## School District of Philadelphia K-12

In April 2024, the OCR began [investigating](#) the School District of Philadelphia (SDP) for antisemitism in its schools after two complaints were filed.

SDP is the largest school district in Pennsylvania and the eighth-largest school district in America. It serves around 119,000 students in grades K-12.

The complaints [detailed](#) the harassment of Jewish teachers and students following the October 7 Hamas massacre of 1,200 Israelis and sought intervention by the OCR to compel the SDP to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

One student [reported](#): “It’s all day, every day. It’s like breathing poisoned air. Somebody will say out loud that they hate Jews or Israel, and an adult will hear it, and there will be no consequences.”

He continued: “Teachers bring up the war in classes where it’s got nothing to do with the subject matter and say things that I know are lies, but if you push back, the whole room turns on you, and the teacher just watches it happen.”

One of the complaints [states](#): “[Teachers] indoctrinate students with highly inflammatory rhetoric, tropes, and false information about Israelis and Jews...These teachers did not act in a vacuum; they have been following the lead of high-ranking SDP administrators...”

In December 2024, the OCR’s investigation [concluded](#) with a resolution agreement that required the district to take corrective actions. The district agreed to publicly declare its intolerance of harassment and discrimination on its website, post a statement in every school, and review and revise its anti-harassment policies.

The district must also send the revised policies to all school administrators, train staff annually and provide age-appropriate training and information on racial and ethnic discrimination to all students in grades 6-12.

# CONCLUSION

On May 18, 2025, Philly Palestine Coalition once again brought together nearly 40 organizations for a 2025 Nakba commemorative [event](#) at City Hall. This event underscores the depth and persistence of the anti-Israel network detailed in this report.

Sponsored by numerous groups—including Samidoun, a documented front for the designated terrorist entity PFLP—the event illustrates the continued, intentional infiltration into Philadelphia’s civic, educational and political structures. Notably, the rally was [advertised](#) with a large-scale banner drop on a major highway, accompanied by a caption explicitly encouraging attendees to bring young children, encapsulating the report’s findings.

While most observers see antisemitic incidents or anti-Israel group activities as unrelated, this report exposes a strategically coordinated effort, meticulously planned and implemented over several years. The coalition’s deliberate inclusion of youth-focused activities, such as teach-ins and children’s programming, highlights a long-term objective: grooming the next generation of anti-Israel activists to ensure the movement’s continued growth.

This analysis has uncovered the interconnected nature of Philadelphia’s anti-Israel activist network, revealing an extensive web whose influence reaches far beyond local campuses and communities. With proven success in Philadelphia, organizers have begun replicating their model across Pennsylvania, from Harrisburg to Pittsburgh, employing tactics that disrupt public life, exploit educational systems and manipulate political processes.

**The findings here are a call for vigilance and immediate action to address and dismantle this expansive network before its impact becomes irreversible.**

# APPENDIX I: PROFILES

## Students and Alumni

This appendix lists students and alumni of the University of Pennsylvania (Penn), Temple University, and Drexel University who have participated in or supported anti-Israel activism in Philadelphia between 2023 and 2025.

These individuals were included based on specific, documented criteria: participation in protest encampments or demonstrations organized by campus chapters of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) and related groups; affiliation with or attendance at events coordinated by the Philly Palestine Coalition; signatures on anti-Israel public statements; and leadership or involvement in student organizations that promoted antisemitic rhetoric or actions.

### Temple University: Students & Alumni

- |   |  |                                     |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. <a href="#">Abby Alderama</a>  | 12. <a href="#">Austin Binns</a> ( <i>also listed under Professional Activists</i> ) | 27. <a href="#">Ethan Quinn</a>     |
| 2. <a href="#">Abdul Mohamed</a>  | 13. <a href="#">Aydan Braunstein</a>   | 28. <a href="#">Gabriel Gibboni</a> |
| 3. <a href="#">Ahmad Abuharb</a>  | 14. <a href="#">Besan Zeidan</a>   | 29. <a href="#">Hana Gomma</a>      |
| 4. <a href="#">Al Rabady</a>  | 15. <a href="#">Bethany Kosmicki</a>   | 30. <a href="#">Helina Alamerew</a> |
| 5. <a href="#">Aleea Yousef</a>   | 16. <a href="#">Bharath Premlal</a>  | 31. <a href="#">Ida McGrath</a>     |
| 6. <a href="#">Aleem Ahmed</a>  | 17. <a href="#">Blake Lloyd</a>  | 32. <a href="#">Isaac Walker</a>    |
| 7. <a href="#">Alia Amanpour Trapp</a>  | 18. <a href="#">Cecilia Porth</a>  | 33. <a href="#">Israh Mohammed</a>  |
| 8. <a href="#">Alison Glick</a> ( <i>also listed under Professional Activists</i> ) | 19. <a href="#">Celine Safa</a>  | 34. <a href="#">Izzat Alhaj</a>     |
| 9. <a href="#">Anand Ghorpadey</a>  | 20. <a href="#">Charlotte Hobbs</a>  | 35. <a href="#">Jackson Hoag</a>    |
| 10. <a href="#">Anwar Lami</a>  | 21. <a href="#">Cygaelle Bergado</a>   | 36. <a href="#">Jada Montgomery</a> |
| 11. <a href="#">Arif Alhalaika</a>  | 22. <a href="#">Daniel Langos</a>  | 37. <a href="#">Johara Shamaa</a>   |
|   | 23. <a href="#">Desiree Sustello</a>   | 38. <a href="#">Justin Roig</a>     |
|   | 24. <a href="#">Deyana Tabatabaei</a>  | 39. <a href="#">Katie Miernicki</a> |
|   | 25. <a href="#">Dorian Miller</a>  | 40. <a href="#">Kayla Kahan</a>     |
|   | 26. <a href="#">Eman Raja</a>  | 41. <a href="#">Kenefere Kamani</a> |
|   |  | 42. <a href="#">Kevin Murphy</a>    |
|   |  | 43. <a href="#">Kyler Lehrbach</a>  |

44. [Laura Duarte Bateman](#)
45. [Lauren Frank](#)
46. [Liam Maher](#)
47. [Liam Reeves](#)
48. [Lucas Oberholtzer Hess](#)
49. [Lucy Lunay](#)
50. [Mahmoud El-Haron](#)
51. [Majid Khorchid](#)
52. [Maya Shankar](#)
53. [Michael Chau](#)
54. [Mohamed Mutan](#)
55. [Mokhtar Bdeir](#)
56. [Muhannad Abuelhawa](#)
57. [Muhtasim Sagiv](#)
58. [Natalie Abulhawa](#)
59. [Nicholas Carmack](#)  
(also listed under *Professional Activists*)
60. [Nick Hunsicker](#)
61. [Nour Hassan](#)
62. [Nour Qutyan](#)
63. [Olivia Guerriero](#)
64. [Omar Mussa](#)
65. [Piper Farbarik](#)
66. [Remshah Raza](#)
67. [Resilda Memushi](#)
68. [Rishi Arun](#)
69. [Ryan Moylan](#)
70. [Sabrina Penn](#)
71. [Sally Thistle](#)
72. [Sumayyah Nabiyevea](#)
73. [Suroor Abbas](#)
74. [Tala Abdeljaber](#)

75. [Tara Faik](#)
76. [Tasbih Johnson](#)
77. [Tyler Fowler](#)
78. [Walid Mustafa](#)
79. [Walter Smolarek](#)  
(also listed under *Professional Activists*)
80. [Yaqeen Yamani](#)
81. [Yara Alhaffar](#)
82. [Zoey Liss](#)

### **Drexel University: Students & Alumni**

1. [Anas Shraim](#)
2. [Abby Chapman](#)
3. [Aisa Feratovic](#)
4. [Alexis Drew](#)
5. [Anatole Joy Easterday](#)
6. [Ashly Chteh](#)
7. [Banah Khamis](#)
8. [Benjamin Robare](#)
9. [Brandon Brooks](#)
10. [Charlie Gross](#)
11. [Ellie Herman](#)
12. [Gianna Williams](#)
13. [Hikma Salhe](#)
14. [Isa Ameen](#)
15. [Jishan Ahmed](#)
16. [Kriti Verma](#)
17. [Luke Mills](#) (also listed under *Professional Activists*)
18. [Mariam Alam](#)
19. [Mason Plant](#)

20. [Muhammad Faizan Malik](#)
21. [Nadine Adnane](#)
22. [Naomi Friedman](#)
23. [Noor Bowman](#)
24. [Rayyaan Sohu](#)
25. [Shanzay Asif Maken](#)
26. [Yassine Sellami](#)

### **University of Pennsylvania: Students & Alumni**

1. [Abida Haque](#)
2. [Ahmed Abdelhamid](#)
3. [Ahmed Elwasila](#)
4. [Ajanee Russell-Hopkins](#)
5. [Alex Eapen](#)
6. [Alexandra Blaine](#)
7. [Ali Zane](#)
8. [Alice Wang](#)
9. [Alicia Chatterjee](#)
10. [Alicia Riccio](#)
11. [Alyssa Chandler](#)
12. [Amanda Mahany](#)
13. [Ameen Perumannil Sidhick](#)
14. [Angel Saysay](#)
15. [Anna Bacharach](#)
16. [Anna Ferris](#)
17. [Anna Zhu](#)
18. [Annie Xu](#)
19. [Athena Turek](#)
20. [Austin Svedjan](#)
21. [Aziz Jalil](#)

22. Benjamin Moss-Horwitz
23. Beth Hollingshead
24. Beth Jellinek
25. Bhairavi Mehra
26. Breanna Sheehan
27. Brisa Ables
28. Britney Acevedo-Corona
29. Carolyn Ziembo
30. Casey Bohrman
31. Cece Sadek
32. Chayo Lavin
33. Chris Nguyen
34. Christina Bartzokis
35. Christina Katehis
36. Christopher Rogers
37. Clayton Kaledin
38. Daniyah Hasan
39. Daria Hurley Abady
40. David Wengert
41. Davina Scott
42. Devin Welsh
43. Eliana Atienza
44. Ella Israeli
45. Elyse Cinquino
46. Emily Polstein
47. Emily Sullivan
48. Emily Walter
49. Emma Herndon
50. Emma James
51. Eva Nee
52. Eva Steele
53. Farrah Rahaman
54. Francis Snow
55. Gabriella Ayala
56. Gabriella Lozano
57. Georgia Garrow
58. Giovanna Varlotta
59. Halla Anderson
60. Hannah Prativa Spielberg
61. Hannah Toneff
62. Iman Hossain
63. Iman Tednga
64. Jacob Haut
65. Jalen Belgrave
66. Janay Draughn
67. Jessica Zipin
68. Joslyn Trovati
69. Julia Flores
70. Karen Leigh Beebe
71. Kate Dietrich-Manion
72. Kathleen Rooney
73. Katie Francis
74. Kenny Chiu
75. Kirsten Lydic
76. Kyle Arbuckle
77. Lani Morris
78. Laura Hannon
79. Laura Miles
80. Laura Ogburn
81. Layla Sayed
82. Leah Pranschke
83. Lena Burleson
84. Logan Chapman
85. Logan Fosu
86. Lolo Serrano
87. Luc Teyssier
88. Lucy Chamberlain
89. Luke Krier
90. Makayla Buchanon
91. Maria Giraldo Gallo
92. Marwan Elazazy
93. Mary-Brent Brown
94. Matt Encarnación
95. Megan Bird
96. Megan Gafvert
97. Megha Neelapu
98. Meghan Eife
99. Mehreen Syed
100. Mel Kadar
101. Melissa Echeverry
102. Mikela Sheskier
103. Mohammed Mujahed
104. Monica Brodovsky
105. Myles Browne
106. Nada Blassy
107. Naomi Black
108. Nathan Nyitrai
109. Nesreen Ibrahim
110. Nico Melton
111. Nora Ahern
112. Oliver Jane Jorgenson
113. Olivia Benson
114. Omar Elsakhawy
115. Omar Ibrahim
116. Paola Salas
117. Priyanka Padidam
118. Rachel Marx
119. Rami George
120. Ramsey Abdeljaber
121. Rayane Taroua
122. Rebecca Del Rossi
123. Robin Ortelere
124. Rose Khan
125. Rushnae Kabir
126. Sabirah Mahmud
127. Safa Elzanfali

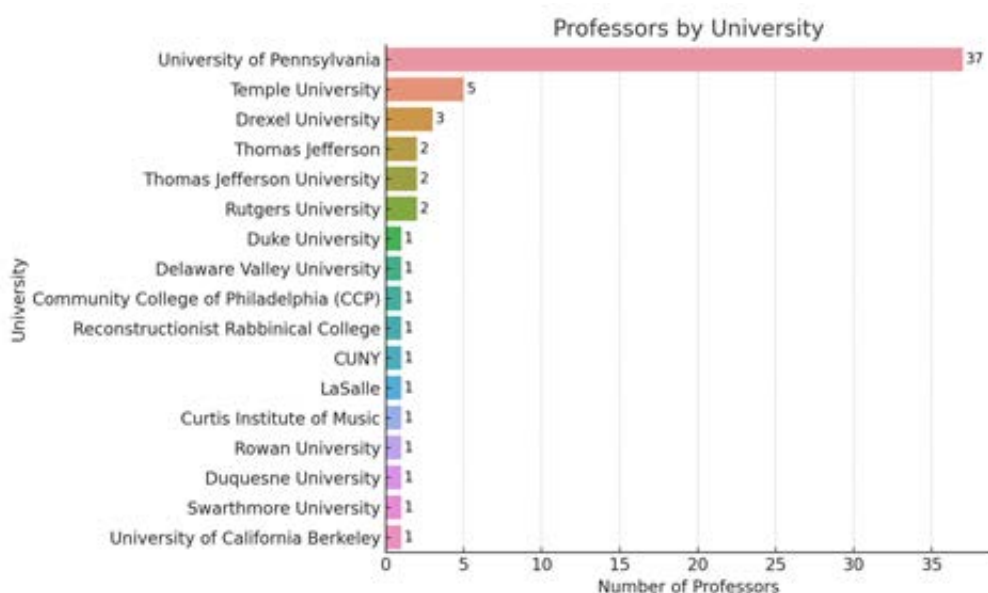


- |  |   |                                    |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| 128. <a href="#">Sam Herrmann</a>                                  | 137. <a href="#">Sayeeda Rashid</a>     | 147. <a href="#">Teresa Coenen</a> |
| 129. <a href="#">Sam Samore</a>                                    | 138. <a href="#">Selma Farsakh Ulm</a>  | 148. <a href="#">Tyler Rizzo</a>   |
| 130. <a href="#">Sameem Ahmadzai</a>                               | 139. <a href="#">Senit Gual Negassi</a> | 149. <a href="#">Umar Teixeira</a> |
| 131. <a href="#">Sana Bakir</a>                                    | 140. <a href="#">Sonya Stacia</a>       | 150. <a href="#">Winnie Chang</a>  |
| 132. <a href="#">Sana Rizvi</a>                                    | 141. <a href="#">Sruti Bhakta</a>       | 151. <a href="#">Yaoyao Lin</a>    |
| 133. <a href="#">Sarah Marcus</a>                                  | 142. <a href="#">Stephen Chao</a>       | 152. <a href="#">Yifan Zhang</a>   |
| 134. <a href="#">Sarah Nichols</a>                                 | 143. <a href="#">Taja Mazaj</a>         | 153. <a href="#">Zara Raven</a>    |
| 135. <a href="#">Sarah</a><br><a href="#">Pallivalapil-Karerat</a> | 144. <a href="#">Tara Tarawneh</a>      |                                    |
| 136. <a href="#">Sarah Sterinbach</a>                              | 145. <a href="#">Taryn Flaherty</a>     |                                    |
|  | 146. <a href="#">Taylor Crumpton</a>    |                                    |

## Faculty and Staff

This appendix lists professors and university-affiliated staff identified as having participated in or supported anti-Israel activity in Philadelphia between 2023 and 2025. These individuals were included based on specific, documented criteria: attendance at events led by the Philly Palestine Coalition; participation in anti-Israel activism at local institutions such as the University of Pennsylvania (Penn), Temple University, and Drexel University (including protest encampments); signatures on public anti-Israel statements; and influential roles in educational, media, or governmental institutions connected to antisemitic rhetoric or actions.

Each entry includes the individual's name, university affiliation, institutional status, a summary of relevant positions or public records and a link to additional documentation.



**Professor 1**

**Name:** Aaliyah Michelle

**University:** Thomas Jefferson

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of February 2025, Aaliyah Michelle's LinkedIn profile said she worked as a clinical research coordinator at Thomas Jefferson University.

**Profile Link:** [Aaliyah Michelle - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 2**

**Name:** Abdulrahman Atta

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of January 2025, Abdulrahman Atta was listed on Penn's website as a lecturer in Arabic in the Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (MELC).

**Profile Link:** [Abdulrahman Atta - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 3**

**Name:** Adam Bdeir

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of January 2025, Adam Bdeir's LinkedIn profile said he worked as a research specialist at Penn Medicine.

**Profile Link:** [Adam Bdeir - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 4**

**Name:** Ahmad Almallah

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of December 2023, Almallah was listed as a teaching faculty member in the

Penn Department of English and the university's Creating Writing Program.

**Profile Link:** [Ahmad Almallah - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 5**

**Name:** Ahmad Qais Munhazim

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Thomas Jefferson University

**Status:** Professor, University Staff

**Detail:** As of February 2025, Ahmad Qais Munhazim was listed on the Thomas Jefferson University website as an assistant professor of global studies. As of the same date, Ahmad Qais Munhazim was listed on Penn's website as being affiliated with Penn's Middle East Center (MEC).

**Profile Link:** [Ahmad Qais Munhazim - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 6**

**Name:** Ahmad Shokr

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore University

**Status:** University Staff, Professor

**Detail:** In October 2024, Shokr was listed on the Swarthmore College website as an associate professor of history. Also in October 2024, Shokr was affiliated with the Middle East Center at Penn.

**Profile Link:** [Ahmad Shokr - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 7****Name:** Amy Offner**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of May 2025, Amy Offner was listed as an associate professor of history in the Department of History at Penn.**Profile Link:** [Amy Offner - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 8****Name:** Amy Hillier**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of May 2025, Amy Hillier was listed as an associate professor in the School of Social Policy and Practice and in the Department of City and Regional Planning at Penn.**Profile Link:** [Amy Hillier - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 9****Name:** Ania Loomba**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of December 2023, Loomba was listed as the Catherine Bryson Professor of English and Chair of the English Department at Penn. As of the same date, Loomba was listed as faculty in the departments of Comparative Literature, South Asian Studies, and Women's Studies at Penn.**Profile Link:** [Ania Loomba - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 10****Name:** Anne Norton**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of April 2024, Norton was listed as the Stacey and Henry Jackson President's Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Penn. On March 12, 2024, Norton tweeted that she was a member of the Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine (PFJP).**Profile Link:** [Anne Norton - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 11****Name:** Audrey Hausig**University:** Duquesne University**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of April 2025, Audrey Hausig was listed as an adjunct professor of music therapy at Duquesne University.**Profile Link:** [Audrey Hausig - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 12****Name:** Bassil Kublaoui**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of February 2024, Kublaoui was listed as an Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics specializing in Endocrinology and Diabetes at the Perelman School of Medicine at Penn.**Profile Link:** [Bassil Kublaoui - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 13****Name:** Beans Velocci**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of January 2025, Beans Velocci was listed on the Penn website as an assistant professor in the Department of History and Sociology of Science.**Profile Link:** [Beans Velocci - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 14****Name:** Belen Unzueta**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** University Staff**Detail:** As of January 2025, Belen Unzueta's LinkedIn profile said she was a postdoctoral fellow at Penn.**Profile Link:** [Belen Unzueta - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 15****Name:** Chelsea Reed**University:** Temple University**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of May 2025, Chelsea Reed was listed as a member of adjunct faculty in the Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University.**Profile Link:** [Chelsea Reed - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 16****Name:** Chi-Ming Yang**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor**Detail:** Chi-ming Yang is an assistant professor of English at Penn. Yang is a member of the Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine.**Profile Link:** [Chi-Ming Yang - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 17****Name:** Clemencia Rodriguez**University:** Temple University**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of January 2025, Clemencia Rodriguez was listed on the Temple University website as a professor in the Department of Media Studies and Production.**Profile Link:** [Clemencia Rodriguez - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 18****Name:** Dagmawi Woubshet**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of February 2024, Woubshet was listed as an associate professor of English at Penn. Woubshet is a member of the Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine.**Profile Link:** [Dagmawi Woubshet - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 19****Name:** Elliot Goodenough**University:** Drexel University**Status:** Professor**Detail:** As of January 2025, Elliot Goodenough was listed on the Drexel website as an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases & HIV Medicine.**Profile Link:** [Elliot Goodenough - Canary Mission](#)**Professor 20****Name:** Emilia Feldman**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University**Status:** Alum, University Staff**Detail:** As of February 2025, Emilia Feldman's LinkedIn said she worked as a "Community Intervention Specialist: Trauma Therapist" at the Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health.**Profile Link:** [Emilia Feldman - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 21**

**Name:** Emily Cruz-Pineda

**University:** LaSalle

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of January 2025, Cruz-Pineda's LinkedIn profile said Cruz-Pineda had worked as an academic support specialist at La Salle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, since August 2023.

**Profile Link:** [Emily Cruz-Pineda - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 22**

**Name:** Eva Boodman

**University:** Rowan University

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of November 2024, Eva Boodman was listed online as an assistant professor of philosophy at Rowan University in New Jersey. Her Rowan bio page said: "Eva Boodman specializes in social and political philosophy, feminist and applied ethics, critical race theory, and carceral studies."

**Profile Link:** [Eva Boodman - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 23**

**Name:** Eva-Maria Swidler

**University:** Curtis Institute of Music

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of November 2024, Eva-Maria Swidler was listed online as a faculty member at the Curtis Institute of Music. Her faculty webpage said she was "an environmental historian with particular interest in the fields of historical theory, agricultural studies, and world political economy."

**Profile Link:** [Eva-Maria Swidler - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 24**

**Name:** Eve Troutt Powell

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of December 2023, Troutt Powell, who also goes by Eve M. Troutt Powell, was listed as a professor of History and Africana Studies at Penn.

**Profile Link:** [Eve Troutt Powell - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 25**

**Name:** Fatemeh Shams

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of December 2023, Shams was an associate professor at Penn, where she taught Persian literature in the Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations (NELC) Department. She was also listed as a core faculty member of Penn's Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program.

**Profile Link:** [Fatemeh Shams - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 26**

**Name:** Hatem Bazian

**University:** University of California, Berkeley, Zaytuna College for Muslim Studies

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of May 2025, Bazian was a lecturer in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley), where he founded the Center for the Study of Documentation of Islamophobia in 2009. Bazian is the provost, co-founder and a faculty

member of Zaytuna College for Muslim Studies. Bazian is the founder of the anti-Israel organizations Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) and American Muslims for Palestine (AMP).

**Profile Link:** [Hatem Bazian - Canary Mission](#)

#### **Professor 27**

**Name:** Huda Fakhreddine

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of May 2025, Fakhreddine was listed as an associate professor of Arabic Literature in the Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures at Penn. Fakhreddine is a member of the Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine.

**Profile Link:** [Huda Fakhreddine - Canary Mission](#)

#### **Professor 28**

**Name:** Jake Jackson

**University:** Temple University, Thomas Jefferson University

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of February 2025, Jake Jackson's LinkedIn profile said he worked as an adjunct professor at Thomas Jefferson University and Temple University. He taught writing and other related topics at the two universities.

**Profile Link:** [Jake Jackson - Canary Mission](#)

#### **Professor 29**

**Name:** Josephine Park

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of January 2025, Josephine Park was listed on the University of Penn website as a professor in the Department of English and the associate dean for arts and letters.

**Profile Link:** [Josephine Park - Canary Mission](#)

#### **Professor 30**

**Name:** Karen Redrobe

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** Karen Redrobe is Elliot and Roslyn Jaffe Endowed Professor in Film Studies and chair of the Department of the History of Art at Penn. Redrobe is a member of the Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine.

**Profile Link:** [Karen Redrobe - Canary Mission](#)

#### **Professor 31**

**Name:** Katryn Evinson

**University:** Duke University

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of January 2025, Katryn Evinson's LinkedIn page said she had worked as an assistant professor of Romance studies at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, since July 2024.

**Profile Link:** [Katryn Evinson - Canary Mission](#)



**Professor 32**

**Name:** Kenneth Nuriddin

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** In June 2018, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania reported that Nuriddin served as the Imam for the Muslim Student Association at Penn, and continues to serve as a member of the Penn Religious Community Council.

**Profile Link:** [Kenneth Nuriddin - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 33**

**Name:** Kerri McGuckin

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of January 2025, Kerri McGuckin's LinkedIn profile said she worked as an administrator of practice operations in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Penn Medicine in the Penn Health System.

**Profile Link:** [Kerri McGuckin - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 34**

**Name:** Krystal Strong

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Rutgers University

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of November 2023, Strong was listed as an assistant professor of "Black Studies in Education" at Rutgers University. As of May 2025, Strong's LinkedIn said she had worked as an assistant professor at Penn since 2015. Strong was reportedly the founder of a Penn student group called Police Free Penn that signed a statement supporting the Hamas war crimes against Israeli civilians.

**Profile Link:** [Krystal Strong - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 35**

**Name:** Lonnie Kleinman

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of December 2024, Kleinman's LinkedIn profile [said](#) Kleinman was a "Reconstructionist Rabbi". Kleinman's LinkedIn also said Kleinman had been a "Rabbinic Fellow" at Penn since August 2021.

**Profile Link:** [Lonnie Kleinman - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 36**

**Name:** Marc Lamont Hill

**University:** CUNY, Temple University

**Status:** Professor, Alum

**Detail:** As of November 2023, Hill was listed on the City University of New York (CUNY) website as the "presidential professor" for the Urban Education department at CUNY's Graduate Center. He was appointed in August 2023. Before teaching at CUNY, he had taught at Temple University since 2017, and prior to that, he had taught at Morehouse College and Columbia University. In 2005, he received a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. He was also listed as part of the "Class of 2000" from both Temple and Morehouse.

**Profile Link:** [Marc Lamont Hill - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 37**

**Name:** Margo Natalie Crawford

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of January 2023, Crawford was listed on the Penn website as a “Professor of English, Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Professor for Faculty Excellence.”

**Profile Link:** [Margo Natalie Crawford - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 38**

**Name:** Matthew Wranovics

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of October 2023, Wranovics was listed on multiple Penn websites as a library assistant for circulation at the Biddle Law Library at the Penn Carey Law School (Penn Carey Law) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Profile Link:** [Matthew Wranovics - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 39**

**Name:** Mohammed Alghamdi

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor, University Staff

**Detail:** As of November 1, 2023, Alghamdi had a profile on the Penn Medicine website where he was listed as a physician and an “Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine” at Penn. However, as of December 5, 2023, his Penn Medicine profile had been deleted.

**Profile Link:** [Mohammed Alghamdi - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 40**

**Name:** Nancy Fuchs Kreimer

**University:** Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of February 2025, Nancy Fuchs Kreimer was listed online as “Associate Professor Emeritus [sic]” of religious studies at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

**Profile Link:** [Nancy Fuchs Kreimer - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 41**

**Name:** Nayla Labban

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of November 2024, Nayla Labban was listed on the Penn website as a resident in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Penn Medicine, the university’s medical school.

**Profile Link:** [Nayla Labban - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 42**

**Name:** Olivia Backal-Balik

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of December 2024, Olivia Backal-Balik’s LinkedIn profile said Backal-Balik had worked part-time as an archivist at the Freedman Jewish Sound Archive Project of Penn since June 2024.

**Profile Link:** [Olivia Backal-Balik - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 43****Name:** Paul M. Cobb**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of February 2025, Paul M. Cobb was listed as a professor in the Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, and director of the Program in Global Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Penn, since 2008.

**Profile Link:** [Paul M. Cobb – Canary Mission](#)**Professor 44****Name:** Radwa El Barouni**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of February 2025, Radwa El Barouni was listed as the director and coordinator of the Arabic Language Program in the Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures at Penn.

**Profile Link:** [Radwa El Barouni – Canary Mission](#)**Professor 45****Name:** Rayek Nafiz**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of January 2025, Rayek Nafiz's LinkedIn said he had worked as an assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at Penn Medicine, from July 2020 to June 2024.

**Profile Link:** [Rayek Nafiz – Canary Mission](#)**Professor 46****Name:** Renin Broadnax**University:** Rutgers University, Community College of Philadelphia (CCP)**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of November 2024, Renin Broadnax's LinkedIn profile said he worked as a part-time adjunct professor of communications at the Rutgers University campus in Camden, New Jersey. He was also listed as a part-time adjunct professor of Black Studies at the Community College of Philadelphia.

**Profile Link:** [Renin Broadnax – Canary Mission](#)**Professor 47****Name:** Robert Vitalis**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of May 2025, Vitalis was a professor of political science at Penn.

**Profile Link:** [Robert Vitalis – Canary Mission](#)**Professor 48****Name:** Sharon Hayes**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of January 2025, Sharon Hayes was listed on the Penn website as a "Professor and Chair of Fine Arts" in Penn's Weitzman School of Design.

**Profile Link:** [Sharon Hayes – Canary Mission](#)**Professor 49****Name:** Sheena Sood**University:** Delaware Valley University**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of November 2024, Sheena Sood was listed online as an assistant professor at Delaware Valley University.

**Profile Link:** [Sheena Sood – Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 50**

**Name:** Sukaina Hirji

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of May 2025, Sukaina Hirji was listed as an assistant professor of philosophy at Penn. As of May 2024, Sukaina Hirji was a member of the anti-Israel group Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine.

**Profile Link:** [Sukaina Hirji - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 51**

**Name:** Tali Ruskin

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** University Staff

**Detail:** As of May 2022, Ruskin was listed as Manager of Fellow Engagement and Strategic Initiatives at Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics at Penn.

**Profile Link:** [Tali Ruskin - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 52**

**Name:** Tulia Falleti

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** Tulia Falleti is the Class of 1965 Endowed Term Professor of Political Science, affiliated faculty of the Center for Latin American and Latinx Studies and of the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program, and Senior Fellow of the Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics.

**Profile Link:** [Tulia Falleti - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 53**

**Name:** Wesley Alvers

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Status:** Alum, University Staff

**Detail:** As of February 2025, Wesley Alvers' LinkedIn profile said Alvers had been working as an associate director at Penn's LGBT Center since January 2024.

**Profile Link:** [Wesley Alvers - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 54**

**Name:** Zein Hassanein

**University:** Drexel University, Temple University

**Status:** Professor, University Staff

**Detail:** As of November 2024, Zein Hassanein's LinkedIn profile said he worked as an adjunct professor and clinical supervisor at Drexel University. He was also listed as a music therapist and counselor in the Temple University Health System.

**Profile Link:** [Zein Hassanein - Canary Mission](#)

**Professor 55**

**Name:** Zumana Noor

**University:** Thomas Jefferson

**Status:** Professor

**Detail:** As of December 2024, Zumana Noor's LinkedIn profile said she was a clinical research coordinator at Nemours Children's Health in Wilmington, Delaware. Her LinkedIn also said she was an adjunct professor at Thomas Jefferson University.

**Profile Link:** [Zumana Noor - Canary Mission](#)

## Community Activists

This appendix profiles community activists—including professional organizers, K–12 educators, and local or state politicians—who have played a role in promoting anti-Israel activism in Philadelphia between 2023 and 2025.

Individuals were included based on specific, documented criteria: leadership or participation in events organized by the Philly Palestine Coalition and affiliated groups; public endorsement of anti-Israel campaigns; involvement in institutions or movements disseminating antisemitic or anti-American rhetoric; and influence over educational curricula, public policy, or community organizing that fosters hostility toward Israel and the Jewish community.

### Politicians

1. [Jamie Gauthier](#)
2. [Rick Krajewski](#)
3. [Nicolas O'Rourke](#)
4. [Christopher Rabb](#)
5. [Nikil Saval](#)
6. [Madinah Wilson-Anton](#)

10. [Betsey Piette](#)
11. [Brice Patterson](#)
12. [Caiside Ni Chuinn](#)
13. [Campbell Simmons](#)
14. [Cara Tratner](#)
15. [Cathie Berrey](#)
16. [Chad Collins](#)
17. [Chris Ivey](#)
18. [Christie Brink](#)
19. [Cindy Miller](#)

### Professional Activists

1. [Adam Attia](#)
2. [Ahmet Selim Tekelioglu](#)
3. [Alison Glick](#) (*also listed under Temple University: Students and Alumni*)
4. [Alissa Wise](#)
5. [Anlin Wang](#)
6. [Arielle Klagsbrun](#)
7. [Asantewaa Nkrumah-Ture](#)
8. [Asiyah Jones](#)
9. [Austin Binns](#) (*also listed under Temple University: Students and Alumni*)

20. [Debora Kodish](#)
21. [Deborah Rose Hinchey](#)
22. [Duncan Gromko](#)
23. [Elizabeth Bolton](#)
24. [Fermin Morales](#)
25. [Fred Hampton Jr.](#)
26. [Gabby Black](#)
27. [Gabriel Bryant](#)
28. [Hannah Mermelstein](#) (*also listed under K–12 Educators*)
29. [Jacob Winterstein](#)
30. [James Ray](#)

31. [Jonathan Kuttab](#)
32. [Jordan Vaughan](#)
33. [Joshua Reaves](#)
34. [Justin Marshall](#)
35. [Linda Holtzman](#)
36. [Line El Dirini](#)
37. [Luke Mills](#) (*also listed under Drexel University: Students and Alumni*)
38. [Mazen Khalil](#)
39. [Michael Wilson](#)
40. [Nada Abuasi](#)
41. [Nicholas Carmack](#) (*also listed under Temple University: Students and Alumni*)
42. [Nicole Bindler](#)
43. [Nina Mariella Macapinlac](#)
44. [Nora Elmarzouky](#)
45. [Olivia Robbins](#)
46. [Pam Africa](#)
47. [Paul Abernathy](#)
48. [Paul Prescod](#)
49. [Rachel Kipnes](#)
50. [Rami Ibrahim](#)
51. [Roua Daas](#)
52. [Samantha Rise](#)
53. [Sarah Trad](#)
54. [Sirianna Arathi](#)
55. [Susan Abulhawa](#)
56. [Talía Charidah](#)
57. [Teddíe Kelly](#)
58. [Valerie Kiebala](#)
59. [Viktoria Zerda](#)
60. [Walter Smolarek](#) (*also listed under Temple University: Students and Alumni*)

61. [Xiomara Torres](#)
62. [YahNe Ndgo](#)
63. [Zeena Rahman](#)
64. [Syed Arslan Gillani](#)

## K-12 Educators

1. [Alisha Berry](#)
2. [Lauren Ballester](#)
3. [Basheer Bilaal](#)
4. [Renin Broadnax](#) (*also listed under Professors*)
5. [Dana Carter](#)
6. [Ella Syverson](#)
7. [Frances Kreimer](#)
8. [Hannah Gann](#)
9. [Hannah Mermelstein](#) (*also listed under Professional Activists*)
10. [Helena Pylvainen](#)
11. [Ismael Jimenez](#)
12. [Jesse Hagopian](#)
13. [Jethro Heiko](#)
14. [Keziah Ridgeway](#)
15. [Anna Liebling](#)
16. [Nick Bernardini](#)
17. [Norman Shaw MacQueen](#)
18. [Andrew Saltz](#)
19. [Ronnie Nocella](#)
20. [Reem Rosenhaj](#)
21. [Claire Yoo](#)
22. [Samia Shoman](#)
23. [Anissa Weinraub](#)



## Unaffiliated Individuals

These individuals are not affiliated with any of the three universities examined in this report, but are included due to their involvement in anti-Israel events in Philadelphia or their broader influence on the escalating antisemitic and anti-American climate in the region.

- |                            |                           |                               |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Aaron Eby-Good          | 30. Ayanna Abdul-Ali      | 60. Gary Merryman             |
| 2. Abby Grobani            | 31. Bader Hassan          | 61. Geneen Abudurra           |
| 3. Abder Sweidan           | 32. Bader Zahrah          | 62. Ghada Raddad              |
| 4. Abed Farhat             | 33. Basak Kilicbeyli      | 63. Gini George               |
| 5. Adam Ben Abdelkader     | 34. Basam Kayed           | 64. Glen Richard              |
| 6. Adam Kayed              | 35. Bennett Kuhn          | 65. Greg Waldman              |
| 7. Adria Leeper-Sullivan   | 36. Brady Petersen        | 66. Hafsha Rahman             |
| 8. Ahmad Alatmah           | 37. Caitlin Ryan Lawrence | 67. Hala Subhi Ayyash         |
| 9. Ahmad Alhamaiel         | 38. Celine McBride        | 68. Hamza Bisharat            |
| 10. Ahmad Eid              | 39. Charlene Chen         | 69. Hansel Quezada            |
| 11. Ahmad Twam             | 40. Charlotte Stuart      | 70. Harrison Metz             |
| 12. Ahmed Elshamy          | 41. Collin Kawan-Hemler   | 71. Harry Russell             |
| 13. Alaa Khalil            | 42. Dania Yazbak          | 72. Hashem Ayayda             |
| 14. Alice Li               | 43. Daniel Valenzuela     | 73. Hashem Mustafa            |
| 15. Ameer Abusiyam         | 44. Danielle Allaire      | 74. Hatim Ramadan             |
| 16. Ameer Khattab          | 45. Danna Lowrie          | 75. Hazami Sayed              |
| 17. Amin Ben               | 46. Darlene Foreman       | 76. Hemza Alfroukh            |
| 18. Amir Amer              | 47. Efa Onyianta          | 77. Henry Brown               |
| 19. Amjad Rahim            | 48. Elijah Wald           | 78. Hussein Shamaa            |
| 20. Ammar Naqvi            | 49. Elliot Joan           | 79. Illkya Acosta             |
| 21. Anam Raja              | 50. Emily DeFerrari       | 80. Imad Salhab               |
| 22. Anas Inchasy           | 51. Emily Pfoutz          | 81. Inas Ali                  |
| 23. Andrew Knox            | 52. Emmy Inwards          | 82. Isabella Arianna Paradisa |
| 24. Andrew Lefkowitz       | 53. Erik Weedeman         | 83. Isabella West             |
| 25. Annisa Amatul Muqtadir | 54. Erin Connelly         | 84. Isaiah Woods Kolsky       |
| 26. Anya Ipatova           | 55. Ethan Feiler          | 85. Jack Morgan               |
| 27. Anya Kohan             | 56. Eyad Mazen Khalil     | 86. Jackie Soro               |
| 28. Ariel Goodman          | 57. Fahim Kayed           | 87. Jadir Rahman              |
| 29. Ash Hoffman            | 58. Fatima Hmada          | 88. James Simkins             |
|                            | 59. Frances Condon        | 89. Jamileh Alfroukh          |

- |                            |                          |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 90. Jason Argue            | 125. Lauren Shifman      | 161. Moe Froukh          |
| 91. Jason Bixon            | 126. Layan Suleiman      | 162. Moe Zaqzouq         |
| 92. Jay Chiu               | 127. Leila ElManfaa      | 163. Mohamad Mustafa     |
| 93. Jeffrey Johnson        | 128. Leonardo Garcia     | 164. Mohammad Abuhillo   |
| 94. Jelahni Ellis          | Moreno                   | 165. Mohammad            |
| 95. Jillian Christofferson | 129. Leticia Roa Nixon   | Abulaban                 |
| 96. Jim Feldman            | 130. Liam Moore          | 166. Mohammad Kayed      |
| 97. Jo Margolis            | 131. Lilah Saber         | 167. Mohammad Khaled     |
| 98. Johanna Collins        | 132. Lili Massac         | 168. Mohammed Al         |
| 99. Jonte Desire           | 133. Lillian Moffatt     | Megbel                   |
| 100. Jordan Hill           | 134. Loai Daher          | 169. Mohammed Alhaj      |
| 101. Jordan Whelchel       | 135. Maddie Rose         | 170. Mohammed Khattab    |
| 102. Josie Felt            | 136. Madeleine Dietrich  | 171. Mohd Shwaiter       |
| 103. Judy Kanafani         | 137. Mahmoud Eid         | 172. Mohideen Mustafa    |
| 104. Jurgis Viningas       | 138. Mahmoud Siyam       | 173. Mojahed Mustafa     |
| 105. Kaia Chau             | 139. Mahreen Syed        | 174. Molly Paul          |
| 106. Kaliab Tale           | 140. Maia Arbel          | 175. Molly Rancourt      |
| 107. Karim Alshurafa       | 141. Majd Eid            | 176. Mona Rahman         |
| 108. Kate Fabrizio         | 142. Malak Shuman        | 177. Monica Gomery       |
| 109. Kati Malison          | 143. Manuela López Pérez | 178. Morhaf Yousef       |
| 110. Keerthana Kulendran   | 144. Margie Politzer     | 179. Muhammad Salah      |
| 111. Kenneth Dando         | 145. Mariame Sissoko     | 180. Naadah Mohamed      |
| 112. Kerri Foxhill         | 146. Marissa Cruse       | 181. Nabil Ajaj          |
| 113. Khadidja Derrouche    | 147. Mark Tinkleman      | 182. Nabila Taha         |
| 114. Khaled Alawartani     | 148. Mary Brownlee       | 183. Nancy Abouakil      |
| 115. Khaled Kayed          | 149. Mary Zheng          | 184. Nader Shawakha      |
| 116. Khalid Heba           | 150. Maryam Jamal        | 185. Nadera Rammouni     |
| 117. Kicio Antonio         | 151. Mason Comstock      | 186. Naheda Dahleh       |
| 118. Kinnan Abdalhamid     | 152. Matt Maiale         | 187. Nasrin Zerrin       |
| 119. Komal Fatima          | 153. Matteo Hintz        | 188. Natalia Sonsin-Diaz |
| 120. Kunovenu Haimbodi     | 154. Matthew Ober        | 189. Nayla Rahman        |
| 121. Kya Parris            | 155. Matthew Wolf        | 190. Naziha Mustafa      |
| 122. Kyasia Monae          | 156. Matthew Zaikowski   | 191. Nellie Butler       |
| Chavous [Kya               | 157. Mel Regn            | 192. Nelly King          |
| Monae]                     | 158. Melissa Turan       | 193. Nick Hutchinson     |
| 123. Laila Patterson       | 159. Mikey Rios          | 194. Nicole Coutin       |
| 124. Larissa Johnson       | 160. Miracle Jones       | 195. Nicole Guglielmi    |

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 196. <a href="#">Nikki Edwards</a>     | 224. <a href="#">Safa Wadi</a>           | 250. <a href="#">Thomas Malino</a>       |
| 197. <a href="#">Noor Shamsi-Basha</a> | 225. <a href="#">Safi Khattab</a>        | <a href="#">Scheuer</a>                  |
| 198. <a href="#">Novalee Wilcher</a>   | 226. <a href="#">Sahir Muhammad</a>      | 251. <a href="#">Tiara Wolfe</a>         |
| 199. <a href="#">Olga Hernandez</a>    | 227. <a href="#">Sai Parsawar</a>        | 252. <a href="#">Troy Nazerenus</a>      |
| 200. <a href="#">Omar Elsheikh</a>     | 228. <a href="#">Saif Hasan</a>          | 253. <a href="#">Usman Chaudhri</a>      |
| 201. <a href="#">Omar Zahrah</a>       | 229. <a href="#">Sajid Qadri</a>         | 254. <a href="#">Victor J Urbaez</a>     |
| 202. <a href="#">Osama Siam</a>        | 230. <a href="#">Sam Kuttat</a>          | 255. <a href="#">Vlada Kupriienko</a>    |
| 203. <a href="#">Patrick Kubica</a>    | 231. <a href="#">Saoirse Maguire</a>     | 256. <a href="#">Vladimir Zykov</a>      |
| 204. <a href="#">Paul Cunningham</a>   | 232. <a href="#">Sapphyre Della</a>      | 257. <a href="#">Wael Khalil</a>         |
| 205. <a href="#">Qais Dana</a>         | <a href="#">Donna</a>                    | 258. <a href="#">Wally Hasan</a>         |
| 206. <a href="#">Rachel Billard</a>    | 233. <a href="#">Sara Abdeljaber</a>     | 259. <a href="#">Winnie Okello</a>       |
| 207. <a href="#">Rachel Holmes</a>     | 234. <a href="#">Sara Abo-Harb</a>       | 260. <a href="#">Yaser A Mustafa</a>     |
| 208. <a href="#">Raieda Mere</a>       | 235. <a href="#">Sara Vaughn</a>         | 261. <a href="#">Yaser Almanama</a>      |
| 209. <a href="#">Raihan Musanna</a>    | <a href="#">Coleman</a>                  | 262. <a href="#">Yashera Renee Veras</a> |
| 210. <a href="#">Randi Hickey</a>      | 236. <a href="#">Sarah Samara</a>        | 263. <a href="#">Yasmin Brown</a>        |
| 211. <a href="#">Rasha Barqawi</a>     | 237. <a href="#">Shalah Ramadan</a>      | 264. <a href="#">Yazan Barqawi</a>       |
| 212. <a href="#">Rashid Kulaib</a>     | 238. <a href="#">Shane Mosley</a>        | 265. <a href="#">Younes Ibrahim</a>      |
| 213. <a href="#">Ray Mustafa</a>       | 239. <a href="#">Sharon Sigal</a>        | 266. <a href="#">Youssef Heikal</a>      |
| 214. <a href="#">Raya Abdelaal</a>     | 240. <a href="#">Shimah Mohammed</a>     | 267. <a href="#">Zach Langford</a>       |
| 215. <a href="#">Reagan Watkins</a>    | 241. <a href="#">Shreya Sridhar</a>      | 268. <a href="#">Zachary Lytle</a>       |
| 216. <a href="#">Rei Ukon</a>          | 242. <a href="#">Sophie Mwaisela</a>     | 269. <a href="#">Zack Abel</a>           |
| 217. <a href="#">Reilly Powers</a>     | 243. <a href="#">Steven Halpern</a>      | 270. <a href="#">Zack Monterosso</a>     |
| 218. <a href="#">Robert Kalalian</a>   | 244. <a href="#">Sultan Smalley</a>      | 271. <a href="#">Zahe Farhat</a>         |
| 219. <a href="#">Romance Alberqawi</a> | 245. <a href="#">Sweet Peace Collins</a> | 272. <a href="#">Zain Rahman</a>         |
| 220. <a href="#">Saad Traboulsi</a>    | 246. <a href="#">Talia Giles</a>         | 273. <a href="#">Zakaria Ziyadeh</a>     |
| 221. <a href="#">Sabrina Maines</a>    | 247. <a href="#">Tamarah Lee</a>         | 274. <a href="#">Zoe Batson</a>          |
| 222. <a href="#">Sabrina Shaffer</a>   | 248. <a href="#">Tara Jones</a>          | 275. <a href="#">Zoe Cohen</a>           |
| 223. <a href="#">Sabrina Wallace</a>   | 249. <a href="#">Terrence McGuckin</a>   | 276. <a href="#">Zoheir Al-Radiedeh</a>  |

# APPENDIX II: SUSPECTED FOREIGN CITIZENS

The following list comprises individuals who are suspected, but not confirmed, to be foreign citizens. Their exact citizenship status has not been independently verified. Each has engaged in anti-Israel and anti-American activities in university, professional or activist settings. These activities include public demonstrations, organizational leadership and ideological promotion hostile to the State of Israel and the U.S. More information is available in their Canary Mission profiles.

1. **Name:** Abdulrahman Atta  
**Professional Status:** Professor  
**Profile Link:** [Abdulrahman Atta - Canary Mission](#)
2. **Name:** Adam Ben Abdelkader  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Adam Ben Abdelkader - Canary Mission](#)
3. **Name:** Ahmad Alatmah  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Ahmad Alatmah - Canary Mission](#)
4. **Name:** Ahmad Almallah  
**Professional Status:** University Staff  
**Profile Link:** [Ahmad Almallah - Canary Mission](#)
5. **Name:** Ahmad Qais Munhazim  
**Professional Status:** University Staff  
**Profile Link:** [Ahmad Qais Munhazim - Canary Mission](#)
6. **Name:** Ahmed Abdelhamid  
**Professional Status:** Alumni  
**Profile Link:** [Ahmed Abdelhamid - Canary Mission](#)
7. **Name:** Ahmed Elshamy  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Ahmed Elshamy - Canary Mission](#)

8. **Name:** Ahmet Tekelioglu  
**Professional Status:** Professional  
Activist  
**Profile Link:** [Ahmet Tekelioglu - Canary Mission](#)
9. **Name:** Alaa Khalil  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Alaa Khalil - Canary Mission](#)
10. **Name:** Anam Raja  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Anam Raja - Canary Mission](#)
11. **Name:** Arif Alhalaika  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Arif Alhalaika - Canary Mission](#)
12. **Name:** Banah Khamis  
**Professional Status:** Student  
**Profile Link:** [Banah Khamis - Canary Mission](#)
13. **Name:** Basak Kilicbeyli  
**Professional Status:** Alumni  
**Profile Link:** [Basak Kilicbeyli - Canary Mission](#)
14. **Name:** Bhairavi Mehra  
**Professional Status:** Student  
**Profile Link:** [Bhairavi Mehra - Canary Mission](#)
15. **Name:** Charlotte Stuart  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Charlotte Stuart - Canary Mission](#)
16. **Name:** Eliana Atienza  
**Professional Status:** Student  
**Profile Link:** [Eliana Atienza - Canary Mission](#)
17. **Name:** Elizabeth Bolton  
**Professional Status:** Professional  
Activist  
**Profile Link:** [Elizabeth Bolton - Canary Mission](#)
18. **Name:** Eyad Mazen Khalil  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Eyad Mazen Khalil - Canary Mission](#)
19. **Name:** Fatemeh Shams  
**Professional Status:** Professor  
**Profile Link:** [Fatemeh Shams - Canary Mission](#)
20. **Name:** Fatima Hmada  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Fatima Hmada - Canary Mission](#)
21. **Name:** Karen Redrobe  
**Professional Status:** Professor  
**Profile Link:** [Karen Redrobe - Canary Mission](#)

22. **Name:** Krystal Strong  
**Professional Status:** Professor  
**Profile Link:** [Krystal Strong - Canary Mission](#)
23. **Name:** Line El Dirini  
**Professional Status:** Professional Activist  
**Profile Link:** [Line El Dirini - Canary Mission](#)
24. **Name:** Maya Shankar  
**Professional Status:** Student  
**Profile Link:** [Maya Shankar - Canary Mission](#)
25. **Name:** Mohammed Alghamdi  
**Professional Status:** Professor  
**Profile Link:** [Mohammed Alghamdi - Canary Mission](#)
26. **Name:** Mohammed Alhaj  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Mohammed Alhaj - Canary Mission](#)
27. **Name:** Mohd Shwaiter  
**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated  
**Profile Link:** [Mohd Shwaiter - Canary Mission](#)
28. **Name:** Omar Mussa  
**Professional Status:** Alumni  
**Profile Link:** [Omar Mussa - Canary Mission](#)
29. **Name:** Rayyaan Sohu  
**Professional Status:** Alumni  
**Profile Link:** [Rayyaan Sohu - Canary Mission](#)
30. **Name:** Resilda Memushi  
**Professional Status:** Student  
**Profile Link:** [Resilda Memushi - Canary Mission](#)
31. **Name:** Samuel Gatheca  
**Professional Status:** Student  
**Profile Link:** [Samuel Gatheca - Canary Mission](#)
32. **Name:** Sana Rizvi  
**Professional Status:** Student  
**Profile Link:** [Sana Rizvi - Canary Mission](#)
33. **Name:** Syed Arslan Gillani  
**Professional Status:** Professional Activist  
**Profile Link:** [Syed Arslan Gillani - Canary Mission](#)
34. **Name:** Tara Tarawneh  
**Professional Status:** Student  
**Profile Link:** [Tara Tarawneh - Canary Mission](#)
35. **Name:** Umar Teixeira  
**Professional Status:** Alumni  
**Profile Link:** [Umar Teixeira - Canary Mission](#)



36. **Name:** Vladimir Zykov

**Professional Status:** Unaffiliated

**Profile Link:** [Vladimir Zykov - Canary Mission](#)

37. **Name:** Yaqeen Yamani

**Professional Status:** Alumni

**Profile Link:** [Yaqeen Yamani - Canary Mission](#)

# APPENDIX III: EVENTS

## Anti-Israel Events in Philadelphia (October 2023–December 2024)

This appendix provides a chronological list of anti-Israel rallies, demonstrations, walkouts and public statements that took place in Philadelphia from October 2023 through December 2024. These events were organized or supported by a range of student groups, faculty networks and radical community organizations. While often framed as expressions of Palestinian solidarity, many included explicit support for Hamas, calls for violence, antisemitic rhetoric and anti-American sentiment. Numerous events featured attacks on Israel's right to exist, glorification of terrorism and efforts to disrupt civic life.

The entries below reflect only the events that we directly documented; many more took place during this time period. Each entry includes the date, location, university affiliation (if applicable), organizing entities and a link to event documentation.

### Event 1

**Event Name:** Philly: Emergency Solidarity Rally

**Date:** 2023-10-08

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square,  
Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Temple  
SJP, Philadelphia Palestinian Americans

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 2

**Event Name:** UPenn Student Groups  
Pro-Hamas Statement

**Date:** 2023-10-11

**Event Location:** Online Statement

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Organizer(s):** Penn Against The Occupation,  
Police Free Penn, Fossil Free Penn, Radical  
South Asia Collective, Students for the  
Preservation of Chinatown

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 3

**Event Name:** All Eyes on Palestine

**Date:** 2023-10-12

**Event Location:** WHYY, 150 North 6th Street,  
Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition,  
Philadelphia Palestinian Americans

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 4

**Event Name:** Jumma Prayer Solidarity with Palestine

**Date:** 2023-10-13

**Event Location:** Burholme, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philadelphia Palestinian Americans, Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 5

**Event Name:** Philly Stands with Gaza

**Date:** 2023-10-15

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Temple SJP, Philly Palestine Coalition, Palestinian Youth Movement, Philadelphia Palestinian Americans, JVP Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 6

**Event Name:** Collective Walkout for Palestine

**Date:** 2023-10-16

**Event Location:** Van Pelt Library, Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Organizer(s):** Penn Against The Occupation, Police Free Penn, Fossil Free Penn

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 7

**Event Name:** Emergency Protest Today

**Date:** 2023-10-17

**Event Location:** Cottman Ave & Roosevelt Blvd, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philadelphia Palestinian Americans, Philly Palestine Coalition

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 8

**Event Name:** Vigil and Walkout for Gaza

**Date:** 2023-10-18

**Event Location:** Van Pelt Library, University of Pennsylvania

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Drexel SJP, Fossil Free Penn

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 9

**Event Name:** Mass Mobilization to City Hall for Palestine

**Date:** 2023-10-19

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Drexel SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, JVP Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 10

**Event Name:** All Out for Gaza NO US Aid for Genocide

**Date:** 2023-10-21

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Temple SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, Swarthmore SJP, Philly BDS, If Not Now Philly, Philadelphia Workers World Party, JVP Philly, BLM Philly, Police Free Penn, Anakbayan Philly, Bryn Mawr SJP, Philly Boricuas, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, Sunrise Movement Philadelphia, Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign, Philadelphia Palestinian Americans

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 11

**Event Name:** Collective Walkout for Palestine

**Date:** 2023-10-25

**Event Location:** Bell Tower, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 12

**Event Name:** Collective Walkout for Palestine

**Date:** 2023-10-25

**Event Location:** 33rd & Market St., Drexel University

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Drexel SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, National SJP, Palestinian Youth Movement, Philly Dissenters

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 13

**Event Name:** Press Conference

**Date:** 2023-10-26

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 14

**Event Name:** PA Calls for Ceasefire Rally

**Date:** 2023-10-26

**Event Location:** Market St & S 4th St, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, If Not Now Philly, Temple SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, Philly Socialists, Bryn Mawr SJP,

Bryn Mawr and Haverford JVP, Palestine

Solidarity Working Group, Drexel SJP, PSL Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 15

**Event Name:** Emergency Rally: No Genocide in the Dark! Ceasefire Now!

**Date:** 2023-10-28

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, Penn Against The Occupation, Philadelphia Palestinian Americans

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 16

**Event Name:** SP2 Students and Alumni Solidarity with Palestine

**Date:** 2023-10-31

**Event Location:** Online Statement

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Organizer(s):** SP2 Students and Alumni

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 17

**Event Name:** Ceasefire Now

**Date:** 2023-11-02

**Event Location:** Schuylkill Banks, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, Bryn Mawr and Haverford JVP, Penn Against The Occupation, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, If Not Now Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 18

**Event Name:** National March on Washington

**Date:** 2023-11-04

**Event Location:** Freedom Plaza, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington D.C.

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Philadelphia Palestinian Americans, Abolitionist Law Center, CAIR Philly, PSL Philly, ANSWER, National SJP, American Muslims for Palestine, American Muslim Alliance, US Campaign for Palestinian Rights, US Palestinian Community Network, Palestinian Youth Movement, The People's Forum, Al-Awda  
**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 19

**Event Name:** Collective Walkout & Rally Shut it down for Palestine

**Date:** 2023-11-09

**Event Location:** Bell Tower, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 20

**Event Name:** Freedom School for Palestine in Houston Hall

**Date:** 2023-11-14

**Event Location:** Houston Hall, Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Police Free Penn, Fossil Free Penn

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 21

**Event Name:** Stand up for Gaza Janazah & Multifaith Call to Action

**Date:** 2023-11-16

**Event Location:** 2125 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** CAIR Philly, JVP Philly, Philly Palestine Coalition, Philadelphia Palestinian Americans

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 22

**Event Name:** Student Solidarity Walkout and Rally

**Date:** 2023-11-17

**Event Location:** Bell Tower, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 23

**Event Name:** Student Solidarity Walkout and Rally

**Date:** 2023-11-17

**Event Location:** 33rd & Market St., Drexel University

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University

**Organizer(s):** Penn Against The Occupation, Fossil Free Penn, Drexel Palestine Coalition, Drexel SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 24

**Event Name:** Flood Philly For Gaza

**Date:** 2023-12-03

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, BLM Philly, Temple SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, Ubuntu Freedom, Bryn Mawr SJP,

Anakbayan Philly, If Not Now Philly, Philly DSA, Decolonize Philly, Philly Boricuas, Philadelphia Workers World Party, Swarthmore JVP, Swarthmore SJP, Queers for Palestine Philly, Food Not Bombs Solidarity

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 25

**Event Name:** Philly Says No to Genocide Joe

**Date:** 2023-12-11

**Event Location:** Washington Square, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, BLM Philly, Decolonize Philly, Queers for Palestine Philly, Temple SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, Philly BDS, Bryn Mawr SJP, If Not Now Philly, Drexel SJP, Philly Black Alliance for Peace, PSL Philly, Philly Liberation Center

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 26

**Event Name:** Flood Philly For Gaza

**Date:** 2023-12-16

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Save UC Townhomes, Police Free Penn, Penn Against The Occupation, BLM Philly, JVP Philly, Bryn Mawr SJP, Swarthmore SJP, Queers for Palestine Philly, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, CAIR Philly, Philly DSA

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 27

**Event Name:** Shut it Down

**Date:** 2023-12-18

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, CAIR Philly, Decolonize Philly, Philadelphia

Black Alliance for Peace, BLM Philly, Swarthmore SJP, Anakbayan Philly, If Not Now Philly, Food Not Bombs Solidarity, Temple SJP, Up Against the Law Legal Collective

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 28

**Event Name:** Xmas Is Canceled No Business As Usual In A Genocide

**Date:** 2023-12-23

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, Decolonize Philly, BLM Philly, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Penn Against The Occupation, Queers for Palestine Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 29

**Event Name:** Flood Philly for Palestine

**Date:** 2024-01-06

**Event Location:** Franklin Square, North 6th Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Swarthmore SJP, Anakbayan Philly, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Temple SJP, Philly DSA, Philadelphia Workers World Party

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 30

**Event Name:** Educators for Palestine: Teach In & Training

**Date:** 2024-01-13

**Event Location:** West Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** The Racial Justice Organizing Committee, W.E.B. Dubois Movement School for Abolition and Reconstruction, Philly Palestine Coalition

**Event Link:** [Link](#)



### Event 31

**Event Name:** March on Washington for Gaza

**Date:** 2024-01-13

**Event Location:** The National Mall, 1600 Constitution Ave., Washington D.C.

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** American Muslims for Palestine, CAIR, MSA National, Muslim Legal Fund, Young Muslims, ANSWER, Muslim American Society, Muslim Ummah of North America, Swarthmore SJP, Queers for Palestine Philly, JVP Philly, If Not Now Philly, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, Food Not Bombs Solidarity, Drexel SJP, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Bryn Mawr SJP, Palestinian Youth Movement, Temple SJP, Philadelphia Palestinian Americans, PSL Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 32

**Event Name:** In the spirit of MLK: End Racism, Militarism, & Capitalism Now

**Date:** 2024-01-15

**Event Location:** Malcolm X Park, Pine Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Samidoun NY/NJ, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, BLM Philly, Philly DSA, Families for Ceasefire Philly, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement Philly, Bring Mumia Home, Ubuntu Freedom, Reclaim Osage, Ceasefire PA

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 33

**Event Name:** Palestinian Genocide: Protesting Media Suppression, Silence, And Complicity In The Genocide Of Palestinians

**Date:** 2024-01-22

**Event Location:** North 3rd Street & Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, Bryn Mawr SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, JVP Philly, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Community Action Relief Project, Anakbayan Philly, Palestinian Youth Movement, Police Free Penn, Philadelphia Workers World Party, Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 34

**Event Name:** Penn Faculty for Palestine Die-In Protest

**Date:** 2024-01-29

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania, College Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania

**Organizer(s):** Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine, Penn Against The Occupation, Police Free Penn, Fossil Free Penn, Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 35

**Event Name:** Temple SJP Sit-In

**Date:** 2024-01-30

**Event Location:** Howard Gittis Student Center, North 13th Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 36

**Event Name:** What can law do for Gaza? Panel conversation + Q&A

**Date:** 2024-02-03

**Event Location:** South 45th Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 37

**Event Name:** We Charge You with Genocide

**Date:** 2024-02-03

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Drexel SJP, Decolonize Philly, Temple SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, Families for Ceasefire Philly, JVP Philly, If Not Now Philly, Swarthmore SJP, Community Action Relief Project, CAIR Philly, Bryn Mawr SJP, Police Free Penn, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, BLM Philly, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, Bring Mumia Home

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 38

**Event Name:** Divest from Genocide

**Date:** 2024-02-05

**Event Location:** Pennsylvania State Capitol Steps, North 3rd Street, Harrisburg

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Harrisburg Palestine Coalition, Lancaster Palestine Coalition

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 39

**Event Name:** Shut it Down Student Solidarity Walkout & Rally

**Date:** 2024-02-09

**Event Location:** Bell Tower, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 40

**Event Name:** All Out for Rafah

**Date:** 2024-02-13

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, If Not Now Philly, Philadelphia Palestinian Americans, Philly for Palestine, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Philly Boricuas, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, PSL Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 41

**Event Name:** Rally for Gaza in Kensington

**Date:** 2024-02-17

**Event Location:** Norris Square Park, North Howard Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Palestinian Youth Movement, Philly DSA, Philly Boricuas, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, PSL Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 42

**Event Name:** Die-In for Rafah

**Date:** 2024-02-21

**Event Location:** Charles Library, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

### Event 43

**Event Name:** Drexel & Penn are Destroying Black Philly and Palestine Rally

**Date:** 2024-02-26

**Event Location:** 40th & Market Grocery, Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Drexel University, University of Pennsylvania

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Drexel SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, Drexel Palestine Coalition, Save UC Townhomes, Families for Ceasefire Philly, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, Philadelphia Black

Alliance for Peace, JVP Philly, Queers for Palestine Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 44

**Event Name:** Hands off Rafah Ceasefire Now Stop the Genocide

**Date:** 2024-03-02

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** PSL Philly, Palestinians of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Liberation Center, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement Philly, MontCo for Palestine, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, ANSWER, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Philly Boricuas, American Muslims for Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 45

**Event Name:** Drexel Feeds on Genocide

**Date:** 2024-03-08

**Event Location:** Mario the Magnificent, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Drexel University

**Organizer(s):** Drexel SJP, Drexel Palestine Coalition, Drexel Medical Students for Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 46

**Event Name:** All Out for Gaza on Martyrs Day

**Date:** 2024-03-09

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Palestinian Youth Movement, Temple SJP, Swarthmore SJP, Drexel Palestine Coalition, Vamos Juntos, Philly DSA, Families for Ceasefire Philly, Swarthmore JVP, Sunrise Movement Philadelphia, Philly Healthcare Workers for Palestine, Philadelphia Workers World Party, JVP Philly, Community Action

Relief Project, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign, Harrisburg Palestine Coalition, CAIR Philly, Pittsburgh Palestine Solidarity Committee, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, MontCo for Palestine, Anakbayan Philly, Friends of Sabeel North America, Temple Law SJP, NEPA for Palestine, Power Move for Palestine, Bring Mumia Home, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, We Want Democracy, Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture, Philly Socialists, Batikh Collective, Falsely Professed Scholars Journal, Lancaster Palestine Coalition, Samidoun, Alliance for Global Justice, Free Migration Project, Al-Awda, Not for Sale, Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign, PSL Philly, Temple SJP, Temple Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Swarthmore JVP, Penn Against The Occupation, Bryn Mawr SJP, If Not Now Philly, Decolonize Philly, Queers for Palestine Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 47

**Event Name:** Ireland Solidarity for Gaza

**Date:** 2024-03-18

**Event Location:** Irish Famine Memorial, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, The Philly-Irish Against Oppression

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 48

**Event Name:** Philly Says No to Matisyahu

**Date:** 2024-03-22

**Event Location:** Brooklyn Bowl Philadelphia,  
Canal Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP  
Philly, If Not Now Philly, Queers for Palestine  
Philly , Families for Ceasefire Philly, Drexel  
Palestine Coalition

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 49

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 1

**Date:** 2024-04-25

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania,  
College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel  
University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn  
Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple  
Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in  
Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 50

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 2

**Date:** 2024-04-26

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania,  
College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel  
University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn  
Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple  
Law SJP, Drexel SJP, JVP Philly, Penn Faculty for  
Justice in Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 51

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 4

**Date:** 2024-04-28

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania,  
College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel  
University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn  
Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple  
Law SJP, Drexel SJP, JVP Philly, Penn Faculty for  
Justice in Palestine, Families for Ceasefire  
Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 52

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 5

**Date:** 2024-04-29

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania,  
College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel  
University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn  
Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple  
Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in  
Palestine, PSL Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 53

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 6

**Date:** 2024-04-30

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania,  
College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel  
University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn  
Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple  
Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in  
Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 54

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 7

**Date:** 2024-05-01

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania, College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 55

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 8

**Date:** 2024-05-02

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania, College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 56

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 9

**Date:** 2024-05-03

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania, College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine, Families for Ceasefire Philly, JVP Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 57

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 12 Hands off Rafah

**Date:** 2024-05-06

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania, College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine, JVP Philly, Rabbis for Ceasefire, Families for Ceasefire Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 58

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 13

**Date:** 2024-05-07

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania, College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 59

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 14

**Date:** 2024-05-08

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania, College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 60

**Event Name:** Penn Encampment Day 16

**Date:** 2024-05-10

**Event Location:** University of Pennsylvania, College Green, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP, Temple Law SJP, Drexel SJP, Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine, JVP Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 61

**Event Name:** Philly All Out for 48 Nakba 76

**Date:** 2024-05-18

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, CAIR Philly, JVP Philly, BLM Philly, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, Penn Against The Occupation, Philly Healthcare Workers for Palestine, Anakbayan Philly, Uncommitted PA, Drexel Palestine Coalition, Families for Ceasefire Philly, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Drexel Medical Students for Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 62

**Event Name:** Drexel's Gaza solidarity encampment (Nakba Day)

**Date:** 2024-05-18

**Event Location:** Drexel University

**University:** University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Drexel Palestine Coalition, Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, Temple SJP

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 63

**Event Name:** From Philly to Palestine, End Police Brutality!

**Date:** 2024-05-25

**Event Location:** Norris Square Park, North Howard Street, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** ANSWER Philly, PSL Philly, Philadelphia Liberation Center, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Labor Black Lives Coalition, MontCo for Palestine, W.E.B. Dubois Movement School for Abolition and Reconstruction

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 64

**Event Name:** All Out for Rafah

**Date:** 2024-05-27

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, JVP Philly, BLM Philly, Penn Against The Occupation, Drexel Palestine Coalition, Families for Ceasefire Philly, Uncommitted PA, Philadelphia Black Alliance for Peace, Philly Healthcare Workers for Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 65

**Event Name:** Multifaith Vigil for Rafah

**Date:** 2024-06-05

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philadelphia Palestinian Americans, If Not Now Philly, CAIR Philly, Friends of Sabeel North America, Prayers for Peace Alliance

**Event Link:** [Link](#)



#### Event 66

**Event Name:** All Out for Gaza

**Date:** 2024-07-04

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square,  
Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn  
Against The Occupation, Philly for Palestine,  
Philly for Sudan, Philadelphia Black Alliance for  
Peace, La La Lil Jidar, Drexel Palestine Coalition,  
Queers for Palestine Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 67

**Event Name:** 300 Days of Genocide

**Date:** 2024-08-03

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square,  
Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Penn  
Against The Occupation, Philly Writers Against  
the War on Gaza, Temple SJP, BLM Philly,  
Families for Ceasefire Philly, MontCo for  
Palestine, La La Lil Jidar, CAIR Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 68

**Event Name:** Dis-Orientation Rally

**Date:** 2024-08-29

**Event Location:** Charles Library, Temple  
University, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** Temple University

**Organizer(s):** Temple SJP, Philadelphia  
Workers World Party, Philly Palestine Coalition

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 69

**Event Name:** Shut Down the Presidential  
Debate for Gaza

**Date:** 2024-09-10

**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition,  
Pittsburgh Palestine Coalition, Philly Healthcare  
Workers for Palestine, Philly Writers Against the  
War on Gaza, Harrisburg Palestine Coalition,  
Families for Ceasefire Philly

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 70

**Event Name:** Hands off Lebanon Hands Off  
Palestine

**Date:** 2024-09-25

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square,  
Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Drexel  
Medical Students for Palestine, Philly Writers  
Against the War on Gaza, Philly Healthcare  
Workers for Palestine, BLM Philly, Families for  
Ceasefire Philly, Penn Faculty for Justice in  
Palestine

**Event Link:** [Link](#)

#### Event 71

**Event Name:** One Year of Genocide

**Date:** 2024-10-07

**Event Location:** Rittenhouse Square,  
Philadelphia, PA

**University:** N/A

**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Temple  
SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, Bryn Mawr  
SJP, Swarthmore SJP, Drexel SJP, Philly  
Healthcare Workers for Palestine, Temple  
Faculty and Staff for Justice in Palestine, Penn  
Faculty for Justice in Palestine, Drexel Faculty  
for Justice in Palestine, Bryn Mawr and  
Haverford Faculty for Justice in Palestine,  
Temple Law SJP, Villanova Faculty for Justice in  
Palestine

**Event Link:** [Linksee](#)

**Event 72****Event Name:** Palestine Solidarity Vigil**Date:** 2024-10-14**Event Location:** 34th & Walnut St, Philadelphia**University:** University of Pennsylvania**Organizer(s):** Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine, Philly Palestine Coalition, Philly Healthcare Workers for Palestine, Penn Against The Occupation, Families for Ceasefire Philly**Event Link:** [Link](#)**Event 73****Event Name:** Vigil for Martyrs of Israel's Ongoing Genocide**Date:** 2024-11-02**Event Location:** Cesar Andreu Iglesias Garden, Philadelphia, PA**University:** N/A**Organizer(s):** Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, Philly Healthcare Workers for Palestine, Families for Ceasefire Philly, CAIR Philly**Event Link:** [Link](#)**Event 74****Event Name:** Book Launch: Visualization As A Language of Resistance**Date:** 2024-11-16**Event Location:** Studio34 Yoga, Philadelphia, PA**University:** N/A**Organizer(s):** La La Lil Jidar, Visualizing Palestine, Philly Palestine Coalition, Philly Writers Against the War on Gaza, Penn Faculty for Justice in Palestine, Penn Against The Occupation, Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture**Event Link:** [Link](#)**Event 75****Event Name:** Get To Know The Real John Fry**Date:** 2024-11-21**Event Location:** Bell Tower, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA**University:** Temple University**Organizer(s):** Philly Palestine Coalition, Temple SJP, Penn Against The Occupation, Bryn Mawr SJP, Swarthmore SJP, Drexel SJP**Event Link:** [Link](#)**Event 76****Event Name:** Rally and March: 43 Years Fighting for Mumia's Freedom**Date:** 2024-12-09**Event Location:** City Hall, Philadelphia, PA**University:** N/A**Organizer(s):** Bring Mumia Home, Penn Against The Occupation**Event Link:** [Link](#)**Event 77****Event Name:** March to Defend Immigrant Lives**Date:** 2024-12-18**Event Location:** Liberty Bell, Philadelphia, PA**University:** N/A**Organizer(s):** Pennsylvania Immigration Coalition, Penn Against The Occupation, CAIR Philly, Philly Muslim Freedom Fund, Free Migration Project, PA Loves Immigrants**Event Link:** [Link](#)

# APPENDIX IV: ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

## Antisemitic Incidents in Philadelphia (September 2023 – December 2024)

This appendix provides a chronological list of reported antisemitic incidents in the city of Philadelphia from September 2023 through December 31, 2024. ADL [reported](#) 189 incidents in 2024. This list is an abridged version of the most egregious incidents. It encompasses hate crimes (including physical attacks and vandalism), as well as incidents of antisemitic speech at rallies, campus events and public demonstrations. Each entry includes the date, location, a brief description of the incident and a source for verification.

### September 22–24, 2023 – Palestine Writes Festival Features Antisemitic Speakers

The Palestine Writes Literature Festival, hosted on University of Pennsylvania's (Penn) campus, featured speakers and organizations with histories of antisemitic rhetoric, glorification of terrorism and anti-Israel incitement. Multiple festival participants, including Roger Waters and Marc Lamont Hill, have promoted antisemitic conspiracies or praised groups like Hamas and Hezbollah. Jewish leaders and Penn faculty expressed concern about the festival's extremist lineup. Despite widespread outcry, university leadership allowed the event to

proceed, prompting backlash from alumni and national watchdog groups.

**Sources:** [NY Post](#); [Jewish News Syndicate](#); [Palestine Writes Literary Festival – Canary Mission](#)

### October 8, 2023 – Pro-Hamas Rally in Rittenhouse Square

Over 250 protesters gathered for a rally organized by the Philly Palestine Coalition and Temple Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) in support of Hamas's October 7 attacks on Israeli civilians. Speakers praised Hamas, called for further violence, and described the massacre as

“decolonization.” Former Temple SJP President Nour Qutyan defended the attacks as “resistance” and led anti-Israel chants. The crowd repeatedly applauded glorifications of Hamas and calls to “justify the resistance.”

Sources: [Youtube: From Philly to Gaza Emergency Solidarity Rally Oct 8 2023](#)

## October 10, 2023 – Jewish Student’s Dorm Set on Fire at Drexel

A Jewish student’s dorm room door at Drexel’s Race Street Residence Hall was set on fire in an apparent act of arson. Authorities investigated it as a potential antisemitic hate crime, given that the resident was Jewish.

Sources: [Philadelphia Inquirer](#); [Fox 17 Philadelphia](#)

## October 2023 – Penn Professor Removes Hostage Posters

[Dr. Mohammed Alghamdi](#), a physician and professor at the University of Pennsylvania, was recorded removing posters of Israeli hostages kidnapped by Hamas. The incident drew criticism from pro-Israel groups, who questioned whether his actions violated university policies on discrimination.

Sources: [Mohammed Alghamdi – Canary Mission](#); [X | Canary Mission](#); [Campus Reform](#)

## Early November 2023 – Philly Man Makes Antisemitic Death Threats

A 50-year-old Philadelphia man carried out a campaign of antisemitic threats via telephone. Over several calls (ending on Nov. 5, 2023), he threatened violence against Jews, saying things like, “You f\*\*\*ing Jew, now I know where you are. I’m going to kill all you Jews...You all should be shoved back into ovens.” In another call he declared, “You’re Jewish, I’m from Hamas...If you don’t leave that place, we’re going to blow you up.” He was arrested in February 2024.

Sources: [Philadelphia Man Charged with Making Antisemitic and Islamophobic Threats | United States Department of Justice](#)

## December 3, 2023 – Protesters Target Jewish-Owned Restaurant Goldie

During a pro-Palestinian march in Center City, a group of protesters targeted Goldie (a Jewish-owned Israeli-style restaurant) with chants of “Goldie, Goldie, you can’t hide, we charge you with genocide.” The slogan, perceived as accusing the Jewish owners of genocide, drew broad condemnation. Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro denounced it as “a blatant act of antisemitism,” a sentiment echoed by local and national officials.

Sources: [POLITICO](#); [Exposing Philadelphia’s Antisemitic Protest Organizers – Canary Mission](#)

## December 14, 2023 – Bomb Threats Sent to 13 Synagogues on Hanukkah

On the last day of Hanukkah, at least 13 synagogues in Philadelphia and the surrounding counties received nearly identical bomb threats via email, prompting evacuations and police sweeps. For example, the Germantown Jewish Centre in the city (with ~170 people on site) got an email warning that bombs were planted and demanding \$50,000 to prevent detonation. Law enforcement searched the facilities with K-9 units; no explosives were found, as the threats turned out to be a coordinated hoax (so-called “swatting”).

**Sources:** [ABC 6 Philadelphia](#)

## Early April 2024 – Museum and Synagogues Receive Death Threats

The Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History in Old City received an anonymous letter threatening the museum’s CEO and staff, an incident reported to law enforcement. In an unrelated case the same week, multiple Philadelphia-area synagogues were emailed bomb threats from an anonymous group declaring “our mission is to leave as many people as possible in a pool of blood.” These violent threats disrupted activities at the institutions (although they were hoaxes), and police/FBI investigations were launched in response.

**Sources:** [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

## April 2024 – School District Official Criticized for Antisemitic Posts

Ismael Jimenez, the district’s social studies curriculum director, faced criticism after a mobile billboard campaign highlighted his social media posts labeling Israel as a “terrorist state” and defending Hamas.

**Sources:** [Delaware Valley Journal](#)

## April 25–May 10, 2024 – Penn Encampment Promotes Antisemitic Rhetoric

Anti-Israel activists established a protest encampment on Penn’s campus, calling for divestment and expressing support for “resistance” in Gaza. The encampment featured antisemitic rhetoric, including chants glorifying the Intifada and statements accusing Israel of genocide. Jewish students reported feeling unsafe due to the hostile atmosphere, especially as protesters called for the dismantling of the Zionist state. The encampment persisted for two weeks before being cleared by university officials.

**Sources:** [The Daily Pennsylvanian](#); [Jewish Insider](#)

## May 18, 2024 – Protesters Occupy Penn Building, Honor Hamas Supporter

Nineteen protesters—seven of them Penn students—were arrested after forcefully occupying Fisher-Bennett Hall on Penn’s campus. They renamed the academic building “Refaat Alareer Hall” in honor of the Palestinian poet known for his support of violent resistance and praise of Hamas. The takeover followed the dismantling of an earlier encampment and was part of a broader campaign glorifying anti-Israel violence. University officials and local authorities intervened after protesters refused to vacate the premises, citing escalating safety concerns.

**Sources:** [The Daily Pennsylvanian](#)

## May 18–22, 2024 – Drexel Encampment Features Antisemitic Messaging

Protesters set up an anti-Israel encampment on Drexel’s campus, using university grounds to promote anti-Israel slogans and causes. The protest included signs accusing Israel of genocide and ethnic cleansing, along with calls to “globalize the Intifada.” The encampment disrupted campus activity and drew condemnation from Jewish groups, who described it as hostile and exclusionary. Drexel University cleared the encampment after several days, citing safety concerns.

**Sources:** [NBC10 Philadelphia](#); [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

## September 2024 – Teacher Removed Over Threats and Hamas Support

Keziah Ridgeway, a teacher at Northeast High School, was removed from her classroom following allegations of antisemitic behavior, including threatening Jewish parents and expressing support for Hamas. The Deborah Project filed a complaint on behalf of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, citing Ridgeway’s social media posts and classroom conduct.

**Sources:** [Jewish News Syndicate](#)

## October 7, 2024 – Protesters Arrested at Drexel on Oct 7 Anniversary

During a pro-Palestinian protest marking the one-year anniversary of the October 7 attacks, four individuals were arrested, and one police officer was injured. In response, Drexel increased campus security measures, including fencing off areas and enhancing ID checks.

**Sources:** [The Daily Pennsylvanian](#); [The College Fix](#)



## October 21–23, 2024 – Antisemitic Graffiti Defaces Penn Campus

Over the span of a few days, vandals defaced several sites on and around Penn’s campus with antisemitic graffiti amid the Israel– Hamas war tensions. Messages included “KILL YOUR LOCAL ZIO NAZI,” “KILL ZIOS!” and slogans referencing Yahya Sinwar (a Hamas leader), accompanied by symbols like upside-down triangles. Graffiti was found near the Penn Chabad House and other campus locations, alarming Jewish students. University officials condemned the “vile” graffiti as inconsistent with Penn’s values and investigated the incidents as hate crimes.

**Sources:** [The Daily Pennsylvanian](#)

and city leaders denounced the incidents as hate-driven crimes and vowed to pursue the perpetrators.

**Sources:** [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

## October 22, 2024 – Old City Synagogue Targeted by Arson, Vandalism

Congregation Mikveh Israel (one of the nation’s oldest synagogues, founded in 1740) was the target of a string of antisemitic attacks in a single day. In the pre-dawn hours, an unknown arsonist ignited a dumpster fire behind the synagogue, the heat of which shattered a glass door. Shortly after, around 6:30 a.m., two individuals attempted to break into the building with a crowbar before fleeing when alarms sounded. That night, vandals scrawled profanities on a memorial sculpture outside (a monument honoring Yonatan Netanyahu), defacing it. Police