


Press Coverage for United Nations UNRWA Schools project

Links to videos and lists of all boys schools in the project

<http://www.winkball.com/unrwaboys>



Communicate Happiness

UNRWA Boys Yearbook


1,528,661 videos watched

Hundreds of Flip cameras were distributed to tens of thousands of students in UNRWA schools in Gaza the West Bank, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon as part of a project to mark UNRWA's 60th anniversary. Nearly 50,000 school leavers recorded a short video message about their hopes and dreams for the future. Bringing together messages from students across the Middle East, this online yearbook shows the collective aspirations of UNRWA's leaving students sixty years on from the agency's creation. It is a beautiful and powerful testament to the inspiring young refugees that UNRWA serves.

Video wall to contain:

Click on a face to watch their video

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Links to videos and lists of all girls schools in the project

<http://www.winkball.com/unrwagirls>

WinkBall
Communicate Happiness

UNRWA Girls Yearbook

1,438,576
videos watched

Hundreds of Flip cameras were distributed to tens of thousands of students in UNRWA schools in Gaza the West Bank, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon as part of a project to mark UNRWA's 60th anniversary. Nearly 50,000 school leavers recorded a short video message about their hopes and dreams for the future. Bringing together messages from students across the Middle East, this online yearbook shows the collective aspirations of UNRWA's leaving students sixty years on from the agency's creation. It is a beautiful and powerful testament to the inspiring young refugees that UNRWA serves.

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TOP NEWS : Israeli forces shoot, injure man in Gaza

UNRWA schools launch digital yearbook for Palestinain refugees

Published Saturday 21/11/2009 (updated) 21/11/2009 17:52

Bethlehem - Ma'an - UN schools in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria launched a program Friday, linking Palestinian children in refugee camps across the region with the first digital yearbook project.

Each student in the hundreds of schools will record a 30-second message. The words of the students "will form the basis of a living network for the future, to be added to each year," a statement from the UN and UK NGO sponsor of the program Hoping Foundation said.

The project was launched in the UNRWA schools on the 20th anniversary of the UN ratification of the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

The messages from the students are meant to answer the question, "what are your hopes and dreams." The first of the series filmed and uploaded to the online yearbook show Palestinians in their classrooms or libraries, sitting by the roadside, kicking a soccer ball, speaking about what they want for the future.

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The [United Nations Information System](#) on the Question of Palestine (UNISPAL)

Online Yearbook presents x WinkBall x Ally Capellino - Day 3 - St x

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Source: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) 21 December 2009

Refugee Stories

Online Yearbook Presents Palestinian Students' Future Dreams

December 2009

Palestinian schoolgirls light up with excitement when talking about the types of careers they want to pursue after graduation from secondary school. "I want to study medicine and serve my people," May Tameem explains. She is one of the thousands Palestinian students participating in a workshop organised by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and the UK-based NGO, Hoping Foundation.

May is in the ninth grade and is about to graduate from UNRWA's Al-Faloujeh school in Yarmouk, a refugee camp located on the outskirts of Damascus.

The Hoping Foundation has created an online yearbook for UNRWA schools that enables students to upload a 30-second video outlining their hopes and dreams for the future, which is then shared with others around the world.

"The idea is to make an easily accessible yearbook, so that students and their peers can keep up-to-date with each other after they have left secondary school. The school children were impressed by the idea that their messages are passed online to all around the world", project officer Hamza Azimeh says.

UNRWA students in Gaza, West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria participated in the workshop. Several well-known artists also contributed to the yearbook project, including novelist Philip Pullman and artist Nick Cave.

The yearbook was launched in commemoration of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention was signed twenty years ago, in November 1989. The governments involved pledged to follow the charter's specified regulations in order to provide a dignified future for all of the world's children.

The yearbook manifesto seeks to highlight the difference that the convention has made in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugee children. "We have a good library and a well-equipped computer here in Al-Faloujeh," Rua'a Abd Al-Razah exclaims. Her dream is to complete the honours level in her high school.

"I think we have the same chances in life as Syrian students have," Rua'a says.

UNRWA Year Book website

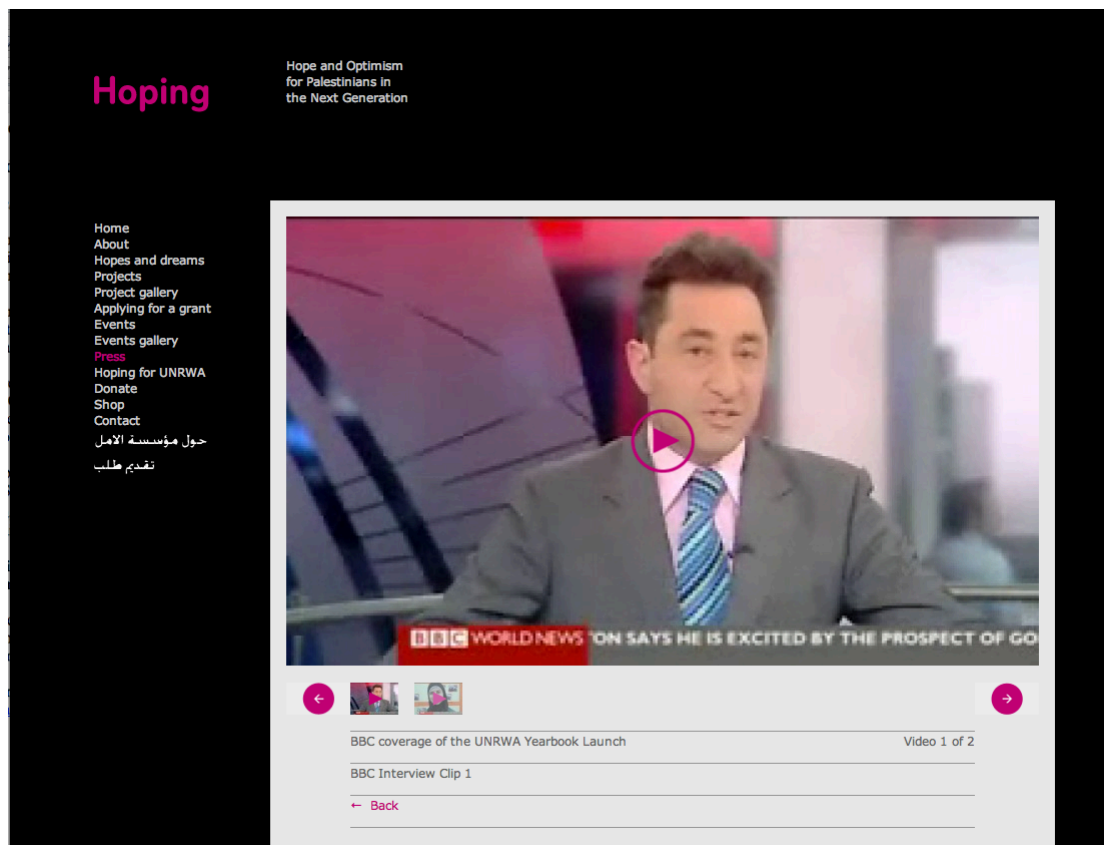
Text and photos by Karoliina Romanoff

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BBC coverage of the United Nations and the WinkBall project's launch of the UNRWA Yearbook, to mark the 20th anniversary of the year of the Child and the 60 anniversary of the creation of UNRWA by the United Nations.

BBC News 24 interview with Chris Gunness, UNRWA spokesperson, about the The WinkBall project / UNRWA Yearbook; first broadcast 21 November 2009 (last accessed 22 June 2013):

<http://hopingfoundation.org/venture/images/136#/venture/images/136>



“Sharing Hopes and Dreams: a Ground-Breaking Web Initiative to Mark the Twentieth Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child”

To Editors and Correspondents

Jerusalem, 19 November 2009

This Friday sees the twentieth anniversary of the historic United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, in which governments set out their vision of a dignified future for the world's children. But twenty years on, what difference has the convention made in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Palestine refugee children?

To mark the anniversary, the UK-based NGO, the Hoping Foundation, in partnership with the UN's Relief and Works Agency is unveiling a project in which Palestine refugee school leavers across the Middle East will create the region's first ever on line video yearbook. The “Hopes and Dreams” project encapsulates their aspirations and brings together on line a community divided and scattered by decades of statelessness and exile.

Hundreds of flip cams have been distributed to tens of thousands of students in UNRWA schools in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. On Thursday they will each be lining up and recording a 30 second message, sharing with their peers their hopes and dreams. Using the latest technology from the video communications company, “Winkball”, these messages will be posted in an on line yearbook and will form the basis of a living network that will be enriched in years to come with similar messages from the next generation of school leavers.

A Hoping team led by fashion designer and Hoping co-founder, Bella Freud are in Gaza organising this event at the Beach Camp Preparatory “A” Girls School on Thursday 19 November. The Yearbook filming will be taking place simultaneously in over 400 schools in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria throughout the day on Thursday, the 19th of November, marking the anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We wish to inform editors and correspondents at TV networks that news footage from the events in Gaza and in Ramallah will be transmitted on APTN's Global Video Wire on Thursday 19.11.2009 at 16:50 GMT (18:50 Jerusalem Time)

If TV editors want further pictures, world renowned novelist and childrens' storyteller Philip Pullman, musician and writer Nick Cave, and other prominent individuals have recorded video messages in support of the HOPING-UNRWA initiative, and these will be available online on November 19th at www.hopingfoundation.org.

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