



**LOIS ROTH  
FOUNDATION**  
FOR CROSS-CULTURAL DIALOGUE

Dear Friends,

The Roth Foundation's calendar has been full of exciting projects and programs this fall!

- On October 23, we inaugurated the Jodie Lewinsohn Awards and honored ten exemplary individuals—from the U.S., Angola, Iraqi Kurdistan, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Ukraine and Yemen—with our *Awards for Excellence in Cultural Diplomacy* at the State Department's Bureau for Educational and Cultural Affairs.
- Among our *Literature & Translation Programs*, the central event was our Arabic Literature Tour, during which author Shahla Ujayli and translator Michelle Hartman appeared at colleges and universities across the northeastern U.S. But this week we also received word of six literary translators that will receive awards before the end of the year!
- ... Just in time for our juries to turn their attention to applications for *Project Support Awards* in Australia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Morocco, New Zealand / Aotearoa, Norway, Sweden and Uruguay.

These tangible contributions to fostering dialogue among the people and nations of the world are deeply reassuring and heartening in times like our own. I would like to thank our board members—on whose volunteer labor our successes rest—as well as our donors for making them possible. Even small contributions make a big difference, as they show us and others that people care about person-to-person, cross-cultural exchange. This sign of your confidence and dedication means the world to us.

Another highlight of this program year was our fourteenth Fulbright Distinguished Lecture, held in June at Pembroke College in Oxford. "Towards a Post-American International Order" was the topic addressed by esteemed journalist and scholar Fareed Zakaria, who delved into the dramatic shifts in geopolitics taking place 80 years after WWII. An exciting outgrowth of this premier lecture program has been a dedicated international poll on a topic related to the lecture,

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conducted by Ipsos and the Policy Institute at King's College London. Zakaria made good use of poll data, which compared the attitudes of people towards various countries today versus in 2019. See our website for more on this and other projects!

To continue our programs, we rely on your individual gifts and cumulative holdings, which are ably managed by RBC's Columbia Group, led by Senior Vice President Shawn O'Reilly. The conservative mix Shawn has recommended over the years—55% equities and 45% fixed income and cash—has proven very solid. During the last fiscal year (7/1/23-6/30/24), our holdings gained 12.3%; thus far in the 2024 calendar year we are up 9.99%. It is with especial pride that, 37 years after starting from scratch, we can share: for the first time ever, our holdings were consistently valued above one million dollars this year.

Since 1987, the task of carrying forth Lois Roth's memory, values and work has grown ever more urgent. An increasing number of our awardees are grappling with the unstable international climate and war, "the last resort of kings." Over the years, you have helped the Foundation create and sustain programs that promote cross-cultural exchanges and dialogue—the first resort of kings. This year, every gift will help. I hope you can see your way to making a generous contribution in support of our work today.

Wishing you a warm and joyful winter season,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Arndt-Briggs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Dr. Skyler J. Arndt-Briggs, Chair