

## **Innocence Under Siege**

NEW YORK, NY-March 13, 2002 - The Network of Arab American Alumni & Professionals (NAAP) of New York in conjunction with Arab Students United (ASU) at NYU and Palestinian Humanities and Arts Now (al-PHAN) present "Innocence Under Siege", an exhibit of 50 illustrations created by the children of Palestine provides a startling look at conditions in Palestine through the eyes of children and provides a window of understanding into the everyday living conditions under Israeli occupation. This traveling art exhibit will be in New York from March 23 - 28. Nationally organized by al-PHAN, "Innocence Under Siege" will tour other major cities across the United States throughout the remainder of the year.

On March 23rd, at 2pm, NAAP and ASU will form a "human wall" of the exhibit at Washington Square South (across from NYU Bobst library) to showcase these illustrations to the entire New York community. The exhibit will then be available for viewing at Moustache restaurant, at 265 E. 10th Street, starting the evening of March 23rd through the 28th.

The continuous and debilitating siege of the Palestinian people by the Israeli military forces has led to a spiral of violence and the senseless loss of innocent civilian life on both sides. To date, there have been over 1,050 Palestinians killed since the *Intifada* of September 2000 ("Israel Kills 31 Palestinians in Major Offensive" *Reuters* – 12 March 2002). We call upon you, the community of compassionate citizens to see the frustration, the terror, the desperation, the lack of self determination and the humiliation that the people of Palestine live with on a daily basis, through the eyes of those most vulnerable, the children of Palestine.

### About NAAP

The Network of Arab American Alumni & Professionals is an organization that serves to foster continued student activism, coordinate political action that supports the needs of our community, engage in community service efforts and promote Arab heritage through cultural events and networking opportunities. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.naaponline.org>

### About ASU

The mission of Arab Students United at NYU is to raise awareness, support, and understanding of the Arab world, while providing an outlet for students to experience and celebrate Arab culture. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.nyu.edu/clubs/arab/>

### About al-PHAN

al-PHAN is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to centrally coordinating nationwide initiatives to promote and encourage artistic expression of artists focused on the Palestinian Experience through performance, exhibit, and educational opportunities. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.al-phan.org>

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