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Photos: <http://photos.davidedepas.com/Events/T-Y-O-Gala> (Please credit Davide De Pas)

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON, CHERIE BLAIR, MUSIC LEGEND
QUINCY JONES & OTHER DISTINGUISHED GUESTS SUPPORT
TOMORROW'S YOUTH ORGANIZATION**

President Clinton of the Clinton Foundation & Cherie Blair of the Cherie Blair Foundation accept TYO honor for outstanding service on behalf of women and children in the Middle East

(Washington D.C.) October 23, 2010 – **Tomorrow's Youth Organization** (www.tomorrowsyouth.org) brought together over 400 celebrities, advocates, government and diplomatic representatives, and private sector leaders on Thursday, October 21 at the first annual TYO Gala in Washington, DC. One hundred percent of proceeds will support TYO's one-of-a-kind programs that empower women and children in Middle Eastern communities.

Grammy legend **Quincy Jones**, UAE Ambassador **Yousef Al Otaiba**, prominent Palestinian American business woman, **Samia Farouki**, former UK First Lady **Cherie Blair** and President **Bill Clinton** co-hosted the evening, along with Master of Ceremonies **Terry McAuliffe**. Jones has said of TYO, "With your presence and support, Hani and his TYO team will be able to reach other dark corners of the Middle East. And you can trust that their presence in those tough spots will make things better for all of us."

Former President Bill Clinton addressed the urgency of the crisis within Palestinian communities and the need for change in the broader Middle East, praising the work of TYO as a promising solution. He said that TYO's "work... empower[s] women and improve[s] everyday economic conditions, increase[s] educational opportunities and frankly involve[s] more social empowerment without which you can't have a balanced society. That is a very good thing... for a lasting peace to take hold in the Middle East... there has to be a more equal and balanced role for women in the daily life of society... When they can participate in life, the society is stronger and people have less interest in conflict."

Cherie Blair of the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women (CBFW) described her Foundation's cooperation with TYO this way: "Together we're enabling women to develop and build on their business talents, and thus, to help themselves, their families, and wider society..." and urged those in attendance to support the collaborative efforts of TYO and the CBFW, saying "We want to build on what we've done in Nablus...But of course we can't do this on our own...Follow the example you've heard. Get involved in this movement because I can assure you that every minute you spend on it, every dollar you spend on it is returned a thousand fold...Come to the Middle East and see the potential is there. The potential, which with your help can be opened not just for the benefit of the people of Nablus, the people of Palestine, the people of the Middle East, but for the benefit of all of us in the world because unless we get lasting peace and prosperity in the Middle East there is really no lasting comfort, peace or prosperity for the rest of the world either."

Gala emcee and co-chair, **Terry McAuliffe**, echoed both the President and Blair's remarks when he added, "If we truly want peace in the Middle East, it is about helping people have a better future. We have got to give these children an education. We have got to help women better themselves."

Tomorrow's Youth Organization Director, Nell Derick Debevoise, said: "In underserved communities like Nablus, TYO acts as a hub, coordinating, adapting and delivering world-class services in a locally relevant way."

In addition to remarks from **Al Otaiba, Blair, Clinton**, and **Debevoise**, the Gala featured live entertainment and stunning large-scale audiovisual presentations. To open the show, 45 children ages 5-13 from the **Dupont Park Children's Choir** of Washington, DC took the stage singing Quincy Jones' song Tomorrow (A Better You, A Better Me) after a moving introduction from Jones himself. The song reflects Jones' lifelong commitment to helping children worldwide as well as embodies the spirit of Tomorrow's Youth Organization.

Corporate sponsors that played a significant supporting role in this event include the **PaTel Group Foundation, FedEx, Bulgari, DLA Piper, Dewey and LeBoeuf and BET Networks**.

TYO is an American, non-governmental organization that works in disadvantaged areas of the Middle East, enabling children, youth and parents to realize their potential as healthy, active and responsible family and community members.

Links:

Video coverage of remarks from Cherie Blair and President Clinton - <http://vimeo.com/16131836>

Press coverage - <http://tomorrowyouth.wordpress.com/2010/10/22/tyo-event-week-with-bill-clinton-quincy-jones-cherie-blair/>

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