

UPF Sydney Australia's Living for Others Awards Night at the Peace Embassy

Greg Stone
December 10, 2018



A very popular feature event for UPF Sydney each year is the Living for Others Awards Night. This year was no exception as, on Monday evening 10 December 2018, the Oceania Peace Embassy Sydney hall was packed, and there was a high sense of excitement and enthusiasm in the air. Community groups supporting their local representative LFO Awards recipient, had to limit their numbers to secure a seat.

The five worthy individuals who received the LFO awards this year were Jasmina Bajraktarevic, Ahmad Karem Dib, Yvonne McDonnell, Margaret Neeson and Teresa Kieu Ngoc Tran. They had been nominated by their local communities as people who were highly respected for living for others. Bios of each awardee were displayed in the program and, after each awardee received the LFO Award, they were asked to speak about what motivated them to live for the sake of others. All the five awardees also received an Ambassador for Peace Certificate. A sixth person, Haidar Karem, also received an Ambassador for Peace Certificate.

Living for the sake of others is one of the famous messages stressed by UPF Co-Founder Rev Dr Sun Myung Moon; a topic which he encouraged others to do on countless occasions and something which he exemplified in his own life. UPF Australia President Greg Stone gave a short talk on the topic "Living for Others" and quoted some inspiring words from Father Moon. People from 14 different national groups and many different faith traditions enjoyed the evening together. There was a buzz in the air and the evening was vibrant and a fitting way to conclude the series of UPF public events in 2018.

The UPF choir led by Chihiro Midorikawa presented two songs, "Fix You" and "Put a Little Love in Your Heart". Both were well received. The evening concluded with acknowledgement of three sponsors, Catherine Edwards, Ghassan Alassadi and Dr Mohamed Al Jabiri, all Ambassadors for Peace who have supported the work of UPF for many years.

