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**TODAY'S
MIDDLE EAST**

**POWER
POLITICS
PLAYERS**

HIGHLIGHTS

from the 39th Annual Camden Conference
February 20 - 22, 2026

Introduction

The 39th Camden Conference brought together an extraordinary group of thinkers at a genuinely extraordinary moment. The conversations that unfolded over three days in February proved as timely as any we have hosted in our nearly four decades. One week after our Conference concluded, the U.S. - Israel war on Iran began—a development several of our speakers had foreshadowed from the stage. We hope these Highlights capture something of that weekend for you.



Conference Moderator

MEGHNA CHAKRABARTI,
Host & Editor, *On Point*, NPR/WBUR

Meghna Chakrabarti made her debut as Moderator of the 39th Annual Camden Conference, bringing an impressive professional and educational resumé to the role. Chakrabarti serves as host and editor of the news and issues program *On Point* from NPR and WBUR, on the air Monday through Friday. She is the former host of *Radio Boston*, WBUR's acclaimed weekday show with a focus on news, in-depth interviews with extraordinary people, and analysis of broader issues that have an impact on Boston and beyond. Chakrabarti

has won awards for individual reporting from both the Associated Press and the Radio Television News Directors Association for her writing, hard news reporting, and use of sound. A former fellow at the Metcalf Institute for Environmental Reporting, Chakrabarti holds bachelor's degrees in civil and environmental engineering from Oregon State University (summa cum laude), a master's degree in environmental science and risk management from Harvard University, and an MBA with honors from Boston University.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS: What Comes Next for the Middle East After the Gaza War?

VALI NASR

Professor of International Affairs and Middle East Studies at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies

Keynote speaker Vali Nasr said the events in the Middle East in the past two years, since the Hamas attack

“Israel’s response to the October 7 attack went beyond a war against Hamas to address the Axis of Resistance as a whole.”

on Israel, have brought about fundamental changes to the region. Further, he said, “The Gaza war hasn’t finished.

The fate of Iran right now hangs in the balance.” Before October 7, 2023 there was a vision for the region of economic integration, the formation of trade corridors that would create prosperity along the way for the people of the region, and “the Arab countries of the Gulf saw this as very much in line with their own vision of post-oil economies.” The view was that you could contain and manage what’s bad in the Middle East and have “economic integration essentially define the region.” But Israel’s response to the October 7 attack went beyond a war against Hamas “to address, actually, the Axis of Resistance as a whole.” Israel mounted



operations in Lebanon against Hezbollah, Iran’s most important regional ally. The collapse of Hezbollah was followed by the fall of Syria, and Iran’s “pressure on the borders of Israel almost disappeared altogether,” leaving Israel the “uncontested military superpower in the region.”

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

A History of the Middle East: From Empire to Nation-States

JOSHUA LANDIS

Director, Center for Middle East Studies, University of Oklahoma

“Before the French Revolution, there were no nation-states,” said Joshua Landis, beginning his history lesson on the Middle East, and “today, the world is covered with nation states.” A hundred nation-states were born between WWII and 1973, he said, and then began what he called “the great sorting out,” when minorities often get driven out. “It’s hard to change national borders,” he noted, so “the borders stay the same and people are changed to fit the borders.” Landis said the nation-states of the Middle

East were formed when the colonial powers divided up the northern Middle East. France and Britain drew the borders of Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, and Palestine, “and in every one of those states,” Landis said, “they privileged a minority. It’s divide

“A hundred nation-states were born between WWII and 1973 and then began ‘the great sorting out,’ when minorities often get driven out.”

and rule.” Eventually the minority regimes are violently pushed out and the majority takes over with “very bad consequences for the minorities.” In the war of 1948, the Palestinians



“lost spectacularly” to the Zionists, who captured seventy-eight percent of Palestine, and “today they have the rest,” said Landis, noting that the Jewish people have been the only minority that have turned themselves into a majority.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

The Middle East as I Have Witnessed It: A Lifetime in Photos

ROBIN WRIGHT

Author & Journalist, *The New Yorker*

"I want to share my Middle East with you," Robin Wright said as she began a pictorial tour of the region she has covered since 1973. The images she projected on the big screen at the Opera House comprised a visual

"What struck me was how many have died and how many are still dying for a conflict that is no closer to being solved than at any time since 1948."

history of what she has witnessed in the Middle East, and her camera most



often focused on the people of the region. As a chronicler of change in the Middle East, Wright said she has been struck by the gains of women, reflected particularly in the student populations. "Sixty-four percent of the university student body in Tehran and somewhere around sixty

percent in Saudi Arabia is female," she said. Some of her images recalled momentous events: the memorial in Tunisia to Mohamed Bouazizi, the fruit vendor whose self-immolation incited the Arab Spring uprisings; two young Egyptians, each blinded in one eye by pellets fired by police at protesters in Tahrir Square; an ISIS fighter who had trained suicide bombers, some as young as 12. At a cemetery, she said, "what struck me ...was how many have died and how many are still dying for a conflict that is no closer to being solved than at any time since 1948."

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Age of Erdoğan: What Explains the Dominance of Turkey's Longtime Leader?

SUZY HANSEN

Author & Journalist

How did Turkey under Erdoğan, "a poor kid from the back streets of Istanbul," go from aspiring democracy to autocracy? "How did he pull off such a feat?" asked Hansen. As mayor

"When a charismatic, populist authoritarian comes to power, only an entirely new politics or mode of political figure can defeat him."

of Istanbul in the 1990s, Erdoğan won popular support by improving transportation and utilities, and when he became prime minister, in 2003,

"it was a victory of the most democratic kind," said Hansen. The first seven years of Erdoğan's rule were very successful, and there was widespread optimism about Erdoğan. But though Turkey was part of NATO, the Turks "felt ostracized and even stigmatized by the West," Hansen said, and Erdoğan began to look away from Europe, to the Arab world, Africa and Russia. Then came the Arab Spring. Millions of Syrian refugees sought safety in Turkey, and ISIS was on the rise. Erdoğan, unnerved by these events and by a failed military coup attempt, gave himself emergency powers and began to systematically assault the institutions of Turkey's



democracy. "For a time under Erdoğan, Turks still had functional elections," said Hansen. "The opposition could have beaten him, but they failed to recognize...that when a charismatic, populist authoritarian comes to power, only an entirely new politics or mode of political figure can defeat him."

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Saudi Arabia Under MBS: Ally, Partner, or Something Else?

BERNARD HAYKEL

Professor of Near Eastern Studies,
Princeton University

Professor Haykel may be uniquely qualified to offer insights into Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince, Mohammed bin Salman, known as MBS. "I've played video games with him," said Haykel. "He's a big video gamer." The huge country ruled by MBS

"MBS has single-handedly transformed the country in the image of what he wants it to become."

holds about 23 to 25 percent of the proven reserves of oil in the



world. It sits on or near three major maritime straits. "So it is strategically extremely important, for its oil and for its geography," Haykel said. But MBS knows that the world's energy economy is becoming less dependent on oil, so by diversifying the economy and consolidating power "MBS has

single-handedly transformed the country in the image of what he wants it to become," said Haykel. Saudi Arabia, home to Mecca and Medina, is also the center of Islam, though MBS has taken religion off center stage. "Islam was the *raison d'être* of the country," said Haykel, and that led to extremists, and MBS saw this as "a really bad brand." He wanted to turn Saudi Arabia into a "normal country," so he took the religious police off the streets, crushed the jihadist movements and developed a nationalism based on the history of the royal family as the identity of the country.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Iran at a Crossroads



SUZANNE MALONEY

Vice President and Director, Foreign
Policy Program, Brookings Institution

Dr. Maloney said the decades-long U.S. role in Iran was "fairly constructive" until 1953, when the U.S. helped oust Iran's prime minister and place the last Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza

Pahlavi, on the throne. The Shah's reforms were opposed by many entrenched interests and, in 1963, Maloney said, a little-known cleric named Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini denounced the Shah as "a miserable wretch and a puppet of American and Israeli interests." His subsequent arrest and detention set in motion the forces that would topple the Shah 15 years later. The U.S. failed to see it coming, said Maloney, and since then Washington has sought to engage diplomatically with Iran. Meanwhile, Iran was building a powerful network of proxy militias that extended from Lebanon to Pakistan. Iran's nuclear program, shuttered by the 1979 revolution, reemerged after

"I remain profoundly skeptical that strikes on Iran are going to leave us in a more stable place."

Iran's war with Iraq. A decade of western diplomacy, covert action and sanctions culminated with the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, which President Trump later walked away from. The regime has for years been in "a slow-motion process of metastasis," Maloney said. "But the question is, what will military action accomplish? I remain profoundly skeptical that strikes on Iran are going to leave us in a more stable place."

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Israel: Stuck Between Pariah and Superpower

ETHAN BRONNER

Israel Bureau Chief and Senior Editor for the Middle East at Bloomberg News

“When people say the Middle East, they think about, oh my God, Israel and its mistreatment of the Palestinians,” said journalist Ethan Bronner. After the Hamas attack on

“In the past year the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange has been among the highest performers in the world and European countries are lining up to buy Israel’s military technology.”

October 7, 2024, he said, the students who demonstrated on college campuses “see a state that’s killed

72,000 people, in a war that seems to be a war of vengeance.” But the view within Israel is very different, he said. “When you say to Israelis, an awful lot of ordinary people got killed, they’ll say, well, that’ll teach them to come and slaughter our people in their homes.” Israel’s apparent hegemony is not just military, he said, noting that in the past year the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange has been among the highest performers in the world, foreign investment is soaring, and European countries are lining up to buy Israel’s military technology. After October 7th, Israel changed its defense doctrine. “All they need to know now is, do you have the capacity to threaten me?” Bronner



said. “If you do, I’m coming to get you.” For many years Bronner believed “that the bulk of people of both societies wanted to live in some decent form of coexistence. And I’m afraid I can’t say that anymore.”

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Building the Far Side of the Bridge: The Imperative of Imagining a Land for All



OMAR DAJANI

Professor of International Law, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific

Professor Dajani offered an equation that for more than seventy-five years has defied solution: “When you talk about Palestine, it’s the same place

as Israel. When you talk about Israel, it’s the same place as Palestine.” Both Jews and Palestinians have an attachment to the entire space. Prof. Dajani quoted a colleague who observed that peace building and bridge building have something in common: “when you build a bridge, like when you build peace, you’ve got to build it from both sides, not just one.” Current discussion, he said, focuses only on the near side of the bridge, on short-term considerations, “things like establishing a real ceasefire, humanitarian access and reconstruction in Gaza.” He noted that more than six hundred Palestinians have been killed by Israeli strikes since the current

cease-fire began, adding to “the 72,000 who’ve died, over the last couple of years during the genocide.” Dajani stressed that it’s necessary to

“When you build a bridge, like when you build peace, you’ve got to build it from both sides, not just one.”

give attention to the far side of the bridge—the work of imagining peace, of thinking through the norms, the institutions, the arrangements that can give it structure and can give it resonance and resilience. “I do remain convinced that peace is possible,” he said.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Stateless Peoples and Peoples Without a State: Intersecting Crises in the Middle East and North Africa

STEPHANIE WILLIAMS

Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution's Center for Middle East Policy; Former UN Special Adviser on Libya

Career diplomat Stephanie Williams addressed the stateless peoples of the Middle East and North Africa and the hardships they face. These

"The refugees are facing almost unimaginable hardships, so a very small investment in soft power will do us a great deal of good."

are partly due, said Williams, to "the gutting of America's soft power by the Trump administration and slashing

of the funds for the international organizations." Among the stateless populations are 30 to 45 million Kurds, who are scattered mostly among Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Syria. Following the first Gulf War in 1991, Iraq's Kurds had several years of autonomy. When Syria was plunged into civil war, its enclave of Syrian Kurds enjoyed a period of self-rule that came to an end when the new Syrian government took power. "So, a very mixed bag for the Kurdish people," said Williams. "Periods of autonomy, but then the reassertion of central control." Other stateless groups include the Bidoon of Kuwait, the Berbers of Morocco and Algeria, and the Saharan Tuaregs, and of course, the Palestinians. Out of a



global population of fifteen million, nearly six million are refugees, two million of them in Jordan along with perhaps a million Syrians. The refugees are facing almost unimaginable hardships, so a "very small investment in soft power, I think will do us a great deal of good," Williams said.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Between Hegemony and Multipolarity: The Middle East, U.S. Power, and a Changing World Order

JEFFREY FELTMAN

John C. Whitehead Visiting Fellow in International Diplomacy, Foreign Policy Program, Brookings Institution; Former UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs

Ambassador Feltman framed his discussion by noting that "the Middle East is in flux, the wider international

"The post-WWII system that was built to safeguard peace is losing both relevance and support."

system is stumbling, and the United States is unwinding its own global order." He said the region has divided

into two competing alignments. "It's Israel and the UAE on the one side, it's Turkey and Saudi Arabia, often joined by Egypt and Qatar on the other side," he said, and the Trump administration's ability to bridge the gap between these two coalitions remains unproven. Take Syria, he said, which is in a fragile transition. "The Trump administration is all in behind interim President Ahmed-al Sharaa. Israel and the UAE are not." The rivalry of the two alliances, said Feltman, extends beyond the Middle East to Sudan and the Horn of Africa. "Sudan is now a primary battlefield in this contest," he said. "Sudan is host of the world's worst humanitarian catastrophe right



now." The post-WWII system that was built to safeguard peace is losing both relevance and support, Feltman said, and "we need to explore how to restore deterrence, how to deter the US and China from heading to war, and how to deter great powers from seizing territory or assets from weaker states."

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Sunday morning panel discussion



On the final morning of the 39th Camden Conference, winter weather reduced the panel to five: Jeffrey Feltman, Suzy Hansen, Stephanie Williams, Omar Dajani, and Joshua Landis, with Meghna Chakrabarti moderating.

Chakrabarti opened with a deceptively simple prompt: what do you fear about 2026, and what gives you hope? Fears ranged from Iran's collapse into civil war (Landis) and domestic electoral erosion (Dajani) to international impunity (Williams) and the abandonment of the principle that territory cannot be acquired by force (Feltman). Hansen feared "a catastrophic mistake, possibly in the form of a weapon, by our president." Hopes proved equally varied: a credible Iran deal (Feltman), Europe stepping into the vacuum left by the U.S. (Williams), renewed civic fight from the American people (Hansen), and a Syrian government that extends a lifeline to the country's minority groups (Landis).

Questions from the audience ranged widely. A Brewer High School

student pressed Suzy Hansen on why media coverage so often strips the Middle East of cultural context. Hansen placed the blame squarely on editors who "do not have any faith in their readers." On social media, both Hansen and Williams were blunt: Hansen called it "an evil force" given the lawlessness of its ownership, while Williams described it as "a big driver of conflict" across the region.

An audience member asked Dajani plainly: what will happen to the Palestinians? Dajani was measured—"hopeful but not super optimistic"—while pointing to upcoming Israeli elections and a growing cohort of middle powers recognizing Palestinian statehood as potential openings. An audience member raised water scarcity; Landis noted that Turkey's twenty-three dams on the Euphrates have "starved both Syrians and Iraqis downstream," and Dajani tied water, energy, and climate change together as a core driver of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

An audience member asked whether the damage done to

American credibility can be undone. Feltman was direct: "I don't think there's any chance of restoring the status quo ante. Rebuilding institutions is possible—rebuilding alliances is much harder." Landis added that America must learn to think in terms of balance of power rather than dominance: "The balance of power is key to long-term peace."

Chakrabarti closed by asking each panelist to speak directly to the young people in the room. Landis pointed to the Emirates' vision of stability and growth as a positive signal for the region. Hansen drew an unlikely lesson from Erdoğan—a leader who recognized what was missing in his country and built a politics around it. Dajani invoked historian Jill Lepore: "I don't have a lot of use for hope. But I do have a lot of use for determination." Williams saw the advancing role of women across the Middle East and North Africa as her chief ray of light. And Feltman ended with Sudan—the world's worst humanitarian crisis—where youth-run, community-organized emergency response rooms are providing grassroots medical care, food, and transportation. "I have real confidence that all of you are going to be able to find a way forward," he said, "because the Sudanese youth have done it."

Chakrabarti closed the Conference with a paraphrase of Italian revolutionary Antonio Gramsci: "be a pessimist of the intellect and an optimist of the will."

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

At the Camden Conference, few things matter more to us than bringing a new generation into our conversations on the world's most pressing issues through the Camden Conference in the Classroom program. A record number of Maine high school and college students attended the 2026 Conference, and many asked some of the most thoughtful, well-prepared questions of the weekend. After the conference, University of Maine graduate student Tyler Lissy offered to share his reflections, and we are pleased to include his essay in this year's Highlights. Tyler brings a graduate student's analytical lens to the weekend, organizing his reflections around three themes that emerged across the speakers and sessions.

A Student's Perspective on the 2026 Camden Conference

BY TYLER LISSY

The 2026 Camden Conference was a unique blend of complexity and clarity. It provided thoughtful and compelling analysis of a region that is both well-known and misunderstood, offering nuanced ideas and insights into the Middle East and leaving us with as many questions as answers—a worthwhile and thought-provoking result.

I am a graduate student at the University of Maine's School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA), where I concentrate on security and foreign policy. The Camden Conference has become a staple event for our graduate program, and my graduate school funds this excursion for SPIA students interested in attending. I have never traveled to the Middle East but as an undergrad I studied the international politics of the region. That mix of familiarity and distance shaped my Conference experience.

The subtitle, *Power, Politics, and Players*, proved apt. But as I listened

across three days of presentations, I noticed several deeper dynamics weaving through the conversations. Three stood out to me: the tension between complicated and compressed histories; the distinction between power and threat; and the challenge of perceiving the region with objectivity rather than insensitivity.

Speaker after speaker reminded us that the Middle East cannot be understood without grappling with its deeply complicated, layered past. Joshua Landis emphasized the fragility of nation-building projects born from imperial sorting processes, where states were told to “get along” within borders shaped by external powers. Regime change, he suggested, does not necessarily produce stronger states; even weak institutions are not easily replaced.

History is frequently shaped by outside powers, media cycles, and homegrown leaders. Suzy Hansen argued that labeling Tayyip Erdoğan simply as a populist risks downplaying the socioeconomic and

religious currents that propelled his rise. When major powers engage the region transactionally, such as the initiation of the Abraham Accords, historical nuance can be sacrificed for immediate interests. I was struck by how often simplified narratives obscure the very dynamics policy-makers most need to understand.

Several speakers implicitly reviewed whether regional behavior is better explained by the pursuit of power or by the prominence of threat. Bernard Haykel described Saudi Arabia under Mohammed bin Salman as a state seeking stability yet still grappling with questions of national identity beyond its religious custodianship. Vali Nasr argued in his keynote that the post-Gaza war Middle East has been transformed by collapsing axes of resistance and shifting power vacuums. His analysis suggested that threats often substantiate power, rather than merely challenging it.

This dynamic was also evident in discussions of Israel. Ethan Bronner



Graduate students from the University of Maine's School of Policy and International Affairs gather on the stage of the Camden Opera House following the 2026 Camden Conference

described a country navigating the tension between pariah and regional superpower, where perceptions of existential threat shape government doctrine and public sentiment. Omar Dajani, a Palestinian, urged consideration of bridge-building approaches, unpacking the importance of a durable peace rather than the overemphasis of threat. I found myself wondering whether stability in the region hinges more on balances of power or balances of threat, and how much balance depends on perception.

Robin Wright's visual presentation reminded the audience of the human dimension behind geopolitical abstractions, while Stephanie Williams highlighted the region's stateless peoples (Kurds, Palestinians, and others), describing them as victims of geography and history. Their stories underscored how

neat national borders can produce enduring instability.

I left Camden with several open-ended questions. How much have rigid national borders contributed to the very instability they were meant to prevent? As international politics grows more transactional, do major powers further compress regional histories to fit short-term interests, ironically undermining their own long-term goals?

More broadly, if the post-World War II rules-based system has helped prevent direct great-power war, what does it mean that today's conflicts so often operate in gray zones – proxy wars, hybrid tactics, ambiguous thresholds? If rules are increasingly treated as pliable, does that normalize forms of conflict that are less visible but no less destabilizing?

What I appreciated most about the Camden Conference was not that it resolved these dilemmas, but that it took them seriously. For students like me, the conference offered something invaluable: exposure to expertise that refuses easy answers. The Middle East cannot be reduced to headlines, but is a region where power and threat intertwine, where history is both burden and guide, and where human dignity persists amid upheaval.

Students rely on experts not only for information but for intellectual example, and that may be the most important lesson of all. Maybe an alternative lesson is what we students have to offer to such experts, leveraging optimism, not cynicism, to generate nuanced analysis and legitimate pathways forward.

What speakers and attendees are saying

Each year we ask our speakers and attendees to share their reflections. Here is what they said about the 39th Camden Conference.

"The Camden Conference is the most unique world affairs conference I have ever been to — the quality of the speakers, the enthusiasm of the audience, and the brilliance of the questions from both moderators and citizens alike are unparalleled. It is a fun, endlessly stimulating experience; I'd return again and again if I could."

— Suzy Hansen, Author & Journalist

"I really did not want the conference to end. My attention was riveted throughout." — Conference attendee

"The Camden Conference is a truly unique event because of the high quality of its programming, its remarkably efficient organization, and the wonderful conversations with a highly informed audience that asks perceptive questions. No matter how contentious or difficult the subject matter, the exchanges are honest, fact-based, and civil, despite differences in perspective and opinion."

— Bernard Haykel, Professor of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University

"The Camden Conference brings international policy issues and global challenges out of the traditional academic and government spaces and into a community setting where students and the public alike can engage directly with experts. It is rare to see a rural coastal community hosting such serious, important discussions." — Conference attendee

"Anyone lamenting that Americans outside Washington don't care about U.S. foreign policy should visit Camden, Maine in February for a bracing corrective. The Camden Conference crackles with engaged, sophisticated audiences and informed speakers, turning Maine's winter into a forum of ideas. As a 2026 speaker, I came away energized and hopeful, thanks to searching questions and thoughtful exchanges with everyone from students to retirees."

— Ambassador Jeffrey Feltman, Former UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs



"I've been to about 15 Camden Conferences, and this was among the best." — Conference attendee

"My fellow speakers were thoughtful and open-minded with an eye on the big picture, making the event exciting and helpful not only to me as a practitioner in the field but to the welcoming audiences in the hall and online, a terrific mix of students, experts and interested citizens. The Middle East is a polarizing topic and it's to the credit of the organizers that this was a civil and productive set of lectures and conversations."

— Ethan Bronner, Israel Bureau Chief and Senior Editor for the Middle East, Bloomberg News

"My favorite weekend of the year — intellectually stimulating as issues are reframed by experts — plus always make new acquaintances that I enjoy!"

— Conference attendee

"I found the Camden Conference to be an intellectually inspiring event, bringing together top thinkers on a subject of importance to world affairs in an intimate setting that allows for both thoughtful exposition and intimate discussion."

— Vali Nasr, Professor of International Affairs and Middle East Studies, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies

"These outstanding speakers helped make a very complex historical topic more understandable. It was fascinating to me that there were discussions on issues playing out in real time, leaving us with some unknowns about the future."

— Conference attendee

"I was very honored to be invited to speak at the 39th annual Camden Conference. And what a well-organized, timely and relevant gathering, coming just one week prior to the launch of the US-Israel war on Iran. An absolutely stellar line-up of experts and a well-informed and passionate audience! This was a must-attend conference!"

— Stephanie Williams, Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution's Center for Middle East Policy; Former UN Special Adviser on Libya

"The Camden Conference gives hope." — Conference attendee

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The Camden Conference is powered by a dedicated corps of 75+ volunteers who make our year-round programming possible. We welcome people to join our active committees — spanning program, education, events, development, and more — as well as to help with administrative tasks. If you're interested, we'd love to hear from you.

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Support the Camden Conference through our Annual Appeal. Your gift helps strengthen our Student Education Fund, rebuild our contingency fund, and sustain the year-round programming that brings global perspectives to Maine. Donors may designate their gift to the Student Education Fund at the time of giving.

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A full print edition of the CC26 Highlights — including financial overview, supporter recognition, and a complete account of our year-round programs — will be published following the close of our fiscal year on June 30, 2026.

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