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—Article Number:.....42708

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Notes from editor (not for publication):

[REDACTED]

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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¹ 'We Are Not Numbers: An Evening of Palestinian Stories
² and Food' set for Dec. 6

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⁴ TEXT BODY:

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⁵ A child asks, "Mama, will the rain last all night?" His
⁶ mother smiled softly, trying to comfort him while concealing all
⁷ the pain she was carrying. Meanwhile a father declares, "No
⁸ matter what, my child, we were going to celebrate your first
⁹ birthday."

10 Such universal expressions of love take on greater
11 meaning when families are doing their best to survive in war-torn
12 Gaza.

13 Southern Vermont for Palestine will host a community
14 gathering, "We Are Not Numbers: An Evening of Palestinian
15 Stories and Food," from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6, at
16 Williamsville Hall, 35 Dover Rd. The hall is wheelchair
17 accessible with a ramp to the front entrance. The event will be
18 held on the main floor of the building. Attendees are encouraged
19 to wear masks when not eating.

20 All proceeds from this benefit event will go directly to
21 We Are Not Numbers, a nonprofit initiative that pairs emerging
22 Palestinian writers with mentors from around the world.

23 To mark the recent publication of **We Are Not Numbers:**
24 **The Voices of Gaza's Youth**, local theater artists, activists, and
25 home cooks are collaborating to serve a simple, hearty meal of
26 Palestinian food and present a selection of powerful essays from
27 the We Are Not Numbers archive along with other compelling
28 first-person narratives.

29 As Yusuf, one of the authors in the new book with
30 connections in Vermont, explains, "My words are not mine alone
31 — they are the words of a people who refuse to be forgotten,
32 who refuse to be silenced."

33 All attendees can enter a raffle to win a bundle of books
34 from Interlink, the U.S. publisher of **We Are Not Numbers: The**
35 **Voices of Gaza's Youth**. The book will be available for purchase
36 that evening and at Everyone's Books in Brattleboro.

37 Attendees are strongly encouraged to preregister via the
38 Action Network website, tinyurl.com/m6p64ne6, to ensure that
39 ample food is available. Tickets for the dinner and staged readings
40 are free, with a suggested donation of \$20-\$25 per person-
41 with; no one turned away for lack of funds. A livestream of the
42 program, linked to the website, will be available during and after
43 the event.

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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