



Wael Kakish

Director, Kan Zaman Takht Ensemble, Los Angeles, CA

Wael Kakish is a native of Jordan whose dedication to music stems from his home environment which fostered a love of folk poetry, song and music. His paternal grandfather was a recognized raconteur of *Hikam wa Amthal*, a genre of poetic folk refrains. Additionally, at the age of twelve, Mr. Kakish began to accompany his father, an accomplished player of the 'Ud and singer, on the Durbakkeh (a goblet drum). At these family gatherings and small celebrations, Mr. Kakish would join his father in singing Sha'bi songs (folk songs). Mr. Kakish majored in English Language and Literature with a minor in Classical and Folk-Music genre. At the age of twenty-three,

he came to the US for graduate studies. While in the US, he and other musicians formed two musical groups. The first is a Takht Ensemble which performs for a variety of social occasions. The second is the Kan Zaman Community Ensemble which has blossomed into a full-blown concert repertory company of thirty-six performers. Kan Zaman and Mr. Kakish have received great notoriety for their contribution to the Arab and American culture community in the area of lecture-demonstration series, radio and newspaper interviews, and their lauded and warmly received concert presentations in Southern California and elsewhere.

Dr. Joyce Elaine King

*Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Diversity Programs,
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Dr. Joyce King is Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Diversity Programs at the University of New Orleans. She holds a B.A. in Sociology and a Ph.D. from Stanford University in the Social Foundations of Education. Dr. King has presented diversity training programs for community groups and business leaders, college and university presidents, parents, teachers and students across the nation. She received a W.K. Kellogg Foundation Fellowship to study women's participation in social change locally and globally and she completed the American Council on Education Fellowship with a special focus on diversity in higher education in the Office of the President at Stanford University. Before moving to New Orleans, she was Associate Professor and Director of Teacher Education at Santa Clara University for twelve years. Dr. King has also taught at Stanford and Mills College. She served on California's Curriculum commission for four years, and she has published numerous articles, books and book chapters on education, teacher preparation for cultural diversity, and social change leadership. Her books include *Black Mothers to Sons* (NY: Peter Lang, 1995 with C. Mitchell); *Teaching Diverse Populations* (NY: SUNY Press, 1994 Hollins, King, Hayman, Eds.), and *Cultural Diversity in Teacher Preparation* (NY: Teachers College Press, forthcoming). Dr. King has lectured widely in the US, Brazil, Kenya, and Japan. She is a member of the Haas Center for Public Service at Stanford; Global Vision 20/20; and the Girl Scout Council of Southeast Louisiana. She has received recognition and awards from the California State Board of Education; the National Council of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., the Mayor of New Orleans; and Stanford's Dinkelspiel Award for Service to the Community.



Robert Kohan, Ph.D.

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