

Immigrants and refugees teach and celebrate their culture in Brazil

Jonathan Berezovsky, CEO and founder of Migraflix, is honored for interfaith work

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, December 2, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Brazil, the largest country in Latin America, receives more refugees from Syria than any other nation in the region. Jonathan Berezovsky, an Argentine immigrant to Brazil, founded the social non-profit Migraflix – an organization dedicated to teaching and celebrating the culture of immigrants and refugees in Brazil.

"We bring people from different cultures and countries together on things like food, culture, and music," Berezovsky said. Migraflix gives immigrants and refugees the opportunity to teach parts of their culture to people in Brazil at



Business leaders from around the world are honored for their interfaith work at the Global Business & Interfaith Peace Awards in Rio de Janeiro.

workshops and classes. Berezovsky says these classes provide immigrants and refugees financial and social integration into their new communities.

<u>Berezovsky was honored</u> for his work of providing opportunities for interfaith and intercultural relations with refugees, immigrants and Brazilians at the <u>Global Business & Interfaith Peace Awards</u> in Rio de Janeiro this fall. The Religious Freedom and Business Foundation and the United Nations Global Compact Business for Peace recognized twelve business-leaders from around the world for their interfaith work at the award ceremony.

Berezovsky was an immigrant to the United States and Israel before moving to Brazil. He says he understands the difficulty of relocating to a new country – which led him to start an organization dedicated to assisting people who are financially and socially acclimating to Brazil.

Seven people of different faiths and nationalities who met through Migraflix founded the band Mazeej. The band's name means "mixture" in Arabic, and members Sonia Goussininsky and Daniel Szafran, Brazilian natives of Jewish faith, Wessam Alkourdi, Kadi Al Dura and Salam Al Sayed, Muslims from Syria and Palestine and Leonardo Bianchini and Chantal Mailhac, Christians from Brazil and Lebanon form the unique group.

Mazeej combines styles of music from each of the members' home countries to create an eclectic sound with the guitar, tambourine, accordion and lute. The band's fusion of Middle Eastern sounds exemplifies the integration of faith through culture.

The band performs at places of worship and other music venues in Brazil and has had a lasting

impact on audiences.

The group performed at the Global Business & Interfaith Peace Awards after Berezovsky was recognized for interfaith work.

"We strive to have culturally integrative projects because there will always be a dialogue between immigrants and Brazilians," said Berezovsky. "Brazil is a country of immigrants."

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