

**REMARKS BY STANLEY BERGMAN**  
**HARVARD TREE OF PEACE**  
**JUNE 16, 2014**

What a pleasure it is to install the Tree of Peace today at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine to honor the service and commitment of two extraordinary dental education leaders – Dr. Walter Guralnick and Dr. Bruce Donoff. Through their decades of dedication and commitment, the Harvard School of Dental Medicine has become a true champion for all that the Tree of Peace represents.

In fact, when thinking about today's event and the men it honors, I remembered what the French author Everett Ruess once wrote: "We can learn a lot from trees; they are always grounded but never stop reaching heavenward." Certainly that is true of Dr. Guralnick and Dr. Donoff, two leaders grounded in science who have never stopped reaching higher each year.

That also describes the goal of the Tree of Peace, which is a remarkable symbol of peace, health and hope. It was inspired and developed by our good friend Dr. Allen Finkelstein, a socially responsible and highly respected oral health leader from New York, who is with us today. Allen worked with Hedva Ser, the extraordinary artist who created this beautiful sculpture, and who also joins us today for the installation. Allen and Hedva, thank you for turning your vision into art that inspires us all.

This is the fifth Tree of Peace to be installed around the world. The first was at Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dental Medicine in Jerusalem, which is represented here today by Dr. Adam Stabholz. Adam is the Former Dean of the school, a visionary leader, and a founder of the Bridge to Peace program who is committed to the cause of peace. The second tree was installed at AT Still University Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health in Mesa, Arizona. Our good friend Dr. Jack Dillenberg, Dean of the school and an extraordinary leader devoted to public service, is here today. The third tree was installed at Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry in Philadelphia in 2012. Last year we installed the fourth Tree of Peace at Al-Quds University in Jerusalem, Hebrew University's partner in the Bridge to Peace program.

And now we are here at Harvard School of Dental Medicine to install our fifth Tree, thanks to support from the leaders I have named and a number of other people and organizations. The entire Tribute Committee, which is chaired by Dr. Herbert Birnbaum, Dr. Allen Finkelstein, Dr. Bernard Friedland and Dr. Murray Miller; our friends from Alpha Omega in the Harvard community and throughout the Boston area; The Alliance for Oral Health Across Borders; The Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Fund, named in honor of my mentor, Ed Shils, who worked to bring together people of diverse backgrounds; Henry Schein Cares, our global social responsibility program; and my colleagues Jim Breslawski and Steve Kess, who serve on the Advisory Board for the Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

But primarily we are here today to recognize the visionary commitment of two exceptional men from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. First, Dr. Walter Guralnick, Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Emeritus. Dr. Guralnick, your decades of service to the Harvard School of Dental Medicine and the entire University, and to the global dental community are legendary, and you continue to inspire each and every one of us through your example of professionalism and service. Second, my good friend Dr. Bruce Donoff, Dean and Walter C. Guralnick Distinguished Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Bruce, it has been a privilege to work with you in many initiatives over the past decade. From the Alliance for Oral Health Across Borders, to the Shils Fund, to the American Dental Education Association Geis Awards program, it has been a great pleasure to benefit from your friendship

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and the wonderful leadership that you provide to the dental community.

Drs. Guralnick and Donoff truly embody the spirit behind the Tree of Peace, which focuses on inter-professional relations, education, international relations, globalization, peace, and most important, partnership. Both of our honorees recognize the great value of public-private partnership including all sectors, which we believe is the partnership model for the future. The Tree of Peace is about hope. It symbolizes hope that we can work together to achieve things that may seem impossible, from extending access to oral health care to all of the world's underserved people to using the collaboration of oral care professionals to help bridge cultural and political divides that have separated people for centuries.

As a man born and raised in South Africa, I saw the commitment of the late President Nelson Mandela to bring about peace and equality in South Africa by bridging an "impossible" gap and inspiring others to do the same. Speaking about this achievement later in his life, Mandela said, "It always seems impossible until it's done." Many of the seemingly impossible challenges that we face today will be difficult and will take all of our combined commitment, but one day we will look back together and see that the "impossible" has been done.

It all begins with working together to plant a tree that is "always grounded but never stops reaching heavenward," like this Tree of Peace we install here today. And we will watch our tree's branches grow and its roots deepen, as our partnership grows and strengthens over time. On behalf of all of my colleagues at Henry Schein, congratulations Dr. Guralnick and Dr. Donoff on this wonderful recognition of all that you have done and all you have inspired in others. We are very proud to be affiliated with the Tree of Peace program and to be part of this installation today at Harvard. And we are determined that this Tree will not be our last. Thank you.