March 15, 2016
The Norwegian Nobel Committee
Henrik Ibsens Gate 51 NO0255
Oslo Norway

Dear Members of the Committee;

I am writing to you today, to nominate PeaceJam Foundation co-founders Dawn Engle and Ivan Suwanjieff, and their "One Billion Acts of Peace" Campaign, for the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize. PeaceJam, now in its 20th year, has held almost 400 peace congresses for youth tackling important human rights and social justice issues through targeted curriculum and encouraging millions of service action projects in almost every corner of the world.

With many of our governments in paralysis, unable or unwilling to take the steps necessary to tackle the toughest issues facing our planet, the One Billion Acts of Peace Campaign strives to empower individual citizens, businesses, non-profit organizations, cities and towns, universities and youth to rise up, join together, identify key problems, and actively work to create and implement long-term and sustainable solutions.

The Billion Acts campaign concentrates its efforts in 10 key focus areas including Equal Access to Water, Rights for Women and Children, Alleviating Extreme Poverty, Stopping Climate Change, Ending Racism and Hate, and Halting the Proliferation of Weapons, with the belief that unless we take action to solve these challenges, our own survival is at stake.

In less than two years, the One Billion Acts of Peace campaign has logged over 7 million Acts of Peace from more than 50 countries, inspiring those with ideas for change to take action. By asking people to look at the toughest issues facing humanity and to address issues at their root cause, the Billion Acts campaign has empowered everyday citizens to become important agents of change.

I have worked closely with the PeaceJam Foundation for thirteen years now, and I have been amazed by the scope of their work and the continued progress made. By providing new tools, ideas, and creating and training new leaders, millions of
people have been able to find their voice, and to utilize the PeaceJam platform to change their communities, and in turn the world.

In an era of disillusionment, fear and inactivity, PeaceJam’s One Billion Acts of Peace Campaign inspires action, asking every one of us to be accountable for creating the world we would like to see, and providing a framework to allow us to move towards that vision, together. The movement itself is true peace building magic, at its core.

This year, the PeaceJam Foundation is embarking on a new initiative, designed to be carried out in each member nation of the European Union, in the Balkans, in Turkey, and beyond. The goal of this new initiative is to use the award-winning PeaceJam program to assist in integrating and including newly arrived refugees into their new communities – to build bonds of friendship and respect, support and a shared European identity. I am very excited to see the transformative PeaceJam program being used in this powerful new way.

Therefore, I am very pleased to be nominating PeaceJam’s founders, Dawn Engle and Ivan Suvanjieff, and their One Billion Acts of Peace Campaign, for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017. The dedication involved in their work over the past twenty two years, and the tremendous results engendered by their global movement for peace, make them most worthy of this honor.

Sincerely,

Shirin Ebadi
2003 Nobel Peace Laureate