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## Join Our Bridge Builder Sustainer Program



**Become a Bridge Builder Today!**

Dear Friend,

**Like you, I believe that stories have the power to overcome harmful stereotypes.**

Stories serve as a bridge.

Stories carry us beyond fearful and divisive ideas of “the other” to an understanding of our shared humanity and the possibility for new forms of community.

So many people are afraid of those who look different, love different, or pray different.



**We need your help to reshape the way Americans think about belonging. Far too many of our fellow Americans do not feel that they fully belong.**

Silk Road Rising’s vision has always been one of an America to which we all belong, an Americaone that transcends social fragmentation, polarization, and scapegoating.

But this cannot happen when certain stories and certain experiences are excluded from our cultural fabric.

This week, [The Washington Post](#) published the results of their study on Muslim



Muslims.

After examining more than 850,000 articles published between the years of 1996 and 2015, they found that **78 percent of all stories mentioning Muslims or Islam were negative.**

When considering non-terrorism-related articles mentioning Muslims, 69 percent were negative. **Compared to other religious traditions, Islam is the only faith that received overwhelmingly unfavorable coverage.**

[Learn more about the study here](#)

**This is why Silk Road Rising has made a commitment to focusing our next two years on Muslim American voices.**

Over the past sixteen years, Silk Road Rising has served as a home to playwrights of Asian, Middle Eastern, and Muslim heritage. When these voices are heard and these stories are told, they counter the disinformation and fear that pervades the world around us.

**But, this work cannot continue without you playing a starring role as a [Bridge Builder](#).**

Without challenging limited worldviews, there is no change. And without sufficient funding, we cannot continue to support artists who spark this change.

Please join our [Bridge Builder Sustainer Program](#), a monthly giving program, to give voice to stories that help us make sense of our complex world.

**Friend, in giving to Silk Road Rising, you help build an America to which we all belong.**

Your gifts support stories of communities that, that frequently are not just disliked, but despised. This is where Silk Road Rising's work becomes critical to national healing.



**Now, more than ever, we need to hear each other's stories. You can help us tell these stories.**

With immense gratitude for your commitment and support,

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PS: Silk Road Rising cannot exist without your continued support. Thank you for supporting our work. Giving online is easy! Sign up as a monthly donor or as a one time donor here: <https://www.silkroadrising.org/yearend>



Actor, performer and playwright Christine Bunuan discusses development of her solo show, "Christmas at Christine's" at Silk Road Rising and demonstrates the impact of your support.

## Donate to Silk Road Rising

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