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## *Alumni Book Exhibition*



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*May 24, 2011*



## **EXHIBITORS**

*Nazek Abou Alwan Abed*

*Julinda Abu Nasr*

*Sleiman Bakhti*

*Ginane Makki Basho*

*Lama Bendak*

*Arminee Choukassizian*

*Hassan Daaboul*

*Leila Shaheen Da Cruz*

*Suad Freiji Dirani*

*Anahid Doniguian*

*Mona Fleifel*

*Amal Freiji*

*Noha Tabbara Hammoud*

*Hadia Harb*

*Ahmad Houri/Nisrine Houri*

*Mutayyam Jamal*

*Randa El Kadi*

*Rima Karaki*

*Hayat Karanouh*

*Khaled Khatib*

*Dany Houry*

*Zaven Kouyoumdjian*

*Henry Matthews*

*Nuha Musallam*

*Aida Naaman*

*Anisah Najjar*

*Emily Nasrallah*

*Anita Nassar*

*Nour Salman*

*Najwa Shaheen*

*Fatima Sharafeddine*

*Salpi Simitian*

*Mohamad Sraje*

*Mona Yakzan*

*Dimas Yassine*

*Rania Zagher*

#### Nazek Abou Alwan Abed



Nazek Abou Alwan Abed was born in Barouk-Shouf in 1937. She is married to Fawzi Abed and has five children. She studied in the National Evangelical School and in 1962 graduated from BCW (now LAU). She received her PHD from Fairfax University in the United States. She was the director of West Hill College-Baakline, a private secondary school, for 25 years.

Abed has published widely in various Lebanese magazines and newspapers, and presented a number of public lectures. She has written two books in Arabic, *Shajart El Jawz* and *Al Mazar*, and is currently writing a third.

#### Julinda Abu Nasr



Julinda Abu Nasr studied at Beirut University College (now LAU) and at several universities in the USA, and earned her PhD from Florida State University. She taught for 35 years at LAU, where she founded the Institute for Women Studies in the Arab World and served as its Director for 24 years, and served as director of the university's Early Childhood Laboratory for 20 years.

Abu Nasr has also worked extensively in community service, introducing the Basic Living Skills Program to abolish social illiteracy among women.

Abu Nasr's publications include 16 studies on children, 21 studies on women, five children's storybooks, two music books (with cassettes) for children, two poetry books for children, ten short stories for semi-literate women, ten short stories for secondary students on civic education, a guide for writers of children's stories, two guides for setting up school and public libraries, and two books on conflict control.

#### Sleiman Bakhti



Sleiman Bakhti is a writer, critic, publisher and translator. Bakhti has participated in and organized several cultural and intellectual events throughout Lebanon and the Arab world.

#### Ginane Makki Basho



**Ginane** Bacho has worked in a wide range of the arts, including painting, sculpture, printmaking, and photography. Her interest in the art of the book stems, moreover, from her background in and love of French and Arabic literature. She combines images and words artfully to produce handmade limited-edition books.

Bacho's work is in many private and public collections around the world, including the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washinton D.C.; the Museum of Cabo Frio in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; the Bibliotheque Nationale de Paris; the Lebanese Consulates in Los Angeles, New York, and other cities; and the Centre Culturel Françaisin Beirut.

<http://www.ginane.com>

#### Lama Bendak



Lama Bendak Baltagi is an educational counselor and evaluator, currently completing her dissertation in education. She worked with NGOs in developing curriculum and quality assurance for the Kingdom of Jordan. She is a psychology instructor at the Lebanese University, and has published widely in magazines and journals. She has also been interviewed on radio and television many times. Two decades of experience teaching regular and special-needs students enriched the practical section in her book *صعوبة القراءة*.

A mother of a 13-year-old boy and a nine-year-old girl, Baltagi is a member of two social-welfare associations dedicated to students with special needs.

#### Arminee Choukassizian



Arminee Choukassizian received her bachelor's degree in 1961 from Beirut College for Women, where she majored in education and minored in English literature. She went on to obtain her master's in English literature from American University of Beirut in February 1966. In April 1988 she graduated from Queen Mary College, University of London, with an MPhil in English literature.

Choukassizian is a classical pianist with a passion for the works of Chopin. She recently offered all the proceeds from a public recital to a charitable cause. At present she is working on publishing a collection of her short stories.

#### Hassan Daaboul



Hassan M. Daaboul is a graduate of LAU (BSc '00, MBA '08). He established the first architectural glass industry in Syria, and founded related businesses in artistic glass, automatic entrances, and aluminum and glass contracting.

Dabboul is active in Syrian civil society, as a Trustee in the Bidaya establishment, a board member in the Syrian Exporters Federation, and a founding member of the Syrian Green Building Council. He has also been a board member of LAU Alumni's Damascus chapter since its establishment.

Dabboul is married, with two sons and two daughters.

#### Leila Shaheen Da Cruz



Leila Shaheen da Cruz received her bachelor's in 1947 from the American University of Beirut, where she majored in science. For most of her professional life, however, she worked in journalism, publishing and public relations. She was also the business representative for Newsweek, the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post for Lebanon and the Arab countries.

Da Cruz has been active in social work all her life, having served in leading positions in the Lebanon YWCA, including eight years as a member of the World YWCA Executive Committee.

Married to Daniel da Cruz Jr., she is a mother of two and a grandmother of four.

#### Suad Freiji Dirani



Suad Freiji Dirani was born in Baalbeck. She received her primary-school education there before attending the American School in Saida.

Dirani received her bachelor's in education in 1953 from Beirut University College (now LAU). She is married to Nassim Dirani, with whom she has three children.

#### Mona Fleifel



Mona Fleifel found peace sitting in a child's world, reaching for its purity, clarity and imagination. Her goal was to develop books for children that grow with them as they become adults.

Working with children inspires her to give form to half-perceived thoughts, enlightening and reviving her dreams for a better world.

#### Anahid Doniguian



Anahid Doniguian's recipes are mouth-watering, and her directions are clear and easy to follow. Her numerous cookbooks in Arabic, English and French are landmarks in the field of culinary instruction. As a child, she used to watch and assist her mother spending hours in the kitchen preparing meals and desserts for the family. Today she is dedicated to sharing these recipes.

#### Amal Freiji



Amal Freiji is an author of children's books. Born and raised in Zahle, she received her bachelor's degree from the Lebanese American University and her MA in education from the American University of Beirut.

Freiji is the creator of Lughati An-Namya, an integrated educational language program series (including Beituna, Al'abuna and Ashabuna) for ages 4-6. She is also the author of 21 story- and picture-books for children ages 4-9.

#### Noha Tabbara Hammoud



Noha Tabbara Hammoud is a writer and painter. She is the wife of Dr. Mufid Hammoud, and mother of artist Dana Hammoud and engineer Bassel Hammoud.

She writes novels, short stories and poems for adults, and stories, poems, puppet plays and songs for children. She is the author and composer of Reading Song.

#### Hadia Harb



Hadia Harb received her Ph.D. from Ohio State University. As a professor of education at LAU, she planned and conducted teacher-training workshops as well as curating several exhibitions of educational materials. She was chair of the education department and later became dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. During that period she published several articles on language and culture (the subject of her doctoral dissertation) and four books: Arabic You Need (spoken Arabic for beginners), An Intermediate Colloquial Arabic Course, A Dictionary of Arabic Idioms, and Elements of Modern Literary Arabic. Harb has also been a full-time professor at Villanova University, and a part-time professor at the American University of Beirut and Haigazian University.

#### Ahmad Houry/Nisrine Hour



Dr. Ahmad Houry is an associate professor at LAU, a lover of nature photography and an avid environmental conservationist. He teaches Chemistry and environmental science at LAU and had many papers and presentations in international conferences and journals. The books and an associated online database are an attempt to document the beautiful nature of Lebanon and bring it closer to the average citizen.

Nisrine Machaka-Houry is an environmentalist who received her Post Graduate Diploma in Biodiversity Conservation and Management from the University of London in 2006. She is currently pursuing her PhD studies with the University of Reading.

Together, they have published the first Field Guide to Wildflowers of Lebanon in 2001 with 240 color photographs of flowers. In 2008, they published the second volume which has another 400 photographs of wild plants from Lebanon.

#### Mutayyam Jamal



Mutayyam Jamal was born in Kuwait in 1984. He has a BA with honors in communication arts (TV, film, and theater) from the Lebanese American University. He is passionate about the humanities, especially Arab and Islamic heritage, and has more than ten years experience studying ancient Arabic literature, culture, history, religion and sociology. This novel is his first literary work.

#### Randa El Kadi



Randa El Kadi was born in Beirut in 1957 of Lebanese parents. She completed French High School in 1977, and received her BA in public administration from the American University of Beirut in 1981. She married in 1980 and had three children.

Kadi decided to challenge herself by pursuing a master's degree in international affairs at LAU, which she completed in 2010.

#### Rima Karaki



Rima Karaki is a television host, radio presenter, author and media trainer. She began her career as a host of the Arab world's most influential morning program, 'Alam al Sabah, where she established her open, warm-hearted personal style. After more than ten years of experience, she moved on to co-host and produce Personal Matters with Dr. Raed Mohsen, a call-in show dealing with Arab viewers' most challenging and often intimate issues. Building on her degrees in business computing from LAU and in educational management and leadership from American University of Beirut, Karaki succeeded in entering the world of celebrity families and celebrity couples to explore relationships and mentalities from a deep angle. Her latest show, No Hard Feelings (Bidoun Za3al), promises to be a landmark in emotional candor and openness. An advocate for sincere personal change through media, Karaki is also engaged in writing as a regular columnist. Her first book, Tonight I will confess, has received critical acclaim in literary circles, and reached number two in sales at the Arab Book Exhibition of 2010.

#### Hayat Karanouh



Hayat Karanouh was trained as an economist, but has since devoted herself to photography and turned her passion into a career. Her first book on the culture and traditions of South Lebanon, *And the Smile Remains...*, was published by Dar An-Nahar in 2001. She produced the photographs for Zaven Kouyoumdjian's *Lebanon Shot Twice* in 2003, also published by Dar An-Nahar. She and Alexander Najjar together published *Passion for Reading* with Dar An-Nahar in 2005, and *Passion for Football* with Librairie Antoine in 2006.

She has exhibited her works in individual and collective exhibitions in Lebanon and abroad, and has been the recipient of several awards.

#### Khaled Khatib



Khaled Nabil Khatib holds a doctorate in management of information technology and a master of science in information technology from Lawrence Technological University (Michigan, USA), as well as a bachelor of science in computer sciences from the Lebanese American University. He worked for Ford Motor Company in Michigan as a process methodologist for system development life cycles, and moved to fill a position as a lead systems analyst for the College Board in Virginia, where he currently resides. His 2008 doctoral dissertation is titled "Banking IT Merger of Equals."

### Dany Khoury



Danny Khoury is an experimental graphic designer specializing in print, branding, packaging and product design. He also works in web design, animation, installation, photomontage and illustration, and is interested in architecture, music and cinematography.

Khoury believes that design is not a commercial end in itself, but rather an experimental process to establish and communicate visually compelling brand identities and forms, which in turn attract the minds of viewers in a consumer world.

Khoury was born and studied in Beirut. He began his career with six years at Med K&K, where he worked on marketing, corporate identities, printed artwork and ad campaigns for billboards, magazines and television. He subsequently worked as a consultant for TagBrands, and as an instructor at Hariri Canadian University. He is currently a full-time freelance designer and consultant.

### Zaven Kouyoumdjian



Zaven Kouyoumdjian is a Lebanese TV celebrity, talk show host and producer.

His top-rated show Sire Wenfatahit on FTV is now the longest-running talk show on any Arab satellite station, sparked a new genre in Arab talk TV, and has created some of last decade's most unforgettable moments on Arab television.

Newsweek magazine named him one of the 43 most influential people in the Middle East.

In 2003, Kouyoumdjian published his first book, Lebanon Shot Twice. The bestseller quickly became a Lebanese classic, featuring the untold stories of the Lebanese civil war. A third revised trilingual edition of the book was published in 2009. He is currently working on his second book, about the history of Lebanese and Arab television and its impact on social, political and cultural change over the last half-century.

### Henry Matthews



Henry Matthews' many passions include painting, comic books, poetry, and the history of aerospace exploration. He is also active in animal care.

Matthews was co-winner of the Best Arabic Scientific Book Award from the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) in 1993 for his 370-page book, Encyclopedia of Rocket Aircraft and Space Shuttles. He received the Yuri Gagarin Medal in 2004 from cosmonaut Aleksander Viktorenko in Beirut.

Matthews has held several exhibitions of his paintings and one exhibition about Lebanese comic books. He wrote and published the Encyclopedia of Lebanese Comic Books in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture in 2010.

Matthews briefly studied engineering at American University of Beirut before transferring to Beirut University College (now LAU), where he graduated in 1980 with a bachelor's in Fine Arts. He worked in the Arabic comics industry for years before joining AUB as an editor. He has also taught graphic design at AUB and International College. He has written and lectured widely about his interests.

### Nuha Musallam



Nuha Musallam was born in Jdeidit-Marjayoun in South Lebanon. She received her high school diploma from the National Evangelical School, and her bachelor's in 1984-85 from Beirut University College (now LAU) through the University of New York. During the civil war her family lived in Orlando, Florida, where they established the Arab American Community Center (AACC). Musallam became an ardent activist, writing in support of Lebanese, Palestinian and pan-Arab causes in several newspapers and magazines.

Musallam has published two books of short stories in Arabic, Maahu Haq Neirun and Kana ya Habibi. She is an active member of the YWCA and the Women's League. She returned home because "Lebanon needs us to fulfill its dreams of full sovereignty, independence and freedom."

#### Aida Naaman



Aida Naaman was born in Shwaifat, a village in the suburbs of Beirut. She completed her elementary and secondary education in Shwaifat, then followed her cousins to Beirut to study at LAU (then BCW), where she majored in Arabic language and literature. She planned at the time to become a literature instructor. Upon graduating in 1960, Naaman was approached by Dr. Francis Grey (then the President of BCW), who suggested she take a job in the library cataloguing Arabic books. Finding this work challenging and enjoyable, she decided to pursue a graduate degree in librarianship and become a librarian. She received her master's degree in library and information science from the University of Minnesota in 1970, then worked at Jafet Library and the Engineering and Architecture Library at the American University of Beirut. In 1980 she left AUB to begin teaching as an assistant professor of information and documentation at Lebanese University.

Naaman has worked since 1989 as library director at LAU Beirut. She has written and published many short stories in literary journals such as al- Adib, Al- Hikmat and al- Adab. She has also published books for children and has recently begun writing a novel.

#### Anisah Najjar



Anisah Rawdah Najjar was born in Beirut in 1913 and graduated from American University of Beirut in 1936. An advocate of women's liberation, she has founded three societies dedicated to the cause, as well as being an active member of several international bodies. Najjar published "Literacy of the mind: a syllabus for the Lebanese social worker" and "Fouad Najjar: about the Land and the Human Being" (in memory of her husband, the late minister of agriculture). She has received the Lebanese Merit decoration twice, among many other awards.

#### Emily Nasrallah



Emily Nasrallah began her journalistic and writing career while still at the college level, and has since worked variously as a novelist, journalist, freelance writer, teacher, lecturer, and women's rights activist. Her debut novel, *Birds of September*, was published in 1962 and won three Arabic literary prizes. It is now in its tenth edition. It was followed by seven novels, four children's books, and seven short-story collections which explore themes such as family roots, Lebanese village life, the war in Lebanon and the struggle of women for independence and self-expression. She is one of a number of Lebanese women authors known as the Beirut decentrists, who stayed in Beirut, shared the experience of the war and wrote about the conflict.

#### Anita Nassar



Anita Farah Nassar is currently the assistant director at the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World at the Lebanese American University. She is also an instructor in the education department. Nassar graduated from the Beirut College for Women (now LAU) in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in education (early childhood and elementary). In 2004, she graduated with a master's degree in education (early childhood).

Nassar was the treasurer and a member of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), Lebanese Chapter, from 1978 to 2000. She has extensive experience in training of trainers for social, educational, and gender-based violence programs. Nassar has several publications, most recent one: *Guide for Working in Women Lebanese Prisons*. (2011). Beirut: IWSAW, LAU/UNFPA.

#### Nour Salman



Nour Salman is a full professor of Arabic literature and comparative literature and Islamic thought at the Lebanese University. She has supervised master's and PhD theses, and lectured in universities in the Arab world, Europe, North Africa and the United States. She has published academic research as well as creative literature.

#### Najwa Shaheen



Najwa Shaheen Haffar has been involved in writing, editing and translation since her college days. As a freshman at American Junior College (now AUB), she was part of a group that started the college's first newspaper, Scoop. At the American University of Beirut she studied English literature and journalism. She married Kamal Haffar in 1954 and lived in Damascus for thirteen years, before returning to Beirut in 1967. She has two sons and a daughter who live in Austria, California and South Africa respectively.

Since 1986, Haffar has been the editor of al-Kulliyah, the AUB alumni magazine.

Haffar wrote her memoirs in 2009, mainly to record the history and customs of the past century, and to preserve the memories of her generation. It was originally intended as a gift to the children and grandchildren of her family, but seems now to have caught the attention of many others.

#### Fatima Sharafeddine



Fatima Sharafeddine, winner of several awards and honors for her publications, has been fully dedicated to writing for children and young adults since 2001. At university she studied early childhood education and modern Arabic literature. She conducts writing workshops and participates regularly in Lebanon's International Reading Week and the Beirut Book Festival, and is active in several organizations dedicated to children's literature.

#### Salpi Simitian



Salpi B. Simitian is a writer of children's stories. Her primary concern is to raise awareness about the natural environment and to inspire engagement among children. Her work also seeks to acquaint young readers with the history of the Levant and the Mediterranean region.

Simitian received a BA in communication arts, journalism with distinction in 2009 from LAU. She has published numerous articles in the university's periodicals. She currently focuses on researching and writing stories for children with the goal of nurturing their interest in history and the environment. She hopes that her stories will encourage and motivate children to become responsible citizens who take care of the environment and foster peace. The Little Cedar Tree is her first storybook for children.

Simitian is also a second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and the mother of two. She lives and works in Lebanon.

### Mohamad Sraje



Mohamad Sraje is Senior Economic Researcher at the General Union of Arab Chambers, the first Arab NGO to address and develop the basics of economic integration between Arab countries, enhancing regional cooperation at both the commercial and investment levels.

He has a background in the Lebanese Banking System.

Sraje completed his bachelor's and master's degrees in business from the Lebanese American University (LAU). He was listed for academic distinction six times in his years at LAU.

### Dima Yassine



Dima Yassine is an LAU student majoring in journalism. She enjoys reading, listening to music, making new friends, and above all, writing. Her book aims to translate her love for her father, whose death was her life's greatest loss.

### Mona Yakzan



Mona Yakzan is a Lebanese Cypriot artist working in the field of illustration, graphics and animation. She was brought up in Cyprus and studied there from nursery through university. She completed her degree in computer graphics and animation at Frederick University, Nicosia, continued her studies at the University of Central England, then returned to her native city of Beirut, where she received a degree in digital graphics with high distinction from the Lebanese American University.

Yakzan freelances in several fields, including animated short movies, children's books, and awareness campaigns. She had won several awards, most recently the Bank Audi Lebanese Liras Master Card design competition. She has illustrated several children books published in Greece and the Middle East. Yakzan has also taught workshops in animation and illustration. She strongly believes that graphics, illustration and animation constitute the lingua franca of our century.

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### Rania Zaghir



Rania Zaghir is a young writer and publisher. Her books have won both local and international awards, and have been translated into Italian, Korean and German. Her writings aim to develop self-understanding among Arab children by shedding light on their own inner worlds. Her favorite hobbies are whistling and day dreaming.