



AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

**Thursday
May 4, 18** **AWN Coffee & Speaker Series**
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Khalidiya Palace

MAY EVENTS

**Tuesday
May 2** **Explorers: Nurai Island**
10:15 a.m.

**Friday
May 5** **Grape Tasting**
7-9 p.m.
Manhattan Lounge
St. Regis, Saadiyat

**Tuesday
May 16** **Explorers:
The Green Planet, Dubai**
8:45 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Tuesday
May 30** **Explorers:
Guggenheim Abu Dhabi**
10 a.m.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays **Social Bridge**
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Various Locations

Mondays **Art Club**
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Fanr Cafe, Saadiyat

**Mondays
May 1, 15, 22** **Knitting Group**
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Bee's Knees Cafe,
Nation Towers

Wednesdays **Golf Clinic & Lessons**
9 & 10:45 a.m.
Abu Dhabi Golf Club
Sas Al Nakhl

**Monday
May 22** **Book Club**
1 - 3 p.m. // 7 - 9 p.m.
Various Locations

Various Days **Tennis**
Khalidiya Palace
Tennis Courts

A LETTER FROM SUSAN

It's May! Where did the year go? The summer temperatures are just around the corner! We say good-bye to those who are moving, and a heartfelt welcome to our newest members! We have welcomed over 200 newcomers this year. We've had an exciting and busy year with activities ranging from our Coffee & Speaker Series to MahJong, Bridge, Knitting, Tennis, Book Club, Golf, Newcomer's Coffees and loads of Explorers Outings.

May continues to show that AWN has the most enthusiastic ladies! Even as the school year winds down, we continue to be in high gear by adding more fun dates onto the calendar! You won't want to miss our upcoming Grape Tasting Event on Friday evening, May 5, (see below) or our trip on Tuesday, May 16, to Dubai's new Green Planet Bio-dome (the region's first of its kind) as well as time to shop at the Souk Madinat. (see pg. 5)

During the summer months we will continue to have our Morning Coffees on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays so keep us on your calendar!

**Best Regards,
Susan Foster, AWN Co-President**

MAY SOCIAL EVENT

AN EVENING OF OLD AND NEW WORLD GRAPE TASTING

Join us along with your husband or friend, for a relaxing evening with a welcome glass of Moet and Chandon followed by six grape varieties from France, South Africa, Italy, California, the Rhone Valley, and Australia. Tasting notes will be provided to guide you through each. There will be an opportunity to buy at a discounted rate at the end of the evening with delivery to your local store.

We will also have delicious hot and cold canapes and a prize draw!

**Friday, May 5 | 7 - 9 p.m. | 200 AED per person
Manhattan Lounge at the St. Regis, Saadiyat Island**

Email socialevents@awnabudhabi.com for more information.

AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

Thursday, May 4 – Smart Tips for Smart Devices
Bhavani Suresh, CEO of Nbiz infosol & Esafe

We all love our cell phones, iPads, laptops and TVs, but how secure are these smart devices? Join us at the next AWN Coffee & Speaker Series as we welcome Bhavani Suresh, CEO of Nbiz infosol and founder of Esafe, for an informational look in to personal cyber security. With over 18 years of experience in Information Technology and Security, Ms. Suresh will educate us on cyber threats and the simple solutions we can utilize every day to secure our smart devices and protect our personal information.

Thursday, May 18 – Helping Kids Around the World
Tricia Evans, Gulf for Good

Gulf for Good, a registered not-for-profit organization based in Dubai, has taken nearly 1,300 individuals on exhilarating 'bucket-list' challenges around the world. These challenges not only provide adventure to thrill seekers, the challenges provide financial support for children's charities in the country where the challenges take place. To date Gulf for Good Challengers have raised nearly \$4 million – that's a huge difference in the lives of literally thousands of children around the world. Whether or not adventure challenges are your 'thing', come and be inspired by Tricia Evans, as she shares stories of doing good while having fun.

SHUKRAN!

AWN members were treated to a mesmerizing cultural presentation by our guest speaker, **Dr. Zeinab S. Farah**, founder of **Bayt Al Qindeel**. Dr. Farah shared her passion for Islamic art, highlighting techniques, traditions, aesthetics, and the evolution of art throughout the centuries. We thank Dr. Farah for inspiring us to seek out the beauty, meditative value and richness of Islamic art that surrounds us here in Abu Dhabi and around the world.

To learn more about Bayt Al Qindeel visit the website: **baytalqindeel.com** or visit baytalqindeel on Instagram.

AWN NEWCOMERS COFFEE



Thursday, May 25 | 10 a.m.

The Membership Services team hosts Newcomers Coffees a few times a year to provide a smaller setting for new ladies to AWN to meet others and to get to know the AWN Board members. AWN is a great networking organization and other women who have attended Newcomers Coffees have found the two hours enjoyable and helpful.

Please email Linda at **membershipawn@gmail.com** and she would be delighted to send you an invitation with all the details. Hope to see all of you on Thursday, May 25!

AWN EASTER BRUNCH



Thank you to the Khalidiya Palace hotel for hosting our annual AWN Easter Brunch. We enjoyed spending time together along with a lively Easter egg hunt, egg decorating contest and prizes. The Easter bunny visited all of us, including a table with past AWN board alumni and our Easter egg decoration winner, Suzanne Schoenthaler!

SAILING

With the wind in our hair, sun on our faces and the thrill of victory, AWN members and their spouses crewed racing yachts with the professionals of Pindar Sailing, and afterwards, were rewarded with a sunset BBQ! Fantastic!

Thank you Mindy Museus, Carol Hammer and Lisa Kennelly for organizing a really great event!



ART CLUB



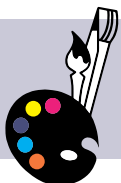
The AWN Art Club is for anyone who has an interest and passion in art.

In general, we use watercolor as a medium because of our limited space at the venue. (However, we started to use the studio at the National Theater on Tuesdays for the acrylics and the oil painters.) The session

begins with an introduction of basic painting theory and techniques, demonstrated by Julia, followed by painting. We have learned sketching, the color wheel, elements of composition, value, etc.

We also organize a special program each month. In February, we invited an art therapist, Dr. Manal, who talked about how art influences the emotional state of a person. In March, we organized a group tour to the Etihad Modern Art Gallery. We were able to hear from the exhibiting artists, five French artists, about their own pieces. And in April, we watched a watercolor demonstration by a local artist, Ms. Muneera, at the National Theater.

We will continue to meet during the summer months at the same time and place.



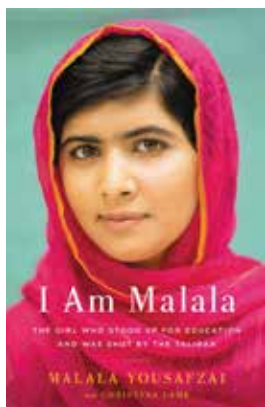
The Art Club meets every Monday, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., at the beautiful Fanr cafe in the Manarat, Saadiyat Island. Please contact Julia, if interested (artclub@awnabudhabi.com).

BRIDGE

The Bridge Club will continue to meet every Sunday from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. until June 25, 2017. We will resume play on September 10, 2017. If you are interested in playing, or haven't played in a while and want to start again, please email us at bridge@awnabudhabi.com to get details, or speak to a bridge coordinator at the general meetings.

Bridge lessons are offered periodically. If you are interested in learning to play, please contact the bridge coordinator as above.

BOOK CLUB



The book selection for **May 22** is *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai.

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education.

I Am Malala is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.

I Am Malala will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world. (Hachette)

We meet on the 4th Monday of the month in various locations, coffee shop/host's flat. We have two meeting times. Afternoon group meets 1 - 3 p.m., and Evening group meets 7 - 9 p.m. You can sign up at the AWN Coffee Morning or by email at bookclub@awnabudhabi.com.

KNITTING GROUP

AWN knits for a cause! Join our newest group, build up your knitting skills and socialize at the same time! All items will be donated. The Knitting Group will meet May 1, 15, and 22, from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Bee's Knees Cafe, Nation Towers. Meetings will not take place during the summer months, but will resume after the summer.

If you plan to attend please send an email to: knit@awnabudhabi.com.



MAH JONG



The Mahjong group is moving to a new location!!! Starting date and further details will be announced through an email to the group. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive the Mahjong announcements/news please send an email to mahjong@awnabudhabi.com.

GOLF

Join the AWN lady golfers every Wednesday morning at Abu Dhabi Golf Club, Sas El Nakhl.

Intermediate lessons begin at 9 a.m. for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole Garden Course (cost 210 AED). Beginner lessons are held at 10:45 a.m. for one hour (cost 110 AED).

You can sign up at the regular AWN Coffee Mornings or by email at golf@awnabudhabi.com.



TENNIS

Beginner's Tennis Lessons are held Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

Attention Intermediate/Advanced players - Join us for drills on Tuesday mornings at 8 a.m. All lessons are one-hour, held at Khalidya Palace Tennis Courts and taught by Tennis Pro, Florin Oprea.

For more information or to sign up, email tennis@awnabudhabi.com.



EXPLORERS

Upcoming Trips

- **Tuesday, May 2: Nurai Island**

Time: 10:15 a.m. // Cost: 250 AED

Inspired by the Arabic word 'nur' meaning 'light' – Nurai Island is a stunning piece of paradise surrounded by the pristine waters of the Arabian Gulf. Our day will start with a leisurely 10-minute boat ride from Saadiyat Island. Upon arrival, we will be given a brief history followed by our very own buggy tour! Next, we will sit down and enjoy a delicious buffet lunch and to end the day, we will have access to the pool until 4 p.m.

Sign up at the Explorers table or email to explorers@awnabudhabi.com.

Experience all of this for only 250AED!

Boat Ride to NURAI ISLAND

A brief history of the island

A buggy tour

Buffet lunch

Pool access until 4 p.m.

- **Tuesday, May 16: The Green Planet and Souk Madinat, Dubai**

Time: Depart Mushrif Mall 8:45 a.m., return 5 p.m. // Cost: 200 AED

The Green Planet is the region's first bio-dome that recreates the enchanting world of a tropical forest with its rich biodiversity of over 3,000 plants and animals. The enclosed ecosystem, located at CITY WALK, will offer visitors an immersive expedition into the tropics, inviting them to delve deeper into the secrets of nature and experience first-hand the magnificence of one of the world's oldest living ecosystems. The Green Planet includes the largest indoor man-made and life-sustaining tree in the world.

Cost includes bus and entrance fee to The Green Planet (free time to shop and have lunch). Lunch is not included.

Please sign up at the next AWN coffee morning on May 4 or email explorers@awnabudhabi.com.

- **Tuesday, May 30: Guided Tour of Guggenheim Abu Dhabi Exhibition**

Time: 10 a.m. // Cost: Lunch 100 AED

Join us for a guided tour of the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi exhibition at Manarat Al Saadiyat featuring more than 25 works in a variety of media – installation, painting, photography, sculpture, video, and works on paper, representing more than 18 artists, followed by a workshop called Deconstructing Decollage: Jacques Village was a major artist in the post-World War II French art scene and is best known for his decollages made from ripped billboard posters found along the streets of Paris. Using his signature technique you will become an urban archeologist and transform magazines, newspapers and paint into a decollage.

Lunch will be had at Fanr restaurant, costing 100 AED.

Sign up at the next AWN coffee morning on May 4 or email explorers@awnabudhabi.com.

EXPLORERS



Emirates Palace Tour - April 25

First, let me formally say that this was the most splendid outing EVER! All the ladies were totally awestruck by the splendor of Emirates Palace. I would venture to say that 90% of us had already visited the “hotel,” but we were never given such open access to the inner chambers of the suites.

This private tour especially for AWN members was excellent; we were shown the parts of the palace usually reserved for royalty and the world wealthiest guests.

What a fabulous excursion! Kennedy was the best tour guide. He provided all the details with such discretion and sprinkled in a lot of good humor. He was very patient while herding his group of ladies. God bless him!

Our luncheon was delicious. It was far more than what we expected.

This was definitely an experience we will remember. BRAVO!

- Bobbie Ramirez

CULTURE GROUP

The CULTURE GROUP scheduled to meet on Sunday, May 7 has been postponed until the fall - the Date-To-Be-Announced.

AWN COOKBOOK

CALLING ALL COOKS, BAKERS AND RECIPE MAKERS. AWN has a fabulous new cookbook! From drinks to desserts and everything in between, all recipes are wanted.

Here's what you need:

- A recipe from your home country or one you enjoy making.
- A small story to go with the recipe for example who gave it to you, why you enjoy it, who made it for you, who you make it for, etc.
- Where you are from.

Log into **bakespace.com** with username **AWNADcookbook**; password **ADcooks**. In the left menu, you will find "ADD A Recipe," an easy online form to fill in. Uploading a pic and writing little backstory makes your recipe even more special. For more info, please email **cookbook@awnabudhabi.com**.

Prefer to hand in a hard copy? No problem. Just hand your recipe in to any member of the committee at our coffee mornings, or send it to **cookbook@awnabudhabi.com**.



SHUKRAN!

As always, AWN wishes to thank **Khalidiya Palace Rayhaan by Rotana** for hosting our Thursday morning coffees. We greatly appreciate its welcoming atmosphere, and its dedication in meeting our needs and expectations.

Members please remember that Khalidiya Palace offers 20% discounts in their restaurants following our coffee gatherings.