

THE NETWORK News

AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

**Thursday,
September 6, 20** **AWN Coffee & Speaker Series**
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Khalidiya Palace Hotel

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tuesday,
September 18** **Explorers**
Cinematography
7:30 p.m.

**Thursday,
September 27** **Avasa Indian Restaurant**
7 p.m.

**Tuesday,
October 2** **Explorers**
Tour of Bait Al Oud
11 a.m.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

**Sundays,
September
16, 23, 30** **Social Bridge**
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
The Club

**Sunday,
September
30** **Yoga**
8:30 a.m.
The Studio

**Mondays,
September
3, 10, 17, 24** **Art Club**
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
National Theater Studio

**Mondays,
September
3, 10, 17, 24** **Golf Clinic**
8:30 a.m.
Abu Dhabi City Golf Club

**Mondays,
September
3, 10, 17, 24** **Knitting Group**
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
The Dome Cafe

**Wednesdays,
September
5, 12, 19, 26** **Golf Clinic**
9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Abu Dhabi Golf Club

**Wednesdays,
September
5, 12, 19, 26** **Mahjong**
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
The Slipway Bar, The Club



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DINNER AT AVASA
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AMERICAN WOMEN'S NETWORK OF ABU DHABI

*Connecting
cultures
through
friendship*

WELCOME FROM AWN CO-PRESIDENTS

Welcome new and current members! Please join us soon at one of our AWN Coffee / Speakers Series events or one of the many activities we have planned throughout the year.

AWN is committed to connecting women of all nationalities through friendship, activities and cultural exchange. Be sure to explore our newsletter and visit our website often for the latest activities, outings and other interesting avenues of community involvement.

Birgitt and I have a change to the AWN board to share with you. We are bidding farewell to our Vice President and Secretary, **Suzanne Texter**, as she and her husband return to the U.S. To say Suzanne will be missed is an understatement. She was one of AWN's biggest cheerleaders and a trusted board member. She would want you to know that her memories of AWN experiences will be forever treasured, as will all of your friendships. Thank you, Suzanne, for your many years of service. We will miss your warm smile, kind heart and helpful spirit.

Birgitt Adams and Carolyn Neubauer
AWN Co-Presidents

SUMMER COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

Coffee & Speaker Series mornings are held on the first and third Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon at Khalidiya Palace Hotel.



On **Thursday, September 6** at 10AM, AWN kicks off the Coffee & Speaker Series with our very own **Dr. Jyotsna Uppal**, Therapist, Coach and Director of Align.

Transition is a continuous condition of expatriate life. In this talk, Dr. Uppal will talk about the specific and unique experience of expatriate living. She will offer a variety of ways in which to think about transition as well as frameworks to support building a dynamic relationship to the local community.

Jyotsna Uppal has a PhD from Columbia University. As a Therapist and Integral Coach she collaborates with individuals, families, and

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groups responding to a broad range of problems and concerns in their lives and relationships. Jyotsna has lived in New York, Singapore and India before moving to the UAE in 2017.

You can learn more at www.align-consulting.com.

**SEPT
20**

How do you view art? On **Thursday, September 20**, our guest speaker, **Allison Maya, of NYU Abu Dhabi Art Gallery**, will discuss the thought-provoking exhibition, *Ways of Seeing*. This exhibit, currently on tour at NYUAD Art Gallery, brings together internationally acclaimed artists; their works in various media formats and how the viewer "sees" these works of art.

SHUKRAN!

Shukran to **Bill Bragin, founding executive artistic director of The Arts Center at New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD)**, a "game-changer" (*The National*) in the UAE since it began its programs in 2015 on Saadiyat Island. On June 7, he shared with us their new exciting programme for 2018/2019 season with our AWN members.



Bragin is a co-founder of the not-for-profit world music festival and service organization globalFEST, 2018 winner of the William Dawson Award for Programmatic Excellence and Sustained Achievement in Programming by the Association of Performing Arts Professionals. As "Acidophilus", he has dJed internationally as part of GlobeSonic Sound System.

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.

SOCIAL EVENTS



Thursday, September 27, at 7 p.m. we have a group reservation at **Avasa**, a fabulous Indian restaurant at the Collection at the St. Regis Saadiyat. They have prepared a special menu for this AWN event which is limited to 30 couples. The cost of the meal is 275 AED per person and includes several tantalizing courses and soft beverages. Alcohol is available on a cash basis. Indian attire is optional, but highly encouraged!

Signups will held at the September 6 and 20 meetings.

Smile! Photos are taken at our events and coffee mornings to be used in our newsletter and website.

The information in this newsletter is provided by the American Women's Network of Abu Dhabi as a service to its members. AWN takes no responsibility for the information provided. Please confirm all details with any of the organizations and contacts listed.

EXPLORERS

Upcoming Events

As we return from holidays in September, the Explorers team is planning two events to launch us on our new set of adventures for 2018/2019.

Tuesday, September 18: Cinematography - *Days of Heaven* (1978)

Time: 7:30 p.m. // Cost: FREE

Location: Manarat Al Saadiyat Auditorium, Saadiyat Cultural District, opposite Cranleigh School Abu Dhabi. Optional dinner at Larte following the film.



Cinema Space shares beautifully restored classics and contemporary world cinema through free community screenings for audiences and enthusiasts in Abu Dhabi. If you haven't gone yet, join us for this unique movie night!

The organizers have put together a special screening of the filmmaker-philosopher Terrence Malick's *Days of Heaven*, which *The Guardian* calls one of the most beautiful films ever made.

Featuring an Oscar-winning cinematography by Nestor Almendros and a young Richard Gere, "the film hovers just beyond our grasp—mysterious, beautiful, and, very possibly, a masterpiece" (*The Chicago Reader*).

To reserve your place please sign up at the Explorer's table at our September 6 coffee morning. You may also email us at explorersawn@gmail.com.

Tuesday, October 2: Musical Adventure - Tour of Bait Al Oud

Time: 11 a.m. // Cost: 30 AED

Location: Villa No. 72, Malqatah St., Al Nahyan. Abu Dhabi

Bait Al Oud (or Home of the Oud) is an incredible musical institute and workshop.

It seeks to preserve the songs and techniques associated with the oud and other important instruments in the UAE. These include the qanun, Middle Eastern cello, and rebab, as well as Arabic singing, Emirati coral, and Arabic Muwashahat. Bait Al Oud hosts performances, offers music lessons and certificate-awarding courses in these instruments.

As a center of both teaching and research, Bait Al Oud aims to preserve traditional Arabic music heritage and nurture a new generation of professional musicians in the UAE who are well versed in the history and repertoire of their instrument.

We will tour the school and learn how the oud is handmade on site. After the tour, Bait Al Oud graduates will put on a private performance for us, as the culmination of a very special tour of this inspirational institution.

The oud is one of humankind's oldest stringed instruments, dating back to the Akkadian Empire (approximately 2350 BCE) in ancient Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq).

To reserve your place please sign up at the Explorer's table at our September 6 or 20 coffee morning. You may also email us at explorersawn@gmail.com.



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EXPLORERS

May 2018 Explorers Event: Permanent Temporariness: An Experience at NYU Abu Dhabi's Art Gallery

As part of their ongoing series in 2018 on refugees, NYUAD Art Gallery has put together a mid-career retrospective of renowned artists Sandi Hilal and Alessandro Petti. The work featured in this show is focused on creating space for refugees to talk about their experience and amplifying their perspectives and voices. Their bigger question "How do we create home and permanence places where we are seen temporary?" resonated with many of AWN explorers who attended the event.

Often the narrative around temporariness and refugees takes on a pitying tone. We left Permanent Temporariness thinking about refugees reclaiming power whether it was by demanding that the Palestinian Dheisheh Refugee Camp be recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site or by organizing a 'Tree School' to share experiences and learn from each other.

The show has a series of installations and it was wonderful to have one of the curators of the exhibit, Bana Kattan, guide us through the rationale and stories that were behind the pieces which made the



experience much richer for many of us. We are very grateful to NYUAD for organizing a great experience for us.

– Maya Bhullar

ACTIVITIES

Greetings from AWN's Activities Team!

Another exciting Abu Dhabi season is about to begin, and our team is looking forward to welcoming back seasoned and new members to our activities.

Over the past couple of years we have had a chance to highlight every activity offered through AWN, as well as our super ladies responsible for the huge success of our program. The aim of this effort was to make everyone aware of the numerous social activities offered by AWN, encourage you to participate and become a member of one or several activities, and finally tempt you to consider joining the AWN volunteering team by offering some of your time to this fabulous organization.

This coming year our focus will be on the heart of AWN – **you**, our valued members. We want to hear your AWN experience and become an inspiration to our new attendees. So stay tuned to our monthly newsletter to meet some of our remarkable activities members.

– Cleo Paleologos AWN Activities Chair

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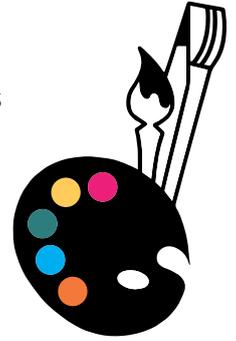
ART CLUB

The Art Club meets at the National Theater Studio every Monday from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. There is a fee of 20 AED per person per visit for the use of the studio. .

This is a place where people who have an interest in drawing and painting meet and paint together regardless of the level of painting skill. We welcome either beginners or those who have previous experience in art. We organize special programs like demos or workshops each month.

We are excited to announce that we will have our own members' art exhibition on October 20 and 21 at the National Theater main exhibition hall. More detail of the exhibition will be announced later.

We welcome new members; please send an email to awnartclub@gmail.com.



SOCIAL BRIDGE

The Social Bridge Club meets every Sunday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. beginning September 16 at the Waterfront Suite, located below the Vista restaurant at the British Club. We welcome Bridge players of all levels.

Bridge lessons are offered periodically. If you are interested in learning to play, please contact the bridge coordinator at bridgeawn@gmail.com or sign up at a coffee morning.

GOLF



We are looking forward to meeting up with all our golfers as everyone returns from vacation, and eager to get back on the golf course.

During the summer months the clinics in both Abu Dhabi Golf Club and Abu Dhabi City Golf Club were merged and held at earlier times to allow for the heat. The clinics were attended by some hardy ladies during the summer months and they endured very hot temperatures.

Golf clinics will return to the normal schedule at Abu Dhabi City Golf Club beginning on Monday, September 3. Combined clinics begin at 8:30 a.m., until further notice. Price includes a complimentary beverage in the clubhouse afterwards. Sign up for four weeks in advance and receive off peak access to the practice facilities for the duration (please note that if you miss a week you cannot carry it over).

Golf clinics will return to the normal schedule at Abu Dhabi Golf Club, Sas El Nakhl beginning on Wednesday, September 5. Advanced Clinic begins at 9 a.m. for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole Garden Course (cost 210 AED* plus VAT). Beginner lessons are held at 10:45 a.m. for one hour (cost 110 AED* plus VAT). *Price includes a complimentary beverage in the clubhouse afterwards.

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

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KNITTING GROUP

Hats and scarves knitted by AWN knitting group that were donated to Providence House, a shelter for women and children in USA.

AWN KNITTING GROUP WILL BE TRYING OUT A NEW VENUE

Mondays, September 3 and 10, AWN Knitting Group will be meeting at The Dome Cafe, Al Wahda Mall, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Please check AWN mid-month update for details of September 17 and 24 meetings.

We are a very relaxed friendly group, all knitters will be made to feel very welcome. Why not come and join us to work on your latest knitting project while making new friends.

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

**MAHJONG**

The Mahjong group meets every Wednesday at the Slipway Bar, The Club, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. We welcome players of all levels, so even if you haven't played before, just come! We would love to teach you.

The 45 AED fee (AED 35 for Club members) covers the entrance to The Club, sandwiches, fruit salad, cookies, coffee, tea and water. Parking is available either inside or outside The Club.

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

TENNIS

Ladies, we hope to begin AWN tennis the first week of October. The sessions are open to Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner Players and are held at the Beach Rotana. The 45-minute lessons start promptly at 8:45 a.m. and end at 9:30 a.m.

Immediately following the lessons, players are welcome to one-hour of complimentary court time (pending availability) and the use of the Beach Rotana pool and locker facilities. Please contact us for more information or to receive updates on lesson availability.

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

**YOGA**

AWN Yoga will meet on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. (beginning again September 30) at The Studio on the Corniche, in the Khalidiya area (just a few steps away from Third Place Café.) Enjoy an hour of yoga with the special price of 50 AED for AWN members only, no walk-ins. Spaces will be limited so those interested please send an email to yogaawn@gmail.com as soon as possible. This will be a pay-as-you-go plan!

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