

THE NETWORK News



UPCOMING
EXPLORERS EVENTS
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AMERICAN WOMEN'S NETWORK OF ABU DHABI

*Connecting
cultures
through
friendship*

AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday,
January 21** **Explorers**
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Emirates Soil Museum

**Tuesday,
January 29** **Explorers**
10:30 a.m.
Louvre Abu Dhabi

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

**Sundays,
December
9, 16** **Social Bridge**
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
The Club

**Sundays,
December
2, 9, 16, 23, 30** **Golf Clinic**
9 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Saadiyat Beach Golf Club

**Sundays,
December
2, 9, 16, 23, 30** **Yoga**
8:30 a.m.
The Studio

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

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

**Mondays,
December
10** **Knitting Group**
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Cafe de la Paix

**Tuesdays,
November 27
December 4, 11, 18** **Tennis**
8:45a.m.
Beach Rotana

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

**Wednesdays,
December
5, 12** **Mahjong**
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
The Slipway Bar, The Club

WELCOME FROM AWN CO-PRESIDENTS

Welcome to our new and current members! Please join us at one of our AWN Coffee Morning/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 and support.

Birgitt and I have a change to the AWN board to share with you. We are bidding a fond farewell to our **Activities Chair, Cleo Paleologos**. Cleo has been in her position since 2015, and has overseen no less than eight different activities that meet on a weekly basis! These activities make AWN a vibrant and constant presence in the lives of our members. We know the many coordinators who have worked with Cleo will miss her enthusiastic support and guidance. Cleo is remaining in Abu Dhabi and we look forward to participating with her in the many activities she has helped to establish. We thank you Cleo for your service to AWN and its members!

Birgitt Adams and Carolyn Neubauer
AWN Co-Presidents

COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

AWN Coffee & Speaker Series are held twice a month on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until noon at the Khalidiya Palace Rayhaan by Rotana. Please check in our Newsletter or Mid-Monthly Update e-mail for exact dates.



Get into the holiday spirit with a merry AWN Special Coffee! Join us on December 6 for our very own **AWN Art Club's Exhibition**, enjoy complimentary holiday treats, meet new members and socialize with old friends. This will be our last AWN Coffee until January 2019.

We Ho Ho Hope to see you there!

continued on next page

**JAN
10**

LOOKING AHEAD...

January 10: Hanan Sayed Worell - Table Tales: The Global Nomad Cuisine of Abu Dhabi, book talk & signing. Hanan is a specialist in international and cultural projects and not new to AWN. As an Arabic native speaker and long-time resident in the region we are proud to have her back as she guides us through her book on a culinary pilgrimage of homes, streets and flavours. Please note that Hanan's book will be on sale and she will be more than happy to sign it! Fabulous coffee table book and gift! Retail price DHS 320. www.tabletales.me
<https://gulfnews.com/uae/tracing-abu-dhabis-global-nomad-cuisine-1.60476728>

**JAN
24**

January 24: Caroline Faraj - Vice President & Head of Arabic Services, CNN Dubai. We are thrilled to welcome Caroline Faraj and invite her to share her amazing experience and career path as she joined CNN in 2001 and subsequently launched the CNN Arabic site in 2002. A woman who has been right at the top here for many years!

SHUKRAN!



Shukran, applause and deepest gratitude to our phenomenal speaker, **His Excellency Mohammed Abdul Jalil Al Fahim**. Mr. Fahim's witty and riveting tales of the early days in Abu Dhabi and his personal accounts of the great Sheikh Zayed captivated and charmed the overflowing crowd of AWN members. Thank you, Your Excellency, for providing us with a historical glimpse into the lives of Emiratis of years past.



A very special thank you to our amazing guest speaker, **Mr. Damon Hewlin**, founding partner and design principal of **Meticulous Design + Architecture**. Damon took us on an informative journey, recounting the design and building of The Founder's Memorial. To see and hear the back story of the "meticulous" process gave us a true appreciation for this masterpiece. Shukran, Damon for sharing this fascinating story with AWN.

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.

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

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EXPLORERS

Upcoming Events

December: there will be no organized outings

Monday, January 21st – Environmental Adventure: Emirates Soil Museum Tour - “Why We Still Have Hunger”

Location: Dubai // Time: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. // Cost: 160 AED (includes transportation, entrance and tour fee)

Let's immerse ourselves in the world of soil at this unique tour of the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture and Soil Museum (opened in 2016). We will learn the “soil story” through indoor and outdoor exhibits and will be introduced to the global food security problem. Learning about food demand and supply, economic and environmental constraints, and agriculture research and technology will give us a better understanding of this major global issue.

To reserve your place please sign up at the coffee morning or email explorersawn@gmail.com.

Tuesday, January 29th – Cultural Adventure - Roads of Arabia: Archaeological Treasures of Saudi Arabia Exhibit

Location: Louvre Abu Dhabi // Time: 10:30 a.m. // Cost: 60 AED (includes private tour; additional entrance fee for non-members will apply)

Would you like to join us for a private tour of The Louvre, Abu Dhabi's latest exhibition? The Roads of Arabia is a very special display of ancient pieces of art all connected by routes of trade. Whilst this fascinating tale of regional history is open to us all from now until February, we believe it will be well worth the wait until late January for our own private guide to bring it alive and of course, answer all your questions! No doubt, we'll follow on at the café, taking in the lovely waterside views and some coffee or lunch.

To reserve your place please sign up at the coffee morning or email explorersawn@gmail.com.

EXPLORERS TEAM SUGGESTIONS

Welcome to the new Explorers Team Suggestion Section! Here are some events the Explorers Team found interesting, you can enjoy these visits on your own or with your family!

NYUAD – Remote Abu Dhabi: A performance walk in the streets and different venues in the city.

Every Friday of December and January 2019 // Free event // Where: In and Around Abu Dhabi // Tickets

Available: Jan 11, 18, 25 (available late December)

www.nyuad-artscenter.org/en_US/events/2018/remote-abu-dhabi/

The project Remote X addresses the imminent reality of artificial intelligence in the cities of the future. It uses the world as a sort of mobile research experimental lab and has been presented in 24 cities across the world from the Americas to Eastern and Western Europe, Russia, and India. Each new site-specific version builds on the dramatic structure of its previous hosting venue, looking for similar but not necessarily identical places in each city and writing new storylines with each new site. In Remote Abu Dhabi, a computer-generated voice guides participant on foot through a sequence of indoor and outdoor locations carefully selected in the city. While walking through the city, each member of the audience will see familiar and unfamiliar sites come to life as if emerged in a set for an imaginary film.

Dubai National History Group (DNHG)

Dhow and Camping Trip to Daymaniyat Islands in Oman from 13/14 to 15 December 2018

<https://enhgauh.tidyhq.com/public/schedule/events>

Exclusive dhow trip to the natural reserve of Daymaniyat Islands with an overnight camping and two days of snorkeling and exploring this archipelago with rich marine and bird life. Daymaniyat islands is a natural reserve with restricted access: the islands are closed to visitors in summer months to allow for undisturbed breeding of birds and marine life.

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Sheikh Zayed Heritage (Al Wathba) Festival

Dec 1st, 2018 to Jan 26th, 2019

www.zayedfestival.com/en/

Visitors embark on a cultural voyage blending UAE and world heritage in an immersive, interactive collection of performances, pavilions and events.

AWN EXPLORERS PAST EVENTS



Global Village Visit

A group of 35 ladies gathered at Mushrif Mall on November 6th to embark on a global shopping adventure to find special items from all over the world at Global Village in Dubai. Global Village claims to be the world's largest tourism, leisure, shopping and entertainment project. It is the region's first cultural, entertainment, family and shopping destination. This year it opened on October 30.

Our experience at Global Village was not just a shopping experience; the culinary options, background music, and objects sold all led us to experience new lands quickly and conveniently! We could not explore all twenty-four available pavilions that housed different countries, but had fun searching for special items and bargains in "countries" such as Iran, Syria, Georgia, Kenya, Yemen, India, etc. For some ladies this was the first time to visit the venue, but others were regular customers!

Besides being a fun and unique place to shop for home goods, presents, and delicious food, the Global Village represents the UAE in many ways, bringing together different cultures and traditions to be shared by visitors from all places.

Founder's Memorial Tour

On Tuesday, November 20th, a group of 35 AWN adventurous ladies met at the Founder's Memorial Visitor Center to learn about an amazing work dedicated to the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the founding father of the UAE. We enjoyed an introduction by the project's architect Damon Hewlin, who graciously offered to be our tour guide. As he led us towards the memorial, he talked us through their architectural and engineering journey. When we arrived at the foot of the memorial, we looked up at the 30-meter tall pavilion which houses "The Constellation," the centerpiece of the work. Using 1,327 platonic solids (constituted by 5 different types of geometric shapes) suspended at different heights, artist Ralph Helmick recreated a 3-D image of the Father's face as a constellation in the night sky. We had fun trying to find the Big and Little Dippers! A final stroll on the elevated walkway that encircles the site, let us appreciate the artwork from different perspectives and angles. Given our position in the



country as expat women, it was important to our understanding of our home here, its history and values, to learn deeply about the symbolism behind the memorial. Our new knowledge about the Sheikh Zayed Memorial helps us understand our role in his vision of a modern society.

—M. Cristina G, Explorers Team

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NEWCOMERS' COFFEE



Whether you are new to Abu Dhabi, or new to AWN, we love to see you at our meetings, our activities, and at our events! A few times a year, we are happy to get to know you better at our special Newcomers Coffee Morning! On November 8th, 20 wonderful ladies who were new to AWN gathered together to share their stories, speak with board members and make new friends. We loved getting to know all of you!

Our two past Membership Services Chairs (Linda Nagle and Monica Warner) reunite with our current chair (Sara Healey) over Bridge at the Club in November.



ART CLUB MEMBER PROFILE: MARTY HOLM



How many of you have tried ebru? Or encaustic? Or intaglio? Or Pointillism? I have!

Before relocating to Abu Dhabi, I had absolutely no idea what any of those terms meant. Now, I am extremely comfortable and confident working in any of those techniques; having learned valuable skills to utilize those techniques in order to express myself creatively.

That is the invaluable gift I have been given, as a member of the AWN Art Club. Not everything I have created in the last 22 months is good, or even adequate. Yet, every single technique I have tried has taught me the countless benefits of exercising creativity, most notably the relationships of color, and how relaxing it is to create! Of course, I have the goal to become proficient in (at least one) technique, be it watercolor, acrylic, etc. In the meantime, I am simply enjoying the process of creating art!

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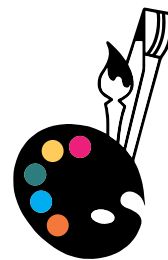
ART CLUB

The Art Club Meets at the National Theater Studio every Monday from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. 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 organize special programs like demos and workshops. There is a fee of 20 AED per visit for the use of the studio.

On Thursday December 6, we will have an art exhibition during the AWN Coffee Morning. Our members will showcase one of their paintings using watercolor, acrylic or oil, and two of our longest Art Club members will be talking about their experience with us and what progress they have made since joining.

Please note the Art Club will not meet on the following dates due to holidays: December 3 (National Day), December 24 (Christmas) and December 31 (New Year's Eve). However, we are meeting as usual on December 10 & 17.

For more information about the Art Club please email us at artclubawn@gmail.com.



BOOK CLUB

For information for the December book club meeting, please email bookclubawn@gmail.com.

SOCIAL BRIDGE

In the month of December, Bridge players will meet on Sunday, December 9 and 16 from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. at The Waterfront Suite, The Club. There will be no Bridge on Sunday, December 2 due to the National Day holiday. The Bridge Club will take a break between December 17, 2018 January 12, 2019 due to Christmas and New Year Holidays. We will resume playing Bridge from Sunday, January 13, 2019. Happy Holidays.

For any enquiries, please email bridgeawn@gmail.com.

GOLF



It's the best time of year to enjoy golf on the beautiful courses we have available here in Abu Dhabi and our golf club members are taking full advantage. The clinics running weekly at ADCGC, ADGC, and Saadiyat are in offering new and experienced golfers a great chance to learn and improve on the game as well as a great social way to meet new friends. If you have thought about learning to play, this is your chance.

Just recently, four of our club members took part in a tournament at ADGC and had a wonderful time. **Well done Christine, Angela, Ann, and Unni!**

Our next couples event is planned for **December 6** at ADGC.

This festive and fun event will include a clinic lesson and dinner. We hope you consider joining us. To sign up or for more information, email us at awngolf@gmail.com.

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GOLF, cont.

We have clinics for both beginners and Intermediate players at three different clubs, on different days of the week. All participants receive a free beverage following the clinic at each of the clubs.

Sundays at Saadiyat Beach Golf Club: Advanced/Intermediate Clinic begins at 9 a.m. for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole course. Beginner lessons are held at 10:00 a.m. for one hour (Price inclusive of VAT: 1 hour clinic - 105 AED; 9 holes of play - 265 AED).

Mondays at Abu Dhabi City Golf Club: Advanced/Intermediate 1 hour clinic begins at 8:30 a.m. plus an option to play 9 holes. Beginner lessons begin at 8:30 a.m. (both clinics run in tandem). (Price inclusive of VAT: Clinic only - 120 AED; 9 holes with clinic - 225 AED).

Wednesdays at Abu Dhabi Golf Club, Sas El Nakhl: Advanced Clinic begins at 9 a.m. for one hour followed by a round of play on the 9-hole Garden Course. Beginner lessons are held at 10:45 a.m. for one hour. (Price plus VAT: Clinic only - 110 AED; 9 holes with clinic: 210 AED)

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

KNITTING GROUP

Colorful Knitting

Working with different colored yarn is a really fun way to personalize any knitting pattern; it can really brighten up your knitting. AWN knitting group are learning the many different knitting techniques needed to work with multiple colored yarns. It's a great way to learn new skills.

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?

There will be just one meeting during December on the 10th, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., at Cafe de la Paix, Nation Towers. We will then take a short break until after the new year. Meetings will resume January 7th.

If you would like further information about AWN Knitting Group, please send an email to knitawn@gmail.com.



MAHJONG



The Mahjong Club will meet on Wednesday, December 5 and 12 at The Slipway Bar, The Club. There will be no Mahjong between December 13, 2018 and January 8, 2019 due to Christmas and New Year Holidays. We will resume playing Mahjong from Wednesday, January 9, 2019. Happy Holidays.

You can contact us at mahjongawn@gmail.com.

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TENNIS

We will kick off the next AWN Tennis session beginning Tuesday, November 27. Below is information regarding the upcoming session:



- Each session consists of 4 lessons (one lesson a week)
- Lessons are open to Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner Players.
- The 45-minute lessons are held at Beach Rotana (near Abu Dhabi Mall) and 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.
- The cost per session is 340AED + VAT, payable at first lesson of the session. Please note, because we pay the tennis pros to attend the entire session, there are no refunds for missed lessons.
- Because of the holidays in December lessons will only take place on Tuesdays for this session.
- Please register early to guarantee your spot.

For registration or more information, please email tennisawn@gmail.com. Thanks and I look forward to seeing you on the courts!

YOGA



AWN Yoga will meet on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. 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!



VOLUNTEER CORNER

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER: VOLUNTEER FOR THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES 2019!

The world's largest sports and humanitarian event ever held in the Middle East/North Africa will take place in Abu Dhabi in March 2019, hosting 7,000 athletes from over 170 Special Olympics programs around the world who will be competing in 24 sports.

This event needs a lot of helping hands, and the Organizing Committee is looking for the support from 20,000 volunteers to execute this event for people with intellectual disabilities. Join them for up to 2 weeks of a lot of fun, with the high possibility of making friends from all over the world!

If you are interested please register on volunteers.ae. Registration is closing soon, so don't delay!!

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HAPPENINGS IN ABU DHABI

WOMEN'S HERITAGE WALK

★ 2019 WOMEN'S HERITAGE WALK

February 1 - 5, 2019



The WHW has grown into an annual event recreating an Emirati migration of families moving between Abu Dhabi and Al Ain.

The Women's Heritage Walk from Abu Dhabi to Al Ain is an annual 125 km female-only trek that was launched in 2015 by American author and Clinical Counselor Jody Ballard, and she now continues to grow the walk alongside her Emirati partner, Asma Al Mutawa, who is a prominent cultural & literature advocate. The Walk is a heartfelt tribute to the women of the United Arab Emirates who helped shape the nation and focuses on 4 important pillars: women's encouragement, culture and heritage, health and wellness, and community building.

50 ladies of different nationalities set out each morning of the walk before the sunrise to brave the desert and complete a full 25 km distance by sunset. The diverse group relishes culinary journeys of traditional food, takes part in rich cultural and heritage activities, learns about the history and desert life of the UAE and camps under the stars in a secured authentic Bedouin campsite.

The Women's Heritage Walk has evolved into an incredible sand sisterhood that grows stronger with each passing year.

Learn more about the event and apply to become a 2019 Sand Sister on womensheritagewalk.com!

KNITTERS

★ HELP TO KEEP A CHILD WARM WHILE BREAKING A WORLD RECORD

Knitters from all over the UAE are attempting to break the Guinness World Record for the world's largest blanket. This involves knitting approximately 2,200 individual baby blankets. Once the world record has been broken each individual blanket will be donated to needy people across the world.

HERE ARE 3 WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- 1 - Knit a blanket minimum size 1m x 1m - Important no crochet allowed, not even on edges of blankets.
- 2 - knit a square minimum size 20 x 20 cm. These will be sewn into blankets by volunteers.
- 3 - Donate yarn.

For more information:

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/gwrknitathon2019/>

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS WOMEN'S GROUP

★ IBWG ANNUAL FESTIVE HOLIDAY RECEPTION

Monday, December 10, 2018 | 7 - 9 p.m.

Venue: Beach Rotana, Abu Dhabi

Cost: Complimentary to Members. AED100 to Non-Members.

NYU ABU DHABI

★ PERFORMANCE: YEOL EUM SON PERFORMS BEETHOVEN'S HAMMERKLAVIER SONATA

Thursday, December 6, 2018 | 8 p.m.

Venue: The Red Theater, The Arts Center

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Concert pianist Yeol Eum Son, whose stunning performances of diverse repertoires have captivated audiences worldwide, makes her UAE debut performing Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 29 in B major, Op. 106 — known as the Hammerklavier Sonata.

The concert serves as a bicentennial commemoration of the composer's completion of the Hammerklavier in 1818. Widely regarded as one of the most profound works of Beethoven's third period, this monumental and nearly fifty-minute sonata is considered to be among the most demanding solo works in the piano repertoire, challenging both the audience and performer alike.

This singular performance of Beethoven's Hammerklavier is envisioned as part of a broader discussion focused on the work's historical and cultural significance.

The performance will be followed by a panel discussion moderated by Gwyneth Bravo (NYUAD) with artist Yeol Eum Son as well as with Ljubica Ilic (University of Novi Sad) and Matthew Quayle (NYUAD).

Tickets to this performance are free of charge but online reservation is required.

www.nyuad-artscenter.org/en_US/events/2018/yeol-eum-son-performs-beethovens-hammerklavier-sonata/

★ ROOFTOP RHYTHMS: POETRY / SPOKEN WORD / ORIGINAL MUSIC

Friday, December 14, 2018 |

Venue: The Marketplace, NYU

The Middle East's longest-running poetry open mic night

Experience culturally-diverse voices with both leading and up-and-coming musicians and poets presenting their own original material.

Tickets to Rooftop Rhythms are free of charge but online reservation is required.

The poetry open mic list is on a first-come, first-served basis on the Rooftop Rhythms Group Page on Facebook.

www.facebook.com/groups/rooftoprhythms

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