

THE NETWORK News



» WIN TWO PLATINUM TICKETS TO THE GALA PERFORMANCE OF HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD BY THE NSO
PAGE 8



AMERICAN WOMEN'S NETWORK OF ABU DHABI

Connecting cultures through friendship

AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

Thursday, Sept 5, 19
AWN Coffee & Speaker Series
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Khalidiya Palace Hotel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, Sept 30
Explorers
12:30 p.m.
NYU AD Art Gallery

Monday, Oct 14
Explorers
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Dubai

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays, September 15, 22, 29
Social Bridge
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
The Sports Bar, The Club

Sundays, September 15, 22, 29
Yoga
9 a.m.
The Studio

Mondays, Sept 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Art Club
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Cultural Foundation

Monday, Sept 30
Book Club
2-4 p.m.

Mondays, October 7, 14, 21, 28
Golf Clinic
8:30 a.m.
Abu Dhabi City Golf Club

Mondays, Sept 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Knitting Group
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
L'eto Caffe, Galleria Mall

Mondays, Sept 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Yoga
9 a.m.
The Studio

Tuesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22
Tennis
8:45 a.m.
Beach Rotana Hotel

Wednesdays, October 9, 16, 23, 30
Golf Clinic
9 a.m. / 10:45 a.m.
Abu Dhabi Golf Club

Wednesdays, Sept 4, 11, 18, 25
Mahjong
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
The Slipway Bar, The Club

Thursdays, Sept 5, 12, 19, 26
Yoga
9 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
The Studio

WELCOME FROM AWN CO-PRESIDENTS

Summer is over and we are making our way back to Abu Dhabi (if we aren't there already). We are excited to be reunited with friends and are missing the ones that won't be returning with us.

Our activities are beginning as well. Please plan on joining us at our next coffee morning, September 5th, to sign up for them as well as to hear Bill Bragin from NYUAD tell us about the exciting season of performances there.

Our August 22nd Coffee Morning was attended by 30 ladies who happily came in from the summer heat to enjoy being together with lots of lively conversation. Breaking into smaller groups we played a couple of fun "Getting to Know You" type games! The ladies were clearly having a great time as the conversation volume rose, and topics took off in the direction of sharing travel tips and great Abu Dhabi restaurants! What a terrific way to spend the morning!

We look forward to seeing you all and to the exciting year ahead.

Sara Healey and Birgitt Adams
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 our newsletter or website for exact dates.

SEPT
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Bill Bragin – New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD)

We kick off our autumn speaker series by once again welcoming 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. He is back again to share their new exciting program for 2019/2020 season with our AWN members!

SEPT
19

Wemmy de Maaker – Mawaheb: Art from the Heart

Please join us to learn more about this wonderful art center in Dubai giving people of determination a voice

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and a place to feel they can have a voice, express themselves and be recognized for their talents. Wemmy de Maaker is the founder and Managing Director of Mawaheb – from Beautiful People.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

October 3rd: Katie Ford – Freedom for All

Founder & CEO Freedom for All, New York, USA. Rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking.

October 17th: Michelle Farrell – Abu Dhabi

Program Head at Manarat Al Saadiyat. Information regarding the upcoming Art Fair and program.

SHUKRAN!



Thank you **Sonal Tarneja** and **Julie Duszak** for a most wonderfully informative and entertaining morning about the lesser-known Abu Dhabi food scene. We had a full-house as our members were eager to pick up some tips on restaurants as well as the Mena “etiquette”. Armed with a little more knowledge, we will all feel more able to head out and explore!

Even though it is was mid-June, and many of our members had already left for the summer, a large number turned out to listen to a wonderfully inspiring, motivating, funny and entertaining talk about dedication, perseverance, resilience and motivation, all in the spirit of “be like water”.

Thank you, **Julie Lewis**, for sharing your “Water Everest” experience and we all look forward to hearing how you get on this summer in your team event! For more information please visit: www.julie-lewis.com or follow her on Facebook: Mountain High Me.



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 35% discount in their restaurants following our coffee gatherings.

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EXPLORERS

Welcome back! The Explorers Team hopes you had a lovely and pleasantly warm summer! In order to ease you back into the Abu Dhabi life, we have planned many exciting outings for the 2019/20 season. This year, we will not only explore Abu Dhabi, but also extend our adventures to Dubai, Al Ain, Sharjah and even Dalma Island!

Upcoming Events

Monday, September 30th – Contemporary Art Adventure: Speculative Landscapes Exhibition Tour at NYU AD Art Gallery // Location: New York University Abu Dhabi, Saadiyat Island // Time: 12:30 p.m. // Cost: Free



Join us for this thought-provoking and unique exhibition in which four UAE-based artists invite us into their imagined worlds. The concept of environment (natural, artificial, virtual) is explored in different installations inspired from their real-world observations of daily life. Each installation raises a question: "how do organisms – whether human or other – create, survive, and inhabit our natural, artificial, and virtual worlds?". You are invited to enjoy lunch/coffee at the NYU AD Marketplace after the tour. Space is limited.

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

Monday, October 14th – Cultural Adventure: Mawaheb from Beautiful People Art Studio Tour and Al Fahidi Historical Neighborhood Tour // Location: Dubai // Time: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Bus will depart from / arrive to Mushrif Mall // Cost: 200 AED (includes transportation and tour fee // Max. 20 people

Enjoy a special trip to Old Dubai! Our first stop at 9:30 a.m. will be Mawaheb Art Studio for adults with special needs, following the September AWN presentation of Wemmy de Maaker, founder and director. We will meet some of the students and appreciate their incredible art. At 10:30 a.m. we will enjoy a tour of Dubai's oldest area, Al Fahidi Neighborhood, with its unique narrow alleyways (sikkas) and beautiful wind tower residences along the Dubai Creek. Afterwards, we will visit the Diwan Mosque as we learn about the history and culture of Dubai. We will have lunch at XVA Gallery and Café (cost of lunch is not included) before heading back to Abu Dhabi. A day full of fun and learning!

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

Please note that your reservation is not confirmed until payment is made.



EXPLORERS PAST OUTINGS



Tour of Qasr al-Watan: May 28th

Qasr al-Watan, completed in 2015, is part of the Presidential Palace complex that just opened to the public in March 2019. On March 28, around 40 women were guided through the tour of the palace. The grandiose building is decorated with only three color variations, blue, white, and

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yellow, arranged in over 5,000 unique geometric and floral patterns along the walls and floor of the great hall and its offshoots. Separate grand rooms housed exhibitions on international diplomacy and the influence of Arab scholarship on human civilization. Qasr al-Watan is impressive in its architecture, which delicately balances simple but ornate designs with the massive size of the building and reminds us that it can be possible to be both magnificent and simple.

– Julieta Guzman, AWN Member

Tour of Louvre AD Exhibition, June 30th

A small group of ladies met at the Louvre to spend a cool and cultural morning at the latest exhibition, 'Photographs 1842-1896, An Early Album of the World'. Meeting up for a coffee first, we prepared to learn a little from the photographers and explorers who travelled, quite literally all over the world to send back records of their discoveries to the various professional societies of their home countries. Our lovely guide (herself a photographer) gave us an outline of the various photographic processes used in these early years, including the first which took forty minutes to shoot a photograph! We were guided through rooms where we saw photographs of indigenous people, landscapes and buildings from intriguing places such as Nepal and Malaysia, all in black and white, although a few were colored after processing. Huge, hard-backed photograph albums contained worldwide exotic pictures (often taken in set up studios) which must have fascinated the people back home back in the day. It was interesting to see some of the pictures used to advertise the exhibition around Abu Dhabi and see just how small the photos are in reality. One of our favorite exhibits was the 19th century panoramic photo of Istanbul, compiled from four separate photos, seamlessly matched together to form one long landscape. Today, I guess we would just switch our mobile phone cameras to panoramic mode!



– Karen Magill, Explorers Team Member

MEMBERSHIP

The membership team are looking forward to greeting members old and new when we meet again in September for our coffee mornings at the Khalidiya Palace on the Corniche.

The team is back up to full strength having said goodbye to some of our colleagues as they returned to their home countries or headed to pastures new. The new team comprises Mimi Prendergast, Jos Henton, Jennifer Rine, Roselyn Buchan, Seema Mangoo-Lawson, Ruthie Alexander, Janice Jackson, Martha Rock, Barb Vralsted and Maria Nazarkewych.

There will be a Newcomers coffee morning on October 10th; this event is for new members who have registered online since March 1, 2019. More details will be sent out nearer the date, but these gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to get to know other newcomers to Abu Dhabi.

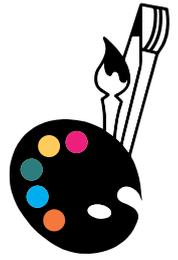
For those of you who would like to get more involved with AWN there will be a Friends of AWN meeting on October 31st. Further information will be available in future newsletters and at the AWN coffee mornings.

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ART CLUB

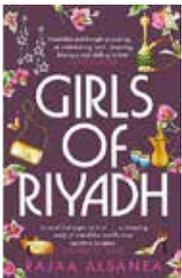
The AWN Art Club is a group of people who have a common interest in drawing and painting. We meet on a weekly basis to share their passion for art, regardless of skill level or ability. The aim of this group is to meet in a relaxed environment, developing our artistic talents through interaction and support from fellow members. If you are a beginner, and need guidance, please come along and ask questions, as the other members will be able to offer advice on how to start and where to buy supplies. We will try to give brief introductory sessions for those who have no idea about drawing and painting. All members bring their own materials and work on a project of their own choosing. Once a month, we organize special programs like demonstrations or workshops inviting professional artists from outside. We also try to organize a group tour to the artist's studio or gallery.



We meet at the Cultural Foundation Studio on the second floor every Monday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. There's a fee of 20 AED every time you attend. This is a fee for the use of the studio. There's underground parking entrance on the street of Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed between Hamdan Bin Mohammed and Zayed The First street.

For more information, please email artclubawn@gmail.com.

BOOK CLUB



Mark your calendar! AWN's Book Club will resume Monday, September 30th from 2 - 4 p.m. This month's read is *Girls of Riyadh* by Rajaa AlSanea.

Details of where we are meeting will be shared with members who RSVP their plans to attend.

For more information, please email bookclubawn@gmail.com.

SOCIAL BRIDGE

AWN Bridge will resume on September 15th. We play every Sunday at The Sports Bar, The Club from 1:30 - 4.30 p.m. For any queries, please contact the Bridge Coordinators at bridgeawn@gmail.com.

Bridge Lessons to Start October 1

Are you interested in learning the fabulous game of bridge? We will be teaching the beginner concepts to play American Five Card Major Contract Bridge. The lessons will start on Tuesday, October 1st from 2 - 4:30 p.m, and run for 8 weeks as follows:

October 1, 8, 22, 28 (Note there is no lesson on October 15th)

November 4, 11, 18, 25

The lessons will be taught in an informal atmosphere, where we can build on skills and practice as a group. There is no charge for the lessons.

If you are interested and not already on the waiting list, please sign up as soon as possible as there is limited space. Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Please email bridgeawn@gmail.com or sign up at a regular coffee/speaker morning. You will be contacted directly to confirm details.

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GOLF

AWN Golf resumes on Monday, October 7th.

Regular Clinics are held: **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

Our meetings offer every knitter the chance to improve their knitting skills and learn new techniques. If you love to knit then come join us to work on your latest project. Some of us are knitting for charity, others are knitting for fun. We're a very social group and all knitters will be made to feel very welcome. You can enjoy a tasty snack and refreshing drink while making new friends.



During September meetings will take place every Monday, at L'eto Caffe, level 1, The Galleria, Maryah Island, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

If you plan to attend please send an email to: knitawn@gmail.com.

MAHJONG

Welcome back! AWN's Mahjong returns Wednesday, September 4th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Slipway Bar, The Club. The fee of 45 AED, payable to us (35 AED for Club members), covers your entrance to The Club, snacks, tea, coffee and water. Beginners are always welcomed.

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

TENNIS

Want to learn or haven't played for a while? AWN Tennis is having a free Tennis Taster morning on Tuesday 24th of September. Please contact tennisawn@gmail.com for further information or to sign up.

Tennis Coaching will resume on Tuesday, October 1st. 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.
- Lessons are women only.
- The 45-minute lessons are held at Beach Rotana (near Abu Dhabi Mall) start promptly at 8:45 and end at 9:30AM. 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.



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If you are driving you can either use the valet parking service at the Beach Rotana Hotel or use the car park in Abu Dhabi Mall. The entrance for this is about 200 meters past the Beach Rotana Hotel entrance. The hotel can be accessed via the mall.

Please register early to guarantee your spot. For registration or more information, please email tennisawn@gmail.com.

YOGA



AWN Yoga meets 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.

Sundays:
9 a.m. – Hatha Yoga

Mondays
9 a.m. – Hatha Yoga

Thursdays
9 a.m. – Hatha Yoga
5:30 p.m. – Yin Yoga

Spaces will be limited in the regular yoga classes, 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

TUTORING

Are you interested in tutoring local kids in Abu Dhabi public schools in English? Abu Dhabi's Department of Education and Knowledge's (ADEK) Community Schools Initiative and the Emirates Red Crescent Abu Dhabi are collaborating on a project to help kids practice English using IELTS test materials. The project volunteers will be coordinated through the Abu Dhabi Red Crescent.

Tutors should be fluent in English and commit to volunteering two times a month (total 6 hours) from 3 - 6 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays. You must attend a mandatory orientation session so we can tell you more about the project, walk you through the structure of the project and register you. To register you must have an Emirates ID and be a resident of Abu Dhabi.

Please contact Maya at fawzvolunteer@gmail.com for more information and to find out about orientation sessions. There will also be further information regarding this initiative and the orientation dates at the September coffee morning.

AMCHAM SUMMIT

AmCham Abu Dhabi is looking for volunteers to assist with the 11th Annual Roundtable Summit on Wednesday, September 25th, from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Beach Rotana Hotel.

If interested, please contact Zheny at events@amchamabudhabi.org.

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HAPPENINGS IN ABU DHABI

ABU DHABI HARLEQUINS WOMEN'S RUGBY TEAM

★ WANT TO JOIN THE WOMEN'S RUGBY TEAM?

Mondays & Wednesdays | 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Venue: Zayed Sports City

We are looking for any prospective new players who may be interested in joining us. We cater for all sizes and shapes and all skill levels and experience levels. Everyone is welcome. It's a very inclusive environment so ideal for people coming to Abu Dhabi who want to meet people and make friends. We play 7's rugby, so the emphasis is on skill and ball movement rather than strength and contact.

Training is free for a trial period and caters for all skill levels.

Contact: www.facebook.com/ADHarlequinswomen/ or 054 496 8035

AMCHAM ABU DHABI

★ 11TH ANNUAL ROUNDTABLE SUMMIT

Wednesday, September 25 | 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Venue: Beach Rotana Hotel

Cost: AED 1,100 for AmCham Abu Dhabi Members;
AED 1,500 for Non-Members

Join the AmCham Abu Dhabi for our most important business event of the year and let your voice be heard among industry leaders.

The AmCham Abu Dhabi Roundtable Summit brings together business and government leaders from across Abu Dhabi's commercial spectrum to candidly discuss business opportunities and challenges in Abu Dhabi and identify key concerns and issues for those doing business in the Emirate.

RSVP: No later than 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 24, 2019. Register online at: amchamabudhabi.org/client/event/roster/eventRosterDetails.html?productId=10695&eventRosterId=7

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

★ INTERESTED IN WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY?

The American Community School has job openings. Please check out their website for further information.
www.acs.sch.ae

NSO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

★ WIN TWO PLATINUM TICKETS TO THE GALA PERFORMANCE OF HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD BY THE NSO

October 4 | 7:30 p.m.

Venue: Emirates Palace

Attend the special Evening Gala Performance of Hooray for Hollywood at the Emirates Palace Auditorium.

The 62-piece NSO Symphony Orchestra – the only full professional symphony orchestra in the UAE – takes to the stage on Friday, October 4th for a celebration of music from the silver screen. The NSO's acclaimed Music Director Andrew Berryman will be back at the helm for an extraordinary concert featuring a cherished collection of Oscar-winning films throughout the years.

Among the Blockbuster film anthems set to be performed are James Horner's epic Apollo 13-theme, the theme to Pirates of the Caribbean by Hans Zimmer, and classics such as the 2nd movement from Beethoven's Symphony no.7, as featured in the Oscar-winning The King's Speech.

Renowned Emirati composer, pianist and NSO Goodwill Ambassador, Hamad Altaee will join NSO in a premiere performance of his stunning orchestral work "Walking in the Sky". The Emirates Youth Symphony Orchestra will also be taking to the stage for a special joint performance of Jenkyn's popular Palladio as part of NSO's Professional Development programme.

The second half features one of classical music's most popular pieces, the daring Spanish Bolero by Ravel, before the NSO launch into a series of modern-day cinematic classics including E. Bernstein's iconic cowboy western theme from Magnificent 7 and Nyman's score to the poignant film The Piano featuring guest pianist Sanaz Sotoudeh. The finale includes the music of the legendary American John Williams – arguably the most popular film composer of the 20th century – with arrangements including favourites such as Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone before reaching a crescendo with a powerful rendition of Star Wars.

For a chance to win two Platinum tickets for this wonderful evening performance, simply email winticketsawn@gmail.com with your name and contact number by Thursday, September 26th.

The winner will be notified by email Sunday, September 29th.

YAS MOVIES IN THE PARK

★ YAS MOVIES IN THE PARK

October 17-19 | 4 p.m. - Midnight each day

Venue: du Arena

This year Yas Movies in the Park will have a new blockbuster line-up of free movies. du Arena will transformed again for a weekend of free fun for family and friends with film-themed activities for kids and adults to enjoy before and between each movie screening. There will also be a giant funfair with new carnival rides, food trucks serving the very best cinema food, a dedicated kids zone and a shopping market.

Here's the line up:

Thursday, 17th October:

Pokémon Detective Pikachu at 6:30 p.m.
Aladdin at 9 p.m.

Friday, 18th October:

Moana at 6 p.m.
8:30 p.m. Live immersive cinema experience Of The Greatest Showman (sing along and dance to the film along with a live cast of singers and performers from the UK's West End.)

Saturday 19th October:

Beauty and the Beast at 6 p.m.
Avengers: Endgame at 8:45 p.m.

Save the dates in your diary for a fun-filled weekend of FREE movies and simply register for passes at www.yasmovies.ae.

VIP tickets are also available providing a premium viewing experience, bean bag, two soft drinks and free popcorn with prices starting from AED65.

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