

# THE NETWORK News



» **AWN Christmas Magic**

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AMERICAN WOMEN'S NETWORK OF ABU DHABI

*Connecting cultures through friendship*

## AWN COFFEE & SPEAKER SERIES

**Thursday, Dec 12**  
AWN Coffee & Speaker Series  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Radisson Blu Hotel

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, Dec 9**  
**Explorers**  
10 a.m.  
Cultural Foundation

**Tuesday, Dec 10**  
**Explorers**  
3-8 p.m.  
Desert Walk at Sunset

**Tuesday, Dec 10**  
**Golf**  
9 a.m.  
Texas Scramble

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

**Sundays, December 8, 15, 22, 29**  
**Social Bridge**  
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
The Meeting Room, The Club

**Sundays, December 1, 8, 15**  
**Tennis**  
8:45 a.m.  
Beach Rotana Hotel

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

**Mondays, December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**  
**Golf Clinic**  
8:30 a.m.  
Abu Dhabi City Golf Club

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

**Tuesdays, December 3, 10, 17**  
**Tennis**  
8:45 a.m.  
Beach Rotana Hotel

**Wednesdays, December 4, 11, 18, 25**  
**Golf Clinic**  
9 a.m. / 10:45 a.m.  
Abu Dhabi Golf Club

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

## WELCOME FROM AWN CO-PRESIDENTS

It is hard to believe that Christmas is nearly here! Children are working hard to finish the school term, trips are being finalized, and some of us will enjoy visitors here in beautiful Abu Dhabi. Whatever your plans, please join us on December 12 for our festive Christmas meeting. We will have activities and treats, a Christmas tree decorated by our members, and a special slide show. We are also very happy to have representatives from our two registered charities, Make-a-Wish and Operation Smile, so we can share the joy of the season with a cash donation for these incredibly worthy causes.

We hope you are enjoying many of our varied activities and excursions on offer. If you have questions about any of the groups, please speak to an activity coordinator or team member at a meeting or email them directly. Please remember that if you sign up to attend an activity, it is important to show up or let the coordinator know you have changed plans with ample notice as many activities involve hiring professionals and ordering catering.

Celebrating our 25th year, AWN is committed to connecting women of all nationalities through friendship, activities and cultural exchange.

Wishing you and yours a very happy holiday season!

Birgitt Adams and Sara Healey  
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 Radisson Blu on the Corniche. Please check in our Newsletter or Mid-Monthly Update e-mails for exact dates. Given the upcoming holidays, there will be a special meeting on December 12th (details below) after which the regular Coffee & Speaker Series will resume on January 9, 2020.

**DEC 12**

### AWN Christmas Magic

Come celebrate our 25 years in Abu Dhabi by sharing the joy of the holidays with all of your AWN friends! In the spirit of the season, Operation Smile and

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Make-A-Wish will be joining us. In exchange for a donation (any amount will be accepted although we encourage generosity in this giving season and please remember to bring cash!), you will be given an ornament. Tables will be filled with all sorts of fun decorating accessories for us to create beautiful ornaments to hang on our Christmas giving tree. Operation Smile will also be offering for purchase Bear Buddies whereby you can sponsor a teddy bear for a child in need and create a personal message to accompany it. To round out our giving tree, please consider bringing needed goods that Red Crescent will be collecting in support of local workers. They are asking for either food (rice, cooking oil, lentils, biscuits) or hygiene supplies (shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrush, and socks).

Afterwards, everyone is invited to stay and make merry at a festive holiday lunch. The Radisson Blu is providing a special lunch in "our" restaurant which includes a turkey carving station and a glass of prosecco (100dhs per person). 'Tis the season to enjoy friends, food and festivities!

## SHUKRAN!



A big thank you to **Joanna Barakat** for speaking at the AWN Coffee last Thursday, November 7th and introducing us to the beauty and significance of Tatreez, or Palestinian embroidery. An artist, teacher, and co-founder of The Tatreez Circle, Joanna vividly revealed the history and meaning of the craft and how it is intertwined with the history of Palestinian culture itself. It was a pleasure to hear about her journey exploring tatreez and to see the gorgeous embroidery up close.

AWN also extends its sincere gratitude to **Dr. Faraj Al Mehairbi**, section head of the Volunteer Department of the Red Crescent UAE, Abu Dhabi Branch, for his presentation on November 21st. Dr. Al Mehairbi spoke eloquently about the mission and scope of the Red Crescent, and attendees were struck by the numerous ways people can get involved and make a difference here in the UAE.

Shukran, Dr. Al Mehairbi, for inspiring us and for all the work you do with the Red Crescent.



## NEW MEETING VENUE

### IMPORTANT! NEW MEETING VENUE FOR AWN!!!!

AWN Coffee and Speaker Series are now meeting at the Radisson Blu on the Corniche (formerly the Hilton). The meetings will begin at 10 a.m. as usual.

There is a cost for valet parking at the Radisson Blu. However, there is a parking lot for guests behind the hotel that is free of charge. The parking lot entrance is off Al Ankhram, the street on the east side of the hotel.

Lunch will be available at La Terraza at noon for a very special rate of 59 AED per person for starters and desserts. Any main courses will be charged a la carte. Please plan on joining us for lunch whenever you are able. We look forward to seeing you at our new home!!

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

#### Monday, December 9th 2019 – Cultural Adventure: Private Tour of Cultural Foundation

Location: In the historical site of Qasr Al Hosn, // Time: 10 a.m. // Cost: Free

Join us for a unique tour of the UAE's first cultural centre dedicated to nurture heritage, arts and literature. At the time of its opening in 1981, the Cultural Foundation provided the first National Library, along with a performance auditorium and an exhibition centre. After a ten-year renovation, it reopened in September 2019 and now hosts a beautiful Children's Library, a 900-seat theatre, and offering workshops for calligraphy, art, research, exhibitions and much more!

People who registered will receive an email with the event's final details a few days before the outing.

To reserve your place please sign-up at the coffee morning or email [explorersawn@gmail.com](mailto:explorersawn@gmail.com).

#### Tuesday, December 10th – Nature Adventure: Desert Walk at Sunset

Time: 3 to 8 p.m. // Cost: 230 AED (includes transportation, guided walk and yoga session).

Enjoy a 2-hour walk through the stunning desert dunes in Al Wathba and learn about the Arabian Desert. At the end of the walk there will be a yoga session and many opportunities to take beautiful photos while enjoying tea, coffee and dates.

You are welcome to sign-up on our waiting list.

To reserve your place please sign-up at the coffee morning or email [explorersawn@gmail.com](mailto:explorersawn@gmail.com).



#### Sunday, January 12th 2020 – Cultural Adventure: Tour of 1,000 Years of Luxury Exhibition at Louvre Abu Dhabi, Saadiyat Island

Time: 10 a.m. // Cost: Free if you are a member of the Louvre AD or can go as a guest on someone else's membership ticket. Otherwise the admission charge of 63 AED applies.

Let's get together for this exclusive exhibition that celebrates a world history of the lavish and the luxurious through 350 extraordinary objects: fashion, jewellery, art, furniture, design and many more. Marvel at the ways in which luxury has been interpreted by diverse cultures. Discover how different cultures have defined luxury and the impact of such excess on the evolution of society.

People who register will receive an email with the event's final details a few days before the outing.

To reserve your place please sign-up at the coffee morning or email [explorersawn@gmail.com](mailto:explorersawn@gmail.com).

#### Tuesday, January 21 – Historical Adventure: Al Ain Tour

Time: 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. // Cost: 90 AED (includes transportation, lunch not included)

This is a call to AWN Adventurers who would like to spend a full day in the Garden City, as Al Ain is also known. We will explore the Al Ain Oasis, an extensive system of pathways that wind through some 147,000 date palms and have been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2011. We will also spend time at two famous forts and have the chance to see a permanent exhibition of the work of British adventurer Sir Wilfred Thesiger and his 1940s crossings of the Rub Al Khali (The Empty Quarter) desert. If you are interested in history and would like to learn more about the place you live in, join us for this exciting trip!

Please note that your reservation is not confirmed until payment is made. People who registered will receive an email with the event's final details a few days before the outing.

To reserve your place please sign-up at the coffee morning or email [explorersawn@gmail.com](mailto:explorersawn@gmail.com).



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**Monday, January 27th 2020 – Tour of Body Worlds Exhibit and Body Museum, Khalifa University**

bodyworlds.ku.ac.ae // Time: 10:30 a.m. // Cost: Free of charge for AWN Members

The Body Museum was founded in 2019 as part of the newly formed College of Medicine and Health Sciences, which is the first medical school in the capital city of Abu Dhabi. For the first time in the Middle East, Body Worlds at Body Museum is an unprecedented opportunity for everyone to learn about our bodies and be inspired to live healthy and fulfilling lives.

This exhibit offers a unique opportunity to explore the amazing biology and physiology of human health and the dramatic effects of disease. From organs to muscles to the nervous system and to skeletal structures, Body Worlds gives an unprecedented look inside the most sophisticated mechanism in the world, the human body.

The specimens on display show impressive comparisons and contrasts between healthy bodies and organs and those stricken with disease. Particular emphasis is put on some of the most common ailments such as back pain, arthritis, cancer, diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular diseases like arteriosclerosis and heart infarctions, dementia, and more.

People who register will receive an email with the event's details a few days before the outing.

To reserve your place please sign-up at the coffee morning or email [explorersawn@gmail.com](mailto:explorersawn@gmail.com).

**CULTURE CLUB****Upcoming Event led by Izabella Sluzek**

Due to the great interest of our members, the Culture Club has decided to host another session on Traditional Emirati and Omani Jewellery on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 10 a.m.. We will learn why jewellery is worn and how traditional Arab jewellery differs from what has been fashionable in the Gulf in modern times. We will also gain an understanding of what adornment is appropriate for women and men, and on what occasions. If you are interested in jewellery in general and would like to hear more about local tradition in particular, please don't hesitate to join us! If you have a piece of your own (not necessarily of Arab workmanship) that you would be willing to share and discuss with the group, you are most welcome to do so. Venue TBA.

To reserve your place please sign-up at the Explorer's Table during AWN Coffee Mornings or email [cultureclubawn@gmail.com](mailto:cultureclubawn@gmail.com).

**Explorers Past Events****Global Shopping Adventure: Global Village Dubai – November 5, 2019**

An intrepid group of 34 AWN ladies recently boarded a bus, prepared for sensory overload... destination Dubai Global Village!! Part theme park, part market, Global Village features pavilions with displays from countries around the world filled with every type of handicraft, gift, live entertainment, and international street food delicacy imaginable. In a few hours time, we toured the world, stopping for photo opportunities in front of iconic structures from Big Ben to the Taj Mahal, ate never before sampled dishes from India to Japan to Africa, and shopped "till we dropped" for ourselves and our loved ones. And of course we finished our evening sharing all our coveted purchases on the bus ride home... such a fun outing! Suitable for everyone in the family, if you haven't ventured over to Global Village, make it a must this holiday season. It opens at 4 p.m. until midnight or 1 a.m. daily, Mondays designated for families with kids and ladies only.

– *Cindy Dodge, AWN Community Outreach Chair*



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## Modern and Contemporary Art Adventure: Private Tour of Abu Dhabi Art Fair – November 21, 2019

For the last 11 years, Abu Dhabi Art has held an Art Fair at Manarat Al Saadiyat. This fair brings together 50 leading and emerging contemporary art galleries from around the world alongside exhibitions, performances and workshops. The Explorers Club had a chance to visit the Fair on November 21 and were taken around by our fabulous guide, Fiona. Our first stop was the section of international galleries. Here we were able to view many fabulous art works by established and emerging artists from China, India and Korea to name a few. Thank goodness for Fiona's expertise as exploring through this amazing amount of artwork is not only daunting but also sometimes hard to really understand what one is looking at. Fiona explained things to us about many of the artists and their concepts which made us all look more deeply into what we were viewing. Many different mediums were used by the artists, from glassworks, video, oil on canvas, fiberglass and aluminum sculptures, rice paper, ink and many others. We also were taken to the exhibition area which I believe we all particularly enjoyed. At the entrance, there was a female artificial intelligence interactive robot named Ai-Da to greet you. Wow how science and art have come together here, a little too lifelike! Another exhibition in this area was a big display of beautiful naturally dyed hanging orange and red tapestries with little repaired tears in them. One would never know this very large piece represented various countries and all the rips and tears represented places where ISIS has attacked. Beautifully displayed but also a bit unsettling. There were a lot of exciting pieces and we are looking forward to next year fair.



– Tari Carlson, AWN Member

## CULTURE CLUB

### Past Event

On November 12th, 15 enthusiastic ladies came to take part in our recent Culture Club meeting all about beautiful and traditional jewelry worn in the Emirates and Oman! Izabella took the lead in discussing the importance of silver jewelry for Omani women and explaining the significance of some of the shapes, colors and designs on necklaces, bracelets and other adornments. We were very lucky to see some of her wonderful collection and to round off the morning; we enjoyed looking at other examples from around the world, brought in by some of the ladies. The morning was so popular that Culture Club is arranging a re-run on 13th January, so please visit the Explorers' Table if you are interested in attending.



– Karen Magill, Explorers Team Member

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## MEMBERSHIP

Membership has new leadership changes to announce. Jos Henton took over from Mimi Prendergast as Membership Services Chair on November 14. Tari Carlson has agreed to be Assistant to Membership Chair. Both Jos and Tari will be a wonderful addition to the AWN Leadership Team.

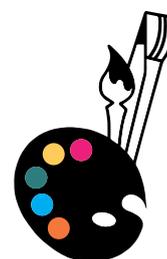
The membership team were delighted to meet more new members at our coffee mornings in November and we hope to meet more new ladies at the final meeting of the year on December 12th.

There will be a Newcomers Coffee morning in the new year. This event will be for new members who have registered online since September 1, 2019. More details will be sent out nearer the date and an RSVP will be required. These gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to get to know other newcomers to Abu Dhabi.

Please remember we have a noticeboard where you can advertise items for sale. Those leaving Abu Dhabi often have things they don't want to take with them and newcomers may be searching for items for their new homes so this is a useful resource.

## ART CLUB

The AWN Art Club is not a formal class, but a group of people who have a common interest in drawing and painting. We meet on a weekly basis to share our 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 other members will be able to offer advice on how to start.



When membership reaches the maximum number (50), newcomers will automatically be placed on a waiting list.

We meet at the Cultural Foundation Studio, on the second floor every Monday from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. There's a 20 AED fee every time you attend. This is a fee for the use of studio. Bring your own materials.

If you have questions, please contact us [artclubawn@gmail.com](mailto:artclubawn@gmail.com).

## BOOK CLUB

AWN's Book Club will take a holiday recess for the month of December. We will resume our monthly gatherings Monday, January 27, 2020 when we will read *Educated* by Tara Westover.

For more information, please email [bookclubawn@gmail.com](mailto:bookclubawn@gmail.com).

## SOCIAL BRIDGE

AWN Bridge plays every Sunday at The Meeting Room, The Club from 1:30 - 4.30 p.m. For any queries, please contact the Bridge Coordinators at [bridgeawn@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeawn@gmail.com).



*The fall bridge class celebrates completing the course and their new found passion for bridge.*

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## GOLF

The first AWN Texas Scramble tournament of the season, held November 5th, was a big success. Twenty AWN ladies enjoyed a wonderful morning playing a friendly and fun 9-hole round of golf, which was closed by delicious buffet lunch and prize presentation. The winning team was Jacqueline Morrison, Linda Craig, Martha Cain and Marilyn Camilleri and the runner up team was Aimee Simon, Martha Rock, Christine Haag and Kelly Cunnion.



Prizes also included "closest to the hole" (Cicely Woodyard) and "straightest drive" (Michele Duncan). 'Til the next tournament ladies!

### Upcoming event: AWN Christmas Scramble

Calling all AWN ladies golfer to join in our last tournament of the year, the AWN Christmas Scramble at Abu Dhabi City Golf Club. Let's put on your Christmas accessories, just swing away and be merry!

Date: Tuesday, 10 December 2019 (9 a.m. start)  
 Format: Texas Scramble (players of all level are welcome)  
 Price\*: 190 AED (non members) or 65 AED (members)  
 \*Includes lunch

Send email now to [awngolf@gmail.com](mailto:awngolf@gmail.com) to register or obtain more information.

### AWN Golf Clinics

#### Mondays at Abu Dhabi City Golf (Shakhbout bin Sultan)

8:30 a.m. Intermediate Clinic for one hour, followed by 9 holes of play \* 225 AED (VAT included)

8:30 a.m. Beginner Clinic for one hour, equipment provided \*120 AED (VAT included)

#### Wednesdays at Abu Dhabi Golf Club (Sas Al Nakhl)

9:00 a.m. Intermediate level: Clinic for one hour followed by 9 holes of Golf on the Garden Course, \*220 AED (VAT included) or 115 AED (VAT included) for ADGC/Saadiyat/Yas Links members

10:45 a.m. Beginner level: One hour clinic, equipment provided, 115AED (VAT Included)

Please contact us at [awngolf@gmail.com](mailto:awngolf@gmail.com) for any inquiry or to sign up to our mailing list/clinics.

## 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 December we will meet on Monday 9th and 16th, at L'eto Caffè, 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](mailto:knitawn@gmail.com).



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## MAHJONG



AWN's Mahjong will be held December 4th, 11th and the 18th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Slipway Bar, The Club ([www.the-club.com](http://www.the-club.com)). 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](mailto:mahjongawn@gmail.com).

## TENNIS

- Each Session consists of 4 lessons (one lesson a week)
- There are two sessions - Sunday and Tuesday
- Lessons are open to Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner Players.
- Lessons are women only.
- The 45-minute lessons are held at the Beach Rotana (near Abu Dhabi Mall) and start promptly at 8:45 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.



Please register early to guarantee your spot. For registration or more information, please email [tennisawn@gmail.com](mailto: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 and Café de la Paix.) Enjoy an hour of yoga with the special price of 50 AED for AWN members only, no walk-ins.

We are delighted to let you know that we have some exciting new additions to the schedule and a couple of these might appeal to those of you who like an afternoon or evening class. Every week an email will be sent giving you the offer for the following week, but in general you can currently expect to see a schedule like this:

<b>Sundays</b> 9:00 a.m. - Hatha Hip Openers Yoga 7.30 p.m. - Therapeutic Yoga	<b>Tuesdays</b> 5.00 p.m. - Ashtanga Flow 7:00 p.m. - Restorative swing 7:00 p.m - Strong Vinyasa Flow	<b>Thursdays</b> 9:00 a.m. - Hatha Yoga
<b>Mondays</b> 9:00 a.m. - Vinyasa Foundation	<b>Wednesdays</b> 9:00 a.m. - Vinyasa Flow 5:30 p.m. - Vinyasa Flow	<b>Saturdays</b> 6:00 p.m. - Vinyasa Foundation 6:30 p.m. - Anti-Gravity Fitness

Spaces will be limited in the regular yoga classes, so those interested, please send an email to [yogaawn@gmail.com](mailto:yogaawn@gmail.com) as soon as possible. This will be a pay-as-you-go plan!

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## FOOD EXPLORATIONS

AWN member Sonal Tarneja guides us on a culinary field trip with details of her local restaurant adventures with fellow AWN food enthusiasts.

Through its two outlets, **Besbas Yemeni and Gulf Cuisine Restaurant** gives Abu Dhabi a great introduction to Yemeni cuisine. We chose the Airport Road branch, which had marginally better online reviews. We opted for the traditional floor seating, sitting cross-legged, in a circle, around a Yemeni feast. We ordered a couple of the rice preparations (makmoud, chicken zurobian, haneeth), fahsa (a beef stew cooked and served in a stone pot), some grilled shrimps in Yemeni style. The meal started off with a complimentary bowl of broth and some salad. Then arrived our feast – so different from our perception of Middle Eastern food. We pre-ordered the haneeth, a rice and meat preparation, as they make limited portions, and it's meant to be one of the most popular dishes on the menu. While everything we ate was very flavorful and deeply satisfying, my favorites were the chicken zurobian – chicken served on a bed of saffron flavored rice – and the bubbling fahsa, served with the most fragrant and delicious naan topped with onion seeds. I could go back to Besbas just for the smell of that naan!

Address: Shop 3, Sector East 22, Plot C17, Airport Road, Al Mushrif



## RADISSON BLU FESTIVE SEASON

### Christmas Eve Dinner

December 24th - 7:30-10 p.m.

149 AED: Unlimited Festive Specialties and Soft Drinks

199 AED: Unlimited Festive Specialties and House Beverages

### Christmas Day Brunch

December 25th - 12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

149 AED: Unlimited Festive Specialties and Soft Drinks

199 AED: Unlimited Festive Specialties and House Beverages

### New Year's Eve 007 James Bond Party

December 31st - 7 p.m. - 2:30 a.m.

777 AED per couple: Beverage Included: Choice of Bottle of Sparkling Wine / House White or Red Wine  
Food Included: Sharing appetizers/main/pass around Bond-themed canapes & Desserts

### New Year's Eve Celebrations

December 31st - 7 p.m. - 2:30 a.m.

Vasco's - 8 p.m. - 2 a.m. / 399 AED

Bocca - 7 p.m. - 2:30 am. / A La Carte Menu

New Year's Eve Fireworks - 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. / Packages starting from 600 AED

After Party - 12 a.m. - 3 a.m. / Packages starting from 129 AED

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## HAPPENINGS IN ABU DHABI

### AMCHAM ABU DHABI

#### ★ ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SEASON STRICTLY SOCIAL

December 10 | 7 - 9 p.m.

**Venue:** Pearl Lounge, Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel

Join us this Christmas Season, for a merry holiday gathering with a fabulous networking opportunity, while enjoying a laid-back, social and lively atmosphere with great food and adult beverages at the Pearl Lounge, Grand Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel & Residences Emirates Pearl.

Indulge in the holiday season by wearing your favorite festive outfit and accessories. You are welcome to invite friends and colleagues who would like to get into the festive mood.

Cost: Complimentary for AmCham Abu Dhabi Members, AED 175\* for Non-Members (\*Price is inclusive of a Value Added Tax (VAT) rate of 5%.)

RSVP: No later than 12 noon on Monday, December 9, 2019

<https://amchamabudhabi.org/client/event/roster/eventRosterDetails.html?productId=10741&eventRosterId=7>

This is a pre-pay event, your place will not be confirmed until payment is received.

### CINEMASPACE

#### ★ FILM: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Friday, December 13 | 7 - 9 p.m.

Synopsis: A timeless classic, director Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life* was nominated for five Academy Awards and focuses on the story of George Bailey (James Stewart), a struggling businessman who becomes so disillusioned with his small-town life that he contemplates taking drastic measures. His guardian angel, Clarence (Henry Travers), soon intervenes and helps George discover the true value of love and friendship as well as the indelible impact he has made on his home community of Bedford Falls. The film's magnificent supporting cast features unforgettable performances by Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, Beulah Bondi, Ward Bond and Gloria Grahame. Seventy years later, Capra's life-affirming fantasy continues to be a heartwarming experience for viewers of all generations.

[cinemaspace-abudhabi.splashthat.com/](http://cinemaspace-abudhabi.splashthat.com/)

### QASR AL HOSN

#### ★ AL HOSN FESTIVAL

December 12-19

**Venue:** Qasr Al Hosn

AL HOSN FESTIVAL is a new cultural experience that reflects and reimagines Abu Dhabi's heritage. The first edition of this event brings together historic traditions, contemporary culture and newly emerging artistic perspectives across the cultural landscape of the Al Hosn site.

Presenting art, design and performances alongside traditional crafts, AL HOSN FESTIVAL celebrates the lineages of inspiration which link all of Abu Dhabi's creative communities. The first event of its kind in the region, AL HOSN FESTIVAL is a space for new cultural conversations to begin and a platform for new artistic possibilities.

Over eight days, this multidimensional experience – spanning art, design, cuisine and performances – presents a new perspective on culture in Abu Dhabi.

- Free entry for children 4 years and under
- All tickets include admission to Qasr Al Hosn, the House of Artisans and Bait Al Gahwa
- Tickets valid only for the date shown on the ticket
- A Festival Pass allows access for every day of the Festival
- Tickets for performances in the Cultural Foundation and workshops in the House of Artisans are available to purchase separately

[visitabudhabi.ae/en/see.and.do/leisure/events/al.hosn.festival.aspx](http://visitabudhabi.ae/en/see.and.do/leisure/events/al.hosn.festival.aspx)

### FERRARI WORLD

#### ★ WINTERFEST AT FERRARI WORLD ABU DHABI

December 20 - January 4

**Venue:** Ferrari World

The enchanting Winterfest returns for the fourth consecutive year with a variety of family-friendly activities and shows, including a seasonal market filled with scrumptious traditional cakes and cookies!

Experience winter in the capital city with season-themed attractions, performances and activities such as Fairy Tales On Ice, the Winterfest tree lighting, snow globe dancers, ice skating, the Snow Play Pit Stop and Snow Slide Race, just to name a few!

Get ready for the UAE's most magical winter celebration.

Don't miss out on this year's Winterfest as Ferrari World brings you and your loved ones a fantastic line-up of attractions at the park!

[ferrariworldabudhabi.com/en/events/winterfest](http://ferrariworldabudhabi.com/en/events/winterfest)

### YAS ISLAND

#### ★ YAS WINTER FESTIVAL

December 11-16

**Venue:** Gateway Park South, Yas Island

Are you ready for winter? Because we sure are! Bask in the glow of winter at Yas Island. This magical time of the year will be celebrated with a five-day festival - the perfect countdown to celebrating winter in the capital city!

Gather your family and friends this season and take part in exciting activities!

Shop at the winter market, get into a snowball fight, countdown to the giant tree lighting ceremony, witness the magic of snowflakes by the hour, get enchanted by choirs, dance to live music, sing along to your favourite festive songs, experience the thrill of the funfair, meet mascots, experience the fireworks every evening, and many more!

Time to get into the festive spirit with your loved ones!

[visitabudhabi.ae/en/see.and.do/leisure/events/yas.winter.carnival.aspx](http://visitabudhabi.ae/en/see.and.do/leisure/events/yas.winter.carnival.aspx)

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.