Autumn 2019 Youth Education Programme

Committed to engaging the youth and growing the local creative community, Sharjah Art Foundation’s Youth Education Programme offers a number of opportunities for participants aged 13 to 17 to enjoy and appreciate contemporary art within the context of Sharjah’s rich artistic heritage and dramatic landscapes. The programme’s immersive educational activities emphasise creativity, public participation, urban research and sustainability. Activities are facilitated by experienced professionals as well as art and cultural enthusiasts, with sessions conducted in both English and Arabic, according to the needs of the participants.

Running from 21 September to 21 December 2019, the Autumn 2019 Youth Education Programme includes a range of engaging workshops, excursions, performances and collaborations. During this season, participants can learn about illustrating and inking for comics, work directly with March Project artists to learn about their research methods, and participate in performances.

Except for courses at the Sharjah Art Institute, all Sharjah Art Foundation Education and Community Programme sessions are free and open to the public. Materials and equipment for the various activities are provided by Sharjah Art Foundation.

The foundation is committed to making its programmes as inclusive and accessible as possible. Disability access symbols are included in the Education and Community Programme descriptions to indicate the accessibility of individual sessions.

Key to symbols:

- Blindness or low vision
- Hearing impairment
- Physical disabilities
- Down’s syndrome
- Autism spectrum disorder (ASD)

For further information, email community@sharjahart.org or call (06) 5685050, ext. 26 or 54.

To register, please visit www.sharjahart.org/sharjah-art-foundation/events
Learning at Sharjah Art Foundation
Youth Programmes

Basic Principles of Sign Language
Family Workshop
Instructors: Hasan Odeh Hammoudi and Wael Samir for Arabic sign language; Nada Shahin and Abdalsalam Zourob for English sign language
Saturday, 21 September 2019
4:00 pm–7:00 pm
Arts for All Center, Al Mureijah
All ages
Languages: Arabic and English

In celebration of the International Day of Sign Languages, Sharjah Art Foundation will host two concurrent workshops, one in Arabic and one in English. Participants will be introduced to the basic principles of sign language, including how to sign numbers, letters of the alphabet and commonly used phrases. Then they will engage in simple conversations in Arabic or English.

Artist Meetup and Critique Session
Adult Meetup
With Naqd Critiques
Saturday, 5 October 2019
11:00 am–3:00 pm
Fen Café and Restaurant, Al Mureijah Square
Ages: 18+
Language: English

Emerging and established artists based in the UAE are invited to join this meetup to share, critique and discover one another’s work and build a network of peers in Sharjah. This meetup is an excellent opportunity for artists to receive feedback on their ongoing work, discuss challenges, and exchange tips and tricks of the trade in a relaxed environment. Participants are encouraged to bring samples of their work that they wish to share with the rest of the group.

Naqd Critiques is a monthly artist meetup dedicated to artists based in the UAE seeking feedback and constructive criticism on their work. The sessions focus on artwork within the scope of contemporary practices, and both works in progress and completed works are welcome in the sessions.
Introduction to Comic Illustration
Youth Course
With Shihabaldeen Al Musharraf
Tuesday to Thursday, 15–17 October 2019
5:00 pm–8:00 pm
Bait Al Shamsi, Al Mureijah Square
Ages: 13+
Languages: English and Arabic

Through a step-by-step approach and an exploration of a wide range of preparatory drawings, storyboards and media technique experiments, participants will develop an understanding of body proportions, consistency, expression and the movement of characters in a variety of situations. They will then create short comics to demonstrate what they have learned.

Shihabaldeen Al Musharraf is a 2D animator, storyboard artist and comic book artist. Among other projects, he has worked as a concept artist at the Cartoon Network Studio Arabia on cartoons such as Mansour, Eating Stars and Emara. Al Musharraf is currently working on the new volume of his award-winning comic book Alaa the Bounty Hunter and a webcomic titled Missbelled.

Pen and Ink Illustration
Youth Course
With Saeed Arjumand
Thursday to Saturday, 14–16 November 2019
11:00 am–1:00 pm
Bait Al Shamsi, Arts Square
Ages: 13+
Language: English

Unlike drawing with a pencil, pen and ink illustration—with its own techniques and challenges—requires a different approach to composing and creating drawings. During this three-day course, participants will be guided through the process of producing pen and ink illustrations using a variety of tools (e.g. pens, markers and contour brushes) and techniques (e.g. shading and creating texture).
**Wadaiko Drums**
Youth Workshop
With Kharsha
Saturday, 30 November 2019
4:00 pm–8:00 pm
Mirage City Cinema, Al Mureijah Square
Ages: 13+
Languages: English and Arabic

Emirati-Japanese drumming group Kharsha will perform and share their journey from the group’s conception until now. The performance and discussion will be followed by a wadaiko drumming workshop.

Kharsha is an Emirati-Japanese drumming group established by Yotaro Matsutani (founder) and Taryam Al Katheeri (co-founder) in 2017.

**Shifting Landscapes: Documenting Observations through Art**
Youth and Adult Excursion and Workshop
With Asma Belhamar
Friday and Saturday, 6–7 December 2019
3:00 pm–8:00 pm (Friday) and 4:00 pm–6:00 pm (Saturday)
Meeting point: Information Centre, Al Mureijah Square
Ages: 18+
Languages: English and Arabic

This two-day workshop reflects on Asma Belhamar’s work for March Project 2019, which explores conflicts between natural landscapes and architecture, whereby the shift of compressed time from the perspective of a car in motion leaves behind a lingering visual memory. Guided by the artist, participants in this excursion and workshop will embark on a journey from Al Mureijah Square to the mountainous landscape of Kalba that will invoke the visual memory that inspired Belhamar’s exhibited work. Participants will document their observations using photography or traditional sketches to capture scenes of the shifting landscape. The second day of the workshop will consist of a collage session, in which participants will combine their images of architecture and landscape to create a final composition of their visual memory.

Asma Belhamar’s work explores the phenomenon of ‘megastructure’ in the UAE and confronts the visual memory of the land. Her design-based practice reflects her interest in surface and pattern design, and she makes fabric and paper wall installations, experimenting with printing and projection techniques in her construction of three-dimensional structures.
Open Mic Night
Youth Performance Activity
With Blank Space
Friday, 13 December 2019
6:30 pm–10:00 pm
Mirage City Cinema, Al Mureijah Square
Ages: 13+
Languages: English and Arabic

In collaboration with Blank Space, Sharjah Art Foundation invites poets, musicians, performers and comedians, with all levels of experience, to join an open mic at Mirage City Cinema.

Blank Space is a community-driven open mic initiative co-founded by Mohammed Abdelhakam and Mathani Mohamed to showcase music, spoken word poetry, stand-up comedy and other performance arts.

Printmaking with Plants
Youth Workshop
With Asma Khoory
Saturday, 14 December 2019
11:00 am–2:00 pm
The Urban Garden, Al Mureijah Square
Ages: 13+
Languages: English and Arabic

Nestled among the historic and contemporary buildings in Al Mureijah Square, cared for by neighbourhood residents and home to the area’s favourite cats, The Urban Garden embodies the ideal combination of nature and art in a collective communal space. Participants in this workshop will experience the welcoming environment of the garden as they collect plant cuttings and learn how to print them onto canvas and textiles. They will use the various printmaking techniques taught in this workshop to create their own artworks.

Asma Khoory’s practice revolves around themes of manufactured time, human relations and conversations, social ideologies and collective memory. In 2018, she was part of the fifth cohort of the Salama Bint Hamdan Emerging Artist Fellowship in partnership with the Rhode Island School of Design. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Visual Arts with a minor in Curatorial Practices from Zayed University in 2017.
Exploring #SAFneighbourhood Trends
Youth and Adult Excursion
With Farah Al Qasimi
Saturday, 21 December 2019
10:00 am–1:00 pm
Meeting point: Information Centre, Al Mureijah Square
Ages: 18+
Language: English

Home to multiple markets and aromas, #SAFneighbourhood is packed with perfumers and spice merchants. In this session, participants will visit and reflect on Farah Al Qasimi’s video installation for March Project 2019. Then, guided by the artist, they will go on an excursion around the neighbourhood to converse with shop merchants and explore some of the more unusual souq trends, which range from Burj Khalifa prints on textiles to snake oils. While they learn about the cultural significance of the trends, their different uses and applications, and the demographics targeted, they will document their findings through video and photography.

Farah Al Qasimi’s work explores how consumer culture seduces people, particularly women, with promises of beauty or self-improvement. Her practice moves fluidly between private and public spaces, but the content has primarily remained focused on locating the fantastic in the everyday. Al Qasimi holds both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in photography from Yale University, New Born in 1991 in Abu Dhabi, she currently lives and works