

VCUQatar Opens Registration for Spring Community Classes

Doha, Qatar – Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar is starting this season's Community Classes in February and course offerings include classes in different art and design areas by noted local and international instructors.

Community offerings at VCUQatar continue to expand and fill up very quickly. The current set of 52 classes includes the hugely popular adobe package again as well as classes in photography, camera filming, drawing and painting, jewelry making, fashion styling and making, graphic design principles, ceramics and other making classes, among others. The eight week program period runs from early February to early April.

All classes are open to both women and men and unless otherwise noted are taught in English at the VCUQatar building located within the Education City campus on Al Luqta Street.

VCUQatar is also offering a short spring holiday program introducing art to young female high school students who are interested in art and design and want to learn some techniques. The program, taught in Arabic, covers an introduction to cartoon-character design, gouache painting, art of ceramic mosaic, masks – children's workshop in clay and puppet making and is open to school girls aged 10 to 14.

Classes for cartoon-character design are held on Sunday, 26 January and 2 Feb and the class fee is QR200. Gouache painting classes are held on Sunday and Thursday, 26 and 30 January, 2 and 6 February, and fee is QR 400. Art of ceramic mosaic classes are held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 27, 28 and 29 January, and 3, 4 and 5 February and the fee is QR 600. Masks – children's workshop in clay classes are held on Monday and Wednesday, 27 and 29 January, and 3 and 5 February, and the class fee is QR 400. Puppet making classes are held on Tuesday, 28 January and 4 February and the class fee is QR 400. Fees for students signing up for the entire program instead of individual classes are QR 1500.

All classes are open to girls only and are taught in Arabic at the VCUQatar campus located within the Education City campus on Al Luqta Street. The girl's holiday program and some of the Community Classes i.e. calligraphy, oil painting basics, are taught in Arabic, however, English speakers are welcome too.

Proceeds from all the classes are donated to the VCUQatar scholarship fund. Payments for both the community classes and the spring holiday program can be made securely online (<http://www.qatar.vcu.edu>) or in person by registering at the VCUQatar Design Shop 8:30 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm Sunday to Thursday. Seats are limited and can only be reserved with full payment.

Questions regarding community classes and the spring holiday program can be directed to the Student Affairs office at (974) 4402-0555 or to Annette Wendling-Willeke at awendlingwil@vcu.edu. For more information and to register please visit www.qatar.vcu.edu

Note to Editors:

About Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar:

VCUQatar is the Qatar campus of the prestigious Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Richmond, Virginia. Established in 1998 through a partnership with Qatar Foundation, VCUQatar offers students the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in fashion design, graphic design, interior design and painting & printmaking, a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history and a Master of Fine Arts degree in design studies.

Through all its programs, research projects and community activities, VCUQatar continues toward its vision of a Qatari society that innovates through art and design. In addition to a comprehensive annual public events program that includes a wide range of exhibitions, lectures and fashion events, the University hosts the biennial international design conference Tasmeeem and the biennial Hamad bin Khalifa Islamic Art Symposium, attracting globally recognized designers, academics and thinkers while fostering sustainable, university-community partnerships that enhance the educational, economic and cultural vitality of Qatar. For more information please visit www.qatar.vcu.edu

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organization that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercializing solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community. For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>