



QATAR FOUNDATION KICKS OFF NEW SEASON OF 'ART TRAIL' GUIDED TOURS

Tour showcases artworks by VCUarts Qatar alumni

Doha, Qatar, September 25, 2017: Qatar Foundation (QF) recently held a guided art tour at Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar (VCUarts Qatar), kicking off a new season of 'Art Trail', an ongoing program that enables the public to view and learn more about the artworks located within Education City.

The tour offered the public a glimpse of the inspiring achievements of 20 VCUarts Qatar alumni whose multidisciplinary creations were showcased in an exhibition titled '20/20/20'.

Art Trail caters to different age groups and interests and serves as a platform to inspire the community. It further aims to increase artistic appreciation and promote local culture and artists.

Machaille Al Naimi, President of Community, QF, said: "We are delighted to launch this new season of our popular 'Art Trail' guided tours. Qatar Foundation serves as a local hub for arts and culture and these tours invite the wider community into Education City as an open and welcoming public space, catering to people from all walks of life, united by a love for the arts.

"Our monthly tours showcase outstanding artworks by local artists who have drawn inspiration from their rich heritage. Visitors on the tours are able to gain greater insight into regional identity, while experiencing the unique connection between art and their environment," Al Naimi added.

Several of the 150 artworks owned by QF were acquired through the world-renowned 'Percent-for-Art' scheme, which ensures that one-percent of the cost of large-scale development projects be allocated to fund and install public art.

Qatari artists with work located in Education City include Ali Hassan, Chairman of the Youth Creative Art Center and the Girl's Creativity Art Center; Yousef Ahmad, a pioneer of Qatar's modern art movement; Salman Al Malik, who is widely acknowledged for his work in the field of 'plastic arts'; and Moza Al Kuwari, an award-winning Qatari artist.

Education City, QF's flagship development, is home to many arts and cultural centers, including Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, and Qatar National Library's Heritage Collection, as well as the art galleries at VCUarts Qatar and the Education City Student Center. QF's art collection is a valuable add-on to the country's cultural efforts, and promotes Qatar as a leading player in the contemporary art market.



The next guided Art Trail will welcome the public to the 'City Limits, and the Famous QF Headquarters' exhibition at VCUarts Qatar. Those wishing to join the Art Trail should contact qftrail@qf.org.qa for a registration form. Once registered, interested participants will receive a confirmation email, including tour logistics.

Photo caption:

Image 1: Community members enjoy a guided Art Trail tour in Education City.

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Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialized programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, research and development, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF's world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation's development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global research and development challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering social engagement through programs that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>