



## TALENTED ARTISTS SHOWCASED AT QATAR FOUNDATION

*Atelier Event Demonstrates Qatar's Visual Arts Culture*

**Doha, Qatar, 15 November 2016:** Showcasing the artwork of local and international artists, Qatar Foundation (QF) aims to inspire the community with the second edition of the Art Atelier exhibition, which opened to the public on 12<sup>th</sup> November.

The exhibition provides a platform for the local community to engage, discuss and interact with the work of selected artists from Qatar and beyond, and serves as a source of interest to upcoming artists looking to make an impact on the local art scene.

Ameera Al-Aji, Event Logistics & Support Supervisor from Qatar Foundation, explained the rationale behind the project: "Following the immense success of the inaugural exhibition in 2014, the Atelier event further showcases the thought provoking artistry of our local talent pool; raising the awareness and scope of our budding art culture. Art has the power to captivate people, so it's a great way to explore our country's rich culture and history, while also inspiring people to engage in artistic pursuits."

Each artist prepared a minimum of two canvasses for the exhibition. The artworks were created as part of a week-long workshop held at QF's Recreation Center, held prior to the launch of the exhibition. The space was used by the participants to interact, network and share knowledge, through the discussion of technique, colour and subject.

Lulwa Al Mogeseeb, one of three Qataris participating in the event, explained: "I want people to visit the exhibition and come away with a better understanding of the importance of art in Qatar. In my work I explore the diversity of my country, and I explore the past, present and future of Qatar in my paintings through both subject and colour. I'm very proud to be participating in an event that highlights the significance of art in local culture, and how it is a very important aspect of our education and national development."

Attracting artists from all over the world, the Atelier includes the work of Qatar-based Australian artist Naeem Malak, who stated: "Art is an integral component of social cohesion, which is especially relevant to Qatar's diverse population. Art encourages intercultural dialogue, understanding and collaboration, and it serves as a universal language which transcends barriers and unites people. Qatar has very much inspired my work as an artist and I'm honoured to play a role in the country's artistic movement."

As an appreciation for their efforts, QF will be presenting each artist with an art supplies voucher, together with a certificate and a specially engraved plaque.



Elizabeth Thanklice, a participating artist, also explained the value of the event: "The Art Atelier is an event which underpins Qatar Foundation's commitment to the country's growth and development, reinforcing Qatar's quest to provide its people with the very best opportunities available to them. I hope to inspire visitors to the exhibition and help develop the creative talent of the country, providing new options and new possibilities for young people who may not have even considered art as a possible professional or creative outlet."

The exhibition, housed in QF's Recreation Center, takes place from 12<sup>th</sup> November to 19<sup>th</sup> November. Members of the community are invited to view the impressive art work and interact with the artists.

**Image Captions:**

**Image 1:** The work of Naeem Malak, a Doha-based Australian artist.

**Image 2:** Lulwa Al Mogeseeb, one of three Qatari artists participating in the QF project.

**Image 3:** Budding young artists excitedly overlook the work of Dana Al Safar.

-ENDS-

**Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential**

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organisation 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. QF was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation's Chairperson. 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 commercialising 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>