



LOCAL CULTURE TAKES CENTER STAGE AT QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY IN DECEMBER

QF member's full schedule of events builds on November's success

Doha, Qatar, December 6, 2017: A full slate of activities taking place at Qatar National Library (QNL), a member of Qatar Foundation (QF), this month will highlight Qatar's heritage and culture, as the country and QNL celebrate National Day.

On December 9, in honor of Arabic Language Day, the QNL Children's Library will host an event aimed at enhancing children's language skills. Librarians will be on-hand to introduce young visitors to the world of Arabic through storytelling, games, books, and various technological tools.

To highlight another aspect of regional culture and to celebrate Qatar National Day, QNL will host the Marasi Ensemble of the Qatar Music Academy in the library's special events area on December 13. The Marasi Ensemble uses traditional instruments to create authentic interpretations of *maqam* music, a style historically used in Arabic music.

"As the country celebrates Qatar's past, present, and future in December, QNL is excited to present locals and expatriates with the language and music at the heart of the country's culture and history. These are living, dynamic examples of Qatar's heritage, and we welcome everyone to attend these fun and educational events," said Gihan Baraka, Communications Manager, QNL.

Other December events will continue QNL's mission of promoting early literacy in Qatar. Two events, one held in Arabic and one in English, will focus on helping parents understand different types of books, evaluate them, and support their children in choosing what to read. QNL librarians will also give parents ideas on how to build home libraries and encourage reading as a part of their children's everyday lives.

QNL has already hosted dozens of events since it opened to the public on November 7, offering something for everyone in the local community. Teenagers enjoyed an arts and crafts workshop that let attendees tap into their creativity, while their parents learned about staying safe through the 'Parents: Safety at Home' event. Mothers needing a break convened at the 'Mother's Tea Time' event.

QNL's world-class technology was on display as well, as visitors saw demonstrations of the tools offered at Innovation Stations, including green screen video studios and 3D printers. Parents were trained on using the children's database of educational tools, while teenagers learned to program tiny robots during the 'Introduction to Ozobot' event. Meanwhile, adults learned how to use Google Drive in one of QNL's two computer labs.

During November, teenagers had the opportunity to improve their creative writing skills in Arabic in a workshop, while another session introduced them to QNL's vast collection of scientific books in Arabic.



مكتبة قطر الوطنية

QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY

عضو في مؤسسة قطر

Member of Qatar Foundation

“QNL is not just a center of learning; it is also a community space. Already, we’ve seen people from across Qatar embrace the library’s many diverse events, and we look forward to continuing to offer opportunities for visitors to interact, create and learn,” said Gihan Baraka.

For a full list of QNL events, please visit: www.qnl.qa

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Qatar National Library

Qatar National Library (QNL), a member of the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, acts as a steward of Qatar’s national heritage by collecting, preserving and making available the country’s recorded history. In its role as a research library with a preeminent heritage collection, QNL fosters and promotes greater global insight into the history and culture of the Gulf region. As a public library, QNL provides equal access for all Qatari residents to an environment that supports creativity, independent decision-making and cultural development. Through all its functions, QNL provides leadership to the country’s library and cultural heritage sector.

QNL also supports Qatar’s transition from a reliance on natural resources to become a diversified and sustainable economy by providing support to students, researchers, and the public to promote life-long learning and empower individuals and communities for a better future. The QNL project was announced on 19 November 2012 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation.

Website: www.qnl.qa

QNL’s e-newsletter: <http://qnl.qa/programs-and-services/subscribe-qnl-newsletter>

QNL’s Twitter: @QNLlib

QNL’s Instagram: QatarNationalLibrary

QNL’s Snapchat: Qnlib

QNL’s Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheQatarNationalLibrary

QNL’s YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/QNLlibrary>

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