

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Registration is open for the 2017 Summer Art and Design Program for Children and High School Students at VCUQatar

Courses ranging from photography to fashion design for children and high school students will be taking place Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar (VCUQatar) this summer.

The VCUQatar Summer Program was conceived with the aim of engaging young students who may not have access to an art education at their own schools, and to get them interested in art and design from an early age during their school holidays. Students can explore a wide variety of art and design techniques and media, and are taught creative thinking and creative processes.

The 2017 Summer Art and Design Program for Children and High School Students at VCUQatar includes 16 different art and design courses for all age groups.

Two one week Art Fun classes invite 4-6-year-old children to explore art making techniques, while 7-9-year-old children can enjoy two weeks of “Art plus Math & Science – of course1” and 10-12-year-old teens can delve into two Art Exploration classes around pop art and collage creatures. There are 3D Sculpture classes for ages 7-9 / 10-15 and 15+, and an Experimental Print and Collage Workshop for ages 10-15.

High school students who are interested in a potential career in art and design will find well-structured offerings in the Creative Discovery (two weeks for ages 13-15), Arts Intensive (one week for ages 16+) and Design Intensive (two weeks for ages 16+) courses that will give them an intimate insight into the majors taught at VCUQatar’s degree programs. Teens with a specific interest in fashion can study fashion illustration and portfolio building. Those who want to improve their photographic skills and create a larger body of images can join a photography class.

All courses are hands-on studio-type classes taught by accomplished local and international instructors. Some programs include museum or gallery visits and movie screenings. They vary in length: there are one week and two week programs that could also be combined to allow an overall program length of up to four weeks. Classes are held in the mornings from Sunday to Thursday at VCUQatar, starting from July 9 through to August 3.

Courses are open to children and high school students who are interested in expanding their knowledge of art, design and craft. All classes are open to both

genders, and are taught in English at VCUQatar's building, which is located within the Education City campus on Al Luqta Street.

For more information and to register please visit

<http://www.qatar.vcu.edu/community/summer-program>

About Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar:

VCUQatar is the international branch campus of Virginia Commonwealth University's School of the Arts, a top-ranked art and design program in the U.S. 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 and printmaking, a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history and a Master of Fine Arts degree in design.

A vibrant community with global reach, VCUarts promises students a lifelong passion for and conversation about the arts. As the foremost example of its commitment to global outreach and education, VCUQatar presents valuable opportunities for cross-cultural exchange and connects VCUarts to the influential art and design world of the Middle East. The campus attracts renowned contributors to contemporary visual culture for speaking and teaching engagements, and hosts two major international events--the design conference Tasmeem Doha and the Hamad bin Khalifa Islamic Art Symposium.

About VCU School of the Arts

VCUarts is a comprehensive art school within a major, urban public research university, located in Richmond, Va. Currently ranked the No. 1 public school of art and design by U.S. News and World Report, the school offers 15 undergraduate and 10 graduate degree programs in fine arts, design, performing arts, historical research and pedagogical practice. Its campus in Qatar provides students and faculty with a direct tie to the Middle East, a region of increasing significance in the contemporary art world.

Distinguished faculty members are internationally recognized in their respective fields and contribute significantly to the stature of VCU and are committed to mentoring the next generation of artists, entrepreneurs, scientists, scholars and engaged citizens of diverse communities around the world.

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 Amir, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

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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>