



CALGARY ARAB
ARTS & CULTURE SOCIETY

CAACS Community Report 2025



About the Month

Bill C-232, passed in November 2021, officially designates April as Arab Heritage Month. This legislative move opens up avenues for Arab Canadians to proudly exhibit the richness of their cultural heritage. Calgary Arab Arts & Culture Society looks to celebrate Arab Heritage Month by facilitating the sharing of Arab culture through music, dance, visual arts, and food for the second year. Now in its 12th year, the Society began as a modest film festival, and has evolved into a year round offering; notable highlights include the inclusion of Arab stand-up comedians, collaboration with acclaimed filmmakers, and the planned production of a documentary and Arab-Canadian series. The Society is proud to call writers, theater directors, and radio hosts among its board members.

Arab Heritage Month serves a deeper purpose beyond celebration. It serves as a vital opportunity to share, educate, and contribute to the enrichment of our multicultural home, fostering understanding and unity among all who call it their own.

Volunteers

CAACS is a non-profit society guided by a volunteer board members and powered by the admin body that delegates authority to volunteers during events.

Board of Directors

Moness Rizkalla, Board Chair
Hashem Kadri, Director
Balkan Farage, Director
Norma Lewis, Director
Sura, Director
Ranny Shibley, Director
Sleman Aldib, Director
Lindsey Rizkalla, Director
Abbadi Hicham, Treasurer

2025 Volunteers

Hoda Hassan (Volunteer coordinator)
Badr ElSakka
Jaydaa AlHaddad
Yazmine M'hamed
Rayyan AL Ata
Fatima Alhasani
Dalia Helal
Neel Nandha

Administrative Body

Bassem Hafez, Executive Director
Abdesslam (SAM) Bouayad, Marketing Manager

Artists Showcased by CAA&CS & Strategic Partnerships

Exhibitions

A) Cornerstone

- 2 Painters - Egypt (Calgary)
- 1 Photographer - Egypt ((Calgary)
- 1 Photographer - Kuwait/Djibouti (Canmore)
- 1 Violinist - Lebanon (Edmonton)

B) Doughlicious

- 1 Painter - Palestine (Calgary)

C) Taste of Yemen

- 3 Photographers - Yemen

D) Sallora

- 2 Photographers - Yemen

E) The Next Page

- 1 Copper Engraver - Syria (Calgary)
- 1 Oud Player - Syria (Calgary)

F) Turca Turkish Breakfast & Cafe

- 2 Painters - Syria (Calgary)
- 1 Photographer - Syria (Calgary)
- 1 Qanunist - Lebanon (Calgary)

CPL

- Poetry - Syria (Calgary)
- Poetry - Palestine (Edmonton)
- Author - Tunisia (Edmonton)
- Literature - Egypt (Edmonton)
- Filmmaker - Egypt (Edmonton)
- Literature - Iraq (Calgary)
- Literature - Iraq (Edmonton)
- Literature - Iraq (Edmonton)
- Literature - Iraq (Edmonton)
- Literature - Sudan (Edmonton)
- Storyteller - Palestine (Calgary)
- Stand Up Comedy - Yemen (Edmonton)
- Stand Up Comedy - Sudan (Edmonton)
- Dancer - Morocco (Canmore)
- Henna Tattoo Artist - Sudan (Calgary)
- Visual Artist - Lebanon (Calgary)
- Arabic Calligraphy - Syria (Calgary)

Arab Arts Exhibitions
Throughout the Month of April



April 28

Partnership with CSIF
Screening of Arabic Film
Filmmaker - Lebanon

شهر التراث العربي

The Arab Heritage Month April Arab Arts Exhibitions
APRIL 1 - APRIL 30

SE

Hoda Hassan (Egypt)

Yasmeen Abdel-Hafez (Egypt)

Mohamed Nour Helmy (Egypt)

Date : April 5 - 2:00PM

Q&A : Meet and Chat with the Artists

Refreshments will be served

Free Admission

Silya (Lebanon)

Cornerstone Music Cafe
14919 Deer Ridge Dr SE #139

شهر التراث العربي

The Arab Heritage Month April Arab Arts Exhibitions
APRIL 1 - APRIL 30

SE

Date : April 26 - 2:00PM

Q&A : Meet and Chat with the Artists

Refreshments will be served

Free Admission

Rami Abdel-Nur (Syria)

Aya Mhanni (Syria)

شهر التراث العربي

The Arab Heritage Month April Arab Arts Exhibitions
APRIL 1 - APRIL 30

SW

Al-Yamaniah (Yemen)

Yemeni Art Base (Yemen)

Date : April 11 - 6:00PM

Q&A : Meet and Chat with the Artists

Refreshments will be served

Free Admission

Taste of Yemen
1033 17 Ave SW

شهر التراث العربي

The Arab Heritage Month April Arab Arts Exhibitions
APRIL 1 - APRIL 30

NE

Nawar AlSahli (Palestine)

Date : April 6 - 2:00PM

Q&A : Meet and Chat with the Artists

Refreshments will be served

Free Admission

Doughlicious
4140 6 St NE

شهر التراث العربي

The Arab Heritage Month April Arab Arts Exhibitions
APRIL 1 - APRIL 30

NW

Dareen Dandash (Syria)

Reema Noufal (Syria)

Haya Misyati (Syria)

Date : April 19 - 2:00PM

Q&A : Meet and Chat with the Artists

Refreshments will be served

Free Admission

Featuring : Josi Saba (Lebanon)

TURCA
Turkish Street & Markets

Turca Turkish Cafe
2604 4 St NW



BASMA
MOROCCAN FOLKLORE DANCER



SILYA MERHI
LEBANESE VIOLINIST



THURAYA MOHAMED
SUDANESE HENNA TATTOO
ARTIST



FADIA OMAR
LEBANESE VISUAL ARTIST



AHMED AHMED & FARIS HYTAA
YEMENI & SUDANESE STAND UP
COMEDIANS



JOSI
LEBANESE QUANONIST



MOHAMMAD HAJJ AHMAD
PALESTINIAN STORYTELLER



ACBF
GHADA ALATRASH & HOUSSEM LAZREG
& FARAH AYAAD
ARAB POETS & AUTHORS



MAAN AL-JUNDY
SYRIAN ARABIC
CALLIGRAPHIST

Breakdown

Total Artists: 35

From 3 Alberta Cities
Representing
10 Arab Countries
1 Aboriginal Artist

10 Volunteers

Partnership with 7 Hosts

Discounts from 7 Arab Restaurants

Support from Politicians:

Video from Premier of AB
Letter from Premier of AB

Attendance from the Premier's Office
Invitation to the AB Government Banquet

In addition to :

The Calgary Public Library
Calgary - CSIF
Banff - OESA Arts
Calgary - Rainbow Roots YYC

Keynote Speech
AB Minister of Immigration &
Multiculturalism
MLA - Calgary-Glenmore
MLA - Banff-Kananaskis

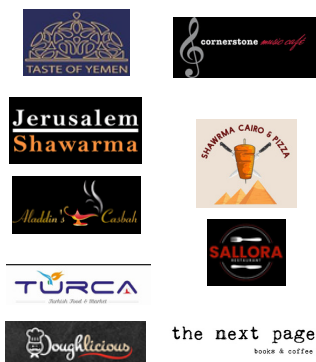
53 Social Media Posts

2164 Online Engagements

467 New Followers (Facebook + Instagram)

Thank You

Partners



Sponsors



Supporters

