

DELTATIMES

AUGUST 2015

Volume 2, Issue 4

Daughters
For Life
FOUNDATION





Ten phenomenal girls from the Middle East will change the rest of the world's future

GIFT OF LEARNING FOR TEN NEW STUDENTS

DAUGHTERS FOR LIFE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS WINNERS 2015

On May 21st, Daughters for Life foundation announced ten young women students from across the Middle East have been selected to further their post-secondary studies in the United States and Canada.

The 2015 scholars were selected from more than 100 applicants. Zein Odeh, a Foundation board member was on the selection committee that interviewed each student. “The task of shortlisting the young women was really tough,” she said. “I was truly amazed by the high caliber of the candidates; how smart these dedicated and empowered young women are, who are determined to change the world for the better.”

Odeh said each of the scholars has a story of perseverance, and had achieved high academic standards. “It was an honour to be part of the

selection committee and it truly humbled me as a person. With each interview I was more inspired to better myself and left even more convinced that education is the only way we will see a positive change in our world,” she said. This year, the Foundation has three new partners: Collège Boréal, in

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- Zein Odeh, Board Director

Sudbury, Ontario; Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario; and the private Manhattanville College located in Purchase, New York. It has also renewed its partnership with New College of Florida, where five Foundation scholars are already studying.

The new students include Hiba Miari, 18, a

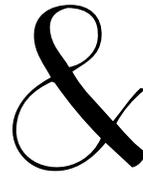
third-generation Palestinian, from Lebanon, who is heading to Wilfrid Laurier University to begin a pre-medicine biology program. Egyptian student Mayar Tharawat Ali, 18, will be studying physics at Wilfrid Laurier University. She shares the same name as one of the three daughters of

Daughters for Life founder Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, who were killed in Gaza in 2009. Sarah Abu Ramadan, 23, from Gaza, is looking forward to studying culinary arts at the Collège Boréal. Eman Alatbash, 20, also from Gaza, will be studying accounting at Boréal. Wardah AlAkrah, 18,

Palestinian, grew up in Lebanon, she’s looking forward to the pre-medical program at Manhattanville College. Waad Hassan, 18, Palestinian also lives in Lebanon, and will be studying English literature at Manhattanville College. Jordanian Jaida Zafer AbuKhader, 18, will be studying International and Area Studies at the New College of Florida. Palestinian Diana Tarazi, 18, has also grown up in Amman, Jordan. She’ll be majoring in Computer Science. Lebanese Simona Rahi, 18, enrolled in New College of Florida, Political Science. Rozana Jaber, 18, from Jerusalem, will be majoring in International and Area Studies.

CONGRATULATIONS CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR FOUNDING DIRECTORS DALAL



SHATHA ABUELAISH



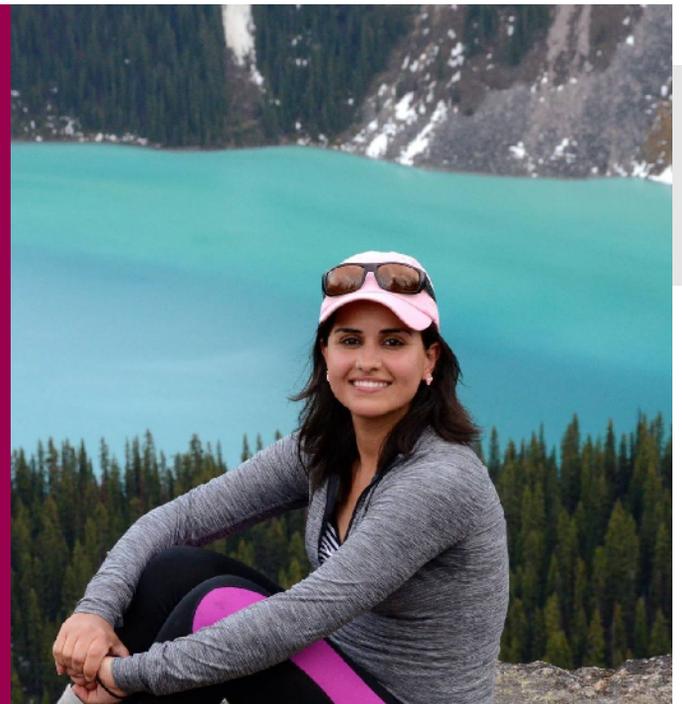
Congratulations to our bright Founding Directors Dalal Abuelaish & Shatha Abuelaish on their well-deserved success! Dalal and Shatha are graduating from University of Toronto with undergraduate degrees in electrical and computer engineering, respectively. Both completed the popular Engineering Business minor, participated in the PEY internship program and served on the executive committee of the University's Arab Students Association. When asked what's next, Dalal says, "Engineering is a creative profession. I look forward to developing solutions to open-ended, real-world problems."



MEET YOSRA AL BAKKAR

Yosra Albakkar is the first student enrolled in the foundation's scholarships program to graduate. In 2014, she successfully defended her thesis in her Masters of Arts in Sustainability Studies at Trent University in Peterborough, ON, Canada.

Now, Yosra is a Researcher, advocate and activist for peace, social justice and gender equality.



Annual Award of Merit 2015

is hereby granted to:

DAUGHTERS FOR LIFE FOUNDATION ANNUAL AWARD OF MERIT 2015

On July, 2015, Daughters for Life Foundation unveiled the names of The DFL Award of Merit winners. More than 100 women students at 12 Middle Eastern universities have been recognized for their outstanding achievement. The Award of Merit – an award of US\$500 to US\$1000 – helps fund their tuition. This acknowledges not only the academic capabilities of these third year students who will graduate in the 2016-17 academic year, but also their courage in overcoming hardship and their contribution towards improving the lives of girls and women in the Middle East.

The 12 universities are based in Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Israel and throughout July, the founder, Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, and two of his daughters, founding directors Shatha and Dalal, will be visiting those universities based in Israel and Palestine to present the students with their awards.

Of the **105** students selected for the 2015 awards, **25** attend the Al Azhar University in Gaza; **14** the Al Quds Open University; **2** are students at The Lebanese American University in Lebanon; **7** at The American University in Beirut; **1** student at The Beirut Arab University; **4** study at Ben-Gurion University in the Negev, Israel; **3** at The University of Jordan; **22** at The Islamic University in Gaza; **8** at The University of Haifa in Israel; **8** at the Achva Academic College in Israel; and **5** at the Birzeit University in Gaza.



The Award Recipients with Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish at the ceremony at UOH



The Award Recipients with Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish at the ceremony at Al Quds Open University



The Award Recipients with Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish at the ceremony at BGU

The awards are in memory of Dr. Abuelaish's daughters, Bessan, Mayar and Aya, who were killed when an Israeli tank shelled their home in January 2009. In order to be selected for the award, students, who are all in accredited academic programmes, must be compassionate and through volunteering, work or extra-curricular activities have helped improve the lives of others in their community or university. Many of the students will have faced financial difficulties or overcome significant hardships in their home countries.

Congratulations to this year's Daughters of Life Annual Award of Merit recipients. The awards are given to support and celebrate the educational achievements of young women across the Middle East, irrespective of nationality, ethnic background or religious beliefs. Helping to nurture the region's future leaders!

DR. IZZELDIN ABUELAISH RECEIVES HONORARY DOCTORATE IN LAW FROM NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA

On May 22nd, Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish was invited as Keynote Speaker to The 49th Commencement of New College of Florida ceremony, where he received an Honorary Doctorate in Law



THANK YOU

Last April, the Fairview Leads to Change student club, in Boulder, Colorado, US, organized a fundraiser to promote the Daughters for Life Foundation.

Two DFL scholars, Leen Alfatafta and Loureen Sayej, spoke at the event as well as representatives of Boulder-based Christian, Muslim, and Jewish communities.

Copies of Dr. Abuelaish's book were sold and donations accepted, all in support of "empowering girls and young women through education to develop strong voices for the betterment of life throughout the Middle East."

The event was very successful and raised more than \$5,000 for young women's scholarships!



Thank you for Fairview Leads to Change Student Club Team

Maya Dayan, Laura Fleming, Alice Evans, Kathy Ding, Parker Grosjean, Ellie Bach, Megan Carter, Henry Haller, Laurel Melton, Shriya Ghimire, Lexie Ritter, Elyssa Hoffgard, Sienna Sewell and Madison Crowley.

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