

LEARNING EXPERIENCES IN ARAB COMMUNITIES AND SHARED SOCIETY IN ISRAEL

Program Catalog

Curated by the Task Force on Arab Citizens of Israel



TASK FORCE on
ARAB CITIZENS
of **ISRAEL**

2025/26

Photo: Beit HaGefen.
The Arab-Jewish
Cultural Center in Haifa.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES IN ARAB COMMUNITIES AND SHARED SOCIETY IN ISRAEL

This catalog includes a selection of impactful and accessible programs with Arab citizens of Israel that are ready to host a variety of educational groups in 2025/26. Each experience is rooted in local communities and is designed to educate about Israel's Arab minority and foster constructive conversations.

If your group has other specific interests or is ready for a deeper dive into the experiences of Arab citizens and Jewish-Arab relations today [please be in touch with the Task Force](#) about tailoring a program.

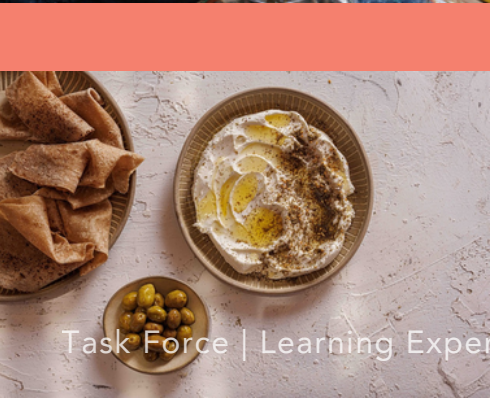
We have also prepared a calendar of holidays and remembrance days observed by Arab citizens of Israel, which can help you schedule programs. [You can access it here.](#)

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[PROGRAM INQUIRY FORM](#)

Interested in bringing one of these programs to your group? Fill out [this short form](#), and we'll be in touch within one business day to help you plan a high-quality experience.



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FACE TO FACE WITH NEXT-GEN ARAB CHANGEMAKERS



VARIOUS LOCATIONS



TASK FORCE SPEAKER FELLOWS are a diverse cohort of seven up-and-coming Arab changemakers in Israel with rich experience sharing their stories and perspectives with American learners via lecture, panel, and small group formats. The Fellows bring experience in journalism, higher education, art and culture, civil society, economic development, and high-tech. They share their stories, insights into their work as changemakers, and vision for their communities.

Learners with any level of knowledge can ask questions and share their own experiences freely, gaining a real window into the challenges, opportunities, and potential of Arab society in Israel.

GOALS

Participants will connect to the personal experience of young Arab citizens in Israel, understand challenges they face and be inspired by their work promoting change.

- Learners gain basic literacy regarding Arab citizens of Israel, their complex identity, and their daily lives in Israel.
- Learners build muscle in resilient listening and practice hearing multiple narratives and having constructive conversations with each other and people from different backgrounds.
- Feel more confident to engage in conversations about Israel's challenges.

FACE TO FACE WITH NEXT-GEN ARAB CHANGEMAKERS

SPEAKERS



KHITAM ABU BADER currently serves as Director of Resource Development and Partnerships at Siraj Technologies, where she advances regional growth and innovation. She previously helped establish MAOZ South and has a background in informal education, with a focus on empowering Bedouin girls. She was also involved in joint Jewish-Arab emergency efforts in the Negev in the aftermath of October 7.



SAJA KABAHA is a program manager and Arab tech sector lead at the British Embassy in Tel Aviv. She is passionate about championing diverse talent in Israel's tech scene and creating opportunities for underrepresented groups. Saja is also the founder and host of Seeratech, an acclaimed Arabic-language podcast on tech and innovation.



NOUR DASSOUKY is a social entrepreneur born and raised in Jaffa and passionate about its history and future. She's the leader of local initiatives promoting culture through storytelling. Today, Nour is a Program Associate at the Task Force, working to help American Jewish communities get to know and learn about her society. She is also pursuing her MA in Urban Planning at Hebrew University.



CAMELLIA DARAWSHA joined the Task Force as Israel Representative. She previously served as the institutional Diversity Officer at the Equity, Diversity and Community Commission, Office of the Vice President, Tel Aviv University. With a strong academic background in research on Arab-Jewish relations, shared society leadership, and hands-on work supporting Arab/Palestinian students, Camellia offers fascinating insights into diversity efforts in Israeli academia and the challenges and opportunities for minority communities.



FADI FAR is an up-and-coming artist, curator, and entrepreneur who works as a strategist with the Tel Aviv Museum of Art. Fadi has previously worked as a strategic consultant for TASC Consulting, served as a student union leader at Tel Aviv University, and studied art curation at Shenkar College.



HASAN HAJ is a guide and lecturer at the Beit Hagefen Arab-Jewish community center promoting shared society. Previously, he led workshops for teachers and students, facilitated anti-violence and bullying workshops through Matzmichim, and worked as a financial analyst and banker. Hasan was born and raised in the Galilee village of Nahef and makes his home today in Haifa.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INCLUSION



HASOUB GARAGE, AR'ARA, WADI ARA REGION



Explore the intersection of Arab civil society and entrepreneurship at the Hasoub Garage, a community hub for hi-tech entrepreneurship, innovation, and creativity in the heart of Wadi Ara. Learn how local leadership and community-driven initiatives can bridge systemic gaps in education, employment, entrepreneurship, and investment. A visit to the new “Garage” will let you connect with inspiring changemakers and entrepreneurs reshaping possibilities for Arab students and young professionals in Israel.

ACTIVITY OPTIONS

- **Guided Tour of the Hasoub Garage**, maker’s space and overlook of Wadi Ara region.
- **Panel with Hasoub Leaders** on structural gaps young people face, personal journeys, and their work driving change.

GOALS



Understand structural barriers Arab/Palestinian citizens of Israel face in access to the start-up nation’s tech economy and pathways for creating more opportunities.



Learn about the role of civil society and the power of community-led models for change.

DETAILS



A program could range from 30 min to 1 hour depending on the type of the activity.



Accessibility: Hasoub Garage is up a steep driveway accessible to private cars and minibuses. Full-size buses can drop participants at a bus stop on the street below, from where they can walk up the driveway or a set of 15 stairs. The building itself is fully accessible.



There is no kosher food available in the region, but groups are welcome to bring packed or catered meals into the Hasoub Garage. Non-hechshered vegetarian local catering can be arranged.

SPEAKER PROFILES

Rabea Zioud is the co-founder and CEO of Hasoub. He launched Hasoub after experiencing firsthand the lack of support and infrastructure for Arab innovators. It builds and maintains communities around tech entrepreneurship to help drive economic and social change. Rabea vision for inclusive innovation has made him a recognized voice in Israel’s high-tech ecosystem.

Besan Wattad is the senior community manager at Hasoub with over 7 years of experience in building and scaling impactful networks across the Middle East. She mentors Arab start-up founders and leads the annual Hasoub conference with over 1200 global attendees each year. She is passionate about furthering socioeconomic mobility for her community.

BRIDGING CULTURES THROUGH CONTEMPORARY PALESTINIAN ART



UMM EL-FAHEM MUSEUM OF ART



In the heart of one of the largest Arab cities in Israel, the Umm el-Fahem Museum of Art offers a unique window into Palestinian culture and artistic expression. Established in 1996 as a gallery, the museum has grown into the first nationally-recognized Arab Art museum fostering dialogue between Jewish and Arab communities.

ACTIVITY OPTIONS

Guided Tour: Explore rotating and permanent exhibitions, featuring both Arab and Jewish artists. This tour sparks conversation about identity, coexistence, and the power of art to connect worlds.

Hands-On Creativity Workshop: Dive into local culture through clay and color. In this interactive session, participants explore regional symbols and traditions while creating their own ceramic artworks, guided by the local art-team.

GOALS



Meet visionary artists, educators, and curators who are reshaping cultural life in Arab society in Israel.



Dialogue through art — Discover how creative expression opens doors to honest conversation and bridges across differences.



Learn how a local initiative became a renowned symbol of partnership, perseverance, and hope.

DETAILS



A program could range from 1.5 hours to an in-depth half day depending on interests and time availability.



Accessibility: Due to steep and narrow streets, buses can drop participants on the street below the Museum; elevators in a nearby building provide access to street level. The Museum is fully accessible.



There is no kosher food available locally, but groups may bring packed or catered meals. The Museum can provide traditional home-cooked Arab food.

ABOUT THE GUIDES

Said Abu Shakra is the founder and director of the Umm el-Fahem Museum of Art. An acclaimed artist, curator, and cultural leader, he has dedicated his life to amplifying Palestinian voices and promoting dialogue through art. Since founding the museum in 1996, he has curated dozens of exhibitions, led community projects, and received international awards, including the French Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres.

Netali Breuer is the Project Manager at the Museum. Netali leads the gallery's educational programs, artist collaborations, and community outreach initiatives. A former actress-creator and recipient of the Shulamit Aloni Human Rights Award, she curates experiences that inspire reflection, dialogue, and connection between visitors and the local cultural landscape.

A SNAPSHOT OF A MIXED CITY



THE AKKO CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY (A-CAT)



Akko's Old City is renowned for its ancient stone alleys, bustling markets, Crusader ruins, and a scenic harbor. In this mixed city, home to largely working-class Jewish and Arab populations, the Akko Center for Arts and Technology provides opportunities to gain practical skills and training for contemporary careers, while fostering shared learning and coexistence.

ACTIVITY OPTIONS



Guided Photo Tour of the Old City and Harbor

A-CAT-trained guides take learners on a guided photo tour of the Old City and harbor, during which they use professional cameras to capture Akko's beauty while connecting with the people shaping its future.



A-CAT Tour and Lecture

Experience shared space in action with a visit to the Akko Center for Arts and Technology. Tour the beautifully designed facility where Jewish and Arab youth come together to pursue creative and tech-based career paths in an atmosphere of mutual respect and opportunity.

GOALS



Explore the unique challenges and opportunities of life in a mixed city, where Jewish and Arab residents live side by side.



Learn about the concept of shared society and how community leaders are working to enact this vision.

DETAILS



A program could range from 1 to 2.5 hours depending on the type of the activity.



The A-CAT center is fully accessible. The Akko Old City is accessible but some areas are paved with cobblestones.



Around Akko, there are kosher and vegetarian food options available.

SPEAKER PROFILE

Naim Obeid has served as A-CAT's CEO since 2016. He will share his story growing up in Akko and highlight A-CAT's role as a model for building a shared future, where arts, culture, and vocational training help bridge divides and empower youth.

MEET YOUNG LEADERS FROM THE BEDOUIN COMMUNITY



DESERT STARS MAIN CAMPUS, BEIT KAMA JUNCTION/RAHAT



ACTIVITY OPTIONS



Speak with a Desert Stars Alumnus at Main Campus

Join a facilitated conversation with a Desert Stars graduate who shares their personal story, experience growing up in a Bedouin community, and journey to find their place in broader Israeli society. Gain insight into the multifaceted identity of young Bedouin and how they overcome systemic challenges. The meeting takes place at the brand-new Bedouin leadership campus, the first of its kind in Israel.



Rahat Tour

Explore the city of Rahat, the world's largest Bedouin city. The tour includes discussion of Bedouin social structures, community challenges, and the impact of the war on Arab society. It is led by Desert Stars alumni or staff members from within the community.

EDUCATIONAL GOALS



Gain an understanding of Bedouin identity within the broader Israeli social fabric.



Explore the intersection of tradition, modernity, and civic belonging as experienced by Bedouin young adults.

DETAILS



A program could range from 1 to 2 hours depending on the type of the activity.



Lecture program is fully accessible; for village tour, contact Desert Stars for accessibility accommodations.



Kosher food can be arranged.

SPEAKER PROFILE

Esraa Abu Medigham was the first in her family to earn a degree. She just completed a BA in Culture and Event Production at Sapir College and is continuing to her MA in International Politics at Hebrew University. Esraa believes in the power of music and culture to bring people together, and has created dozens of events at Sapir and in Rahat, in both Arabic and Hebrew. She served on the Arab Student Council, and currently mentors women in the Desert Stars leadership gap-year program.

BEYOND THE CANVAS: EXPLORING SHARED SOCIETY THROUGH ISRAELI ART

 TEL AVIV MUSEUM



Explore Israeli identities, the experiences of Arab citizens, and Jewish-Arab relations on an interactive tour of the Tel Aviv Museum's Israeli Art collection. Fadi Far guides participants to reflect on their own impressions and emotions as they engage with works created by Jewish and Arab/Palestinian artists, creating a personal and inclusive experience for visitors from all backgrounds. He will also share his own story and vision for art as a platform for connecting cultures, perspectives, and ideas.

GOALS

- Explore big-picture questions of identity, narrative, and belonging in Jewish-Arab relations in Israel.
- Learn about art and culture as vehicles for promoting shared experiences and understanding.
- Exercise skills in listening and sharing among people with diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and beliefs.

DETAILS



Short program: 1-1.5 hours guiding in the exhibition.

Longer program: Exhibition tour plus facilitated processing session with Fadi for 2-2.5 hours total.



Kosher food option: Museum Cafe



Accessibility: Fully accessible

CHANGEMAKERS ON THE GROUND

KFAR QASEM



ACTIVITY OPTIONS



Walking tour of Kfar Qasem historic core to learn about traditional and modern life in an Arab city including Fauda filming locations, Ottoman-era courtyard, and a mosque visit.



Panel discussion with local changemakers at [Klika Qasem tech hub](#). Speakers can include tech-entrepreneurs, local government or civil society professionals, educators, and young leaders.



Intimate get-to-know-you session with [AJEEC](#) gap year participants in small groups. The AJEEC programs equip young Arab citizens with key skills, a strong sense of identity, and meaningful connections with Jewish peers — advancing leadership and socio-economic mobility. (Limited availability)

GOALS



Gain insights into Arab citizens' daily realities in Israel through the lenses of education, entrepreneurship, and employment.



Get to know peers from Israel's Arab minority and learn about their experiences, challenges and dreams, and discover commonalities.



Experience some of Israel's diversity and become curious to learn more.

DETAILS



A program could range from 1.5 hours to an in-depth half day depending on interests and time availability.



Some locations have 1-2 steps. Tours can be designed in accordance with accessibility needs.



Local Arab vegetarian food is available. There is no local kosher-certified food. Outside catering could be arranged if needed.

SPEAKER PROFILES

Maisam Jaljuli is a veteran feminist and political activist and CEO of Tsofen-Tashbik. She has been deeply involved in promoting workers' rights, women's rights, and a shared and equal society for Arabs and Jews for many years.

Yakin Sarsour and Aden Khatib, AJEEC Gap Year Coordinators. Yakin and Aden share their personal journeys growing up in this area, what inspired them to give back, and how the war has impacted Arab youth, identity, and Jewish-Arab relations within the program.

Insaf Abu Taha Shawahna – An observant Muslim teacher who teaches civics in a Jewish and Arab schools tells her story with humor and empathy.

SHARED SOCIETY AS A WAY OF LIFE

WADI NISNAS, HAIFA



ACTIVITY OPTIONS



Art and Tasting Tour of Wadi Nisnas: Try the olive oil and za'atar pastry, smell freshly ground coffee, and sample traditional sweets amid historic homes and market of Haifa's Wadi Nisnas neighborhood. Consider what the food, mural art, and physical space reveal about Arab and Palestinian identity in a mixed city.



Interactive tour and workshop at Haifa's historic Beit Hagefen Arab-Jewish Community Center: Discover the meaning of home for Haifa's Jewish and Arab residents through interactive artwork that reflects the tensions and connections of shared life in Israel's most renowned mixed city. Featuring works by the internationally acclaimed street art collective Broken Fingaz and a diverse array of Arab and Jewish artists, the center invites visitors to see, touch, sit on, and even smell the art.



Guest lecture by Hasan Haj who shares his story of growing up in an Arab village in northern Israel and his work as an educator promoting shared society in Haifa with humor, energy, and candor.

GOALS



Examine the challenges and opportunities of coexistence in Haifa as a model for Jewish-Arab relations.



Explore a shared space and learn about the concept of shared society to better understand the multiplicity of voices and perspectives of all the peoples living in Israel.



Experience how Wadi Nisnas and its art and food reflect Arab identity and culture in a diverse city.

ABOUT THE GUIDE

Hasan Haj is a guide and lecturer at the Beit Hagefen Arab-Jewish community center promoting shared society. Previously, he led workshops for teachers and students, facilitated anti-violence and bullying workshops through Matzmichim, and worked as a financial analyst and banker. Hasan was born and raised in the Galilee village of Nahef and makes his home today in Haifa.

DETAILS



Each activity ranges from 45 min to 1.5 hours, allowing for a short program up to a half-day.



Wadi Nisnas tour can be adapted for accessibility. Beit Hagefen is fully accessible.



Food tour based on vegetarian food without kosher certification. There are kosher food options in the area.

BEDOUIN DESERT SUSTAINABILITY HANDS-ON

WADI ATTIR (ROUTE 6 NEAR BEER SHEVA)

WADI ATTIR is a unique informal education center 15 minutes east of Beer Sheva in the Negev combining traditional Bedouin ecological practices and cutting-edge green technologies to model sustainable desert agriculture. The center was built in partnership between Jewish and Bedouin community leaders. It's an eye-opening and accessible option to consider on the way to or from Masada.

ACTIVITIES



Farm Tour & Animal Care

Visit the goat and sheep farm, understand the significance of herding for Bedouin life, feed the animals, and observe the milking process.



Cheesemaking Workshop

Learn how to turn fresh goat and sheep milk into traditional Bedouin yogurt and cheese in a hands-on session.



Herb & Spice Experience

Explore Sheikh Ali Hawashleh's medicinal plant garden and learn about fresh herbs. Create a custom spice blend to take home.



Dialogue with Local Students

Connect with Bedouin high school students in small group to hear their realities and exchange perspectives.

GOALS



Gain insights about the Bedouin community today and spark curiosity about their heritage and culture.



Understand the value of Jewish-Bedouin partnership in facing the challenges of the Negev.



Engage students who are passionate about climate change and sustainability.

ABOUT THE GUIDE

Khaled Abu Siam is passionate about sharing the heritage of his Bedouin community with visitors from around the world, going beyond newspaper headlines to create meaningful face-to-face encounters. He has over 20 years of informal education experience. Khaled was born in Jordan and lives today in Lakiya with his wife and two children.

DETAILS



Activities could range from 45 min to 1 hour depending on the type of the program.



Fully accessible.



Wadi Attir can offer kosher-certified Bedouin meals and snacks. The dairy breakfast is based on their own cheese.



PROGRAM INQUIRY FORM

Interested in bringing one of these programs to your group? Fill out this short form, and we'll be in touch within one business day to help you plan a high-quality experience.