



The American Academy for Girls

AAG Seniors Celebrate Graduation at Regency

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By MANAR AL SHEMALI

The end of May marks a special time in the life of many high school seniors. On the 23rd of May, 2017, Seventy nine seniors celebrated their graduation at the Regency Hotel, after their long journey filled with hard work at the American Academy for girls.

The ceremony was opened with a short introduction from Mrs. Hanan Al Bader, the AAG executive director assistant, and was followed by a speech for Ms. Shannon Rooney, the high school principal. Ms. Rooney spoke about the benefits of an all girls' school and said some powerful and encouraging words to the graduates.

Later on, the seniors sang the AAG graduation song with much pride and joy. After that, Engy Al Wakeel, the valedictorian, gave her Arabic speech and moved the audience with her kind words. Then the two salutatorians, Jana Al Ali and Mariam Al Salem, gave their English speeches and talked about all their experiences in school and how much they appreciated them. They also thanked their parents, the school administration and teachers for supporting them all along their school years at AAG. Then Mrs. Adelah Al Sayer, the deputy of chairman, gave a speech saying that the class of 2017 was one of the best from a long time and congratulated the girls for their graduation.

Afterwards, Ms. Khaledah Al Mudhaf, the general manger, and Mrs. Al Sayer handed out the diplomas to the graduates. The girls said that a lot of long nights, tears and hard work went into getting their diplomas. They believed that it was all worth it to be able to walk across the stage in front of their families. Then, the girls got to sing their own graduation song happily and proudly.

At last, the graduates rejoined their families and said goodbye to their friends and teachers for one last time and went back home dreaming of their bright future.

Organized by Radisson BLU

AAG Wins at 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' Competition



By RAWAN BUTAIBAN

For six consecutive years, AAG participates in the art competition organized by the Radisson BLU Hotel. This year, two students, Malak Abbas, grade 9, and Najwan Bresmi, grade 12, won at the 22nd art competition "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" that was held on Sunday, May 14, 2017 at Abdul Husain Marafie Ballroom.

Mrs. Fatimah Kashmar, the art teacher, said "AAG girls did a great work, I was really proud of them." "congratulations to those who won, they did an great effort and remarkable work," she added.

Mrs. Kashmar explained that this competition gave the students the opportunity to challenge themselves and show their talents and creativity. They also benefited by examining other students' work."

The AAG participants were: Alia Al-Bader, Rawan Boutaiban, Fatima Mullayoussef, Yara Al Wohaib, Joud Al Baghli, Mariam Salem, Dina Sajit, Ghanima Buzubar, Zeinab Jeargh, Wed Suhail, Ghizlan Al Mutawa, Sarah Radha, Lulwa AlMulla, Jouna Al Saif, and Yasmeen Al Aryan.

This year, canvases were not distributed. The purpose of this competition was to paint on discarded item. Students had to try turning some trash into a treasure of their own. They had to add another dimension to their paintings . Participants had to use their artistic creativity on any unwanted materials available at home or in neighborhood.

The organizers of the competition considered that recycling unwanted scrap not only benefits the environment, it breathes new life into old objects that were once destined for the landfill. One person's trash is another person's treasure.

People attending the event can purchase the students' painting. The money collected will be donated to charity.

EDITORIAL

Tips for Summer and Last Goodbye

By AFNAN AL ANSARI



Summer is finally here! It is a time for relaxation, BBQ gatherings, getting a tan by the beach and many more. On the other hand, you still have to face dehydration, traffic and not to mention, the burning heat of the sun that would make any creature on earth scurry away into the darkness. But fear not! In today's editorial I will be suggesting some tips for the summer to keep you going.

First off, let's start with the healthy tips; now this is something you have probably heard of a dozen of times, always apply sun cream. You must use a sunscreen lotion that is at least SPF 30, in my experience I suggest using a lotion that is SPF 100, because in this country putting a sunscreen lotion that is SPF 50 will be of no use.

Second of all, drink lots of water. The heat drains away all that water in your body which leaves you dehydrated. Drink eight to nine cups a day, I know it is difficult to, but it must be done. When you are dehydrated, you might think that you are hungry when you are not, I don't think that anyone wants to put on more calories just because their body misinterpreted itself. If you bored of plain water, then just flavor it up with some fruits!

Bored with all these healthy tips? No worries, pack your bags because it's time to take a trip across the globe. Since summer is here, why not travel? Plan your trip at least three weeks ahead to make sure that reservations are available. When you search up your destination for traveling, know your markets. Another thing is comparing prices in low seasons and high season. Although usually summer is the high season for most countries. If you dislike the heat, then why not travel to a country with a cooler temperature or one with a topical climate?

As for those that are planning to lose weight, then summer is a huge opportunity to do that. Turn your activities into exercise or vice versa. If you usually take long walks in the park as part of your exercise then you can do the same, but while shopping. You can also take up a new hobby, as long as you keep your body moving and stay hydrated, you will eventually lose weight.

These are some of the most important tips that are at the top of my mind, I hope that you have enjoyed my editorials so far and would like to say a few words to our dear seniors. You have been the best senior class that I have ever met. Thank you for all the memories and I hope that you will achieve your dreams and that one day we will meet again when we are older and remember these days as part of the past. I would also like to thank all the teacher for all the things that they have done for us. Therefore, I would like to conclude this final editorial by saying, 'THIS IS OUR 17HOUSE'.

Talents Sparkle at HS Art Exhibition



By REEM AL ALI & FOUZ AL MOHSEN

The American Academy for Girls held its art exhibition "AAG Young Artists" from April 19-20, 2017 at the school auditorium. This event pushed out the inner artists within the high school students that were eager to show off their talent to parents, teachers and friends.

An interview was conducted with Mrs. Fatimah Kashmar, the art teacher, to ask her about the process they went through to prepare for the art exhibition:

How did you organize the exhibition and how much time did it take you?

With the help of some of my students, I managed to prepare for the art exhibition for this year. We bought the materials we need and selected the artworks. It took us around two weeks to prepare for it.

What is the purpose of an art exhibition? For how many years have you been doing it?

Art Exhibition showcases the artworks of the students. It shows how hard they've been working and how talented they are. The Exhibition is being held since five years.

How do you evaluate this year art exhibition? Why?

Like every year, this year's art exhibition was a success. Every student had at least one artwork in the exhibition and there was a variety in media and technique. School teachers, staff, students and parents expressed their admiration to the exhibition.

What was some of your favorite artworks? And what makes them special?

All of my students had worked really hard and that was clearly showed in their artworks. Their personality and passion were obvious and this makes me favor them all.

Did you expect parents to show up? And how was their reaction?

I have expected of course parents to come this year but the number of parents who attended the exhibition this year was even above my expectations. The parents were so amazed from the high quality artworks of the exhibition. They were really proud and expressed the importance of having this exhibition exposed to public.

If you could choose one artist to come and view the art who would it be?

I would appreciate any artist who would come to visit the art exhibition. However I wish if Wajih Nahle, a famous Lebanese international artist, could have visited the exhibition but he passed away recently.

Journalism Class Guest at Khaleejesque



By HAYA AL HAJERI & MANAR AL DABBOUS

The journalism class visited Khaleejesque magazine on Tuesday April 18, 2017. Khaleejesque is a thriving lifestyle and culture magazine that revolves around everything new, exciting and beautiful in the Arabian Gulf countries.

First, students met the magazine staff members. Each staff member introduced herself and talked about her duties and responsibilities according to her position at the magazine. Then, AAG girls had a tour around the magazine office to see the publication process.

Later on, each journalism student was assigned to write ten questions to interview a specific famous figure. These interviews would be published in the magazine in case the celebrity would reply. Students were also divided into two groups to write an article describing and providing information about Al-Seef district where the magazine is located.

Interview With Mrs. Yomna Eizzdeen

Interviewed by MARIAM AL KHALED

An interview was conducted with Mrs. Yomna Eizzdeen, the high school AFL teacher, to know about her personal and professional life.

1. How can you briefly introduce yourself to the new students? (nationality, degree, family status)

I am Mrs. Yomna Eizzdeen, the AFL teacher, I'm Lebanese and I have a degree in Arabic literature. I am married and have two kids and one on the way.

2. What made you choose your major? Did you have any other passions you wanted to pursue as a career?

I chose my major because I like teaching, but I always wanted to be business women.

3. How many years have you been at AAG? In Kuwait? Do you teach any classes other than high school?

I have been at AAG since 8 years, in Kuwait since 9 years. Yes, I do teach Arabic in Elementary.

4. How do you address different grade levels in the same class since you teach AFL? And which level do you prefer the most?

I divide them into different groups and ups to their levels. I prefer the highest level because it is easy to explain to them and they understand easily.

5. Have you encountered any difficulties with students, if so what is it and how do you deal with it?

Of course, especially for the first level because the Arabic is hard for them and they sometimes can't pronounce letters.

6. How do you spend your free time?

I spend my free time searching for new teaching techniques and worksheets.

7. Who is your inspiration in life? Why?

My mom is my inspiration in life because she taught me how to be patient.

8. Where do you see yourself in five years?

Still at AAG



9. How can you encourage your students to like and be interested in the Arabic language in few words?

It's The Quran language.

Tick Tock Play.. Journey in time for Promoting Awareness



By MALAK HABIB & FAY KHOURSHEED

The drama class semester 2 performed the "Tick Tock" play on April 24th, 2017. The play took place in the school auditorium and was attended by parents, high school students, teachers and administration. An interview was conducted with Manar Al Shemali, the play scriptwriter, to talk more deeply about the play:

1. What was the play about since many students were not able to hear during the show?

Tick Tock was a play that consisted of three acts each explaining different eras in human history. It also showed how things changed over the time and it ended with a glimpse of what we think the future might look like if we don't change for the better.

2. What was the goal of this play?

The goal was to spread awareness about how the negative behaviors of our generations are impacting the world as a whole negatively and that something should be done about it.

3. How long did it take you to write the script? Was it the first time you write a script?

It took about three to four days to finish writing the whole play and yes it was the first play I wrote.

4. What were some of the challenges you faced while writing the play?

I think the part I struggled with most is to make sure that the play was both educational/informative and entertaining; it had to have a good balance of seriousness and amusement to make sure that the point was made but it still didn't bore the audience.

5. Were the drama students able to perform the role assigned to them effectively?

Yes, I was very happy with the drama student's performance and I couldn't have gotten a better bunch to perform this play. Unfortunately, because of the technical issues, their performance wasn't delivered to its fullest potential to the entire crowd.

6. Can you name some of the students you found to be more talented than the others? Why?

It is truly very hard to pick because they were all talented in their own ways. But if I had to choose, I would say Rawan Butaiban because she was able to perform every role she was given so professionally, Mashallah, and Lamees Osman because she had the most lines and essentially the most vital role in the play, and despite her shy personality, she dealt with having the attention on her most of the time very well and delivered her lines beautifully. But again, I was proud and very impressed by everyone's performance.

7. How did you find the audience reaction while and after watching the play? It seemed like the audience was enjoying the play while it was being performed, and based on what I've been told, the audience really liked the idea of the play and thought that it was very meaningful and new.

8. Since you were not one of the drama students, how were you able to cooperate with the drama class? I've known all the students in the class since forever and I already knew who they are and how they were, so it wasn't like I was dealing with anything new. Also the drama class was very understanding and cooperative with me, which made things much easier. And at last but not least, our drama teacher, Ms Nada, did a great job at controlling the class and arranging everything for us so the making of the play flowed smoothly.

9. How do you feel now that you are famous in school?

I highly doubt anyone in school knows who I am even after the play, but regardless I feel accomplished and very happy with myself

COMICS



RIDDLE

What is it that's always coming but never arrives?

Answers should be submitted to the journalism teacher in room 311. The first three students with the right answer will be given the permission to order food to school.

Juniors Bid Adieu to Seniors



By GHALA AL RASHED & MAI AL RUJAIB

On April 13, 2017, the grade 11 students surprised the seniors with a farewell celebration at the AAG playground. Juniors organized this farewell to make the seniors feel special and to convey a message that they will miss their company.

With tears of joy, smiles and hugs, the celebration started. The farewell included Catering, DJ, shirts, and decorations. The theme of the celebration was "running away from jail" for the seniors and "imprisoned" for the juniors.

Seniors and juniors enjoyed the food, the music, and the dance in the presence of the seniors' teachers and high school administration. At the end of the farewell, the grade 11 students showed a video presenting the unforgettable moments the seniors spent together in the school and outside the school. Shoug Al Khashram, a senior, stated "it was a touching video; I couldn't stop crying."

Al Khashram said "The senior farewell was a huge success because we didn't expect it at all." "We were surprised of how good the farewell turned out to be."

HS Recognizes Honors, Perfect Attendance, MUN, NHS, Student Council



By MARIAM AL SHAKHS

An assembly was held at the AAG's auditorium on April 25, 2017 to recognize honor and high honor students, perfect attendance, in addition to the student council, MUN, and National Honor Society (NHS) students.

Honored students received certificates as rewards for their hard work. Mrs. Pilar Charlie, the grade 9-10 counselor, said "one of the purposes of this assembly is to encourage the girls who are doing poorly to work harder."

Students who have participated in the school's clubs such as MUN, NHS, and Student Council have also been recognized for their achievements for the first time this year. Al Ghalia Abulhasan, a member of the Student Council, has expressed her gratitude towards this assembly, "I really appreciate being recognized as a member of the student council and receiving this reward, all the hard work has been paid off!"

ADVICE

How to Choose Your Major?

By FAY AL MARRI

Some students struggle to find a major that they're interested in after graduating from high school. Consider these factors before choosing a major:

1. **Career Prep-** Choose a major that would prepare you for a specific career path or advanced study.
2. **Subjects You Love-** Some students choose a major simply because they love the subject matter. If you love what you're studying, you're more likely to fully engage with your classes and college experience .
3. **Explore your interests-** If you truly have no idea what you want to study, that's okay—many schools don't require students to declare a major until sophomore year.
4. **Can I change my mind?** Definitely. One of the most exciting aspects of college life is that it introduces you to new subjects and fosters new passions. You might enter undergrad enjoying physics but discover a burgeoning love for political science.
5. **Ask for help—** Ask for help from advisers and those who know you well.
6. **Follow your own dreams.**