

The Visual Arts Forum 2022 Third Quarter Newsletter



منتدى الفنون البصرية
VISUAL ARTS FORUM



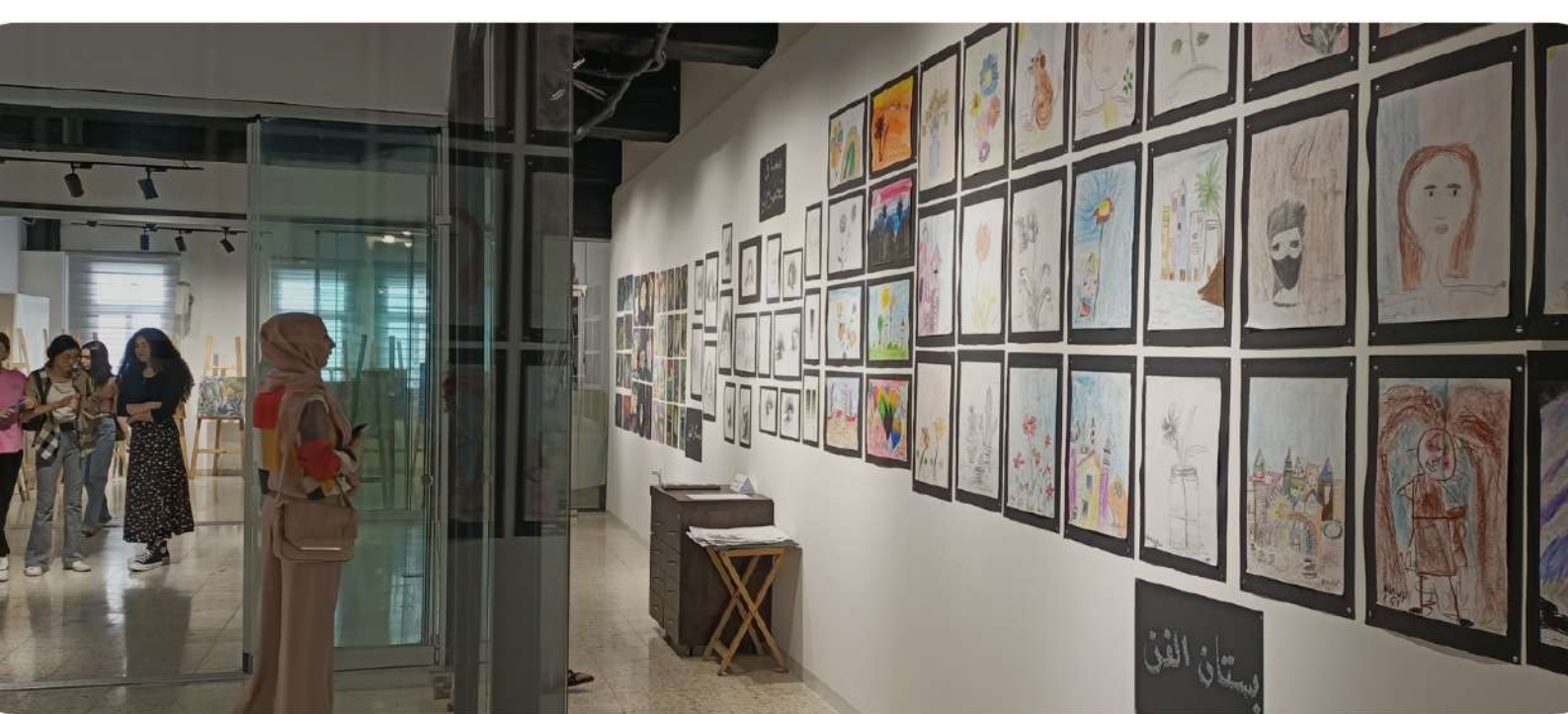
Arts School Summer camp

VAF launched its Arts School Summer camp, enabling more than 50 children between the ages 5 to 11, to discover and enhance their talents in visual arts. The camp aimed to expand the children's imagination and creativity, use arts in self-expression, stress relief, and communication. Children were exposed to different topics and materials that included, clay, collage, mosaic, handicrafts, drawing & coloring techniques, and story drawing. The camps' program was built under the concept of enhancing self-confidence, team work, expression, creativity using arts.

The School of Visual Arts

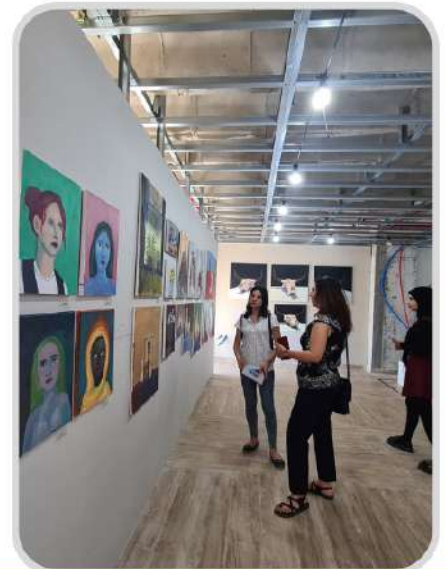
More than 80 students enrolled in the School's summer program which included a range of courses using different mediums: a course to discover & nurture talents for ages 5 to 8, a course in the basics of drawing & painting for ages 9 to 11, a preparatory course for ages 12 to 15. In addition to courses in oil painting and acrylic painting covering subjects in still life, nature, shading, perspective, model & portrait drawing from a technical and conceptual perspective.





"On Canvas" Exhibition

On 18/6/2022, the Forum launched an exhibition named "On Canvas", representing the art works of its students. More than 50 art works by more than 30 students from the academic course aged 13 to 35 years were displayed. This exhibition was characterized by the diversity of art works that included paintings in oil, acrylic, charcoal and watercolor, and installation works. Topics varied from still life and nature to conceptual and abstract paintings and installations. Statements for the art works were developed by the students reflecting lengthy dialogues with the school's trainers and hosted artists and art exhibitions throughout the academic program. The exhibition took place at AlSham Building in the center of Ramallah



The school of Visual Arts Exhibition and graduation ceremony



Upon the completion of the School's Summer 2022 Program, an exhibition was launched at the studios of the Visual Arts Forum at the Ramallah Recreational Complex. More than 100 art works were exhibited by more than 80 students from ages 5 to 12 at which students received their certificates in the presence of their parents and visitors of the exhibition.



The Forum launched its 1st Arts residency named "Amaken - the International Artists Residency 2022". It brought together more than 30 Palestinian and international artists in an art camp at the village of Kufur Nimeh – Ramallah, for a duration of 8 days. Participants ranged from mid-career to emerging artists from across the West Bank, as well as VAF School of Arts students, and 8 international students from the Faculty of Arts and Architecture from La Cambre University in Belgium.

The residency was supervised by the artists Rafat Asad and Emilio Lopez Menchero assisted by the artist Mohammad Amous. The residency also hosted "artist talks" with Mohammad Saleh Kahlil, Khaled Hourani and Maher Shawamreh.

Amaken Art Residency aimed to provide a space that nurtures and brings together Palestinian and international artists to exchange experiences and fuel ideas to produce unconventional joint and individual projects and artworks. The geographical importance of the village of Kufur Nimeh, a symbol of Palestinian steadfastness and resistance in preserving the land from confiscation by the occupier, mirrored the projects produced. The social and political context of the place, reflected on the dialogues, having a direct impact on the process of production using materials and natural resources available at the camp.

This residency was conducted as part of the Project "Visual Arts Forum: Art is a Right" funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and under the supervision of the Welfare Association-Taawon.



The residency ended with an exhibition named "To be an Artist in Kufur Nimeh" exhibiting a variety of projects that included installations, paintings, sketches, video art, sculptures and performance works, attended by more than 200 visitors including the local community of Kufur Nimeh village.



Supermarket International Art Fair Exhibition



For the year 2022, the Visual Arts Forum participated in the Supermarket International Art Fair in Stockholm, Sweden, displaying the art works of its students from the School of Visual Arts. Paintings in oil, acrylic, charcoal and watercolors, covering a wide range of themes were exhibited.

Additionally, VAF was able to provide a grant to one of its students, "Noor Shamma", to attend and participate at the Art Fair in Stockholm. This is part of VAF's approach to expose and engage its students with international artists and expand their knowledge through international exhibitions. As a result, Nour will exhibit her art work in an exhibition in Stockholm next year. At the Art Fair, VAF also participated in artist talks about art education in Palestine and its impact on the community.

