

# After-School Arab Arts Program

by **Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture**

Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture is so happy to have you in our After-School Arab Arts Program this year! While we will certainly miss making music and creating art with you in-person, we have been able to include more students from new schools, create more sections for students of different grades, and offer more artistic options for students this year because of this online format. As an organization which promotes the language, arts, and culture of the Arab world to enrich cross-cultural understanding, we are excited about these opportunities that virtual learning brings!

This packet hopes to answer any questions that you might have about the program. However, if any questions have gone unanswered, please contact **Bridget** at [bridget@albustanseeds.org](mailto:bridget@albustanseeds.org) or (267) 809-3668.

# Program Schedule & Zoom Questions

Program Dates: Fridays from September 25 - December 18

Friday, September 25: First Day

Friday, October 2: Parents can Drop-In

Friday, October 9: Parents can Drop-In

Friday, November 27: Thanksgiving Break

Friday, December 18: Last Day

**How does a virtual Arab Arts work? How do I report for the program each day?**

We will be using Zoom for our virtual program. We have found that it's the platform that works best for students using school-issued devices, such as a Google Chromebook. **However, it is very important that that if you are using a school-issued device, that you join our Zoom meeting with your browser, as shown in the screen shot below.** You will be asked to type in your name and type a few letters to prove that you are who you really say you are!

When system dialog prompts, click **Open zoom.us**.

If you have Zoom Client installed, [launch meeting](#). Otherwise, [download and run Zoom](#).

If you cannot download or run the application, [join from your browser](#).

It is also important that either the parent or the student has a **reliable email address that they are using and checking regularly**, as we will use that email to communicate any schedule changes or technology issues we might be having. Each Friday, all you need to do is click on the link next to the time slot. **Please keep this document handy so you can easily find your Zoom link.** Please be on time for each session (you might even want to log on a couple of minutes early).

|                | Visual Art with Lisa                         | Percussion with Hafez                        | Singing with Serge                           |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1:00 - 1:50 PM | <b>Grades 3 and 4</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM | <b>Grades 7 and 8</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM | <b>Grades 5 and 6</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM |
| 1:50 - 2:00 PM | BREAK                                        |                                              |                                              |
| 2:00 - 2:50 PM | <b>Grades 5 and 6</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM | <b>Grades 3 and 4</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM | <b>Grades 7 and 8</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM |
| 2:50 - 3:00 PM | BREAK                                        |                                              |                                              |
| 3:00 - 3:50 PM | <b>Grades 7 and 8</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM | <b>Grades 5 and 6</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM | <b>Grades 3 and 4</b><br>CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM |

**\*\*Please note that this schedule is subject to change depending on enrollment. If the schedule changes, Bridget will send you a new schedule with Zoom links.**

### **What happens if I can't connect to Zoom or my teacher is having trouble connecting Zoom?**

If you are having trouble connecting to Zoom, try a couple of trouble-shooting measures first. If you have a portable device like a laptop or an iPad, try moving to a different room. Try logging out of Zoom and logging back in. If these attempts don't work, contact Bridget at (267) 809-3668 and she will do her best to figure out a solution.

If your teacher is having trouble connecting to zoom, please wait at least five minutes to see if it resolves itself. If you're still not seeing your teacher after five minutes, check your email. We may have emailed you with a last minute schedule change or to notify you that your teacher is having connectivity issues. We may also email you with an alternate, off-screen activity or worksheet to complete if your teacher can't resolve his or her tech issues and we need to hold the session offline.

### **How do I get my teacher's attention if I have a question or I want to add something to the conversation?**

Raise your hand! Zoom does have a hand-raising function which you're welcome to use, but we find that the most effective way to make sure your teacher sees you is to raise your hand.

### **Can I use the "chat" feature in Zoom?**

The "chat" feature of zoom lets you type out your questions to your teacher or classmates, for everyone on the Zoom call to see. This can be really helpful sometimes, but if used too much it becomes distracting. We ask that you only use the chat feature for on-topic questions that will help your and others' learning.

# Materials Questions

## How do I get my drum, or my art supplies?

If you are a student of Juniata Park Academy, you can pick up your drum and art supplies from school on **October 8 from 9am-12pm**. If you are a student of John Moffet School, you can pick up your drum and arts supplies from the school on **October 12**. If you are a student from any other school, Bridget will email you directly with a date for drum and art materials pick-up.

## What if I can't pick-up a drum but I still want to be in the drumming class?

We encourage students to get creative and use overturned buckets, pots, or other household drum if they are unable to get a drum from their school or Al-Bustan.

# Meet the Teaching Artists



## Hafez Kotain: Drumming

Hafez is a master percussionist fluent in both Arab and Latin rhythms. He is a recipient of the prestigious 2013 Pew Fellowship in the Arts, which is awarded each year to 12 Philadelphia artists who are of exemplary talent. Born in Venezuela of Syrian heritage, he grew up in Syria until the age of 16 years. He began playing the dombek at the age of seven years, made his first stage performance at nine years, and went on to study with master Syrian percussionist Hady Jazan, winning the national percussion competitions in Syria for five consecutive years. In Venezuela he studied percussion at the TMV Institute for Music in Valencia, where he also taught a variety of percussion styles blending Arab and Latino music to youth. Hafez works with Al-Bustan throughout the year teaching weekly percussion at several Philadelphia schools.



## Lisa Volta: Art

Lisa is a visual artist and graduate of Tyler School of Art, Temple University. She has taught art/science at Al-Bustan Camp the past four summers. During the school year she's a teaching artist in Al-Bustan's After-School Arab Arts Program at Moffet Elementary School. Lisa has extensive experience working in Philadelphia area classrooms as a lead artist with the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Center for Emerging Visual Artists, Fleisher Art Memorial, Philadelphia Arts and Education Partnership, and the Delaware Center for Contemporary Art. With a focus on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) education, Lisa has worked with school principals and teachers to develop integrative curriculum designed to enhance core curriculum learning through the arts. She has spent some time traveling in the Middle East region where she had the privilege of experiencing the generosity and beauty of Arab culture firsthand.



## Serge El Helou: Singing & Musical Skills

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, Serge El Helou began playing guitar, piano, and percussion at an early age. He attended USEK University in Lebanon. While pursuing his degree in Musicology, Serge had the privilege to learn harmony and composition with renowned Lebanese composer Toufic Succar. In 2003, he pursued his musical career in Paris at René Descartes University where he earned another degree in Music Therapy. He also received an Orchestration degree from Boulogne Billancourt Conservatory, France where he studied with Pierre Grouvel. In addition to many years of experience in teaching music, Serge composes music for children plays, short films, and documentaries.

# Pre-Program Survey

This page is for reference. In order to fill out this survey, please fill out [this google form](#).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

List the Program Activities that you are attending:

\_\_\_\_\_

In your own words, what is culture?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you think of yourself as belonging to a culture? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are some things you know about your own culture and community?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are some things you know about other cultures and communities?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Write down anything that you know about Arab culture:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What do you hope to learn in this program?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What do you hope to learn about Arab culture?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Percussion—Leasing a Drum

THIS PAGE IS ONLY RELEVANT TO STUDENTS FROM SCHOOLS OTHER THAN MOFFET OR JUNIATA. If you enrolled in drumming with Hafez, your student may use drums at home or may make their own “drum” using household objects. If your student would like to lease a drum to use during the program, Al-Bustan has a limited number of drums available for lease. If leasing a drum is something you would like to do, please email [bridget@albustanseeds.org](mailto:bridget@albustanseeds.org) as soon as possible to let her know you would like to lease a drum. We will notify you of a date to pick up your drum, either from Al-Bustan’s Hub on Lancaster Avenue or in your schoolyard. **This form can be filled out on the day that we distribute drums.**

Lease period: September 25, 2020-December 18, 2020

Cost: Fully Refundable \$25

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Drum # \_\_\_\_\_

We are leasing you a drum that we consider to be in good condition. If you see anything that worries you about the drum, however, please record any relevant notes about its condition (significant scratches, nicks, dents, etc.) upon receiving it.

## Terms of Lease

- I will write a refundable deposit check for 25 dollars to rent the drum for the program term. I will put the check in a sealed envelope that Al-Bustan will hold onto until the drum is returned. We will not deposit the check. When you return the drum in good condition, we will return the envelope to you with the check in it. This deposit allows us to ensure the return and safe-keeping of drums we lease.
- I will return the drum on 12/18/2020, or make other arrangements with the Programs Coordinator.
- I will notify Al-Bustan if the drum is lost or damaged, in which case I will pay for its replacement, valued at \$130.

**Sign below to indicate that you agree to the terms of the lease.**

Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Photo Release Form

As parents of past program participants know, we document our programs through photos, video, images of student artwork, and more. This Fall, even though we are offering our program virtually, we still plan to document through screen captures, Zoom recordings, photos of artwork, and any other virtual documentation that might come up.

This page is for reference. Parents of students should fill out [this google form](#).

## Publication Release Form For Participants in Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture's Programs \*\*For Minor(s)\*\*

This release applies only to material produced during programs and activities of Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture (referred to as "Al-Bustan").

In my capacity as parent/guardian, I hereby give Al-Bustan permission to use the following representations of the participant(s) named below for Al-Bustan's educational purposes, including publicity, promotion, and fundraising by means of printed materials, news releases, video screenings, and website display:

(Please place a check mark in the box next to each item you give permission for)

Photograph  Written work/Oral statements  Video  Visual Art  Tape recording of voice

I have read the explanatory page attached to this form and understand and agree with the purpose of this release.

Name of participant(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

I refuse to permit publication of any image or voice of, or statement or work by, my child(ren)/ward(s).

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



### **Who does this apply to?**

We are asking for permission for all participants in programs and activities of Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture. We record the progress of our work with participants in order to evaluate our success in following our educational mission and to demonstrate our achievements to potential sources of funding for our programs. We also produce videos that may contain images, voices, and/or work products of participants.

### **What is the purpose of using images and recordings of participants?**

We present videos created by our teachers and/or participants and display photos of our work at schools and at other non-profit events and public presentations as well as on Al-Bustan's website. We also use photographs of participants and/or work created by participants in promotional materials like pamphlets and newsletters and in fundraising materials. Al-Bustan archives photographs for future fundraising purposes. You are not asked permission again when Al-Bustan uses these archives. If partnering organizations and media outlets request images, video, or work products of participants, Al-Bustan will provide them this material only for the purpose of promoting Al-Bustan's programs.

### **Why do you want a release for each participant?**

Al-Bustan wants you to be informed of our intent and possible use of photographs, videos, and other material that may contain images of or work created by your child/ward.

### **Will you list the participant's name?**

We will give credit to a participant's work using the first name only, unless we obtain your permission at a later time to publish the full name with a photograph or video.

### **Will Al-Bustan profit from the video/photographs/sound/art/work product?**

Al-Bustan might use the image, sound, artwork or other work of students to promote our programs to potential participants or to raise funds for our activities. We will not sell photographs/sound/art/work product to anyone.

### **How long will this permission be valid?**

It will be valid indefinitely unless you withdraw your permission by contacting us in writing.

### **What if I refuse?**

We would like all of our students to participate, but we understand if you choose not to give your permission. Your grant or refusal of permission will not affect the participant's experience in the program in any way. If you grant permission, please check off the types of materials we may use.

### **Does Al-Bustan let others use this material?**

This release form applies to Al-Bustan's use of the participant's images or work and as requested by partnering organizations and media outlets. For any other uses, we will request your permission separately at that time.