

# Q

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## Issue 1

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December 2015

### For 10 Students, A Life-Changing Trip

*"An amazing experience and opportunity  
to see another culture..."*

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### Learning through Art

*How can we teach our children  
to empathize with others? Prism.K12,  
an award-winning educational teaching  
framework developed by The Phillips  
Collection in Washington, D.C.,  
has an answer: through art.*

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### Qatar Helps Provide Drinking Water for Gaza

*Qatar Red Crescent and American Near  
East Refugee Aid will soon be providing  
clean drinking water to 120,000 people  
in the Gaza Strip*

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Embassy of the State of Qatar  
in Washington, D.C.

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## *Foreword*

# A few words from the Ambassador

During my second year serving as Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the United States, relations between our two countries have grown closer and stronger. This is particularly notable in the areas of education, arts and culture, sports, and humanitarian aid. Through our work in these four areas the Embassy serves as a portal through which Americans can experience Qatar's culture, hospitality, and generosity. You can learn about these endeavors in this new magazine, *Q*.

It is especially exciting for us to share the stories of the partnerships we have built in the community. Over the last year, the Embassy has engaged in projects that build bridges between our two nations. We have achieved this by supporting arts and education programs, opening the Embassy's doors and providing aid to communities in need.

Qatar is passionate about educating and empowering young people around the world to become global citizens. This year, the Embassy organized a study visit to Doha for students from McDaniel College, most of whom had never been to the Middle East.

Trips like this provide a much needed communication channel between Americans and Qataris and allow young students to develop their own perspective of our country. When we hear students say that the Middle East is different than what is portrayed in the news, that they have been "able to come back and talk about what is really going on in the Arab world" – that is diplomacy in action.

Cultural diplomacy particularly remains a cornerstone of Qatar's mission in the United States. At its best, it can build a foundation of trust between nations through discovery of common interests and opportunities for collaboration. It is a continuous exchange of art and culture through people-to-people connections. In the information age, with new ways of communication and evolving technological advances,

it is through cultural diplomacy that we are able to share our heritage and traditions in a rapidly changing landscape.

The relationship between Qatar and the United States has evolved as well, broadening and deepening over the years. Some of those changes are outlined here. Qatar's Education City is home to branch campuses of six American universities. Our country also hosts a U.S. military base, and we have very strong cooperation with Americans in various economic activities: oil and gas, of course, but also in science and technology and other areas of mutual interest.

You will also read a lot about humanitarian aid. This is part of our culture, a moral responsibility, guided by a sense of duty and solidarity.

This August, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of Qatar Katrina Fund, which distributed \$100 million to projects in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina. Yet it is not just in moments of tragedy that we support our friends. We work side by side with organizations promoting art, education, wellbeing and community engagement all across the United States.

Most recently, the Embassy has installed a piece of public art representing Qatar's flag, by artist Laurence Jenkell, with the goal of providing a focal point for reflection on the relationship between cultures and peoples. It is a message that we are a part of a global community and share the same space.

This first issue of *Q* is a testament to the close relationship between Qatar and the United States. I hope you enjoy reading through it and find that the stories inside affirm those shared values that define us as nations.

*Mohammed Jaham Al-Kuwari,*

*Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the United States*







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| *Students visit the Museum of Islamic Art*



# For 10 Students, A Life-Changing Trip

Christian Rodriguez plans to get used to flying. He hopes to become an ambassador one day. And his first ever trip outside the United States was more than 8,000 miles, to Qatar in November 2014, on an exchange fellowship sponsored by the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Washington, D.C., and the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations (NCUSAR).

**B**efore this trip, Rodriguez had never even been on a plane before. “I had a panic attack on the first flight,” admits the Los Angeles native, who just graduated with a degree in international studies from La Verne, a private university 35 miles outside his home city.

Over nine days, Rodriguez and nine other American college students and five professors were given a whirlwind tour of Qatar. They met with government officials, human rights activists, educators, students, businesspeople and journalists, and visited Al Jazeera headquarters, the Museum of Islamic Art, and Katara cultural village.

For Rodriguez, who grew up in South Central Los Angeles, it was a life-changing trip. “Living [in South Central] is very tough, mentally and physically,” he recalls. “You see constant violence, peers using drugs, joining gangs.” UCLA was nearby, but people from his neighborhood were not encouraged to go there. Rodriguez, however, studied hard, won scholarships and got into La Verne. And last year he was selected for the Qatar Fellowship.

“It was an opportunity to get out of my comfort zone, to visit and learn about another culture,” he says. “Qatar plays a significant role in politics in the region. To say I’ve been there, it’s just amazing.”

## Engaging With the Arab World

“NCUSAR is a nonprofit, with a mission to educate the American public about the Arab world,” explains Josh Hilbrand, the organization’s Director of Student Programs. “We have been running study abroad programs for all 33 years of our existence, hundreds of them, for students, faculty, military delegations, congressional delegations ... but this was our first study trip to Qatar.”

The Qatar trip grew out of the Model Arab League (MAL), a student debate and leadership development program (see box on page 15). The top MAL participants across the country were encouraged to apply, and the 15 winners were flown to Washington, D.C., to be briefed on what to expect in Qatar before departure. After their return, the delegates commit to sharing their experiences with their communities

during the following Fellowship Year (in this case, 2015).

“They really take their knowledge to the next level,” explains Hilbrand, who went on the trip to Doha.

“They go to the country, meet a lot of people in different walks of life in civil society. They break down a lot of stereotypes they might have had, and then come home to talk about it. It’s priceless.”

## A Springboard

Gabriella Chamberland, who just graduated from Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina, is typical in saying the study visit was “an amazing experience and opportunity to see another culture, and go to places [like]... the National Human Rights Committee, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. That’s a lot of access a 21-year-old would never get otherwise!”

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**“I found the people to be warm and hospitable and willing to engage in discussion about complex issues”**

**Syed Bilal Ali,**  
Sophomore at McDaniel College

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Chamberland is interested in women’s issues and was fascinated by the variety in dress she saw in the ultra-modern city—some women were walking around in abayas, traditional long cloaks; others were jogging in shorts by the sea. And she was impressed with the number and proportion of female students working towards university degrees in Education City [see page 21].

“It was absolutely incredible, intellectually, culturally, travel-wise. It was one of the most amazing experiences of my life—and definitely a springboard for a whole bunch of career opportunities.”

## Surprised by the Openness

All the students were overwhelmed by the hospitality they encountered—and surprised by the openness.

“There’s a lot of negativity about the Middle East in the U.S.,” says Syed Bilal Ali, a sophomore at McDaniel College in Wellington, Maryland. “It’s really not the way it is portrayed in the news ... I found the people to be warm and hospitable and willing to engage in discussion about complex issues, even on topics where we may disagree.”

“Qatar has a unique intellectual atmosphere,” says Hilbrand. “The Doha Debates, the Doha Forum [see box Page 31]: it’s the one place in the Arab world where a lot of discussions are always taking place, conversations are occurring, intellectuals are gathering. There’s more openness, not just in social

behaviors but also in the atmosphere of the intellectual community: it’s very open, down to earth, it has its own special, unique charm.”

Emily Bless, an international affairs major at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, says that even the government officials they met were open about discussing U.S.–Qatar relations. “They told us what Americans didn’t understand about Qatar, and the Arab world in general,” she says. “They were very open about things like Israeli-Palestinian relations, and our need to put that into focus, so that we understand where the Arab world is coming from.

“They were very frank and direct, not like politicians at all!” she says with a laugh.

## Souks and Sand Dunes

Two highlights of the trip were a visit to the old souk and a day in the desert. “The souk is an old-style market,” Ali explains. “People have all their goods placed outside their store, and you can bargain, get a good price.” It was a fun place to unwind, meet some local people, and buy souvenirs. Chamberland bought some traditional clothing, including scarves, a *hijab* and several traditional abayas, one decorated with gold and embroidery.

Both Shaefer and Ali enjoyed trying to speak Arabic at the souk. “The locals loved it when I said *Ana adros Arabi* [I am learning Arabic],” he says. “They always answered *Masha’Allah!* [God has willed it] ...



| Students visit Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

Everyone there is studying English, and when they hear an American trying to speak Arabic they get so excited; ‘Someone is actually putting the effort into learning our language!’”

On the day before they left, the group took an excursion into the desert, in six 4x4s. “We went sand duning,” explains Abbey Borghee, a junior at Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, Texas. “It was like you see in the movies, just sand for miles and miles.”

The day ended at a seaside camp, where the students played volleyball

and rode camels along the beach. They could see Saudi Arabia just across the bay. “The water was so blue, and very salty,” recalls Ali. “And we swam in the Arabian Sea, that’s something I won’t forget.”

### Spreading the Word

The fellowship program continues for a year *after* the trip, when the students and professors engage with their communities at home, be they academic, civic, or religious. They give talks, write for their local newspapers, blog: “some of them get really creative,” says Hilbrand, “which is excellent.” Some focus

on culture, others on politics; they pay visits to Kiwanis clubs, church groups, nursing homes, and are especially active on campus.

Besides the obvious educational and professional benefits for the participants, the study visit brings constructive and much-needed dialogue between Americans and Qataris. “Since I got back I’ve been trying to spread awareness,” says Borghee. “It’s one thing to read about a foreign place, but to be able to send American students there, it’s the best form of communication. We have been able to come back

and talk about what is really going on in the Arab world.”

NCUSAR calculates that more than a thousand Americans have heard about the trip firsthand, and another fifty thousand have been impacted indirectly. And all the students have a new view of the Middle East, thanks to their experience in Qatar. Ali for one has now switched his major, from business to Arabic and Middle East studies, and spent this fall doing a three-month Arabic course in Jordan.

And his parents? They own a little store in a mall and encouraged him to go to college to study business, but have embraced his change of direction wholeheartedly.

“They are showing pictures and stuff from Qatar to everyone who comes into the store,” he says with a laugh. “They love that I’ve found my passion.”



| *Aspire Academy in Qatar*



## Bringing Americans and Arabs Together

Founded in 1982, Model Arab League (MAL) is a worldwide, simulated competition in which high school and college students take on the roles of diplomats from member states of the Arab League.

In the United States, where it is run by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations (NCUSAR), students work in teams at individual universities. The best then attend one of 22 conferences held across the country, where they try and resolve complex issues posed ahead of time. Participants hone their skills in public speaking, negotiation, and diplomacy, while learning about Arab politics and history.

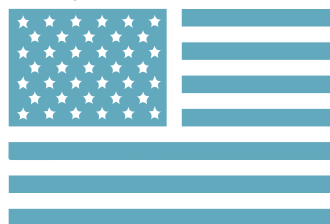
More than two thousand American students participate in the MAL each year. Many are studying political science, history, or international relations, but interestingly, a lot are following other, more diverse studies—medicine, engineering, pre-law—or just have an interest in debate, the Middle East, or the Arabic language. All benefit from the chance to develop their hands-on analytical, organizational, writing, and public speaking skills—and a deeper knowledge and understanding of the Arab world and its peoples.

*To learn more about the program, find a Model in your region, or prepare to participate in the program, visit [ncusar.org/modelarableague](http://ncusar.org/modelarableague)*

## Model Arab League

- *Founded 1982* -

# 2,000+



*American Students  
- participate in -*

# MAL

EVERY YEAR

### MAIN SUBJECTS STUDIED



# Connecting Cultures Through Georgetown University

In the last decade, the Middle East has rarely left the headlines. Millions of Americans served in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and then came the Arab Spring, revolution in Tunisia and Egypt and civil wars in Libya, Yemen, and Syria, swiftly followed by the biggest refugee crisis in living memory. No wonder U.S. interest in the culture and politics of the region has surged like never before.

But for all the rolling news coverage, the gulfs of misunderstanding dividing the two regions remain vast. Bridging these gulfs is the remit of the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies (CCAS) at Georgetown University, America's oldest and largest center for Arab studies, and one of its biggest supporters—the Embassy of the State of Qatar.

"I expect that the Embassy wants to encourage understanding between the Arab World and the U.S.," explains Dr. Elizabeth Kelley, the Qatar Post-Doctoral Fellow at CCAS. An anthropologist,

Kelley studies how Arab literature and culture are understood and misunderstood in the United States.

"They [the Qataris] want Americans to understand the Middle East better so they can improve those relations," says Kelley. "More people talking about the subject will improve connections and communication, and make understanding and dialogue more likely and possible."

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**"The Embassy of the State of Qatar stands as a symbol of the close friendship between the American and Qatari people."**

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The success of this program can be seen in attendance at CCAS's many public events and in the number of applications to its distinguished Master of Arts in Arab Studies program, both of which have more than doubled since 2001; the Center now hosts more than 75 events a year and had 47 masters students in fall 2015.

## **A Model of Global Diplomacy**

Georgetown University is one of the world's leading academic and research institutions. Founded in 1789—the same year the Constitution became the law of the land—it is the nation's oldest Catholic university and home to the CCAS, founded in 1975. Georgetown offers more than 150 courses about the Arab World each year, focusing on diverse topics like the Arabic language, history, government, business, economics, and law. The university also has a satellite campus, the Edmund



A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, which recently celebrated its tenth anniversary in Doha.

On March 31, 2015, the Embassy was inducted into the Georgetown 1789 Society, the university's most distinguished fellowship. The award recognized the Embassy's longstanding support for the CCAS and the university, including establishing the Qatar Post-Doctoral Fellowship program and funding the Clovis and Hala Salaam Maksoud Chair in Arab Studies. It also celebrates a major landmark: the Embassy's total support for Georgetown surpassing one million dollars.

"The Embassy of the State of Qatar stands as a symbol of the close friendship between the American and Qatari people," the university noted in presenting the award. "With its many initiatives to foster cooperation and understanding among nations, [it] serves as a model of global diplomacy."

"It's a very prestigious society, and we are very excited to welcome the Qatar Embassy into the Georgetown family," adds Monica Devlin, Office of Advancement, Donor Relations at Georgetown. "Ambassador Mohammed Jaham Al-Kuwari attended the ceremony and accepted the award, which was held during the annual convocation ceremony."

"Education is very important to Qatar," adds Ambassador Al-Kuwari. "It is a bridge, that helps to build better relations between nations. The Qatari people have become part of the Georgetown community, and we're proud of that."

## Translating the Arab World

It's mid September, and Kelley is just beginning her year-long stint as the new Qatar Post-Doctoral Fellow at CCAS. She will use the time to turn her Ph.D. dissertation from the University of California, Berkeley, *Translating the Arab World*, into a book.

American readers and publishers are interested in books that will "translate" the Middle East world for them, says Kelley. She mentions *The Kite Runner*, a novel by Afghani-American writer Khaled Hosseini, and *The Yakoubian Building*, a rich portrait of Mubarak-era Egypt by Egyptian dentist Alaa Al-Aswany.



| Ambassador Al-Kuwari being inducted into the Georgetown 1789 Society

"Such books give Americans a taste of another culture, another community, another way of life," says Kelley. "But often that taste is highly mediated and not that robust—it doesn't really challenge the reader ... and there are a lot of forces that reinforce the old stereotypes."

The covers of books by Arab writers, for instance, often feature women wearing the *hijab*. "In a lot of cases it's just an Orientalist trope which does a disservice to the work," Kelley says. But she finds the American public's interest in the Arab World very encouraging; the best books, she thinks, can create a bridge between the two cultures.

Kelley feels incredibly grateful towards the Embassy, which funds the fellowship. "I'm so lucky to have this time to be able to write. It's a really wonderful opportunity for a junior scholar."

With the Middle East likely to stay in the headlines for years to come, such cross-cultural understanding can only be a good thing.



| (1) Weill Cornell Medical College campus in Education City



| (2) Northwestern University in Qatar

“The great thing about Education City is it’s a very diverse, very dynamic environment.”

Jamie Haddad,  
Northwestern University Graduate



| (3) Carnegie Mellon University in Education City

# An American Education—in Qatar

“The great thing about Education City is it’s a very diverse, very dynamic environment,” says Jaimee Haddad, an American who just graduated with a degree in journalism from Northwestern University in Qatar. “You interact with a lot of people from different cultures; I became friends with students from many Arab countries—Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine—as well as China and Brazil ... A lot of Americans find it to be a very diverse experience.”

**N**orthwestern is one of six prestigious American universities with branches in Education City, a five-square-mile development on the outskirts of Doha. Here more than 4,000 students are working toward degrees in medicine from Cornell University, international relations at Georgetown University, design at Virginia Commonwealth University, engineering at Texas A&M University, business and computer science at Carnegie Mellon University—or communications and journalism from Northwestern University, like Haddad. The six institutions all offer degree programs identical to those on their U.S. campuses, and most of the instructors are American or

European. About half the students are Qatari, while the rest come from dozens of countries across the Middle East and around the world.

Though it is only seven years old—compared to 164 years for the mother campus in Evanston, Illinois, founded in 1851—Northwestern University in Qatar is growing in profile. “They’ve been trying to build up the relationship,” explains Haddad. “A group of us saved up our dimes and went to main campus to graduate, for instance.” Every year a group of main campus students comes and studies in Doha, and Qatari students go to Evanston. Thanks to these exchanges at the six universities, Americans are starting to see the appeal of doing some or even all of their studies in Qatar.

Education City also houses local branch campuses of French business school HEC Paris, British cultural icon University College London, the Qatar Science and Technology Park, and several local schools. The latter includes Qatar Academy, a leading high school; Hamad Bin Khalifa University, which offers a doctor of jurisprudence program; and the Qatar Faculty of Islamic Studies, which offers master’s degrees in several fields, including contemporary Islamic jurisprudence, public policy, and finance. A state-of-the-art tram system due to open in 2016 will link the campus to downtown Doha and bring people to the soccer stadium being built there for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

All these international students, professors, and researchers have brought a culturally rich and diverse community to Qatar and augmented ties to the West, especially the United States. Qatar Foundation, which created Education City, sees it as another step in the country's transition to a knowledge-based economy in the coming decades.

"It's not your traditional college experience, that's for sure," says Haddad. She came to Doha at age 17, when her family moved to Qatar from Portland, Oregon, for her father's work. After graduating from high school in Doha she wanted to go back to Oregon for college, but her parents convinced her to try Qatar for a year. She liked it, and ended up staying for all four years of her program.

"There are lots of opportunities to do things you wouldn't be able to do otherwise," Haddad says. "Qatar is a stable country with a good economy, and there's a real diversity of opportunity." She helped organize TEDx events on campus, and two events at the Cop18 Doha Climate Change Conference in 2012. She also went on study trips to both Indonesia and South Africa.

"Doha is a very dynamic place," Haddad says. "It's very different, and very rewarding."

## An Emphasis on Education

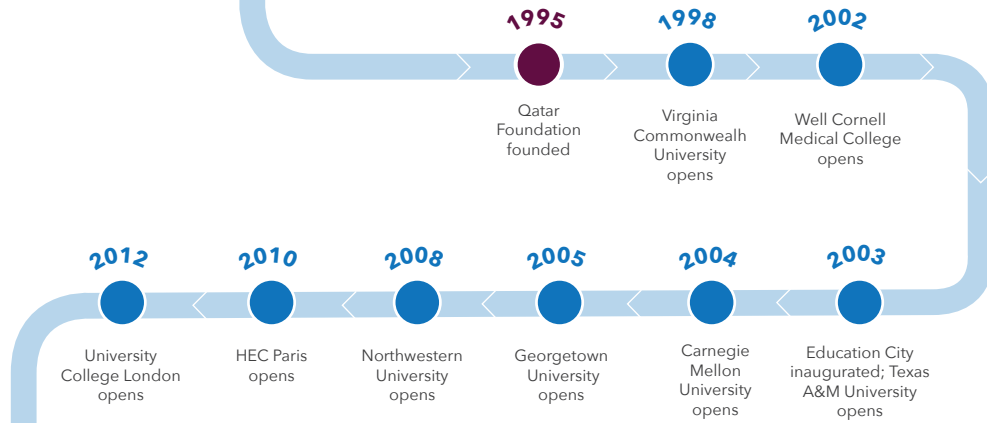
**One of the striking features of Qatar is the focus on education.**

The country has spent the last two decades pressing ahead with a number of bold initiatives to improve schooling at all levels, and has made enormous strides. Primary education is now almost universal and literacy rates are well above the regional average for both genders.

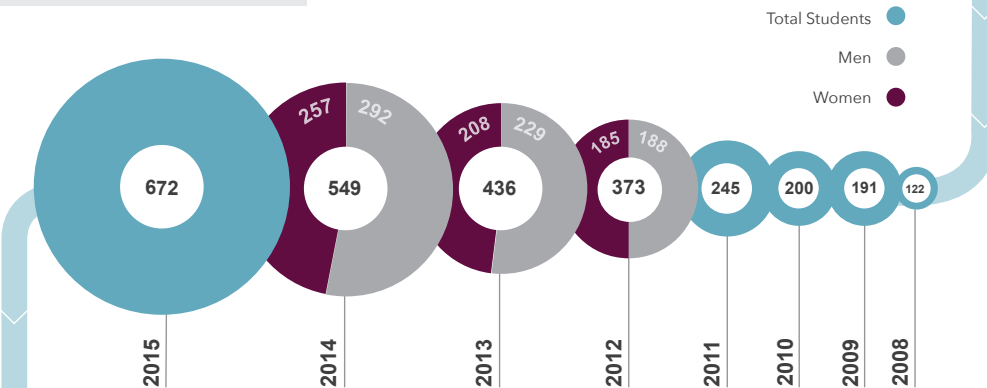
A report by the British newspaper The Independent concluded that Qatar was the best country in the world for women to pursue an education. This is particularly true at the tertiary level, where there are six women students for every man; even in engineering, a field often dominated by men, there were three times more female than male graduates in 2014.

Qatar's success in education is helped by the fact that Qatar offers many scholarships to help its citizens further their education. Foreign nationals—many young students from neighboring Gulf or other Middle Eastern countries—also receive a lot of financial aid, both from Qatar Foundation and the universities themselves.

## EDUCATION CITY IN QATAR



## EDUCATION CITY GRADUATES



## U.S. UNIVERSITIES IN EDUCATION CITY



# Michelle Obama at WISE: The World Must Let Girls Learn

*“Solving our girls’ education crisis is definitely about resources, but it is also about attitudes and beliefs... We cannot address [the crisis] until we address the cultural norms and practices that devalue women’s intelligence, that silence their voices, that limit their ambitions ... these changes need to happen at every level of our societies – in parliaments, and boardrooms, and courtrooms, but also in homes and in schools in big cities and remote villages across the globe.”*

**T**his is the message that First Lady Michelle Obama carried with her as she embarked on a visit to the Middle East in November 2015. She travelled to focus global attention on women’s education and to highlight a new initiative, Let Girls Learn, which she and her husband, President Barack Obama, launched earlier in the year.

Let Girls Learn is a U.S. government-wide program to help girls around the world gain access to education. To promote it, Mrs. Obama is visiting countries across the globe to encourage them to step up their efforts to educate and empower young women. Everywhere she goes, she is telling the story of her own battle to get a good education and of women’s ongoing struggle for equal opportunities in the United States, as well as the stories of young women everywhere who have had to overcome high hurdles to secure the schooling they deserve.

In Doha, Qatar, Mrs. Obama delivered a speech at the 2015 World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE), the world’s leading international education event.

Mrs. Obama praised Her Highness Sheikha Moza, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development and





| First Lady Michelle Obama attends the 2015 WISE with Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, right, and Dr. Khalid Al-Attiah, left, at the Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha, Qatar, Nov. 4, 2015. The First Lady attends the summit in support of global girls' education and the Let Girls Learn initiative



| First Lady Michelle Obama hugs a student during a tour of the WISE Summit Learning Labs during the 2015 World Innovation Summit for Education at the Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha, Qatar, Nov. 4, 2015



| *First Lady Michelle Obama speaking at WISE*

former Qatari First Lady, “for her outstanding work on behalf of women and children here in Qatar and around the world.” She noted that “the fact that two-thirds of university students in Qatar and nearly 40 percent of the Qatari workforce are women is no accident – it is due in large part to her leadership.”

HH Sheikha Moza is the founder of a number of national and international education initiatives, including Educate a Child, which aims to significantly reduce the number of children worldwide who are missing out on their right to an education.

### **Educated Women, Stronger Nations**

Mrs. Obama argues that educating women is paramount because of the ripple effects it has on society. “Girls who are educated marry later, have lower rates of infant mortality,” she says. “They’re more likely to immunize their children; less likely to contract malaria and HIV.

Girls who are educated also earn higher salaries – 15 to 25 percent for each additional year of secondary school. And studies have shown that sending more girls to school and into the workforce can boost an entire country’s GDP.”

Given Mrs. Obama’s focus on sustainable solutions to the cultural and economic factors that keep women out of schools, she was an obvious choice to make a keynote address at WISE. “Your governments and organizations are improving education for millions of children,” she told the summit participants. “Your research and advocacy are transforming how we educate our next generation. And while you come to the issue of education from so many different perspectives, you’re all doing this work for one simple reason: because, like me, you believe that every child on this planet deserves the chance to fulfill their boundless potential.”



| Her Highness Sheikha Moza & First Lady Michelle Obama  
presenting the 2015 WISE Prize for Education to Dr. Sakena Yacoobi,  
Founder and Executive Director of the Afghan Institute of Learning



| First Lady Michelle Obama talks with students during a tour of the WISE  
Summit Learning Labs during the 2015 WISE at the Qatar National  
Convention Centre in Doha, Qatar, Nov. 4, 2015

## About WISE

**Qatar Foundation has spearheaded Qatar's drive to make itself a world leader in education and is now spreading that focus beyond the country's borders through its Educate A Child initiative.**

In 2009 Qatar Foundation established the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE), an international initiative that promotes new approaches to learning in the 21st Century. WISE holds an annual summit in Doha attended by about 1,500 researchers, innovators and other experts.

Its many other activities include the WISE Prize for Education, a \$500,000 award presented every year at the summit to a person or team who has made an outstanding contribution to education. It's often referred to as the Nobel Prize for education.

The theme of the 2015 summit was "Investing for Impact: Quality Education for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth".



# Moving On Up

This fall, the Embassy of the State of Qatar increased its support and engagement with Year Up, a non-profit that empowers low-income young adults to go from low-wage jobs to professional success. The Embassy not only mentors Year Up participants in the Washington, D.C., area by helping them with their CVs and preparing them for job interviews, but they also participated in and sponsored three galas.



| Ambassador Al-Kuwari speaking at Year Up reception

**F**ounded in 2000, Year Up now has sites in 13 major American cities and serves more than 2,700 young adults a year. It aims to bridge what it calls “the opportunity divide” by providing young city dwellers with the skills, experience, and support they need to reach their potential through careers and higher education.

The organization puts high school graduates and GED recipients through an intensive, one-year program that combines hands-on skill development with professional internships. It is a highly successful, award-winning model; 100% of participants get an internship, and, within four months, 85% of graduates are either in college full-time or working.

Year Up provides young adults in the Greater Washington, D.C. area with technical, professional and communication skills in areas including information technology and financial operations. Students can earn college credits for completing their coursework during the first six months of the program, and then go on to participate in a six-month internship at a corporate partner such as NASA, Hilton, AOL, or Capital One.



| From left to right, Year Up Chair John King, Ambassador Al-Kuwari and Year Up Founder and CEO Gerald Chertavian



| Guylaine Saint Juste, Year Up Executive Director

**“Energy spent on educational attainment and achievement assures a commitment to knowledge and the peaceful pursuit of progress.”**

**Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari**

### Closing the Opportunity Divide

“The Qatari Embassy has been a great supporter of Year Up, sponsoring the National Capital Region’s Geek Gala for the past three years,” says Gerald Chertavian, Year Up Founder and CEO. “They recognize the critical importance of connecting young adults with meaningful careers and higher education, both here and in the Middle East.”

“Year Up has been a model for providing mentorship and professional experience to low-income young adults,” says Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari. “We’re proud to help celebrate their hard work and efforts towards improving lives in the Washington, D.C. region.”



| Gerald Chertavian, Year Up Founder and CEO

The State of Qatar believes in the power of youth to reshape societies. Like the United States, the country is an avid supporter of education and human development.

“Educated populations have generally fewer conflicts and civil strife,” Ambassador Al-Kuwari notes. “Energy spent on educational attainment and achievement assures a commitment to knowledge and the peaceful pursuit of progress.”

“Our work with Year Up has become one of our most exciting partnerships in the United States. In Qatar we are very passionate about education and developing opportunities for young people to succeed in their studies and careers. Year Up has achieved a great deal and we are proud to support their activities.”



| *Students attend the Doha Forum*



# A Surprise Trip to Doha

“The first things I thought were, one, wow, what a beautiful country; and two, I feel like I’ve just stepped under a giant hair dryer!” says Zac Sheaffer.

The freshman student at McDaniel College, a private liberal arts college in Westminster, Maryland, is remembering stepping off the plane in Doha, the capital of Qatar, in May, at the start of an intense six-day study visit. “It’s really hot, but not humid like in the U.S.,” he says. “I actually kinda liked it.”

**S**heaffer was one of ten McDaniel students to visit Doha on an improbable study trip this May. The adventure began just a few weeks earlier, when he and the rest of Professor Mohamed Esa’s “Arabic World” class visited the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Washington, D.C., and met with Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari.

Impressed by the class’ questions, the Ambassador asked if anyone had been to Qatar; only one had, so he spontaneously invited ten students to visit the country and participate in the annual Doha Forum (see box Page 31).

There followed some frantic passport applications, all during final exams. But six weeks later the promise was fulfilled—the students were boarding a Qatar Airways plane for the 13 hour-7,800 mile flight from Washington,

D.C., to Doha. Several had never left the U.S. before; for all but one, it was their first visit to the Middle East.

## Building Bridges of Understanding

“It’s a once-in-a-lifetime experience for these students,” says Arabic Studies lecturer Carol Zaru, who joined Esa on the trip. “They were just blown away by the hospitality, the way they were treated. I expected it, I’m Palestinian, I know about Arab hospitality—but the students were overwhelmed by the VIP treatment.”

The friendliness went all the way to the top. “At one point in the Forum, we went up to Kuwait’s oil minister and talked to him,” Shaeffer recalls. “He was really friendly and invited us to come and tour his country’s oil facilities! I mean, I’m a nineteen-year-old kid from a small town in Maryland, I’m not supposed to meet people like that!”



| Students visit Al Jazeera English Headquarters



| Students visit Qatar Foundation

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**“These trips build bridges of international understanding and appreciation... it’s so important to travel, to go to places like Qatar and see them for yourself. I really wish more Americans would venture out of the U.S. and study abroad; it would change everything.”**

**Carol Zaru,**  
Arabic Studies lecturer

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As well as spending three days at the Doha Forum, the students met with Qatar’s National Human Rights Committee, and visited Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, and the sports academy Aspire.

“These trips build bridges of international understanding and appreciation,” Zaru says. “It’s so important to travel, to go to places like Qatar and see them for yourself. I really wish more Americans would venture out of the U.S. and study abroad; it would change everything.”

The students echo these feelings. Sheaffer says they were really surprised by Doha: “Because of the American media and its perspective on the Middle East, we really weren’t expecting such a beautiful, modern city, such nice people. The architecture, the skyline, they are just incredible.”

The students liked that Qatar is focusing on uniting the Arab world. They were impressed by the visit to the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, which is responsible for the preparations for the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar.

A highlight for all the students was the Museum of Islamic Art, housed in an iconic building designed by I. M. Pei on an island in the harbor. “It’s gorgeous,” says Sheaffer; “the building itself, and the portico, and seeing all the amazing artwork: old copies of the Quran, modern depictions of Arab folk tales, that was really cool.”



| Doha Forum 2015

## The Doha Forum

**More than 500 participants from more than 80 countries and organizations attend the Doha Forum, one of the world's most important international gatherings.**

Current and former heads of state, opinion leaders, decision-makers, business leaders, academics, and political thinkers go to Doha to discuss topics like democratic transformation, security, human development, energy, the global economy, international cooperation, digital and social media, and human rights. The 2015 incarnation, held May 11–13, was the fifteenth annual forum.

Hot button issues this year included the importance of stability and development in East Africa; security, justice, and the fight against terrorism in Iraq; and the role of international

organizations, the international community, and the UN Security Council in meeting people's aspiration for stability.

"There was lots of focus on the future," recalls McDaniel student Zac Sheaffer. "What comes after oil, different forms of energy—and especially, education: you need smart people to develop new things to change the world. They [the Qataris] get that."

"The Forum was an eye-opener," says Professor Esa, who attended with ten of his students from McDaniel College. "There were a few presenters who were just amazing. We met Kuwait's minister of oil, various Qatari officials, and the Reverend Jesse Jackson. People were really impressed that these ten American students were there, taking notes and even asking questions."

# Learning Arabic in Alaska

**W**illiam Scannell was six years old when he told his dad that he wanted to learn Arabic. The family had just got back from a holiday in the Middle East, so the request made sense. Except that the Scannells live in Anchorage.

“He’s a kid from Alaska whose family is Boston Irish, so learning Arabic struck me as useful as an Egyptian taking up the language of the Yupik Eskimos,” recalls William’s dad, Bill Scannell. So Bill enrolled his son in an online Arabic course, confident he’d soon drop out.

Except he didn’t. In fact, William, now ten, has completed seven semesters of Arabic through Johns Hopkins, four Arabic summer camps at Concordia Language Villages, an immersion program with the Middlebury Monterrey Language Academy, and a month at a Palestinian elementary school in Jerusalem.

“William can now read, write, and speak Arabic: it is part of who he is,” says his dad. “He’s become a life-long learner of the native language of close to half a billion people across the Middle East and North Africa; and the religious language of Earth’s billion-plus Muslims.”

“Empathy is what makes us better human beings. My son’s love of Arabic helped him connect with the very real problems currently playing out in the Levant.”

William’s dad

No wonder William Scannell recently became the youngest ever recipient of a grant from Qatar Foundation International (QFI). Two years ago, he participated in QFI’s winter clothing drive, which led to Alaskans sending more than half a ton of clothing to Syrian refugees. And, last year, he launched Any Refugee, a program that encourages children across the world to send postcards to refugees.

William says that sending clothing or a postcard to a person you’ve never met is a gesture to show them that someone cares: “[The cards] fill them with happiness, because they didn’t even know the person and yet they still got a postcard,” he adds.

This year at the 27th Annual Alaska Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon, William was recognized as Alaska’s Outstanding Youth for his humanitarian work. “William has been charting his own course toward adulthood. For him, studying Arabic has been not just an end unto itself, but a tool he uses to express his greatest quality, which is his empathy for others,” says William’s dad.

As William said to his sixth-grade classmates while they were painting postcards, “Refugees can be anyone. Albert Einstein was a refugee.”

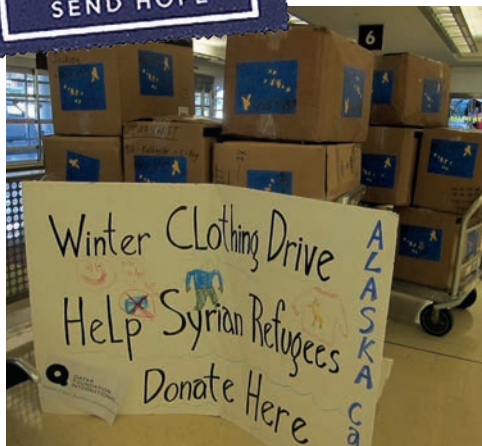
*To send a postcard, visit [anyrefugee.org](http://anyrefugee.org)*







ANY REFUGEE  
SEND HOPE



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## Organizations Supported by the Embassy of the State of Qatar

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Bethlehem University Foundation

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast

Embassy Adoption Program

Fulbright Association

Kennedy Center/D.C. Partnership  
Schools Initiative (DCPSI)

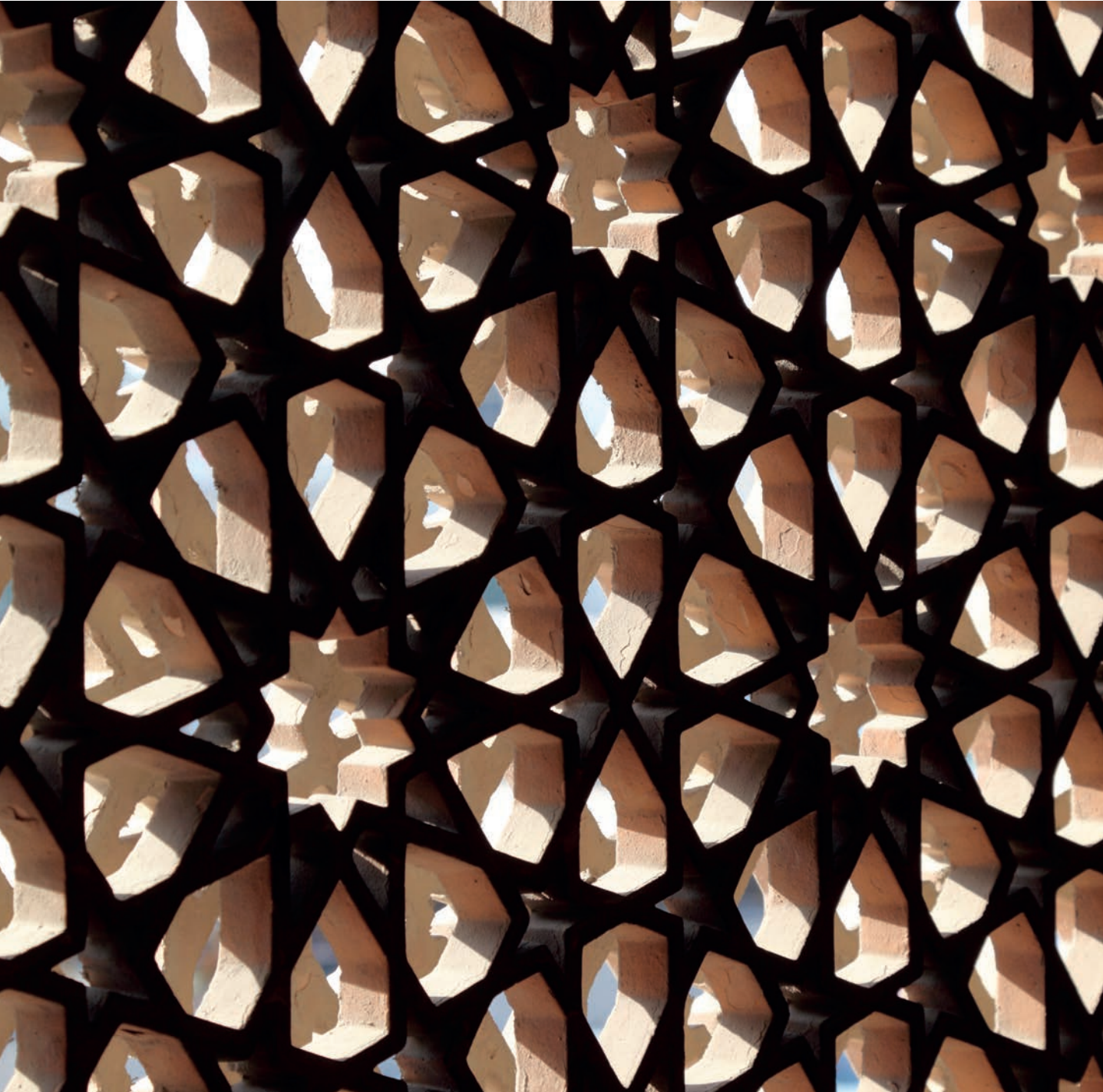
Portland State University Foundation

PUSH Excel

Year Up

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# 2

# Arts & Culture

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Celebrating Qatar National Day

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Opening The Doors Of The Embassy

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The Art Of Diplomacy

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Embassy Chef Challenge

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A Taste Of Qatar

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Learning Through Art

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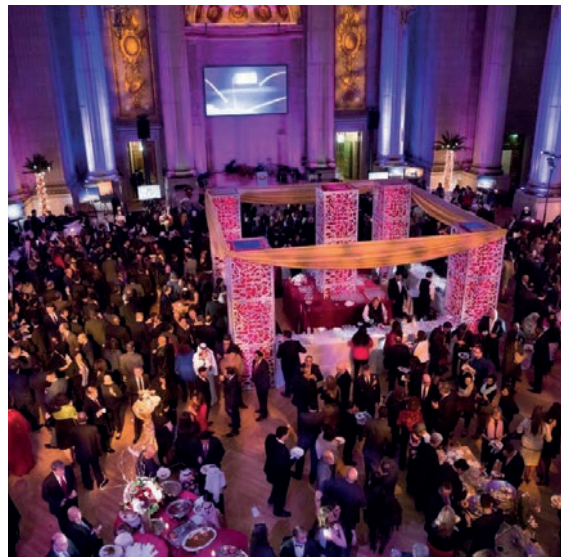




| Former Congressman Jim Moran



| Embassy guests at Qatar National Day



| Qatar National Day Reception

# Celebrating Qatar National Day

On December 18, the people of Qatar celebrate National Day. This annual holiday is a time to commemorate the country's unification and celebrate Qatar's unique heritage and culture.

**N**ational Day is held on the anniversary of December 18, 1878, the day Sheikh Jasim bin Muhammed Al-Thani, the founder of the State of Qatar, succeeded his father, Sheikh Muhammad Bin Thani, as the ruler and led the country towards unity. This national occasion emphasizes Qatar's identity and history, it embodies the ideals and visionary aspirations that the country was founded on, and pays homage to the great men and women who participated in building the nation. December 18th is the day to remember how national unity was achieved and how Qatar became a distinct, and respected nation out of a society torn apart by conflicting tribal loyalties, devoid of security and order, and overrun by invaders.

In Qatar, National Day is a public holiday and most people are given the day off from school or work. The celebrations include a parade through the Doha Corniche, a fireworks show with lights and music, and various festivities focusing on Qatari traditions at Katara cultural village. Qataris across the country and around the world take the time to get together with friends and family to honor the rich history and identity of their homeland.

In the United States, the Embassy of the State of Qatar holds an annual National Day celebration. This year, hundreds will gather at Washington, D.C.'s, Ritz Carlton hotel to eat Qatari food, listen to Qatari and American music and commemorate Qatar's unique heritage and its close ties to the United States.

# Opening the Doors of the Embassy

On May 2, the Embassy of the State of Qatar joined 41 other delegations in Washington, D.C., in opening their doors to the Around the World Embassy Tour organized by Cultural Tourism DC. Hundreds of locals and tourists could just show up and get a taste of the Qatari culture—most for the first time. Here are some scenes from the memorable day.







| A couple wearing traditional Qatari dress



| Guests visiting the Embassy



| Practicing Arabic writing



| A singer accompanied by a musician playing the oud, a traditional instrument

“We really enjoyed putting on Qatari traditional clothes. It’s important to have events like this to expose Americans to Qatari culture.”

Ken Insley



| A girl getting a henna tattoo



| Guests watching a video at the Embassy



| A girl showing her henna tattoo

“I went to a few other embassies and this one was very well organized. I did henna, all visitors seemed to really enjoy that. And there was a lot of information. I talked to a number of people who found it very interesting.”

Alaa' Odeh

International development consultant



| A family wearing traditional Qatari dress

# The Art of Diplomacy

Public art defines communal identity, and serves as a testament to cultural heritage. The newest addition to the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Washington D.C., a Plexiglas candy statue, in the colors of Qatar's national flag, aims towards those ideals, while also encouraging cross-cultural discourse among its visitors.

“In Qatar, we showcase works all over the country by talented individuals, both local and internationally renowned artists. Art is intrinsic to our national identity, and as Ambassador, I can strongly affirm that art is part and parcel of diplomacy. Diplomacy that neglects to include art is doomed to disappointing failure,” said Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari during the unveiling ceremony for the statue.

The statue, by French artist Laurence Jenkell, will live permanently outside the Embassy in Washington D.C., as a reminder to passersby to live meaningfully as global citizens with shared values and principles.

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**“Diplomacy that neglects to include art is doomed to disappointing failure.”**

Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari

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“With this installation, our goal is to provide a modest space to deepen the understanding between different cultures and peoples. It is a message that we are a part of a global community and are more than our physical borders,” added Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari.







# The Embassy Chef Challenge

Call it culinary diplomacy. Every year, 500 members of the world's largest diplomatic community rub shoulders in the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center to tickle their taste buds in the Embassy Chef Challenge, a gala fundraiser for Cultural Tourism DC. In the challenge, 12 chefs from embassies around the world prepare an amuse-bouche of national dishes in hopes of winning top honors in two awards: the Judges' Pick Award and the People's Choice Award, selected by the gala guests.



| Chef Rodriguez receives Judges' Pick and People's Choice Award



| Traditional Qatari chicken machbus



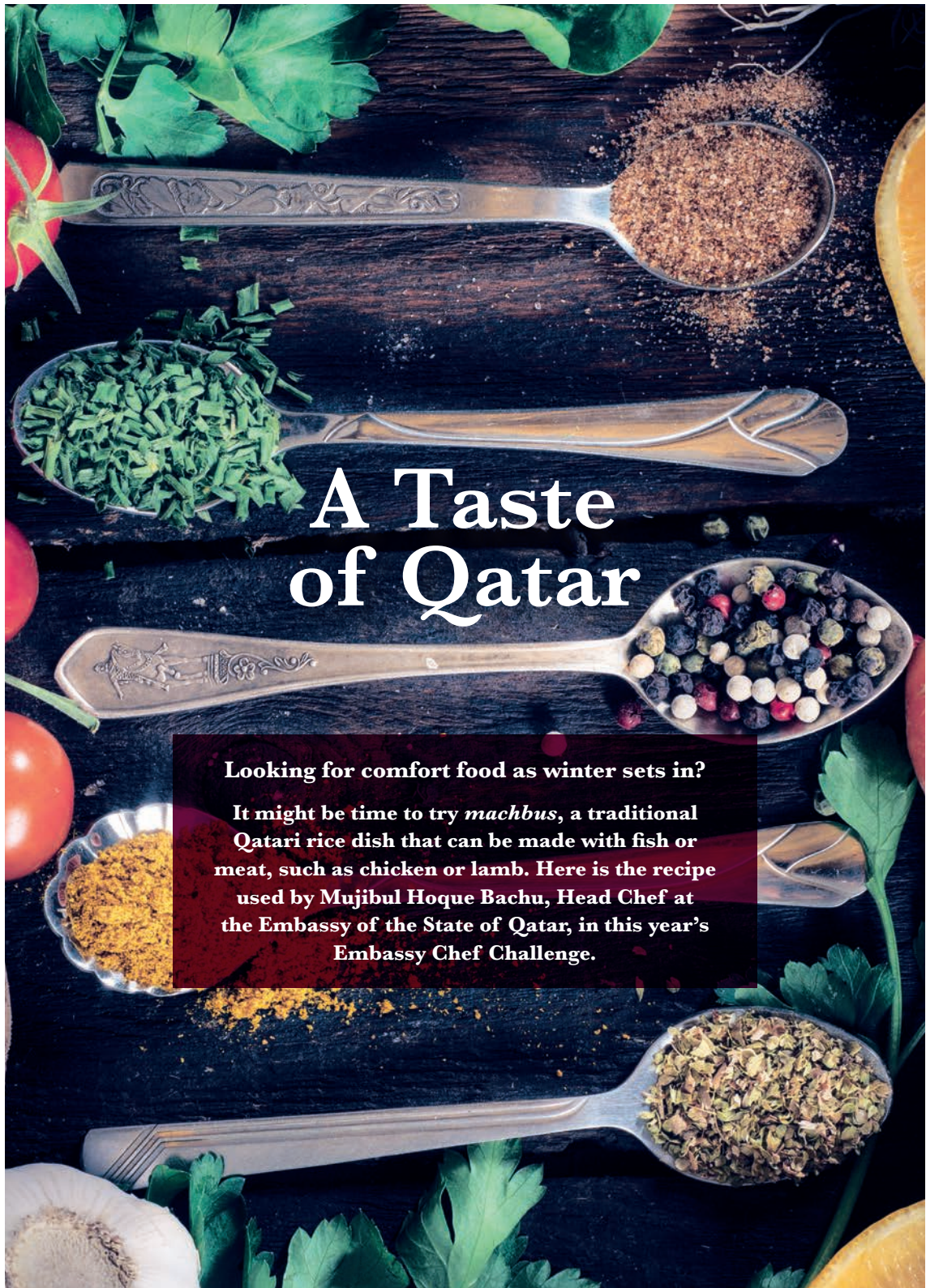
| Embassy Chef Challenge at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center

This year was the seventh annual challenge, and the second time the State of Qatar had competed. Head Chef Mujibul Hoque Bachu prepared machbus, a traditional Qatari rice dish, for 500 people: 250 servings of chicken and another 250 of meat (see recipe on page 45). The competition was stiff; Chef Lars Beese from the Embassy of Denmark served sunchoke soup; Chef Galih Kuntobaskoro of Indonesia made pecel and rendang, a distinctive beef curry; while Chef Irma Japaridze from the Embassy of Georgia prepared

khachapuri, a cheese bread dish that is all the rage in Washington these days.

The winner was unanimous. Chef Manuel Rodriguez from the Embassy of Venezuela took home both the Judges' Pick and the People's Choice Awards for a refreshing seafood ceviche he called "summer on a plate." And everyone went home with the flavors of 12 countries and four continents on their lips. And for many, their first ever taste of Qatar.





# A Taste of Qatar

Looking for comfort food as winter sets in?

It might be time to try *machbus*, a traditional Qatari rice dish that can be made with fish or meat, such as chicken or lamb. Here is the recipe used by Mujibul Hoque Bachu, Head Chef at the Embassy of the State of Qatar, in this year's Embassy Chef Challenge.

# Chicken Machbus

**T**his dish contains a mix of spices, which gives it a rich, subtle taste. “Home-ground spices give the best flavor,” says Chef Mujibul. “You can buy them anywhere these days: Indian shops, markets, Chinese and Lebanese shops.” If you have the time and inclination, buy fresh spices and grind them up yourself at home, like Chef Mujibul; if you’re in a rush, ground spices will do nicely.

## Ingredients

*1 whole chicken, cut into 4 pieces*

*3 medium-sized onions,  
cut into small pieces*

*2 chicken stock cubes*

### Chicken spices:

*5 pieces of cardamom, half  
a teaspoon of black pepper, 5 cloves,  
4 bay leaves, 2 pieces nutmeg,  
all ground and mixed together*

*3 tbsp cooking oil*

*6 garlic cloves, cut into small pieces*

*2 chili peppers, if desired*

*4–5 cups water, or more depending  
on size of chicken*

*1 red pepper, cut into small pieces*

*2 big tomatoes, cut into small pieces*

*½ tsp black pepper*

*4 cups basmati rice, washed  
and soaked for 30 minutes*

### Machbus spices:

*1 tsp ground curcuma, ¼ tsp  
biryani spices, ½ tsp ground cumin*

*Salt to taste*

*1 can (6 oz.) tomato paste*

## Cooking Method

### Poaching the Chicken

- 1 Place pieces of chicken in a large pot and add enough water to just cover them, about 2–3 cups.
- 2 Add chicken spice mixture and add half of the diced onions and one chicken stock cube.
- 3 Bring to a simmer, reduce heat a little and cook gently for 15 to 20 minutes.
- 4 When cooked through, remove the chicken and put it, and the water, aside.

### Making the Machbus

- 5 Heat the cooking oil and add garlic and chili pepper (if desired) until they are slightly browned.
- 6 Then add the remaining spices and sauté for 1 minute.
- 7 Add the onions and sauté until their color becomes clear, then add the second chicken stock cube, 2 cups of water, and red pepper, and cook for a few minutes.
- 8 Add tomato pieces and cook for a few minutes until soft. Then add chicken pieces and simmer for another 10 minutes.
- 9 Add all ground spices and mix; then add tomato paste and mix again.
- 10 Add the water from the poached chicken. Make sure there is enough liquid to cook the rice; add more water if necessary.
- 11 Turn heat to high; once the water starts boiling, add the rice. Then turn the heat to low, cover the pan and let the mixture cook slowly, mixing the rice from time to time.
- 12 Once all the water has been absorbed and the rice is cooked —after 30–40 minutes — take off heat and serve.



# Learning Through Art

How can we teach our children to empathize with others? Prism.K12, an award-winning educational teaching framework developed by The Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., has an answer: through art. And it's bringing it to children nationwide, thanks to key supporters like the Embassy of the State of Qatar.



To encourage their pupils to understand another person's thoughts and emotions, second-grade teachers Norah Mallaney and Jeremia Huff at Inspired Teaching Demonstration School, a public charter school in Washington, D.C., led them through a series of exercises based around paintings in The Phillips Collection. After studying some powerful portraits by Vincent van Gogh, the seven-year-olds and eight-year-olds worked in pairs to imagine two emotional sides of a fictional character.

The results are striking. One pair of students painted the interior lives of Harry Potter. Another pair created the moving pictures Happy Superman and Sad Superman.

This is just one exercise in the “Empathy” strand of Prism.K12, one of several teaching kits developed by The Phillips Collection and used by thousands of children, teachers, and families across the country every year. The President’s Commission on the Arts and the Humanities says this approach works to “expand arts opportunities, engage students more deeply in learning content, and is an effective school reform strategy.”

| *Sad Superman*

## America's First Museum of Modern Art

When it opened in Washington, D.C.'s Dupont Circle neighborhood in 1921, The Phillips Collection was America's first museum of modern art. It is still housed in the elegant 19th-century home of its founder, Duncan Phillips, but now also has two additions to showcase its collection of more than 3,500 works by great European and American impressionist and modern masters, including Monet, Degas, Cézanne, Matisse, Picasso, O'Keeffe, and Rothko, as well as artists of today.

Education has been a key part of the museum's mission since its early years, when art classes were held on the third floor of the house. Today the Phillips has a packed schedule of gallery talks, classes, family programs, and educator workshops. It reaches out to the nation—as well as international audiences—through initiatives such as Prism.K12 and Art

Links to Literacy, a program for underserved D.C. public schools.

To raise funds for these innovative educational programs, the museum holds an annual gala in May, which raised \$1 million last year. One of its supporters is the Embassy of the State of Qatar, a sponsor of the 2015 event.

## Dreaming of Doha

Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari will serve as diplomatic chair for the 2016 Phillips Collection Annual Gala, “Arabesque: Patterns of Beauty East–West, A Salute to Qatar.” It will be followed by an after party, the “Dreaming of Doha” Contemporaries Bash.

Modern masters such as Klee, Kandinsky, Matisse, and Picasso were inspired by the calligraphic ornamentation of Middle Eastern art, patterns at the heart of Islamic Art. These abstract designs not only adorn the surfaces of Qatari architecture but also function as the major decorative elements in the objects and books that play a key role in that rich tradition. Arabesque will pay homage to these designs and celebrate the artistic and cultural connections between the State of Qatar and the United States.

The Phillips Collection Annual Gala attracts more than 400 cultural, political, diplomatic, and business leaders for a cocktail reception and dinner, followed by dancing at the Contemporaries Bash. Unique among such fundraisers, the black-tie event does not take place in a

downtown hotel but in the historic Georgian revival house, in elegant, intimate rooms adorned with masterworks of modern painting. Pride of place goes to Pierre-Auguste Renoir's Luncheon of the Boating Party, the collection's best-known painting.

By coming along and celebrating Arabesque, the 400 guests at this year's Annual Gala will be helping students across the United States empathize with others through the power of art.

***The 2016 Annual Gala takes place on May 13, starting 6.30 pm. The event's Diplomatic Chair is Qatar Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari. For more information, including tickets and donations, visit [phillipscollection.org/support/annual-gala](http://phillipscollection.org/support/annual-gala)***

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## Organizations Supported by the Embassy of the State of Qatar

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Arab American National Museum

Cultural Tourism DC

Filmfest DC

Smithsonian's Freer and Sackler Galleries

The Kennedy Center

National Portrait Gallery

The Phillips Collection

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# 3

# *Sports*

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National Sports Day

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A Thrilling Bike Race Through The Desert

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The 2022 FIFA World Cup In Numbers

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**“We hope the equipment we provided today for our neighbors will encourage more interest in sports, fitness, and overall healthy lifestyles.”**

**Mr. Ali Al-Hajri**

Deputy Chief of Mission



| Students at School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens play soccer with staff from the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Washington, D.C.

# National Sports Day

## Coming Together To Play Sport

On a windy day in February this year, staff from the Embassy of the State of Qatar joined the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens, a public elementary school near the Embassy, to commemorate a Qatari holiday known as National Sports Day.

To mark the occasion, the Embassy brought gifts: bags of soccer balls and soccer jerseys of various sizes and celebrated National Sports Day by playing soccer with the Francis-Stevens students.

## Investing in the Health and Wellness of Students

“We were so excited to get the call from the Embassy about this amazing donation,” school Principal Richard Trogisch said. “We try to incorporate health and wellness programming and encourage physical fitness among all our students. This partnership

with the Qatar Embassy is a major investment, not only in our soccer program, but more importantly, in the long-term wellness of our students. We could not be happier that they chose our school.”

National Sports Day is celebrated throughout Qatar. The government, private businesses, and educational institutions use various events to promote health, wellness, and physical fitness — goals shared by schools throughout the D.C. area, and across the United States.

“National Sports Day is a tradition that continues to grow in popularity in Qatar and we hope by sharing our celebration with communities in the United States we will continue to embrace a vibrant and healthy future for us all,” said Deputy Chief of Mission Mr. Ali Al-Hajri, who took part in the soccer practice with students from Francis-Stevens.

“We hope the equipment we provided today for our neighbors will encourage more interest in sports, fitness, and overall healthy lifestyles.”

## A Fun Way to Learn About the Middle East

“The visit from the Embassy staff was pretty fun for the kids,” added Philip Tavares, Administrative Officer at the school. “They enjoyed it, and really appreciated the gifts.”

School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens is a high-performing public school that serves as a feeder to Francis-Stevens High School, one of the top-rated public secondary schools in the District of Columbia. It has about 450 pre-kindergarten to eighth grade students, many from low-income families.

Funds for sports activities are tight, so the donation will go a long way. And there are other benefits.

“Most of our students are not too familiar with Middle Eastern countries,” Tavares says. “It’s cool for them to have that exposure, to learn about different countries and backgrounds. And the Embassy enjoys doing it too. It’s pretty neat.”



# A Thrilling Bike Race Through the Desert

In October 2016, Qatar will host the World Cycling Championships. It will be the first time that the world's most important cycling event is held in the Middle East—and the latest in a long string of major sporting events hosted by Qatar.

The annual competition is run by the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), cycling's international governing body, and includes several races over one week from October 9–16. The climax will be a 50-mile (80-kilometer) loop through the desert outside Doha, starting and ending at the Exhibition Center, a popular venue by the seaside.

At a briefing on September 24, 2015, at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond, Virginia, Qatar Cycling Federation (QCF) President Sheikh Khalid bin Ali Al-Thani expressed Qatar's vision for using sports as a tool to strengthen ties between nations and peoples by hosting regional and international sporting events. He said that Qatar has the capabilities and infrastructure to create an unforgettable experience

for the racers, as well as the 30,000 fans from all over the world expected to attend the event and the millions who will watch it on TV or online.

John Lelangue, Doha 2016 Director of Sport and Technical Operations, said that the course will be fairly flat, but that the unpredictable desert winds are sure to provide plenty of drama. Lelangue also predicted that the desert heat would not be a big factor in the race. The temperature in Qatar in October is warm, but no more than an average July day during the Tour de France.

“We want the world to see our love for sports, and to participate in our efforts to bring people together through sport,” says Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari. “Through these sporting events we hope to develop greater cultural exchanges between our regions and promote deeper understanding. The objective is to create a peaceful message for one world.”



## A World Hub For Sport

Since 2004, Qatar has been evolving into one of the most important sporting destinations in the world. By building world-class arenas and other sporting facilities and increasing its visitor capacity, the country has taken the lead in the Arab world in hosting major international sporting events. This two-decade process will come to a climax in 2022, when Qatar will host the 22nd FIFA World Cup, the most watched and attended sporting event in the world.

The process has been steady and incremental. In 2004, Qatar hosted the Asian Handball Championship, as well as table tennis and motor racing competitions. In 2006, it held the Asian Games, and in 2010 it hosted 10 different competitions in sports, ranging from sailing to tennis. In 2015, the country hosted three major international competitions: the AIBA World Boxing Championship, the International Paralympic Committee Athletics World Championship, and the Men's Handball World Championship—its biggest event yet. Next year's World Cycling Championships will be even bigger.

At the same time, Qatar is developing its own athletic programs and encouraging sports, health, and wellness among its citizens. The country had a historic showing at the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London, England, doubling its historical medal count.

Much of this process is driven by His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Amir of Qatar, who is a great believer in sports as a unifying force and an agent for change. HH the Amir is a member of the International Olympic Committee and an advocate of Qatar's involvement in global sporting events.

"Sport occupies a privileged position in the national agenda of the country's leaders," Sheikh Khalid bin Ali Al-Thani said at the press conference for the World Cycling Championships. "This priority extends beyond sport for sport's sake to the objective of bringing people together."

***To enter the selfie competition—and get a chance win a trip to Doha and six nights accommodation during the World Cycling Championships in October 2016—visit [dohacycling2016.com/Page/selfie](http://dohacycling2016.com/Page/selfie)***

## Selfie Earns Eight-Year-Old and Family Trip to Qatar



Eight-year-old Noa Albridge loves taking selfies. Now her passion will be taking her and her parents on an all-expenses-paid trip to Qatar to watch the World Cycling Championships in October 2016.

Noa says she is "really excited" about going there. She won the trip by being the first person to enter a selfie contest held in Richmond, Virginia at the 2015 World Cycling Championships. Two other trips are up for grabs in the contest.

"We are all excited to travel to Qatar to experience the rich culture!" adds Noa's mom, Mercedes Castillo. "We have never been so blessed and cannot wait until next year!"

# The 2022 FIFA World Cup in Numbers

**22<sup>ND</sup> WORLD CUP**  
**HELD EVERY 4 YEARS**  
**SINCE 1930**

(Except for 1942 and 1946, due to WWII)  
under guidance of FIFA, the world soccer  
governing body

**ONLY 8 NATIONS**

have ever won the World Cup,  
all from Europe or South America:  
**ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, ENGLAND, FRANCE,**  
**GERMANY, ITALY, SPAIN, AND URUGUAY**

**32 NATIONAL TEAMS**  
will compete, from  
**209 MEMBERS OF FIFA**

**28 DAYS** of competition,  
starting **NOVEMBER 21, 2022**

**64 MATCHES,**  
**48 GROUP MATCHES** and  
**16 KNOCK-OUT MATCHES**

**DECEMBER 18, 2022**

date of **World Cup Final**—  
also **QATAR NATIONAL DAY**



**86,250  
SPECTATORS,**

capacity for **Lusail Iconic Stadium**,  
which will host the opening and  
final games of the World Cup,

**ONE OF 12 NEW OR  
RENOVATED STADIUMS.**

**1.1 BILLION**

people watched the 2014  
World Cup final, up 20%  
on 2010 figures;

**2022 SHOULD BE  
MUCH HIGHER.**

**400,000 FANS**

expected in Qatar for the  
2022 FIFA World Cup, part of

**3.7 MILLION**

annual visitors expected  
by 2022.

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**Organizations  
Supported by  
the Embassy of  
the State of Qatar**

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Diaspora World Cup  
Foundation

School Without Walls  
At Francis-Stevens

Georgetown Pediatrics

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# 4

## *Humanitarian Aid*

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Three Amazing Lives Impacted By The Qatar Katrina Fund

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Qatar Partners With American NGO To Provide Drinking Water For Gaza

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Helping Out On The Ground In Nepal

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Qatar Haiti Fund

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Qatar Foreign Aid By The Numbers

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Qatar Aid To Syrians Tops \$1.7 Billion

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# Three Amazing Lives Impacted By The Qatar Katrina Fund

Hurricane Katrina was one of the most devastating, deadly, and costly disasters in American history. It hit land on August 29, 2005, ravaging vast swaths of the Gulf Coast and flooding 80 percent of New Orleans. At least 1,800 people died, and more than a million others left their homes in the largest mass migration in American history.



Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Father Amir of Qatar, created the Qatar Katrina Fund, pledging \$100 million to 18 renewal projects in three areas: housing, healthcare, and education. Ten years after the storm, here are three inspiring stories from thousands created by Qatar's extraordinary gift.

## Born with the music



Calvin Johnson comes from a family of New Orleans musicians. At age seven, one of his uncles gave him a saxophone. He played it on stage at the famous Tipitina nightclub at the age of 12.

It was registration week at the University of New Orleans when Katrina hit. Johnson had not yet attended classes, but had moved half his stuff into his new dorm room, leaving the other half in his parent's house. The storm flooded their home with over 12 feet of water, destroying everything—including his saxophone. His dorm was not flooded but looted. "They broke into everything and took what they could," he recalls.

Doubly homeless, Johnson became a nomad, traveling across the country from place to place. When he returned home, he found it nearly impossible to find affordable housing.

Then he heard about Habitat for Humanity, a charity that was building homes in New Orleans East in a development called "Musicians Village." The six-block Village, now complete and home to 80-some local performers and their families—including Johnson—was largely funded by a \$4 million gift from the Qatar Katrina Fund.

## "I had tears in my eyes"



Chad Cramer knew he would return to Louisiana to go back to school. He just didn't know Hurricane Katrina would hit the day he was supposed to start his first day at Tulane University.

Just three days later, Cramer was back in New Orleans. His home had been flooded, but he went right to work cleaning up and helping others. "We met everyone from every demographic you can think of and heard their stories...it was really emotional," he recalls.

When Tulane reopened, Cramer had no financial plan. Luckily the university had established the \$10 million Qatar Tulane Scholars Fund. This provided scholarships to students hit by the hurricane—including Cramer, whose five years of architecture studies were covered.

"To have someone come in and say, 'We are going to pay for your education' was just amazing," he says. "I remember when I got the letter saying that I had received the grant, I had tears in my eyes."

Cramer was the first person in his family to graduate from college (and he did so with honors). He is now an urban designer with the City of New Orleans.



## A safe, cozy place



After the storm, Rosa Bustamante-Forest left her teaching post at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center to become a nurse and program manager with the March of Dimes. The program, funded through a grant from the Qatar Katrina Fund, provided mobile medical units offering free prenatal and postpartum care to any mother who came to their doors. If the patient had no insurance—and many didn’t—a clinic and money from the grant paid the costs. “The program was essential at that point,” Bustamante-Forest says.

“I also got to meet the [Father] Amir of Qatar!” she adds, remembering when His Highness visited the city in April 2008 and met one of her patients. “She was so excited. She explained how grateful she was for the help she got during her pregnancy. It was really moving.”

“The unit became a safe, cozy place for women to congregate and tell their stories.”



***Thousands of people were impacted by this generous gift from the people of Qatar. To learn more about their lives and hear their stories, visit the website at [qatarkatrina.com](http://qatarkatrina.com). You can also download the book *Qatar Katrina Fund: 10 Years After the Storm* from the homepage.***

# Qatar Katrina Fund

- by the numbers -

## \$100 MILLION COMMITTED TO QATAR KATRINA FUND



**\$38.4 MILLION**  
to education



**\$34.1 MILLION**  
to housing



**\$27.5 MILLION**  
to health care

**15**

Beneficiary  
institutions

Projects across Louisiana,  
Mississippi and Alabama.



**18**



**4,000** Habitat for Humanity  
homes built or repaired.



**\$25.2 MILLION**

funded by Qatar  
Katrina Fund.



**\$12.1 MILLION** funded housing  
restoration, and housing or  
rental subsidies in Louisiana.

**2ND-HIGHEST**  
international  
donation to  
Hurricane  
Katrina relief.



**11 HOMELESS  
SHELTERS**

repaired in Louisiana.

**\$2 MILLION**

funded by Qatar  
Katrina Fund.



**\$14.2  
MILLION**

funded medical  
expenses for  
uninsured victims  
in Mississippi.

**\$19.7 MILLION**

funded scholarships  
at Louisiana universities  
for students who suffered  
losses.



# Qatar Partners With American NGO to Provide Drinking Water for Gaza



**A** new partnership between Qatar Red Crescent (QRC) and highly regarded American NGO, American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), will soon be providing clean drinking water to 120,000 people in the Gaza Strip.

In October, digging began on a ground-breaking new project designed to provide clean water to three neighborhoods in Gaza City that are still recovering from the devastating war of 2014. That war—the third and most destructive in the impoverished Palestinian enclave in the last six years—resulted in more than 2,000 deaths and massive infrastructure damage. Thirty percent of the water supply was disrupted, and more than a year later, over a hundred thousand people remain homeless.

Since the 2014 war, QRC has funded and implemented water and sanitation projects for nearly 200,000

people, but this is the humanitarian organization's first major initiative involving an American agency. Saleh bin Ali Al-Mohannadi, QRC Secretary General, welcomed the new partnership.

"QRC has at the top of its priorities the service of Gaza's people, who live in severe humanitarian conditions," Al-Mohannadi explains. "We try to fulfill their basic needs of healthcare, education, shelter, water, and sanitation."

For their part, ANERA has partnered with USAID on a number of other water projects in the Occupied Territories. But this project is much bigger—and the first major partnership with Qatar. "We looked at creative ways to move forward whole neighborhoods," Bill Corcoran, President and CEO of ANERA, explains.

The Gaza water project isn't ANERA's first partnership with

Qatar; they have previously worked with Reach Out to Asia, a Doha-based NGO, on various early education and vocational initiatives in Lebanon. "But this is a new chapter, a different approach," says Corcoran. "We just want to work together, because we think two heads can do more than one."

ANERA started as a temporary committee after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, formed by a group of Americans who wanted to ease the refugee crisis in Palestine. "From the start it was apolitical," explains Corcoran, "focusing on economic development, not lobbying or finger pointing or political advocacy—they wanted to try and answer immediate needs. And we're still doing that."

These days the NGO spends about \$60 million a year in aid projects, almost all focused on Palestinians living in Gaza, the West Bank, and Lebanon. Most of the actual work is done by locals, not foreigners.





“We hire local people, to stimulate their economy,” says Corcoran. Gaza faces severe unemployment; the World Bank places it at 43 percent, the highest on earth.

Projects like this don’t just bring people clean water—they improve sanitation and hygiene, which results in more children brushing their teeth, and easier access to water for bathing and cleaning clothes. They also promote female education, because girls are able to go to school instead of being sent to fetch water in bucket brigades.

“There are huge multiplier effects here, in an urban culture that’s really struggling with poverty and disease,” explains Corcoran.

“This is a test,” he adds. “If we can work together, we see this as a way forward to do many more projects.”

“And I really like the idea that it’s Qataris and Americans working together—that’s a nice trend.”

## Qatar Commits \$1 Billion to Gaza Rebuilding

At a donor conference held in Cairo in October 2014,

### **QATAR COMMITTED \$1 BILLION**

to the reconstruction of Gaza after the July–August war, the largest pledge of any country.

The total pledges came to **\$5.4 BILLION**, including **\$400 MILLION** from the US.

More than **2,000 PALESTINIANS** and **73 ISRAELIS** died in the 50-day war.

The UN estimates **80,000** homes were damaged or destroyed, leaving **100,000** Palestinians homeless.

As part of its pledge, the Qatar Development Fund (QDF) presented the Palestinian Authority with a **\$100-MILLION** interest-free loan in April 2015, to be spent on development projects.

In August, QDF announced that it was donating **\$10 MILLION** to the Wajd program to support **2,108** children and youths who lost their parents in the Gaza War.

The donation, to be paid in four installments from **2015 to 2018**, will support the orphans and their families until they reach the age of **22**.

It will cover most of their costs for education and medical treatment, including rehabilitation for the disabled and psychological support services.





# Helping Out On The Ground in Nepal

**A** 101-year-old man who spent seven days trapped in rubble after the Nepalese earthquake was one of the patients treated at a field hospital set up by the Qatar Red Crescent. Funchu Tamang was rescued from the ruins of his house seven days after the building collapsed around him. Miraculously, he had only suffered minor cuts.

Qatar Red Crescent (QRC) was one of the first organizations to respond to the devastating, 7.8-magnitude earthquake that hit Nepal on April 25, 2015. Within 30 minutes of the news, QRC began plans for an emergency operations room. The humanitarian organization then dedicated \$275,000 for emergency relief operations focusing on health, shelter, water, sanitation, and reuniting families. A call for \$3.3 million in additional donations soon followed.

The earthquake, its epicenter 50 miles northwest of Katmandu, killed more than 9,000 people and destroyed a quarter of a million residences, leaving hundreds of thousands of people homeless. A major aftershock on May 12 killed another 200 people.

The Qatar National Search and Rescue Team flew four planes full of aid material—a total of 240 tons—into

Nepal two days after the disaster. Most of the supplies, including food, medicines, generators, and tents, were handed over to Nepalese authorities for distribution in the worst-hit areas. A portable water and sanitation system was also donated.

Some of the supplies from Qatar were used to set up a QRC field hospital, a mobile medical unit used to

assist the overstretched local facilities. The hospital had three doctors, six nurses, a pharmacist, and a team of 12–15 volunteers, many locals. It included an emergency unit, an operating theater for simple surgeries, a maternity unit, and an emergency lab and pharmacy.

The field hospital treated 308 patients in its first two days of operation and continued to treat several hundred per day for the next three months.

One of the first patients

to be discharged was Funchu Tamang, who was met by his 65-year-old daughter, Gauri Maya Ghale. His wounds had been bandaged and he left with a course of antibiotics to treat a mild case of pneumonia.

Nepal's wounds will take longer to heal. But they could have been much deeper, if not for the response from organizations around the world, including the Qatar Red Crescent.

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# Qatar Haiti Fund

How do you bring aid to an impoverished country that has just been devastated by one of the worst natural disasters in recent history? The State of Qatar had to find enterprising answers to that question after it pledged \$20 million to the reconstruction of Haiti in the wake of the catastrophic earthquake of 2010. The pledge soon became the Qatar Haiti Fund (QHF).

**H**aiti's already poor infrastructure was pummeled by the quake, explains Don Salzman, a lawyer at Skadden and one of the Fund's pro bono counsels. "People in the mountains have very limited access to health care, for instance," he says. To get into the most remote areas, the QHF provided \$2 million to Partners in Health, to create mobile health care clinics uniquely suited to the inaccessible terrain.

"They repurposed SUVs and motorcycles that can handle the roads," Salzman explains. "These allow them to bring primary care services and vaccines to people with very limited resources."

Like the Qatar Katrina Fund, which it emulated, QHF focuses on three areas: housing, health, and education. Through infrastructure development projects and youth empowerment, it has helped restore communities and safeguard the Caribbean country from future natural disasters.

A second medical project is Hospital Albert Schweitzer, in central Haiti, which received \$87,000 to fund training programs, buy supplies, and create internal protocols. A further \$75,000 was disbursed to a nonprofit organization dedicated to building sustainable communities by training people in hygiene standards, shelter construction, and HIV/AIDS prevention.

The largest educational pledge is \$5.5 million to partner with the Clinton Foundation to rebuild the Faculté des

**\$87,000**

To fund training programs, buy supplies, and create internal protocols.

**\$75,000**

To build sustainable communities by training in hygiene standards, shelter construction, and HIV/AIDS prevention.

**\$5.5  
MILLION**

To rebuild the Faculté des Sciences.

**\$5  
MILLION**

To build 'Qatar City' - a community of 148 homes, a vocational school, and a commercial area.





Sciences at the Université d'État d'Haïti, one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital. The project aims to establish an educational hub in the recovering city.

The largest housing project is a partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), a \$5 million pledge to build "Qatar City," a community of 148 homes, a vocational school, and a commercial area in the western city of Cabaret. The area is being developed as a state-of-the-art, environmentally integrated, disaster-resistant community by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). It is due to be completed in 2016.

There is a training aspect to many of these projects, Salzman says. That's a real bonus in a country that had high unemployment and a weak educational system even before the disaster struck. "The people are desperately poor; they have suffered through many upheavals, economic as well as natural," notes Salzman.



"The government of Qatar sees humanitarian aid as a key element of its foreign policy and culture," says Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari. "The Qatar Foreign Aid Program is one of the most active programs in the international community."

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**"We are attuned to the difficulties of working in Haiti, so we've approached this fund with great care. We want to make sure that the maximum amount of money is devoted to helping the people of Haiti."**

Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari

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## Qatar Foreign Aid

- by the numbers -

**26**  
↑  
**26TH LARGEST**  
government provider of  
humanitarian assistance  
in last decade.



**\$2.5 BILLION** estimated  
government humanitarian aid  
distributed 2010–2015, making  
foreign aid and development an  
integral part of foreign policy.

**\$1 BILLION**  
committed to  
rebuild Gaza, from  
a total of **\$5.4 billion**  
committed by U.S.  
and other countries.



 **\$100 MILLION**  
given in 2005 to  
Qatar Katrina Fund;


**\$20 million** given in  
2010 to Qatar Haiti Fund;

**\$100 million** given in  
2011 to Qatar Friendship  
Fund in Japan.

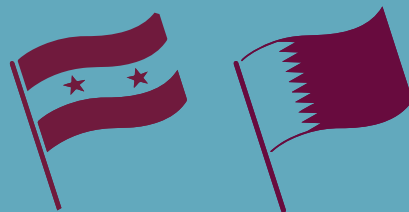


**2012**  
humanitarian  
partnership  
agreement  
signed with UN  
to coordinate Qatar's  
global humanitarian responses.



 **\$3.3  
MILLION**  
raised for  
2015 Nepal  
earthquake relief.

**180 TONS**  
of relief  
material  
and a field  
hospital  
in Nepal.



**\$1.7 BILLION** in aid to the  
Syrian people in first four  
years of Civil War.

# Qatar aid to Syrians tops \$1.7 billion



In the four years since the Syrian Civil War began in the spring of 2011, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) estimates that more than 220,000 people have been killed. Four million Syrians have left the country and another 6.5 million have been internally displaced, from a pre-war population of less than 18 million.

In an interview with the British political magazine the New Statesman, published on September 29, 2015, Qatar's Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Khalid Al-Attiyah says that Qatar's government and related institutions have sent more than \$1.7 billion in aid to the Syrian people since the Civil War began: \$1.6 billion in humanitarian aid plus \$160 million from Qatar's semi-governmental institutions. Qatar has also led the way in recognizing moderate Syrian opposition groups and has backed efforts to provide

educational opportunities for refugees.

To assist those leaving the war zone, Qatar has eased visa restrictions for Syrian nationals arriving in the country. As of November 2015, there were almost 54,000 Syrians living in Qatar; 47,000 have full residency permits and another 7,000 are on renewable visitor visas. Twenty-five thousand of these Syrians have arrived during the past four years, as the Civil War escalated.

With its usual focus on education, Qatar has built two schools for the Syrian community in Doha, the first of which was completed in 2012. Through Educate a Child, an initiative of Education Above All, Qatar is also contributing to the education of 600,000 displaced children inside and outside of Syria. Additionally, the country has provided support for 100 Syrian

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**“The suffering of the Syrian people is not an issue of religion, ethnicity or nationality. It is a human issue. The duty is therefore shared among all of us in the international community — East and West, Arab and non-Arab.”**

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**Dr. Khalid Al-Attiyah**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

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refugees to study at La Sorbonne, the world-class university in Paris, France.

“Just look at the record and the various initiatives — humanitarian, economic, diplomatic and others — supported or directly launched by Qatar,” says Dr. Khalid Al-Attiyah. “I would also urge everyone to look at the timing of our support. We recognized the potential for chaos in Syria and the region early on, and urged action by the international community... Qatar is a generous provider of humanitarian assistance and our aid for the Syrian refugees is a case in point.”

The Minister of Foreign Affairs adds that the refugee crisis will not end until the international community addresses its root cause, which is the tyranny of the Assad regime. Qatar was one of the first countries to call for President Bashar Al-Assad to step

down when he began cracking down on protesters in 2011 and also called for international efforts to support the moderate opposition groups then fighting the regime.

“We warned then that a failure to support these groups would lead to chaos in Syria and open the door to the extremists,” Dr. Khalid Al-Attiyah says. “And that, unfortunately, is exactly what has happened.”

“The suffering of the Syrian people is not an issue of religion, ethnicity or nationality,” Dr. Khalid Al-Attiyah adds. “It is a human issue. The duty is therefore shared among all of us in the international community — East and West, Arab and non-Arab. We all must do what we can to help the desperate people fleeing violence, tyranny, and terrorism in Syria.”

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## Organizations Supported by the Embassy of the State of Qatar

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ACCESS  
(Arab Community Center for  
Economic and Social Services)

American Friends of UNRWA

American Task Force For Lebanon  
(ATFL)

ANERA  
(American Near East Refugee Aid)

Kuwait America Foundation

Marshall Legacy Institute

Rene Moawad Foundation

UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)

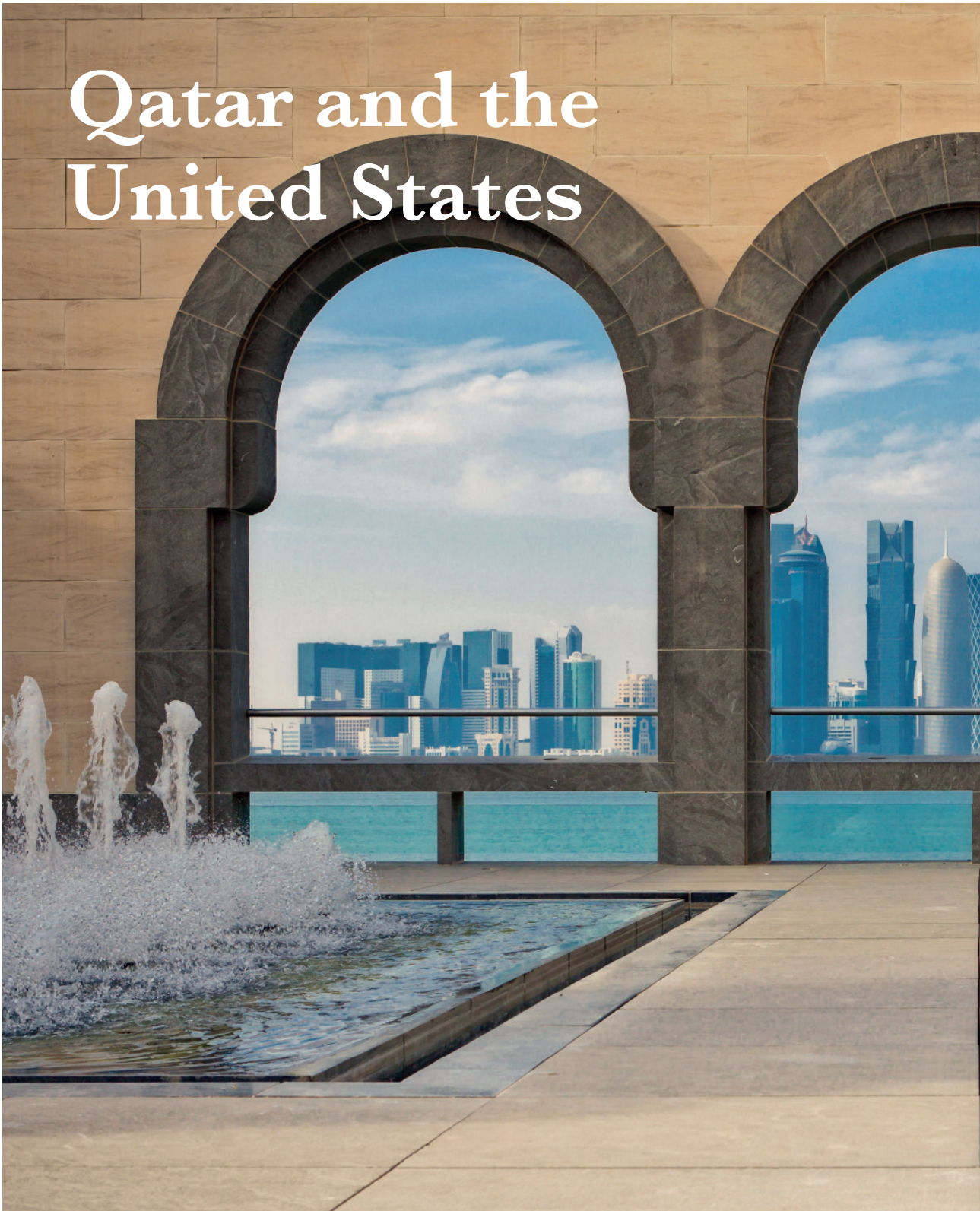
United Nations Relief and Works  
Agency for Palestine Refugees  
in the Near East (UNRWA)

So Others Might Eat (SOME)

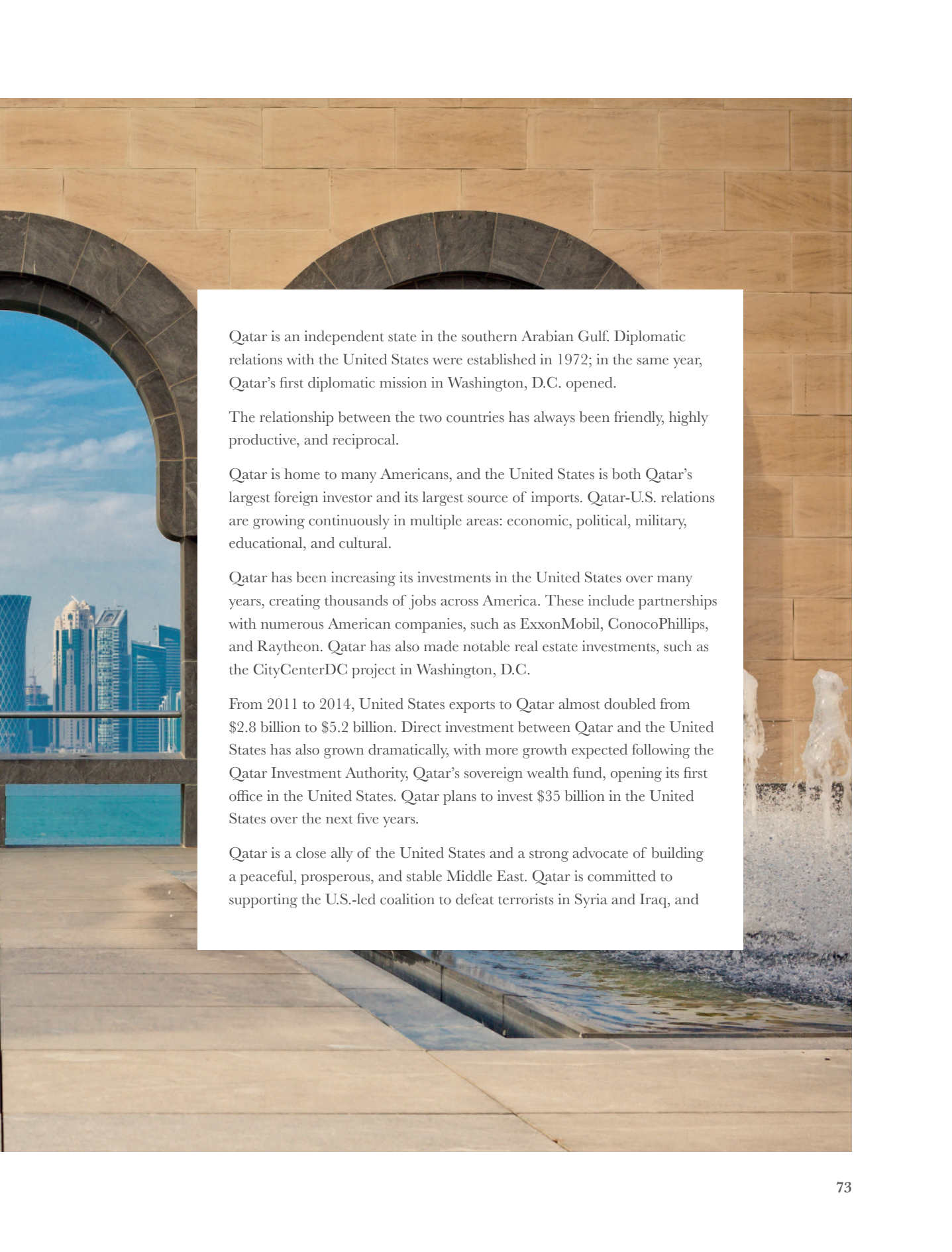
Food & Friends

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# Qatar and the United States







Qatar is an independent state in the southern Arabian Gulf. Diplomatic relations with the United States were established in 1972; in the same year, Qatar's first diplomatic mission in Washington, D.C. opened.

The relationship between the two countries has always been friendly, highly productive, and reciprocal.

Qatar is home to many Americans, and the United States is both Qatar's largest foreign investor and its largest source of imports. Qatar-U.S. relations are growing continuously in multiple areas: economic, political, military, educational, and cultural.

Qatar has been increasing its investments in the United States over many years, creating thousands of jobs across America. These include partnerships with numerous American companies, such as ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, and Raytheon. Qatar has also made notable real estate investments, such as the CityCenterDC project in Washington, D.C.

From 2011 to 2014, United States exports to Qatar almost doubled from \$2.8 billion to \$5.2 billion. Direct investment between Qatar and the United States has also grown dramatically, with more growth expected following the Qatar Investment Authority, Qatar's sovereign wealth fund, opening its first office in the United States. Qatar plans to invest \$35 billion in the United States over the next five years.

Qatar is a close ally of the United States and a strong advocate of building a peaceful, prosperous, and stable Middle East. Qatar is committed to supporting the U.S.-led coalition to defeat terrorists in Syria and Iraq, and

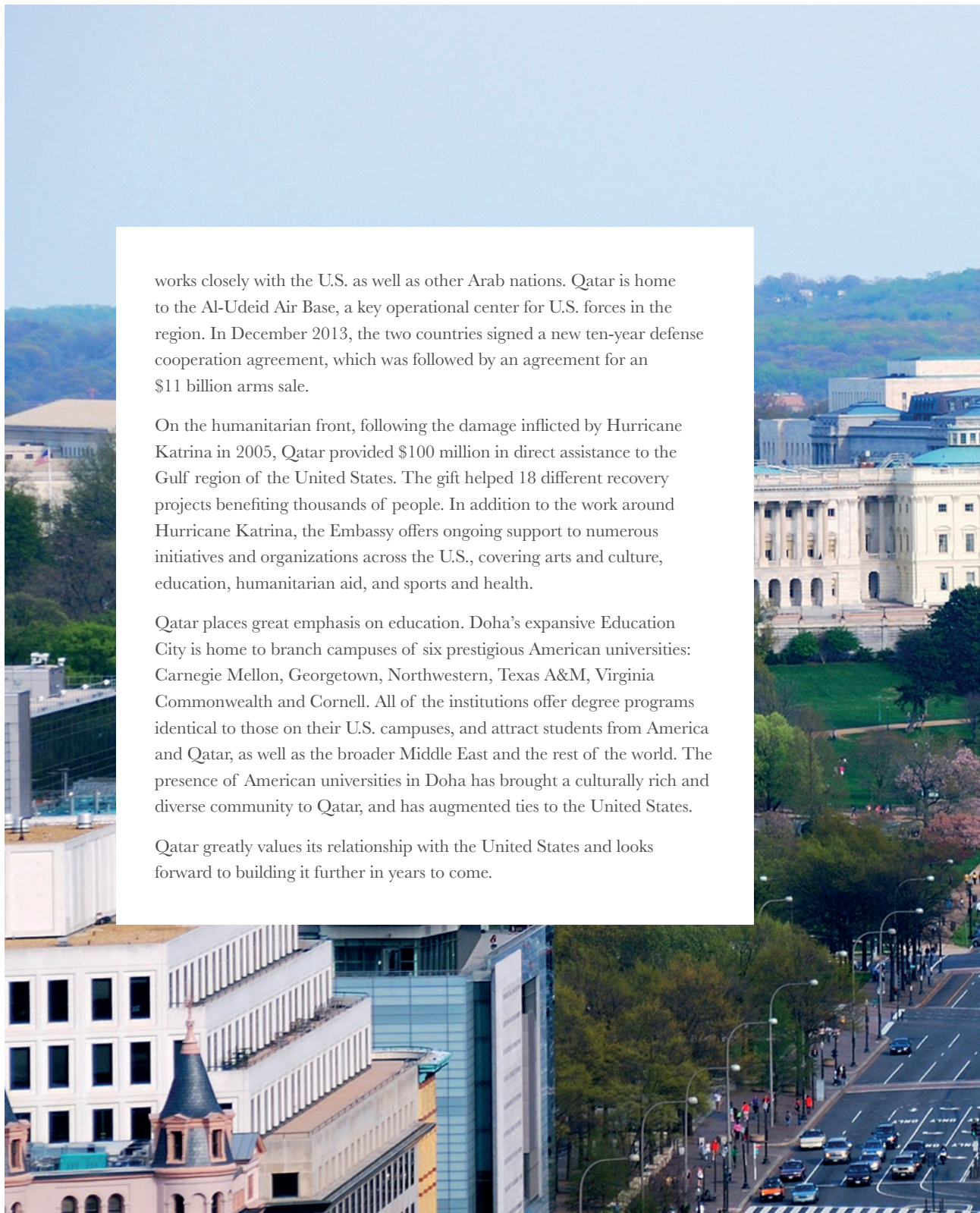


works closely with the U.S. as well as other Arab nations. Qatar is home to the Al-Udeid Air Base, a key operational center for U.S. forces in the region. In December 2013, the two countries signed a new ten-year defense cooperation agreement, which was followed by an agreement for an \$11 billion arms sale.

On the humanitarian front, following the damage inflicted by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Qatar provided \$100 million in direct assistance to the Gulf region of the United States. The gift helped 18 different recovery projects benefiting thousands of people. In addition to the work around Hurricane Katrina, the Embassy offers ongoing support to numerous initiatives and organizations across the U.S., covering arts and culture, education, humanitarian aid, and sports and health.

Qatar places great emphasis on education. Doha's expansive Education City is home to branch campuses of six prestigious American universities: Carnegie Mellon, Georgetown, Northwestern, Texas A&M, Virginia Commonwealth and Cornell. All of the institutions offer degree programs identical to those on their U.S. campuses, and attract students from America and Qatar, as well as the broader Middle East and the rest of the world. The presence of American universities in Doha has brought a culturally rich and diverse community to Qatar, and has augmented ties to the United States.

Qatar greatly values its relationship with the United States and looks forward to building it further in years to come.







## Photo credits

### An American Education—in Qatar / page 18

1. “*Weill Cornell Medical College campus in Education City*” by Cassim Shepard is licensed under CC BY 2.0. Flickr: cassimshepard
2. “*Carnegie Mellon University in Education City*” by Clint Tseng is licensed under CC BY 2.0. Flickr: cxlt

### An American Education—in Qatar / page 23

3. “*First Lady Michelle Obama attends the 2015 World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) with HH Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, right, and Dr. Khalid Al-Attiyah, left, at the Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha, Qatar, Nov. 4, 2015. The First Lady attends the summit in support of global girls’ education and the Let Girls Learn initiative.*” by Amanda Lucidon (Official White House Photography)
4. “*First Lady Michelle Obama hugs a student during a tour of the WISE Summit Learning Labs during the 2015 World Innovation Summit for Education at the Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha, Qatar, Nov. 4, 2015.*” by Amanda Lucidon (Official White House Photography)

### An American Education—in Qatar / page 25

5. “*First Lady Michelle Obama talks with students during a tour of the WISE Summit Learning Labs during the 2015 World Innovation Summit for Education at the Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha, Qatar, Nov. 4, 2015.*” by Amanda Lucidon (Official White House Photography)

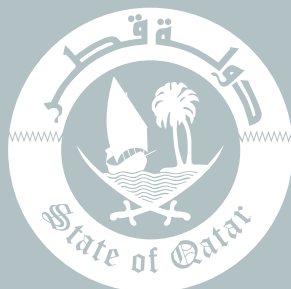
With thanks to *Ambassador Mohammed Al-Kuwari*

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Issue 1

Embassy of the State of Qatar in Washington, D.C.  
December 2015