



2015 Annual Report



A NEW DECADE, A RENEWED MOMENTUM

A message from the leadership team

Alif has been growing steadily for several years now, and it's all thanks to you! Your donations, sponsorships, memberships and support have allowed us to reach out to a larger community, improve and enrich our programs, and grow our annual festival and cultural events.

In addition to individual tutoring, Alif offers eight Arabic language classes for children, and three for adults, for a total of 94 students. Over 10,000 people each year engage in Alif's events and activities on an annual basis. During the course of the last few years, we were able to bring to Atlanta the National travelling exhibit known as '*Patriots and Peacemakers: Arab Americans in service to Our Nation*' and build our own traveling exhibit, "*Windows to the Arab World: From the MidEast to the SouthEast*" showcasing Arab culture and language, this exhibit travels to schools and organizations around Atlanta. In terms of the building enhancement and maintenance, the Alif community responded generously to our Capital Campaigns which raised crucial funding to cover the cost of replacing the roof and AC units. classroom.

Throughout this 2015 annual report, you will read about some of our signature activities, such as the Atlanta Arab Festival and Annual Gala, as well as our enrichment classes, educational programs, and travelling exhibit. You will also learn about our donors, revenues and expenses throughout the treasurer's report.

We appreciate the amazing support of our community this year in helping us create exciting turning points at Alif. Our need for your support now and in the future continues to be critical as demand for our cultural events continues to increase in the face of turmoil and instability throughout the Arab World.

We are very proud of our accomplishments in 2015, and we look forward to partnering with you for more vibrant initiatives and even larger projects in the coming year.

With deep appreciation and gratitude,

Ihsen Ketata
President of the board

Angela Khoury
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Alif Institute is to foster the understanding and appreciation of Arab culture.

OUR VISION

The vision of the Alif Institute is to connect humanity through the power of arts & culture.

INTERNATIONAL INTERN: Ilhème Moussafia

In April, 2015, Alif Institute received its first international intern, Ms. Ilhème Moussafia. Ms. Moussafia was born and raised in France with parents from Algeria and Morocco. During her two and a half months with us in Atlanta, she contributed greatly to our programming and became a treasured part of our community. A shining example of what we can accomplish, she wrote the following about her experience with us:

My time as an intern at Alif Institute was for me a revelation! Unfortunately, the attacks in France of January 2015 [and] had negative impacts on the Muslim and Arab communities. As a French citizen with Arab roots, I wanted to consider the issue of how Arab Americans integrated after the attacks of the 9/11. Because Alif represents Arab Americans and the Arab World, I thought working here would allow me to expand my study prospects and give me hope concerning the situation in my country.

This internship has been for me a professional, but also a personal choice. Growing up in a time when immigration is increasingly the subject of much controversy, I always made sure to appear French as much as possible and kept my Arab roots, culture, and traditions in a family context only. I was pleasantly surprised to see that many people of my age were very involved at Alif! Even though I grew up in an Arab cultural center similar to Alif, I am sorry to say that culture has never generated interest among young people in my city.

Alif is a warm and welcoming atmosphere, with outstanding people of all origins. I discovered American culture and I am not disappointed. I enjoyed the smiles and greetings that I received in the street by strangers and liked this atmosphere of "living together." I loved the fact that I was able to introduce my culture to many people, and I still laugh at the memory of their astonished faces as they learned that I was from Morocco. I spoke with people from different nationalities and religions whose common point was to convey and discover the Arab culture. In particular, I liked that the U.S. is a cosmopolitan country in which people proudly brandish their origins while completely considering themselves citizens of the U.S.

My time at Alif gave me new perspective to better understand something a friend of mine once told me: "I like the culture, I like the fact that it can change mentalities, ideologies." During the Dogwood Festival and Atlanta Arab Festival, I spoke with people from all backgrounds, including some who participated in the war in Iraq. It warmed my heart to see that despite the many preconceptions and stereotypes you may hear in the media, people at the festivals genuinely sought to learn more about Arab culture—through culture, people go beyond superficial clichés and learn about each other.

With Alif, I reconnected somehow with my own culture. I am a realist, so I know that this country also has its issues. But because of my time here, within the Arab American community, I have hope now considering the situation in France. I will invest myself more in the Cultural Institute of my city using all my resources and skills I have gained from this internship.



Top left: Ilhème running a trivia game during the monthly feature event 'A Night of Moroccan Delight'

Top right: at Peebles Elementary School, Ilhème is helping a student during one of the Arabic art sessions

Bottom: Arabic fashion show during the Atlanta Arab Festival. Ilhème is on the far left dressed in traditional Yemmeni outfit.

Arabic Language Program

The Arabic language program is fundamental to Alif Institute's mission to foster the understanding and appreciation of the Arab culture. Courses and individual tutoring are offered for adults, children and youth at several levels of proficiency. Curriculum focuses on various language skills and emphasizes the integration of language and culture.

Alif's language program is unique because we focus on cultural immersion, instructor training, and curriculum development. To enhance the learning experience, Alif Institute offers students complimentary arts & crafts activities inspired by traditional Arabic decorative arts.

2015 was an especially great year for Arabic at Alif. Two new classrooms were created from existing space to comfortably accommodate all 94 students--more than ever before. For the first time, thanks to Alif parents and community support, the children's program included a yearbook and new school song, Ana Arabi Amriki (I am Arab American).



On Valentine's day Alma offered a flower to Alif's language director, Mrs. Ghada Muhanna.

“Language is the blood of the soul into which thoughts run and out of which they grow. ”

–Oliver Wendell Holmes

Enrichment Classes

Arab culture is rich with many different artistic traditions. Alif offers a wide range of cultural enrichment classes to represent as many aspects of Arab culture as possible. This year our offerings included arts & crafts, cooking, dabkeh, knit & stitch, and oud.

These enjoyable weekly classes are one of the best ways to connect with living Arab culture.



Ladies of the Knit & Stitch club. Even though they don't all speak the same language, their love of community and the arts forms strong bonds across cultures.

Books & Authors

The Alif community has a deep connection to literature of all kinds and is lucky to have contacts in the publishing world. We regularly host book club discussions, and lectures and workshops with authors. Highlights this year include a children's event with local author, Mrs. Nayera Salam, and an adult writers' workshop with Doha-based author, Dr. Mohana Rajakumar. Thanks to a generous donation by the Arab American National Museum, we participated in a national discussion about the award-winning novel by Arab American author Sinan Antoon, *The Corpse Washer*.



Mrs. Nayera Salam presents her book, 'Go Away Bad Mood' to Alif children.

School Visits & Traveling Exhibit

Each year, Alif welcomes students from schools and universities to have a meaningful experience with Arab culture. As usual, we hosted several Arabic language classes from North Georgia University. The students hear presentation about Arab history and culture, learn to sing or perform a short skit in Arabic, make and enjoy tasty Arabic food, and of course *dabkeh* (dance)!

Alif regularly answers requests from schools, community organizations, and government institutions for educational presentations about Arab culture. This year, we rolled out our new traveling exhibit, *Windows to the Arab World: From the MidEast to the Southeast*. Created with funding from the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta, this exhibit deals with five subjects: geography, language, religion, architecture, music, and stories of Arab Americans in Georgia. Alif presented the mobile exhibit at Peeples Elementary School (~800 students), Lovinggood Middle School (~400 students), Atlanta International School (~1,000 students), and at the U.S. Border Control and Customs Office (30 Federal employees). In addition, the new exhibit was on display during the Atlanta Arab Festival (~ 3,500 attendees).



Atlanta International School librarian, Pascale Viala, talks to students about our traveling exhibit, Windows to the Arab World: From the Mid-East to the Southeast.

Monthly Feature Events

In addition to regular monthly film screenings, Alif added a monthly feature event. These events are special celebrations of Arab culture meant to educate and entertain. They feature a specific country (last year was Morocco), cultural traditions of religious holidays (Iftar / Christmas in the Arab World) or shared traditions, such as games (Tarneeb), music (Tarab), and poetry.

These events allow us to build community, attract new people, and explore more deeply different aspects of Arab culture.



Volunteer and young girl designing ornaments with Arabic inspiration words during the event 'A Taste of Christmas in the Arab World'.

Summer Camp

In June, 2015, Alif offered its first summer camp. Parents and children were both pleased with the camp, which offered fun, summer activities while immersing campers in Arabic language and culture.



Campers and counselors really got into the spirit of summer camp!

Cultural Festivals & Performances

Alif Institute proudly represents Arab culture at a variety of cultural festivals around Atlanta through cultural performances and educational displays. This year we performed at the Dogwood and St. Elias festivals and the Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology International Night. We also had a booth for our educational display at the Dogwood and Snellville International Festivals. Alif was honored to display an Arab-style decorated tree at the Fernbank Museum's Winter Wonderland and also gave calligraphy demonstrations at their opening of the Searching for the Queen of Sheba exhibit. Alif happily supported our parents who also have children at the Atlanta International School (AIS) by lending materials for their highly acclaimed booth at the AIS WorldFest.



Drs. Eric Awad and Nashwa Jarkas, showcasing Arab culture at Alif's booth at the 2015 Dogwood Festival.

Alif in the Community (Partnerships, Service and Involvement)

Because we are also a part of the fabric of the larger community, Alif supports a variety of local and national humanitarian organizations. We participate in national membership organizations, such as the National Network of Arab American Communities (NNAAC) and Center for Arab American Philanthropy (CAAP). For example, Alif organizes a local project for the Annual Arab American Service Day, held each year in May in locations across the country.

Locally, we held food and donation drives benefitting the International Rescue Committee and the Atlanta Food Bank and we made our facility available to Palestine Children's Relief Fund (PCRF) Atlanta Chapter and the Friends of Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees (UPMRC) for events.

In 2015, we began inviting all local Arab American organizations to meet at Alif on a quarterly basis to share schedules of events and discuss how we might best support each other.



Volunteers & Interns

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Alif; Created by volunteers, Alif was also run entirely by volunteers until 2013 when three part time staff were added for the first time. Board and volunteers work with Alif staff to plan and organize events throughout the year, including the Annual Gala and Atlanta Arab Festival. We benefit greatly from the work of several key volunteer staff. In 2015, we were happy to receive two talented and highly qualified interns: Ilhème Moussafia, a Masters degree student from France, and Mary Harwell, a Ph.D. candidate in International Conflict Management at Kennesaw State University.



At Alif Institute, volunteering spirit starts at the very young age! Alif students joining forces to spread mulch during "Beautification day"!

Trainings for Board and Staff

Because human resources are our most important asset, Alif invests in staff, volunteers, and board members so that we can continue to grow as an organization. In addition to training provided by Alif, three of our instructors attended the Southern Conference on Language Teaching. Upon their return, our teachers led a training with the entire teaching staff to share what they learned at the conference.

Alif board and staff regularly attend the National Network of Arab American Communities (NNAAC) annual convention. In 2015, two Alif members attended the conference in Detroit where they presented and moderated in one of the sessions, networked with dozens of Arab American organizations from around the country, learned best practices from industry leaders, and raised Alif's profile on the national stage.



Mr. Mike Corbin, NNAAC's Capacity Building Manager, Mrs. Angela Khoury, Executive Director, and Dr. Mustafa Saadi, Board Member, at the 2015 Arab American Summit powered by NNAAC.

Annual Gala & AAHA Awards

Our largest fundraising event of the year, the Annual Gala brings together the Alif community to highlight the presence of Atlanta's Arab American community, celebrate our achievements, and inspire us to strive for even greater accomplishments. Through the Arab American High Achiever Awards (AAHA Awards), we honor organizations and Arab American individuals who have made significant contributions to society. This year, the AAHA Awards recognized the excellent work of Mr. Nayef Abuaisheh, Dr. Ehab Jaleel, and the Cedar Club of Atlanta.

The 2015 Annual Gala rose to a new level of success on many levels. For the first time, the Gala raised over \$58,000 and we improved the silent auction with a new mobile bidding app. Our distinguished Keynote Speaker, Dr. Jack Shaheen, inspired the audience to rise to the challenges presented by geo-political realities by organizing and supporting efforts to educate about Arab and Muslim Americans. And, for the first time, we featured a live painting performance by internationally acclaimed artist/architect Pierre Abboud.



Professor and author, Dr. Jack Shaheen and his wife Mrs. Bernice Shaheen are long-time supporters of Alif Institute.

Annual Atlanta Arab Festival

The Atlanta Arab Festival (AAF) is a vibrant, multi-dimensional experience showcasing the very best of Arab culture and supporting local artists and performers. For one weekend each year, the Alif Institute is transformed into the heart of the Arab world, complete with authentic sights, sounds, and tastes.

The largest festival of its kind in Georgia, our publicity methods continue to improve as we reach a wider and more diverse audience. Most notably, WABE Radio interviewed Executive Director, Angela Khoury, and Oud Instructor, Suheil Elias, gave a live performance. Alif staff and volunteers also went on Channel 11 for a 15 minute interview about Alif and at the AAF, and we were featured in the AJC, An Nour, and Global Atlanta.

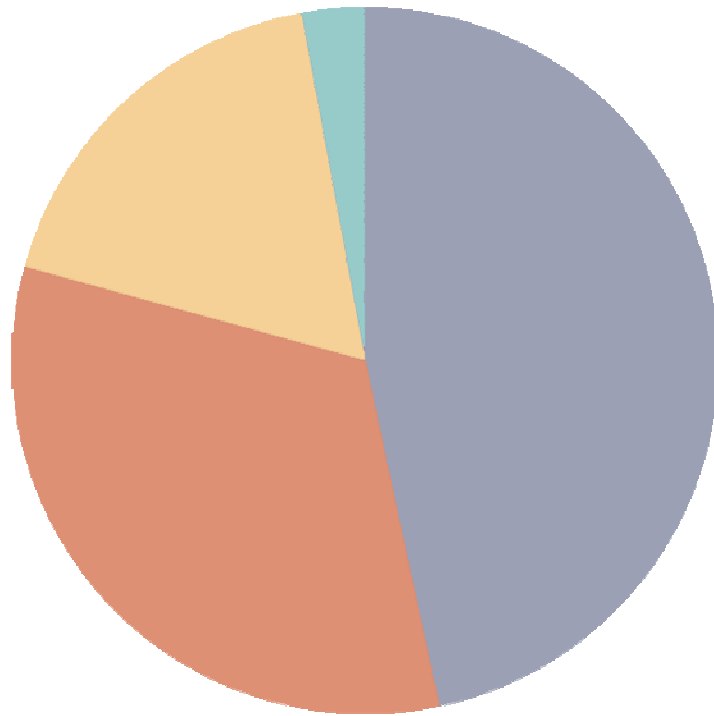
In 2015, despite extremely rainy weather, the festival drew over 3,500 attendees. A big improvement this year was utilizing adjacent parking lots and hiring shuttles and attendants to help attendees reach the festival grounds more easily.



Getting into the swing of things with a dabkeh performance at the 2015 Atlanta Arab Festival.

TREASURER's REPORT *(unaudited)*

REVENUE

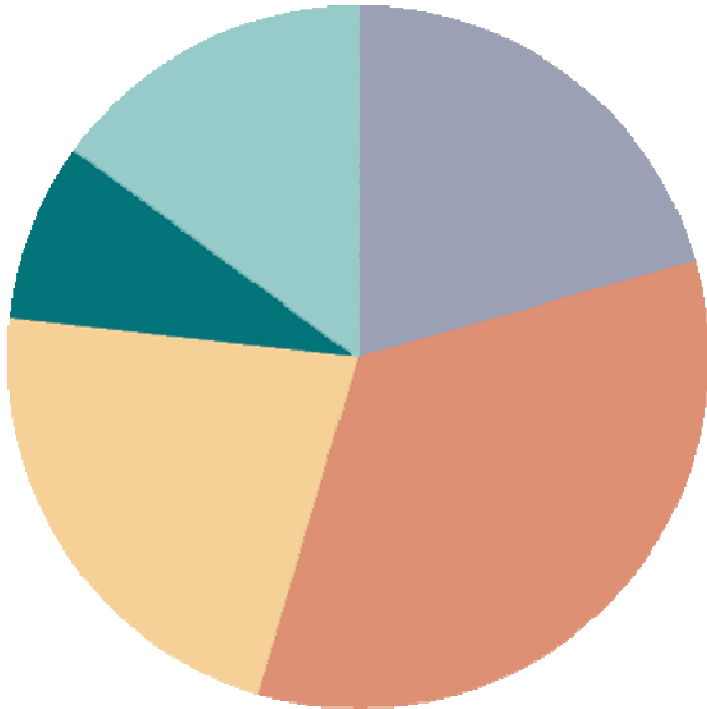


Programs & Special Events	\$136,582.50	46%
Donations & Membership	\$95,624.39	33%
Sponsorship	\$52,195.00	18%
Grants	\$8,450.00	3%
	\$292,851.98	

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Building and land \$1,325,000.00
(Total appraised value by Dekalb County)

EXPENSES



Educational Programs	\$51,401.75	21%
Cultural Programs	\$85,038.16	34%
Administrative	\$55,444.13	22%
Building Improvements	\$20,707.35	8%
Loan payment for building /land	\$37,253.16	15%
	\$249,844.55	

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Note payable long term \$315,000.00

Our Deepest Gratitude to our

2015 Donors

\$10,000 +

Mr. Aous Araim, Mrs. Nawal Araim,
Hisham And Nawal Araim Foundation
Drs. Ahmad Khaldi and Laura Badwan*
Mr. Lou Sobh

\$5,000 - \$9,900

Mr. Bassem Toukan - Dorset
Construction Incorporated
Drs. Kamal Kabakibou and Dania
Masseoud
Mr. Shouky Shaheen

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Drs. Rami and Rasha Arfoosh*
Mr. Ali S. Yarbou, Bank of America
Center for Arab American Philanthropy -
CAAP (Grant)
Drs. Imad El-Kebbi and Rana Hajjeh*
Dr. Alec ElChahal Orthodontic Group
Dr. & Mrs. Hanna and Angela Khoury*
National Network for Arab American
Communities - NNAAC (Grant)

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous*
Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Ahmed and Wafa Aboneaaj
Mr. & Mrs. Nayef and Iman Abuaisheh*
Rev. Fahed Abuakel & Dr. Mary Zumot
Drs. Mahmoud Al-Batal and Kristen
Brustad*
Drs. Subhi and Maysoun Ali, Ali
Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Jim and Susan Anderson
Atlanta International School
Drs. Eric Awad and Nashwa Jarkas*
Mr. & Mrs. Antoine and Frances Ayoub
BB&T
Mr. & Mrs. Khaldoon and Samira Bregeth
Mr. & Mrs. Tawfig and Anne Chihade
Mr. Fourat Dawood*
Dr. & Mrs. Abdul and Roula Doughan*

Mr. & Mrs. Hassan and Faten Elkhail
Mr. & Mrs. Hussein and May Elkhail
Dr. & Mrs. Fuad and Terry Fakhreddine
Dr. & Mrs. Samir and Nora Farra
Dr. & Mrs. Ghaleb and Phyllis Ghani*
Dr. & Mrs. Nael and Nour Harfoush*
Drs. Yazan and Rima Houssami*
Mr. & Mrs. Arafat and Cherie Imam*
Mr. Jean Leon
Mr. Afzaal Malik, Mars Chocolate
Dr. & Mrs. Shajih and Ghada Muhanna*
Dr. & Mrs. Abdallah and Gerri Najjar
PCRF Atlanta Chapter
Mr. Rabi Ashcar, Select Luxury Cars
Dr. Shukri Makhlof, Sugarloaf Medical,
PC
Mr. Pierre Maalouf, Tiny Towne
Mr. & Mrs. Nick and Nadiya Dammani,
Ultra Group of Companies
Mr. & Dr. Ramsey Zein and Abeer
Moanna*

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Issa and Helen Ackall
Mr. & Dr. Qatif Aljishi and Baian
Alabdulbaqi
Mr. & Mrs. Amjad and Mouna Ibrahim
Mr Elie Karam
Kennesaw State University
Dr. & Mrs. Shukri and Yasmine Makhlof
Mitias Orthopaedics
Drs. Yssa and Jinan Saaddine
Drs. Mustafa and Sarah Saadi*
Stone Summit
U-Beyond
Drs. Mohammad Wehbi and Naureen
Adam

\$250 - \$499

Mr. & Mrs. Ashraf and Noor Awad
Mr. & Mrs. John and Jean Azar
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Black
Mr. Bachir Boukli-Hacene

Mrs. Nadine Chamseddine
Dr. & Mrs. Said and Nayla Elshihabi
Friends of UPMRC, Inc.
Mr. Haitham Haddad*
Dr. & Mrs. Nadim and Mona Haddad
Mr. & Mrs. Anis and Rebecca Hadj-Taieb
Dr. & Mrs. Osama Hindash
Mr. & Mrs. Wissam Jaber and Jamilah
Sbeih
Mr. & Mrs. Sami and Lourice Jajeh
Mrs. Farah Kashlan
Mr. & Mrs. Todd and Alexandra King, For
All Tree Service
Mr. & Dr. Tony Maalouf and Julia
Massaad
Matrix Engineering
Mr & Mrs David and Lydia Yared
Mr. Samir Naib
Mr. Emad Deeb, Olive Mediterranean
Grill
Dr. Rami Arfoosh, Pulmonary & Sleep
Specialists
Riverside Chevron
Safad Enterprises
Mr. & Mrs. Hatem and Mariem Sellami
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Charlene Shikany
Mrs. Samar Suleiman
Mr. & Mrs. Amin & Rula Tomeh
Mr. & Mrs. John and Emily Wehby

\$100 - \$249

Anonymous
Mr. Jihad Abdalla
Mr. Farkad Abdulmonen
Mr. & Mrs. Hashem and Nancy
Abuaisheh
Mr. & Mrs. Fouad and Narjis Abuakel
Mrs. Serene Ackall
Mr. Ahmad Hassan, Adam Travel
Services
Ms. Zaina Ajakie
Mr. Ali Abuhazim, Al Madina Enterprise
Mr. Imad Nassereddin, Aladdin's
Restaurant

Mr. Hani Almadhoun
 Ms. Shahin Alvi
 Dr. & Mrs Mostafa and Lamia Ammar
 Mr. & Mrs. Joe and Shereen Anis
 Mr. Mohammed Awad
 Mr. Nicola Ayoub
 Mr. Rami Baroud
 Mr. Ryan Brouillette
 AT&T
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Campbell and Beth Trotman
 Mr. & Mrs. Anthony and Samira Charaf
 Mr. Mitch Jaffe, PREP Atlanta
 Drs. Yazan Duwayri and Muna Qayed*
 Mr. & Mrs. Kamal and Linda El Sheshai
 Dr. & Mrs. Alec and Marlo Elchahal
 Dr. & Mrs. Mikhael and Cynthia El-Chami
 Mrs. Kholoud Khoury
 Mr. Bassam Warrayat, Green Land Food
 Mr. Michael Grimes*
 Mr. & Mrs. Hanan Haider
 Mr. & Mrs. Nabil and Kristen Hammam
 Dr. & Mrs. Magdi Hanafi
 Mr. Yousef Hindi and Rana Salameh
 Mr. & Dr. Antoine and Margaret Honein
 Mr. Joe Hudson, Hudson CPA
 Mr. & Mrs. Abdulraheem and Suheir Ibrahim
 Interactive College of Technology
 Mr. & Mrs. Waleed and Hiam Jaraysi
 Ms. Natalie Jarudi
 Mr. Kaimari, Jerusalem Bakery
 Ms. Hoda Kamal
 Mr. & Mrs. Mohamed and Soumaya Khalifa
 Drs. Muin Khoury & Rima Khabbaz
 Mr. & Mrs. Basil Kirma and Nidhal Asker
 Mr. Charles Kuck, Kuck Immigration Partners
 Mr. Jean Leon, Leon International Foods
 Mr. Sammy Jaraysi, Lions Gate Insurance
 Mr. & Mrs. Abboud and Aliaa Malla
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis "Vic" and Sue Maloof
 Mr. & Mrs. Atef and Joumana Mansour
 Mr. & Mrs. Ayyad and Nazha Mansur
 Mr. Said Mousa, Mediterranean Grill

Dr. & Mrs. Max & Julene Miller
 Ms. Hana Mubarek
 Drs. Nabil and Lina Muhanna
 Mr. & Mrs. Mounir and Ghada Nabhan
 Dr. Zuher Naib
 Drs. Khaled and Rania Nass
 Dr. & Mrs. Victor and Jane Nassar
 Mr. & Mrs. Saad & Loretta Nemeh
 North Decatur Prebyterian Church
 Mr. & Mrs. David and Rawah Nourachi
 Mr. Travis Reid
 Ms. Ann Boon Rhea
 Mr. Ayman Rifai
 Mr. & Mrs. Majd and Karen Saboura
 Mr. & Mrs. Atef and Nayera Salam
 Mr. Jamal Samad, Samad Mediterranean Grill
 Mrs. Abeer Shanti
 Mr. Farid Shebat
 Mr. Dimitri Shreckengost
 Ms. Reema Slaibi
 Mrs. Karen Smyth
 Mrs. Elizabeth Talamas
 Ms. Reem Tomeh
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Victoria Wilf
 Mr. & Dr. Brian Wilson and Nadia Ali
 Mr. & Mrs. Ali and Kristen Yarbou
 Mr. & Mrs. Wally and Maria Yazbak
 Mr. & Mrs. Herschel Yosezead and Athari Nasser
 Mr. & Mrs. Omar Zaki and Megan Key*

Donations In Honor

The following individuals made generous donations "In honor" of their special family member or friend.

In Honor of Dr. Shajih Muhanna's Birthday:
 Dr. & Mrs. Abdallah & Gerri Najjar
 In Honor of Dr. & Mrs Abdallah & Gerri Najjar's Anniversary:
 Dr. & Mrs. Shajih & Ghada Muhanna

Donations In Memory

The following individuals made generous donations "In Memory" of their special family member or friend.

In Memory of Dr. Mahmoud Albatal's Father:
 Dr. & Mrs. Shajih & Ghada Muhanna

In Kind Donations

Mr. Pierre Abboud
 Mrs. Teresa Abboud El-Rassi
 Mrs. B.J. Abraham
 Aladdin Meditermean Grill
 Drs. Rami and Rasha Arfoosh
 The Coca Cola Company
 Dr. Alec ElChahal Orthodontic Group
 Mr. Sohel Elias
 Drs. Imad El-Kebbi and Rana Hajjeh
 Mrs. May ElKhalil
 Dr. & Mrs. Samir and Nora Farra
 Grand Furniture
 Mr. Michael Grimes
 Mrs. Nancy Habashi Abuaishah
 Hair Limited
 Mr. George Ishaak
 Mrs. Nahed Khader
 Drs. Ahmad and Laura Khaldi
 Dr. & Mrs. Hanna and Angela Khoury
 Dr. & Mrs. Omar and Lina Lattouf
 Leon International Food
 Mr. Bashir Mahmood
 Mediterranean Bakery
 Drs. Mustafa and Sara Saadi
 Mrs. Victoria Saeed
 Mr. & Mrs. Mamdouh and Heba Shaker
 Mrs. Abeer Shanti
 Mr. Dimitri Shreckengost
 Mrs. Suad Slaibi
 Mrs. Samar Sulieman
 Tiny Towne
 Ultra Group of Companies

*** Sustaining Members** - Sustaining members enjoy the ease of donating automatically each month and the benefit of knowing that they are creating a reliable stream of income for Alif.

ALIF'S BOARD & STAFF

Board of Directors 2015

Dr. Ihsen Ketata President
Dr. Rami Arfoosh Vice-President
Dr. Abeer Moanna Secretary
Mr. Issa Ackall Treasurer

Mr. Nayef Abuaisheh
Dr. Imad El-Kebbi
Mr. Haitham Haddad
Dr. Rima Houssami
Mrs. Angela Khoury
Mr. Jean Leon
Mrs. Ghada Muhanna
Dr. Mustafa Saadi
Mrs. Samar Sulieman
Dr. Mohammad Wehbi

Board of Directors 2016

Dr. Ihsen Ketata President
Dr. Rami Arfoosh Vice-President
Dr. Abeer Moanna Secretary
Mr. Issa Ackall Treasurer

Mr. Kasim Abuaisheh
Dr. Imad El-Kebbi
Mr. Hasan ElKhalil
Dr. Nashwa Jarkas
Mr. Jean Leon
Mr. John Mulholland
Dr. Mustafa Saadi
Mr. Dimitri Shreckengost
Mrs. Samar Sulieman
Dr. Mohammad Wehbi

Staff

Mrs. Angela Khoury	Executive Director
Mrs. Ghada Muhanna	Director of Arabic Language Program - <i>Volunteer</i>
Mrs. Alta Schwartz	Director of Outreach and Communication
Mrs. Zainab Alqasiri	Program Assistant
Mrs. Victoria Wilf	Arabic Language Program Assistant
Mrs. Liz Talamas	Bookkeeper - <i>Volunteer</i>

“The Alif Institute is one of the leading Arab American cultural organization in the United States. When Alif hosted the National Network for Arab American Communities’ Leadership Institute, leaders from around the nation were very impressed with the breadth and quality of the programs sponsored by Alif Institute. ”

– Mr. Mike Corbin, Capacity Building Manager,
National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC)



Mrs. Nora Farra & Dr. Samir Farra volunteering at the 10th Annual Atlanta Arab Festival.

"My wife Nora and I love to volunteer at Alif because we know we will be promoting values which incorporate the best of both cultures, Arab as well as American. And because we have a lot of fun!"

— Dr. Samir Farra, Alif Members, Volunteers



Ms. Carolyn Alexander, Mrs. Heba Shaker, and Mrs. Liz Talamas at Alif's 6th Annual Gala.

"Alif is a welcoming, thriving organization that teaches a broad spectrum about the wonderful possibilities opened up by cross-cultural exchange and communication. Personally I love the ladies of Knit & Stitch. I have learned so many new skills and I have never laughed so much while learning. These ladies are talented, creative, and so welcoming. I have made so MANY new friends! Also Alif provides movie nights, documentaries, poetry readings, festivals. The scope is wide and entertaining. As an Atlanta native I am so happy and enthused to be a member of Alif. I strongly encourage you to become acquainted with Alif and take the opportunity to learn about the beautiful and fascinating Arab people, their history and culture."

— Mrs. Carolyn Alexander, Alif Member, volunteer, and Knit & Stitch Club member



Ms. Rima Ali, Miss Sara Wilson, and Dr. Nadia Ali strolling down the Souk at the 10th Annual Atlanta Arab Festival.

"I wish ALIF had been around when I was a child. I grew up in Oxford, GA, where there weren't any other Arab-Americans around. I don't think many of the kids in my classes at school knew what an Arab was, other than knowing us. It would have been so nice to have had something like ALIF around then, to know other families and to learn the language and the stories and the dancing and the cooking and everything else that ALIF offers! I'm so grateful that it's around now for my children."

— Nadia Ali, Ph.D, Alif member

Alif Institute
3288 Marjan Drive
Atlanta, GA 30340

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 29067
Atlanta, GA 30359, USA

Phone: 770-936-8770
E-mail: info@alifinstitute.org
Website: www.alifinstitute.org