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650 GEO. WASHINGTON HWY., #200 LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND 02865 Phone 401-333-3377 Fax 401-334-4152 jr@raheblaw.com WWW.RAHEBLAW.COM Arabic Educational Foundation

PO Box 312 No. Scituate, R. I. 02857



2023

Mission Statement:

The purpose of the organization shall be to offer financial assistance to high school and college students of Arab American descent. Assistance is based on a set of criteria approved by the AEF Board to determine each applicants eligibility.

aef1966@cox.net - www.aef-ri.org

https:wwwfacebook.com/aefrhodeisland

Our paths may change as life goes along, but the bond and love between us remains ever strong. Miss you beyond measure.



Abdelnour and Alice Oko Pierre and Vita Osko Jouliene Osko

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDG	EMENTS
AND THANK YOU	U !

- ST GEORGE'S MARONITE CHURCH
- Fr. Tony Saab Use of church hall for 2023 brunch
- JOSEPH RAHEB Use of law office for Meetings
- CEDARS MEDITERRANEAN FOODS –GIFT
- SENATOR WHITEHOUSE -

Certificates of Recognition

- HARBOR ONE BANK—Gift Card contribution
- ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY
 2022 Financial contribution
- SHARON DE SIMONE— Tax prep and filing
- DEBRA ABBOUD—Centerpieces for brunch
- KAZA MAZA RESTAURANT –Chef Khalid Food preparation for brunch
- WOMEN OF AEF BOARD –dedication, loyalty and support to AEF organization

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The Arabic Educational Foundation

wish to acknowledge and thank our loyal and generous scholarship donors, program book and membership supporters. We recognize and appreciate the parish communities, local businesses, community leaders, former recipients, families and friends for the continued years of support.

All donations are vital and further the education of our

Arab American youth.

The 2023 AEF fundraising drive will support twenty seven students (nine high school and eighteen college). The scholarship award is five hundred dollars per student. We recognize and congratulate all recipients as highly qualified and deserving. The award demonstrates our dedication and support for the student scholars and higher education.

The following requirements determine the selection criteria: Arabic Descent, Financial Need, Academic Performance, Essay Response and Community and or Volunteer Experience (within past year).

It is with pride, AEF features in the 2023 program book the recipient's pictures and in their own words the essay question response "Describe an example from your Arabic background or heritage that has influenced or inspired your pursuit of higher education".

Please enjoy perusing the program book.

AEF Board Members

Please forgive omitted/ incorrect information/ names/ or spelling errors!

2023 Scholarship Sponsors

THE KANDO SCHOLARSHIPS

"In Loving Memory"

of our parents Catherine and Moses Kando

Who had an enduring devotion to education Desire to make education accessible to members of the Arabic community.

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GO FORTH & DO GREAT THINGS!

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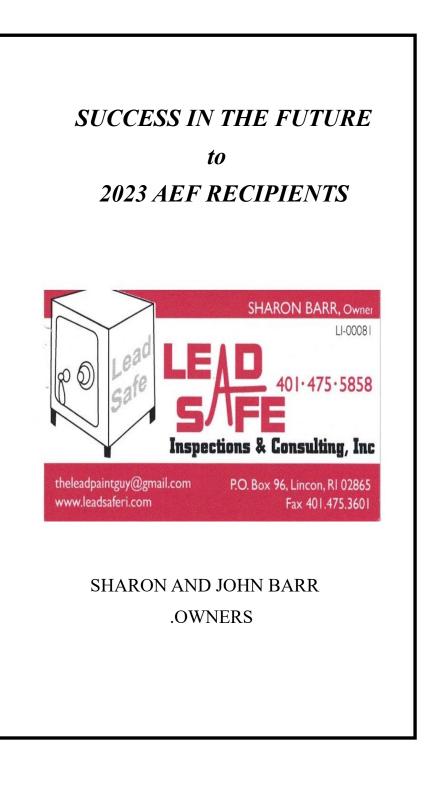
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Congratulations to the Graduates !

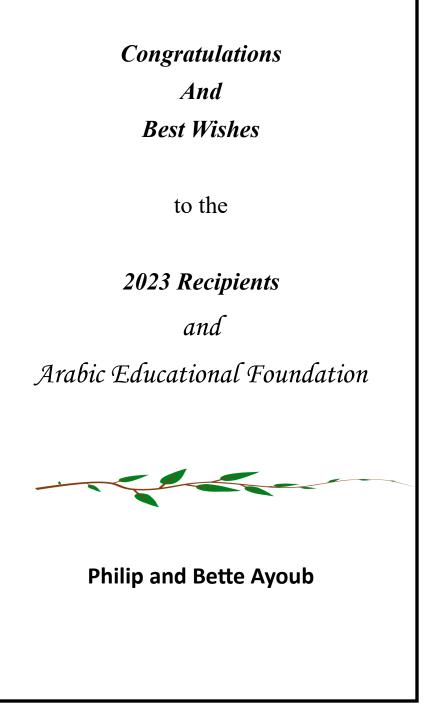
THE KHOURY SCHOLARSHIPS

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2023 COLLEGE RECIPIENTS

Ghada Alam—University of Rhode Island Perla Albatal – University of Rhode Island Christopher Azar – Providence College Jessica Balcon-University of Rhode Island Austin Balon- University of South Carolina Christian Balon-Arizona State University Rebecca Barrett-Johnson & Wales University Mary Boghos– Providence College Meghan Cabral-University of New England Lana Chehab-Roger Williams University Jessica Elkhoury- U Mass Lowell Isabel Hallal – Worcester Polytechnic Institute Bahjat Khoury-Providence College Flora Khoury- University of Rhode Island Ben Mc Michael – University of Rhode Island Margaret Mc Michael- University of Rhode Island Allie Notarianni– University of Rhode Island Edessa Shabo- University of Rhode Island



OUR CONGRATULATION S To the 2023 Arabic Educational Foundation RECIPIENTS

WISHING YOU ALL MUCH SUCCESS IN LIFE

IN YOUR CHOSEN CAREERS

AND THAT YOU BRING GREAT PRIDE TO YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILIES AND TO YOUR ARABIC HERITAGE

The Honorable Thomas Lazieh and Sons Jordan T. And Alexander M.

2023 HIGH SCHOOL RECIPIENTS

Nour Abicha-William Davies Tech/Voc. High School

Meshlin Alam—Lincoln High School

Jad Albatal—Cumberland High School

Michael Ficocelli- No. Providence High School

Joelle Madour – Cumberland High School

Ann Marie Notarianni-Cranston East High School

Kacper Paprocki-Lincoln High School

David Parenteau—La Salle Academy

Taj Wehbe-No. Providence High School





PERLA ALBATAL

University of Rhode Island

As a current pharmacy student and an immigrant from Syria, my heart always leans toward making a contribution and a great change to underserved communities. Getting the experience of living in Syria for fifteen years and then having the privilege to live in the US has influenced my pursuit of a doctoral degree.



JAD ALBATAL

Cumberland HS

Have you ever thought about how a journey to a different country could change your life forever? It started when my family immigrated to the US when I was 12 years old. Getting exposed to a new culture with new language and a completely new environment was one of the most terrifying experiences of my life. Now confident with this new life, I can make a change.

CONGRATULATIONS

2023

SCHOLARSHIP

RECIPIENTS



Joan R. Stott

CONGRATULATIONS !

2023

Arabic Educational Foundation

Scholars !



Joseph and Gloria Haddad





GHADA ALAM University of Rhode Island

Being Syrian makes me a proud individual of myself as well as making me a hard working person. I have seen the destruction of Syria, and feel like I matured after seeing Syria fall, I feel like I matured. It makes me want to be a successful woman and build the courage to pursue my career path in Pharmaceutical Science.

MESHLIN ALAM

Lincoln HS

Growing up in Middle East with Arabic culture has shaped who I am. Being Syrian makes me a proud individual. and hardworking. Achieving this and making my dreams come true. Maturing with the Arabic heritage gives me values that inspire me to become a successful person.

JESSICA BALCOM



University of Rhode Island

My grandmother links me to my Arabic heritage. She was always ready to feed anyone who stopped by her home. I had lots of fun cooking with her because she was a patient teacher. The preparation of the foods, rolling grape leaves, has turned into a generational tradition for me. Experiencing her joy of helping others has influenced me to pursue a career in pathology.

I



MEGHAN CABRAL

University of New England

My great grandfather influenced me, he was a leader in the medical field,. He was a dentist in Central Falls, a diverse community. My father also influenced and inspired my pursuit of higher education. While he was deployed I was able to learn more about my Middle Eastern culture. My interests and goals are to serve needy communities.



Congratulations To All Arab American Graduates

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JESSICA ELKHOURY U MASS Lowell

Similarly to many :Lebanese immigrants that came to America, my parent wanted a better life and environment to raise a family, Their journey of immigrating and sharing/teaching our culture with my siblings and I, has been away to continue traditions. I am able to utilize my family's experiences to help others in my community. I apply my language skills in Arabic and English to aid those that need translation.

EDESSA SHABO

University of Rhode Island

My eagerness to explore higher education has been rooted inside me for as long as I can remember. My parents were denied educational opportunities and from a young age this inspired me to seek higher education. By continuing my education, I am honoring my ancestors. They paved the way for me to be here, which is directly tied to my heritage and pursue a higher education.



BEN MC MICHAEL

University of Rhode Island

The value of education is something that my family has always emphasized. As a fourth generation Syrian America, I owe my gratitude to the previous generations who made sacrifices for the betterment of my family. Access to education is what liberated my family from generational struggle. I am now aware of what higher education can do.

MARGARET MC MICHAEL

University of Rhode Island

My Arabic heritage comes from my paternal side of the family. My grandmother, my dad's mom, played an integral part in me pursuing higher education. My grandmother's father did not want her to attend college but she did. Her belief in higher education has inspired her children and grandchildren. If it wasn't for my grandmother, I wouldn't have the same opportunities I have today.

IN LOVING MEMORY

of OUR MOTHER

Rose Khoury



Tony and Fadia Khoury Kabak

IN MEMORY OF

MOSES and CATHERINE KANDO

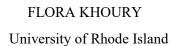
KANDO/PICKERING FAMILY

"The highest result of education is tolerance."

Author: Helen Keller







An example that has influenced and inspired my pursuit of higher education would be my grandfather. He read a lot of books and taught himself, in turn teaching others. Being able to witness what education can do and how it can change someone's life. With my grandfather's legacy and the encouragement of my parents. I decided to purse my dream of becoming a doctor of pharmacy and make an impact on others.



Providence College

I was named after my grandfather, he was the first to open schools and teach many generations in my suburb of Damascus, Syria. When I was born, he had faith in me. He was sure that I would prioritize education, just like he did. He encouraged and inspired me to pursue higher education. I believe that one day, I will make him and my family proud of my achievements.







REBECCA BARRETT

Johnson & Wales University

" A Melting Pot" signifies the diverse cultural heritages that make up the United States. "The Land of Opportunity". One such story is of my grandfather who in search of greater opportunities, parted ways with family and friends in Syria in1959. It is in my grandfather's honor that I have chosen to seek out a degree in Psychology. I dream of making a positive impact on the lives of others some day much like my grandfather.

CHRISTIAN BALON

Arizona State University

Growing up in an Arab household, education was highly emphasized by my parents. They encouraged me to take my studies seriously and instilled in me the belief that education was the key to unlocking a better life. My Sitto and Giddo always stressed the importance of education. My Middle Easter upbringing taught me to the importance of hard work and that I can achieve anything I set my mind to.

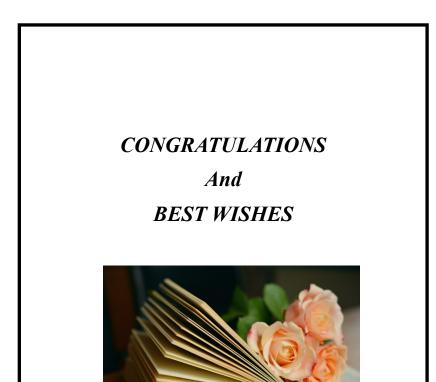
BEST WISHES TO 2023 RECIPIENTS



ST. GEORGE'S MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Tony Saab

St. George's Parish Community



Christine Deeb Poccia



DAVID PARENTEAU

La Salle Academy

My sitto, and I were very close. She passed away during Covid. One of the first lessons she shared with me was "As long as you work hard and be a good person in life, God will pave the way for you." She was my everything, I have set academic and athletic goals and used this phrase to set the standard for what it means to be a leader in school and community.



No. Providence HS

My Gido, my grandfather, has heavily influenced my choice of getting an higher education. Both he and his parents never had an opportunity to go to college. My Gido born in 1943 didn't finish high school, got a job and worked very hard. His personality and his relationship with people brought him far. Not many people are like my Gido, his work ethic, drive and love of his family are inspiring.





NOUR ABICHA William Davies Tech/Voc HS

I am a Moroccan high school student who has been strongly influenced by a scholar and historian who lived in 14th century. Understanding of history and society and an unrelenting commitment to education is what inspires me the most. In my own studies, I try to imitate the scholars curiosity and independent thought.

KACPER PAPROCKI

Lincoln HS

My heritage within my Arabic family has influenced my academic life in countless ways. My family emphasized achieving and breaking my goals and limits. As a result, I have found a passion for challenging myself in my academics, resulting in success. Knowing my family has helped me find my drive to push myself, I look to continue this trend.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY MOTHER

Margaret Asermely Folan



DARLENE FOLAN

JOELLE MADOUR

Cumberland HS

Having studied in the rigid Syrian schooling system, my parents' main goal of immigrating to the U.S. was to allow my brother and me to experience the American education system. I'm committed to making the most of every opportunity, with the hope of honoring the sacrifices made by my parents. I strongly believe I can harness my multifaceted identity to connect with people from all backgrounds.

TAJ WEHBE

No. Providence HS

"You got the world in the palm of your hands, what you do with it is up to you." Both my father and mother taught me through out the early years of my life. Work hard for what you want to achieve, and it shall come. They instilled their ethics and experiences onto me. I learned from their past to strive to do better in the country and this world.

"IN LOVING MEMORY "

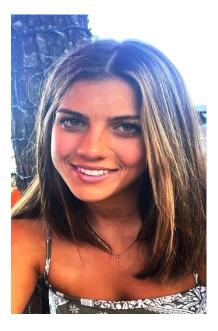
OF MY PARENTS

Moses and Catherine Kando



ROBERT KANDO







ALLIE NOTARIANNI

University of Rhode Island

Through my Arabic heritage, I have learned to pursue more for myself and to value the importance of education as it teaches us ways to contribute to our community. My ancestors were from Aleppo and Damascus Syria, seeking better lives for their family. My family today taught me the same goals, work hard no matter the circumstances and attain an education.

MARY BOGHOS

Providence College

Although education has always been an option for me, I cannot say the same for my parents and grandparents. My grandmother never had the opportunity to learn how to read and write because of the turmoil in Syria. My grandma's ambition and love for those who surround her are what push me forward in my studies. I am so grateful for the opportunity of an education.



WEALTH MANAGEMENT Alexander R. Albert, CFP

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WISHING ALL THE STUDENTS THE BEST OF LUCK AND CONFIDENCE IN YOUR SUCCESS!







ANN MARIE NOTARIANNI

Cranston East HS

I come from such a close knit family and there are many reasons where my Arabic background and heritage has helped influence my pursuit of furthering my academic future and career. Growing up I was always surrounded by either Syrian food, music and family. Every Sunday after church my family would enjoy Sunday dinner together. I treasure this Arabic

BRIAN AZAR

Providence College

My grandmother often speaks about the tremendous accomplishments of her mother. She was a seamstress who worked full time while raising a family. She had a strong work ethic along with great faith and commitment to family. Her dedication to cooking, is still admired today. I am confident that the values of my Arabic heritage will continue into future generations.

ISABEL HALLAL

Worcester Polytechnic Inst.

My great grandfather came to the United States from Syria in search of a better life. They came with very little and lived through hard economic times. My Gido worked very hard, saved his money to attend college. My father also attended and earned a college degree. I am grateful for my family and the continuous support for higher education.

BEST OF LUCK TO 2023 Arabic Educational Foundation RECIPIENTS!



" IN MEMORY OF "

ALICE AND JOE AZAR



AUSTIN BALON

University of So. Carolina

As a Syrian, education was always prioritized in my upbringing. My parents made sure to emphasize the importance of knowledge and learning. However, it wasn't until relatives from Syria that I realized the impact education could have on one's life. That experience has stayed with me throughout my academic journey.



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Dr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Samra

PICTURE

LANA CHEHAB

Roger Williams University

I was born in Beirut, Lebanon and moved to America with my mom when I was three years old. Growing up, my mom always taught me to be proud of my Lebanese heritage and how Lebanese people around the world work very hard to become successful. Overall, I would never change my heritage or who I am. I am very proud and will bring that with me wherever I end up.

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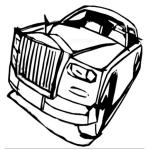
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BEST WISHES AND

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TO ALL

2023

ARABIC EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION RECIPIENTS !



Mary Lou and Bill Catelli

CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES to the

Arabic Educational Foundation

May you continue to strengthen the growth of the AEF organization

Furthering the educational needs and goals of our youth

Promoting the pride, culture and contributions that the Arabic speaking people throughout the centuries have achieved

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AND

THE COMMUNITY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH



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AND GOOD LUCK

TO ALL OF THE

2023 GRADUATES !



James K. and Marzena M. Salome

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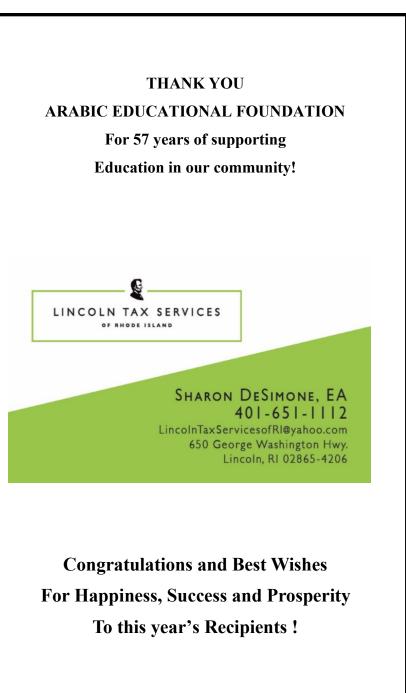
William T. Asermely



Mary Ann Asermely

And

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Gaglione & Family



IN LOVING MEMORY

Samuel G. Raheb

Flavie Raheb



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