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The Middle East, North Africa, South Asia (MENASA) Initiative: Spring 2020 Newsletter

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MENASA Initiative Team

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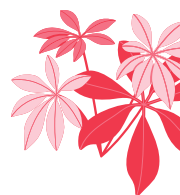
THE MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA, SOUTH ASIA (MENASA) INITIATIVE

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER

Our Team!



Ahlan wa Sahlan, my name is Ahmed El Mansouri, I am the MENASA Program Coordinator. I am a Middle Eastern North African Man, storyteller, writer, and mediator. I was born and raised in Egypt, in the city of Alexandria. I am most grateful for the relationships I built with students and staff at PSU. I am genuinely thrilled to be a part of the Cultural Resource Centers and I am looking forward to working with everyone through the MENASA Student Center!



My name is Farah Ibrahim and I'm majoring in Child Youth and Family Studies at PSU. One fact about me I speak three different languages Arabic, Somali, and English.



My name is Rosol Mikail and I am from Kurdistan, Iraq. I am currently a second year Health Science major and in the Pre-med program. As part of the MENASA Initiative programming team, I am excited for the opportunity to be involved in planning events that represent my culture and other cultures in the MENASA region. Also, I am excited to get to know the MENASA community at PSU.



MENASA NOW HAS A HOME!



Dear commonality members, we are extremely excited to share that The MENASA Initiative now finally has an approved physical space at Portland State University!! After months and months of advocacy, and an enormous amount of support from our community, we are thrilled to announce that the campus wide Space Allocation Committee (SAC) has approved the Cultural Resource Center's proposal for expansion to accommodate a physical space for MENASA!!

The SAC approved and allocated SMSU 238 for the cultural resource center's expansion plan. On behalf of the entire MENASA team and the entire Cultural Resource Center team, we want to extend deep appreciations to each and every one that has contributed to and supported this process from its initiation. Additionally, we would like to extend a special thank you to our Portland State University students whom have generously and diligently offered vital insight to the importance of creating a physical space for MENASA that is logistically housed within the current location of the Cultural Resource Centers.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Every week our team and community members will put together a recipe from the MENASA region and share it with the large community on our Facebook & Instagram pages. Stay tuned for some delicious food ideas!

COUNTRY OF THE WEEK

Each week we will also feature a MENASA Country on our social media platforms. We invite all community members to share their knowledge and send us recommendations for countries from MENASA they would like to see featured.

Send recommendation to:
menasa@pdx.edu

MENASA NETFLIX PARTIES

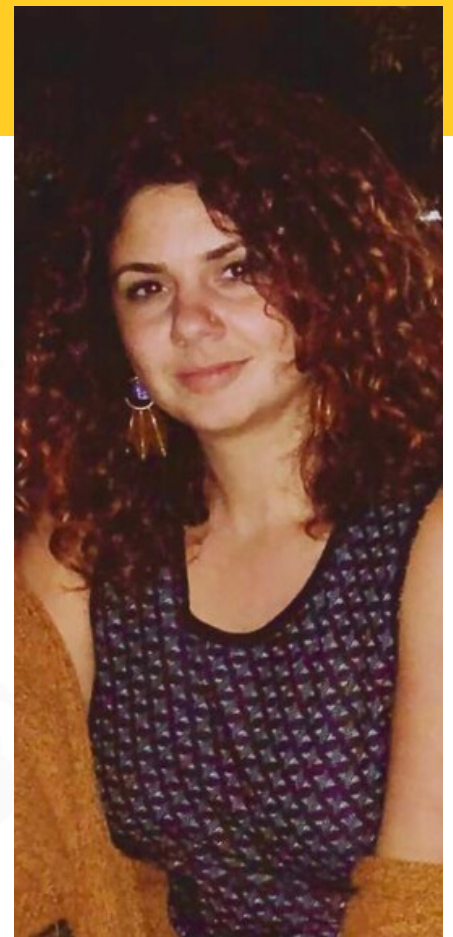
MENASA is excited to host Netflix parties throughout the spring term. Stay tuned to our social media pages to see which movies are playing and when.

STAYING MENTALLY HEALTHY & GROUNDED DURING QUARANTINE.

The MENASA Team hosted Mental Health Counselor Dana Ghazi for a conversation about best practices in managing anxiety in light of current health concerns related to COVID-19.

Dana Ghazi was born and raised in Damascus, Syria before moving to the United States. Dana has a Bachelors in English literature & Gender and Sexuality Studies, and a Masters of Arts in Conflict Resolution from Portland State University. She also served as The Student Body President at PSU 2015-2016. Dana has worked with programs that focused on generational trauma and currently works with refugees and victims of war.

**FULL
INTERVIEW
ON OUR
FACEBOOK
PAGE APRIL
29TH.**



Subscribe here to stay updated!

RAMADAN MUBARAK!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK...

Sending warm thoughts to those observing the month of Ramadan this year

-MENASA Team



IN THE WORKS...



An Interview with a Public Health Professional
The MENASA Initiative Team is working behind the scene to schedule an interview with a local public health professional in effort to provide more information about the current status related to COVID-19 and reopening plans in Oregon.



**MORE
SOON...**

MENASA Talent Show!
The MENASA Initiative is also gearing up for a virtual talent show.... Are you ready to show off your skills!?

Contact us@



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MENASA Instagram

