Featuring

The Wishah Popular Dance Troupe

performing

Steps and Melodies from the Arab World

Sunday, November 22, 2015
The Levant Foundation congratulates ADC and its presentation of Turaath: Steps and Melodies from the Arab World.

The Levant Foundation
The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee

and

The Coalition of Palestinian American Organizations

present

TURAATH

Steps and Melodies from the Arab World

Sunday, November 22, 2015

Lincoln Theatre

1215 U Street, NW
Washington, D.C.
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee

ADC is the largest Arab American grassroots organization in the United States. Since its founding in 1980, ADC has been committed to defending the rights of Arab Americans. Central to this vision has been the promotion of Arab empowerment and the celebration of the rich Arab heritage.

ADC Research Institute

ADC-RI is a Section 501(c)(3) educational affiliate. ADC-RI programs include research studies, seminars, conferences and publications that document and analyze the discrimination faced by Arab Americans in the workplace, schools, media and governmental agencies and institutions.

ADC Women’s Empowerment Forum

The ADC Women’s Empowerment Forum is a new initiative that combines the dynamism and acumen of a national consortium of influential Arab American women with ADC’s mission to empower and celebrate the Arab American community.

Turaath

Turaath is an Arabic word, meaning heritage, folklore, tradition. The heritage of Arab Americans is a kaleidoscope of depth in philosophy, the sciences, poetry, calligraphy, music, dance and cuisine.

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The Coalition of Palestinian American Organizations (CPAO) works to address issues of concern to the Palestinian American community, to advance the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement and to facilitate cultural exchange between the United States and Palestine.

The Coalition is composed of
- The American Federation of Ramallah, Palestine
- United Taybeh American Association
- Beitlehem Association
- Beit Liqya Charity
- Deir Debwan Charity
- Beitin
- Turmasaya

www.coalitionofpao.org
Hello and welcome to *Turaath: Steps and Melodies from the Arab World*, presented by The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee and The Coalition of Palestinian American Organizations.

*Turaath* seeks to break down negative stereotypes of Arab Americans by educating Americans about the rich and diverse culture of our community. Our culture is one of the best tools we have in our fight against discrimination and racism.

The evening will feature The Wishah Popular Dance Troupe from Palestine. Through their performances, Wishah aims to contribute to Palestinian cultural life and to the advancement of popular dancing, while striving to preserve Palestinian traditions from marginalization. Tonight, their performance will incorporate steps and melodies chosen from many different Arab regions.

Thank you to our sponsors, advertisers, and all of you who purchased tickets in support of *Turaath*. Without your generosity, this event would not have been possible.

Our *Turaath* program does not end tonight. During the spring of 2016, ADC will sponsor renowned musician, Marcel Khalife for a multi-city tour. We hope to see you there.

Enjoy tonight’s show!

Sincerely,

Samer Khalaf, Esq.
ADC President
Tonight’s Program

Opening Remarks

Samer Khalaf, ADC
Luci Murphy, performing Palestine by Matt Jones
Hanna Hanania, CPAO

The Wishah Popular Dance Troupe

Dal’ouna
Tolbeh
Wassi3ou
Sahjeh
Shobash
3alyadi
Tolbeh Response
Ya Marhababak
Ya Hinna
Medley
Ney Solo
Prisoner’s Song
Dyarna
Massar
Farah
Heila Heila
Medley
Storyteller
Folklore
Salutation

For detailed information, continue to page 7

Closing Remarks
The Wishah Popular Dance Troupe presents emotionally moving performances which are based on the inheritance of music and songs from the Palestinian and Arab heritage. The Troupe was established in 2003 by Executive Director and Choreographer Mohammad Ata and a group of passionate young people. Through their performances, Wishah aims to contribute to Palestinian cultural life and the advancement of Palestinian popular dancing, while striving to preserve it from marginalization attempts.

Wishah has performed throughout the U.S. as well as in Lebanon, Egypt, Algeria, the UAE, Spain, Portugal and China. It has been awarded the Cultural Merit Medal from the Executive Council of the Luso-Arab Cooperation.

Executive and Choreography Director: Mohammad Ata

Choreography: Shadi Baker, Lina Abd Al Kader, Hiba Burqan, Shireen Basha and Nirmeen Idrees

Music: Abdel Haleem Abu Haltam, Rami Washaha, Waleed Al Hshaim, Riyad Morashale, Sharbel Rohana and Basil Zayed

Costume Design: Ghasoub Sarahneh

Fitness Trainers: Shadi Baker and Samar Abu Jabal
1). Dal'ouna: one of the most famous Palestinian folkloric dances. It is celebratory and is usually performed on the eve of weddings and for other festive occasions.

2). Tolbeh: represents the meeting between the families of the bride and groom.

3). Wassi3ou: a wedding dance performed by the groom’s family to express their joy.

4). Sahjeh: a dance performed on the wedding eve. The dance explores the past, the present and the dancers’ dreams for the future.

5). Shobash: the groom’s friends sing the groom’s praises.

6). 3alyadi: a song sung by the bride before leaving her parents’ home.

7). Tolbeh Response: the response of the bride’s family in approval of the marriage.

8). Ya Marhababak: joyful dance and singing from the groom’s family at the positive response of the bride’s father.

9). Ya Hinna: dancing of the bride and her friends on the eve of the wedding.

10. Medley: a medley of songs celebrating the Henna Night, and about the dance on the wedding day, sung by the groom’s family as they make their way to the bride's family home.
11). *Ney Solo*: musical solo featuring the ney (oriental flute). The ney is one of the most famous traditional instruments in Palestine.

12). *Prisoner’s Song*: a song for Palestinian prisoners.

13). *Dyarna*: women’s dance to the famous Arab tune: *Ya Mal el Sham*.


15). *Farah*: a young woman’s dance.

16). *Heila Heila*: a group dance welcoming guests and expressing generosity.


18). *Storyteller*: a song describing the Arab history of Jerusalem.

19). *Folklore*: a dance of resistance describing the Palestinian struggle against occupation.

20). *Salutation*: a final salute to the audience.
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Children living under siege in the Gaza Strip have seen repeated military assaults, causing the death of loved ones and the destruction of familiar surroundings. The trauma can last into adulthood, hindering their ability to cope with the challenges of living under occupation.

The UPA Healing Through Feeling Program will provide weekly therapy to children in the Gaza Strip, ultimately reaching 25,000 children at 250 kindergartens. The program will help them overcome some of the fear and anxiety they now feel, restoring a sense of hope and resilience.

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Congratulations to ADC for its presentation of Turaath!

Safa Rifka, MD
Chairperson
ADC National Board of Directors
Best wishes to ADC and our community!

Assad & Mary Jebara
Vice Chairperson
ADC National Board of Directors
Wishing ADC continued success and a wonderful Turaath event!

Tawfiq Barqawi
Treasurer
ADC National Board of Directors

Best of luck to ADC for a beautiful Turaath event!

Khatmeh Osseiran-Hanna
ADC National Board of Directors
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