



Old Scholars
Association
Brummana High School

I SERVE

24th International Convention

24 - 25 July 2015

Brummana High School Old Scholars Association 24th International Convention - July 2015



A United, Visible, and Affluent Global Network

REUNIONS

By Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager



Class of '66 Reunion – October 2014



Class of '66 Reunion held in Sidon, Lebanon, in October 2014



A Day at the Park in Dubai – November 2014



Stephanie Malhame '05, Rita Barakat '00, Mireille Azar '00, Amine Abou Jawdeh '00, Suzy Malhame '02, Najj Hawayek '00



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REUNIONS



Gulf Chapter Heads' Meeting – 7 November 2014

By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

A Gulf Chapter Heads' meeting, led by President Nazih Khattar '66, was held on 7 November 2014 to update all the chapter heads and their newly appointed deputies on the latest OSA news; to reinforce the vision, mission and objectives of the OSA; and to plan ways of moving these forward.

President Khattar took this opportunity to also present the newly appointed general manager of the OSA –

and previous BHS teacher and Head of the English Department — Mrs Tanya Nammour. Mr Hani Aboul Jabine '61, newly elected Chairman of the BHS Board of Governors, was also introduced and especially honoured during that day.

The productive meeting was followed by a cocktail reception at President Khattar's residence and by dinner.

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Vision
Our vision is to be a united, visible and affluent community that benefits old scholars and the School.

Mission
Our mission is to promote, support and protect the interests and welfare of Brummana High School by:

- Participating in school programs and events, and acting as ambassadors for the School.
- Identifying the School's social, moral and financial needs and taking the necessary action to fulfill them.
- Advancing the School's interests.



REUNIONS

USA & Canada Chapters' Reunions - December 2014



By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

In his efforts to reactivate and revive the OSA membership abroad, last December President Nazih Khattar '66 undertook trips to Montreal, Canada, and Los Angeles, USA, where he invited old scholars residing in and around Montreal and Los Angeles to dinner. On both occasions, those attending were delighted to be reunited with, or to become acquainted with fellow old scholars living in the same area.

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REUNIONS

Classes of '99 & '00 Reunion on 26 December 2014

By Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager

Since graduating from BHS, it has been customary for the classes of '99 and '00 to get together at least once a year, usually in December.

This past December marked our 15th year of graduation, and to make it more memorable, we decided to hold it at the OSA Clubhouse. The cherry on top of the cake was to also invite our former teachers, whom we hadn't seen in fifteen years. They gladly accepted, as they, too, wanted to see

what has become of their former students.

Those who attended the gathering were delighted to see each other, especially that many students were surprised by their teachers' presence. As Mrs Rima Habib's '82 email below shows, the feedback on the event was excellent, and its success is living proof that a BHS bond is eternal.

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Community BHS OSA

From: Rima Habib <rima.habib@bhs.edu.lb>
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2015 11:43 AM
To: community@bhsosa.net
Cc: generalmanager@bhsosa.net; info@bhsosa.net
Subject: Reunion Dec 26

Dear Mona,

Happy New Year.

It took me awhile to write this email, but finally got around to it.

Tanya told me that it was you who came up with the idea of having the class reunion which was held on December 26.

Thank you for inviting me. I truly enjoyed the evening. It was a beautiful ambiance; the decorations, delicious food, lit fireplace, and wonderful company. I was so happy to meet up with my ex-students whom I had taught more than 15 years ago. It was so nice to hear what had become of them and what they had achieved in the past 15 years. Together, the old scholars and I told anecdotes of the "good ol' days" at BHS. I was so touched that one of them even remembered a particular phrase that I had used regularly during our classes those many years ago (and still do till today with my present students). All the other teachers who attend this gathering were equally moved to meet up with their ex-students and share fond memories.

This event, in my opinion, was very successful on so many levels. I would recommend that it be repeated annually for other classes and their teachers. It would provide an opportunity where we can truly sing together "We won't forget Brummana School and won't let you forget" .

Good luck with all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Rima M Habib (BHS class of 1982) "I SERVE"
 Head of Intermediate Section
 Brummana High School



REUNIONS

Classes of '99 & '00 Reunion on 26 December 2014



Tribute to Karim Baz '00

Forever In Our Hearts

A Tribute to Karim Baz (1982 - 1999)



*We were kids when we first ran around the fields
How can I forget my first pal when I was three
On the days we played in your backyard climbing trees
Now, all that remains is a big wound that can't be healed*

*We had you among us for seventeen years
Seventeen years with the same beautiful smile on your face
All the love and laughter you brought us will never lose their place
Never thought we'd have to face you with tears*

*Tears and having lost you we all have to admit
Trying to deny the loss of our beloved "Karim"
A light in our lives that suddenly lost its beam
That changed to a dark nightmare we cannot omit*

*Today we watch you part off to your eternal rest
It's on our last farewell with tears in our eyes
Wishing it was only a bad dream or lies
It's hard that God has put us to such a test*

*Farewell beloved, Farewell spirit of youth and life
Farewell son, friend and brother
Farewell to the love that can't be replaced by any other
Farewell...your farewell cuts like a knife*

*You have now left us and sailed apart
And it's so hard to say goodbye and let go,
Family, parents and friends living in the shadows of sorrow,
"Karim" you're the legendary love that outlives
Forever in our hearts.*

By: Mona Karam, 7th

Class of '90 - A Reunion After 25 Years!



By Dr Carlos Bechara '90

Thanks to WhatsApp® and Jihad Mezher's brilliant idea, the debauchery weekend at Camil Sader's in Miami, South Beach, became reality. Laced with innuendos from the movie *The Hangover*, the Wolfpack prepared for what would be a long overdue reunion of a lifetime. Roger Francis was

leaving Dubai to meet his wife, Safa, in Los Angeles for the birth of their son, Luca, which confirmed the need to meet.

Once the Wolfpack group was created on Whatsapp®, within minutes mayhem ensued. We couldn't control our boyish excitement nor our giggling. It was like being in high school all over

again and as if the past twenty five years hadn't gone by. Within hours, the group grew to 9 grown men texting each other away in a totally "unprofessional" and childish frenzy.

The weekend of 27 February to 2 March 2015 was the date when 7 of us, pictured below ended up meeting in South Florida.

The reunion was a great success. We all enjoyed seeing each other; some of us hadn't seen each other in more than twenty years. It felt like we were continuing where we had left off all those years ago. The weekend was eventful and memorable. It included meals at elite restaurants, time spent at beach resorts, South Beach Clubs, and in a privately rented villa.

Often did we catch ourselves chanting, "Oh, we won't forget Brummana School, and won't let you forget!"

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From left to right: Camil Sader, Jihad Mezher, Roger Francis, Carlos Bechara, Carl Kamal Yagizi, Michael Kühn, and Roger Balech



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REUNIONS



By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

The Gulf Reunion, held in Dubai on 6 and 7 March 2015, gathered together old scholars mainly from Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, and the UAE. It was heartwarming to witness the old scholars' delight and excitement at seeing each other and spending time together again. Approximately 80 old scholars and their partners attended the events. The genuine pleasure and fellow feeling were infectious and lasted throughout the weekend.

There were three major events bringing the old scholar community together over the two days. On Friday morning, a General Assembly was held at Al Murooj Rotana Hotel, followed by lunch. UAE

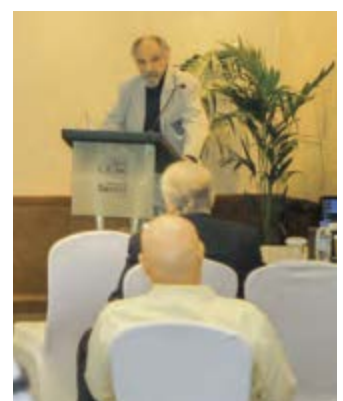
OSA Gulf Reunion 6-7 March 2015

Chapter Head and Master of Ceremonies, Zeki Farra '61, warmly welcomed all those present and introduced OSA President Nazih Khattar '66, who gave an update on the latest developments and activities of the OSA.

In his turn, President Khattar introduced beloved former English teacher and old-scholar-by-adoption John Kirkbright, who entertained us all with his vivid and witty account of his first arrival in Lebanon many years ago.

Then, it was BHS Principal Dr Walid El Khoury's turn to give a presentation on the school's most recent activities, developments, and achievements, as well as the educational initiatives already taken to ensure that the school continues to thrive and prosper.

At this point, Chairperson of the Board of Governors, Hani Aboul Jabine '61, announced that Dr El Khoury's term in office had recently been extended for a further two years. He also added that the new multi-purpose hall in the recently completed the Rizkallah Building Extension had been given the name of Khoury Hall in recognition of Dr El Khoury's





fourteen years of service and dedication to the school. This was followed by a brief discussion during which various members suggested a number of initiatives to further advance the goals of the OSA, and for which President Khattar was thankful.



A leisurely and delicious lunch ended the productive morning.

Almost twice the number of old scholars and their partners attended the gala dinner later in the evening, at Eau Zone Restaurant, at the Royal Mirage Hotel. Apart from the scrumptious dinner and the beautiful beach setting, a perfect musical fusion of oriental and western songs and tunes added to the genial and joyful atmosphere. It would have been difficult to imagine a better ending to the day.

Fewer old scholars participated in the Desert Safari planned for the next afternoon, an event which



REUNIONS

OSA Gulf Reunion 6-7 March 2015

definitely was not for the faint-hearted. The majority thoroughly enjoyed the roller-coaster dune-bashing adventure the journey to the camp offered. The remaining wiser members – yours truly included – opted to reach the desert camp using a less stomach-churning and limb-jerking route. Needless to say that the desert landscape set against the sunset was another enchanting scene to appreciate.

Having finally reached our destination in one piece, we settled down to another pleasant evening of food and entertainment. The Oriental barbecue at the camp could not compare with previous meals but was quite good by desert standards. The entertainment, which included a skirted twirling dervish, and a talented and voluptuous belly-dancer, provided a suitably enjoyable finale to the lively weekend.

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UK Chapter Reunion – June 2015

In line with President Nazih Khattar's '66 initiative to establish a UK OSA Chapter, a small gathering took place in London on 6 June 2015. Many who could not come to this gathering for different reasons expressed their willingness to attend a future reunion.

The same friendly sense of comradeship, with old scholars remembering old times, was as apparent as ever at this gathering. Many teachers were fondly remembered, and amusing anecdotes about the school and pupils were shared. We also missed and remembered our two recently departed classmates, Issa Sawabini '66 and Ramsay Bisharah '55.

Below are photographs of those attending with a banner proclaiming the vitality of BHS OSA. A key ring commemorating the gathering was also presented to everyone attending.

After reading and accepting the President's letter, the gathering recommended inviting Old Scholars to a UK reunion in London tentatively on Saturday 24 October 2015. This will be further discussed during the International Convention in July 2015.



By Nayla Tawil Cookson '65
UK Chapter Head

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BHS Founders' Day on 28 November 2014 Dr Sukkarieh's Address

Dr Ismail Sukkarieh '65, Gastroenterologist (AUH), and former MP for Baalbeck and Hermel, was the keynote speaker at the Secondary Section Assembly on the occasion of Founders' Day on Friday 28 November 2014 at 2:00 pm. The assembly was held at the BHS Meeting House.

Dr Sukkarieh's talk was most engaging. Among many topics he tackled, he talked about his experience at BHS, about the fond memories of the school he treasures to this day, and about the values he had been taught there and that have guided him throughout his life.

He spoke about his experience as MP for the Bekaa region, about the Lebanese government's serious

By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

shortcomings in dealing with the country's widespread corruption, about its leaders' greed and indifference to human values, and more specifically about the authorities' neglect of serious public health issues. He talked about his life journey in the last twenty years, about his mission and struggle to fight for citizens' right to quality, effective, and reliable medical care, and expressed his disappointment about Lebanon being one of the very few countries in the world still lacking proper laboratory control and a national inspection body monitoring pharmaceutical products.



Dr Sukkarieh ended his talk by urging the students to become more socially responsible citizens, and to demand and/or become accountable leaders of their country. He hoped they realised they had a duty not to stand by and accept the way things are, but to protest and demand better public health organizations and more conscientious and scrupulous governmental and public institutions. Most of the secondary students showed their interest and appreciation by warmly applauding his final words.

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BHS Independence Day – November 2014

Upper Elementary Independence Day Parade



Infant Section Independence Day Parade





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- > Security;
- > Pest Control;
- > Landscaping;
- > Waste Management;
- > Concierge Services;

- Procurement activities

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BHS Christmas Shows - December 2014



Infant Section Christmas Show





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OSA Official Visits to HE Prime Minister Tammam Salam '65 and HE President Emile Lahoud '53 – January 2015

By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

OSA President Nazih Khattar '66 – with a delegation from the OSA board which included Mr Najji Chakhtoura '92, OSA Vice-President; former OSA Presidents Dr Elias Shammas '60, Mr Khaled Saab '64, and Mr Fayez Bizri '68; as well as OSA Board Member and BHS Board of Governors Member, Mr Maher Beydoun '66 – visited PM Tammam Salam

'64, a fellow old scholar and HE former President General Emile Lahoud '53, also a fellow old scholar, soon after the new year. The purpose of these visits was to update both eminent old scholars on the latest events and activities organised by the OSA, and to wish them the best for the New Year.

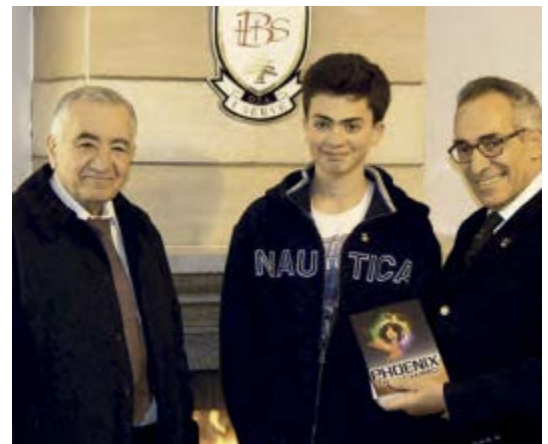
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Book Signing – Tarek Yared

Grade 8 LP student, Tarek Yared, author of *Phoenix*, was honoured for his achievement on Friday 13 February 2015 at the OSA Clubhouse. A group of students, including his classmates and class representatives, Dr Walid El Khoury, Mrs Rima Habib '82, as well as Tarek's family attended the ceremony during which President Nazih Khattar '66 presented him with a gift of \$1,500. In his turn, Tarek presented Mr Khattar and the OSA Library with signed copies of his book. The OSA is proud of Tarek's promising achievement and encourages him to continue in his journey as a writer.

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BHS Covered in Snow – February 2015



Parents' Association Mother's Day Dinner - March 2015

The BHS Parents' Association held its annual Mother's Day fundraising dinner at Mounir Restaurant in Brummana on 21 March, 2015.

The event was very well attended with over 200 parents, teachers, old scholars, members from the Board of Governors, Dr Walid El Khoury, the BHS Heads of Departments, and friends of the school. Entertainment for the evening was provided by the lovely and talented Marianne Zeinoun and a DJ. The event was a great success with funds raised from tickets and tombola to be used by the PA to support enhancements to the school campus and students' scholarships.



By Lara Ashkar
PA Treasurer



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Emmanuel Guiragossian Exhibition - March 2015

By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

Brummana High School held an exhibition of the paintings and sculptures of the eminent artist Emmanuel Guiragossian in the new Rizkallah Building Extension, in Khoury Hall. The opening of the exhibition took place in the presence of the artist himself and of many members of the BHS community on Wednesday 18 March, 2015. The exhibition,

which was very successful and well attended, continued until Saturday, 21 March 2015, and included many beautiful art works by BHS students – our budding artists of the future – displayed in the adjoining rooms to the hall.

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Inauguration of the Rizkallah Building Extension – April 2015



By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

Information provided by
Raymond El Feghali
BHS Bursar

The new Rizkallah Building Extension was inaugurated on the evening of 23 April 2015 under the patronage of HE Prime Minister Tammam Salam '64, who was represented by his wife Mrs Lama Salam. The event was attended by many prominent dignitaries, members of the community, BHS trustees and governors, BHS staff and friends, as well as OSA staff.

This project, which includes the renovation of the Rizkallah building as well as the new Rizkallah building extension, should be seen as a single complex with the two buildings completing each other. The Extension started in July 2012, has cost the school over \$4,000,000- to date, and is the biggest project to have been undertaken by the school since 1967, when the Edinburgh, Little, and Arts & Crafts buildings were erected.

The Rizkallah building extension was completed in March 2015 with the exception of the basement floor which had not been initially allocated any particular function. It was recently used to display the Emmanuel Guiragossian exhibition of paintings and sculpture. The basement will now serve as an indoor Sports area soon to be equipped with sound insulation and flooring appropriate for the purpose.

The distinctive design of the new building bears the signature of the late Omar Salhab '66, partner in MIMAR Architects, who sadly passed away before its completion, and of their senior architect Tony El Youssef. The quantity

surveyors and contract managers were D. G. Jones & Partners Middle East Ltd, whose chairman was George Younis '65. The building contractor was another old scholar, Emile Abi Rady Abu Jawdeh '75, and the project engineer was Paul Bou Rjeily and his assistant architect, Bachir Khoury.

The purpose of the project was primarily strategic – to increase the school's capacity for taking on more students at infant level. These students are more likely to stay on for the remaining years of their schooling, so that by the time they graduate they will become real BHS products, as opposed to those students who enrol in the school later in their lives and whose backgrounds and history may be different from BHS's. The Rizkallah Building now has three classrooms for KGI, and the purpose-built Annex has three classrooms each for KGII and KGIII. All the classrooms, which were built with environmentally friendly materials, are self-contained with double-glazing, each with its own toilet and sink. All are equipped with the latest technology, including interactive whiteboards, computers and the Internet.



Briefings & News

Inauguration of the Rizkallah Building Extension – April 2015

Also worth mentioning is the fact that both the building and its extension have been designed with ramps between the different parts of the building and classes, thus providing easy access for the physically challenged or for those with special needs.

Besides the obvious need for more space, the complex fulfils several other needs of the school, the most basic of which include two new playgrounds, additional storage rooms, and a water reservoir below the basement, which is filled with rain water in an area where water provision is scarce. The purpose-built complex also contains space for the administration's offices, for a computer lab, a library,

and for a kitchenette (in the extension) where infants can now be served with hot meals.

Finally, the multi-purpose Khoury Hall can function as a covered playground area on rainy days, as a dining room, or as an auditorium, with adjoining rooms serving as backstage servicing rooms depending on the function. Being bigger than the Meeting House and Dobbins Hall, the Khoury Hall can seat more than 400 persons and is fitted with modern sound and light systems, thus enhancing its capacity to hold events and activities which will enrich the cultural life and enhance the image of the whole school.

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Inauguration of the New Rizkallah Building Extension by Mrs Lama Salam, spouse of HE Prime Minister Tamam Salam '64



BHS Field Day & Games Day Results - April 2015

Compiled by Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager

2015



Student name	House	Result	Old Record	
LAURA AOUD	Waldmeier	10.80m	10.40m	shot put
INGRID ASWAD	Waldmeier	30.80s	31.40s	200m
LAURA AOUD	Waldmeier	23.80m	21.00m	discus



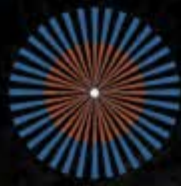
BHS Field Day & Games Day Results - April 2015



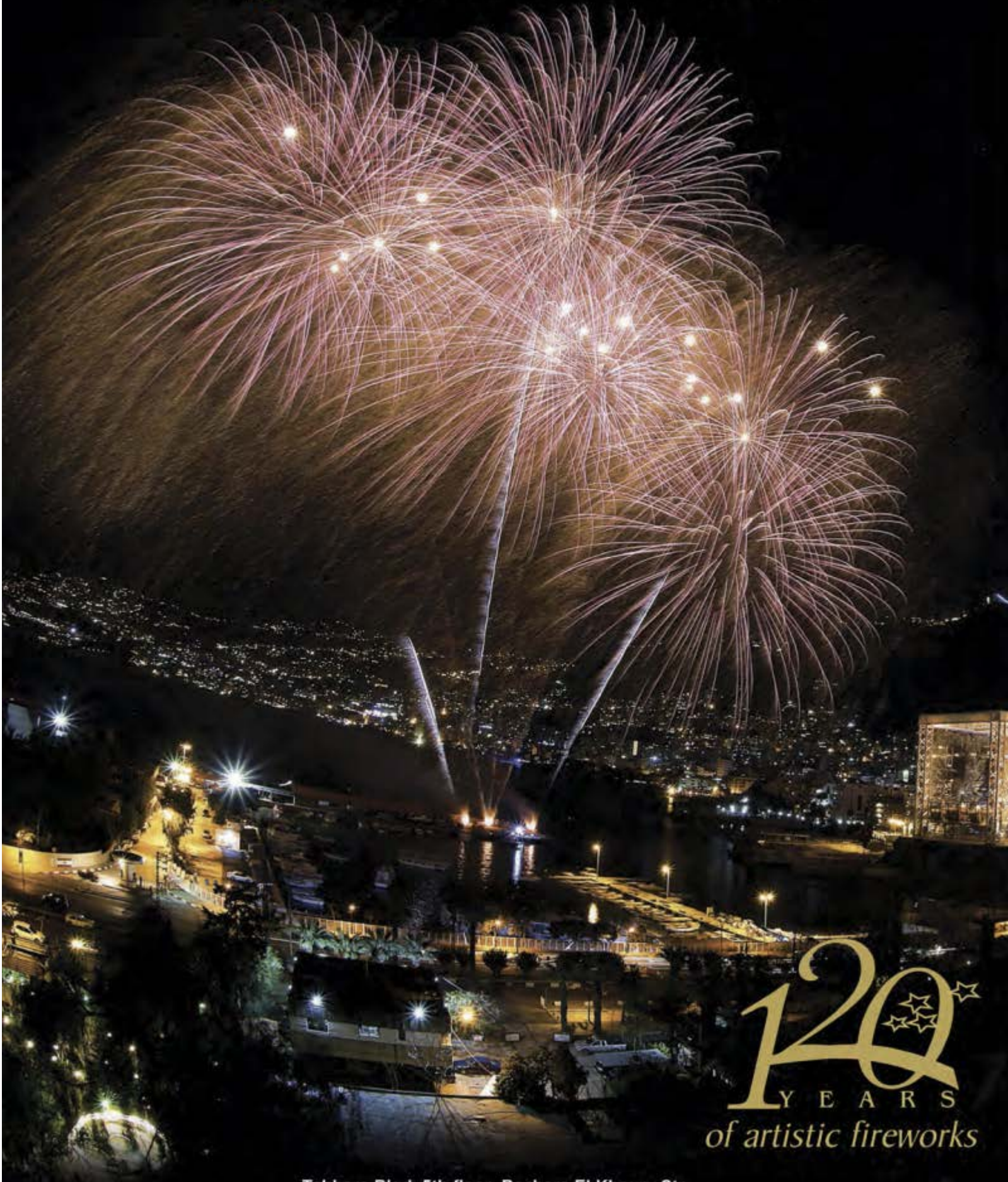
- 1
- 2
- 3

GIRLS Captains	BOYS Captains	HOUSE	HOUSE MASTERS
Douha Knio	Michael Atallah	R	Mr Samir Ziade
Ingrid Aswad	Peter Abou Jaoudeh	W	Mr Samir Ayache
Nour Asmar	Sami Fadel	L	Mr Chadi Nakhle





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OSA Prom Contribution Presentation – May 2015

By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager



On Friday 22 May 2015, the BHS Prom Committee, accompanied by Dean of Students Chadi Nakhle, visited the OSA Clubhouse, where President Nazih Khattar '66 presented Dany Hermes '15, Prom Committee Head, with a cheque for \$7000 - as the OSA's contribution towards the expenses of their Prom party. President Khattar also informed the graduates that the OSA was offering them all a five-year membership free of charge. Vice President Naji Chakhtoura '92 and the OSA Secretariat staff were present during the visit which provided another opportunity for the OSA and the new graduates, soon-to-be old scholars themselves, to interact in a warm and pleasant atmosphere.

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Class of '15 OSA End of Year Gathering – 8 May 2015

By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

The OSA annual open air End of Year Graduates' Gathering took place on the evening of 8 May, 2015. Most of the graduates, and a good number of their teachers and advisors were present and joined in the celebrations.

In addition to Dr Walid El Khoury and BHS management staff, the OSA Secretariat, former OSA President Fayez Bizri '68, OSA Treasurer Emily Salem '82, OSA Accountant Michel Azar '04, and OSA Board Member George Obeid '78 were also present

to host the gathering. The evening started with exciting western music.

Then the new young Old Scholars stormed the stage and took charge of their own entertainment with lively Arabic music and dancing. The food prepared by the BHS cafeteria staff was also delicious. In brief, it was a pleasant and balmy evening full of good cheer and fun.

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Briefings & News

Class of '15 OSA End of Year Gathering - 8 May 2015





BHS Girls Win 2015 Lebanese Basketball and Futsal Championships

From BHS Newsletter
Vol. 18 – No. 7

The BHS Varsity Girls Basketball Team won first place in the 2015 Lebanese Schools Championship. Congratulations to the girls and their coach, Christina Bado.



The BHS Varsity Girls Futsal Team won first place in the 2015 Lebanese Schools Championship. Bravo to the girls and their coach, Sami Brakh.



Captain Ingrid Aswad '15 receiving the 2015 Basketball Lebanese Championship Cup from Dr Walid El Khoury



Captain Douha Knio '15 receiving the 2015 Futsal Lebanese Championship Cup from Dr Walid El Khoury

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BHS Drama Club: When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet – June 2015

By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

The BHS Drama Club presented a play, *When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet*, written by American playwright T. C. George on 4 and 5 June 2015 in Dobbing Hall. The Grade 7 – 9 (Intermediate classes) all-female cast, directed by their instructor, Mrs Rasha Al Haddad, delighted their audience with their performances of female characters, all taken as the title indicates, from Shakespeare's plays. Portia, from *The Merchant of Venice*; Desdemona, from *Othello*; Kate, from *The Taming of the Shrew*; Ophelia, from *Hamlet*; Juliet, from *Romeo and Juliet*; and Cleopatra, the Egyptian queen, from *Anthony and Cleopatra*, were all featured and each was played with confidence and distinctive individuality. The play was short and left the audience wanting more and wishing plays were staged more often at Brummana High School.



BHS 2015 Graduations

By Tanya Nammour
OSA General Manager

This year's Graduations were, as every year, exciting occasions and a proud moments for the students, their parents, their teachers, the BHS administration, and the BHS community at large.

The **Infant Section Graduation** took place on Wednesday 17 June, 2015 and was an endearing experience to all present.



The **Upper Elementary Graduation** took place on Friday 19 June, 2015, and the Guest Speaker was the lively and engaging Lebanese Journalist Maguy Farah. Three Old Scholars Award recipients were given to the graduating students who joined BHS in the Infant Section and who best demonstrated outstanding achievement by way of scholarship, character and service. Mrs Tanya Nammour, General Manager of the OSA, gave out these awards on behalf of President Nazih Khattar '66 to Natalie Ashkar, Kareem Joseph BouAkl and Edward Prescott-Decie.





The BHS 142nd Speech Day took place on Tuesday 23 June, 2015. The equally engaging and entertaining Guest Speaker was HE Tom Fletcher CMG, United Kingdom Ambassador to Lebanon. OSA Vice President Naji Chakhtoura '92 presented the Old Scholars' Award, given to the graduating student in the Lebanese Programme who demonstrated general excellence by way of character, scholarship, and integrity, to Daniel Hilal.

I SERVE



Compiled by Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager

Yasmina Audi '96



Yasmina Audi '96, is the Founder of SUPER MOMMY in BEIRUT - (SUPER GENIO children's programme) and Licensed Educator at Kindermusik.

Kindermusik is part of SUPER MOMMY in BEIRUT, which is a child development programme aimed at developing children from the ages of 3 months to 7 years through the medium of music. Kindermusik uses a multi-sensory approach allowing children to see, feel, hear, and then express concepts in their own creative way. Research proves that music is the best activity for nurturing every area of a child's development. From birth onward, it is the optimum vehicle for learning.



ELLE FIESTA - also part of SUPER MOMMY in BEIRUT - was the FIRST Women's Empowerment and Education event in

Lebanon. It was organized by Yasmina's community with plans to expand in Dubai (2015), Cairo (2016), and Amman (2017).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dtr_67XKD MQ&feature=youtu.be

Yasmina's Kindermusik programme was featured in an interview on B Beirut on LBCI in 2014 (www.youtube.com/watch?v=t1j5a4eXWoQ), and has been gaining popularity since then. Yasmina also dedicates a lot of her time to helping mothers around the Arab region through her Super Mommy Group on Facebook, which has over 650 mums interacting with each other and discussing important child-related issues.

Yasmina is an inspiration to many mothers. She is the Super Mommy of 2 gorgeous children of her own and managing a successful career at the same time.

I SERVE

Compiled by Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager

Maxime Chaya '78



With his never ending motivation and numerous successful achievements to date, current OSA Board Member **Maxime Chaaya '78**, continues to be a source of great pride to OSA members worldwide.

Since climbing Mount Everest in 2006, Max has been visiting various Lebanese schools and companies, and giving presentations that include:

- Keynote Presentations
- Tailored Speeches
- Excerpts from A/V Documentaries
- Short A/V Documentaries
- Q&A Sessions
- 50 to 100 minutes presentations in English, French or Arabic

On 5 August 2013, Maxime beat the world record in rowing the Indian Ocean (www.rowingtheindianocean.com)

He has also published a book, *Steep Dreams: My Journey to the Top of the World* which recounts his adventures.



His most recent activity is teaming up with HeartBeat, a humanitarian association with a mission to treat children with heart disease.

<http://www.iloubnan.info/social/85929/Heartbeat-at-launches-the-Heartbeat-Box-initiative>
<http://www.maximechaya.com>

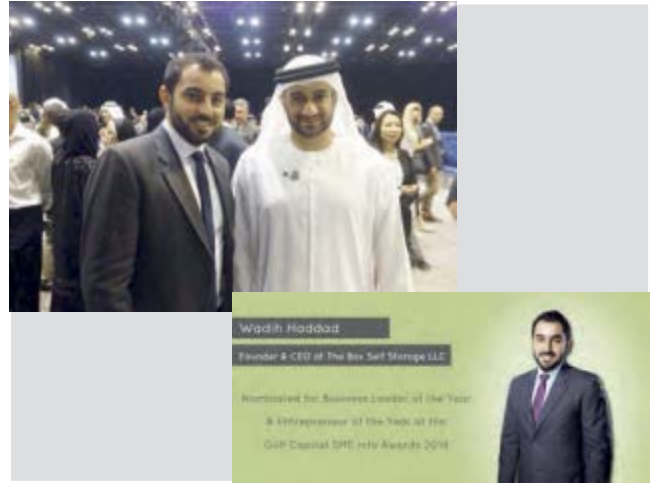
Through his activities, hard work and achievements, Maxime truly exemplifies the BHS motto, "I Serve."

I SERVE

Achievements

Compiled by Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager

Wadih Haddad '98



Wadih Haddad '98, or Woody, as most people know him, like many BHS old scholars, has already made a mark in the world of business at a young age.

He is the CEO and Founder of The Box Self Storage LLC (www.theboxme.com), the first multi-national and leading storage and moving provider in the U.A.E which caters to personal and business needs.

Founded during the Dubai economic crisis in 2007, Wadih started from scratch as a home-run business and has grown since then with more than 24 facilities within the U.A.E and with presence in Lebanon, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Canada. Currently, with over 10,000 likes on its Facebook page (www.facebook.com/theboxstorage) and 14708 customers, The Box Self Storage has been nominated for 3 awards in the U.A.E, The Dubai SME100 (Small & Medium Enterprises) in 2013 and was ranked number 72 out of the top 100 enterprises; The Gulf Capital SME Awards in 2014, for which Woody was a finalist in the Business Leader of the Year and Entrepreneur of the Year category; then again in 2014, The Box Self Storage won the Green Business of the Year

Award at Stars of Business Award 2014.

“We are extremely honoured to have received such a prestigious recognition. We invite other SMEs to follow Dubai’s initiatives for a greener, sustainable city by making simple changes in their day-to-day activities,” says Wadih.

The Box Self Storage is also the First ISO Certified Self Storage facility in the region, recognized for its environmental friendly business model and applying CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) values in its day-to-day operations. It also supports humanitarian causes such as sending aid (clothes, water and other essential supplies) to the Haiyan Typhoon Victims in the Philippines back in 2013.

Wadih and his team at The Box Self Storage LLC continue to prosper today by “thinking inside the box” and developing new methods, and through strategic attempts at space-conservation and organization. In his own words, “We will continue our journey to fulfil our mission, and this is only the beginning! Let’s keep working together closely as a team and keep moving forward to achieve our departmental goals.”



I SERVE

Compiled by Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager

Dr Lana Hawayek '91

Original courtesy of Joe Hawayek '96
Adapted for the OSA Yearbook

Dr Lana Hawayek '91 trained with some of the most eminent experts in the field of cosmetic dermatology, Drs Richard Glogau, Roy Grekin, and Whitney Tope, at the University of California in San Francisco, and graduated in 2006 with a fellowship in Cosmetic Dermatologic Surgery and Lasers. During the fellowship, she trained in Botox injections, all the different facial fillers, such as Zyderm, Zyplast, Cosmoderm, Cosmoplast, Restylane, Juvederm, Perlane, Hylaform, Captique, Radiesse and Sculptra as well as all the different lasers. She also completed a course in Liposuction with Dr Jeffrey Klein, as well as one in Sclerotherapy and the treatment of leg veins from the prestigious Morrison Institute, in Arizona.

Dr Hawayek then became Assistant Professor of Dermatology at the University of Cincinnati, where she taught general medical and surgical dermatology, and where she gave workshops in cosmetic procedures and laser training. She also worked at the VA Hospital and was part of a vascular malformation clinic at the Children's Hospital in Cincinnati. She also trained dermatologists on performing Botox injections for hyperhidrosis, or excessive sweating.

Over the years, Dr Hawayek has taken part in many courses and national



meetings, and has spoken at several of them. A presentation dear to her heart was "The Perfect Lip", handed over by her mentor. She has published articles and chapters on numerous dermatologic diseases, as well as being an editor on several journals. She is a fellow/member of several professional organizations, including the American Academy of Dermatology, the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery, the Texas Dermatologic Society, the Texas Medical Association, and the Harris County Medical Society.

Dr Hawayek treats skin conditions with a passion. She believes in establishing a good rapport with her patients to better understand their needs and concerns, and insists on examining and treating them with the highest level of expert care.

Dr Hawayek loves travelling and cooking, and lives in The Woodlands with her husband and daughter.

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Compiled by Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager

Margaret Jabara '95



Our old scholar, **Margaret Jabara '95**, participated in setting up Chreek-Doori, which is a new NGO and social business in Lebanon established in July 2013.

Chreek-Doori is a team of five highly motivated and qualified young people striving to make Lebanon, the region, and the rest of the world a better place to live in. They mentor, train, and employ marginalized women, former drug users, and former prisoners to help them in their business of innovatively converting junk and non-recyclable materials into eco-friendly furniture and decorative items with creative designs for the home, garden, balcony, and office.

Chreek-Doori recently launched their first brand called 'Doori,' through which they aim to create more job opportunities for marginalized people, whilst always being mindful of protecting the environment. Through their work, they also hope to encourage other

innovative and entrepreneurial young people to stay in Lebanon and contribute to boosting the Lebanese economy.

Chreek-Doori won an Arcenciel - Nabad Social Entrepreneurship Competition award from the PACE - USAID programme in 2013 and the Berytech Global Social Venture Competition award [3rd place] in 2014.

They were featured in various newspaper articles, magazines, TV shows, and interviews. Lately, Margaret Jabara '95 was featured in a 30 minute interview on Nour Jadeed, which was broadcast LIVE on the Satellite TV channel Nour El Sharik.

If you are an individual, an NGO, a school, a university, a company, or a bank, and you wish to support their cause and become a "CHREEK," kindly call 03-707088 or 71-499732.

I SERVE

Achievements

Compiled by Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager

Samer Karam '00



Samer Karam '00 is the chairman and founder of Startup Megaphone, an independent and neutral organisation tasked by Banque du Liban (the Central Bank of Lebanon) to manage the international image of Lebanon's startup ecosystem. He is also the chairman and founder of Seeqnce (www.seeqnce.com), a startup accelerator based in Beirut, Lebanon, which he founded in 2010.

Startup accelerators design programmes through which entrepreneurs, with or without an idea, can apply to go through a selection process whereby the best ones are accelerated for a defined period of time. The accelerated startups are subsequently provided with cash investments, in return for equity, along with unique services such as mentoring, access to facilities as well as exposure to investors for their startup upon completing the program. All these added value services increase the valuation of the startup rapidly.

Usually three hundred entrepreneurs have the chance to apply and go through a series of challenges. The best 8 Arab world's web and mobile startups join the second phase of the programme, which lasts for 6 months at Seeqnce's offices.

After operating for year and a half, Wamda – a platform of programmes and networks that aims to accelerate entrepreneurship ecosystems across MENA (Middle East & North Africa) – elected Seeqnce as one of "the top 10 accelerators" in the MENA region. Most recently, Seeqnce organized the groundbreaking Banque du Liban Accelerate 2014, Lebanon's first

international startup conference, which attracted over 1,600 professionals with a lineup of 53 international speakers from 25 countries and spanning 5 continents.

"Seeqnce" has been featured in The Economist, TechCrunch, Forbes, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, BBC News, WIRED, Le Monde, France 24, among others. In addition to having founded his own successful business, since early 2005, Samer has been investing in startups which include:

- MENA: Over 10 investments since 2007.
- USA: 3 investments since 2005.
- Southeast Asia: 1 investment in 2014.
- Scandinavia: 1 investment in 2015.

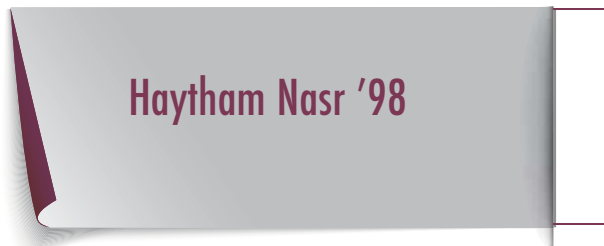
Samer has also been invited to speak at conferences, large events, roadshows, tours, and workshops since early 2009. Recently, he was featured on TEDxAthens to speak on Startups & Innovation on Peripheral Ecosystems (www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vc7IFOWyUHg).

Currently, he also advises the Central Bank of Lebanon's \$400M Sovereign Startup Fund (Circular 331) on all matters related to early stage startup investment.

I SERVE

Achievements

Compiled by Mona Karam '00
OSA Community Manager



Haytham Nasr '98

Haytham Nasr '98, old scholar and son of Mrs Yvonne Nasr, former BHS Head of the Upper School, is one of the Executive Producers of the recently released Hollywood movie Khalil Gibran's *The Prophet*, starring Salma Hayek and Liam Neeson. Haytham became involved in the movie some five years ago when his company Mygroup, which had had a solid track record in raising funds for various projects, was asked to co-fund the movie. In that same year Mygroup announced officially that it had signed on to co-finance the Hollywood production of Khalil Gibran's *The Prophet*, produced by Clark Peterson and Salma Hayek. It was the first time in history that the feature film and related rights to *The Prophet* had been granted.

Haytham appeared on Future TV news discussing the project, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4D9jEGwkgw>), and just recently was invited onto Sky News to discuss the regional theatrical release of the movie.



As a pioneer in equity crowd funding in Lebanon, Haytham was able to raise funds for other projects including the "million-dollar bar" in Beirut Central District, mybar, which received acclaimed global exposure from leading publications including *The Independent*, *The Financial Times*, *Virgin.com*, *Monocle*, and *Elle* magazine. However, as with many other entrepreneurs, Haytham found the path towards success was not linear and after several years of successful operations in Lebanon, Haytham made the

difficult decision to close down many of his on-going operations in Beirut. In 2013, as a guest speaker at TedxAUB, Haytham discussed his journey to date and his incredible experience of crowd funding. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBx14m4wMFM>).



Gibran Khalil Gibran's animated movie "The Prophet" was first showcased at the acclaimed film festivals Cannes and Toronto, and then premiered on Monday, 27 April, 2015 in Lebanon at Cinemacity in Beirut Souks, in the presence of Salma Hayek. It was truly a proud moment not only for Haytham but also for everyone who had been involved in the movie. A global release is scheduled for 7 August when Haytham is hoping the response to the movie in the rest of the world will be as special as the reception it received in Lebanon. The movie is already being touted as a potential Oscar award nominee and winner.



Among his other current achievements, Haytham as Group Marketing Director of Montegrappa, has presented Shah Rukh Khan with an achievement award and taken part in The Arab Luxury World Conference, discussing digital trends within the Middle East.

Haytham is a seasoned marketer, leader, entrepreneur and strategist. In his words, "My favourite anthem is **You'll Never Walk Alone**. A big idea is only a big idea if you make it happen."

It is gratifying to note that another BHS Old Scholar is making an impact on an international level.



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