

Takween Library inaugurates storytellers conference

By Faten Omar

The Takween Library inaugurated the story and storytellers conference on Sunday. It was sponsored by the American University of Kuwait, in the presence of the novelist and founder of the library Bothayna Al-Essa and the president of the AUK, Dr Tim Sullivan. In her opening speech titled "Once upon a...", the novelist Al-Essa said "Once, I remembered thinking the absence of imagination could be the root of all evils in the world."

"We sometimes find human beings who can kill a man because he is simply incapable of imagining putting himself in his place. How can we understand oppression, fanaticism, and hatred in the presence of imagination, the bridge that connects both sides with each other? Will the world remain the same, if we all abide by our moral duty, to imagine?"

Essa quoted the words of Ghassan Kanafani "They judge you because they do not know you." But how can they know you without imagination, without the ability to walk your own steps, to make themselves heroes in your own story, what the story does, it gives us the ability to understand the other, rather than judge him. "If we want to understand someone, we usually ask, what is his story? All of our side conversations, all our dreams, our nightmares, and all that we are looking for in art and lit-



AUK president and founder of the library Bothayna Al-Essa

erature is almost the same, we always want the story, because we want to understand," she noted.

A video about the Takween library was shown during the opening ceremony in which Essa said that the goal is to make a radical cultural change in order to make



reading become a lifestyle. "There is always an obsession to convince someone who does not read to be a reader and transform the concept of reading into a daily habit in every person's life in society." It is worth mentioning that the events of the conference will continue

until March 24th. The sponsors of the forum include: The National Library of Culture, Arts and Letters, The American University of Kuwait, Boubyan Bank, Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences, Contemporary Art Platform, Al Qabas Newspaper.

LOYAC Arabic Youth Festival



In the presence of many Kuwaiti heritage as well as Western jazz lovers, Al-Shaheed Park audience recently enjoyed a mixture of Arabic rhythms and Jazz music at the Arabic Youth Festival organized by LOYAC's Academy for Performance Arts (LAPA) at the park's amphitheatre. The first part of the concert included a performance by Ghazi Al-Mulaifi accompanied by Ma'youf Mejalli musical band, which was founded in 1948 and specialize in Kuwait marine folklore. The second part of the concert included a charming performance by Kuwait folkloric singer, Salman Al-Ammari accompanied by a folkloric dance which was performed by Al-Mass company.



This Mother's Day treat your mother at Jumeirah Hotel

On March 21st, invite your mother for a special dining experience at Kuwait's idyllic resort's award-winning restaurants to savor exceptional menus created to mark this occasion. Enjoy the international gastronomic delights of the all-day dining restaurant Garden Cafe, prepared by the hotel's renowned chefs with sweet desserts. If your Mother is a fan of outdoor gatherings, take her for the renowned BBQs by the poolside at Mint Cafe. Book a table for five or more people at these restaurants for KWD 20 per person, and your Mother will be treated to a complimentary dinner.

Additional dining options are also available at the resort. Chef Rino welcomes you and your Mother for an evening of authentic



homemade Italian favorites, including pizzas made in the wood-burning stove at Olio Restaurant. While Pepper Steakhouse has a treat for all the special Mothers offering them the finest flame-grilled steaks cooked to perfection; dinner in Salt will unearth flavorless treasures of the sea for seafood lovers. Mothers will be treated to a complimentary main dish while dining in these restaurants.

All mothers deserve rejuvenation and relaxation and there's no better way than a

grand pampering at the resort's award-winning Talise Spa. Treat your mother to a 90-minute body scrub followed by a massage. It is made with brown sugar from the island of Mauritius, gourmet honey, aromatic vanilla and rejuvenating Macadamia Oil and priced at KWD 70. Your Mother will be offered a full use of the Spa's world-class facilities, including sauna, steam room, experience showers and more. Special Mother's Day vouchers are also available at the Spa.

'Roaa Misriya' the Egyptian Annual Art Exhibition

Roaa Misriya, the Egyptian Annual Art Exhibition of Egyptian artists was recently opened in Modern arts Museum gallery in Kuwait City



ABCK celebrates anniversary

The American Business Council Kuwait (ABCK) celebrated its 33rd anniversary with a black tie gala at the US Embassy. The event



featured many dignitaries including US Ambassador Lawrence Silverman and Australian Ambassador Jonathan Gilbert. ABCK Chair Dr Juliet Dinkha kicked off the evening with a brief introduction about ABCK, highlighting the organization's many achievements over the past year and its upcoming events. She then introduced Ambassador Silverman who provided remarks on the strong bilateral relations between the State of Kuwait and the United States.