



Schedule Overview

Wednesday, April 26

4:30 pm - 8:30 pm ACCESS Film Premiere and MOVE 2023 Welcome Reception at the Arab American National Museum

Join us at the Arab American National Museum (AANM) to kick off MOVE! Enjoy delicious Arab cuisine, tours of the museum, traditional Arabic music as well as a DJ and dancing, and time for networking. You won't want to miss the highlight of the evening - the viewing of a brand-new documentary commissioned with an expert filmmaker that will include oral histories, interviews, and footage to capture the incredible 50-year history of ACCESS.

Welcoming Remarks: Ahmad Ezzedine, ACCESS Board Chair

Thursday, April 27

<p>8:00am – 4:00pm</p>	<p>Exhibitor Hall Open</p> <p>Visit our 12 vendors from local Dearborn and Detroit businesses selling products like, clothing, jewelry, treats and spices, rugs, glassware, zines, and henna.</p>
<p>8:30am – 9:30am</p>	<p>Opening Plenary – Breakfast and Welcoming Remarks</p> <p><i>Opening Remarks: Maha Freij, ACCESS President & CEO</i></p>
<p>9:45am – 11:15am</p>	<p>Breakout Session 1</p> <p>Philanthropy meets Activism: How cross-racial donor-organizers are building power and driving change: How do you pair philanthropy with passion for advocacy and activism? How do you work across communities to build grassroots movements that effectively change the narrative? These are just some of the questions attendees will explore in this dynamic session led by Leena Barakat, President & CEO of Women Donors Network (WDN). Leena will discuss WDN’s unique model and how to connect, learn, and act to fund movements and power justice.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Leena Barakat, President & CEO, Women Donors Network</i> <i>Moderator: Tamara El-Khoury, Director, Center for Arab American Philanthropy</i></p> <p>Substance Use Disorders in the Arab American Community: Addressing stigma and accessing resources for our communities: Communities across this country have been devastated by the opioid crisis, and the Arab American community is no exception. What’s more, substance use in this country has only deepened in the aftermath of the pandemic.</p>

Adding to this crisis is the reality that Arab American families impacted by substance use disorders are often isolated from access to resources and support out of fear of stigma and shame. This workshop will include a discussion with researchers, nonprofit leaders, and government health departments on tackling the stigma around substance use and building stronger, healthier communities.

*Speakers: Mona Makki, Community Health and Research Center Director, ACCESS
Ali Abazeed, Chief Public Health Officer, Director of Public Health, Dearborn
Public Health*

*Dr. Kaston D. Anderson-Carpenter, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Michigan
State University*

Mustafa Sahid, Director of Operations, Somali Family Services

*Moderator: Dr. Abdul El-Sayed, Human and Veteran Services, Director and Health
Officer, Wayne County Health*

Count MENA In: How to Get Involved in the Movement: Are you interested in the journey to establishing a distinct Middle East and North Africa (MENA) category in your state, city, or local institutions? This session will begin with the National Network for Arab American Communities sharing their strategies for MENA inclusion, and then break out into interest groups to discuss and explore advocacy possibilities.

*Speakers: Lucine Jarrah, Executive Director, Arab American Heritage Council
Adam Beddawi, Policy Manager, National Network for Arab American
Communities*

Nadia Mavrakis, CEO, Culturingua

Amin Nash, Policy Fellow, Arab American Civic Council

Basma Outhman, Advocacy Coordinator, Arab American Family Services

*Moderator: Salma Mohamed, Policy Associate, National Network for Arab American
Communities*

Artist and Funder Dialogue: How can philanthropy best support the arts?: In the past several years, foundations have led several creative approaches to funding the arts. At the same time, unique arts and culture nonprofits such as Art2Action and many more continue to develop, produce, and present original works that uplift diverse artists. In this session, participants will take part in an open dialogue designed to bridge gaps between the philanthropic and arts and culture sectors, and discuss how the philanthropic sector can best support artists and remain innovative.

*Speakers: Bahia Ramos, Director, Arts Programs, Wallace Foundation
Michelle Johnson, Senior Program Officer, The Kresge Foundation
Arij Mikati, Managing Director, Culture Change, Pillars Fund
Andrea Assaf, Art2Action*

Moderator: Omari Rush, Executive Director, Culture Source

**11:30am –
1:30pm**

Lunch Keynote Address

This highly anticipated keynote address features **Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha**, a physician and leading advocate for health equity, young people and justice for all communities, who will energize our audience to work together and take action to create change.

Facilitator: Lina Hourani-Harajli, ACCESS Chief Operating Officer

1:30pm –
3:00pm

Breakout Session 2

Creative Exchange: Artist and Presenter Share-Out: Calling all artists and arts-presenting organizations! Participants will have the opportunity to share their work, works-in-progress, anticipated tours, and presentation plans. Art forms of all kinds are encouraged, including dance, visual arts, theater, film, music, and more. Get inspired by creatives just like you while building a lasting and supportive community. Presenters will have up to five minutes to share. Sign-up is required for presenters (spots are limited and are first come, first served). All artists and art organizations are welcome to share. To reserve a five-minute slot, please sign up [here](#). Be sure to include any links you may have for presentations, photos, videos, etc.!

*Moderators: Leyya Tawil, Artist and Curator, Arab.AMP
Fatima Al-Rasool, Public Programming Coordinator, Arab American National Museum*

Give Smart, Give Together: Collective giving for collective good: No matter the method, size, or frequency of your giving, your generosity has the potential to make a positive impact on our world. This impact is made even greater when others join in and lend their support to your cause. Hear from a panel of inspirational Arab Americans as they share stories of supporting causes they care about and using unique giving methods that leverage community support to elevate Arab American voices and make a greater impact.

*Speakers: Rasha Demashkieh, 100 Arab American Women who Care
Rouba Ali Fehmi, Piano Keys for Syrian Kids Fund
Noor Atari, CEO, AccountSpark STEM Scholarship Fund
Moderator: Gheed Amara Itani, CAAP Professional Advisory Board Member*

Rethinking Expertise: Best practices for community-based research: Staff at community-centered service-delivery agencies, advocacy organizations, or arts and culture organizations have a wealth of expertise. This workshop will help participants think through the processes involved in facilitating or engaging in community-based research projects. The workshop is designed for people who work at Arab American nonprofits, but will also benefit university-based faculty and graduate students, as well as people who work at health systems. The workshop leaders all have many years of hands-on experience conducting or facilitating community-based research. Topics will range from navigating ethical issues and funding considerations to advocating for staff and community inclusion in publications.

*Speakers: Miles McNall, Director for Community-Engaged Research, Michigan State University
Florence Dallo, Professor and Associate Dean, Oakland University
Matthew Jaber Stiffler, Director, Center for Arab Narratives
Maia Dillane, Director of Research and Evaluation, Arab American Family Support Center
Moderator: Dr. Hayley Thompson, Associate Director, Community Outreach Engagement, Wayne State University, School of Medicine*

LEAP Beyond Success: How leaders in business and philanthropy evolve: Do you have a passion for social change and impact, but don't always know how to tap into your unique

	<p>skills to drive that change? Whether you are a business leader, philanthropist, nonprofit leader, artist, or activist, understanding and honing your leadership skills is important to leverage your passions with others to build collective impact. Author Micheline Nader offers participants a step-by-step guide to developing their leadership skills by interweaving business acumen, innate passion, and a clear sense of purpose. For people looking at leading a purpose-driven career and life, this session will help you achieve meaningful personal and career success as you leap forward into your future life and sustainable legacy.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Micheline Nader, Author and President, Jesra Foundation</i></p>
3:15pm – 4:30pm	Networking and Research Sharing Space
6:00pm – 10:00pm	<p>Thursday Evening Signature Event: ACCESS' 51st Annual Dinner</p> <p>The largest event of its kind, the ACCESS Annual Dinner brings together 2,000 community members, friends and supporters, including local, state and national officials, along with business, corporate and nonprofit leaders. All proceeds from our 51st Annual Dinner will directly benefit the establishment of the ACCESS Substance Use Disorder Treatment Center – a state-of-the-art facility that will offer our unique, holistic approach to treatment and recovery for Southeast Michigan. This year's Arab American of the year honoree is Michael Farah, a trusted financial expert and talented innovator, a visionary business leader and longtime philanthropist whose tireless work has fostered awareness, understanding and improved communities across the nation and the globe.</p>

Friday, April 28

8:00am – 4:00pm	<p>Exhibitor Hall Open</p> <p>Visit our 12 vendors from local Dearborn and Detroit businesses selling products like, clothing, jewelry, treats and spices, rugs, glassware, zines, and henna.</p>
8:00am – 9:00am	Continental Breakfast
9:00am – 10:30am	<p>Breakout Session 3</p> <p><i>Addressing the Mental Health Crisis: How we can help our communities:</i> Communities across the country and the world are struggling with unprecedented levels of mental health crises. Communities, families, and individuals may be wrestling with generational trauma, grief, and loss, but how do we equip ourselves and our communities to seek help when needed? Through a conversation with mental health experts in Arab and Muslim communities participants will gain access to tools and resources to support themselves and their communities in creative ways.</p> <p><i>Speakers: Dr. Farha Abbasi, Assistant Professor and Founder, Muslim Mental Health Conference, Psychiatry at MSU</i></p>

Eric Doeh, President and Chief Executive Officer, Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network
Dr. Saida Abdi, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, University of Minnesota
Dr. Wisam Salman, Psychiatrist, ACCESS
Moderator: Dr. Darren Jones, Senior Community Health Officer, ACCESS

Creating a Collective Vocabulary: Re-imagining how we talk about our communities: Join us for an innovative co-writing workshop to explore the language we use to describe our communities, identities, and shared region. During this interactive session, we'll think through the origins of some of the terms that have historically been used to describe our communities, generate a lexicon of vocabulary that we'd like to use moving forward, and give meaning to some of these terms. Together, we'll produce a digital document of our collaboration that can be shared with and added to by other participants.

Speaker: Amira Hanafi, Writer in Residence, Coastal Carolina University

Getting Out the Arab American Vote: Building power in our communities: In this session, participants will learn best practices to engage different populations in civic engagement and GOTV (Get Out the Vote) work in their respective communities. Community activists, youth leaders, and civic engagement organizations will discuss Arab American voter mobilization through power building and integrating youth and immigrant women, as well as building coalitions with other marginalized communities.

Speakers: Mawj Mohammed, Program Director, America Votes

Mahdi Aljaberi, Youth Ambassador, United Nations Association of the United States of America

Rania Salem, Arab American Action Network

Moderator: Shams Al-Badry, Civic Engagement Manager, National Network for Arab American Communities

Building Connections: Establishing an Arab American art and culture alliance: This session will bring together representatives from the Arab American National Museum (AANM) and the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC), along with grassroots arts and culture organizations and other community-based arts projects. We will explore ways that Arab American and Southwest Asian and North African (SWANA) arts organizations and artists can support and uplift each other. In addition, we will present the nascent Arab American Arts Council, an initiative by AANM and NNAAC, as a vehicle for achieving cohesion, collaboration, and support for Arab American/SWANA artists across the sector.

Speakers: Roula David, Owner, Spotlight, Founder, Murals in the Market

Mona Gazala, Artist Curator, Gazala Projects

Bronwyn Prater, Capacity Building Manager, National Network for Arab American Communities

Moderator: Diana Abouali, Director, Arab American National Museum

**11:00am –
12:30pm**

Breakout Session 4

Cultural Exchange: So you want to start an Arab cultural festival in your city?: Arab festivals in the United States date back to the 1930s, and the last 10 years have seen a growth in new and innovative festivals emerging all over the country. What makes large

gatherings so integral to the fabric of Arab America? What impact can these events have on communities, both Arab and non-Arab? What do young Arab Americans hope for the future of the haflah? Join past and present organizers of Arab film, culture, and music festivals for fruitful dialogue on all the above. You might just feel inspired to start a festival in your city!

Speakers: Serge Bakalian, Foundation Executive Director, Arab Film and Media Institute

Rana Fayez, Executive Director, YallaPunk

Alex Knowlton, Director of Joe's Pub, Habibi Festival

Moderator: Kathryn Grabowski-Khairullah, Program Curator, University of Michigan Arts Initiative

Integrating DEI: Community Organizing and Inclusive Spaces: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are terms we've heard increasingly over the past few years. We know DEI matters, but what does it really mean? As community organizers, artists and organizations, how can we create inclusive spaces for the work we do and the people we work with? While we may understand the intersections and root causes of our individual struggles, how can we be more intentional – whether within our work environments or when working with allies – about including all voices and perspectives? Why is diversity alone not enough? What does a culture of belonging really look like? This session will examine the critical issues facing our work in the DEI space today. Hear from DEI experts and community organizations who will share how inclusivity and diversity go hand-in-hand and how one cannot thrive without the other. Learn how to foster healthy work/organizing spaces that encourage different ideas and perspectives and build authentic relationship with others.

Speakers: Kat LaTosch, Director and Principal Consultant, LaTosch Consulting

Freda Sampson, DEI Strategist & Consultant, LaTosch Consulting

Itedal Shalabi, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Arab American Family Services

Lana Barkawi, Executive + Artistic Director, Mizna

Moderator: Jumana Salamey, Deputy Director, Arab American National Museum

Philanthropy as a Tool for Change: Supporting Arab Americans in public service: When you see a need in your community, how do you go about making change? This session will showcase philanthropy as one tool individuals can use to build power in communities. Seeing a need for more support for young Arab Americans wishing to enter public service, several donors came together to establish the Arab American Leadership Fund (AALF) at the Center for Arab American Philanthropy. AALF is an exciting national program jointly ran with the National Network for Arab American Communities that connects Arab American college students and recent graduates to Congressional internships. Attendees will learn about how AALF is serving as a philanthropic tool to strengthen the political power of the Arab American community and build a pipeline of Arab American talent in public service positions.

Speakers: Hassan Jaber, President, Upsurge Strategies

Sief Salameh, Graduate Student, The University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

Rima Meroueh, Director, National Network for Arab American Communities

Moderator: Hala Hijazi, Founder and CEO, HKH Consulting

	<p>Body Watani: Reflections on how "homeland" lives inside our bodies - a movement session for non-dancers: We are two Palestinian sisters and dancers born in diaspora, who are welcoming bodies of diasporic / immigration / refugee / mixed body realities to research how spending time in simple movements and gestures can help nurture our connection with ancestral roots, distant homelands, and the possibilities that come when we awaken our body watani. No dance experience is necessary. Simply attend with curiosity and openness to explore simple movement prompts at your desired capacity. Wear comfortable clothes!</p> <p><i>Presenters: Noelle Awadallah, Choreographer Leila Awadallah, Choreographer</i></p>
<p>12:30pm – 2:30pm</p>	<p>Friday Lunch Plenary: Democracy Deconstructed</p> <p>White supremacy is more than just a concept. It shows up in very real and harmful ways, via the lack of access to education, health care, and the gutting of our voting rights. Preventing access to these basic rights further perpetuates supremacist ideals. As we continue to strive for a democracy that is inclusive of Arab American needs and voices, we must acknowledge that supremacist ideology has been baked into the framework of our democratic systems for centuries, resulting in the historic disenfranchisement of black and brown people, which was further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This panel will discuss gaps in health equity, disparate access to quality education, attacks on voting rights, and the growing wave of climate migration.</p> <p><i>Speakers: Marjorie Sims, Managing Director, Ascend, The Aspen Institute Amaha Kassa, Executive Director, African Communities Together Nadine Naber, Professor, Gender and Women’s Studies and Global Asian Studies, University of Illinois Chicago Fadwa Hammoud, Chief Deputy Attorney General of Michigan Moderator: Rana Elmir, Executive Director, Rise Together Fund Closing Remarks: Jamie Kim, ACCESS Director of Evaluation and Learning</i></p>
<p>2:30pm – 4:00pm</p>	<p>Breakout Session 5</p> <p>Campaigning for Community: Supporting MENA candidates for office: Hear from members of the Arab American and MENA community who have run for office or participated in campaigns. They will share their stories, lessons learned, and advice for others interested in campaigning, helping you learn how you can support aspiring candidates during this process.</p> <p><i>Speakers: Abraham Aiyash, State Representative, Michigan House of Representatives Andre Sayegh, Mayor, Paterson, New Jersey Mana Abdi, State Representative, Maine House of Representatives Alabas Farhat, State Representative, Michigan House of Representatives Moderator: Ghida Dagher, CEO & President, New American Leaders</i></p> <p>Demystifying Philanthropy: Your funding questions answered: Our organizations can’t survive and thrive without philanthropy – institutional funders, donor collaboratives,</p>

family and community foundations to name a few. At the same time, the perceived power funders hold can feel overwhelming and mysterious to even the most seasoned non-profit CEO. Come prepared with the funding issues that challenge you most, and a panel of funder partners from across philanthropic entities will answer your questions and lift the shroud.

*Speakers: Farhan Latif, President, El-Hibri Foundation
Kalia Abiade, Vice President, Programs, Pillars Fund
Omayma El Ella, Senior Program Associate, Democracy Fund
Moderator: Rana Elmir, Executive Director, Rise Together Fund*

Sustainability and Social Change: During a time of unprecedented and overlapping crises, many of us are feeling overwhelmed and experiencing fatigue, burnout, and uncertainty. As individuals, how can we anchor our vital work to advance equity and justice? As organizational staff and leaders, how can we create the scaffolding to meet the moment? During this session, we will have the opportunity to identify challenges, to identify individual commitments and organizational systems, and to learn about tools and resources that can sustain our social change practices.

Speaker: Adaku Utah, Senior Manager, Solidarity Is, a program of the Building Movement Project

**8:00pm –
10:00pm**

TERRANEA: hakawatia of the sea

This work began in a solo residency at the Arab American National Museum in September of 2020. After 2.5 years of process and collaborations that took place on Turtle Island, Lebanon, and Sicily, with artists across disciplines and places, we will return for a residency that will culminate in sharing the performance TERRANEA hakawatia of the sea at the Arab American National Museum.

TERRANEA: hakawatia of the sea is a performance that weaves a contemporary mythology about Terranea, a sea spirit who gathers those that have lost their lives in the Mediterranean Sea. Developed collaboratively along the Lebanese and Sicilian coasts, in the lakes of Mni Sota Makoce (Minnesota, US), and with Palestinian water wells and streams in mind, this dance performance integrates oral histories around bodies of water while delving into the memories water itself can hold. Dancers, musicians, and writers come together to imagine how to embody the lessons of this essential element. At the same time, we contemplate how our bodies are affected by absurd and deadly blockages, on land and in water, that impede free-flowing movement. Looking particularly into the illegal Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and water, where Palestinian bodies, homes, olive trees and rights are under attack; where indigenous resistance roots are deep and ignited. As well as the broader crisis of the sea; whereas in its past, the Mediterranean was a space of free and fluid migration, the sea is now marked with invisible borders and demarcations of power, with detrimental effects.

Performance by Body Watani Dance Project; choreographed by Leila and Noelle Awadallah in collaboration with the dancers / performers Nakita Kirchner, Sharitah Nalule, Erica Jo Vibar Sherwood, and Emma Marlar.