

## LBBY NEWS

### Social Skills Management For Syrian Children in Lebanon

**Program:** Social Skills Management

**School:** Burj Hammoud Althania Almutawasita Almutakhalata in Burj Hammoud

**Duration:** April 1, till June 30th, 2017. Four hours per day on a school day off.

**Number of children:** 125

**Age of children :** 9-13

**Staff :** Six teachers who were trained by Dr. J. Abu Nasr in the use of the program.

#### Effects of the program on children

The outcome was very rewarding and the responses of teachers, parents and classmates were indicative of a successful program. Observations were conducted during the period of implementation both in the classroom and the playground, in the teachers' classroom who were administering the program as well as the playground. The changes were very apparent and rewarding to say the least.



#### Program objectives

1. Understand one's feelings and those of others.
2. Develop awareness of anger, its causes, apparent symptoms and consequences.
3. Learn socially accepted techniques to control anger.
4. Educate them in their rights as children, the rights of others and the positive ways to achieve them.
5. Attract their attention to differences among people and the importance of tolerance
6. Alert them to the importance of cooperation and its benefits

#### Activities that are an integral part of the program

1. Free discussion with affection and sympathy without condemnation or evaluation.
2. Story reading and storytelling. (selected stories for the program)
3. Creative dramatics
4. Art work
5. Writing , optional.

Here are some of the changes that were observed:

- ◆ Less hate, fear, anxiety and anger were demonstrated in general. More faith, confidence and courage in one's self, more affection for parents friends and teachers.
- ◆ Less verbal and physical aggression.
- ◆ More respect, tolerance and acceptance of differences for each other and for teachers.
- ◆ More facility in expressing themselves while reporting horror experiences they had.
- ◆ Awareness of their rights and positive means to demand them. Awareness of other people's rights as well.
- ◆ A positive outlook on life instead of the gloomy depressing ideas as revealed through their drawing and drama performances.
- ◆ More willingness to cooperate and join in group activities.

Teachers also reported that they themselves were positively influenced by methods and techniques used in implementing

this program. As a result of this experience they are more aware of children's needs, have learned the importance of listening to children and the power of action in the classroom. Teacher child interaction, they concluded, is a more effective technique in teaching than recitation and memorization.

### Conclusion

In conclusion I am quite satisfied with the progress made through this short period of time. We do not claim that we have solved all the children's problems for ever after but we can say that these children were lucky to have this experience in an atmosphere surrounded by love and caring. We have tried to bring some happiness into the life of a group of children whose childhood was stolen from them for no faults of theirs but for the greed of adults who were supposed to protect them.

Submitted by **Julinda Abu Nasr (PhD)**  
Honorary member and Founder of LBBY  
Initiator and supervisor of this program



## The Annual Reading Competition– 2017

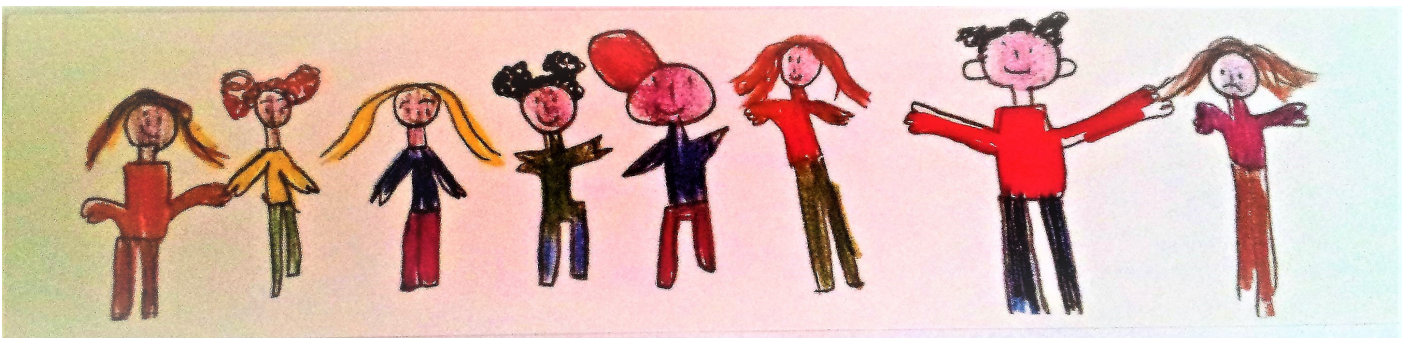
To promote reading among children in public and private schools in Lebanon, Dr. Julinda AboulNasr, started the idea of the reading competition. This year the 2017 reading competition was organized again by the Lebanese Board on Books for Young People. The winners from nearly 60 schools that participated in this competition, were honored in a special ceremony that took place on May 12 at the UNESCO palace in Beirut .

The top three readers in every school were invited along with their parents, teachers and school directors who reported the children enthusiasm and excitement and the positive influence of the competition on the children' s

overall academic performance.

The children enjoyed a puppet show performed by **Les Amis des Marionette** , followed by the distribution of certificates and prizes of selected books for the first three readers in recognition of their achievements.

Along with the reading competition LBBY has introduced a new activity for the children to create a **book mark** based on a story they read. Hiba Al Yousef of the New Zahle Middle public School was the winner for creating a book mark inspired by the story “ **The Difference is a Necessity** “



*Preparations for the upcoming Reading Competition for the year 2018 have started. Inform your friends and colleagues and spread the word among schools.*





### Samar Barraaj, Reading Activities

An active writer and author of many children's books that have been very successful, recently visited the Josoor school and worked with the Syrian refugee children. She read stories for them and engaged them in several other reading activities.

### Sinan Hallak Drawing Workshop

Illustrator Sinan Hallak ran three workshops over the past six months; Three groups of children (8-12 years' old) created their own illustrated silent books, all in a professional team-based framework.

Each project took 8 hours of work, starting from scenario development, sketching and ending with final execution. After this, Sinan compiled the work of the participants into professionally produced picture books and each team member received a copy

of their own team's book.

As per the illustrator, the aim of those workshops is guiding the children through the process of picture books' illustration while giving them the incentive to draw and express their ideas through images only.

Those workshops were part of an ongoing series taking place in several venues in Beirut, for more information, please visit [www.sinanhallak.com](http://www.sinanhallak.com) or contact Sinan Hallak on 03 222 608.



### Fatima Sharafddine

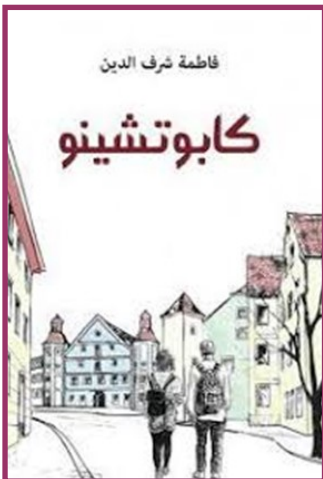
Fatima has participated in several reading activities during a number of cultural and art festivals in Beirut and other areas in Lebanon. On the 29th of September and the 2nd of October she was involved in the event of "Nihna wil Amar Jiran" in both Mar Mikahel and Hammana.

From 27 to 29th of September, Fatima participated in a conference on translation, organized by the University of Granada in Andalusia, South of Spain. Fatima gave a presentation on how children's books can become the tool to empower the use of the Arabic language among the young generation of today. She was also engaged in activities and a workshop about the basics of writing for children and young adults.

Fatima will be participating in upcoming events such as the Arab Book Fair in Beirut and namely on the following dates:

- ◆ December 1: Lycee schools section: activity and reading of the book Al Rouzana from Al Saki publishing.
- ◆ December 5: Asala section: Activities and reading a selection of books by the publisher.
- ◆ December 11: Al Saki section, reading activities for a selection of Saki books.

## IN FOCUS



Written by Fatima Sharafeddine, *Cappuccino* (2016, Dar al-Saqi) tells the story of Anas and Lina, a seventeen-year-old boy and girl who meet at a yoga class and develop a close friendship. As the story unfolds, we discover the crises they each face at home. Although family violence is central to the book, there are other issues that arise and start to unfold slowly as their relationship progresses.

The novel is co-narrated by the voices of Anas and Lina, and both their lives unfold, chapter by chapter, in their voices.

The novel, *Cappuccino*, is the winner of the Etisalat Award 2017 for the category of "The Young Adult Book of the Year". The novel, *Cappuccino*, has been shortlisted for the "etisalat" award in the category dedicated for books for young readers for the year 2017.

## GENERAL NEWS

### BibBus project

The Goethe-Institut Libanon's BibBus project was set to launch on 16 June 2017.

The mobile library brings books, games and entertainment to disadvantaged children and adolescents in Lebanon to stir their creativity and imagination and to provide them with sustainable access to education.

The BibBus will stop in economically distressed regions all around Lebanon, especially refugee camps and informal education centres.

The Goethe-Institut will be cooperating with the Maarouf Saad Foundation in Saïda, with SEED and Besmeh wa

Zaytoonah in Tripoli and with the organisations Alphabet and Women Now in the Beqaa Valley. The BibBus comes bearing 1,500 media in Arabic, including the latest young readers' books, picture books and comics for children and adolescents to borrow. It also offers games, theatre and interactive readings to help teach children and adolescents how to read and support them in discovering their own creative side.

By providing age-appropriate literature, the BibBus makes reading fun and accompanies children and adolescents on their path to becoming independent readers.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Arab Book Fairs & other events

Date	City	Date	City
25/10/2017	Algeria	30/11/2017	Beirut
01/11/2017	Sharjah	14/12/2017	Jadeh
15/11/2017	Kuwait	27/01/2018	Cairo
29/11/2017	Doha	08/02/2018	Casablanca

برعاية وحضور رئيس بلدية زحلة - معلقة وتعاليل  
المهندس أسعد زغيب  
يسر لجنة الثقافة وأصدقاء مكتبة البلدية العامة  
ان تدعوكم الى حضور لقاء حول كتاب  
« **أحب بيتي** »  
للمربية الأدبية أمل أيوب فريجي  
وذلك الخميس ٢٦ تشرين الأول ٢٠١٧ الساعة الخامسة  
في قاعة حضارة الطفل  
يلى الحفل توقيع الكتاب و نخب المناسبة  
حضوركم يسعدنا

## WHO ARE WE

### LEBANESE BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Lebanese Board on Books for Young People (LBBY) was founded in 1974 by Dr. Julinda Aboulnasr as the local chapter affiliated with the mother organization IBBY in Geneva with membership of about 75 countries across the world. The main objective of the mother organization is maintaining world peace and understanding through quality children's literature. The membership includes writers, educators, illustrators, publishers, librarians and other individuals interested in children, young readers, and books. Among its objectives is the distribution of libraries to schools and promoting reading among children and youth.

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**President:** Shereen Kreidieh

**Board members:**

Doha Slim  
Hoda Hammoud  
Hassana Jabr  
Antoine Chartouni  
Hana AbuKhadra  
Sinan Hallak

**Honorary Member:** Julinda Abulnasr