

QATAR FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT



17 / 18





Qatar Foundation (QF) is the inspirational vision of His Highness the Father Emir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Founder of Qatar Foundation, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation. Established in 1995, QF supports Qatar on its transition from a carbon-based economy to a knowledge-based economy. QF endeavors to create an environment that encourages both personal initiative and collaboration by bringing together talented people from across Qatar and the world. It is based on the belief that innovation can only thrive in an environment where knowledge, skills, and capabilities are shared.

A legacy sustained

Even a journey of such rapid transformation as that which Qatar Foundation (QF) embarked upon more than two decades ago, and which it continues to undertake, allows opportunities for reflection. 2017-2018 was another momentous year for us, as our nation was confronted with unprecedented challenges, and persevered and thrived in the face of them.

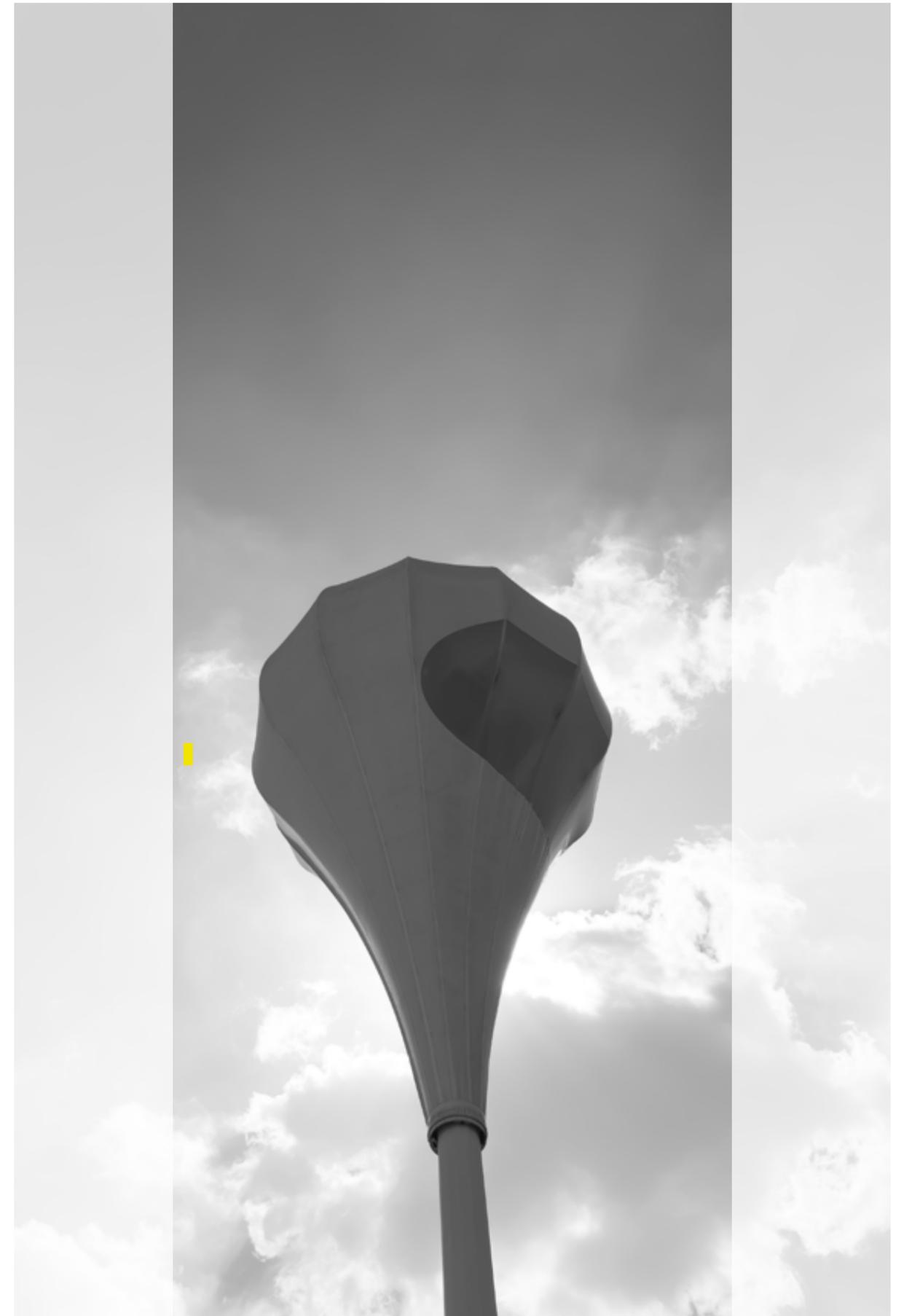
What QF –as an organization, a community, a creator of opportunity, and a catalyst for change– has accomplished for our nation over the past year is a source not only of immense pride, but of inspiration, driving us to ensure that our mission continues to support the advancement of Qatar and bring benefit to its people, while also making a positive impact on our world.

Our contribution to humanity, which continues unimpeded even in times of flux, is focused on building a society that is dynamic, progressive, and caring; where creativity, innovation, and active citizenship thrive; and where an economy is driven by a cross-generational thirst for knowledge that acts as the cornerstone of a self-sustaining legacy.

Within these pages, you will find just some of the major highlights and milestones from across our organization over the past year – each of them a tribute to the achievements of the people who are QF, and who are committed to supporting us in building a bridge between Qatar's rich past, its thriving present, and the boundless potential of its future.

Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani

Vice Chairperson and CEO, Qatar Foundation



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Qatar Foundation Boards

Board Of Trustees

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**His Highness Sheikh
Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani**
The Father Emir of Qatar and
Founder of Qatar Foundation



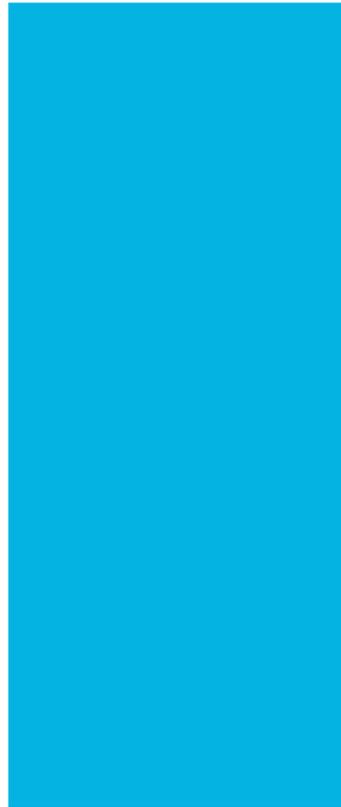
**His Highness Sheikh
Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani**
The Emir of Qatar



**Her Highness Sheikha
Moza bint Nasser**
Chairperson of Qatar Foundation



Pre-University Education





Laying the foundations

Pre-University Education (PUE) is the beginning of Qatar Foundation’s (QF’s) unique education cycle, one that caters for infants from six months old through to postgraduate students. Education has always been at the forefront of QF’s transformative approaches within Qatar, and the establishment of its first schools –Qatar Academy and Awsaj Academy– dates back to 1995. Throughout the decades since, QF has sought to deliver leading learning experiences that are anchored in Qatari culture and values. This commitment is bolstered by QF’s approach to lifelong learning, as it seeks to empower future generations to thrive in a global environment.

The range of academic diversity provided by PUE is unlike any other system in the world and offers residents of Qatar and the region meaningful, unique learning opportunities. It reflects how QF strives to meet the individual needs of each learner within its diverse community, by providing personalized educational opportunities and equipping young people with the knowledge, confidence, and skills they need to excel. PUE has created schools and devised curricula in Qatar that support this diversity, catering to the needs of Qatar’s varied community, and has expanded to the point where it now comprises nine schools. These include:



Qatar Academy (QA), which has five branches in different locations throughout Qatar.



Awsaj Academy, which works with children who have learning difficulties



Academic Bridge Program (ABP), a one-year foundation program that prepares high school graduates in Qatar for the partner universities of QF.



Qatar Leadership Academy, which promotes personal growth in young men by engaging them in an environment that promotes excellence in academics, leadership, athletics, and character.



Renad Academy, dedicated to helping children identified with mild to moderate Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).



Qatar Academy for Science and Technology (QAST), an advanced academic program for accomplished students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.



I ask you all that to honor everyone who has supported you and helped you to get here today; you must commit fully in everything you do. Follow your dreams and passions, and don't quit until you have achieved greatness and maybe not even then. Also, have the courage to take risks, to dream big.

Milestones for QA

First established in 1996, Qatar Academy Doha (QAD) is an International Baccalaureate World School, accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the Council of International Schools. It offers academic excellence through Primary, Middle Year, and IB Diploma programs, based on the principle that education involves the development of a student's cognitive, physical, social, moral, and affective capabilities. 2017/2018 was a year of great achievement for the five QA schools. In May 2018, QAD celebrated the graduation of 89 boys and girls, 40 of whom are Qatari. They joined more than 953 graduates from QAD since it opened, while the same month saw

the graduations of fellow students from QA's branches across Qatar: Qatar Academy Al Khor, Qatar Academy Al Wakra, Qatar Academy Sidra, and Qatar Academy Msheireb.

QA alumna Najwa Al Thani, who graduated in 2011, reflected on her journey when she returned to her former school as this year's guest speaker at the QAD graduation ceremony. "I'm here to tell you that you were in the real world, but now you will receive your first accreditation of that fact. You still have a long way to go," she told its new crop of graduates.

"I ask you all that to honor everyone who has supported you and helped you to get here today; you must commit fully in everything you do. Follow your dreams and passions, and don't quit until you have

achieved greatness and maybe not even then. Also, have the courage to take risks, to dream big." For QA, another key milestone of 2017/2018 was the opening of QA Al Khor's state-of-the-art recreation facility in November 2017. The new facility includes a 25m swimming pool and training pool; two multipurpose indoor courts for basketball, volleyball, futsal, and badminton; and a running track, as well as outdoor football pitches and basketball and volleyball courts. Meanwhile, QA Sidra made a huge local impact by celebrating the United Nations (UN) International Day of Peace in September 2017 with students, staff, families, and board members, at a special 'Peace One Day' event. "For our 'Peace One Day' celebrations, Qatar Academy Sidra launched #BeKind. At Qatar

Academy Sidra we believe that kindness is in everyone," explained Kim Green, Director, QA Sidra. "We want to engage all members of the community through our #BeKind movement, and encourage individuals to show compassion to one another."

Students showcased their musical and film talents during the day, and demonstrated their sense of initiative by looking at areas of the school where they could make the greatest, most positive difference to its environment. Additionally, to enhance the visual impact of peace, senior students practiced their leadership skills and helped the younger students craft 'Pinwheels for Peace', referencing an international art and literacy project created in 2005.

Inclusivity in education

The first World Autism Awareness Day, as proposed by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation (QF), was celebrated in 2008. Over 10 years later, while ASD is still stigmatized in many communities globally, parents and families in Qatar have played an active role in raising awareness of ASD. A key component of this has been the establishment of QF's Renad Academy, a pioneering education facility dedicated to supporting children identified with mild-to-moderate ASD.

It is the first school of its kind in Qatar, and provides an optimum learning environment for children aged three-to-six years, where

classes are delivered by specialized faculty and staff. The facility celebrated its first anniversary in October 2017, with Sherri Miller, Director of Renad Academy, saying: "At Renad Academy, we are committed to helping prepare our students for adulthood, equipping them with the necessary confidence and skills for the future."

"It has been a very busy first year for us, and one in which we're happy to say we made significant steps to advance the understanding and awareness of autism across the wider community and in supporting the families of autistic children. Our students have made great progress, both academically and behaviorally, and are advancing considerably in their communication and social skills."

QF Pre-University Education through the decades



In April 2018, Renad hosted a World Autism Awareness Day event at QF member AL SHAQAB in Education City. Activities included an Autism Awareness Walkathon around Education City's Oxygen Park, followed by a variety of awareness, sports, and recreational activities held in the Indoor Arena at AL SHAQAB. Renad also displayed the artistic outcomes from its first annual Autism Awareness Art Competition, which featured the work of QF school students and included a dedicated section showcasing the work of Renad Academy students.

Machaille Al-Naimi, President of Community Development, QF, said: "Our World Autism Awareness Day event represents an opportunity for us to create greater awareness and acceptance of autism

within the local community, as well as support those with the condition and their families."

Awsaj Academy, another Qatar Foundation institution under PUE, was established in 1995 as a K-12 specialized school that addresses the needs of students with mild-to-moderate learning challenges. Like Renad, Awsaj Academy is the only school of its kind in Qatar, and one of only a handful of schools dedicated to working with students who have demonstrated aptitude in certain areas while facing academic challenges in others.

In April 2018, Awsaj and the Qatar Career Development Centre (QCDC), a fellow QF member, partnered to deliver career guidance services at Awsaj. Their agreement has contributed to efforts aimed at

instilling a career guidance culture within Qatar's socioeconomic fabric, with QCDC tailoring the initiative to students who are eager to learn outside the classroom. The program will unfold in two stages: the pilot phase, designed to take place during the remainder of the 2017-18 academic year, will bring together 20 senior students from the Awsaj Prime program, launched in February 2015 as Qatar's first blended learning program; while the second phase, targeting more students, is planned for the 2018-19 academic year.

In October 2017, both Awsaj and Renad were part of a special five-day 'Respect 4 All, Qatar' program of sports skills classes. A collaboration between the World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH), a global initiative of QF,



and the LFC Foundation, the official charity of Liverpool Football Club, the football training course addressed effective ways for people working in sport in Qatar to engage with children who have autism, or sensory or physical impairments.

The course included both classroom sessions and practical outdoor workshops where coaches worked directly with local children who have autism. It culminated in a festival day that brought together the participating coaches and children for a range of fun activities, with Andrea Cooper, Head of LFC Foundation, saying: "Our coaching team is highly experienced in delivering specialist sports sessions that promote inclusion and well-being, and achieve our goal of creating life-changing opportunities for children and young people in Liverpool and beyond."



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Unique education models

The Academic Bridge Program (ABP) is a unique component of PUE. It offers a foundation program that provides high school graduates in Qatar with the academic and personal skills for success in reputable English language universities around the world, with special emphasis on preparing students for the universities at QF's Education City. This makes ABP neither a school nor a university, but an educational model that 'bridges' these two very different academic environments. In May 2018, ABP celebrated its latest graduates at an official ceremony at Qatar National Convention Centre, also a member of QF. A total of 127 ABP-EC (ABP-Education City) graduates, as well as 280 ABP-QAF (ABP-Qatar Armed Forces) graduates, celebrated the

ABP-EC's 17th graduation and the inaugural QAF-ABP graduation. This combined Class of 2018 – more than 90 percent of which are Qatari- brought the total number of ABP graduates to over 3,200 since the program's initiation in 2001.

One month later, the University of Maine (UMaine) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ABP, which will help students make the transition from ABP to UMaine in all majors. It has a special focus on construction engineering technology, surveying engineering, human dimensions of climate change, new media, international affairs, and marine sciences.

"The agreement between the ABP and the University of Maine is an exciting one for us," said Mark Newmark, ABP's Assistant Director for Academic Affairs. "An increasing number of ABP students are interested in studying in the US, and the agreement provides lots of great opportunities for strong ABP graduates.

"The majors covered by the agreement are closely aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030, to help transform the nation into a knowledge-based economy."

While 2017/18 saw the first batch of Qatar Armed Forces graduates from ABP, the program is not the first agreement between QF and Qatar's military in the name of education. The Qatar Leadership Academy (QLA), established in 2005, was formed as part of a partnership between QF and the Qatar Armed Forces – one designed to take a holistic approach to youth development, providing the highest standards of education to develop young men into future leaders.

In April 2018, QLA announced that it is to relocate to new premises



Our teachers are hand-picked STEM experts and educators, our facilities are state-of-the-art, and our curriculum is tailored to fit each and every student's needs.

within the new Ministry of Defence (MoD) complex at Miqdam Camp for the 2018-19 academic year. The relocation of the school reaffirms the strength, depth, and importance of the partnership between QF and the MoD, which aims to exchange practical expertise that provides students with the knowledge and leadership skills to support the national priorities of Qatar.

Speaking about the move, Buthaina Ali Al Nuaimi, President, PUE,

QF, said: "The history of Qatar Foundation's relationship with the MoD goes back to 2005, when the first military academy was launched to help create the leaders of tomorrow; we are now looking forward to further strengthening this collaboration.

"Through this relocation, we seek to affect positive change, and are certain this move forms a new phase in providing our students with an environment that strengthens

important values in the fields of academics and leadership, helps to spread a culture of taking responsibility and facing challenges, while strengthening the spirit of national identity."

The collaboration will see QLA, alongside the MoD, offer students and teachers an enhanced learning environment, complete with state-of-art facilities. Additionally, the premises will provide a more spacious venue that can accommodate a larger student population.

Investment in STEM

Looking to the future, QF proudly announced in April 2018 the launch of a new Science, Technology,

QA emerges victorious at 'Botball'



In March 2018, the 14th annual Botball competition saw Qatar Academy Doha edge out Doha Secondary and the Lebanese School to take the overall title.

Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, a Qatar Foundation partner university, has hosted the annual robotics challenge for high school students since 2005, and this year's competition saw 21 teams compete. As the first-place team, the QA students won a trip to Carnegie Mellon University's main campus in Pittsburgh, and the opportunity to visit its world-renowned School of Computer Science.

Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) school, under the umbrella of PUE. QAST, which opened admissions for its 2018-19 academic year during the launch, will offer a program focused on STEM learning, hands-on science skills, and innovative thinking. The school's core content will be built around the Research Grand Challenges identified in the Qatar National Research Strategy, and enrollment within QAST will allow students to work towards making contributions that help to address these challenges in novel ways.

"We are delighted to be opening a one-of-a-kind specialized STEM school in Qatar," said Dr. Gregory J Moncada, Director, QAST. "Being part of Qatar Foundation allows

us to provide our students not only with world-class education, but with educators and facilities that no other academic institution within the country can provide."

QAST officially opened its doors to students in August 2018, welcoming 40 Grade 9 boys and girls who will benefit from the program's student-to-teacher ratio of 20:1. "Our teachers are hand-picked STEM experts and educators, our facilities are state-of-the-art, and our curriculum is tailored to fit each and every student's needs," Dr. Moncada added. "We look forward to fostering, and eventually graduating, the next generation of future leaders in STEM."



Higher Education





World-class education opportunities

As an integral part of its culture of excellence, Qatar Foundation (QF) collaborates with world-class, hand-picked international academic institutions and Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) within its flagship project, Education City. This multidisciplinary environment produces a highly competent and diverse workforce that serves the needs of Qatar and thrives in a global environment.

The higher education system of QF is designed to create a diversity of future leaders, where all are welcome to share in the learning experience provided at Education City, currently home to students of more than 60 nationalities.

QF's homegrown university, HBKU, provides access to high-quality education that caters to the needs of Qatar, promoting a culture of national excellence. It is comprised of five colleges and an entity devoted to executive education:



We have come a long way in 20 years, and made a very big impact. Thank you all for being change-making and innovators. Thank you all for being a part of this mission.

College of Islamic Studies, established as a home for contemporary Islamic studies, and a hub for exceptional faculty and students to enter into a dialogue about their thoughts and ideas concerning Islam and Muslims.

College of Humanities & Social Sciences, which holds a vision to enrich society –in Qatar, across the GCC, and throughout the wider world– by providing transformative educational experiences that bridge disciplinary boundaries, and by offering the academic community opportunities to engage in innovative research and collaboration.

College of Science & Engineering, which aims to be a multidisciplinary college with significant positive impact nationally, regionally, and globally, in the fields of science, engineering, and technology.

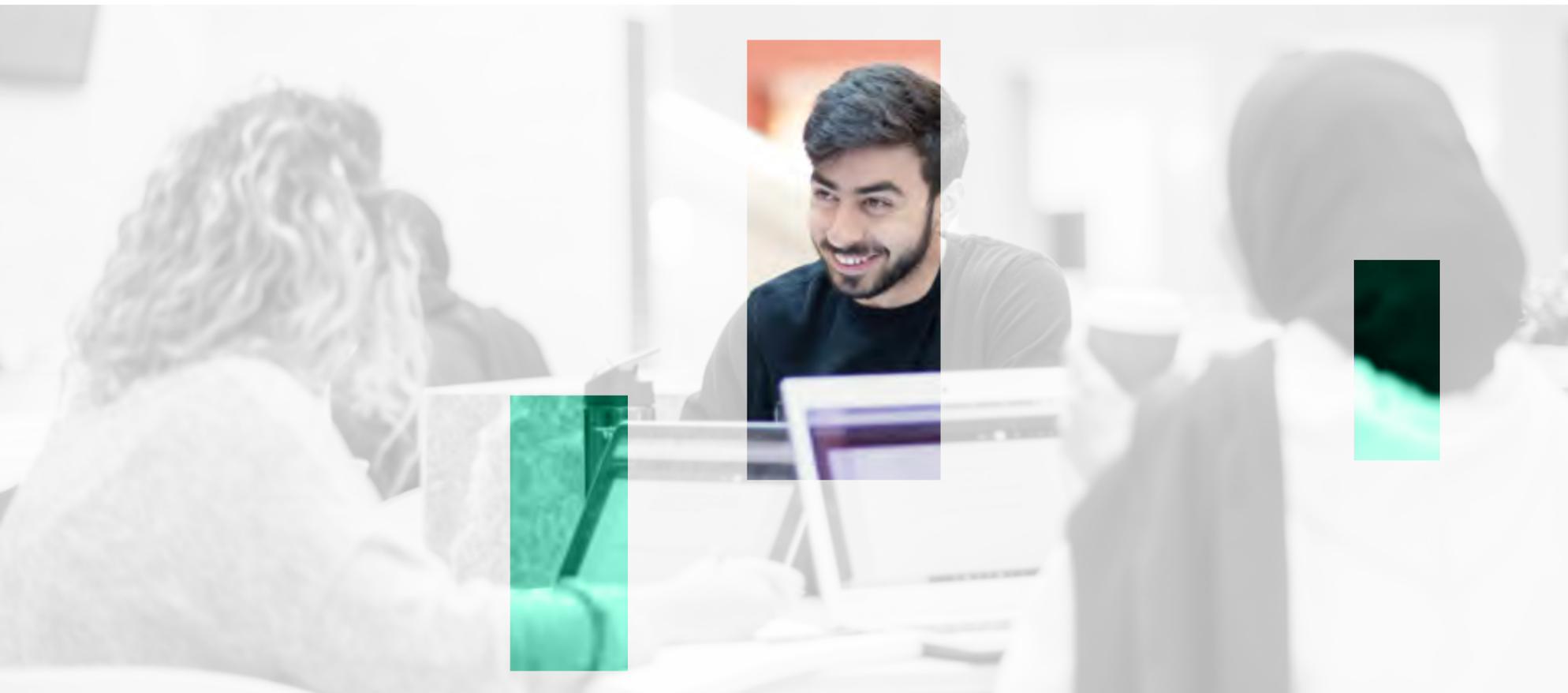
College of Law & Public Policy, which aspires to be a world-

class provider of legal education with an international reputation for quality and innovation in teaching and research.

College of Health and Life Sciences, created to deliver innovative programs that meet educational needs in the fields of public health and life sciences for Qatar and the region.

Executive Education Center, designed to provide world-class learning opportunities that meet individuals' aspirations and organizational needs of the broader Qatari community.

As an integral part of our culture of excellence, QF also collaborates with world-class international academic institutions, hosting specialist branch campuses within Education City. These partnerships provide the national economy with high-quality students and graduates, capable of leading Qatar



into a new era of diversification and progress in areas of study that align with the needs of an advancing Qatari economy. The universities that offer specialist undergraduate and graduate degrees are: Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Georgetown University in Qatar, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, Northwestern University in Qatar, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar, UCL Qatar, and HEC Paris in Qatar.

Celebrating two decades

In March 2018, Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar (VCUarts Qatar) held an event for its students

as part of its 20th-anniversary celebrations. This event was one of several that the university staged during its 20th year, having opened in 1998 as QF's first university under its original name of Shaqab College of Design Arts. Speaking at this anniversary celebration about VCUarts Qatar's 20-year story, its Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Valerie Jeremijenko, said: "As someone who has been here for close to 17 of those 20 years, I have been witness to the work of all the faculty, all the staff, and all our amazing students and alumni, as we have worked towards cultivating the arts, igniting imaginations, and changing the perception of art and design in Qatar. "We have come a long way in 20

years, and made a very big impact. Thank you all for being change-making and innovators. Thank you all for being a part of this mission." Two months later, Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani, Vice Chairperson and CEO of QF, attended the 19th iteration of VCUarts Qatar's 'Pendulum' Fashion Show, a highlight of the university's academic year. More than 800 people attended the show, which saw 40 models showcase 100 garments during the hour-long event that showcased the talent of Qatar's fashion design students. The fashion show featured the collections of 25 sophomore, junior, and senior fashion students.

Fellow QF partner university Texas A&M University at Qatar

(TAMUQ) made its impact on Doha's community by holding the first events under its 'Science and Engineering Road Show' in January 2018. The initiative is part of TAMUQ's ongoing efforts to attract Qatar's best and brightest young minds to choose career paths in STEM. Officially launched in November 2017, its organizers set the goal of reaching 6,000 students in a single year; within just six months, it had engaged 5,916 students, through 35 shows at 20 different schools and four special events, including TAMUQ's STEM Fest, and the ACS Doha International School Family Day.

Milestones were also reached during the 2017/2018 academic year by TAMUQ alumni, such as

Sinan Al-Obaidi, a graduate of the Class of 2011, who won first place at the Arab Innovation Academy, a 10-day entrepreneurship program at QF member Qatar Science & Technology Park. Al-Obaidi is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Texas A&M University's main campus, and his winning idea stemmed from his National Science Foundation-funded research exploring Internet of Things applications in agriculture.

New leadership

Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q) began the academic year by appointing Dr. Ahmad S. Dallal as its new dean in September 2017. Dr. Dallal taught at Stanford University, Yale University, and Smith College, before joining Georgetown University's main campus in Washington, D.C. in 2003 as an associate professor and chair of the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies. "I hope to lead GU-Q to new heights within the dynamic education landscape in Qatar and the region, and to ensuring that the university maintains its high standard of academic programs," he said upon his appointment. In April 2018, GU-Q's student-run Debating Union won several accolades in the Qatar Universities Debating League. Its team was awarded the title of national champion from organizer QatarDebate, a member of QF, with team members also receiving best speaker medals for their performance. The Qatar Universities Debating League is open to students across Qatar, and teams from four universities made it through to the final rounds of the nationals competition.

Two months later, GU-Q's Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS) celebrated its 10-year anniversary by issuing

CMU-Q alumna named 'Young Change-Maker'



Nada Arakji, who graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar (CMU-Q) in 2016, was named an International Olympic Committee 'Inspirational Young Change-Maker' for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The Young Change-Makers list is comprised of 76 inspiring young people from around the world. In 2012 Arakji became the first female athlete to represent Qatar at the Olympic Games in London, and again made history in 2016 as the first woman to represent Qatar in two consecutive Olympic Games.

a commemorative report that presented archival data on its research accomplishments for the past 10 years. The Center for International and Regional Studies (CIRS), the premier research institute of GU-Q, is devoted to the academic study of regional and international issues through dialogue and exchange of ideas, research and scholarship, and engagement with national and international scholars, opinion-makers, practitioners, and activists. Over the past decade, CIRS has published 29 books, 19 peer-reviewed papers, and 32 summary reports across a broad range of topics, from food security in the Arabian Gulf to arts and cultural production in the GCC.

Like GU-Q, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar (CMU-Q) began the academic year under new leadership, as Michael Trick, the Harry B. and James H. Higgins Professor of Operations Research at Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business, was appointed dean of CMU-Q in September 2017. Trick, a Tepper School of Business faculty member since 1989, has held numerous leadership positions within the school, including senior associate dean for faculty and research for the past three years.

In December 2017, the CMU-Q community united to celebrate the 50-year anniversary of Carnegie Mellon University. In the presence of students, alumni, faculty, and staff members, Dean Trick remarked: "The real legacy of Andrew Carnegie and Andrew Mellon is that they created a place that celebrates and encourages hard work, ingenuity, teamwork, and innovation. Students, it is your turn to make your mark in the world."

Perhaps taking these words to heart, a team from CMU-Q won the

TAMUQ siblings intern at CERN

A brother and sister student duo from Texas A&M University at Qatar (TAMUQ) spent their summer 2017 holidays, working as interns for eight weeks in the Detector Technology Program at CERN, one of the world's leading centers of scientific discovery, in Switzerland. Shaikha Al-Qahtani and Abdulaziz Al-Qahtani, both electrical engineering majors, became the third and fourth Qatari students to participate in the program, thanks to funding from QF member Qatar National Research Fund.

INJAZ Qatar Young Entrepreneur's Competition, 'Mubadara', at the HBKU Student Center in May 2018. The four-strong team of Maryam AlMaadeed, Maryam Al-Naemi, Dana Al-Sheeb, and Latifa Al-Thani, along with mentor Ahdallah Anouari, created TamaRun, a platform that helps people find the right fitness class or gym in Qatar.

State-of-the-art infrastructure

Shortly after Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q) began the second academic year in its new campus at Education City, its

students celebrated the opening of a key component of the NU-Q experience. In October 2017, in the presence of Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani, Vice Chairperson and CEO of QF, students at NU-Q ran a live news program in the university's state-of-art newsroom. The event was attended by fellow members of the university's Joint Advisory Board, along with guests, faculty, staff, and students as part of a dedication ceremony held in the Newsroom itself.

In February 2018, using film, photography, creative writing, and performance, more than 30 NU-Q students worked for 48 hours to produce eight projects around the theme of 'Borders and Boundaries.'

The event – the NU-Q Creative Media Festival– was the first of its kind hosted by the university. It was created to encourage students to be innovative and critical of their surroundings, and to use a combination of media and art to develop original work that speaks to the social, cultural, and political boundaries that surround and intersect their everyday lives.

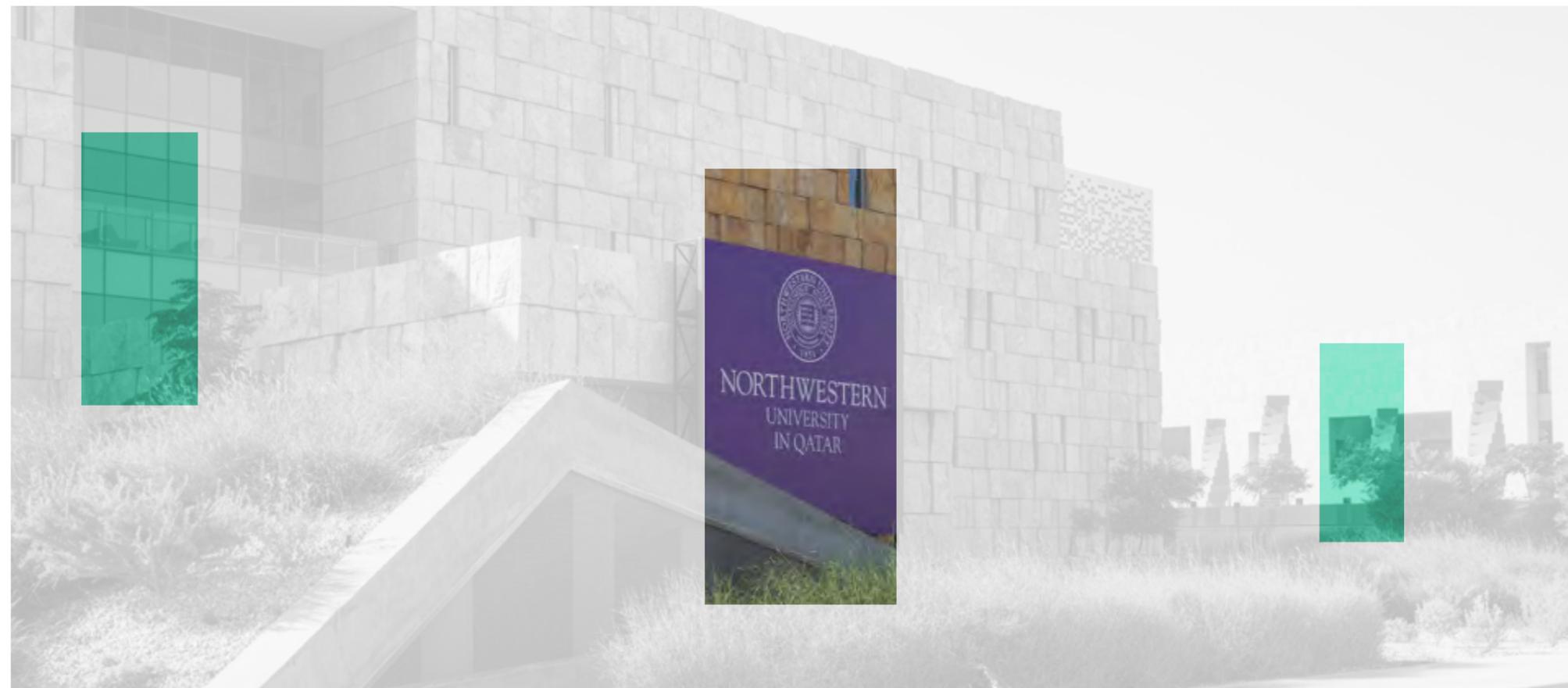
To cap off the academic year, NU-Q released a new report in May 2018 that revealed long-term trends in news and entertainment consumption, social media preferences, and attitudes about the media. The report, titled Media Use in the Middle East, A Five-Year Retrospection, offered comparative data and analysis of the only

longitudinal study of its kind in the region and one of the few in the world. Over five years, nearly 30,000 face-to-face interviews and 5,000 phone interviews were conducted as part of the project, covering between six to eight representative countries each year across the Middle East.

At Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar (WCM-Q), students and faculty celebrated the opening of a key aspect of the university's pioneering vision in October 2017. With the launch of the university's modernized Clinical Skills and Simulation Lab (CSSL), students at WCM-Q are learning to become doctors in one of the region's most technologically advanced facilities. The newly-expanded and upgraded facility was equipped



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with a wider selection of teaching aids to simulate real-world clinical situations, allowing students to gain the practical skills they need in a risk-free environment under the guidance of WCM-Q's highly-trained teaching faculty. The CSSL, formerly known as the Clinical Skills Center, was also expanded from 8,500 to 10,500 square feet and now has 12 clinical examination rooms, twice as many as before.

In February 2018, a group of talented high school students had the chance to discover whether a career in medicine would suit them thanks to WCM-Q's two-week Qatar Medical Explorer Program (QMEP). Thirty-four students from schools across Qatar spent two weeks studying at WCM-Q through the program, which is designed to provide a comprehensive and accurate understanding of what life is like at the college and what it takes to become a doctor. QMEP, which runs both a winter and a summer session, is one of WCM-Q's Enrichment Programs, a series of initiatives that engage with the local community, demystify the life of a medical student, and inspire talented students with interest in the sciences to fulfill their potential by applying to the university. In the same month, Project Greenhouse –part of Sahtak Awalan - Your Health First, WCM-Q's

flagship health campaign– launched Khayr Qatarna, an innovative new phase of the campaign that will encourage schoolchildren to help Qatar become more self-sufficient in fruit and vegetable production. Since Project Greenhouse was launched, it has provided 130 schools across Qatar with greenhouses, soil plant pots, and fruit and vegetable seeds.

Meanwhile, UCL Qatar and HEC Paris in Qatar both made an impact through forging key partnerships. In April 2018, Master's students on UCL Qatar's Museum and Gallery Programme partnered with Msheireb Museums to curate the 'We are the daughters of Qatar' exhibition, which explores the topic of Qatari womanhood. Held from April 11 until May 9, 2018,

the exhibition told the stories of Qatari women whose lives were transformed as a result of the discovery of oil. The MA in Museum and Gallery Practice is designed to help shape future generations of museum professionals and cultural leaders in Qatar and beyond. In the same month, HEC Paris in Qatar, one of the world's leading providers of executive education,

and Teach For Qatar –a local NGO founded by Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al-Thani, Vice Chairperson and CEO of QF, to recruit and train passionate teachers in Qatar's government schools– collaborated to offer a special custom-designed executive program. The result was 'Leading Learning Journey', a program co-designed specifically for more

than 30 participants, including Teach For Qatar stakeholders, fellows, and alumni. As part of HEC Paris' and Teach For Qatar's commitment to quality education in Qatar, both organizations designed and developed the program to equip participants with transferable soft skills that will help them make a positive impact on education in Qatar.

GU-Q alumnus receives leadership award from Queen Elizabeth II

Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q) Class of 2015 alumnus Haroon Yasin was honored by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for his work to educate underprivileged children. Yasin was named as one of the winners of the 2018 Queen's Young Leaders Awards, a global program that recognizes and celebrates young people who are using their skills to impact their communities. Yasin is the co-founder of Orenda, an educational organization that uses cartoons and digital streaming technology to bring school curriculums to children in Pakistan who are unable to attend formal classes, or who are at risk of dropping out of school.

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QF CONVOCATION 2018 IN NUMBERS



206
GRADUATES



90
GRADUATES



51
GRADUATES



61
GRADUATES



67
GRADUATES
vcuarts
QATAR

105
GRADUATES



52
GRADUATES



34
GRADUATES

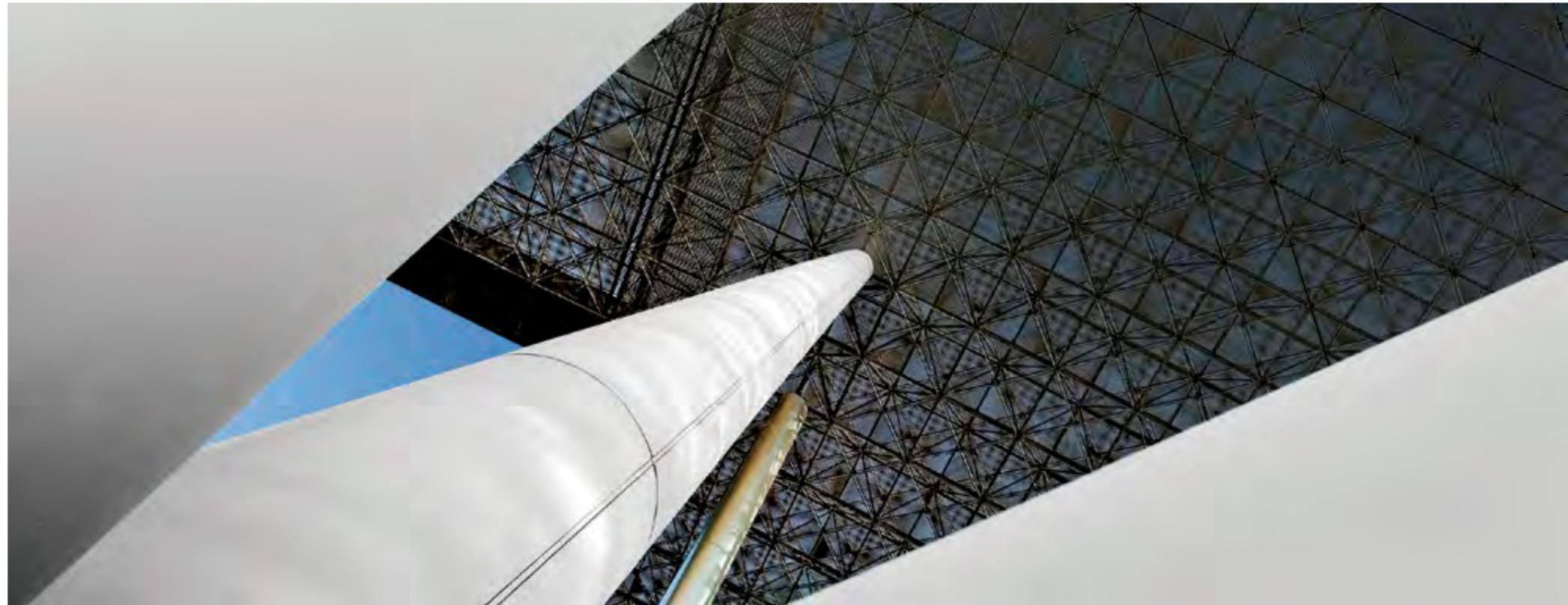


112
GRADUATES





Research, Development, and Innovation





Driven by impact



We believe that research, technology, and development are among the most important elements of a competitive and diverse economy, and are therefore a key priority at Qatar Foundation, along with empowering and activating research innovations across Qatar.

Research and innovation efforts across Qatar Foundation (QF) are designed to enable Qatar to develop homegrown solutions that tackle the nation's challenges while also having the potential to benefit the world. Through its institutes, initiatives, programs, and discoveries in this sphere, QF supports Qatar in building a sustainable and diversified economy, while fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship that produces new and impactful products and services.

At QF, it is recognized that the only guarantee of prosperity for any country is the ability of its people to develop, adapt, and innovate. Across the organization, a wealth of research entities, nationwide programs, and Qatar-born startups have played their part in the creation of a multi-faceted ecosystem that encompasses and synergizes education, research, industry, and the private sector.

The Qatar Foundation Research, Development, and Innovation (QF RDI) division plays an integral role in identifying and addressing challenges and opportunities across ICT, energy, environment, healthcare, and agribusiness, in alignment with Qatar's national RDI strategy and priorities. It is at the forefront of Qatar's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem, accelerating economic development by supporting the commercialization of market-ready technologies and facilitating the creation of new high-tech products and services.

QF RDI is responsible for translating Qatar's national RDI strategy into specific initiatives and actions for Qatar Foundation's RDI entities to drive forward. The structure of QF RDI involves the QF Vice President for Research, Development, and Innovation directly managing the operations of Qatar Science & Technology Park, Qatar Biobank, and the Qatar Genome Programme;

QCRI research honored by UN

In September 2017, joint research undertaken by Dr. Ingmar Weber of Qatar Computing Research Institute along with scientists from Oxford and Princeton universities, won a Data2X Big Data for Gender Challenge Award from the United Nations Foundation. The winners of the awards, which aim to explore how different methods of collecting and analyzing big data can monitor gender gaps, were officially announced at an event at the UN General Assembly. Dr. Weber's joint research, titled 'Using Facebook Ad Data to Track the Global Digital Gender Gap', uses Facebook advertising data to identify countries with gender gaps in internet and mobile phone access in real time around the world and then attempts to make more accurate predictions about the number of women and girls using the internet, compared to men and boys.

while also being responsible for overseeing the RDI strategies and activities of other RDI-focused entities within QF – including those conducted by Qatar’s national research institutes. By ensuring that all of these activities are aligned with the overarching national RDI strategy, QF RDI aims to deliver maximum national benefit and global impact.

The highlight of QF’s research, development, and innovation calendar in 2017/18 was the Qatar Foundation Annual Research Conference 2018 (ARC’18), which took place in March 2018. Across two days, stakeholders from academia, industry, business, and government in Qatar joined together to help define the future path for the nation’s research and development ecosystem. The seventh edition of ARC, held under the theme ‘R&D: Focusing On Priorities, Delivering Impact’, also saw thousands of local and international delegates participating in inspiring and thought-provoking plenary sessions, expert-led technical sessions on research, innovation, technology, and their role in building a sustainable, diversified, and globally-competitive economy.

Giving her opening remarks to the ARC’18 audience, Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al

Thani, Vice Chairperson and CEO of Qatar Foundation, said: “We believe that research, technology, and development are among the most important elements of a competitive and diverse economy, and are therefore a key priority at Qatar Foundation, along with

empowering and activating research innovations across Qatar.”

Multidisciplinary research

Under the umbrella of Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), QF’s homegrown university, three national research institutes develop research and innovative programs at the intersection of academia and industry to produce outcomes that meet market needs. HBKU’s research institutes are:

Qatar Computing Research Institute (QCRI), which is focused on tackling large-scale computing challenges that address national priorities for growth and development. It aims to improve technologies vital to the global



Total area is **120** hectares
32 hectares developed

FYI
Qatar Science & Technology Park

52
 resident Free Zone members

16
 local startups incorporated since September 2016

5
 technology buildings for large and small companies

ARC’18 in numbers

Almost **1,000** scientific abstracts, consisting of original research focusing on one of the four ARC’18 pillars (Energy and Environment; Computing and Information Technology; Health and Biomedical; and, Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities), were submitted to the flagship conference, with **270** selected for poster presentation and **55** selected for oral presentation.

and the environment. It plays a crucial role in supporting the development of solutions to two of Qatar’s grand challenges: energy security and water security.

Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (QBRI), an established multidisciplinary research institute focused on genomic medicine, biomedical engineering, and stem cell and gene-based therapies, with its primary focus being on diabetes, cancer, and neurological diseases.

2017/18 saw each HBKU research institute achieve many significant milestones. In March 2018, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, awarded the ARC’18 2018 Best Innovation Award to QCRI for its QCRI’s Advanced Transcription System (QATS). The innovation automatically converts speech to text using state-of-art speech recognition techniques and has achieved an accuracy rate of 93 percent for broadcast news reports and more than 70 percent for broadcast conversations.

In November 2017, QBRI also achieved a prestigious honor, as the institute won the Arab Best Research Institution of the Year 2017 award at the annual at the Arab Best Awards ceremony. For QBRI, the award was a direct result of its ongoing research efforts to provide new insights into the molecular basis of critical health challenges: breast cancer, diabetes, and neurological disorders such as autism and neurodegenerative diseases.

Meanwhile, in April 2018, QEERI celebrated the five-year anniversary of its Solar Test Facility (STF). For the past five years, the STF has been testing different photovoltaic modules and providing hard evidence of which technologies

perform best in Qatar’s climate. The large-scale field testing plays a vital role in the institute’s contributions toward tackling Qatar’s energy security grand challenge.

Innovation ecosystem

Two vital components of QF’s RDI ecosystem are the funding of research, and the incubation of innovation and technology. Qatar National Research Fund is focused on the former, as a leading scientific research funding organization that fosters original, competitively-selected research in engineering and technology, physical and life sciences, medicine, humanities, social sciences, and the arts. Meanwhile, the latter is represented by Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP), a Free Zone and Qatar’s premier hub for applied research, technology innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurship. In January 2018, the Arab Innovation Academy program, organized by

Sidra performs its first open-heart surgery

Sidra Medicine performed its first open-heart surgery in its Medicine Heart Center in July 2018. The surgery was performed on a three-year-old patient who was diagnosed with an atrial septal defect, which manifests as a hole in the heart. Dr. Olivier Ghez, Sidra Medicine’s Division Chief of Cardiac Surgery, led a multidisciplinary team of 10 medical professionals during the successful 2-hour surgery to correct the defect. “My family and I are so thankful for the care we received at Sidra Medicine. I am relieved that we could access the right care

QSTP and the European Innovation Academy, took place in the Middle East for the first time. The 10-day program was a boot-camp for more than 100 students from universities

in Qatar and the Arab world, using hands-on methods to teach them the process of creating a tech startup company, and providing them with insight and guidance

from world-class international mentors and investors. In total, 150 participants from across the Arab world came together for the program to develop and launch new tech ventures.

Two months later, QF signed a groundbreaking agreement that marked the opening of the Rosneft Research and Development Center at QSTP. Rosneft –which leads Russia’s petroleum industry and is the largest publicly-traded petroleum company in the world– and QF aim to make the center a groundbreaking research and innovation hub that paves the way for new technologies, collaborations, and training programs.

Transforming healthcare

Healthcare is a key component of QF’s efforts in advancing human development and of the future transformation of Qatar. Through

its members Sidra Medicine, the Qatar Genome Program, and Qatar Biobank, QF reflects its belief that technology and health are two fundamental – and interconnected– building blocks of an advanced society. Sidra Medicine provides world-class patient care and helps to position Qatar globally as a leading center of excellence for healthcare. Through strong partnerships with leading institutions in Qatar and around the world, Sidra Medicine has helped to advance scientific discovery through investment in medical research, and by providing Qatar’s medical students with one of the finest and most technologically-advanced facilities in the world.

Perhaps the most significant milestone of 2017/18 for Sidra was achieved on January 14, 2018, as it welcomed its first patients to the main hospital building. The patients became the first to make use of Sidra’s inpatient obstetrics services and several children’s services, including pulmonology, gastroenterology, endocrinology, and non-invasive cardiology services, as well as low-risk general surgery and other surgical procedures. The first baby delivered at Sidra, a Qatari girl named Maryam, was born the same day as the hospital’s opening.

Qatar Biobank (QBB) is another visionary QF entity; a multidisciplinary research initiative focused on genomic medicine, biomedical engineering, and stem cell and gene-based therapies. In November 2017, it welcomed its 10,000th participant, making a major milestone in the medical health research initiative’s history. “The success of Qatar Biobank is dependent on participation by the local population, especially

Qatari youth, and reaching 10,000 participants is a clear indication of the importance our people place on their health now and in the future,” said Dr. Asmaa Al Thani, Chairperson of the Qatar Genome Programme Committee and Board Vice Chairperson of Qatar Biobank, of the achievement. “We are proud of this milestone, and are eager to welcome more participants to contribute to this important national initiative.”

QF’s dynamic approach to blending technology and healthcare is also epitomized by the Qatar Genome Program (QGP), an entity that aims to perform a comprehensive analysis of Qatari genomes, enabling the development of personalized healthcare through the implementation of precision medicine measures. In April 2018, it welcomed more than 1,200 healthcare providers, researchers, and experts to its second symposium at Qatar National Convention Centre.

In the same month, it was announced that both QGP and QBB had partnered with the Department of Genetic Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar, a QF partner university, to facilitate the development of the first Qatari gene chip, known as the ‘Q-Chip’. The partnership aims to materialize vast amounts of genomic knowledge collected by various national stakeholders into a product that will significantly improve the genetic diagnosis of a large number of diseases. Unlike the genetic results that arise from international laboratories abroad, diagnosis using the Q-Chip will be based on genetic information derived from Qataris, thus making the results obtained more relevant and accurate.





Community Development





Creating a legacy

Community development lies at the heart of everything Qatar Foundation (QF) does. By providing a platform for social engagement through its many outreach programs, QF is working to address the needs of society, embody Qatari culture, promote lifelong learning, and foster youth empowerment. The latter focus area is vital to QF's mission of creating opportunities for the future development of its young people and ensuring their engagement, so that they can each play a part in the diversified possibilities of the nation. Active citizenship is part of this focus, and ensures that a diverse swath of entities and initiatives seek to influence, grow, and empower the minds of individuals. Through its partnerships with local organizations, QF helps to support an innovative society that aspires to achieve social and economic prosperity for the people of Qatar and beyond. It provides tailored support to all such projects, which, upon reaching maturity, begin to forge distinctive paths to serve the specific needs of Qatar and bring benefit to the world. All community development centers of QF are aligned



Each year, we provide support and advice to the parents of children with diabetes who, in return, encourage their kids to participate in the camp to improve their health and enhance their self-confidence as participants.

with the aim of strengthening community and cultural bonds by developing a nation of active citizens and supporting a society that aspires to achieve social and economic prosperity for the people of Qatar and beyond.

Enhancing cultural institutions

AL SHAQAB is a leading global equine center committed to preserving a cornerstone of Qatar's heritage by promoting the Arabian horse breed to the world, while setting the highest global standards in horse welfare, breeding, equine education, and research. It aligns with QF's core mission area of community development by offering engaging experiences for the community, through organizing world-class events and community outreach initiatives that promote horsemanship and equestrianism.

In May 2018, the first Qatar-based conference organized by AL SHAQAB, through its Equine Veterinary Medical Centre, saw horse owners, farriers, and vets from major equine organizations and stud farms in Qatar gather

at Qatar National Convention Centre, also a member of QF. Internationally-renowned experts in the fields of equine limb anatomy, biomechanics, locomotion, and lameness from the UK, Italy, and Germany were specially invited to conduct lectures and practical sessions for participants. Focusing on the form and function of the foot, the conference was designed to help owners and trainers make management decisions on the care of their horses' hooves. In addition to lectures and demonstrations, foreign companies set up exhibition booths to market their equine products during the conference.

Two months later came the opening of the Bouthayna Al-Muftah: Echoes' exhibition at the Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, a key component of QF's community development ecosystem that seeks to inspire the community by offering an Arab perspective on modern and contemporary art. The exhibition showcased the works of emerging Qatari artist Bouthayna Al-Muftah within the museum's 'Project Space', presenting the artist's ongoing research on the recollection of memories, and a reflection

on the rapid social and cultural changes that have taken place in Qatar over the past few decades.

“Qatar has seen an incredible transformation over the past few years,” Mathaf Director Abdellah Karroum said of the exhibition. “This has created a new generation of artists who are not only trying to make sense of this change but are also looking to be part of it by redefining existing cultural narratives. Mathaf is proud to collaborate with a talented artist like Al-Muftah and offer her a creative platform to experiment with new ideas and push the boundaries of what is known and of what can be.”

Advocating healthy lifestyles

Encouraging and enabling the residents of Qatar to live an active, healthy life is part of the collaborative nature of QF’s community development efforts. Qatar Diabetes Association (QDA) supports this goal by establishing and promoting awareness of diabetes and its prevention among the population of Qatar. To achieve this, it employs multiple community outreach programs, including diabetes awareness programs in schools and workplaces, diabetes prevention camps, and community-focused events.

In January 2018, the 18th Al Bawasil Diabetes Camp was organized by QDA. The camp at Aspire Academy focuses its mission on children with diabetes and seeks to give them the confidence to reach their full potential in a medically-safe environment. In addition, the program enables children with diabetes to meet and share their experiences, with its 2017/18 edition bringing together 55 children from 10 different countries, including

Sudan, Morocco, Pakistan, Lebanon, Iran, Kuwait, Palestine, Oman, and Iraq. “Each year, we provide support and advice to the parents of children with diabetes who, in return, encourage their kids to participate in the camp to improve their health and enhance their self-confidence as participants,” said Dr. Abdulla Al Hamaq, Executive Director, QDA.

Environmental expertise

QF has placed sustainability firmly at the forefront of its agenda and exemplifies this through a series of environmentally-friendly initiatives and organizations. Qatar Green Building Council (QGBC) is one such entity: a non-profit, membership-driven organization that is driving sustainable growth in Qatar through education and networking programs, demonstrating a commitment to a prosperous and sustainable future through cost-efficient and environment-friendly building practices. QGBC operates under three pillars –community outreach, research, and innovation, and sustainability education and training– and is a key element of QF’s overarching contribution to the development and sustainability of a competitive, diversified economy. In May 2018, QGBC hosted the 2nd Urban Thinkers Campus in Qatar under the umbrella of the World Urban Campaign, an initiative of the UN-Habitat. With the theme ‘The Future of Doha, Gearing for a Resilient City’, the open platform campus facilitated discussions on topics and trends that have the potential to impact and shape the future of Doha under the themes of ‘The Neighborhood We Need’ and ‘The Resilient City.’ The event showcased proposed urban solutions through roadmaps, action plans, responsibilities, commitments, and priority actions.

Fellow QF member the Qur’anic Botanic Garden (QBG) also has an important role in promoting environmental solution within Qatar. QBG exhibits and conserves the plants mentioned in the Holy Qur’an and the native flora in Qatar, explaining the significance of their mention in the Holy Qur’an, as well as the scientific explanations of their composition, application, and usefulness to humanity. Due to its application of scientific innovations, appreciation of cultural traditions, and promotion of lifelong learning, QBG is a key community development initiative of QF, encouraging visitors to enjoy environmental activities and preserve natural resources.

In April 2018, QBG launched its ‘Gardens of Al-Andalus’ exhibition at the College of Islamic Studies of Hamad Bin Khalifa University, a QF member, at Education City. Created by the Islamic Culture Foundation (FUNC1) in Madrid, the Garden of Al-Andalus exhibition resulted from a Memorandum of Understanding signed between QBG and FUNC1 to preserve Islamic cultural history for future generations. The exhibition was an expression of the peaceful coexistence among different cultures, showing respect for the environment and historical heritage through the display of achievements of a stage in the past, Al-Andalus, which constitutes a scientific and cultural milestone

QF honors inaugural Akhlaquna awardee

Announced by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation (QF) at QF Convocation 2017, Akhlaquna is an award to recognize young people with exemplary moral character. The award highlights Prophet Mohammed’s (PBUH) universal and inclusive moral values, such as mercy, tolerance, honesty, and generosity, and rewards those who exemplify great moral character through initiating projects that serve their community and beyond. The nominees under its first cycle were chosen due to them embodying four morals: mercy, tolerance, honesty, and generosity. Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser presented Swar al-Dahab Ali and his initiative ‘Mercy in Giving’ with the inaugural Akhlaquna Award during the QF Convocation 2018 ceremony in May 2018. Al-Dahab was one of the three finalists who were shortlisted from among 100 applications for the award. The awarded initiative aims to create a movement that unites various educational, health, and social sectors to tackle specific issues within society.



and is a reflection of one of the most fertile periods of history.

A culture of informed citizens

QF's community development efforts are often grounded in maximizing the career opportunities and intellectual rigor of each individual in Qatar, and nurturing environments in which this can happen.

By encouraging rational debate, global citizenship, and forward-thinking career development for its young people, QF equips individuals with the tools they require to shape a future for themselves that is built on progressive foundations.

QatarDebate, the national debating organization for Qatar and a QF member, is an example of this approach. It aims to shape the global citizens of today and the intellectual leaders of tomorrow through the delivery of diverse debate learning programs that feature Arabic and English. Since its establishment in 2008, QatarDebate has served its community through empowering youth and raising awareness of important local and global issues in an open forum.

In October 2017, it organized the 1st Qatar Universities Debate League and the 1st Qatar Schools Debate league [aimed at girls] for debating in English. The league saw the participation of 75 debaters from eight universities. Speaking about this highlight in QatarDebate's calendar, Abdullah Hamza, previously a debater at the school's stage and now a debater at the university level, said: "Debating is a step towards a successful

future because it motivates the improvement of the academic level". Fellow QF member the Qatar Career Development Center (QCDC) supports Qatari capacity-building and empowers youth to better plan their career paths in line with their potential and the future needs of Qatar's labor market. QCDC aims to build human capacity in Qatar by empowering the country's young people to understand the roles they can play in realizing future national priorities. It also equips parents and development practitioners with the necessary career guidance knowledge and information to best advise and guide their children and students.

In April 2018, QCDC held its Career Guidance Stakeholders Platform 2018, in partnership with the UNESCO Doha Office and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. The objective of the 2018 Platform was to engage stakeholders in the process of developing a well-integrated career guidance system in Qatar, to help Qatari youth discover, develop, and use their talents to achieve their aspirations, as well as to serve the future needs of their country. The theme of this year's platform was: 'Moving operationally to strategically enhance career guidance in Qatar through cross-sectoral collaboration'.

Meanwhile, the Qatar Nanny Training Academy (QNTA) also contributes to strengthening communities by providing a high-quality training program that enables Arabic-speaking Muslim nannies to become qualified childcare providers. The QF members aim to enrich the lives of Arab Muslim families by

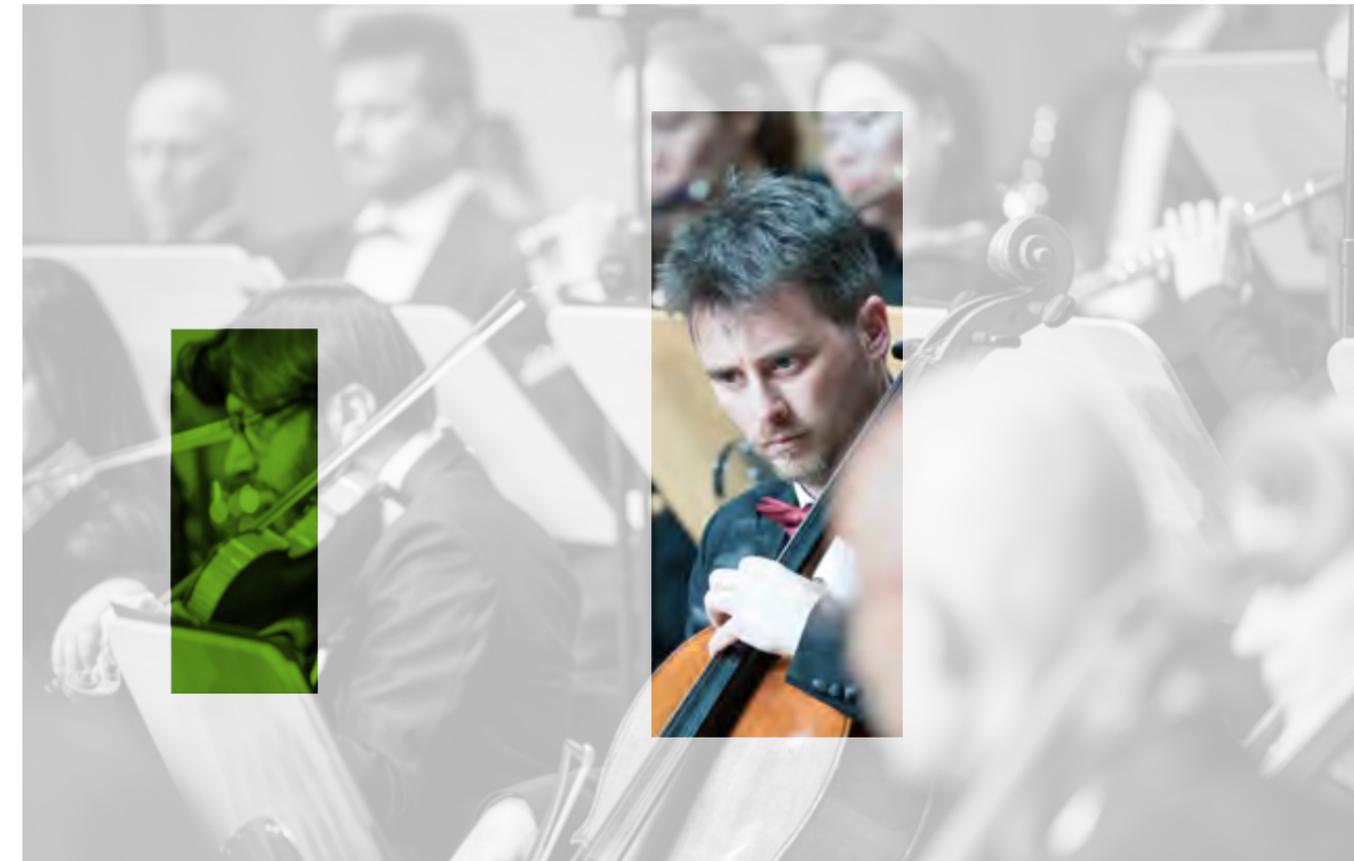
supporting these nannies to teach and promote Islamic values at home, an aspect of QF's goal of helping to foster a developed society in Qatar, while also enhancing the nation's cultural landscape and protecting its heritage.

In May 2018, QNTA held a graduation ceremony for the students of its fourth and fifth batches, which cumulatively included 48 trainees. During the ceremony, trainees received certificates for completing a 10-month course based on Qatari tradition and Islamic values. The trainees also underwent specialized courses in all aspects of childcare, including first aid, nutrition, hygiene, education, Arabic, Islamic and cultural studies, and how to interact with others.

Hitting the right notes

The final aspect of QF's community development core mission area is another example of youth empowerment, one that revolves around furthering and showcasing musical excellence, which encompasses both shaping and inspiring Qatar's next generation of musical talent. It does this through two entities.

Firstly, the Qatar Music Academy (QMA) focuses on elevating musical ability in Qatar and the wider region. Its students learn their craft in cutting-edge facilities, customized to hone their talents, through programs that strike a balance between academic rigor and musical depth. In this way, QMA supports QF's commitment to an enhanced understanding of arts and culture in Qatar through music.



The second QF member with an emphasis on music as a vehicle for community development is the Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra (QPO), which performs and promotes Arabic and Western music with the goal of inspiring children and adults in Qatar and throughout the Arab world to both create and enjoy music. A jury of international music professionals chose the orchestra of 101 musicians through auditions held in European and Arab countries, and QPO's performances, in addition to their world-renowned caliber, also provide a platform for the social engagement that QF seeks to foster within inclusive and inspirational environments.

QCDC hosts Career Village for students

In April 2018, Qatar Career Development Center (QCDC) held its Career Village event for high school students at the Education City Student Center. The event welcomed students from schools across Qatar, together with representatives of leading Qatar-based organizations and institutions from sectors including education, business and finance, energy and manufacturing, communication and transportation, health, security, media, and culture. The Career Village aims to instill a strong career culture among Qatari high school students, familiarize them with the dynamics and challenges of Qatar's labor market, and introduce them to career fields in which they can make the greatest contribution to the country.



Global Initiatives





Building an international network

WISE empowers change-makers in Ghana

In May 2018, WISE, in partnership with the office of the President of Ghana, His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, held WISE@Accra, a forum designed to engage education stakeholders from across Africa.

The one-day forum, which took place in Ghana's capital, was held under the theme 'Unlocking the World's Potential: Leading and Innovating for Quality Education in Africa'. It explored many topics including quality education, ethical leadership, teacher training, teaching 21st century skills, funding, partnership accountability, and regional collaboration to tackle development challenges.

Across its many global initiatives, Qatar Foundation (QF) ensures a lasting legacy through a commitment to its core mission areas – education; research, development, and innovation; and community development.

In this spirit, QF endeavors to create an environment that encourages both personal initiative and collaboration by bringing talented people from across Qatar and the world together. It does so with the belief that through the collective sharing of knowledge, skills, and capabilities, innovation can be driven to ultimately deliver world-class results.

A prime example of this approach can be seen in two global QF initiatives devoted to enabling and advancing innovation in the fields of education and research. The World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE), an international, multi-sectoral platform for creative thinking, debate, and purposeful action, is QF's flagship education

forum and has established itself as a global reference in new approaches to education.

Through its biennial summit and range of ongoing programs, WISE is promoting innovation and building the future of education through collaboration. It has built a network of education stakeholders – from students to decision-makers – representing close to 200 countries, who share ideas and collaborate to seek creative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges in education.

The latest iteration of the WISE Summit took place in November 2017, under the theme 'Co-Exist, Co-Create: Learning to Live and Work Together'. This theme reflected WISE's commitment to

addressing important education challenges in times of disruption and economic uncertainty stemming from conflict, mass migration, growing inequality, on-going and rapid technological change, and other forces. The event gathered more than 2,000 participants from over 100 countries.

The highlight of the Summit saw Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, present Patrick Awuah, Founder and President of Ashesi University College, Ghana, with the prestigious WISE Prize for Education. Awuah is well-known for his dedication to supporting education in Ghana and across Africa. Every Ashesi University College graduate has found quality employment, and almost all have remained in Africa,

where many have started much-needed businesses. The WISE Prize for Education is the first distinction of its kind to recognize an individual or a team of up to six people for an outstanding contribution to education. The Laureate received the WISE Prize for Education gold medal, and USD \$500,000.

The second global innovation initiative of QF is the World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH), a leading example of multidisciplinary co-operation among the international healthcare community, dedicated to capturing and disseminating the best evidence-based ideas and practices in this field. WISH's global community includes some of the most important researchers and innovators in healthcare, with delegates from more than 100 countries, including almost 40 minister-level representatives attending its biennial summit – an invaluable opportunity for strengthening co-operation through exploring areas that align with Qatar's national healthcare priorities. The goal is to create tangible and long-lasting solutions in healthcare advocacy, policy, research, and delivery.

In May 2018, WISH's CEO, Sultana Afdhal, met with Her Royal Highness Princess Muna Al-Hussein of Jordan during a health policy forum held in Amman, Jordan, titled 'Investing in the Nursing Workforce'. The meeting addressed the importance of promoting nursing in the MENA region and globally, and preceded a launch announcement of 'Nursing Now Jordan' by Her Royal Highness Princess Muna, which followed the March 2018 launch of 'Nursing Now Qatar'.

Nursing Now, which was inaugurated in London and Geneva

in February 2018 and is supported by the World Health Organization and the International Council of Nurses, is a three-year campaign that aims to improve the perception of nurses, enhance their influence, and maximize their contribution to ensuring everyone everywhere has access to healthcare. The Qatar chapter of Nursing Now is the first of its kind in the Arabian Gulf region.

Inspiring and advancing the region

Stars of Science, an initiative of QF, employs a flagship 'edutainment reality' TV format, following the journey of nine young and aspiring innovators from around the region each year as they attempt to develop and create their inventions at the

laboratories of Qatar Science & Technology Park, a member of QF.

Now celebrating its 10th season, the show is the Arab world's leading scientific 'edutainment' reality TV program. Candidates for Stars of Science are competitively selected from across the Arab world to present project ideas that offer potential solutions to some of the region's most pressing challenges. At the end of a grueling 10-week season, the final four contestants compete for a share of USD \$600,000 in seed funding, with the winner determined by a panel of expert judges as well as viewers voting online.

In November 2017, Fouad Maksoud was named the Arab world's top

More than

USD \$14,000,000

has been raised by its alumni since Season 1

FYI
Stars of Science
Since *Stars of Science* began:

It has featured

131

alumni, representing
18 Arab nations

60%

of alumni have won awards
based on their Stars of Science
innovations and applications

57%

of its alumni
own a business

innovator in the Season 9 finale. His innovation, dubbed a 'Nano-shielding Textile Machine', became the public and jury favorite, earning him the highest honor on the show. The machine uses nanotechnology to apply petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals to ordinary textiles for various purposes, such as making clothing waterproof or allowing the integration of healing medicine with apparel. The season finale of the Doha-based show was held outside the country for the first time. It was instead filmed in the Sultanate of Oman, as part of a collaboration between Stars of Science and the Oman Technology Fund.

The Doha International Family Institute (DIFI) is a QF entity that

also has a focus on the Arab world, albeit from a different angle. DIFI is a global policy and advocacy institute working to advance knowledge on Arab families and promote evidence-based policies. This makes it an integral part of QF's efforts to foster healthy, educated societies underpinned by strong cohesive families in Qatar and the region.

DIFI was honored in February 2018 by the International Board of the International Federation for Family Development (IFFD), an NGO with general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at the United Nations, after it awarded the 2018 IFFD Family Award to both DIFI and the National Association of Large Families of Hungary. IFFD Awards

are presented to a person or entity distinguished by their promotion of family-perspective policies during the past year, and for demonstrating both appreciation and promotion of family values around the world.

Ignacio Socías, Director of International Relations at IFFD, explained that DIFI was selected for this award because of its role as a global policy and advocacy institute working to provide evidence and raise awareness in the regional and international levels. He added: "DIFI has also contributed to advocate on family issues by the organization of several International Conferences and through its special consultative status with United Nations Economic and Social Council, with



QFI seeks to inspire meaningful connections to the Arab world. QFI's approach involves building a global community of diverse learners and educators and connecting them through effective and collaborative learning environments, inside and outside the classroom.

very specific recommendations to integrate a family perspective into national policy-making.”

Arabic approach

The World Organization for Renaissance of Arabic Language (WORAL) and Qatar Foundation International (QFI) are two QF entities aligned in their dedication to promoting and preserving the Arabic language. WORAL aims to enhance the cultural and educational aspects of community development through the teaching and learning of the

Arabic language. It does so through many platforms, especially digital, and through partnering with a variety of initiatives and entities that address the needs of society and foster social engagement.

In December 2017, WORAL and the Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia, in collaboration with Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia; Kolej Universiti Islam Selangor; and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, successfully organized a momentous event to coincide with World Arabic Language Day 2017.

The event was held under the theme of 'Teaching Arabic: Fascinating & Creative'. Among the objectives outlined for the program was empowering the usage of the Arabic language and providing platforms for intellectual discourse on the use and development of the Arabic language in Malaysia. The occasion marked the first time that such a celebration had been held in Malaysia, as WORAL's previous hosting had occurred only in Doha.

Like WORAL, QFI seeks to inspire meaningful connections to the Arab world. QFI's approach involves

building a global community of diverse learners and educators and connecting them through effective and collaborative learning environments, inside and outside the classroom. Through such activities, QFI is committed to providing K-12 students in Qatar, the Americas, and the UK with the intellectual, communicative, and cultural competencies that will enable them to be engaged global citizens.

A highlight of QFI's recent activities came in April 2018 when Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint

Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, launched a research project designed to study the mental health and psychosocial well-being of Arabic-speaking adolescent immigrants in the United States. The study, which will be carried out by Columbia University in partnership with QFI, will target young Arab immigrants between the ages of 13-17 who came from conflict-affected countries and, as a result, had their formal schooling interrupted. The 12-month QFI-Columbia University study aims to assess the mental health needs of refugees

and identify potential strategies to develop effective school-based programming to support their education and help them assimilate into their host communities.

The same month, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser visited a QFI partner elementary school in Brooklyn, New York, and attended 'P.S. 261', a QFI-supported program that teaches Arabic language and Arab culture through art. The program aims to encourage students to think globally and critically, and inspire meaningful connections with the Arab world.



مؤسسة قطر
Qatar Foundation