

CLT-ED/WCCA2024/4

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# UNESCO WORLD CONFERENCE ON CULTURE & ARTS EDUCATION

13 – 15 FEBRUARY 2024  
ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
*ABU DHABI NATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTRE*

## ***PROGRAMME***

*Updated on 15.02.2024*

# BACKGROUND

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In 2006, the international community came together for the UNESCO World Conference on Arts Education in Lisbon, Portugal, and agreed on the relevance and added value of arts education to the achievement of global and national development goals. The Lisbon Conference produced the [Road Map for Arts Education](#), which provided guidance for advancing the development of arts education. Building on this work, in 2010, high-level representatives and relevant stakeholders in the arts and in education met again for UNESCO’s Second World Conference on Arts Education in Seoul, Republic of Korea, to assess and encourage the implementation of the Road Map. The Seoul Conference resulted in the [Seoul Agenda: Goals for the Development of Arts Education](#), intended to serve as a concrete plan of action to support countries’ efforts to realize the full potential of quality arts education.

Fourteen years later, UNESCO is convening Ministers of Education and of Culture at the UNESCO World Conference on Culture and Arts Education, from 13 to 15 February 2024 in Abu Dhabi. Hosted by the United Arab Emirates, the World Conference will provide a space for Member States and diverse actors to share their perspectives and experiences on the topic and, most importantly, adopt a “Framework for Culture and Arts Education” that considers not just the “arts” but also “culture”, understood in the broadest sense.

As requested by UNESCO Member States ([211EX/Decision 39](#)), this Framework proposes new avenues to improve, deepen and scale up collaboration between the education and culture sectors while harnessing digital technologies to accelerate the achievement of present and future global development objectives, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Inspired by the draft Framework, the participants attending the Conference will be invited to share their experiences and articulate concrete recommendations to help take forward the Framework at the national and regional levels.

To facilitate exchange among professionals and practitioners working in education and culture, the programme is organized around seven thematic sessions that aim to speak to both sectors while encouraging inter- and trans-disciplinary dialogue.

## Thematic Sessions

- Equitable Access to Culture and Arts Education
- Quality and Relevant Lifelong and Life-wide Learning in, through and with Cultural Diversity
- Skills to Shape Resilient, Just and Sustainable Futures
- Institutionalization and Valorization of Culture and Arts Education Ecosystems
- Culture and Arts Education through Digital Technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- Partnerships and Financing in Support of Culture and Arts Education
- Monitoring, Research and Data

# 13 FEBRUARY 2024

Tuesday

Starting at 8.30 a.m.

Registration

- Cultural Performance

### ***Al Ayyala Performance***

*Rows of men reenact an epic performance with their words of courage and glory memorized and preserved across many generations. Today, this ancient practice remains the pride of Emirati heritage and identity, and is present at every celebration, especially when welcoming important guests.*

*Al Ayyala was inscribed in 2014 as a joint file on the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.*

ATRIUM

10.30 – 11.30 a.m.

## **PLENARY SESSION**

MAIN PLENARY ROOM

- Adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conference
- Election of the Chairpersons of the World Conference
- Election of the Vice-Chairs and Rapporteur of the World Conference
- Adoption of the Agenda of the World Conference
  
- Opening Address by the Chairpersons
  
- Presentation of the UNESCO Framework for Culture and Arts Education by the Assistant Director-General for Culture, Mr Ernesto Ottone R. and the Assistant Director-General for Education, Ms Stefania Giannini

11.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

Coffee Break

ATRIUM

12.00 – 1.00 p.m.

## **OPENING CEREMONY**

MAIN PLENARY ROOM

- Cultural Performance

***Al Wannah Performance Mohammed Al Shehhi and Bkheet Al Mahri followed by Berklee Abu Dhabi performance feat. Fatima Al Hashimi and Mayssa Karaa with Berklee Abu Dhabi Musicians***

*Fatima Al Hashimi, Emirati Opera singer and Mayssa Karaa, Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter and Artistic Director of Berklee Abu Dhabi,*

with a special lineup of musicians, including Berklee Abu Dhabi faculty, led by violinist Yarub Smarait

- Welcoming Address by H.E. Mr Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman of the Department of Culture and Tourism of Abu Dhabi
- Opening Remarks by H.E. Mr Sheikh Salem bin Khalid Al Qassimi, Minister of Culture, UAE
- Youth Voices
- Inaugural Address of the President of the General Conference of UNESCO, H.E. Ms Simona-Mirela Miculescu

*Group photo*

1.00 p.m.

Lunch  
HALL 5

2.00 – 3.00 p.m.

## PARALLEL SIDE EVENTS

### Empowering Children and Families as Cultural Producers in Art Museums

Harvard Graduate School of Education, Louvre Abu Dhabi, MoMA, Young V&A  
CONFERENCE ROOM B 2 (GROUND FLOOR)



### Integrating Intangible Cultural Heritage in Education

The Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO, UNESCO Chair on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Comparative Law, University of Rome Unitelma Sapienza (Italy), Didim Public Education Center, Didim District Directorate of National Education (Türkiye)  
CONFERENCE ROOM B 3 (GROUND FLOOR)



### Cultivating Collaborations and Sharing Practices for a Sustainable and Shared Future

King Abdulaziz Centre for World Culture – Ithra  
CONFERENCE ROOM CS 5 (FIRST FLOOR)



### Asia-Pacific Partnership: (Re)developing Culture and Arts Education Policies and Initiatives

Korea Arts and Culture Education Service (KACES)  
CONFERENCE ROOM B 1 (GROUND FLOOR)



3.00 – 4.30 p.m.

## PARALLEL THEMATIC SESSIONS 1

### Equitable Access to Culture and Arts Education

*Access to culture and arts education for all learners is an enabling first step for transformative change towards just, equitable and sustainable futures. This session will focus on actions to foster and sustain equity and inclusion, and how they can benefit learners most in need.*

THEMATIC SESSION 1

THEMATIC SESSION 1

**Equitable Access to Culture and Arts Education**

HALL 4 (A)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (C)

**Equitable Access to Culture and Arts Education**

HALL 4 (B)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (D)

4.30 – 6.00 p.m.

**PARALLEL THEMATIC SESSIONS 2**

**Quality and Relevant Lifelong and Life-wide Learning in, through and with Cultural Diversity**

*Culture and the arts are critical to anchoring learning and teaching relevance through contextual knowledge, approaches and settings based on a respect for and appreciation of cultural diversity. This session will discuss the paradigm shift needed to steer collective action in this area.*

**THEMATIC SESSION 2**

**Quality and Relevant Lifelong and Life-wide Learning in, through and with Cultural Diversity**

HALL 4 (A)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (C)

**THEMATIC SESSION 2**

**Quality and Relevant Lifelong and Life-wide Learning in, through and with Cultural Diversity**

HALL 4 (B)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (D)

Starting at 6.00 p.m.

- Cultural Performance

MAIN PLENARY ROOM

**Inscriptions (نقوش)**

*Naseer Shamma, a UNESCO Artist for peace, and one of the world's preeminent oud players and composers will be performing with a selection of international soloists from across the world, combining different musical instruments to find a masterful artistic language beyond borders and traditions.*

Dinner

HALL 5



# 14 FEBRUARY 2024

Wednesday

Starting at 8.30 a.m.

○ Cultural Performance

### ***Al Razfa and Al Azi***

*Al Razfa is a traditional performing art comprising poetry and rhythm that is deeply rooted in the culture of the UAE. Al Razfa is viewed as a form of celebration and an expression of gratitude and valour. It is also performed at welcome ceremonies for dignitaries.*

*Al Razfa was inscribed in 2015 on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.*

*Al Azi is characterised by the powerful voices of the poet and the chorus who 'answers' him. In Al Azi verse, the poet speaks about generosity, courage and other qualities that exemplify the greatness of the poem's subject. Al Azi is regularly performed at weddings, national celebrations and religious holidays, as well as other special events and ceremonies. Al Azi was inscribed in 2017 on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding.*

ATRIUM

6

9.00 – 10.00 a.m.

## PARALLEL SIDE EVENTS

### **The Benefits of Music Education**

UNESCO Chair for Musical Mastery and Contemporary Performing Arts (Russian Gnesins Academy of Music), International Music Council, The National System of Youth and Children's Orchestras and Choirs of Venezuela, Institution for a Global Society Corporation (IGS), Yamaha Corporation

CONFERENCE ROOM CS 5 (FIRST FLOOR)



### **Building Capacities of Learners, Culture Professionals and Researchers**

The Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), Foundation for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of Rabat (Morocco), Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA)

### **Sustainable Development through Arts, Culture and Education based on Collaborations and Partnerships across Sectors**

Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), European Network of Observatories in the Field of Arts and Cultural Education (ENO), Art and Culture Education Network (ACEnet), European Union

CONFERENCE ROOM B 2 (GROUND FLOOR)



### **Built Environment Education**

International Union of Architects (UIA) Architecture & Children Work Programme, Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV)

CONFERENCE ROOM B 3 (GROUND FLOOR)



CONFERENCE ROOM B 1 (GROUND FLOOR)



**Community Collaborations:  
The Role of Teaching Artists and Artisans in  
Empowering Knowledge Transfer**

Manarat Al Saadiyat’s Art Studio, Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, Salama  
bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation, and Zayed University College of  
Arts and Creative Enterprises

CONFERENCE ROOM CS 1 (FIRST FLOOR)



10.00 – 11.30 a.m. **PARALLEL THEMATIC SESSIONS 3**  
**Skills to Shape Resilient, Just and Sustainable Futures**

*In a rapidly-changing world, culture and arts education equips learners with the necessary skills to create and apply knowledge, ideas and agency to thrive and shape their societies. This session will examine forward-thinking responses to the evolving needs of learners.*

**THEMATIC SESSION 3**  
**Skills to Shape Resilient, Just and Sustainable Futures**

HALL 4 (A)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (C)

**THEMATIC SESSION 3**  
**Skills to Shape Resilient, Just and Sustainable Futures**

HALL 4 (B)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (D)

11.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. **PARALLEL THEMATIC SESSIONS 4**  
**Institutionalization and Valorization  
of Culture and Arts Education Ecosystems**

*Comprehensive strategies are needed to tackle the marginalization of culture and arts education in education systems and societies more broadly. This session will share solutions and approaches that are scaling up opportunities for culture and arts education and its actors.*

**THEMATIC SESSION 4**  
**Institutionalization and Valorization  
of Culture and Arts Education Ecosystems**

HALL 4 (A)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (C)

**THEMATIC SESSION 4**  
**Institutionalization and Valorization  
of Culture and Arts Education Ecosystems**

HALL 4 (B)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (D)

Starting at 1.00 p.m.

Lunch  
HALL 51.30 – 2.30 p.m. **PARALLEL SIDE EVENTS****Cultivating Creativity: Empowering and Nurturing Innovators in Cultural and Creative Industries**

Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO and Junior Achievement Cyprus, Lasalle | University of the Arts (Singapore), Istituto Marangoni Dubai, UNESCO Transcultural Programme  
CONFERENCE ROOM B 1 (GROUND FLOOR)

**Culture and Arts Education for a Sustainable Future**

Institute for Sustainable Development at the European Public Law Organization (ISD EPLO), International Theatre Institute (ITI), and Culture for Causes Network (C4C)  
CONFERENCE ROOM CS 5 (FIRST FLOOR)

**Re-shaping Education for and through Cultural Heritage: Setting Global Networks and Disseminating Good Practices for Urban Sustainable Development**

UNESCO Category 2 Centre, World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (WHITRAP Shanghai), College of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP), Tongji University, Shanghai (China), ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Education and Training, Ibero-American Network of UNESCO Chairs  
CONFERENCE ROOM B 3 (GROUND FLOOR)

**Weaving Heritage into Education: Convergent Paths for an Exceptional Educational System in the UAE**

Ministry of Culture, Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi (Culture Sector), Ministry of Education, Department of Education & Knowledge – Abu Dhabi, Aldar Academies  
CONFERENCE ROOM B 2 (GROUND FLOOR)



2.30 – 4.00 p.m.

**PARALLEL THEMATIC SESSIONS 5**  
**Culture and Arts Education through Digital Technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

*Digital transformation continues to profoundly shift how we learn, teach, create, communicate, and work in and across societies. This session will look at how culture and arts education is adapting to, engaging with and anticipating the impact of digital technologies and AI.*

**THEMATIC SESSION 5****Culture and Arts Education through Digital Technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

HALL 4 (A)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (C)

**THEMATIC SESSION 5****Culture and Arts Education through Digital Technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

HALL 4 (B)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (D)

4.00 – 5.30 p.m.

**PARALLEL THEMATIC SESSIONS 6**  
**Partnerships and Financing in Support of Culture and Arts Education**

*Culture and arts education requires diverse stakeholders and interdisciplinary and intersectoral*



*cooperation to ensure the adequate and sustainable resources to advance learning outcomes. This session will share innovative practices that are driving forward accessible and equitable benefits for culture and arts education.*

**THEMATIC SESSION 6**

**Partnerships and Financing  
in Support of Culture and Arts Education**

HALL 4 (A)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (C)

**THEMATIC SESSION 6**

**Partnerships and Financing  
in Support of Culture and Arts Education**

HALL 4 (B)

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (D)

5.30 – 6.30 p.m.

**PARALLEL SIDE EVENTS**

**Digital Arts and Cultural Inclusion: Navigating the Intersection of Technology, Identity, and Dialogue**

United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (Japan)  
Chulalongkorn School of Integrated Innovation (Thailand), Alef Education, UNESCO Global Taskforce for Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages, MarcoPolo700 Foundation

CONFERENCE ROOM CS 1 (FIRST FLOOR)



**Working Together for a More Inclusive Audiovisual Industry**

Netflix, Women In Animation Nepal and Incessant Rain Studios, Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC)

CONFERENCE ROOM B 2 (GROUND FLOOR)



**Culture Pass: An Innovative Policy to Support Learning for Cultural Diversity among Youth**

Ministries of Culture of France, United Arab Emirates, Germany, Spain and Singapore

CONFERENCE ROOM B 1 (GROUND FLOOR)



**Towards the implementation of the UNESCO Framework for Culture and Arts Education**

World Alliance for Arts Education (WAAE), World Dance Alliance (WDA), daCi (dance and the Child international), The International Society for Education through Art (InSEA), Porto Santo Charter

CONFERENCE ROOM CS 5 (FIRST FLOOR)



**Culture and Arts Education in Africa**

African Union (AU), Africa Arts Association (AfrAA), African International Documentary Festival Foundation (AFIDFF), and MABArt (Italy) International Artistic Residencies for Schools

CONFERENCE ROOM B 3 (GROUND FLOOR)



7.00 p.m.

Departure of buses to the Cultural Foundation from HALL 2  
Tour and Dinner, Cultural Foundation, Abu Dhabi



# 15 FEBRUARY 2024

Thursday

Starting at 8.30 a.m.

○ Cultural Performance

## ***Al Ahalla***

*Al Ahalla is a traditional collective performing art form that is native to the maritime communities of the UAE. Said to have originated on long pearling trips as a work song, or as a means to alleviate pain and homesickness, the circular boat form of the performance and its unique haunting melodies and verse have integrated over time with the coastal Ayyala performing art movements and formations to evolve and create an emotive piece.*

*Closing performance directly after closing plenary session*

*Al-Multaqa Group*

*A musical performance from the UAE bringing together leading musicians from Tunisia, Sudan, Mali and Iraq mixing renowned Arabic and African melodies.*

*ATRIUM*

10

9.00 – 10.30 a.m.

## **THEMATIC SESSION 7**

### **Monitoring, Research and Data**

*Comprehensive and systematic research and robust data in culture and arts education strengthens evidence-based policy action for meaningful long-term outcomes. This session will discuss the knowledge gaps, as well as the good practices that are catalysing change.*

## **THEMATIC SESSION 7**

### **Monitoring, Research and Data**

*HALL 4 (A)*

- Interventions by Ministers
- Interventions by Observers

*LIVE RETRANSMISSION HALL 4 (C)*

10.30 – 11.00 a.m.

Coffee break

11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

## PLENARY SESSION

MAIN PLENARY ROOM

○ Cultural Performance

### **Al-Multaqa Group**

*A musical performance from the UAE bringing together leading musicians from Tunisia, Sudan, Mali and Iraq mixing renowned Arabic and African melodies.*

○ Youth Voices

○ Report by the Rapporteur

○ Report on the Side Events

Adoption of the UNESCO Framework for Culture and Arts Education

## CLOSING CEREMONY

○ Closing Remarks by:

- H.E. Mr Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman of the Department of Culture and Tourism of Abu Dhabi
- H.E. Mr Sheikh Salem bin Khalid Al Qassimi, Minister of Culture, UAE
- H.E. Ms Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi, Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, UAE

○ Closing Address by the Director-General of UNESCO, Ms Audrey Azoulay

*Group Photo*

Starting at 12.30 p.m.

Lunch  
HALL 5

Starting at 3.00 p.m.

Tours of Louvre Abu Dhabi and Abrahamic Family House

