

NADA FARIS RESUME

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EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Major: Poetry & Literary Translation
Graduated 2020

KUWAIT UNIVERSITY

Higher Diploma, Major: Comparative Literature
Graduated 2013 | GPA: 3.97 | Top Student: October 2010

KUWAIT UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts, Major: English Language & Literature
Graduated 2006 | GPA: 3.14 | Dean's List: 2003

GULF ENGLISH SCHOOL

International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)
Graduated 2001

EXPERIENCE

FREELANCE WRITER, PERFORMANCE POET, TEACHING-ARTIST

Aug 2009–Present

- Writing articles for various publications, nationally and internationally
- Performing slam poems nationally and internationally
- Speaking at schools and universities, including two TEDx talks
- Participating in panel discussions on literature, identity, and language
- Designing and conducting creative writing workshops for people across sexes, ages, and interests in Kuwait to help them articulate their identities creatively

SUKOON MAGAZINE

Dec 2020–Present

Director of Strategy (Volunteer Position)

- Designing a plan for the magazine's expansion and managing its website and operations

AWARDS, HONORS, & RESIDENCIES

WRITING

Nomination, *One Jacar* for Best of the Net 2022: "Every Day is a Celebration Worthy of Fireworks"
Finalist, *No Contact's* Summer Poetry Contest, Aug 2021: "Poem to be Read from Right to Left"
Finalist, Lucie Photo Book Award, Independent Prize, Sep 2019: *Women of Kuwait*
Semi-finalist, Vine Leaves Vignette Collection Award, Apr 2016: *Fountain of Youth*
Winner of the Voice of Success Program, *en.v earth*, Oct 2012: "Every Child Deserves a Home:
Zeina Al-Sultan Unveils the Truths Behind Adoption in Kuwait"

1st Place Winner of Kuwait's national poetry slam (organized by the Jamaican Embassy in Kuwait and Taste of Jamaica), Kuwait: Oct 2010, Dec 2010, Feb 2016, and Jul 2016; 1st Runner Up: Dec 2011, Sep 2012, Apr 2014, and Jan 2015

OTHER

Arab Woman Award, *Harper's Bazaar Arabia*, 2018: Inspirational Woman
International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), Apr 2018: *Empowering Youth Through the Performing Arts*, USA
MENA Salam Fellowship, World Peace Initiative Foundation (Peace In, Peace Out), Turkey, May 27–Jun 1st, 2016
Board of Trustees, 2015–2016, Cultural Circle Prize for the Arabic Short Story (Almultaqa)
Honorary Fellowship in Writing, Iowa University's International Writing Program, Aug 24–Nov 12, 2013: Writer in Residence
Top Student, October 2010: Kuwait University's MA in Comparative Literature

BOOKS

Women of Kuwait (Daylight Books 2019) USA
Finalist in the Lucie Photo Book Award Independent Prize, September 2019
Mischief Diary (Hamad Bin Khalifa University Press 2018) Qatar
Fountain of Youth (Vine Leaves Press 2016) Australia
Semi-finalist in the Vine Leaves 2016 Vignette Collection Award, April 2016

SELECTED CONFERENCES & FESTIVALS

INTERNATIONAL

Bridgewater International Poetry Festival Fall 2020 Virtual Event, Nov 16-19, 2020 (Poetry Reading)
Iowa City's Book Festival, Oct 12, 2013 (Panel, Facts and Fiction, Paper: Representation and Kuwaiti Literature)
Shubbak Festival, Jul 4, 2013 (Poetry Reading)

REGIONAL

Canadian University Dubai, TEDx event: TEDxCanadianUniversityDubai, Oct 26, 2017 (Talk: "The Beauty of Friendship")

LOCAL

Gulf University for Science and Technology's English Language and Literature Conference (GELL) "Translingualism," Apr 18, 2017 (Panel, Paper: "Writing and Space: Physical and Psychological Influence")
American University of Kuwait's Biennial Literary Festival, Apr 6, 2017 (Poetry Reading)
Arab Open University's Knowledge Development Seminar, May 8, 2018 (Short Story Reading: from Mischief Diary)
Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Centre (JAAC), TEDx event: TEDxAIshuwaikh Sep 16, 2017 (Talk: "Perception is Only an Ink Stain Away")
Dar Al-Athar Al-Islamiyyah showcase of Kuwaiti Talents, event sponsored by US Embassy and SABAB Theatre, May 26, 2013 (Short Story Reading: "A Melancholic Superhero")