
Arabic/Islamic calligraphy master and professor of mechanical engineering.

- Active in promoting Arabic and Islamic calligraphy and increasing people's awareness of its cultural and artistic values through exhibits, lectures and workshops.
- Intend to not only to attract the Arabic speaking audience, but to cross barriers and touch other languages and cultures.
- Work exhibited and sold in the US, Europe, Turkey, the Middle East and Japan.

Learning and Preparation

- 2013 to 2015
Advanced training under guidance of Master Calligraphers Davud Bektaş in Jeli Sülüs style and Mustafa Parıldar in Jeli Taliq style, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2006 to 2013
Student of Master Calligrapher Mohamed Zakariay. Granted Ijazah (**Master Calligrapher Degree in Taliq Style**) in April 2013
- 1998 to 2009
Student of Istanbul Master Calligrapher Hasan Celebi. Granted **Ijazah (Master Calligrapher Degree in Thuluth and Nasikh Styles)** in 2009.
- 1989 to Present
Developed and polished a modern form of the art of Arabic calligraphy.
- 1970s to 1998
Self-taught in the classical styles of Arabic calligraphy

Visiting/Guest Artist

- Art and Art History, University of Michigan, Flint, April 4, 2014
- Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina. May 27, 28, 2010

Awards

- Michigan Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program, \$2000, 2018

Public Lectures Delivered

“Art Starts with a Line: Introduction to Arabic/Islamic Calligraphy”

- 2nd International Speaker, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, September 25, 2019
- Hamilton College, Clinton, NY, April 12, 2019

“Blessed Among the Arts: Arabic/Islamic Calligraphy, its History and Development”

- University of Michigan, Flint, April 4, 2014

“What is in the Line: History, Development and Styles of Arabic/Islamic Calligraphy”

- Kenyon College, Gambier, OH, April 24, 2012
- Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, Michigan, October 23, 2011.

“Overtures of the Reed Pen: History and Styles of Arabic Calligraphy”

- Loyola University Museum of Art, Chicago, Illinois, October 12, 2010.

“Before Your Eyes: History and Styles of Arabic Calligraphy”

- Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina, May 27, 2010.

“Blessed Among the Arts: History and Styles of Arabic Calligraphy”

- The Ohio State University, The Middle East Studies Center, Columbus, Ohio, May 16, 2008.
- Florida State University, Middle East Center, Department of Modern Languages, Tallahassee, FL, February 29, 2008.
- Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, October 22, 2007.
- University of Chicago, Center for Middle Eastern Studies Lecture Series and Hassan Haddad Memorial Fund, Chicago, IL, May 4th, 2007.
- Grand Valley State University, Department of Modern Languages, Arab Culture Week, Grand Rapids, MI, April 3, 2007.

“Arabic Calligraphy Writing in the Diaspora”

- Second Conference of Radius of Arab American Writers (RAWI), Dearborn, MI, May 17 to 19, 2007.

“Arabic/Islamic Calligraphy: Letters in Motion”

- University of Michigan- Ann Arbor, Program of American Culture and Department of Women’s Studies, October 12, 2006.
- Mapping Arab Diaspora, International Conference, University of Michigan- Dearborn- Center for Arab American Studies, April 27-29, 2006.
- The Arab American National Museum, DIWAN: A Forum for the Arts, Dearborn, MI, March 30th to April 2nd, 2006.
- University of Michigan- Dearborn- Center for Arab American Studies, March 23, 2006.

“History, Development and Styles of Arabic Calligraphy”

- University of Puerto Rico- Mayaguez- Social Science Department, May 5, 2004.
- University of Chicago- Center for Middle Eastern Studies, February 9, 2001.
- University of Chicago- Center for Middle Eastern Studies, July 7, 2000.
- Lake County College, Illinois: During the program “An Arabian Cultural Mosaic”, September 26, 1999.
- Middlebury College, Vermont, July 2nd, 1999.

- ❑ Muslim Community Center in south Chicago, May 22, 1999.

Workshops

- ❑ Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, Sept. 25, 2019
- ❑ Hamilton College, Clinton, NY, April 12, 2019
- ❑ Al Tawheed Center of Farmington Hills, (Sponsored by Michigan Traditional Arts Program at Michigan State University Museum), Farmington Hills, MI, Sept. 9, 2018
- ❑ University of Michigan Museum of Art, MI, a Workshop for Teachers, Feb. 11, 2017
- ❑ International Women's Birmingham-Bloomfield Newcomers Club, Arabic Culture group, Bloomfield Hills, MI, Jan. 27, 2017
- ❑ Tibbits Opera House, Coldwater, MI, September 27 and October 4, 2015.
- ❑ University of Michigan, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Ann Arbor, MI, October 17 to November 28, 2012.
- ❑ Kenyon College, Gambier, OH, April 23, 2012
- ❑ University of Michigan, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Ann Arbor, MI, February 28 to April 4th, 2011.
- ❑ The Ohio State University, The Middle East Studies Center, Columbus, Ohio, May 16, 2008.
- ❑ Department of Art, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, October 22, 2007.
- ❑ University of Chicago- Center for Middle Eastern Studies, July 8, 2000.
- ❑ Middlebury College, Vermont, June 30 to July 3, 1999.
- ❑ Muslim Community Center, Chicago, May 22, 1999.

Demonstrations

- ❑ International Coffee & Tea Festival- a celebration of various cultures, Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI, January 21 & 22, 2017
- ❑ The 2nd Annual Week of Islamic Art and Culture, The Gallery of Dolan Science Center, John Carroll University, University Heights, OH, April 23, 24, 2009
- ❑ Innovation Trade Show, with the Dubai Tourism Office, Chicago, IL, September 26, 27, 2006
- ❑ Chicago Freedom Museum, May 2006

Exhibits

- ❑ "Islamic Arts Festival" with other artists, Huston, TX, (Virtual) Dec. 2020
- ❑ "The International Virtual Exhibition for the Arts of Arabic Calligraphy", Kuwait, Group of international artists, Started, October 25, 2020
- ❑ "Beauty in Solitude," with Mohamed Zakariya and three of his licensed students, Virtual Exhibit by the Reed Society for the Sacred Arts, May 24, 2020, on-going.
- ❑ "Islamic Arts Festival" with other artists, Huston, TX, Dec. 2019
- ❑ "Public Art Program," Farmington Hills City Hall, Dec. 12, 2018 to Dec. 12, 2020, invited.
- ❑ "Gifts of Art," University of Michigan Health System, September 17 - December 9, 2018 (**Solo**)
- ❑ "Master Hasan Celebi and His Students," Marmara Ilahiyat Mosque, Uskudar, Istanbul, Turkey, April 20 to May 7, 2018

- ❑ "Image and Meaning: Arabic Calligraphy Designs by Nihad Dukhan," University of Detroit Mercy, August 28 – October 27, 2017 **(Solo)**
- ❑ "Sculpting in Two Dimensions: Modern Calligraphy Designs by Nihad Dukhan," Süleyman Demirel Cultural Center, Istanbul Technical University (İTÜ AYZAĞA), Istanbul, Turkey, Feb. 26 to April 1st, 2016 **(Solo)**.
- ❑ "See No Evil: Classical Arabic/Islamic Calligraphy by Nihad Dukhan," Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304, Feb. 26 to April 1st, 2016 **(Solo)**
- ❑ "Spiritual Geometry: Modern and Classical Works from Michigan and Istanbul Collections," Süleyman Demirel Cultural Center, İTÜ AYZAĞA, Istanbul
Ruhani Geometri: Modern ve Klasik Hat Sanatı Sergisi, Michigan ve İstanbul koleksiyonlarından. İTÜ AYZAĞA KAMPÜSÜ, SDKM VIP SALON, February 2 to 27, 2015 **(Solo)**
- ❑ "Contemporary Arabic Calligraphy by Nihad Dukhan," Loyola Museum of Art, Chicago, Illinois, September 25 2010 to January 16, 2011 **(Solo)**
- ❑ Annual All Media Exhibition, Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI, juried group artists, August 13 to September 26, 2010.
- ❑ "Syntax" Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina, 4 invited artists, March 5 to June 5, 2010.
- ❑ "International Festival of Arabic Calligraphy," Musée National de l'Enluminure, de la Miniature et de la Calligraphie, Algiers, Invited by Ministry of Culture, ALGERIA, May 28 to June 4, 2009
- ❑ "Exhibition of Islamic Calligraphy," The Gallery of Dolan Science Center, John Carroll University, University Heights, OH, April 23, 24, 2009 (2-artist show).
- ❑ "Expression of Al-Nakba," by www.expressionsofnakaba.org. International Traveling Multi-Media Exhibit, May 15, 2008. (2 pieces among 24 selected from 300 international entries from 16 countries).
- ❑ "Arts for the Spirit," Oakwood Hospital, Dearborn, MI, February 2008.
- ❑ "Arabic, Asian, and European Calligraphy Traditions from Ancient to Contemporary Times," Mansfield Art Center, Mansfield, OH, June 24 to August 12, 2007.
- ❑ "An Alternative Space: Islamic Art in America," Mizane Gallery, Reston, VA, June 29 to August 24, 2007.
- ❑ "National Islamic Art Festival," National Islamic Arts and Culture Foundation, Reston, VA, May 19, 2007
- ❑ "Appreciating Arts," Marvin Center, George Washington University, Washington, DC, 7 artists, May 2nd, 2007.
- ❑ "Venus of Willendorf: Redefining the Goddess," Duderstadt Gallery, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, group show, Feb. 9 - 27, 2007.
- ❑ "Calligraphy: The Art of Beautiful Writing," Tresor Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA, Nov. 3-December 15, 2006.
- ❑ "Artists Among Us," the Rotunda Gallery, organized by the Wayne County Council for the Arts, History and Humanities, Dearborn, MI, October 5-27, 2006
- ❑ "Every Curve, Every Dot," Solo Exhibit, the Jerusalem Fund Art Gallery, Washington, DC, September 8 to October 27, 2006. **(Solo)**
- ❑ With "The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee," 5th Convention, Arlington, VA, June 2002.
- ❑ Dearborn Heights City Hall: November 6 -December 1st, 2000.
- ❑ University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Muslim Student Association, October 1st to 25th, 2000.

- ❑ DePaul University- Department of Religious Studies: “Exploring Muslim Cultures”, March 31 to July 15, 2000, 2 Calligraphers.
- ❑ Lake County College- Illinois: “An Arabian Cultural Mosaic”, September 26, 1999.
- ❑ Milwaukee, Wisconsin - Arabian Festival, September 17-19, 1999.
- ❑ Chicago - Middle East Studies Association Conference. November 1998.
- ❑ Chicago- Gold Coast Art Fair, September 1999.
- ❑ Chicago- Wells Street Art Festival, June 1998, June 1999, June 2000.
- ❑ Toledo’s Botanical Gardens, Toledo, Ohio, June 1998.
- ❑ Brooklyn Museum of Art and the World Music Institute: “Fourth Festival of Arab World Culture”, New York, New York, May 9th and 10th, 1998.
- ❑ Middle East Studies Association Conference, November 2008, Washington DC, 1997, San Francisco, California, November 1996, Providence, Rhode Island, Washington, DC, November 1995.
- ❑ Washington Square Art Festival, New York, New York, May 1997.

Webinars

- “Conversation with Eryn Kropt, Curator of Special Collection of Islamic Manuscripts at University of Michigan”, Dec. 5, 2020.

Permanent Collections

- ❑ The Smithsonian National Postal Museum
- ❑ The Arab American National Museum, Dearborn, MI, USA
- ❑ Istanbul Technical University, İTÜ, Ayazağa, Istanbul, Turkey

News Coverage/Profiles

- ❑ Eleni Zaras, “Calligrapher Nihad Dukhan Respects Tradition as He Creates Modern Designs,” Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, Vol. XXXIX, No. 5, August/September 2020, pp. 49-51
- ❑ Interview with Karbala TV channel, USA, February 9, 2019
- ❑ “Arabic Calligraphy Artwork Now On Display At Taubman,” Michigan Medicine Headlines, September 20, 2018
- ❑ “Tibbits puts on different kinds of cultural experiences,” The Daily Reporter, Coldwater, MI, Oct 4, 2015
- ❑ Interview with Radio Tahrir (99.5 FM WBAI New York) with Barbara Nimri Aziz, June 20, 2006.
- ❑ “Limelite: The Inspired Pen of Nihad Dukhan,” Shems, Arab American Life Magazine, No. 4, Spring 2005, pp. 10-15.
- ❑ “Abbar: Building Bridges,” EYE, the International Review of Graphics Design, 50, Vol. 13, Winter 2003, pp.37. A design of the word ‘Allah’ was included as an example of modern Arabic calligraphy.
- ❑ “Arabic Calligraphy from Antiquity to the Contemporary,” The Art Paper, Journal of Boulder Art Commission, Vol. 3, Issue 6, Boulder, CO, January 2003.
- ❑ “After the Fall: Artists for Peace, Justice and Civil Liberties,” Special Features, WWW.TAPArts.org, May-June, 2002.
- ❑ “Contemporary Calligraphy,” Islamic Reflections, Islamic Foundation of Greater St. Louis, Vol. 15, Issue 3, St. Louis, MO, September 2002.

- “The Art of Calligraphy,” Royal Wings, magazine of the Royal Jordanian Airlines, July-August 2001, pp. 28-30.
- “A Work of Inspired Art: Arabic Calligraphy and the Contemporary Designs of Nihad Dukhan,” Muslim Journal, Chicago, February 2nd, 2001.
- “Arabic Calligraphy: In the 21st Century—the Letter of Arab Culture,” The Arab American View, Chicago, August 2000
- “Arabic Calligraphy in the 21st Century- the Letter of Arab Culture” The Arab American Journal, Detroit, Volume III, No. 51, July 21, 2000
- “Khatt Arabi Hadith ‘al Al Internet,” in Arabic, Almajalla, London, No. 1016, August 7th, 1999
- “Calligrapher Breaks All the Rules,” Planetarabia, an Internet magazine, August, 1999
- “Arabic Art Displayed,” Washington Square News- New York University newspaper, New York, Volume 26, No. 13, September 17, 1997
- “Arts in the Spotlight” News Journal, Mansfield, Ohio, July 28, 1996
- “Art Brings Thousands Together at UT Mall,” The Blade, Toledo, Ohio, July 11, 1994

Bibliography

- Article in “Encyclopedia of Arab American Artists,” Series: Artists of the American Mosaic. By Faye S. Oweis, Greenwood Publishing Group, 2007. ISBN: 0-313-33730-6. Featuring about 100 Arab American Visual Artists
- Book “Contemporary Arabic Calligraphy,” in Arabic and English, The Palm Press, Cairo, Egypt, October 2002.
- Article “Comments on the Modern and the Traditional in Arabic Calligraphy,” www.arabictypography.com a web site in the Netherlands devoted to research and experiments in Arabic Typography for the calligraphers and the graphic designers, May 3rd, 2002.
- Article, “Arabic Calligraphy Spiritual Geometry” in Arab Heritage Curriculum Resource Guide,, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, February 2001
- Article, “Arabic Calligraphy,” A Different Path, an Anthology of the Radius of Arab American Writers, Edited by D. H. Melhem & Leila Diab, Ridgeway Press, Roseville, MI, October 2000.

Selected Commissions

- United States Postal Service, Washington, DC
- Composer / Virtuoso: Simon Shaheen, New York, NY
- Loyola Museum of Art, Chicago, IL
- Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University, Washington, DC.
- Khayal Consultants, Kuwait
- AYA Global Communications, Montreal, Canada
- Perto Canda, Alberta, Canada
- Florida State University, Middle East Center, Department of Modern Languages
- Injazat, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Shefa, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

- Dubai Tourism Office, New York, NY
- University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, PA
- Arab and Muslim American Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- Arabic Program, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- Religious Studies, DePaul University, Chicago, IL
- R. A. Quick Center for the Arts, St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY
- Oakwood Healthcare System, Michigan
- Effet College, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia