

# IN A NEW YORK MINUTE

Inaugurated in 2013, LAU New York Headquarters and Academic Center (LAU NY) has emerged as an outstanding venue for global educational outreach and cross-cultural dialogue. In keeping with the vision and global aspirations of LAU, the center has focused on initiatives anchored in the values of a liberal arts education, serving LAU students and faculty, the Lebanese/Arab diaspora, and other constituencies — bringing LAU unparalleled visibility both nationally and internationally.



The New York Arabic Orchestra plays at LAU NY



Panel discussion on “American Higher Education in the Middle East”



The center held the Global Outreach and Leadership Development (GOLD) student conference, bringing together dozens of Lebanese and American high-school students for training in leadership and diplomatic skills within the UN context.

Throughout the past year, we continued our tradition of hosting lectures, workshops and courses led by AKSOB and SAS faculty in cooperation with U.S. experts, and held numerous public events aimed at raising LAU’s public profile in the United States. We offered two courses for LAU business students on international service management and financial institutions regulation. The center organized a seminar by renowned mathematician professor Robert Devaney for mathematics students in Beirut, as well as a workshop via video conference for the English Department by Amy Jensen from the U.S. Department of State. Most spectacularly, this past spring LAU NY successfully implemented the Global Classrooms International Model UN middle- and high-school conferences. (See this report’s section on Outreach and Community Engagement p. 35).

Since the center’s inauguration, it has hosted 35 free public events, successfully partnering with such organizations and educational institutions as AUB, AUC, Bard College, CUNY, SUNY, Stockton University, and the Lebanese Consulate in New York, among others. In AY 2015-2016, we hosted panel discussions, lectures, book talks, film screenings, and performances on a range of topics such as American higher education in the Middle East, Beirut theater, the Arabic novel, the Lebanese wine industry, Cairo traffic, the Syrian/Lebanese diaspora in New York and Louisiana, Lebanese food and identity, and Arabic music and dance performances. LAU-NY continues to expand the university’s American footprint, with extensive media coverage of our events reaching tens of thousands of people globally from such media outlets as LBCI, al Hurra, al Jazeera, Voice of America, and others.