
The Writing Center

Director: Zenger, Amy A.

The Writing Center aims to enhance writing at AUB by conducting research and by supporting student writers and teachers of writing. The center promotes the many uses of writing: as a tool for thinking, as a way to demonstrate learning and as a means of expression. It seeks to maintain professional affiliations with writing centers in this region and internationally.

The Writing Center works with administrators, faculty members, and students to support writing in courses in each of the majors, in accordance with General Education guidelines.

The Writing Center also offers free, one-hour writing consultations to members of the AUB community. All undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff are welcome to discuss their writing with a tutor. Writing projects may include academic essays, research papers, reading responses and critiques, fiction, letters and memos, resumes and curriculum vitae, personal statements for graduate school, thesis proposals and theses, and many other tasks. Tutors are trained to respect each writer's level of achievement and to focus on the writer's understanding of how to write well. In a Writing Center session, tutors and writers may discuss developing and connecting ideas, documenting sources, composing a thesis statement, and revising a piece of writing. Tutors also make resources available to writers in the form of writing handbooks, documentation guides, and handouts on a range of specific issues.

The Writing Center is located in West Hall, room 336. It is open 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Contact the center by phone at AUB extension 3157 or by e-mail at writing@aub.edu.lb.

The Zaki Nassif Music Program (ZNMP)

Academic Committee: Jarrar, Maher; Jureidini, Wadi; Kim Thomas; Kurani, David; Nassif, Nabil (Chairperson), Sabra Ramzi

The Zaki Nassif Music Program (ZNMP) was inaugurated in December 2004.

Objectives

The Program aims to preserve and promote the musical heritage of Zaki Nassif and to foster excellence in the teaching of music by contributing to its advancement through a variety of activities that include:

- Reinstating and sustaining musical studies programs and music curricula at AUB.
- Recruiting scholars and new faculty members to initiate music courses and programs at the department of Fine Arts and Arts History (FAAH) in AUB Faculty of Arts and Sciences.
- Organizing competitions, concerts, conferences and seminars.
- Inviting professional musicians and academics to the University.
- Awarding prizes, scholarships, and fellowships to students in the name of Zaki Nassif.

Activities and Plans

One of the first achievements of the Program was completed on January 10, 2008 through a deed of gift by the family of Zaki Nassif that facilitated the transfer to the Jafet Library of the composer's archives, granting AUB all legal title and intellectual property rights. The archival material is being cataloged according to international library standards, and transferred, documented and conserved in electronic form. This pioneering project to conserve the cultural heritage of an oriental composer constitutes a model that could be replicated to preserve the work of other musicians.

The establishment in 2009 of an annual competition "A Choir from Every School", is another important accomplishment designed to encourage Lebanese elementary and secondary schools committed to developing a music curriculum and related activities.

Plans are under way to revive a Music degree program in FAAH. Both graduate and undergraduate courses will be offered. The range of courses will be new to Lebanon and the Middle East, including encouraging research in the field of Lebanese-Oriental music. The intention is to educate new generations of musicians and musicologists well versed in the composition and performance of Middle Eastern music in particular along with world music in general.

Publication of scholarly editions of Zaki Nassif's extant contributions to Middle Eastern music, including scores, lyrics, compositions, recordings, writing and correspondence is also planned.

