

# The Center for Arts and Humanities<sup>1</sup> (Mellon Grant)

Director: Maher Jarrar

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*The Center for Arts and Humanities* aims to foster innovative initiatives that strengthen the environment for humanistic inquiry and the arts at the University and in the region. Over the next five years, a grant of \$2 million from **The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation** will fund 15 faculty fellowships and 10 postdoctoral fellowships in addition to writers and artists in residence, high-profile public arts events, regional collaboration with scholars and universities, and other focused workshops and exchanges.

The Center serves as an intellectual base for interdisciplinary scholarly and creative production, innovative curricular development and teaching, and public events that highlight the relevance and importance of the arts and humanities across the University and to the broader local, regional, and international community. In addition to providing support for the arts and humanities the Center will serve as an alternative, Middle Eastern site for the study and production of humanistic knowledge.

This Mellon grant will support three faculty and two postdoctoral fellowships on yearly basis, as well as high profile public arts events, and regional collaboration with scholars and universities, as an alternative site for the production of humanistic knowledge rooted in regional cultures and as an interlocutor for east-west cultural dialogue.

An established artist/writer-in-residence program will enhance the artistic and creative literary environment for faculty and students at AUB, encouraging the development of creative ideas, visions, and practices.

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<sup>1</sup> An overview of the Center's program and activities can be found on the Center's website: <http://www.aub.edu.lb/cah/Pages/index.aspx>. The Center is supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and builds upon AUB's successful Arts and Humanities Initiative.