



**AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Dazzling Fusion of Fun and Learning: AUB's ChemCarnival Sparks Curiosity Across Generations

The anticipated ChemCarnival of the American University of Beirut (AUB) returned for its 5th annual celebration, casting an atmosphere of wonder and discovery on over 1,000 visitors from all corners of the nation. As the preeminent STEM festivity in Lebanon and the surrounding region, this year's ChemCarnival, organized by the university's dynamic Transformative Education (TrEd) students, and mentored by AUB Chemistry Professor Bilal Kaafarani, shatters the myth that science is merely a serious pursuit, reimagining it as a thrilling, hands-on spectacle.

The vibrant and educational event unveiled the marvels of chemistry through a symphony of interactive experiments and grand demonstrations that captivated the senses. Attendees reveled in a wide array of activities—from smoke clouds and colorful soap experiments to music, canister and ping pong launches, volcano experiments, and the creation of snow and ice cream—each a testament to chemistry's role in everyday magic.

Professor Bilal Kaafarani shared his thoughts on the event's broader significance. "The ChemCarnival is more than just an event; it is a celebration of science that seeks to educate, inspire, and entertain, fostering a community that appreciates the wonders of chemistry in everyday life," he stated. This encapsulates the ethos behind the carnival, highlighting its aim to make chemistry accessible and engaging for all ages.

In a landmark moment, AUB President Fadlo Khuri, Provost Zaher Dawy, and Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Fares Dahdah participated in the monumental "Lava Crush 2" experiment. Their involvement not only added a unique element to the event but also served as a powerful message that at AUB, curiosity and learning are values championed and exemplified at the highest levels of the university.

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The resounding impact of ChemCarnival was most palpable amongst the youth, who left with eyes wide with wonder and minds abuzz with newfound knowledge. The testimonials of these young scientists-in-the-making were a heartening affirmation of the event's mission to transform the image of scientific exploration through science fairs.

Once again, the AUB ChemCarnival proves to be a movement that bridges the gap between education and imagination, nurturing a community that looks upon chemistry as a source of inspiration and joy in daily life.

About the Transformative Education (TrEd) Drive at AUB:

The Transformative Education (TrEd) Drive at the American University of Beirut (AUB) fosters leadership and innovation among students. Through diverse activities like the annual ChemCarnival, mentoring talks by renowned signatories from different walks of life, research talks, competitions, student-led research, and more, TrEd empowers students to excel in academia and beyond, nurturing essential skills for a rapidly evolving world.

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Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 750 full-time faculty members and a student body of over 8000 students. AUB currently offers more than 120 programs leading to bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full-service 365-bed hospital.

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