

QATAR —————
SCHOLARSHIP
EAA PROGRAM AT AUB

“ACE TALKS”

SPEAKING FOR CHANGE



AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT

التعليم | education
فوق | above
الجميع | all



Qatar Scholarship - EAA program at AUB proudly announces the second edition of its yearly competition “ACE Talks.” The competition is open to the students of the Qatar Scholarship-EAA program at AUB who would like to compete in public speaking, writing, presenting, and creative thinking. The contest is a learning experience that provides students with a challenging framework, which enables them to employ and enhance the skills they acquired throughout their academic journey at AUB and through their participation in Qatar Connection.

OVERVIEW


“ACE TALKS” is a contest of public speaking where students are invited to conceive, write, and present their points of view on a topic of their choice, with an academic, social, cultural, or scientific relevance while utilizing techniques they learned at AUB or through Qatar Connection. The competition will take place during April and May 2024. The finalists will present their ACE talks during the Qatar Scholarship-EAA program graduation ceremony on May 18th, 2024 in front of a jury of specialists.

SPEAKING FOR CHANGE

The second edition of “ACE Talks”, dives into the pivotal space of Change. Our focus revolves around the question: How do students effectively drive change toward a better world? We believe that students carry significant influence through their academic journeys, civic engagement, and steady commitment to excellence and distinction.

This edition’s topic is "Speaking for Change: Empowering Students as Agents for Positive Transformation."

We encourage participants to explore the diverse ways in which an AUB student can actively contribute to societal improvement across diverse channels and dimensions. We invite speakers to present their perspectives on how AUB students can enhance their education, engage with their communities, and prove leadership to effect positive change. Through this platform, we aim to spark insightful discussions, foster collaboration, and inspire visions for a more equitable and prosperous future.



COMPETITION DETAILS

ACE Talks is a competition led throughout different stages from first entries to the finals:

STAGE 1 FIRST ENTRY

Students who wish to participate are invited to conceive, write, film, and submit a one-minute talk on the subject, within the time limit.

- > Students must follow the **TEDx talks style and format**.
- > Selected students will go to stage 2: the semi-final.
- > **Evaluation criteria:** Topic (relevance and accuracy) - delivery (pronunciation, voice articulation, confidence), body language, logical reasoning, and content development.
- > **Deadline: April 24, 2024**

STAGE 2 THE SEMI-FINALE

Semi-finalists will be invited to develop and present their talks on stage in front of a jury, who will select students to compete in the final. Semi-finalists who are not selected to move to the final stage will receive prizes as a token of appreciation for their participation.

- > **Evaluation criteria:** Topic development, Convincing arguments, presentation style, and delivery technique.

STAGE 3 THE SEMI-FINALE

Selected finalists will present their ACE talks during the Qatar Scholarship-EAA program **graduation ceremony on May 18, 2024** in front of a jury including President Khuri and a wide audience. Ranking and winners will be announced directly on stage after a live vote by the jury and the public.

EVALUATION, VOTING AND PRIZES

During Stage 1, evaluation will be conducted by an expert jury tasked with assessing various criteria including content creation, public speaking skills, writing proficiency, and presentation style. Scoring and judging will take place following the first entry deadline.

The semi-final will be judged by a live jury after the presentation schedule is finalized. Certificates and prizes will be given to those who do not make it to the final stage.

Scoring during the Final stage will be composed of scores from live voting as well as grades from the previous stages. Winners will be announced at the end of the graduation ceremony.

Valuable prizes and certificates will be received by all finalists.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Students who currently are enrolled in Qatar Scholarship – EAA program at AUB and who haven't graduated in Fall 2023 – 2024 or earlier.



RULES AND REGULATIONS

- > All entries must be the participant's original work. Any proof of plagiarism will automatically rule out the participant from the competition. In the case of the use of copyrighted materials, they must be properly credited following AUB guidelines.
- > Entries that do not respect the time limit and the guidelines will not be considered for the competition.
- > Entries must be submitted in English and received through the official Competition Submission form. The form will be open to accept applications from Friday, April 05, 2024, to April 24, 2024, at midnight. Late and/or incomplete submissions will not be considered for the competition. A confirmation email will be sent to each participant after they complete the form.
- > The form includes a stipulation of consent and release granting the Qatar Scholarship–EAA program at AUB the right to display submitted entries and use them for educational, and promotional purposes in all media, without further permission.
- > Any sort of discrimination and/or offense based on race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation will automatically disqualify an entry. Violation of copyrights may also exclude the submission.
- > Qatar Scholarship –EAA program at AUB highly values students' privacy. Any information shared with the program is subject to AUB privacy policies and terms of use.

