



AMERICAN  
UNIVERSITY  
OF BEIRUT



February 2024



## Women's League Bulletin

*"Love is the greatest force in the world. It bridges gaps, heals wound, and transforms lives" -Maya Angelo-*

Website: [www.aub.lb/women\\_league](http://www.aub.lb/women_league)

### WL Mission Statement

The Women's League is an organization of women from different Nationalities. Its purpose is to promote a broad acquaintance to socialize, learn and support one another and establish social network. Its wish is to secure a yearly scholarship fund for a disabled student at AUB.

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### **A letter from the president**

Dear Honorary President of the Women's League; Dr. Lamia Khoury, Dear distinguished guests, and members of the Women's League,

In the heart of the winter season lies a jewel of a day, that is Valentine's Day, when love is celebrated in all its shapes and forms, and across all the generations and the social categories. Love is expressed with flowers and gifts, hugs and kisses, marriage proposals and friendship revivals. For the ancient philosophers such a Sophocles, "one word frees us all of all the weight and pain in life. That word is Love!". Aristotle went a little bit further; "Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies". As for Plato, "At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet... Every heart sings a song incomplete, until another heart whispers back". The contemporary philosopher Nietzsche affirms that "there is always madness in Love. But there is always reason in madness", whereas our dear Gibran Khalil Gibran believes that "Life without Love is like a tree without blossoms or fruits". And in his famous novel "War and Peace", Leo Tolstoy writes "We are asleep until we fall in Love". For Mahatma Gandhi, the pacific militant, "Where there is Love, there is life". Martin Luther King Jr also declares that "Non-violence is absolute commitment to the way of Love". Our celebrated poet Nizar Qabbani promises "I do not resemble your other lovers, my lady. Should another give you a cloud, I give you rain. Should he give you a lantern, I will give you the moon". And Mahmoud Darwish

muses "you are killing me, and you are keeping me from dying. That is Love... All roads lead to you, even those I took to forget you". Jacques Brel sings "Ne me quitte pas... Moi je t'offrirai des perles de pluie quand il ne pleut pas..." and Edith Piaff reminisces "non, rien de rien, je ne regrette rien". Elvis Presley "can't help but fall in Love with you". As for the beautiful Marilyn Monroe, "Diamonds, yes diamonds are a girl's best friend". Wishing you a glorious Valentine's Day. *Sincerely, Zeina Salibi, President*

## January Announcements

1



It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of our dear friend Hanane Greiwati. She had a positive impact on the women's league, and she will be deeply missed, My sincere condolences to her family and friends. May her Soul Rest in Peace.

2



I appreciate the update on Mrs. Nada Rahawanji's decision to resign from the board. While her departure is regrettable, it's great that she will continue her involvement in the women's League. Wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.

3



Welcome to Mrs. Nada Karam Wickens as she takes on the position previously held by Mrs. Rahawanj. Wishing her a successful and fulfilling time on the board.

## January Lecture by Mrs. Rita Noujeim El Roumi



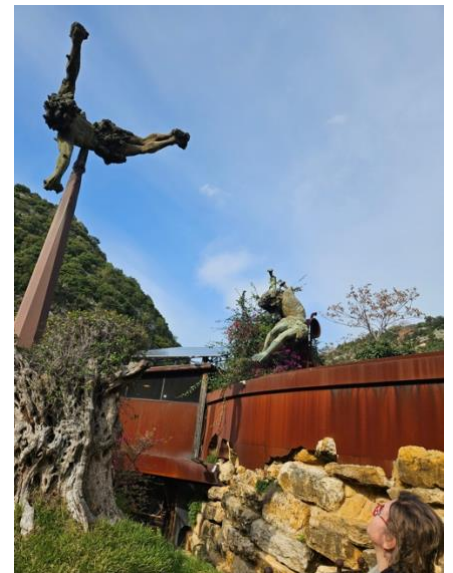
This month we were delighted to welcome Mrs Rita Noujeim El Roumi, the senior program manager at radio Liban. Mrs. Rita shared insights into her remarkable 30-year journey in the media industry, showcasing her passion for the media field. She provided attendees with visual explanations of her active participation in various conferences worldwide, highlighting her numerous awards. Mrs Rita presentation was not only impressive but also enjoyable.

## Trip to Kesserwan



A fantastic start to our trip! Agreeen organics in Jounié. It's a wonderful place owned and operated by a family with a focus on sustainability and high-quality biodegradable products. After the introduction and Q&A, comes the Tasting of the delicious Organic Labné, cheese, wine, and apple juice. The hosts were gracious in welcoming everyone. The visit was very informative and interesting. Visiting next the monastery and

church of Christ the King in Zouk Mosbeh. Welcomed by a very friendly nun who explained everything about the holy place, and about the accidental discovery of an underground natural grotto that adds a unique touch to the place's history which was named by Abouna Yaacoub st Mary's grotto. The Christ the King statue was designed by Italian artist Ernesto Pallini is quite impressive. The visit was like a serene and insightful experience. Last visit was to the workshop and Domaine Rudy Rahmé. A Lebanese painter, sculptor, and poet. From the spirit of the Cedar tree, he drew his 1st breath... the Domaine is an expansive estate dedicated to the art of sculpting. Surrounded by gardens and winding pathways that lead to captivating sculptures on display. The Domaine harmoniously merges artistic exploration with the tranquility of the natural environment, creating a haven for sculptors to bring their visions to life. One of the amazing achievements of Rudy's is the wooden sculptures at the entrance of the American university of Beirut and in its museum. Rudy's work has always been appreciated and received numerous local and international awards. Visiting this wonderful unique place where peace meets beauty was such a magical visit.





## Mini Meeting

A Mini meeting was held at Dar El Nimer to watch and discuss the documentary, “stitching Palestine” with the artist and writer Randa Taha. The documentary is fascinating, surprising, and heartbreaking exploration of loss, survival, and exile. Twelve women share their stories about a traditional Palestinian form of cross-stitch and its significance in preserving or reconnecting to home.



For February I want to challenge you to practice more kindness, more love, more understanding towards others and toward yourself. Spread some more extra warmth and light during this final month of winter.

As always, for any questions or suggestions don't hesitate to reach out to me on [amalekerbaj@gmail.com](mailto:amalekerbaj@gmail.com) or via WhatsApp on 03-293030.