DR. BANAH GHADBIAN

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# EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of California, San Diego, 2021 San Diego, California

Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies, specialty in Gender & Women’s Studies

Teaching areas: Native and Indigenous Feminisms, Black and African Diasporic Feminist Thought, Middle Eastern and Arab American Feminisms, Chicana and Latina Feminisms Middle East Studies, Syria and Palestine Studies, Queer Studies

Master’s in Ethnic Studies, University of California San Diego, 2018 San Diego, California

Master’s research focused on pairing Syria and Palestine Feminist Studies

in conversation with Black, Native, & Latinx/women of color feminist thought

B.A.’s in Comparative Women’s Studies and Sociology, Spelman College Atlanta, Georgia

August 2011-May 2015

Valedictorian, Summa Cum Laude Honors Major G.P.A.: 4.0

G.P.A.: 3.98

Center of Intercultural Dialogues, University of Granada Granada, Spain

Summer 2014- Critical Muslim Studies Summer School Summer courses offered in collaboration with

Ethnic Studies Department of the University of California, Berkeley G.P.A: 4.0

School of International Training Program for Women and Youth in the Arab Spring Sidi Bou Said, Tunisia

Spring 2014

G.P.A.: 3.98

University of Capetown Capetown, South Africa

January 2014

Mellon-Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Exchange Program

University of California at Berkeley Berkeley, California

Fall 2013

Domestic Exchange Program G.P.A.: 4.0

# FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

* Gender and Sexualities Grant from the Mellon Mays Program 2024
* Mellon-Mays Graduate Dissertation Fellowship, *Institute of Citizens and Scholars*, $25,000 2020
* Critical Refugee Studies Collective Grant from the *University of California, San Diego*, $8000 2020
* McGinnity Grant for Social Change, $2,000 2020
* Goddard Environmental Prize, $500 2020
* Mellon Mays Predoctoral Research Fellowship $3000 2018
* The Pollination Project Grant for Community Activism $1500 2018
* Friends of the International Center Scholarship, University of California, San Diego $2,000 2018
* Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, *University of California, San Diego*, $25,000 2015-2019
* Presidential Scholar, full tuition award, *Spelman College* 2011-2015
* Mellon-Mays Undergraduate Research Fellow*, UNCF Foundation* 2012-2015
* Social Justice Fellow, *Social Justice Fellows Program, Spelman College* 2012-2015

# AWARDS & HONORS

* Woman of Excellence Award from the *Faculty Women of Color Association* 2023
* *Diverse Voices Prize* from Dzanc Books for forthcoming book *La Syrena*, $3,000 2021
* Finalist, *Ralph Henry Gabriel Dissertation Prize*, American Studies Association 2021
* Finalist, *Cream City Review’s Summer Fiction Prize* 2020
* Top ten winner, *First Annual Feminist Wire National Poetry Contest* 2015
* *Dean’s List* 2011-2015
* Outstanding Scholar-Activist Senior Thesis Award, *Spelman College Sociology Department* 2015
* Maria Leopold Academic Excellence Award, *Alpha Lambda Delta* 2015
* Audre Lorde Social Justice Activism Award 2015, 2013

*Spelman College Women’s Resource and Research Center*

* *Triota: National Women’s Studies Association* Honor Society, member 2011-present
* *Phi Beta Kappa,* member 2014-present
* Sophomore Book Award*, Phi Beta Kappa* 2013
* *Alpha Lambda Delta* Honor Society, member 2011-2015
* *Ethel Waddell Githii Honors Program* Scholar, Spelman College 2011-2015
* First place, *American Islamic Congress* “Dream Deferred” National Essay Contest 2011
* *National Society of Collegiate Scholars*, member 2011-2015

# RESEARCH

“Ululating to the Sky: Syrian Women’s Protests, Performances, and Pedagogies under Siege,”

PhD Dissertation 2015-2021

* + I wrote my 387-page dissertation on the gendered labors of Syrian women’s revolutionary practices, specifically their protests, street theatre performances, and freedom schools they created in Syria from 2011-2021

Based on qualitative methods, feminist ethnographic practices and archival research using YouTube I created a short film based on my dissertation which can be found here: https://[www.youtube.com/watch?v=3UdZzHvRfIA&t=6s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3UdZzHvRfIA&t=6s)

* + Defended April 12, 2021. Degree Conferred in June 2021.

“Speaking through the Cracks When the Community is Under Attack: Women of Color Feminist Politics and Syrian Women’s Poetry under Siege,”

Master’s Thesis 2018

* + I conducted my master’s thesis on the creative work that Syrian women produce

in revolution, siege, and diaspora from 2011-2021, focusing on two short films by the Syrian feminist collective Estayqazat (“She rises”) and placed them in conversation with U.S. women of color feminist thinkers such as Audre Lorde, June Jordan, and Gloria Anzaldua

* + Presented findings at *National Women’s Studies Association* and *American Studies Association*

Conferences

“Tunisian Women’s Activism in Civil Society Post Revolution: A Comparative Analysis,” Spring 2014

* + Independent study project for the School for International Training (SIT) in

Sidi Bou Said, Tunisia under mentorship of University of El Manar Political Science and Law Professor Dr. Asma Nouira. Research conducted at the Center for Magreb

Studies in Tunis (CEMAT) and with the League of Tunisian Women Voters. Interviewed Tunisian women activists in the Jasmine Revolution from grassroots feminist organizations. Presented findings at the School for International Training in May 2014.

“From Roses to Red Raincoats: Documenting Syrian Women’s Resistance Narratives,” 2011-2015

* + Mellon-Mays and Honor’s Sociology B.A. Thesis with Mellon Mays mentor Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall
	+ Developed the project at the Mellon-Mays Undergraduate Research Institute Emory University, June 2013
	+ Traveled to Amman, Jordan and conducted interviews with Syrian women refugee activists at the *Syrian Women’s Association*, July 2013

# ESSAYS & ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

* Essay, “Give us our Land Back: The Golan Heights, Greenwashing, and Syrian & Aug 2024

Palestine’s Intertwined Revolution,” *Spectre Journal*.

* Essay, “Speaking through the Cracks: Syrian Women’s Prophetic Love under Siege,” Feb 2023

*Herizons*, Canada’s Foremost Feminist Magazine

* Essay, “Colorism in Syrian Communities is Tied to Centuries Old Endemic Nov 2020 Anti-Blackness and Internalized Colonialism,” *The Markaz Review*

https://themarkaz.org/tmr-weekly/the-unbearable-darkness-of-colorism

* Essay, “Bellydancing, Activism, and the Politics of Pleasure,” *Mangal Media* Nov 2020 https://[www.mangalmedia.net/english/bellydancing-activism-and-the-politics-of-pleasure](http://www.mangalmedia.net/english/bellydancing-activism-and-the-politics-of-pleasure) *Translated into Turkish for the Kurdish feminist magazine 5 Harfliler* https://[www.5harfliler.com/gobek-atmak-aktivizm-ve-hazzin-](http://www.5harfliler.com/gobek-atmak-aktivizm-ve-hazzin-) politikasi/?fbclid=IwAR1TVRl9wgwKx2Ciz2u4OtLNoGSJfME\_0-9U7MEHfORiX26idO-eDm5L4V8
* Article, “Hypervisibility and Middle Eastern Women’s Studies.” with Mohja Kahf Nov 2017

https://doi.org/10.1215/15525864-4179155.

*Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*. 1 November 2017; 13 (3): 476–478.

* + Essay, “On Decoloniality, Diaspora, and the Search for Home,” Oct 2014 in *Kaleidoscopes: Africana Studies Literary Magazine of Williams College*
	+ Essay, “The Battle Against Misogyny at Spelman College,” in *The Feminist Wire* Feb 2014

# BOOKS

*La Syrena: Visions of a Syrian Mermaid from Space*, winner of the 2021 Diverse Voices Prize Forthcoming Forthcoming publication in June 2022 with Dzanc Books

# TEACHING

* Introduction to Women’s Studies at Spelman College 2022-2024
* Montessori Teacher, Montessori School in Fayetteville, AR 2020
* Professional ACT and SAT Tutor, Fayetteville, AR 2019-2020
* Grader and Graduate Student Researcher, Ethnic Studies Department, UCSD 2015- 2019
* Professional Tutor, Varsity Tutors Company, San Diego CA 2015-2018
* Teacher, Intermediate and Advanced ESL classes at the *Syrian Women’s Association* Summer 2015 Amman, Jordan
* Teacher and Theatre Specialist, Bell Middle School Ethnic Studies Club Spring 2018
* “Syrian Women and the Creative Revolution,” Studio Art TA lectures in Vis Arts 3 at UCSD Spring 2018
* “Ululating from the Underground: Syrian Women’s Resistance,” lecture Spring 2018 in Ethnic Studies at UCSD
* “#Hbcus4Palestine: Black-Palestinian Solidarities” Teach-In Sept 2014

*International Campus Day of Action for Palestine*, Spelman College

* + “A Brief History of Arab American and African American Solidarity to Palestine” Teach-In Sept 2014 So*lidarity Freedom School*, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
	+ “From Roses to Red Raincoats: Documenting Syrian Women’s Narratives of Resistance,” June 2013

*Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship* Teaching presentation Emory University, Atlanta, GA

* + “Operation SYRIA: An Islamic Awareness Week Teach-In,” April 2012 Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA
	+ Tutor, Arab Cultural & Community Center Afterschool program *TAMKEEN*, Fall 2013 Taught English as a Second Language, Reading, Writing, Math, San Francisco, CA
	+ Mentor, Fulton County Juvenile Court Program, 2011-2012

Teach-ins about social justice issues, Atlanta, GA

# CREATIVE WRITING PUBLICATIONS

* “the kesra poem” in *Mizna: the Cinema Issue*
* “moonlit” “de dea syria” and “where the goddess lives” in Allium
* *“*ishtar remembers” and “ninkarrak,” in *Shade Literary Journal*, a space for queer writers of color Fall 2021
* “poem for the outsiders looking in and the insiders needing out,” in Fall 2021

*dream of the river: LGBTQ Anthology* (Jacar Press)

* “Anahita” in *Poetry Northwest* Fall 2021
* *“*Arabic dictionary exercise in the letter *ط*, Or that Gay Girl from Damascus,” *Mizna*, Summer 2021

*“I Want Sky” Notebook in Partnership with the Asian American Writer’s Workshop*

* “Enceladus,” in *Letters from the Inside Anthology* Summer 2021
* “Before I forget,” in *Women’s Review of Books* Feb 2021
* “aya” and “Your ghost is a white butterfly, the tender rain,” in *Her Words* by Spring 2021 Black Mountain Press
* “Chicken Scratch/Risum al Dajaj” in *Pinch Journal* Jan 2021
* *“*Kahinah*”* in *3asal Mag for Southwest Asian and North African Women* Nov 2020
* “An Inevitably Queer Reading of Fairuz,” published by *Shuruq Arab Literary Festival* Oct 2020
* “Azaadi,” “In the revolution” in *Afghan Punk Magazine* Sept 2020
* “An Inevitably Queer Reading of Fairuz,” published in *The Remnant Archive* Aug 2020
* *“*Reflections from the Halal Stores in Palestine, Texas and Damascus, Arkansas,’ in Aug 2020

*Voice & Verse Magazine*

* “Letter to Um Yusuf,” “homegirls, mishmash, hashish, and the moon,” “these bombs on my back” Winter 2015

 in *Sukoon: An Arab-Themed English Literary Magazine*

* Poetry in *Passage and Place*, *A Print Anthology on Home* Nov 2014
* **“**poem for the outsiders looking in and the insiders needing out” in *As/Us: N*ov 2013

*A Space for Writers of the World*

* Poetry in *The Totally Radical Muslims* Magazine Nov 2013
* “sally Hansen and the motherfucking lavender scented tribe” in *The A Project* Jan 2017
* Poetry in *Aunt Chloe: A Journal of Artful Candor* 2011
* “fr muslim girls who considered suicide when the ummah wasn’t enuf” in the *Feminist Wire 201*

# PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

* Keynote, “Syrian Women’s Protests, Performances, and Pedagogies under Siege,” April 2021 Virginia Commonwealth University’s Asian American Heritage Month
* Speaker, “From Black Lives Matter to Palestine and Syria: The Politics of July 2020 Revolutionary Solidarity,” An event by the U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights,

Global Campaign for Solidarity With the Syrian Revolution, Adalah Justice Project, Eyewitness Palestine, Solidarity: A Feminist Anti-Racist Organization

* Keynote, “Syrian Women: Ululating to the Sky,” March 2020

*Aiding Immigrants Defense Day*

Conference for Immigrant Service Providers, Fayetteville, AR

* Keynote, “The Land of Bambara: The Rest that is our Revolution,” April 2017

*Toni Cade Bambara Scholar Activist Writer’s Conference*

*The Women’s Research and Resource Center* at Spelman College

* Speaker, the San Diego Women’s March Jan 2017
* Keynote*, “*Syrian Art, Poetry, and the Revolution: An Overview,” Dec 2016 Arab Youth Collective Benefit for Syrian Refugees, San Diego, CA
* Speaker, “The Syrian Refugee Crisis,” Global Forum at the International House Feb. 2017 of Eleanor Roosevelt College, UCSD
* Speaker, “The Syrian Refugee Crisis in Greece: An Overview,” at Dignity Amidst the June 2016 Refugee Crisis, organized by Palestinian Youth Movement

*Arab American Community Center*, Anaheim, CA

* Speaker, “Palestine: The Struggle Continues-History, Background, and Pan-African Perspectives,” April 2015

*The Third Annual Walter Rodney Public Speakers Series*

Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library, Atlanta, GA

* Speaker, “Women’s Resistance in the Middle East and North African Uprisings,” Oct 2014 Sita and Cross-Cultural Analyses of Women's Empowerment: An Event for Women

Who Break the Rules, Diwali Celebration, Spelman College

* Keynote, “Victory to the Arab Revolutions! The Struggle for Freedom in Egypt and Syria” Sept 2013 International Socialist Organization, *UC Berkeley*, Berkeley, CA

# CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | “Southwest Asian And North African Women’s Narratives In Crisis, Struggle, Siege,” | Nov 2018 |
|  |  | * *National Women’s Studies Association Conference*, Atlanta, GA
 |  |
|  |  | * *American Studies Association* Conference, Atlanta GA
 |  |
|  |  | “Militarization of Borders, Politics of Aid, and Policing the Refugee Crisis: | Nov 2017 |
|  |  | The Case of Palestinian and Syrian Refugees in Greece after the EU-Turkey Deal,” |  |
|  |  | * *American Studies Association* Conference, Chicago IL
 |  |
|  |  | “The Girls with the Green Ribbons: Syrian Revolutionary Women’s Creative Practices,” | Nov 2016 |
|  |  | * *National Women’s Studies Conference*, Montreal, Canada
 |  |
|  |  | “Dignity Among the Refugee Crisis: A Reportback from Vial Refugee Camp, Greece,” | Nov 2016 |
|  |  | * *UC Student of Color Conference*, UC Irvine, CA
 |  |
|  |  | “Social Media’s Role the Arab Spring,” | May 2015 |
|  |  | * *Women of Color Leadership Conference*, Atlanta, GA
 |  |
|  |  | "Documenting Syrian Women’s Resistance Narratives,” | Feb 2015 |
|  |  | * *British Postcolonial Studies Conference*, Savannah, GA
 |  |
|  |  | “From Roses to Red Raincoats: Documenting Syrian Women’s Narratives of Resistance,” |  |

* + *UNCF Mellon Mays Southeastern Regional Conference*, Emory University Nov 2013
	+ *Toni Cade Bambara Scholar Activist Writers Conference*
		- Discussant, Students for Justice in Palestine Panel Mar 2015
		- Presenter, “Audre Lorde, Spiritual Homing, and the Syrian Revolution,” Mar 2013
		- Panelist, *Save our Syria Social Justice Project*, Social Justice Fellows Panel Mar 2013
		- Presenter, “Women’s Activism in the Arab Spring,” Mar 2012
	+ “Rima’s Red Raincoat: Documentary Overview,” April 2013

*Spelman College Research Day*

* + “Audre Lorde, Spiritual Homing, and the Syrian Revolution,” Nov 2012

*Spelman College Fine Arts Museum* as a part of the Audre Lorde Archives Class panel, With the *Spelman College Women’s Resource and Research Center*

* "The Syrian Revolution: An Introduction,” Mar 2012

*The Fourth Annual African and African Diaspora Studies Conference,*

Kennesaw University, Kennesaw Georgia

# LEADERSHIP & ACTIVISM

* + Member, Palestinian Feminist Collective (PFC) Present
	+ Member, Syrian Women’s Political Movement (SWPM) Present
	+ Organizer, Arco Iris herbalism retreats for low-income queer and trans Black and brown Summer 2020 youth in rural Arkansas
		- Applied for and received the Goddard Environmental Prize and the McGinnity Grant for Social Change to fund this work. Successfully held three four-day retreats for QTPOC from rural Arkansas with Arco Iris Earth Care Project, a 400-acre indigenous land sanctuary in the Ozark Mountains
	+ Herbalism apprentice at Arco Iris Earth Care Project, Ponca, Arkansas 2019-2020
		- Interned with an indigenous elder (*curandera*) to learn about earth-based practices of liberation
	+ Organizer, Sedona Retreat for Queer and Trans POC Changemakers, Sedona AZ Aug 2019
		- Applied for and received the Pollination Project Grant to organize this retreat for queer Black, Latinx, and Middle Eastern activists for a one-week healing retreat in Arizona
	+ Cofacilitator, Crete Retreat for Syrian and Palestinian Artist, Activists, and Change Makers Oct 2018
		- We brought together a group of Syrian and Palestinian artists and changemakers for a ten-day retreat on the island of Crete, Greece
	+ Founder, Arab Youth Collective for Displaced Syrian Youth in El Cajon, CA 2016-2019
		- Founded and coordinated Syrian Youth Arts Program every Sunday in Wells Park, El Cajon
	+ Organizer, *The Militarisms and Migrations Conference* April 2017
		- Brought together academics, immigrant service providers, and recently relocated Refugees from Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and other countries for a three-day conference at the *East African Community Center* in City Heights, San Diego
	+ Co-Founder, *Atlanta University Center’s Students for Justice in Palestine* 2014-2015
		- Included organizing several events at Spelman College Women’s Research and Resource Center and partnering with local organizations like the Malcolm X Grassroots Project of Atlanta

Held the Right to Education Tour where we hosted Palestinian students from Birzeit University

* + Member and Organizer, *Toni Cade Bambara Scholar-Activist-Writers Collective* 2011-2015
	+ Co-Founder, *Woman Against Violence Brigade* 2012-2015
	+ Lead Organizer, *Save our Syria: Message in a Bottle Refugee Relief Project* Fall 2012
	+ Co-organizer, *Denim Day* an HBCU-wide event against sexual violence 2012-2013
	+ President, Al*-Nissa*- Muslim women’s group on campus 2012
	+ Event Coordinator, *AFREKETE:* Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, Trans Organization 2011-2012
	+ Graphic Designer and Publicity Chair, *Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance* 2011-2013
	+ Interfaith officer, *Atlanta University Consortium Muslim Student Association* 2011-2012
	+ Muslim representative, *Bessie Strong Wisdom Center’s Interfaith Council* 2011-2012

# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & SERVICE

* + Legal Translator, Palestinian Youth Movement—Metradasi, Chios Island, Greece Aug 2016
	+ Camp Counselor, *Muslim Youth Camp*, Southern CA 2012- 2016
	+ Refugee Aid Distribution, *Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA),* Clarkston, GA Nov 2014
	+ Voter Canvasser, *We Vote We Rise*, Atlanta, GA Oct 2014
	+ Volunteer, Syrian refugee relief with the *Syrian Women’s Association,* Amman, Jordan 2012- 2018
	+ Assisted in preparations for refugee patients, *Al-Aqlah Hospital*, Amman, Jordan Aug 2012
	+ Distributed aid to Syrian refugees, *IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation,* Antakya, Turkey July 2011

# POETRY & SPOKEN WORD PERFORMANCE ART ACTIVISM (SWAPA)

* Poetry reader, *Open Mouth Literary Festival* Oct 2021
* Poetry reader, *Radius of Arab Writers (RAWI) Summer Festival:* Queer Voices June 2021
* Poetry reader at “In the Atrium with an Evening of Poetry,” *Walton Arts Center*, Fayetteville, AR May 2021
* Poetry reader, *Spring Arts Cultural Festival*, Fayetteville, AR March 2021
* Featured Artist on OZ Cast Visual Podcast “The Revolution will be Soft and Unafraid” Jan 2021 https://[www.ozcast.art/episode-12](http://www.ozcast.art/episode-12)
* Feature Poet for the month of November, *Ozark Poets and Writer’s Collective* Nov 2020
* Poetry reader in *Shuruq Arab Literary Festival*, Olympia Washington Oct 2020
* Poetry Reader for *Junior High Museum* Poetry Reading Benefit, Los Angeles June 2020
* Poetry reader, *Open Mouth Poetry Festival* Nov 2019
* Performer, “Immigrant Daughters of the Banned Countries,” *Mingei International Museum* Feb 2017
* Poetry reader, *The White Helmets Screening* event by SDSU’S MSA Dec 2016
* Poetry reader, *International Migrant Women’s Day: Critical Gender Studies Digital Gym* at UCSD March 2016
* Performer, *Café U Interfaith Event*, Georgia State University Jan 2015
* Feature poet for the month of March, Java Monkey Café Poetry Series, Decatur, GA Mar 2013

# FILMS

* *Ululating from the Underground: Syrian Women’s Protests, Performances, and* 2021

*Pedagogies Under Siege*

* This short film summarizes my dissertation and focuses on the undervalued gendered revolutionary labor Syrian women create in war and siege. https://[www.youtube.com/watch?v=3UdZzHvRfIA&t=6s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3UdZzHvRfIA&t=6s)
* Producer, *Syrians for Black Power*, film and activist initiative 2020
* This film is a critical intervention into an activist community that often centers abolishing sectarianism and occupation but has not yet prioritized a discussion

on ending racial violence and Syrian anti-Blackness. It film brought together Kurdish, Assyrian, Armenian, Arab and Palestinian Syrian prison survivor and refugee activists in a stand for Black power.

https://[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qiqb742-9G0&t=11s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qiqb742-9G0&t=11s)

* *You were a cloud (I was the gold on the horizon),* micro film 2021
* This film weaves a story of heartbreak using contemporary dance and poetry under the guise of unsuspecting feminized daily work to explore the multitude

of timelines present in one moment

https://youtu.be/jESpo2OxGz8

* *I did not cry*, micro film 2021
* This short film features an original poem and explores the temporal break between Events of loss and the meanings we make around them. https://youtu.be/aTAd99355wc
* *In the revolution*, micro film using spoken word 2021
* This film relies on Arab and African diasporic traditions of spoken word as a form of resistant storytelling for feminized bodies to circulate an embodied experience of freedom. It asks us to envision a future where patriarchal hierarchies of activism and militarized fantasies within revolutionary movements are dissolved, and earth based indigenous practices of liberation are centered.

https://youtu.be/xYDhk-QJaNk

* *Full Time Dancing with the Moon*, micro film 2020
* This micro film filmed in Hay Nazzal, Amman, Jordan is about the quotidian, mundane feminized tasks that are sites where identity and resistance are practiced. https://youtu.be/ZSSLtC1fBiI
* *An Experiment in Time Travel*, micro film 2019
* This micro film is a rumination on the possibility of nostalgia as a speculative fiction exercise, one that imagines a reversal in time before displacement and genocide in Syria. https://youtu.be/DNBzMZeYhJo
* Producer & Director, *Rima’s Red Raincoat* 2013
* This documentary, created in Ayoka Chenzira’s Digital Moving Images Salon at Spelman College, documents the women-led street theatre movement Stop the Killing, that started in Syria and spread all over the world.

It premiered at the Midtown Arts Cinema in Atlanta, Georgia. https://[www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4sXGDv-EYc&t=906s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4sXGDv-EYc&t=906s)

* Ishtar Awakens
	+ This piece is about sensuality and sexuality, a story of transformation and rebirth from the liminal spaces of revolution and larger society.
* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HkWr1Jzs81s

#  CONFERENCES & INSTITUTES ATTENDED

* + *Democratizing Knowledge Institute* Atlanta Georgia June 2018
	+ *American Studies Association Conference* Atlanta, Georgia 2018
	+ *National Women’s Studies Association Conference* San Juan, Puerto Rico Nov 2014
	+ *National Students for Justice in Palestine Conference* Tufts University, MA Oct 2014
	+ *Women’s Political Participation in Tunisia* La Marsa, Tunisia Mar 2014
	+ *TABLA: Sexualities in the Middle East, North Africa, Southwest Asia* UC Riverside, CA Jan 2014
	+ *Arab Uprisings: Politics and Ethics in the Present* University of Chicago, IL May 2013
	+ Volunteer, *Arab Women’s Conference* San Francisco, CA April 2013
	+ *Russell Tribunal on Palestine* New York City Nov 2012
	+ *Feminist Majority Leadership Conference* Washington DC Feb 2012
	+ Volunteer, *National Women’s Studies Association Conference* Atlanta, GA Nov 2011
	+ Youth participant, *Syrian Youth Activist Network Conference* Chicago, IL Sept 2011
	+ Youth participant, *Syrian Youth Activist Network Conference* Istanbul, Turkey Aug 2011
	+ *Inqaz Conference for the Syrian National Opposition* Istanbul, Turkey Aug 2011

# ARTIST RESIDENCIES & WORKSHOPS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * *Nacan Artist Residency*
* *Casa Na Ilha, Brazil*
 | Ilha Bela, Brazil | June 2021 |
| * *360 Xochi Quetzal Artist & Writer’s Residency*
 | Ajijic, Mexico | Feb-Mar 2021 |
| * Scholarship Winner and Attendee, *VONA Voices of Our Nation*
 | Miami*,* FL | Jan 2013 |

*Writers of Color Workshop*

# COLLABORATIONS & EXHIBITS

* Photography in *Prisoners of Christ* exhibit with ATL Radical Art Aug 2024
* Poetry collaboration with SWANA artist Christina Hajjar ‘s *Shisha* Stories at the March 2021

*Platform Centre for Photography & Digital Arts* March Exhibit, Winniepeg, Canada

# LANGUAGES

* + Arabic: Advanced High Proficiency as certified by ACTFL in writing, reading, speaking Dialects
		- Fus’ha (Modern Standard Arabic)—Advanced
		- Syrian Colloquial—Native
		- Tunisian Colloquial—Intermediate
	+ French: Advanced writing skills, Intermediate speaking skills
	+ Spanish: Intermediate conversational from living a year in Mexico