

The Fellowship:

A fellowship is awarded annually by the [TSADIK](#) Foundation to three or four Palestinian-Arab citizens in Israel for their leadership role in one of three respective sectors: strengthening civil society, economic development, and arts & culture.

Program Goal:

The goal of the Tsadik Fellowship is to develop leadership and support role models in the Palestinian-Israeli community, to advance equal opportunities for Palestinian-Israelis, and improve the integration of Palestinian-Arab citizens into the broader economic and social fabric of Israel.

Organization:

TSADIK is a family philanthropic foundation pursuing human dignity and joy on a global basis. It supports organizations and individuals who aim to reduce suffering, advance human rights & economic development, with a focus on the Global South. TSADIK programs reflect the important role of culture, technology and social entrepreneurs for a progressive world, including contributions to a vibrant Jewish culture and a pluralistic society in Israel.

TSADIK awards a fellowship to individuals and organizations from the Palestinian-Arab community in Israel involved in one of the three fellowship sectors. Each year, Tsadik Fellowship's steering committee nominate about 10 candidates who submit a brief description of a project they wish to be financially supported by the fellowship. The steering committee selects 3 to 4 candidates as laureate Fellows and grants them 6,000\$ to 7,000\$ to support each of their projects.

Selection Criteria:

Candidates must be Palestinian-Arab citizens, full-time residents of Israel, and speak Hebrew and Arabic (English optional but preferred); key selection criteria are:

- Candidate's accomplishments in the relevant fellowship sector
- Role model characteristics with a strong personal vision that can inspire others
- Project's strength and candidate's commitment to social progress and pluralistic values

Steering Committee Members



Nabeel Ashkar-Abboud (Chairman)

A visionary champion for youth and community development and a gifted violinist, Nabeel Ashkar-Abboud has led and inspired people from all walks of life across Israel, Europe and the U.S. He performed with and was a spokesperson for the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra for a decade. In 2006, Nabeel gave up his music career and returned to his hometown, the Arab-Israeli city of Nazareth, to answer the need he saw in the community for quality music programming. He founded and led the Barenboim-Said Conservatory there. As his efforts expanded, he co-founded [Polyphony](#), in 2012, and the Conservatory was renamed after the organization. Having begun his violin studies at age eight, he graduated from Tel Aviv University in both physics and music, and completed his master's at the Hochschule fur Musik, in Rostock, Germany. For his groundbreaking work, Nabeel has been honored with the Yoko Ono Award for Courage in the Arts.



Reem Younis

Born in Nazareth, Reem holds a B.Sc. degree in civil engineering from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology. Reem is a role model for Israeli Arab entrepreneurial success in Israel and now works to support others to follow her example. Sitting on the boards of various non-profit organizations, Reem is working with business, civil society and government to create opportunities for the Israeli-Arab workforce in Israel. In 1993, she co-founded "[Alpha Omega Ltd.](#)" a leading company in the field of Neuroscience and functional neurosurgery for the treatment of neurological and psychiatric diseases. In 1994, Mrs. Younis also Co-founded "Alpha-Cad Ltd." a company that specializes in supplying complete CAD solutions, mainly for construction businesses and made her first exit in 2003. She is also a board member of "Kav Mashve", a coalition for the equality of Arab academic graduates in the Israeli employment market and a board member at the "Israel Public Employment Service" a government statutory corporation committed to decreasing unemployment. Her mission is to impact Nazareth as a city of diversity and technology, by promoting entrepreneurship

among the young generation, encouraging them to influence their future and paint a brighter tomorrow.



Fadi Swidan

Swidan is the number one cheerleader for Arab entrepreneurs and engineers making their way in Israel's high-tech ecosystem. Swidan is director of the [Nazareth Business Incubator Center](#); co-director and cofounder of the nonprofit accelerator [Hybrid](#) for early-stage ventures led by Arab founders; and a cofounder of [NazTech](#), the first technology startup accelerator for the Arab sector. With an industrial engineering and management background, Swidan mentors young entrepreneurs looking to make a technological and social impact in the Arab community. In his role, Fadi is responsible to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation among the Arab community, seeking to bridge the "technological entrepreneurship gap" between the two communities. His mission is to transform and stimulate the Arab/Israeli economy through Tech-Entrepreneurship and Startups, by developing partnerships and collaborations with leading organizations from the private and public sector, and to assure real and substantial social impact. Fadi holds a MBA degree from Clark University, Boston, and a B.Sc in Industrial Engineering and Management from the Technion Institute of Technology in Israel. In the past years, Fadi worked as freelancer Consultant for startups, writing business plans and go-to-market strategies. Prior to that, Fadi worked as the assistant of Nazareth Municipality CEO.



Odeh Shahbari

Born in Nazareth, Odeh holds a B.Sc in Accounting and Economics from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In 2006, Odeh founded the Arab Union for the development of Education and Culture, called the [Academic Union \(AU\)](#). The main goal of the AU is to support Arab high schools students and offer them academic & career guidance and consultations after completing their high school studies. Along with being an accountant by profession since 2007, Odeh has delivered hundreds of consulting and guidance sessions for Arab students in higher education institutions, organized tens of educational fairs, and provided answers to student questions. Furthermore, he has lectured at the College of Management Academic Studies in Haifa since 2007 in bookkeeping and business management.

TSADIK Fellows- Strengthening Civil Society



Manal Shalabi (2015 fellow) Born in Reineh village, Manal holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Tel-Hai College, specializing in treatment of violence against women, Master's degree in Gender Studies and is a PhD fellow in Social Work at University of Haifa (An Excellence Grantee). As a passionate political, social and feminist activist, Manal has extensive experience in establishing, managing and developing programs and projects in NGO's and social associations, such as the Hot Line for battered women, [Isha la Isha](#) (Feminist center) and [Kayan](#), Feminist center for Arab women in Israel.

Manal has served as a program coordinator in Fulbright, the United States Israel Educational foundation, for the past six years. During her work, she initiated and developed programs and seminars for students, researchers and scholars in the Israeli academy. Following the increase in murder crimes against Arab women, Manal established "[Ad'ar](#)," a Feminist Forum that unites professionals in different fields (psychologists and social workers) to find ways in fighting murder crimes against Arab women in Israel. According to Manal, it is important to establish a forum that relies on the knowledge of professionals since they can provide a solution to this problem through their expertise and analysis of the circumstances leading to murder crimes against women.



Hady Azaizy (2015 fellow) Living in Nazareth, Hady holds a

Bachelor's degree in Graphic Design and Visual Communication from Wizo Haifa Academy of Design and Education (2012). After graduating, Hady worked as a Video producer and compositor at Lamsa Media & Productions, and became a graphic designer and advertising planner at Underground studios in 2013, where he acquired his skills in videography and motion graphics. In 2014, Hady established his own production studio by the name of [Lime Productions](#), where he is the owner and executive manager working on video production and branding for several businesses.

Volunteering at the Academic Union, Hady helped create and support innovative projects of high school students in Israel's Arab community, along with raising their level of education. Using his volunteer and graphic design skills, Hady started developing "Project 23", a video library/website that contains vast options of videos, blogs and information (ex. Universities) about different subjects such as academic guidance that can help prepare Arab high school graduates for the "real world" after high school.



Jouna Khalil (2015 fellow) Jouna holds a B.Sc in Biomedical Engineering and M.Sc in System Engineering from the Technion Institute of Technology in Haifa. In her latest position, Jouna was working as a solution sales specialist at Microsoft with a background in research and development. Her years of work experience has allowed her to be knowledgeable in both technical and interpersonal skills needed to manage various processes. For example, Jouna manages to put the customer's needs in the front of her interest coupled with the knowledge on how to manage cross department processes.

As a social activist, Jouna is interested in the bond that education and technology can have, especially from an early age, where mindsets and lifestyles are first shaped. For this purpose, Jouna co-founded and managed the Hiya – Tech (in Arabic, "She – Tech") organization in 2015-2016, which is a grassroots initiative aimed at promoting the participation of Arab women in Israel's high-tech industry. Hiya – Tech reaches out to groups of young female Arab high schools students, mentor them through their studies, and assist them in finding positions in the high-tech sector upon completion of their studies.



Lamya Naamneh (2017 fellow) Based in Haifa, Lamya holds a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology and Education from Haifa University (1996), and studied Gender Studies in Oranim College (2000-2001). In between her academic studies, Lamya has participated in several training seminars and a variety of group facilitating courses on topics such as "Individual and Family Sexuality" course held by the Israeli Institute for Family Planning. As a social and feminist activist, Lamya has managed the "Girls Leading Change" project sponsored by the Israeli Women Network working for equality and social justice. The project

included training 15 to 16 year old girls on topics such as feminism, women leadership, and issues in the woman workforce.

From 2007 and until this day, Lamya works as the educational project coordinator in [Assiwar organization](#), a registered non-profit Arab-feminist organization established in 1997, which supports and provides hotlines for female and male victims of sexual harassment. Today, Lamya is the general coordinator of Assiwar, and facilitates several groups of women in economic empowerment. One of Assiwar's projects for this year is located in Jisr az-Zarqa, one of the most economically disadvantaged Arab towns in Israel, where 15 to 20 employed women will participate in a training program focusing on gender issues and women leadership to promote gender equality in their community.



Shadi Kassis – Founder and CEO of [AlShujaan Organization for Juvenile diabetes](#) (2018 fellow)

Born and raised in Nazareth, Shadi was diagnosed with Diabetes type 1 in his childhood. To him, this “misfortune” will not be a fact that he and his family will face for the rest of their lives. He decided to turn his setback into a starting point and that was when he worked hard to found AlShujaan Organization for Juvenile diabetes in 2007. He received the mutual Fellowship between Tsadik Fellowship and [Masira Fund](#) for his project that aimed at raising awareness about juvenile diabetes and promoting acceptance and tolerance towards kids with this condition. The project is three folded: 1. Lecture series in schools, 2. Creating and distributing educational printouts to parent and the community beyond schools' level, and 3. Empowering a male and Female with diabetes to take an active role in the activities of the organization. The project in numbers:

1. It reached out to 44 schools – 22000 students in grades 1-12. In 16 different towns.
2. Identified 20 diabetic students and joining them in the organization
3. 2 diabetic kids, a male and a female, received coaching and empowerment course and were engaged in the activities of the organization



Nida Nassar - Director of Baladna – Association for Arab Youth (2018 fellow)

Born and raised in Arrabah, Nida is a social activist and holds a BA in social work and MA in Political Science and Conflict Study, both degrees are from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She started

worked in Baladna - Association for Arab Youth and later became the director of the association. Nida received the fellowship for her project that created a Youth Leadership Program that united, empowered and prepared Arab youth in Israel to become progressive leaders and to work for effective and sustainable social change within their community to create equal opportunities within the Arab-Israeli community within Israel. The project included 65 participants and 20 volunteers from 7 different villages and towns in the Northern part and the Tringle part of Israel. The workshops focused on Identity, gender and feminism, and democracy across borders.



Muhammad Jaramneh – Shabaab el Taghieer (youth for change) (2018 fellow)

Born and raised in Mokebleh, Mohammed Jaramneh, together with a group of young social activist youth from the village, founded a group called Shabaab el Taghieer (youth for change) in their village. their group is focused on activities to serve their village such as cleaning public area, creating workshop for the elderly, and mediating civil issues with the regional council of their village.

He received the fellowship for his project that aimed at creating the first-of-a-kind cultural/educational center in the village of Meqebleh. The center forms a cultural hub that is composed of library, digital library and computers section, lecture room for education lecture series. All facilities are with open access to the schools-aged generation and adults as well.



Othman Saleh – Founded and CEO of “Yad be Yad for people with vision impairment” (2019 fellow)

Born and raised in Meshhad, Othman Saleh has always believed that his vision impairment should not stand in his way to become an independent and active member of society. He have pursued his academic degree in Education from the Haifa University. And ever since he started applying for jobs, he was called for interviews but when the interviewer detected his vision impairment, Othman was rejected. For this reason and for believing that people with disabilities should have accessibility to working places and earn a living, he founded “Yad be yad for with vision impairment” that brings together people with vision impairment and engage them in various activities including creating products that they can sell. Othman received the mutual fellowship between Tsadik Fellowship and and

[Masira Fund](#) for his project that aimed at teaching skills and methods in producing Soap in order to empowerment and enhancing creativity among people with vision disability, create a suitable social framework for leisure and creativity, and producing soap that was marketed and sold for the public.



Sanaa Hammoud - Founder and director of “Fara’a Ma’ai” (2019 fellow)

Born and raised in Akko, Sanaa Hammoud is an independent journalist and media consultant specializing in the areas of media training, media campaigns, public relations and TV and film production. She holds a BA in law from the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya and a master degree in media from The American University in Washington, DC. She worked as a reporter for the Arab Network in Jerusalem and Ramallah, as a producer for the news and programs section of the Al-Jazeera Network in Washington, and for a weekly documentary introduction to the second Israeli TV channel and she ran several notable media campaigns. She has worked in recent years as a media consultant including at the Palestinian Negotiation Affairs Unit – NSU. Sana Received the fellowship for launching her project “Fara’a Ma’ai” - an interactive women's media platform. This internet based interactive media and informational platform addresses pressing issues such as injustice, oppression, class, sectarianism, racism, violence, poverty, etc. through visual, audio and text means of modernity, irony. The main targeted audience are Arab Palestinian women in Israel, then the Arab community worldwide.



Amani Mari & Venus Kharmeh (2019 fellows)

Amani Mari is an educational therapist for over 10 years of experience, life skills instructor, and family and parent counsellor. Venus Kharmeh is an occupational therapist with 11 years of experience in the field, a specialist in the field of children, especially in working with children with developmental difficulties, attention deficit and special challenges. Together they received the tSadik fellowship for their project that is a therapeutic-educational-counselling project to support and accompany children with ADHD by passing workshops to their parents and teachers according to the Cog-Fun method in

conjunction with Adler's method. And for the production of a therapeutic package to accompany and guide the child and his parents. The package is consisting of workshop programs in Arabic, a book-story for children and puppets, in addition to manuals for adults.



Christopher Karam – Academix (2019 fellow)

Born and raised in Nazareth, Christopher Karam holds a degree in life sciences from the University of Tel Aviv and is currently studying for his master's degree in education from the same university. Witnessing the difficulties young Arabs face in their early academic lives that caused them in many cases to drop off their major and even from the academic life at all, made him establish his project Academix, for which he received the Tsadik fellowship. Academix helps prepare high school students for University life by providing students with instruments and guidance needed in order to overcome the new experiences they will face when attending university such as: time management, how to deal with stress and cope with a new environment and also how to apply to jobs during and after their studies. During the project students visit different universities across the country, and also have meetings with an occupational psychologist in order to help them choose a subject of study for university based on their abilities and tendencies.

Former 'Strengthening Civil Society' Fellows:

Fidaa Tabouny- Abu Dbai (2009)

Rawan Abbass (2010)

Eshraq Hajjo (2011)

Heba Amara (2012)

Odeh Shahbari (2014)

TSADIK Fellows – Economic Development



Deia Ganayim (2015 fellow) Born in Sakhnin, Deia holds a B.A in Psychology,

M.A in Neuropsychology, M.A in Learning Disabilities, a third M.A in Clinical-Educational Psychology and a Ph.D in Psychology. Deia's academic studies have two main aspects: research aspect and clinical aspect. In the research aspect, he has several research interests including Visual Letter & Word Recognition, Typography of Arabic Texts, Reading & Writing, Numerical Cognition, Learning Disabilities, Psycholinguistics, Bilingualism, and Laterality. In this aspect, his focus is to investigate the Arabic language, which has poor research in these fields compared to other Western languages.

In the clinical aspect, Deia has great interest in the diagnosis and intervention of learning disabilities; however, this clinical field is underrated, especially in Arabic. For this purpose, Deia initiated the Arab Center for Mind, Brain & Behavior ([ACMBB](#)) a non-profit practice based institution which aims to enhance the capacity of the Arab community dealing with theoretical and practical issues of mental health. This is by improving the public awareness of issues and phenomena associated with mind, brain, & behavior and their relations, in addition to fostering inquiry, research, and practice of mind, brain & behavior. His current project focuses on building an online open access web resource of Assistive-Corrective Arabic Reading Lessons (ACARL) based on the most used 3rd grade Arabic language teaching books of Arab elementary schools in Israel (about 30 texts)



Hasan Abo-Shally (2015 fellow) Hasan Abo-Shally is an entrepreneur,

designer and technologist who seeks sustainable social impact through innovation, and lives to transform meaningful ideas into impactful projects. Hasan works at the intersection of multidisciplinary fields like technology, design, business and education and is part of the research team at the [Media Innovation Lab \(miLAB\)](#) in IDC Herzliya. In 2014, while working as a software engineer, Hasan founded

Hasoub - an NGO seeking economic & social change through technology, innovation & entrepreneurship to impact the local Arab Community. In Hasoub, Hasan helped engage 25000+ people in over 200 activities and a dozen of online communities.

Recently, Hasan founded "ibtekar" in 2016 - a socio-educational venture promoting technological creativity among kids and youth from underprivileged backgrounds. Hasan is a Forbes 30 Under 30 honoree for Social Impact (2017), a volunteer in different humanitarian campaigns and a fellow of several international programs in the field of entrepreneurship, impact, business and photography.



Jamil Mazzawi & Feras Jabbour – Nazareth Start-up Forum (2018 fellow)

Based in Nazareth, Jamil Mazzawi and Feras Jabbour received the fellowship for their project to establish the Nazareth Start-up forum that will be the representative of the Hi-end Technologies Arab Start-ups in the country. The forum aims at bringing together and representing Arab start-ups by creating a one-major databased for all participating start-ups that will make it easier to detect, find and contact these start-ups with potential investors and collaborations locally and globally. They were able to recruit 15 companies, and through the forum the companies were able to raise and find investors in the total value of about 15 million \$ for the companies withing the forum.

Nizar Habib (2019 fellow)

Nizar Habib, a student for economics & management student at Tel Aviv University have always has passion for programming and found was to integrate his programming skills in his studies and daily life. Being a student himself in Tel Aviv and facing a problem any Arab student faces when searching for an apartment to rent during their student years, Nizar had an idea to create a website called Shotafim.com that aims to enhance the online rental market by cultivating a web-app that automates, organises and provides accessibility to information/data making it easier to facilitate communication between tenants and landlords. The website matches tenants with apartments that suites their needs and also matcher them with roommates that share a similar lifestyle. Thus, allowing people from different background find mutual grounds and eventually living together. Nizar received the Tsadik fellowship to help develop and launch Shotafim.com

Former ‘Economic Development’ Fellows:

Fadi Elobra (2011)

Safa Younis (2012)

Ahmad Hassan Joubran (2013)

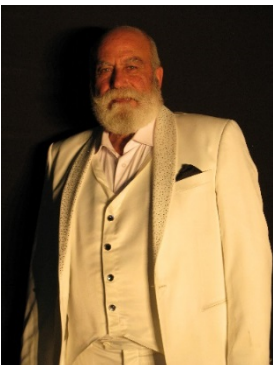
TSADIK Fellows – Arts and Culture



Taiseer Haddad (2015 fellow) Born in in the village of Tarshiha, Taisser is considered one of the most important Arab musicians. His musical works, with their varied styles, reflect

new horizons of musical development. A major in music in his academic studies and holder of a M.Sc. in Music from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Taisser is a well-known composer, conductor and Maestro of the most influential Arab orchestras in the country. During his musical career, he participated with orchestras in many local and international festivals such as the Ramallah International Festival, the Jerusalem Festival of Arab Culture, the Egyptian Opera House in Cairo, Jerash International Festival - Jordan, and Fez International Festival in Morocco. As a lecturer and mentor, Taisser has lectured in numerous academic institutions such as the Academy of Music and Arts in Jerusalem, the University of Haifa, and the Academic College of Art in Safad.

Recently, Taisser works as the supervisor for music education and arts at the Ministry of Education in Israel. He is also the founder of the Municipal "[Catherine](#)" Conservatory in Tarshiha. One of his recent projects includes the 'Mahmoud Darwish foundation,' a musical work that combines several elements and genres based on five poems of the late Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish. A musical production based on his work will target both the public, and especially middle and high school students. The composition will feature a mixed ensemble of both Arab and Western instruments along with a leading singer.



Lotouf Nwesser (2017 fellow) Born in Nazareth in 1950, Lotouf has been an actor for more than 48 years. He established his acting career in Alhadeeth Theatre in Nazareth and then the Alnahed Theatre and Beit Alkarma in Haifa, while he was studying acting at the Arab Academy for High Arts in Haifa. He has performed and produced many theatric, cinematic and television works in many languages such as Arabic, Hebrew, English and French. Well known as the "storyteller" character in plays for children and adults, Lotouf has produced and acted in more than 60 plays such as "Suhmata," "King Leer," "the Emperor's Clothes" and many more.

Lotouf has also appeared in local and international movies such as Hany Abu Asaad's "Paradise Now" (2005), Elia Suleiman's "Divine Intervention" (2002) and many others. In 2001, Lotouf established Alhaneen Theatre in Nazareth, where he works as the CEO. The theatre has produced several plays for

children such as “the Detective Conan” and “King Fahman” and adults such as “The Shoemaker,” along with plays performed on an international level such as “Kuluhom Abna’i” (“They are all my sons”) and others.



Jamal Alkirnawi (2017 fellow) Born in Rahat, Jamal holds a BA in

Health Systems Management from Ben Gurion University of the Negev, a Master's Degree in Social Work (MSW) from McGill University, and an MBA in Social Leadership from the Ben Gurion University of the Negev and the Mandel Institute. A social activist since youth, Jamal rose up through the university system, integrating his own experiences and successes to become the academic counselor for Arab students at Ben-Gurion University, where he worked for 7 years.

In 2009, Jamal founded A New Dawn in the Negev, an Arab-Jewish community development and coexistence organization based in Rahat, Israel. As a community-based organization, A New Dawn is intrinsically attuned to the challenges, priorities and opportunities of the Bedouin society of the Negev, one of the most marginalized groups in Israel. A New Dawn believes that education, employment and leadership are the key elements helping the youth and young adults rise out of poverty to become responsible and ethical agents of social change in their communities. Launched in 2015 by A New Dawn, Sarab ("Oasis" in Arabic) - Strings of Change enables dozens of elementary school Bedouin children in the Negev to receive high quality music education. Through music, the children improve their creativity and valuable skills that advance their socio-educational development. Led by Omer Meir Wellber, Music Director of the Ra'anana Symphony Orchestra, Sarab also facilitates fruitful interactions between Bedouin and Jewish communities of the Negev.



Rasha Bolous (2017 fellow) Born in Nazareth, Rasha finished her Bachelor's degree in social work with a major in domestic violence (2007), and obtained her Master's degree in Art Therapy from Haifa University (2011). During her work as a social worker in the municipality of Nazareth, where she began in 2007, Rasha has dealt with numerous cases of children and women who were victims of physical and sexual assault. For years, Rasha has been instructing groups in subjects such as the empowerment and employment of women and art therapy for children. Over the past two years, Rasha has also been working as a lecturer for Art Therapy in the Academic College for Arts in Netanya.

In 2013, Rasha's ambition led her to establish "Colors," the first Art Therapy center in Israel's Arab community, situated in Nazareth. The center specializes in treating children with disabilities through art, drama, and music. The center's treatment method focuses on improving the Arab child's emotional language. The large success of the center's services has led the staff to develop "Family", a card game which aims to strengthen dialogue between parents and children who lack communication and emotional language. For Rasha and the center, developing this game will allow both children and parents to focus on communicating in the real world, not just through a screen.



Shaden Abu Alassal – Founder and director of Aida ballet and contemporary dance school (2018 fellow)

Born and raised in Nazareth, Shaden Abu Alassal, trained since her early childhood as dancer, has always dreams of creating a professional school in her hometown Nazareth and that her school will not fall far from the professional schools she was trained in in the canter of Israel and Jerusalem. Therefore, her idea was to establish Aida ballet and contemporary dance school in Nazareth. She received the fellowship for the construction of the proper dance floor in accordance to professional dance regulations. The floor was used to attract and invite external professional trainers and choreographers

to use the space and in return to work with students of the schools. The platform served 120 students aged 4-18, participating in a total of 12 weekly hours of training. Invited 10m guest professors and professional dancers to train and work with the students of the school.



Tony Copti – Film producer and founder of Fresco Films (*2019 fellow*)

Born and raised in Yafa-Tel Aviv, Tony Copti graduated from Rishon-Letzion College of Management in 2002 with an Engineering degree. In 2004, Tony started pursuing his childhood dream of working in the film industry. Since then, Tony has worked as line producer in dozens of films, including the Academy Award Nominated film AJAMI (Best Foreign Film), directed by Scandar Copti with Yaron Shani (Inosan Productions), THE GOLGOTHA FILES, directed by Zoltan Spirandelli (UFA Fernseh Production), Nadav Lapid's POLICEMAN (Laila Film) which won the Grand Jury Prize at Locarno, and the Jerusalem Int'l Film Festival award-winning feature DISSOLUTION by Nina Menkes (Transfax Film Productions). Tony is a member of EAVE, a training program for European producers.

Toni received the mutual Tsadik fellowship with [Gesher Multicultural Film Fund](#) for his project that aims at producing a Documentary film based on the story of **Michel George El-Raheb** who opened 15v years ago a book-shop-café in Jaffa called **Yafa**. Michel had an urge to bring books in Arabic from various countries to the people living in the Israel. Yafa book shop offers the Arabic language: you can hear and speak it while drinking coffee, you can read it in the books placed on the shelves and you can learn it at the evening classes. This is Michel mission — his dream.



Dr. Basilius Bawardi - Senior Lecturer in Arabic Literature and Language (*2019 fellow*)
Basilius Bawardi is Senior Lecturer at Bar Ilan University and Oranim College, Israel. He holds a PhD in Arabic Literature and Language from the University of Haifa. He has published in the journals Middle Eastern Literature and Al-Karmil and in the books Ottoman Reform and Muslim Regeneration; The Lebanese Anthology of Muris 'Awwad and Monotheism & Ethics: Historical and Contemporary Intersections Among Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Dr. Bawardi received the fellowship his project that is focused on composing academic and research book in English dealing with the Arab-Palestinian literature in Israel. The book aims at introducing the world to the new local Palestinian literature written by third-generation writers, especially after the Oslo Accords. The book analyses the literature of each of the writers: Sheikha Halawi, Alaa Hlehel, Anwar Al-Anwar, Mohammed Hamza Ghanaim, Marzouq Halabi, and Sam Gibran – all are distinct and new voices in local Palestinian literature that have not been analysed in academic research.

Former 'Arts & Culture' Fellows:

Said Abu shakra (2011)

Ibtisam Mara`na (2012)

Nabeel Abboud-Ashkar (2013)

Mira Awad (2013)

Adi Krayem (2015)

Updates and News From our Fellows:

*From Hasoub, co-founded by fellow Hasan Abu-Shally, launches a Hackaton: “Hasoub launches the [Hasoub Healthcare Hackathon](#), to be held on September 15th of 2017, a two day hacking contest, a weekend to brainstorm, build and innovate solutions with hundreds of like-minded engineers, clinicians, designers, developers and entrepreneurs.”

*From Assiwar, managed by fellow Lamy Naamneh, new statistics on sexual assault come to light: [In 80% of cases of sexual assault, the assaulter is known by the victim.](#)

* 2013 fellow Mira Awad launches [“Creativity retreat with Mira Awad”](#) on August 25th: “Mira Awad aims to prove that creativity is not only a characteristic of artists, and that we are all creative in our own special ways. She conducts workshops in Movement, Words, Painting, Photography and Music, which are all Medias of self-expression, but mainly fun ways to rediscover the inner child and the joy of creativity.”

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