

Georges N. Frem Foundation turns **25**



The Lebanese People at the Center

This year marks a significant milestone for our foundation, as we commemorate 25 years of service. While we embraced many causes and programs over the years, most of which are still active and part of the current GNFF scope of work, our unwavering commitment to the Lebanese people, youth, and women in particular, remains of utmost importance. Youth are the future leaders who can deliver the Lebanon we are dreaming of today. Women are the real catalysts of change in a society where despite being often marginalized and underrepresented, they have shined in many ways. If given more resources and opportunities, we believe Lebanon's youth and women can transform Lebanon for the best.

In our quest to provide such opportunities, we offer unique educational conferences designed for parents; we continue to support SMEs through training in sustainable agriculture and embark on new agricultural projects aimed at empowering farmers, growers, and cooperatives.

We are delighted to share some of these new developments with our readers in this newsletter.



GNFF Brings Together Parents and Education Specialists

Today, as Lebanon is going through a multi-crisis, our foundation, faithful to its education mission, continues to place the well-being of children front and center by organizing initiatives that can contribute to their personal development. Recently, GNFF, in collaboration with USJ, organized a conference titled "The Educational Approach for the Well-Being of our Children" was held at the THEATRE athénée Jounieh (TAJ). The event, the first of its kind to take place in Lebanon, was an interactive gathering between parents and education specialists. It addressed the diverse challenges currently faced by parents, and provided them with comprehensive advice and recommendations to support their children academically. The talks approached education support in a truly holistic way, ranging from topics on how parents establish a constructive educational relationship with their child, practicing empathy and active listening to creating an environment conducive to learning at home.



The engaging lecture was led by Dr. Patricia Rached, Dean of the Faculty of Sciences of Education at Saint-Joseph University in Beirut (Fsedu), and followed by workshops held by teacher-researchers from Fsedu, giving parents the opportunity to further discuss the key topics addressed at the talk.

GNFF Partners with CD4



GNFF has always been fully dedicated to supporting agriculture cooperatives, which in turn support the growth and development of the sector as a whole. We believe cooperatives are the best point of entry for addressing the sector's challenges. As part of this commitment, GNFF is a part of the Cooperative Development Activity (CD4) program in Lebanon, which aims to promote capacity building of special food processing primary cooperatives, support the enabling environment and learn and share best practices to meet the objective of a strengthened primary cooperative level for women and youth towards agro-processing cooperatives in Lebanon.

Cooperatives will be trained and coached by GNFF on governance and leadership, financial management, business, and marketing and will be assisted to improve the quality of their products and enter new markets locally and internationally.

CD4 is a U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) funded program, implemented by Land O'Lakes (Venture37).



LEAD Summer Camp

After more than a year of implementing LEAD, an educational program for young women, we are proud to see how much enthusiasm and motivation our participants have shown. LEAD is having a significant impact in terms of shaping the leaders of tomorrow, as seen from the lessons learned and key takeaways that our participants testify to. Our latest activity to culminate the LEAD year-long program was an educational summer camp held at the eco-farm IMS-Maad. Members of the Saint-Coeur Kfarahbab girl scouts' team were given leadership and personal development workshops, in addition to courses on regenerative agriculture and permaculture led by our foundation's agriculture team.

We are confident that the LEAD graduates of 2022 are now ready to make a positive impact whatever they pursue in life. We wish these young ladies the best of luck!



LEAD (Leadership Environment Awareness Development) is implemented by Georges N. Frem Foundation in collaboration with An Nawras Cultural Center. The program, which is led by TAJ (Athénée Jounieh Theater) in coordination with PRODES, continued its mission, for the second year in a row, to empower young women aged between 16 and 20 years old by equipping them with the skills needed to become active and integrated citizens and leaders of socio-ecological projects that serve their communities through its U-learn and U-serve sessions.

Let's ACT!

Our acting workshops for all ages are back by popular demand. GNFF's THEATRE athénée Jounieh (TAJ) is one of the foundation's pillars when it comes to skills and talent development, knowledge sharing, awareness, and entertainment. Our acting workshops contribute to the personal and professional development of youngsters and continue to be in high demand for more than a decade now.

Since mid-July, we have been active once again offering our renowned acting workshop. From improvisations and drama scenes to different techniques for character building, articulation, and confidence boosting, our students have been showcasing their acquired skills and their talents on stage. The current drama workshop is given by Dr. Marcel Ghosn, director, actor, and producer. Stay tuned as new Marcel's workshops are coming up!

