



متحف قطر الوطني  
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF QATAR

## **The National Museum of Qatar engages with students ahead of opening**

**Doha, XX, 2019** – The Learning and Outreach Department at the National Museum of Qatar (NMoQ) today announced that it is in the progress of visiting a number of schools in the country as part of its community outreach initiatives. The programme prepares students for the NMOQ opening, introduces them to its collection and establishes the museum as a primary educational resource for culture, heritage and history.

Ahead of its opening to the public on 28 March 2019, the NMoQ has designed and developed a wide variety of exciting and engaging resources for school groups, families and young visitors. These extend the educational resources built into the museum itself, which include six indoor, purpose-built intergenerational learning spaces that enable students to do everything from uncover ancient objects to explore life onboard a pearling dhow. NMoQ will also host various school events, from plays to away-days, in coordination with NMoQ education staff.

“It is important for us to support the development of creative, compassionate and engaged students who come to us to learn from the museum’s resources and not to simply visit it,” said Fatima Al-Kuwari, Head of the Learning and Outreach department at NMoQ. “Education is at the heart of the National Museum of Qatar’s offerings. Our educational programmes not only complement the national curriculum but also introduce audiences to our country’s rich history, diverse culture and connection with the world around us.”

The educational programmes at NMoQ present knowledge in engaging, interactive ways, to encourage learners to expand their cultural horizons, gain a sense of national participation, build critical thinking skills and nourish their curiosity.

NMoQ tells the story of Qatar’s past, present and future through an immersive, multilayered experience. The highly anticipated museum is organised in three “chapters” — Beginnings, Life in Qatar, and Building the Nation — presented in eleven galleries. The visitor’s chronological journey, which extends through more than 1.5 km of experiences, starts in the geological period long before the peninsula was inhabited by humans and continues to the present day.

Each gallery is an all-encompassing environment, which tells its part of the grand story through a creative combination of elements such as music, storytelling, archival images, oral histories and evocative aromas. Designed as distinctive experiences, these environmental galleries also contextualise an impressive array of archaeological and heritage objects, manuscripts, documents, photographs, jewellery, and costumes.

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### **Qatar Museums**

Qatar Museums (QM) connects the museums, cultural institutions and heritage sites in Qatar and creates the conditions for them to thrive and flourish. It provides a comprehensive organization for the development of museums and cultural projects, with a long term ambition of creating a strong and sustainable cultural infrastructure for Qatar. Under the patronage of His Highness the Emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, and led by its Chairperson, Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, QM is consolidating Qatar’s efforts to become a vibrant center for the arts, culture and education, in the Middle East and beyond.

Since its foundation in 2005, QM has overseen the development of the Museum of Islamic Art (MIA),

Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, and the Al Zubarah World Heritage Site Visitor Centre. QM also manages the ALRIWAQ DOHA Exhibition Space and the Fire Station: Artists in Residence. Future projects include the launch of the highly anticipated National Museum of Qatar and the 3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum.

QM is committed to instigating Qatar's future generation of arts, heritage and museum professionals. At its core is a commitment to nurturing artistic talent, creating opportunities and developing the skills to service Qatar's emerging art economy. By means of a multi-faceted program and public art initiatives, QM seeks to push the boundaries of the traditional museum model, and create cultural experiences that spill out onto the streets and seek to involve a wide audience. Through a strong emphasis on originating art and culture from within and fostering a spirit of national participation, QM is helping Qatar find its own distinctive voice in today's global cultural debates.

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