



# International Council for Arts Deans INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Doha, Qatar • May 25 – 30, 2025

Optional addition of another cultural immersion  
experience in Abu Dhabi, UAE • May 30 – June 2, 2025



VCUarts Qatar Dean Amir Berbic and the board of directors of the International Council for Arts Deans invite you to join us for an international summer symposium, an informative cultural immersion and educational experience shared by colleagues who are also arts deans and administrators in higher education.

Education City is home to branch campuses of eight leading educational institutions, a homegrown research university, start-up incubators, technology parks, heritage sites, cultural institutions, the Qatar Foundation and the Qatar National Library. Playing the lead role in arts education and blending the innovative spirit and high standards of their home campus with the bold originality and deep traditions of Qatar is VCUarts Qatar. Celebrating 25 years in Qatar, VCUarts programs provide an art and design education that helps students cultivate creativity, probe possibilities, fearlessly question, surpass limits, set new standards, and most importantly, make an impact.

The five-night, four-day program in Doha includes the meals noted on the itinerary, museum and venue admissions, hotel and transportation in the registration fee of \$1,900. The price is a per person price based on two people sharing overnight accommodations. The price for single occupancy is slightly higher: \$2,000.

The five-night, four-day program in Abu Dhabi will include breakfast each morning, lunch each day and hors d'oeuvres two evenings, private museum tours, and venue admissions noted on the next page, hotel and transportation in the registration fee of \$3,499. The price is a per person price based on two people sharing overnight accommodations. The price for single occupancy is slightly higher: \$3,899.

The total registration fee for both experiences, double occupancy, is \$5,399.





## Doha, Qatar • May 24 – 30, 2025

### Optional inclusion of another cultural immersion experience in Abu Dhabi

### May 30 – June 3, 2025

#### Sunday, May 25, 2025

Plan to arrive early to relax and adjust to the time change after many hours of travel. A copy of *Qatar Cultural Guide* will be waiting for you. Enjoy exploring Souq Wakif on your own, safely at any hour. With its mud-daubed buildings, the market on the banks of the Wadi Musheireb harkens to a bygone era while remaining a hub of activity. Souq Wakif's winding alleys offer a tableau of traditional street life, and opportunities to visit with camels and see a hospital specializing in the care of falcons. Our hotel, Al Wadi Hotel Doha – MGallery, offering an outdoor pool, workout area, and multiple places to relax with food and drink (including a rooftop lounge), is a short walk from the popular Souq. The Symposium registration fee includes Sunday – Thursday nights' stay at the Al Wadi Hotel.

#### Monday, May 26, 2025 (B, L, S)

9am - 5pm\*

- National Museum of Qatar
- Architecture Afternoon

#### Tuesday, May 27, 2025 (B, L, R)

9am - 4pm\*

- Museum of Islamic Art
- Artists' studio

#### Wednesday, May 28, 2025 (B, L)

9am - 6pm\*

- Education City
- VCUarts Qatar
- Matahf: Arab Museum of Modern Arts
- Qatar National Library

#### Thursday, May 29, 2025 (B, R)

on your own

- Msheireb Museums
- Pre-reserved optional activities
- Sunset Cruise on a traditional dhow

*Public art will be part of each day's travels. Qatar's commitment to cultural excellence extends to a range of impressive public art installations featuring thought-provoking works by well-known international artists.*

#### Friday, May 30, 2025

Breakfast at the hotel is included. Then, return home on flights you have scheduled and procured on your own or

Join colleagues as many of us travel on to Abu Dhabi (B, L, R)

8am – Sunset

- Flight together to Abu Dhabi International Airport
- Transfer from airport to Qasr Al Hosn for Arabic Coffee and Dates, guided tour, choice of one of two workshops
- Light lunch at a nearby local coffeeshop
- Transfer of luggage directly to your hotel room at The St. Regis Abu Dhabi, and expedited check-in
- Sunset reception at Ray's Bar, on the 63rd floor of Etihad Towers

#### Saturday, May 31, 2025 (B, L)

9am – 4 pm

- Sheik Zayed Grand Mosque
- Emirates Palace with lunch at the Lebanese Terrace and a beekeeping tour
- Qasr at Watan, the Presidential Palace

#### Sunday, June 1, 2025 (B, L)

10am – 4pm

- Saadiyat Island
- The Louvre Abu Dhabi, including time with administrators and lunch
- Arabic Family House
- Guggenheim Abu Dhabi (perhaps still under construction, so a program with its lead administrator)
- Time with university administrators: NYUAD, tentative: Sorbonne Université

#### Monday, June 2, 2025 (B, L, R)

8am – 10pm

- 90-minute to and from motorcoach transportation to Dubai
- Museum of the Future
- Dubai Opera
- Tentative: College of Arts and Creative Enterprises at Zayed University
- Free time in Dubai Mall
- Burj Khalifa

#### Tuesday, June 3, 2025 (B)

Please plan to use taxi or ride share transportation to Abu Dhabi International Airport for your flights home

This tentative agenda is continually evolving;  
however, activities are more likely to be added than to be removed.  
Times are approximate.

**B** – Breakfast • **L** – Lunch • **R** – Reception with hors d'oeuvres • **S** – Snack

\*Approximate times are subject to change.

*Our hotels offer full breakfast buffets for you to enjoy before we begin our days.*