

For Immediate Release



## **AUB Civic and Volunteering Fair 2011 official launch to feature Bishop Gregoire Haddad**

Beirut, Lebanon- 20/04/2011 - The American University of Beirut's (AUB) Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS), in collaboration with the Office of Students Affairs and the Student Representative Committees, is organizing its annual Civic and Volunteering Fair on Wednesday, April 27 and Thursday, April 28 2011, between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM, near and around West Hall at AUB.

AUB President Peter F. Dorman will formally inaugurate the fair on April 27 at 12:00 noon during a ceremony that will be held in Bathish Auditorium, West Hall. The opening will feature a keynote speech by Bishop Gregoire Haddad on "The Status of Civic Engagement and Volunteering Today and the Recent Movements Towards a Just Society," followed by an open discussion with the audience.

The AUB Volunteering Fair is open to the community, and aims at connecting non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and AUB centers and groups involved in civic and outreach work with students, faculty, staff and the public at large. It will consist of a gathering of stands, which will provide NGOs and university partners with platforms to convey their messages, state their achievements, display their civic and community projects and activities, and communicate their future aspirations. It is expected that in return, they will receive the support they need as well as attract eager volunteers who will also benefit from the experience. As part of the fair, free training workshops will be conducted by several organizations and a food court by local community groups will provide healthy meals and products for the participants and visitors. In-kind donations will also be solicited during the fair to support needy communities.

Alongside the fair, several activities will be taking place during the two-day event. On April 27, the documentary on drama therapy in Roumieh prison, entitled "Twelve Angry Lebanese," by Zeina Daccache will be screened in Issam Fares Hall at 7:00 pm. The proceeds from this event will go to support the activities of Catharsis, the Lebanese Center for Drama Therapy. Daccache will also be featured as a keynote speaker on April 28 at 12:00 noon in Bathish Auditorium with a presentation and discussion on "The Documentary as a Project and Drama Therapy as a Profession, The Recent Riots in Roumieh Prison, and Catharsis Activities."

The closure of the fair will feature a musical performance by May Nasr, accompanied by Bassam Jalgha on the oud, and preceded by a prelude by Beirut Vocal Point, winners in the "AUB got talent" contest. The concert will be held in Issam Fares Hall on Thursday 7:00 pm, with proceeds going to support community projects and activities by CCECS and partners.

Tickets for the movie and musical concert are available at CCECS, AUB (Tel: 01-350000 Ext: 4430/1).

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**For more information please contact:**

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**Note to Editors**

**About AUB**

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of more than 7,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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