

2018 Global Read Webinar Series with Ibtisam Barakat

Once a month, the World Area Book Awards will sponsor a 60 minute webinar on a book recognized by one of the awards and facilitate a discussion with the author on how to incorporate the book into the classroom. The spring webinar series focuses on social justice. All sessions are free and open to the public. All times listed refer to Central Standard Time (CST). [REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR SERIES HERE](#). Sponsored by the Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs, the South Asia National Outreach Consortium, the Middle East Outreach Council, and Africa Access.

MIDDLE EAST BOOK AWARD, APRIL 26, 2018, TIME: 6:00 – 7:15 PM CST

The [Middle East Book Award](#) is pleased to present during National Arab American Heritage month a conversation with award-winning author, Ibtisam Barakat on her book [Balcony on the Moon: Coming of Age in Palestine](#), an enlightening look at the not often depicted daily life in a politically tumultuous area. Barakat will discuss a life full of challenges that inspired defiance and creative ways of finding solutions. Join us as we discuss human rights, gender equality, and the power of words to take us and our thoughts to faraway places. [Register HERE today!](#)

Resource for Understanding [Where is the Middle East?](#)" The concept of a region called the "Middle East" is a relatively recent and unstable construction. Since the term was first coined at the beginning of the 20th century, it has been applied to different sets of countries and territories. These designations all represent different ways of conceptualizing what these territories have in common and how they relate to other parts of the world. [This presentation](#) uses maps to illustrate the lack of consensus among governments, international organizations, and scholars regarding how to define the Middle East or even whether to use that term and is a good way to have students begin thinking about the region.

Featured Global Islam and the Arts Teacher Fellows Lesson: The Impact of the Silk Road and Islam on World History

[In this lesson](#) written by Tinisha Shaw, Students will use technology to explore the social, cultural, religious, and economic impact of the Silk Road and other transcontinental trade routes between the Classical Era and Gunpowder Empires of World History. Students will focus on the great achievements of empires and kingdoms, the great scholars, and Islamic explorers during the time of great social, cultural, and economic expansion in Europe, Asia, and Africa. At the conclusion of the lesson, students will create an interactive travel journal to highlight the different experiences that travelers along the Silk Road and other transcontinental trade routes would have encountered.

→ *Teaching about Islam or the Middle East? Check out these amazing 15 lessons from the Global Islam and the Arts Teacher Fellows. Lessons span grades K-12, and are created around a topic that focuses on deepening understanding of global Islam. Lessons are aligned to the NC Standards and feature a variety of subjects including ELA, social studies, music, dance, and visual art: <http://ncmideast.org/outreach/teacher-fellows/>.*

Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys

Check out this [amazingly rich website](#) with resources for exploring new and diverse perspectives on the people, places, histories, beliefs, and cultures of Muslims in the United States and around the world including books, essays, videos, primary sources, and more.

Reminders:

Essay and Poster Contest for Students on Abdelkader, 19th century humanitarian:

Abdelkader was a 19th century humanitarian, who was such a worldwide inspiration that a town in Iowa was named after him! Honoring his legacy are two Global Leadership scholarship competitions, an essay contest and a poster contest, with awards at both the high school and college level. For more information on all the competitions, [click here](#). The deadline is **May 15**.

Qatar Foundation and MEOC Educator Book Grant Program: Qatar Foundation International (QFI), in partnership with the Middle East Outreach Council (MEOC), is pleased to offer its Educator Book Program which will provide K-12 educators with the opportunity to obtain up to three classroom sets of books recognized by the [MEOC Annual Book Awards](#). The MEOC Book Awards recognize outstanding books that contribute to a more meaningful understanding of the Middle East on an annual basis, and includes picture books, youth literature and youth nonfiction titles. **Grant applications will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year and are open to K-12 educators in public and public charter schools.** To view the full grant announcement including application requirements and grant conditions, [please click here](#). To apply to the grant program, please visit QFI's grants management portal, FluidReview, at qfi.fluidreview.com. For any questions regarding the application or program, please contact culture@qfi.org.

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- [The Teaching Resources Page of our website has many other helpful links and resources to use in your classrooms.](#)
- Invite the other teachers you work with to join this email list: just have them email me with a request to be on the listserv!