



KUWAIT: Sheikh Sabah Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad tours the 11th Kuwait Formative Arts Gallery. —KUNA

KAA HONORS WINNERS OF AMIR FORMATIVE ARTS AWARD

KUWAIT: Kuwait Arts Association (KAA) has honored the winners of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's formative arts award. The prize-giving ceremony

was held under the patronage of Minister of Amiri Diwan and honoring President of Kuwait Arts Association Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on Monday evening on the

sidelines of the opening of 11th Kuwait Formative Arts Gallery.

Arts have been a mirror of people's civilization and the status of their nation among other nations, thus it has to be greatly supported and respected, Sheikh Sabah Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad said in a speech on behalf of Sheikh Nasser at the ceremony. Honoring those national artists are an imperative due to their crucial role in elevating the country's status in the world, he said. He praised the impressive works of the winning artists.

Meanwhile, President of Kuwait Arts Association Abdulasool Salman echoed a similar view. He suggested that the diversity of the displayed works reflects the cultural diversity of the state. He also lauded the contributions of Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad in supporting arts, notably organization of the formative arts exhibition.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah award was shared among three artists, namely Saad Al-Baloushi, Amira Ashkanani, and Yaacob Ibrahim. Sheikh Fatouh Al-Sabah award was shared among Saud Al-Faraj, Hashem Karam, and Suleiman Haider. Sheikh Salwa Al-Sabah award was won by Zainab Dashti, Abdullah Al-Rashed and Mariam Al-Muraikhi.

Youth Creativity award was grabbed by Abdullah Al-Otaibi, Fahad Al-Hajri, Mohammad Al-Ra'as, Sho'aa Al-Rasheedi, Farah Al-Sammak, Mariam Mourad, Abdulaziz Mirza, Abdulelah Al-Rasheed, Mariam Al-Rashed, Ahmad Al-Husseini, Fahad Al-Eid, and Hussein Al-Bannai. Artists Dhamyaa Al-Ayoubi, Ibrahim Ismail, Abdulaziz Arti were also honored during the ceremony for their contributions to the formative art movement in Kuwait. — KUNA



Visitors observe artworks at the 11th Kuwait Formative Arts Gallery.



Artworks displayed at the 11th Kuwait Formative Arts Gallery.

KUWAIT TV LAUNCHES 'AL-QURAIN' CHANNEL

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: Concurring with the start of celebrations of Kuwait's national days, Kuwait Television announced the launch of Al-Qurain Channel. "Al-Qurain Channel is like a son KTV dreamed about," said Majid Al-Jazzaf, Assistant Undersecretary for Kuwait Television Affairs and General Manager of KTV2 Channel.

During a press conference held on Monday at the Ministry of Information, Jazzaf said KTV changed its KTV Plus channel to Al-Qurain, which will only air shows connected to Kuwaiti heritage. "We will launch Al-Qurain in celebration of National and Liberation Days on February 25," he said. He added that the channel will broadcast old programs and soap operas from the '70s and '80s. "We will mix old with the new, while preserving the heritage and originality of the shows."

Jazzaf said that the ministry of information has asked GCC countries to provide the channel with all content that was stolen during the Iraqi invasion. Popular actor Abdulhussain Abdulredha also provided Kuwait TV with 152 old plays and soap operas. "Al-Qurain will broadcast for three age categories - children, young and elderly. This is why we are trying to deliver our message to all audiences to teach them about the beautiful history of Kuwait. The main language of the channel will be Arabic, but in the Kuwaiti dialect," he explained. Jazzaf noted that they will add 50 TV breaks with old photos in 2D animation and 30 bumpers, while the music used will be classic to get along with the content.

Preserving history

Information Ministry Undersecretary Tariq Al-Mezrm said the Al-Qurain's idea took seed seven months ago. "The aim was to preserve the history of Kuwait. We have a huge archive of unseen shows. The channel will be about the heritage of Kuwait and old shows that both Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis used to watch growing up," he said. "You will see a new design with an old Kuwaiti touch that will bring young and old people together. Veteran presenters will be paired with new faces who are experts in Kuwaiti history, and



KUWAIT: Undersecretary of the Ministry of Information Tariq Al-Mezrm speaks during the press conference. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



Majid Al-Jazzaf

KTV is welcoming them."

Mezrm affirmed that Al-Qurain will seek feedback from the audience to learn more about its mistakes. KTV is using the services of Ipsos to reach the right audience. Around 85 percent of programs will be based on old footage and local TV archives. Meanwhile, 15 percent will be new productions of heritage and cultural shows. He added that the ministry of information has provided some of the latest outdoor broadcast solutions to the media crew at government TV channels, where two digital external broadcast vehicles will support the improvement of the media and its capabilities. He revealed that KTV is producing the old Kuwaiti soap opera "Darwaza" that was scrapped in the '90s.

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