



The Arab-American Family Support Center

September 2011

Welcome to the September edition of our newsletter! We hope you enjoyed your Eid festivities as we say goodbye to summer and gear up for a new school year. We are excited to begin our Fall programs and have planned some great events for the upcoming month (listed below).

This school year, AAFSC is working harder than ever to provide comprehensive social services to the families in our community and with your continued support, we can expand our programs and grow to serve more families and individuals in need. Donations can be mailed to our office (150 Court Street, 3rd Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201) or completed online on [our website](#). You can also support us by purchasing items for our clients from our [Amazon Wish List](#).

We wish you a great start to a new school year and as always, we would love to hear from you with any comments, suggestions or ideas. E-mail us at info@aafscny.org or call us at 718-643-8000. You can also let us know your thoughts on our [Facebook page](#).

Join us for The Maria Project



AAFSC is excited to announce that we will be partnering with [The Maria Project](#) again this year for a special performance during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Join us on October 19th at 7:30 PM at the Baruch Performing Arts Center, located on East 25th Street, between Lexington and 3rd Avenue. Tickets are \$30.00 and can be purchased [here](#).

[Proceeds from the event will benefit AAFSC's domestic violence program.](#)

The Maria Project is a groundbreaking solo theater performance that surprises, provokes and invites the audience to unleash their inherited secrets while telling the story of a Spanish-American family's legacy around a family secret. Developed, written and performed by Marcella Goheen, The Maria Project examines the reverberation of a family secret over three generations and gives voice to Maria Salazar for the first time in 80 years.

Screening: These Girls (El-Banate Dol)
Join AAFSC and [Alwan for the Arts](#) for a free screening of These Girls by Tahani Rached on

New ESL classes for the Fall!

AAFSC will begin its Fall Adult Education schedule on Monday, September 12th. This semester, we will offer ESL classes, BENL and citizenship courses. Check out the class schedule below:

English as a Second Language (ESL)
Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Basic Education in the Native Language (BENL)
Monday through Thursday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Citizenship
Friday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Free citizenship tutoring is also available on a one-on-one basis for those who qualify.

Registration is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at our Court Street office. For more information, contact Nora Farid-Nestor at 718-643-8000 ext. 38 or nora@aafscny.org.

Women's Empowerment Groups



AAFSC is excited to announce a new cycle of women's empowerment groups beginning the week of October 3rd. In addition to our financial literacy workshops, women can also participate in our craft circle

Thursday, September 15th at 7:00 PM at AAFSC
(150 Court Street, 3rd Floor, Brooklyn, NY
11201).

Screened to audiences at the Cannes, Toronto,
and New York film festivals, this fresh,
irresistibly lively, intensely engaging
documentary from widely acclaimed Egyptian



director
Tahani
Rached
follows a band
of teenage
girls living on
the streets of
Cairo. Rached

won astonishing access to the girls' world; this
vigorous, cinematic film is built upon the deep
trust of its subjects and the long experience of
the filmmaker. Already at a disadvantage as
impoverished and abused girls in a Muslim
society, they encounter rape, drug addiction,
prostitution, pregnancy and motherhood on the
streets.

While the girls' troubles are not downplayed,
neither are their courage, playfulness and
vibrant camaraderie.

Egypt, 2006, 68 minutes, Color, Arabic, Subtitled

This screening is free and open to the public.

Parenting Journey begins in October!

AAFSC will begin its Parenting Journey classes
the week of October 3rd. Classes are available in
Arabic, Urdu, Bengali, and English.

Parenting Journey is a strengths-based parenting
program that concentrates on the emotional
understanding of what it means to be a parent.
The 12-week curriculum helps parents envision a
positive future for themselves and their children
by reflecting on their own upbringing and
drawing conclusions about how to be a good
parent. The Parenting Journey is more than a
"how to" class. It is an opportunity for parents to
develop themselves as nurtured and nurturing
people, capable of making responsible and
informed choices in raising their children.

To sign up for Parenting Journey, please contact
Kameeza Nizam-Chattoo at 718-643-8000 ext. 21
or kameeza@aafscny.org.

and our "Caring for Me" group.

To register for the following groups, please
contact Nidal Alloubane at 718-643-8000 ext. 27
or nidal@aafscny.org.

Caring for Me
Mondays 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Financial Literacy Workshops
Wednesdays 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Craft Circle
Wednesdays 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Sign up for our After-school Program



Our After-school Program will begin on
September 12th at our Court Street office! This
year, we have exciting activities lined up, in
addition to homework help and free SAT classes.

For elementary school students, homework help
will take place Tuesdays and Wednesday from
3:30 PM to 5:00 PM. Middle school students may
participate in homework help on Mondays and
Wednesdays from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM.

High school juniors can sign up for our free SAT
classes set to begin in October. The class meets
on Wednesdays from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The
program will conclude before the May 2012 SATs.

To register for the programs above, please
contact Edward Kim at 718-643-8000 ext. 38 or
edward@aafscny.org.

Thank you!

As always, we'd like to thank all of you for your
generous support of the Arab-American Family
Support Center. Your investment in the
community allows us to assist our clients in
becoming active participants in the world around
them. We hope that you will continue to support
AAFSC in our effort to provide comprehensive
social services to families and individuals in their
time of need.

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