Announcement of Cycle 17 Winners on March 18 and Honoring Ceremony on April 22





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Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance

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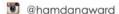
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OUR VISION

To be pioneers in the management of excellence in educational performance and fostering talent

Cover Story



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Realistic Vision for Education

- * By attracting a keynote speaker to the podium, who is one of the major and most popular figures with influence in the national decision, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, the government summit held recently in Dubai successfully highlighted the very essential role of education in the pursuit of pioneering and making the future of the UAE.
- * Of course the entire country is interested in and agrees with the reasonable demand of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan of the need for a realistic and clear vision for learning outcomes for the next 25 years in harmony with the UAE strategic plan – a vision that is conscious of the future of the society under the anticipated changes in various spheres of life, with its results and entitlements including the preparation of human resources armed with cognitive characteristics and super intellectual capabilities, and who are able to possess the keys of pioneering work, and impose their system of cultural and behavioral values on the future lifestyle.
- * This vision which must be liberated from the box of 2020 and the traditional cycle of development, which drained a great deal of the efforts and resources of successive competent ministers, experts and officials in order to qualify Emirati generations of the future; the vision which seems that its ceiling of specifications also rises along with the rise of State and its international role, such vision must be better in skills, perfectly prepared, more diverse and with higher consciousness and ability to innovation; thus, the emphasis of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed to utilize and invest all the means to achieve that purpose reveals the size of the bet on the future generation, which will be core of excellence race, and the element of superiority in the face of pioneering challenges of making events.
- * It also indicates the strong belief of a leader who is aware that the tax of delay in the development of education is exorbitant, and that the country's credit of educational elites, young leaders and supporting institutions ensures its successful management of education. Hence, the seven innovation initiatives launched on the third day of the summit by His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs represent the first practical step in the re-promotion of education.

Abdul Noor Ahmed Al Hashimi Chief Editor

We welcome your contributions and inquiries as to pursue communication with you. Please write to us on the following addresses: P.O.Box 88088, Dubai, United Arab Emirates



Honored by Hamdan bin Rashid at Zabeel Palace

20 Teachers Graduated From Gifted Education **Diploma**

'Al Tamayoz News' - Dubai

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance honored the fifth batch of teachers enrolled in the Gifted Education Diploma program, which is part of the National Plan for Gifted implemented by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in partnership with the Ministry of Education.

Taking place at HH's palace in Zabeel, the ceremony was attended by Sheikh Maktoum bin Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum; His Excellency Hussein Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education; Khaled Al Ohaly President of the Arabian Gulf University, and a number of officials.

Dr. Jamal Mohammed Al Muhairi, Vice President of the Board of Trustees, Secretary-General of the Award praised the support provided by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum to Education, thanking him for his generous contributions, his patronage of the project of National Plan for the Gifted, and his leadership to success.

"Consisting of 20 graduates, this batch is the fifth within the agreement concluded by Hamdan Award, UAE Ministry of Education and the Arabian Gulf University (AGU), whereby the latter undertakes qualification of those teachers in academically accredited diploma program," Al Muhairi cited.



Dr. Khaled Al Ohaly

"So far, 100 teachers have been available. They have acquired academic capabilities and skills in dealing with gifted students, including diagnosis, discovery and formation of enrichment units, development and evaluation of directed programs, training portfolios and specialized working papers," Al Muhairi added, stressing that His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum initiatives to support education and upgrade its performance towards



the prospects of mastery, creativity and excellence as they are among the quality initiatives that achieve the desired efficiency in the comprehensive education system.

Dr. Khaled Al Ohaly President of the AGU thanked His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum for his confidence in the AGU, its ability to fulfill its commitment to education, and to contribute to the scientific level required in the project of the National Plan for the Gifted, pointing out that Hamdan bin Rashid Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has paved its own path among educational institutions that support the economics of education by its projects directed to improve the performance, creativity and proficiency level in the field of education and nurturing gifted students, through supporting the educated manpower, academic and educational institutions, and the products of scientific research at the regional, Arab and global levels.

Al Ohaly expressed the AGU's



Ahmad Al Mutairi

pride of the mutual work with the UAE Ministry of Education and Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Academic Excellence to achieve and form a basis for the coming projects and programs to meet the needs of talented and creative students as a base to provide educational opportunities to contribute to the development of their abilities and develop their talents.

On behalf of the batch, graduate Ahmad Al Mutairi de-

livered a speech wherein he praised the efforts of the patron of the Award in support of education, as well as the partnership and cooperation with the Ministry of Education to open new areas and opportunities for teachers, to acquire new skills such as vocational Gifted Education Diploma. He also thanked Hamdan Award, Ministry of Education and the AGU for their efforts in sponsoring and qualification of talents scientifically so that they can fulfill their responsibilities ably.

At the end of the ceremony, Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid distributed academic certificates to the graduates.

The Gifted Education Diploma program started in 2010 under an agreement concluded by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, the UAE Ministry of Education and the AGU. The program is one of the specialized academic courses aiming to train and qualify 160 teachers nominated to work in the field of talent until 2017.

Training and qualification of 160 teachers by 2017

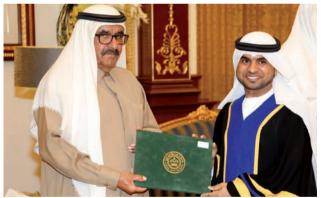
Praising Hamdan's support to Education, his generous contributions and his guidance to success

Hamdan bin Rashid launches quality initiatives that achieve the desired efficiency in the comprehensive education system





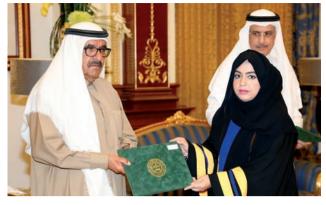


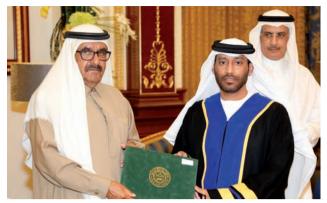


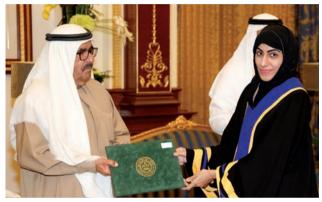


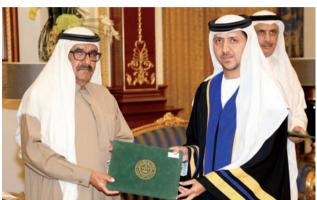




















Launch of First Fab Lab Next September

Hamdan Award and Dubai Zone to Implement Innovation Labs Project in Schools

«Al Tamayoz News» - Dubai

In implementation of the directives of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance concluded a cooperation agreement with Dubai Educational Zone (DEZ) to implement the 'UAE Fab Lab Project' in DEZ schools. The Fab lab is the first UAE laboratory for student innovation, with the objectives of keeping up with the orientations adopted by the UAE to attain the lead position internationally in innovation and spreading the culture of creativity, innovation and industrialization in all segments of the UAE society, in addition to the creation of innovation-stimulating environments, and encouraging universities and schools to consolidate the methods of research, investigation and exploration in the new generations.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Secretary-General of the Award commended the care and support given by the wise leadership to education, and the creative initiatives that have contributed to raising the country's status on the international map of hu-

man development. He added that, under the instructions of its patron HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Award will respond to the national initiatives in the 'Year of Innovation – 2015', as it is concerned with the support of the educational institutions in the implementation of joint

programs that could achieve the aspirations and objectives of the community.

He emphasized the role of DEZ and other educational zones in the UAE to achieve the objectives of the Award by applying its performance standards, and taking advantage of the projects and programs offered

regularly, in order to enhance the educational environment and keep up with the various challenges.

Proficiency and Creativity

Dr. Al Muhairi clarified that this Agreement is concluded within the framework of the ongoing cooperation between

the Award and DEZ, to upgrade the level of proficiency and creativity in the field of innovation, through the partnership between both parties in the sponsorship of initiatives and projects that promote educational excellence, encourage and adopt innovations in all scientific fields, and contribute to the provision of the modern, sophisticated educational condifions and the environment that encourages innovation, leadership and excellence, in a manner contributing to the establishment of the desired knowledge and innovation community.

Meeting Community Needs

Dr. Ahmad Eid Al Mansouri, Director of DEZ praised the care and support given by the prudent government to educational march in the country, as well as the support given to the educational field to satisfy the needs of the community by providing good educational service that suits the community's aspirations and ambitions. Al Mansouri stressed that the existence of quality initiatives, such as those espoused by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance to support education, actively contributes to the progress of the development efforts to keep pace with global developments through the programs of quality, excellence education and sponsoring gifts implemented by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in the field, which are reflected in the increased performance efficiency, broad base of distinguished groups in the elements in the educational system, and the spread of the concept of educational quality. He added that due to the nature of its work, the Award explores the future of education, and inspects the educational global updates; thus it has become one of the largest institutions supporting education, and the leader in the field of quality projects and applications, stressing that DEZ is proud of the partnership with the Award since its inception in 1998.



Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi: The Agreement upgrades the level of quality and creativity of innovation

Applicable Model

DEZ Director pointed out that the Agreement of the establishment of the first innovation laboratory indicates the keenness of both parties to provide a new applicable model that reflects the orientations and support of the wise leadership in the qualification of the educational system towards meeting the requirements of innovation curriculum, supplying its requirements to the students, and urging them to invention and innovation. He lauded the role of innovation in the progress of nations and keeping up with innovation, development and creation.

Dr. Al Mansouri predicted that the project will contribute to

UAE Fab lab is the first Emirati lab for student innovation

A joint committee between both parties to oversee the operational procedures of the project



Dr. Ahmad Al Mansouri: Hamdan bin Rashid initiatives keep pace with global developments

the prominence of a generation of innovative students at DEZ schools, and that the project will act as stimulation for many initiatives in this filed.

Interaction with Developments

Suleiman Al Ansari, Executive Director of the Award stated that the Agreement aligns with the cooperation with DEZ being one of the first partners of the Award and one of the educational institutions responding to the latest developments, as well as having the support potential enabling it to implement innovative projects successfully.

He added that according to this Agreement, Hamdan Award will sponsor and adopt the practices and contributions in the field of educational excellence and talent, in addition to the areas of innovation and creativity, including conferences, educational projects and scientific events stimulating innovation. To achieve these objectives, the facilities, laboratories and playgrounds available at DEZ teaching institutions will be utilized with the aim of establishing and creating the main Fab labs and the mini Fab labs in the sense that the Award provides material resources and sponsors the students enrolled in these laboratories, in addition to providing the obligations and procedures relative to the establishment of these laboratories, their operation and



Suleiman Al Ansari: Dubai Zone has the potential qualifying for the implementation of innovative projects

articles of association, including the provision of supplies, conditions of membership and enrollment in the training courses, and sponsoring innovations.

Joint Committee

Al Ansari announced that a joint committee between both parties will be formed to oversee the operational procedures of the project. It is expected to start the first Fab lab next September in one of the schools that will be nominated by DEZ.

Fab lab is an abbreviation of two words (Fabrication Laboratory). The idea started in the industrialized countries where the Fab Foundation was established on February 9, 2009 to facilitate and support the growth of the international Fab lab network through the development of regional Fab Foundations and organizations. The Fab Foundation is a US non-profit organization that emerged from MIT's Center by Prof. Neil Gershenfeld with the mission of providing access to the tools, the knowledge and the financial means to educate, innovate and invent using technology and digital fabrication. The Foundation has established the Fab Lab Network, which is a community of fabricators, scientists, engineers, educators, students, ages 5 to 75, working in approximately 200 Fab labs located in more than 40 countries so far.

Within the Agreement Concluded Between Hamdan Award and 'UNESCO'

Training Program to Support Curriculum Reform in Arab Countries in 2015



Dubai - Mohammed Ali

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance plans to launch the training program for the International Bureau of Education (IBE) Post-graduate Diploma in Curriculum Design and Development (CDD) for the targeted segment in the Arab countries in cooperation with UNESCO during 2015. As well, the Award announced the completion of the fourth edition of the initiative of capacity building for teachers and coaches in support of the initiatives of curricular reform in Tanzania in March, noting that the launch and implementation of the fifth edition in Latin America (Uruguay) completed last September. and revealing the implementation of the 81 percent of the project before the expiry of the allocated period.

The program began in October 2012 in accordance with the agreement concluded between Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UN-ESCO) at the latter's headquarters in Paris, France in the presence of His Highness the patron of the Award, Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Finance Minister, and Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, whereby the Award allocated one million US dollars to finance the project which is supervised by an advisory committee representing both parties.

Objective of Project

The project aims at bridging the gap between the curriculum and the decision-makers in the curriculum design, training institutions, teachers and schools as this gap results in the poor achievement of the curricular objectives in education, teaching practices and learning outcomes, including school attainment.

This is to be achieved through the study course, namely: Post-graduate Diploma in Curriculum Design and Development (CDD) that was developed under the auspices of UNESCO in cooperation with **Implementation of 81%** of the project before the allocated period expires

Completion of the fourth edition of the initiative in Tanzania in March

The project aims at bridging the gap between curricula and decision-makers

the IBE in Geneva in 2010.

The project targets policy makers, curriculum develassurance opers, quality specialists, teacher trainers, education supervisors, school principals, teachers, and university professors.

Scope of Implementation

The scope of the project began in June 2013 and is currently carried out in four countries including Tanzania, Senegal and Uruguay. It is also beneficial in several countries of Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Arab states.

The Award clarified that a set

Outputs of Project

of outputs has emerged from the project, including the issuance of reference portfolio for the program financed by the Award in both Arabic and French. It was distributed to stakeholders during the implementation of the program in 2014. The Award also participated in the exhibitions accompanying the program distributing brochures and promotional tools for the Award to people involved and participating in those events. The total number of the people enrolled amounted to 348 from 2010 to October 2014 in about 61 countries. The program benefits from graduates in training new entrants enrolled in the CDD, which helps to develop and strengthen the work in the program.

In collaboration with partners from UNESCO, universities from Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa, the IBE offers an internationally accredited postgraduate diploma to curriculum developers and policymakers.

Knowledge and education are among the most important factors that contribute to poverty reduction, sustainable development and economic growth. The course is increasingly seen as a basis for educational reforms aimed at achieving the learning outcomes with high quality. The

Participants from Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean: **CDD Enriched our Experiences** and Helped us Create Training Methods

program, pointing out that it is undertake." of students. It has also enriched wherein different opinions and points of view are discussed.

CDD graduates have contribschool curriculum reform proof the Swahili language in the with diversity. curriculum of primary schools A fourth participant in the in Peru.

Administration of Pedagogy) curriculum."

Participants in the Curricu- designs and develops curricula. lum Design and Development We work on the curriculum Diploma (CDD) from África, from the beginning until the Latin America and the Carib- end, and all the subjects that bean expressed their happi- are studied during training are ness to participate in the CDD linked to all the daily tasks we

marked by the multi-nationality A participant from Latin America and the Caribbean their experiences through par- said: "The other positive asticipation in group sessions pect in the CDD is the multinational character of students. We have enriched our experiences through participation in uted to the leadership of the group sessions where different opinions and points were decesses in Senegal, guidance of liberated. It is a very rewardthe process of integration of ing experience." While anothcomprehensive education in er participant from the same Colombian curriculum, man- region added: "The CDD has agement of curriculum reform helped me realize that there are in the higher stage in the Do- other ways to train teachers so minican Republic, integration that they become able to deal

in Uganda, and implementation CDD from Africa stated: "The of workshops to train teachers program helped us liberate our minds from the ready-made One of the CDD participants templates and closed systems from Africa cited: "The depart- in order to accept innovations ment where I work (National and new ideas related to the availability of specialists who are knowledgeable and professional in the curriculum industry is crucial to improve learning output in the long

By providing the CDD Postgraduate Diploma, the IBE seeks to provide support to Member States in their quest to build human resources of curriculum specialists who are able to take decisions effectively and deliberately.

The CDD enables participants to reformulate the concept of curriculum as a means to achieve change and innovation, in addition to enhancing their understanding of the issues related to curriculum within the different contexts wherein they work, not to mention enriching their views through sharing ideas with experts from other countries.

Moreover, the CDD improves the capacity of specialists in order to support the reform and develop the curriculum operations in the various levels of the educational system. Participants receive basic training for curriculum development including a package of references in hardcopy and softcopy versions, addressing different aspects of the process of developing the curriculum, such as policy dialogue and formulation; curriculum design, management, implementation and evaluation; development of textbooks; other teaching and learning references and their resources; assessment of learning; and assessment for learning.

The package of references has been enriched by adding a set of documents and over two hundred case studies, as well as a program for reading and explanation of idioms, and a series of topics divided according to the selected themes, depending to the needs and concerns of involved bodies.

The CDD combines face-toface training sessions and other distance learning activities over a period of 9 months.



The Award Participates in Launching the Fourth Edition in Tanzania

ticipates in the launch of Salaam, Tanzania.

Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Mem- the IBE fourth edition of the ber of the Board of Trustees of training program in Curricu-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Mak- lum Design and Development toum Award for Distinguished in March at the Tanzania In-Academic Performance par- stitute of Education in Dar es

The Board of Trustees approves and announces the names of the 17th Cycle winners on March 18; while honorees will be honored on April 22.

Maryam Al Shehhi, Head of Competitions & Adjudication Section in Hamdan Award said: "Immediately after the first (theoretical) phase of Central Adjudication, the adjudication committees interviewed the participants in the category of Distinguished Student, to verify what has been stated in the application; they also visited participants in other categories, each in their field such as: Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished School, Distinguished Social Worker and other categories"

Al Shehhi stated that although the second phase of Central Adjudication is completed, adjudication process has not ended yet; rather, it continues until the announcement of the results in March, adding that the limitation of number of pages and size of attachments as well as the adoption of e-documentation helped facilitate the process of adjudication.

On the other hand, the adjudicators of the seventeenth edition stressed that the commitment to standards and reviewing previous winning files are among the most important causes that lead to success, noting that some applications did not match the required level which necessitates the completion of deficiencies by the applicants in future cycles. The number of participations in the current cycle increased by 23% to 474 local participations: 12 in the Distinguished Field visits to verify the information stated in the nomination application

Limitation of the number and size of attachments and the adoption of e-documentation contributed to facilitate adjudication

Some applications do not meet the required level and need to complete the deficiencies in future sessions

School & School Administration, 364 in the Distinguished Student, 56 in the Distinguished Teacher, 6 participations in the Social Specialist, 2 in the Distinguished Mentor, 5 in the Best Scientific Innovation, 6 in the Best Applied Project, 17 in the Educational Research and 6 participations in the category of Distinguished Family.

The number of GCC participations amounted to 74 nominations applications: including 25 in the Distinguished Teacher, 2 in the Highly Distinguished Teacher, 16 in the Distinguished School & School Administration and 31 in the category of Distinguished Stu-

In the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sami Al Khudayr, the Award coordinator in boys sector stated that Hamdan bin Rashid Award adjudication committee - Student category interviewed nominated students in different regions of the KSA: two students from Jeddah and Medina, one from Al-Ahsa, and two students from Sabya.

The committee of Distinguished Teacher visited and interviewed nominated teachers: one teacher from Riyadh, another from Al-Ahsa, and a third teacher from Sabya", Al Khudayr added.

On the other hand, Modhi Al Muqaiteeb, the Award coordinator in girls sector and general manager of guidance and counseling in the KSA explained that the objective of this phase is the actual verification of the credibility, fluency, talents and works of the candidate for the Distinguished Student; to observe the educational position inside the classroom and the school for the Distinguished Teacher; and study the efforts of the school headmaster in leadership in for the Distinguished School Administration category.

Finally, Al Muqaiteeb explained that the visiting team of the KSA interviewed candidates in Riyadh, Al-Ahsa, Jeddah, Yanbu and Asir, in addition to candidates from Al Khari and Al Jubail where the Saudi winners were determined. She noted that 9 Saudi girls were nominated to meet the Committee, 4 teachers from Al-Ahsa, Riyadh, Jeddah and Asir, as well as nominating two schools for Distinguished School Administration.

































Hamdan Award at 'GESS' **Exhibition** for the Fifth Time

'Al Tamayoz News' - Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance participated in the Gulf Educational Supplies and Solutions 'GESS' Exhibition held at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre for the fifth year in a row.

The Award participation in GESS aligns with the framework of communication with the targeted groups, promotion of its categories, and declaration and introduction of updates at the level of local, Gulf, Arab and international competitions.

The Award stand welcomed a number of senior educational officials of various ministries and educational institutions, most notably the UAE Minister of Education His Excellency Hussein Ibrahim Al Hammadi, and Minister of Education in the Kingdom of Bahrain Dr. Majid bin Ali Al-Nuaimi.

Visitors chatted with the staff of the stand about the developments of the Award and future initiatives in the field of gifted education and innovation. They have also listened to a detailed explanation about the works and projects of the Award in the field of education advancement. Hamdan Award participation in the GESS is consistent with the strategic objectives of the Award as it considers shows and exhibitions part of popularization of its activities and focus on promotion through media.









Attracting Students with a Uniquely Designed Stand

Hamdan Award Popularizes its Categories in International Education Show

'Al Tamayoz News' - Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance participated in the International Education Show held at Expo Centre – Sharjah, in the context of communication with the targeted groups, promotion of its different categories, and declaration and introduction of updates at the level of local, Gulf, Arab and international competitions.

Participating in the Expo Show for the sixth time, Hamdan Award's stand attracted overwhelming response from the public, especially as it was marked by a unique design that contributed to attracting school and university students, and increased their desire to know more about the Award's activities and its role in supporting the talented and nurturing the gifted. The stand staff distributed brochures and souvenirs to the visitors.

The participation of Hamdan Award in the International Education Show aligns with the strategic objectives of the Award. It considers this show as popularization of its activities and promotion through media.

The Show attracted 105 international and local educational institutions which displayed various higher education and post-graduate programs.

International Education Show included higher education institutions in the UAE and many other countries. It provides an opportunity to identify high-efficiency, affordable education institutions with the possibility to contact with experts and identify future career options. These institutions include Khalifa University, American University in the Emirates, American University of Sharjah, University of Sharjah, Al Ghurair University, Al Qasimia University, Skyline University College and Higher Colleges of Technology.

The Show was organized by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with Sharjah

Expo Center in the framework of the project of educational and vocational guidance to secondary-school students. which is adopted by the Student Counseling Department in the MOE as one of the core programs in its plan.

The Show is seen as an ideal opportunity for students and parents to take a closer look at the available opportunities provided by the Show all in one place wherein local and global universities and institutes meet and provide various educational options.

The current edition of the Show was full of participations that enrich the educational process, and enhance the status of the UAE on the regional scene, as education receives great support and care by the wise leadership.

Participation in the Show aligns with the Award strategic objectives of intensifying promotion via media

105 international and local educational institutions showed higher and post-graduate studies programs









