



**Shafik Gabr Foundation Announces 2013 Gabr Fellows (Information Statement 2)**

**In April 2013, the Shafik Gabr Foundation announced the selection of the 2013 Gabr Fellows.**

The Gabr Fellowship, “East-West: The Art of Dialogue,” is an innovative global educational exchange for young emerging leaders from Egypt and the United States. The initiative seeks to increase understanding and collaboration between Egyptian and American leaders in the areas of art, media, law, science and both social and business entrepreneurship.

After reviewing over 440 American and Egyptian applications, the Shafik Gabr Foundation and Humanity in Action are very pleased to announce that 20 fellows have been selected to participate in this visionary international initiative that has multiple dimensions of exposure and joint project collaboration that takes the initiative to a higher multiplier level of impact.

The Gabr Fellows come from diverse professional fields and perspectives. They also come from diverse backgrounds and geographic locations in Egypt and the United States. What unifies this group of young leaders is a deep commitment to greater East-West dialogue and collaboration towards bridge building.

“As gaps in understanding between East and West open up at many levels, there is a need for significant bridge-building and new platforms for people-to-people communication,” Mr. Gabr observed. His inspiration for the initiative comes from his experience as an Egyptian whose worldview was transformed by travel and the friendships he cultivated in the United States and beyond. Moreover, he was inspired by collecting and studying the art and lives of the American and European Orientalist traveller painters of the early 19th century.

**In separate events in Cairo and New Haven, Conn., preliminary meetings with the Egyptian and American Fellows took place.** At Yale University in New Haven, a number of the American Fellows dined with Mr. and Mrs. Gabr, family and friends of the Gabrs, members of the Yale University faculty and organizers from Humanity in Action and discussed the forthcoming program. In Cairo, Mr. Gabr met with all the selected Egyptian Fellows and discussed in detail their visions and aspirations for the exchange.

In Cairo and New Haven, the Gabr Fellows began to discuss collaborative cross-cultural projects aimed to widen the impact of the Fellowship in Egypt and the United States.

**On May 4, all 20 Gabr Fellows will gather for the commencement of the 2013 Gabr Fellowship in Atlanta, Georgia.** After spending a few days in Atlanta, the Fellows will visit Washington DC, New York City, Yale University in New Haven, and the Berkshires in Massachusetts. The American Program of the Gabr Fellowship includes visits to Coca-Cola, CNN, Capitol Hill, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Library of Congress, the George Washington University, the New York Times, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Council on Foreign Relations, the Yale Art Gallery and the Peabody Museum. The Fellowship will reconvene on June 2 in Egypt where the Fellows will visit Cairo, Alexandria and Luxor.

The Gabr Fellowship, “East-West: The Art of Dialogue,” is generously sponsored by the Shafik Gabr Foundation. The Fellowship is organized by Humanity in Action.