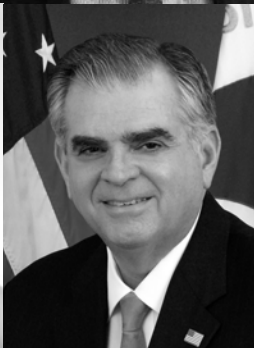




Casey Kasem's

ARAB AMERICANS: MAKING A DIFFERENCE



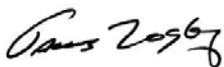
Arab Americans: Making a Difference

I was privileged to know and work with Casey Kasem for over three decades. He was so proud of his heritage, always seeking opportunities to remind others of the many accomplishments Arab Americans had made to American life.

I can still hear Casey asking audiences in that iconic style he had popularized on his world famous "Top 40" radio program if they knew that the first World War II "ace pilot", woman astronaut, open-heart surgeon and so on were Arab Americans. It was his personal mission to instill pride in younger Arab Americans and new immigrants, enabling them to better understand the part their community was playing in building our nation. It was also his positive and upbeat way of addressing the negative stereotypes of Arabs that were so prevalent in our popular culture.

In 1995, we developed the idea to publish Casey's list so that we could reach a wider audience with his message. Over the years, the list has grown - but its value never diminished. After the horror of 9/11 and the backlash that followed, we were inundated with requests from the Department of Education, teachers' unions, school districts, and religious institutions asking for copies of Casey's list or the right to reprint. They wanted their students to know about Arab Americans - and we were so proud that we had "Casey's list" as a resource to provide this much-needed antidote to hate. It remains the most frequently visited page on our website: www.aaiusa.org.

Casey Kasem passed away on June 15, 2014, but his legacy of pride in his community lives on. It is our honor to have been a part of his mission and to continue his work.



James Zogby
President
Arab American Institute

There are nearly 4 million Arab Americans, and as a community, we've been demonstrating loyalty, inventiveness, and courage on behalf of the United States for over 100 years. Here are just a few of the famous and accomplished ones—people you may know!

Military Service

Talk about courage...the first Arab American to die for this country was **Nathan Badeen**, a volunteer in the 18th Regiment of the Continental Army, who was killed in May 1776. He launched a proud tradition of Arab American military service that includes the world's first jet ace, Col. **James Jabara** (US Airforce) and **Alfred Naifeh** (US Navy), for whom the Navy named a destroyer escort, the USS Naifeh, in honor of his heroism in the Pacific Theatre during World War II. Maj. Gen. **Fred Safay** (US Army) fought alongside Gen. Patton, while Brigadier General **Elias Stevens** served on Gen. Eisenhower's staff. During the Vietnam War, Brig. Gen. **James J. David** served as Company Commander of the famous 101st Airborne Division.

Four-star Gen. **George Joulwan** commanded both European and U.S. troops during his service as NATO Supreme Allied Commander of Europe. Brig. Gen. **William J. Jabour** is the current Vice Commander of the Aeronautical Systems Center and the former Director of the Air Force Program Executive Office for Fighter and Bomber programs in charge of the F-22 System Program Office (SPO), and Retired General **John Abizaid** is the former head of U.S. Central Command in Iraq.

Politics

Some of us work in our nation's capital, like veteran Congress members, **Ralph Abraham** (Louisiana), **Justin Amash** (Michigan), **Charles Boustany** (Louisiana), **Gwen Graham** (Florida), **Darrell Issa** (California), and **Richard Hanna** (New York).

Former Rep. **Ray LaHood** was appointed as Secretary of Transportation by President Barack Obama. President George W. Bush appointed two



Justin Amash
Member of the U.S.
House of Representatives



Ray LaHood

Former U.S.

Secretary of Transportation

Secretary of Health and Human Services, and current president of the University of Miami. Former New Hampshire Governor **John H. Sununu** became the White House Chief of Staff under Pres. George Bush, Sr., and later a political commentator on CNN.

Arab Americans to his first term Cabinet: former Director of the Office of Management and Budget **Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.**, currently President of Purdue University, and former U.S. Secretary of Energy **Spencer Abraham**. The first Arab American ever appointed to a Cabinet secretary post was **Donna Shalala**, the nation's

longest

serving



Donna Shalala

Former Secretary of

Health and Human Services

America's

longest-

serving White House Chief of Protocol, serving seven-and-a-half years under President Reagan, was Ambassador **Selwa Roosevelt**. **Thomas Nassif** and **Edward Gabriel** both served as U.S. Ambassador to Morocco. Current President of AMIDEAST, **Theodore Kattouf**, served as Ambassador to Syria, and **Marcelle Wahba** as



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.

Former Governor of Indiana

Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates. The late ambassador **Philip C. Habib** served as Special Presidential Envoy to the Middle East and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The late, feisty **Helen Thomas**, who was the first female officer of the National Press Club, served for 57 years as a correspondent for United Press International and was dean of the White House press



John H. Sununu

Former New Hampshire

Governor & White House

Chief of Staff

corps. In a class by himself, the late, warm-hearted **Robert George** portrayed Santa Claus year-round for nearly 50 years and was a Presidential Santa at the White House through seven administrations.

Others who have served in high elected office are: former U.S. Senate Majority Leader **George Mitchell**, who brokered a peace deal in Northern Ireland and led

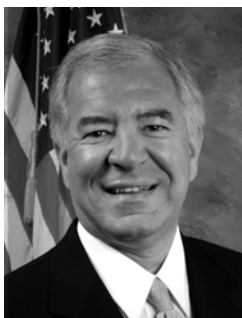


George Mitchell
Former Senate
Majority Leader



Helen Thomas
Former Dean of White
House Press Corps

a peace commission to the Middle East; former U.S. Senators **James Abourezk** and the late **James Abdnor**, both of South Dakota; and former Congressional members **Pat Danner** of Missouri, **Mary Rose Oakar** of Ohio, the late **George Kasem** of California, who was the first Arab American elected to the U.S. Congress, the late **Abraham K a z e n , Jr.** of Texas, **Toby Moffett** of Connecticut, **Chris John** of Louisiana, former Senator **John E. Sununu** (New Hampshire), former Congressmen **Nick Joe Rahall II** (West Virginia) and **John Baldacci**, who also went on to serve as Governor of Maine. **Victor Atiyeh** was the popular governor of Oregon. And in San Diego, city clerk **Charles Abdelnour** pioneered the legislation to create the "all-mail ballot" which set a national precedent and earned him an international reputation in election law.



Nick J. Rahall II
Former Dean of the
Arab American
Congressional Delegation

Arab Americans are grocers and governors, physicians and farmers, Indy 500 champs and taxicab drivers, financiers and factory workers, bakers and bankers, salesmen and senators, TV stars and TV repairmen, teachers and preachers, Heisman Trophy-winning quarterbacks and neighborhood sandlot heroes. Name it, and an Arab American has probably done it.

Law

The Texas lawyer who won the biggest business settlement in U.S. history, on behalf of Pennzoil (\$10 billion dollars!), is one of this country's most successful attorneys, **Joseph D. Jamail**. In the famous "zoot suit" trial of the 1940s, **George Shibley** defended unjustly accused Mexican Americans in Los Angeles. In the 1990s, the late **Edward Masry** and Erin Brockovich filed a direct action lawsuit against Pacific Gas and Electric for polluting the drinking water of Hinkley, CA. Their efforts secured the largest toxic tort injury settlement in U.S. history, \$333 million in damages, as chronicled in the blockbuster film starring Julia Roberts and Albert Finney.

Sports

San Diego Chargers quarterback **Doug Flutie**, who threw the "miracle touchdown" pass for Boston College, won the Heisman Trophy in 1984, and went on to play for the Chicago Bears, Buffalo Bills, San Diego Chargers, and New England Patriots. The 2012 Heisman Trophy winner was **Johnny Manziel** who is now a Cleveland Brown. Former Cleveland Brown



Johnny Manziel
Heisman Trophy Winner

and Washington Redskin **Dr. Robert Khayat** went on to become the much-revered Chancellor of The University of Mississippi (1995-2009). The NFL's **Jeff George** quarterbacked several teams, and Rich Kotite played for the Vikings, Giants, and Steelers before becoming an NFL coach. Don't forget former Chicago Bears linebacker and NFL Hall of Famer **Bill George**,



Oday Aboushi
New York Jets Lineman

or former Cleveland Brown, the late **Abe Gibron**. Another NFL player is **Drew Haddad** of the Indianapolis Colts. The former owner of the Miami Dolphins was the late **Joe Robbie**. The New York Jets offensive line includes one of the first Palestinian Americans in the NFL, the versatile **Oday Aboushi**.

Born and raised in Lebanon, **Rony Seikaly** was considered

one of the best Centers in the NBA. After helping the U.S. win the 1986 FIBA World Championship, Seikaly played for Miami, Golden State, Orlando, and New Jersey. His annual golf tournament raises money for cystic fibrosis research. Famous for his fire on the court, UCLA coach **Jim Harrick** took his team to the NCAA playoffs eight years in a row, winning the national championship in 1995. The late **George Maloof, Sr.** owned the NBA's Houston Rockets; his sons, **Joe and Gavin Maloof**, formerly owned the Sacramento Kings.

Major League baseball player **Joe Lahoud** played with the Boston Red Sox and **Sam Khalifa** played for the Pittsburgh Pirates. And the late **Fred Saigh** once owned baseball's St. Louis Cardinals.



Justin Abdelkader
Stanley Cup Winner

At the University of Michigan, **Hassan Ali "Soony" Saad** led the NCAA with 19 goals, taking the team to its first Big Ten Championship. Saad also plays for the Lebanese national football team in international association football competitions.

Justin Abdelkader, who scored Michigan State's game-winning goal in the 2007 NCAA Championship game, went to the 2009 Stanley Cup Finals as a Detroit Redwing. In auto racing, **Bobby Rahal** won the Indy 500 in 1986, later becoming the all-time earnings champ among Indy car racers. Syrian American **Kelly Slater** was the youngest (20) and oldest (39) Association of Surfing Professionals' World Champion. He's won a record 11 times, including 5 consecutive titles from 1994–98.

The founder of the Professional Bowlers Association was the late **Eddie Elias**. In the ring, the late **Petey Sarron** won the world featherweight championship in 1936-1937. **Zuhair "Steve" Mansour** was weightlifting's Grandmaster of the World in 1990. And a four-time U.S. National Chess Champion and Grandmaster is Seattle's **Yasser Seirawan**. Women's



Kelly Slater
Surfing World Champion

International Chess Master **Jennifer Shahade** won the 2002 and 2004 U.S. Women's Chess Championships. The late **Dr. Elias Ghanem**, former chairman of the Nevada Athletic Commission and Las Vegas' own physician to the stars, once treated celebrities like Elvis



Jennifer Shahade
U.S. Women's
Chess Champion

Presley, Michael Jackson, Johnny Cash,

Kenny Rogers, and Paul Anka. In track and field, the former world record holder for the marathon is Arab American **Khalid Khannouchi**.



Khalid Khannouchi
Former World Record
Holder for the Marathon

Activists

Among America's activists, can you think of two people who have saved more lives than America's foremost consumer advocate and Green party presidential candidate **Ralph Nader** and the founder of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) Candy Lightner. MADD is the largest

crime victims' assistance organization in the world, with 600 affiliates and more than 2 million members and supporters.



Ralph Nader
America's Foremost
Consumer Advocate



Stephen Yokich
Former President of the
International United Auto
Workers union

Back in 1960, **Ralph Johns**, an active participant in the civil rights movement, encouraged the famous Woolworth "sit-in" at a lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina. The late **Stephen Yokich** served five terms as vice president of the International United Auto Workers union before becoming its president. Labor union activist **William "Billy" George** was the

president of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO from 1990 to 2010.

Business

A former chemist with dozens of patents, **Dr. Ray Irani** served as chairman of the board, president, and chief executive officer of Occidental Petroleum. **Jacques Nasser** served as president and CEO of Ford Motor Company, and the late **Richard Caleal**

created the “revolutionary” 1949 Ford car design, which some credit with saving the company. The chairman of the board of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company was **Samir G. Gibara**.



Ralph Johns
Civil Rights Activist



Queen Noor
of Jordan

The founder of the international, billion-dollar Jacobs Engineering Group is the late **Dr. Joseph Jacobs**. The late **Najeeb Halaby**, former head of the Federal Aviation Administration under President Kennedy, was CEO of Pan-American Airlines. His daughter, Lisa, married King Hussein of Jordan and became the only Arab American to be queen of a foreign country, **Queen Noor**.

Ned Mansour was formerly the president of Mattel, Inc., maker of Barbie dolls and other toys. The founder and former president of Thomas Nelson Publishers, the largest world-wide distributor of the Bible, is **Sam Moore**. Syrian immigrant **Ernest Hamwi** created the first ice-cream cone at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair and, a few years later, Lebanese immigrant **Albert George** founded Pennsylvania's Joy Cone Company, the country's largest ice-cream cone producer.

John Mack was Chairman of the Board and CEO of Morgan Stanley, one of America's largest investment banking firms. **Youssef A. Nasr** was the president and CEO of HSBC USA, a leading financial services organization and the third largest depository institution. **William Hanna** was the founding president and CEO of Cedars Bank, a wholly Arab American owned

commercial bank headquartered in Los Angeles. The chairman of the board and CEO of Fresh Del Monte Produce, Inc. is **Mohammed Abu-Ghazaleh** and second generation Lebanese American **Andrew Thomas** was the President and CEO of Heineken USA.

Farouk Shami is the CEO and founder of Farouk Systems USA, a premier hair and skin care company that introduced environmentally safe products for hairdressers. Lebanese American **Richard E. Rainwater**, who built his reputation managing investments for Texas' wealthy Bass family, recently established a \$120 million trust for Stanford and the University of South Carolina. Egyptian-born Texas billionaire **Fayez Sarofim** heads Fayez Sarofim Investments and is a major contributor to the Houston Ballet and the Houston Museum of Fine Arts.

George Shaheen is credited with founding Andersen Consulting, now called Accenture, and served as CEO and managing partner as part of a 30-year career at the world's biggest consulting firm. **Roger Farah** served as president and chief operating officer of Polo Ralph Lauren and previously served as chairman of the board of Venator Group, Inc., the parent company of Footlocker.



John Zogby
America's "Top Pollster"

The "new economy" has its share of Arab American heroes as well: **Simon Assad** is the co-CEO of Heavy.com, a music site that was nominated for a Webby, the Internet's highest honor. One of America's preeminent pollsters, keeping tabs on public opinion and other statistics is **John Zogby** of Zogby Analytics.

Paul Orfalea founded the world's biggest international chain of copying service stores, Kinko's; while the late **Waleed Ali** and his brother **Malik** founded MPI, the world's largest home-video distributor of documentaries. The Palms, a Maloof Casino Resort in Las Vegas, is operated by **George Maloof, Jr.** Entrepreneur **Tony Ismail** founded the Alamo Flag Company in Dallas and built it into the largest retailer of flags and related items in the U.S. today.

Lebanese American **Sam Gores**, Chairman of Paradigm



Mohamed El-Erian
Chief Economic Adviser
at Allianz

Talent Agency of Beverly Hills, is one of Hollywood's top ten agents, boasting clients including Laurence Fishburne, Andy García, The Black Eyed Peas, and Katherine Heigl. **Mohamed El-Erian** is the current Chief Economic Advisor at Allianz after serving as the CEO and co-CIO of PIMCO, an investment firm which manages over \$2 trillion worth of assets.

The world-renowned economist was named by Foreign Policy as one of the 500 most powerful people on the planet.

Entertainment

Canadian-born singer-songwriter **Paul Anka** became one of America's first pop teen idols. The late ukelele-plucking, falsetto-singing **Herbert Khaury** became famous as "Tiny Tim." And in the world of rock, there was the late, legendary **Frank Zappa**. On the West Coast, **Dick**



Paul Anka
Singer, Songwriter, & Actor



Paula Abdul
Award-Winning Singer and
TV Personality

Dale is the "King of the Surf Guitar." Singer-dancer-choreographer **Paula Abdul** has had two number-one albums, six number-one singles, a Grammy award, and worldwide album sales exceeding 30 million records. The first teenage singer ever to have her first two singles

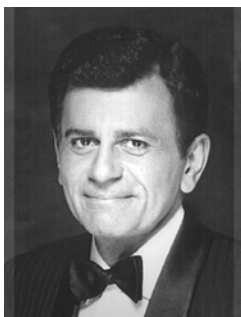
both hit number one is **Tiffany**, born Renee Darwish. Pop star **Shakira**, of Colombian and Lebanese descent, has scored on the U.S. charts and is a multiple Grammy winner.



Shakira
Award-Winning Singer

Speaking of music, three of America's landmark radio

music shows “American Top 40,” “American Top 20,” and “American Country Countdown” were created by **Don Bustany** and the late **Casey Kasem**. **Fredwreck**, aka Farid Nassar, was a producer for Dr. Dre’s Aftermath Records before going to work with Snoop Dogg’s record label. He’s produced acts from Britney Spears to 50 Cent to Justin Bieber. **RedOne**,



Casey Kasem
Host of “American Top 40”

nee Nadir Khayat, is a two-time Grammy Winner, the number one producer on Billboard’s Hot 100, and Number Three songwriter. He’s produced some of Lady Gaga’s top hits, in addition to working with Jennifer Lopez, Pitbull, Enrique Iglesias, and Nicki Minaj. Record producer, radio personality, rapper, DJ, and record label executive **DJ Khaled** has collaborated and produced for some of the top rappers in the industry, in addition to starting his own successful record label, “We the Best Music Group.”

On Broadway, the late playwright **Fred Saidy** wrote



Assad Kelada
Television Director

two classics, “Finian’s Rainbow” and “Bloomer Girl.” Opera prima donna **Rosalind Elias** hit the high notes at the Met. **Gregory Jbara** originated the role of Jackie Elliot in “Billy Elliot the Musical” on Broadway, earning a Tony for Best Featured Actor in a Musical. **Omar Metwally** is a Tony Award-nominated stage and screen actor whose film credits include the Twilight Saga and “Rendition,” for which

he received the 2008 Chopard Trophy at Cannes. The New York Times avant-garde “Dance of the Year” in 1992 was 20-year Broadway veteran with the Paul Taylor Company, **Elie Chaib**. **David Yazbek** wrote the lyrics and score for “The Full Monty.”

Among TV directors, two Arab Americans have each helmed over 300 episodes for the major networks. **Asaad Kelada** is renowned for his work on shows from “Family Ties” and “The Facts of Life,” to “Dharma & Greg” and “Everybody Loves Raymond.” After directing Broadway hits like “Sweet Charity,” “Mame,” and “The

Unsinkable Molly Brown,” **John Bowab** switched to TV, directing episodes of “The Cosby Show,” “My Wife & Kids,” and “Life with Bonnie.”

One of the best known voices on American radio and television was the late **Jim Backus**, who voiced “Mr. Magoo” and played Thurston Howell III on “Gilligan’s Island,” but may be best known as James Dean’s father in “Rebel Without a Cause.”



Jim Backus
Film and TV Actor



Jamie Farr
Cpl. Klinger on TV’s
“M*A*S*H”

James Stacy, who played the lead in TV’s “Laramie” and the late Syrian American **Michael Ansara** had recurring roles on “Broken Arrow,” “Batman,” “Star Trek Voyager,” and “Babylon 5.” But acting on the highest-rated episode in television history is a distinction reserved for Arab American **Jamie Farr**, who played Corporal Max Klinger for the entire 11-year run of M*A*S*H.

The best-known Lebanese in America was also the founder of St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital — the late, great comedian and actor **Danny Thomas**. His son is Emmy Award winning television and film producer **Tony Thomas**. We all remember Danny’s daughter,



Danny Thomas
Comedian, Actor &
Humanitarian



Marlo Thomas
Award-Winning Actress

Marlo Thomas, also an Emmy Award winner, and the first actress ever to play a single, independent young woman, on TV’s “That Girl.” She also appeared on TV’s “Friends” as Rachel’s mother and published a book, “The Right Words at the Right Time.”

Michael Nouri was the leading man in movies like “Flashdance”



Wendy Malick
Award-Winning Actress

and “Finding Forrester,” as well as TV’s “Love and War” sitcom. The box-office hits “Swingers,” “The Lost World: Jurassic Park” and “The Wedding Crashers” star Lebanese American **Vince Vaughn**. **Wendie Malick**, whose father is from Egypt, has starred in television series from “The Garry Shandling Show” to “Hot in Cleveland.” And SNL fans will remember band leader and guitarist

G.E. Smith, whose Lebanese family name, Haddad, means blacksmith.

Veteran actor and producer **Tony Shalhoub**, starred in “Big Night,” and was also featured in “Men in Black,” and “A Civil Action.” While Tony may be best known for his starring role in the hit series “Monk,” he got his start



Vince Vaughn
Award-Winning Actor



Tony Shalhoub
Emmy Award-Winning Actor

in TV on the sitcom “Wings,” where he and **Amy Yasbeck** were the first two Arab Americans featured in the same series. In the 1980s, the late **Vic Tayback** played the soft-hearted curmudgeonly cook, Mel on “Alice,” **Kristy McNichol** starred in “Empty Nest,” and **Khrystyne Haje**, from “Head of the Class” was one of People Magazine’s “50 most beautiful people in

the U.S.”

Some of the loveliest ladies on screen are Arab Americans: People’s Most Beautiful Women **Yasmine Bleeth**, of “Baywatch” and “One Life to Live,” and Desperate Housewife **Teri Hatcher**, recipient of three Screen Actors Guild Awards, a Golden Globe Award, and a Primetime Emmy nomination.



Teri Hatcher
Award-Winning Actress



Kathy Najimy
Award-Winning
Actress-Comedian

Two-time Academy Award Best Supporting Actress nominee **Catherine Keener** is of Lebanese descent, as is **Kathy Najimy**, who has starred on the big and small screens – as well as voicing Peggy Hill on Fox-TV’s animated “King of the Hill.” **Shannon Elizabeth** of “American Pie,” “Scary Movie,” and “Tomcats” is of Lebanese and Syrian ancestry. **Rima Fasih** was born in Lebanon and went

on to become Miss USA in 2010.

The former head of Carolco Pictures, handling the “Rocky,” “Rambo,” and “Terminator” films, was “billion-dollar producer” **Mario Kassar**. The producer of the epic “The Message: The Story of Islam” (a biography of the Prophet Mohammed) and “Lion of the Desert,” not to mention all the blockbuster “Halloween” chillers, is the late **Moustapha Akkad**.



Moustapha Akkad
Film Producer

The lovely **Salma Hayek**, who is of Lebanese and Mexican descent, is another actress who has lit up the small screen (on “30 Rock” and “Ugly Betty”) and the big screen (Oscar-winning “Traffic,” “Desperado,” “Wild Wild West,” and “Frida,” about Mexican artist Frida Kahlo). The director of Jim Carrey’s loony comedy hits “Ace Ventura: Pet Detective” and “Liar, Liar,” Eddie Murphy’s “The Nutty Professor,” and Robin Williams’



Salma Hayek
Humanitarian Activist
& Actress

“Patch Adams” is **Tom Shadyac**. Together, his films have grossed more than \$1 billion worldwide. “Arrested Development” star **Alia Shawkat**, starred in all four seasons of the sitcom as the character “Maeby Funke,” and the young actress has already established an illustrious television and film career.

The Pulitzer Prize for biography (“Jackson Pollack: An American

Saga”) was shared by the author of three other national best sellers: writer-publisher **Steven Naifeh** of South Carolina. The book was later adapted into an Academy award-winning film.



Steven Naifeh
Pulitzer Prize-Winning
Author

Elie Samaha is former chairman and owner of Franchise Pictures, which produced such films as “The Heist,” “Angel Eyes,” “The Whole Nine Yards,” and “Battlefield Earth.” Academy Award-winning film producer **Ronald Schwary** is best known for his work with “Tootsie,” “Meet Joe Black,” and “Scent of a Woman.” **Jehane Noujaim** co-directed and co-produced “Startup.com,” directed “Control

Room” in 2004 and the 2014 Academy Award nominated documentary, “The Square.”

One of show business’ legendary talent managers was the late **George “Bullets” Durgom**, who, through the years, managed Jackie Gleason, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Marilyn Monroe, to mention a few. Two of today’s top recording stars’ husband-managers are of Arab descent: **Rene Angelil**, discoverer and manager of wife Celine Dion, and Cuban-born **Emilio Estefan**, manager and producer of wife Gloria Estefan.

Emmy Award-winning cinematographer-director **George S. Dibie** was president of the International Photographers Guild. **Fouad Said** was the cinematographer who designed Cinemobile, the first customized van for filming on location, while working on the TV series “I Spy.” For this achievement, he received a Technical Academy Award in 1970.

Other Arab American Oscar winners include **F. Murray Abraham**, who won Best Actor for the movie “Amadeus.” Screenwriter and novelist **William Peter Blatty** won an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay for “The Exorcist,” a huge box office hit based on his novel of the same name.



William Peter Blatty
Academy Award-Winning
Screenwriter

Recipient of an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay for "Thelma and Louise" and director of the "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood" is **Callie Khouri**, who also created the hit show "Nashville." The late composer **Paul Jabara** won an Oscar award for Best Song, Donna Summer's "Last Dance" from the movie "Thank God, It's Friday." The late **Emile Kuri**, a renowned set director, won two Oscars for his splendid work on "The Heiress" and "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea." He received a total of eight Academy Award nominations and later designed many exhibits at Disneyland.

Media

Diane Rehm is host and executive producer of "The Diane Rehm Show" on National Public Radio (NPR). **George Noory's** talk show "Coast to Coast AM" can be heard on over 500 stations nationwide. The man who pioneered the concept of a radio programming consultant in 1958 is **Mike Joseph**, who's helped organizations like ABC, CBS, and NBC, among others.

Turning to television, **Lucie Salhany** became the first woman to head a television network, as chair of Fox Broadcasting Co., then of United Paramount Network. **Tammy Haddad**, the creator of "Larry King Live," is President and CEO of Haddad Media. **Octavia E. Nasr** is a journalist who was CNN's first senior editor for Arab affairs. **Hoda Kotb** is a host on NBC's "Today" and **Jim Avila**, who is of Lebanese and Mexican



Hoda Kotb
Co-Host of the Today Show



Sara Ganim
Pulitzer Prize-Winning
Journalist

descent, is the Senior Law and Justice Correspondent for ABC News. **Hala Basha-Gorani** is an American anchor and correspondent for CNN International. **Sara Ganim**, who at the age of 24 is one of the youngest recipients of the prestigious Pulitzer Prize, is now a correspondent for CNN.

On the print side, the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for International

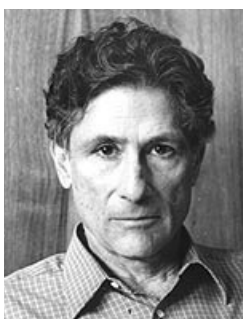
Reporting went to the late correspondent and author **Anthony Shadid** of the Washington Post, while the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting went to the Toledo Blade's **Michael Sallah**.



Anthony Shadid
Pulitzer Prize-Winning
Journalist

Education

The late **Edward Said** was a Columbia professor and well-known literary and social critic, as well as a respected music reviewer, and wrote a column appearing in "The Nation." Professor Said



Edward Said
Professor and Author

authored more than a dozen volumes on everything from the Middle East to English literature. Continuing the tradition of exemplary scholarship, **Rashid Khalidi** is the Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies at Columbia University. Professor Khalidi is the editor of the Journal of Palestine Studies and has authored many books about the Middle East. **Jack Shaheen**, emeritus professor of

mass communications at Southern Illinois University and author of books like "The TV Arab" and "Reel Bad Arabs: How Hollywood Vilifies a People," has also been CBS News' consultant for the Middle East. **David Adamany** was the longest-serving president of Wayne State University in Detroit and went on to serve as the president of Temple University.

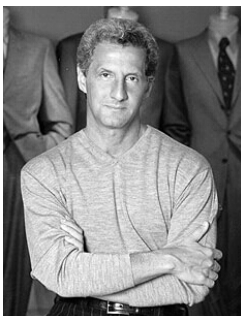
For an inspiring success story, try that of writer-lecturer on business and success, **Nido Qubein**. When he came to the United States as a teenager, he could barely speak English. He went on to become president of the National Speakers' Association and the youngest member inducted into the International Speakers' Hall of Fame.



Rashid Khalidi
Professor and Author

Fashion

The prestigious CFDA Menswear Designer of the Year Award for 1989 and 1990 went to Arab American **Joseph Abboud** of New York. He's the only designer to win the award two years in a row. One of First Lady Michelle Obama's favorite jewelry designers **Alexis Bittar** was also recognized by the CFDA as Accessory Designer of the Year in 2010. In 2013 Bittar was



Joseph Abboud
Award-Winning
Menswear Designer

awarded the Accessories Council of Excellency (ACE) Brand of the Year award, one of the elite recognitions



Alexis Bittar
Award-Winning
Jewelry Designer

of his field. Supermodel **Yamila Diaz-Rahi**, who is of Lebanese and Spanish descent, landed the coveted Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue cover in 2002. She has also graced the covers of "Marie Claire," "Elle," "GQ," and "Shape." One of America's most sought-after hairstylists, **Frederic Fekkai**, boasts clients such as Claudia Schiffer, Kim Basinger, and Renee Zellweger.

Lebanese immigrant **J.M. Hagggar** started Hagggar Clothing Co. in 1926. It became one of the world's best-known brands in men's apparel. The company is now a multi-million dollar enterprise that was headed by **J.M.Hagggar III**, who served as chairman and CEO.

In addition, **Farah Brothers** manufactures men's and women's slacks, and **Maloof Brothers** manufactured Mod-O-Day women's dresses. **Norma Kamali**, who designs everything from clothing and cosmetics to eyeglasses, is of Arab ancestry. **Reem Acra** is one of the world's preeminent designers of bridal fashions and is known for her elaborate embroideries. Hair accessories and jewelry designer



Reem Acra
Fashion Designer

Colette Malouf began her rise to the top in 1987 with the "Malouf Poof." She is known for her innovative use of exotic materials and her celebrity clientele.

Arts & Literature

Arab Americans have also made significant contributions to the art world. America's most honored woodworker, the late **Sam Maloof**, was an award-winning artisan whose creations have appeared in the White House, the Smithsonian Institution, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Vatican, and other renowned exhibit halls. The late heart surgeon Dr. **Hussam A. Fadhli** is an award-winning sculptor whose work is displayed around the world, including the Bush Presidential Library. Prolific industrial designer **Karim Rashid** is among the major talents of 21st-century design with work in New York's Museum of Modern Art.



Sam Maloof
Award-Winning Artisan

The first woman to design a major American art museum, Cincinnati's \$34 million Contemporary Art Center, is Iraqi-born **Zaha Hadid**.



Naomi Shihab Nye
Award-Winning
Poet and Author

Artist **Ghada Amer**'s hand embroidered paintings were selected for the Whitney Biennial 2000 and the Venice Biennale in 1999. **Naomi Shihab Nye** is an award-winning poet and author of children's literature.

In a place of distinction is the revered Lebanese American poet, **Kahlil Gibran** (1883-1931). In 1899, just four years after emigrating to Boston, Massachusetts with his mother and siblings, Gibran returned to Lebanon, where he started a literary magazine and was elected "College Poet." He returned to Boston in 1902. Gibran's prose and poetic works embrace his belief in the fundamental unity of religions, and his best-known work, *The Prophet*, has never been out of print since its first publication in 1923. Gibran remains the third best-selling poet of all time, behind Shakespeare and Lao-Tzu.



Kahlil Gibran
Poet

Science & Medicine

One of America's most famous pioneers was the late Houston surgeon Dr. **Michael DeBakey**, who invented the heart pump. He also served as chancellor of Baylor University's College of Medicine. Algerian American Dr. **Elias Zerhouni** was the director of the National Institutes of Health.

Two winners of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry are Arab



Michael DeBakey
Inventor of the Heart Pump

American. Dr. **Ahmed H. Zewail**, a professor of physics at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), is the 1999 winner. The 1990 winner is Harvard's Dr. **Elias Corey**. Vice President of CIT is Dr. **Charles Elachi**, who was selected to head up the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. A pioneer in the field of electrical engineering, inventor **Hassan Kamel Al-Sabbah** worked for the General Electric Company

(GE) in the 1920s and 30s. His research led to 52 patent applications, among them innovations in solar energy and television tubes.

The late geologist **George A. Doumani's** explorations helped prove the theory of continental drift; he has a mountain peak named after him in Antarctica. Another American geologist, Dr. **Farouk el-Baz**, born in Egypt, helped plan all the Apollo moon landings and later pioneered the use of space photography to study the Earth.

Finally, the courageous astronauts who lost their lives aboard the space shuttle Challenger represented several racial and ethnic groups: African-American, Hispanic American, Asian American, Anglo American, Jewish American — and Arab American: schoolteacher **Christa McAuliffe**.



Christa McAuliffe
Space Shuttle Challenger
Crew Member

We've all heard this quote before:

"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country" – a famous quote by an Irish-American President, John F. Kennedy, that inspired an entire generation.

These words were first written by, among others, the Arab American author of "The Prophet," Kahlil Gibran. And that sentiment, so beautifully expressed by Gibran more than 70 years ago, has inspired Americans of all heritages.

We Arab Americans are proud of our heritage and proud to be Americans. It's this pride that keeps us all asking, "What can we do for our country?"



About the Arab American Institute Foundation

The AAIF sponsors and supports programs that promote awareness of Arab American contributions to life in the United States. AAIF priorities include research and education on Arab American demographics, cultural heritage, and leadership development.

Ongoing programs include the Kahlil Gibran “Spirit of Humanity” Awards program honoring individuals and organizations that promote ethnic and racial understanding and inclusion, and youth leadership awards for outstanding public and community service. AAIF also sponsors events for visiting dignitaries from the Arab world and other forms of the U.S.-Arab professional exchange.

Incorporated in 1996 as a 501(c)(3) educational organization by the founders of the Arab American Institute, AAIF is based in Washington, DC.



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