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Unique Palestinian Bazaar Festival, First of its Kind in Canada, Adds to the Edmonton Festival Landscape and Brings Award Winning Musicians to the City...



Edmonton, February 27th – The Palestinian Bazaar, presented by Humanserve International proudly presents an exciting lineup of films, art exhibits, vendors, performances and family fun. The evening concert brings much-anticipated hip-hop artists **Mazzi and Shadia Mansour**, to perform for the first time together in Canada.

The “First Lady of Arabic Hip Hop” UK-Palestinian **Shadia Mansour** has independently become one of the leading female MC’s worldwide. She will be featured in the festival’s afternoon screening of the documentary film ***Hip Hop Is Bigger Than The Occupation*** which explores resistance movements through art in Palestine and will join a panel discussion with the filmmaker Harrabic Tubman from *Existence is Resistance*.

“We are thrilled to have such world-renowned film makers and artists visiting Edmonton.” says Vanessa Ali, President of Humanserve, “Along with the great Edmonton talent showcased, they bring the flair and excitement to our inaugural Bazaar - guaranteed to make it a first time success!”

A fashion show along with traditional music and dance will keep families engaged while scrumptious local food vendors, **Pita Bake and Cedar Sweets**, will keep them full during the afternoon. An assortment of merchants will be selling unique Palestinian products like **Zatoun** olive oil and exhibitors offer a variety of art and literature activities for children. Edmonton’s **Ahmed Knowmadic**, 2011 Canadian Festival of Spoken Word Champion, will be performing poetry alongside local talent, while **Minister Faust** and local rappers **AOK, Cousin and People’s Poets** kick off the evening concert.

The Palestinian Bazaar, a full day festival celebrating the cultural richness of the Palestinian People will be held on March 17th, 2012 at the TransAlta Arts Barn, 10330 84 Ave NW. It aims to celebrate the contributions Palestinians make to society through art, film, food, goods, literature and music.

HUMANSERVE INTERNATIONAL, Society for Relief and Development, is a non-profit agency registered with the Government of Alberta and governed by a community-based board of directors. HS works with a number of local and international NGOs providing educational, community health, development and social services in Lebanon and Palestine. We aim to inform the Canadian public about humanitarian aspects in the Middle East and do so through public engagement activities such as The Palestinian Bazaar. These activities link international development with community awareness and education in Canada. By making these links, HS works to facilitate a learning process that will enable Canadians to better understand the nature and importance of global issues while encouraging the appreciation of the culture and talent of the people affected by these issues.

For more info, visit humanserve.org/bazaar | www.facebook.com/hsibazaar | @HSIBazaar.

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