



March 14, 2015

The Palestinian Bazaar Festival, a first in Canada, brings internationally renowned art and comedians to Edmonton

Edmonton, March 14, 2015 - The Palestinian Bazaar, proudly presented by Humanserve International, has an exciting lineup of films, art exhibits, vendors, performances and family fun. The evening event, *Comedy with a Cause*, brings much-anticipated comedians Dean Obeidallah and Amer Zahr, to perform for the first time together in Alberta.

Dean, an award winning comedian who was at one time a practicing attorney, co-starred in **Comedy Central** special *The Axis of Evil*. He is also a columnist for *The Daily Beast* and has written for *CNN.com* and *The Huffington Post*. Dean is the co-director/co-producer of the recently released comedy documentary entitled *The Muslims are Coming!* He was also the co-creator of **Comedy Central.com's** critically acclaimed internet series *The Watch List* featuring a cast of all Middle Eastern-American comedians.

Amer has produced and headlined in 3 of his own comedy tours, *1001 Laughs, We're Not White!* and *In 1948*. He is also the producer of the annual *1001 Laughs Dearborn Comedy Festival* in Dearborn, Michigan at the Arab American National Museum.

A fashion show, showcasing traditional Palestinian attire, along with traditional Arabic music and Palestinian folk songs, renowned films, and a dabke performance will keep families engaged while delicious food from local vendors, Sahara Palace and Cedar Sweets, will keep them full during the afternoon. There's also merchants selling unique Palestinian products like Zatoun Olive Oil as well as international and local exhibitors displaying art and offering a variety of activities for children.

The evening event, ***Comedy With a Cause***, will feature local Edmonton poets, as well as local band *Tarabish Collective*, followed by our event headliners, comedians Dean Obeidallah and Amer Zahr!

The Palestinian Bazaar, a full day festival celebrating the cultural richness of the Palestinian People will be held on **March 14h, 2015 at the Citadel Theatre, 9828 101A Avenue**. It aims to celebrate the contributions Palestinians make to society through art, film, food, goods, literature and music.

HUMAN SERVE 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, HUMAN SERVE 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.

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