Dear JCI members in JCI Damascus LOM

Allow me to start our first local newsletter for this year by thanking you for giving me your trust and the honor to lead our chapter for one year. A year that I wish it would be full with success and accomplishments whether on personal, professional, social, or voluntarism level. It seems that this year we will exceed our expectations one more time based on the enthusiasm that all of you have showed in attending the meetings of the four areas so far. On the other hand, 23 members have attended the first training we have organized this year to train our project chair people under this year slogan “JCI Damascus… Where Leadership Happens”.

Therefore, I would like through my monthly message to address one idea related to leadership. It could be a skill, a characteristic or a feature.

This month I would like to address the issue of the importance of training for leaders. Leaders are not born, but cultivated. Hence, they need greater training and coaching to deal with the added responsibilities they face climbing the life ladder. We all know that leadership is all about interaction. And training assists you in that by enhancing your abilities to interact with people in order to understand them and to be understood by others. Indeed, training is an opportunity to take advantage of as it will make you more confident, more mature, and more influential. Those traits are the traits that help people achieve greatness.

Therefore, I encourage all of you this year to attend any training opportunity in JCI whether locally, nationally, or internationally. In addition, I emphasize the importance of the involvement of our JCI Trainers in conducting trainings and workshops for their fellow members to interact their knowledge, skills, and experiences.

L.P Mouhanad Jammal

2011 Local President Welcoming Message

HOT NEWS

- Senator Mohammad Tabbaa is assigned by LP Mouhanad to serve on 2011 board as Sponsorship officer.
- Mr. Redwan Takreti is assigned by LP Mouhanad to serve on 2011 board as Media Officer.
- Check JCI website: www.jci.cc/damascus and enjoy the updated news and calendar.

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Congratulations JCI Damascus Local Board 2011

The elected board of directors started working on their action plans during the past months after winning the elections that was held in the General Assembly October 2010. They started 2011 full of hope to achieve their goals together.

The elected board members are:

LP Mouhanad Jammal
SG Lana Kanaan
TR Dima Zufari
VP Business Adib Ghazi
VP Community Lynda Kanaan
VP Individual Obay Haj Ali
VP International Leen Lati
Mouhannad Jammal
Local President 2011

He was born on 25th of May 1973, Damascus.

**Education:** Diploma in Civil Engineering, Marketing Planning course SKILLS, SME’s Management and course in Designing Program.

**Job:** Managing partner in ASK 4 Design Company, Public Relations Manager in Jammal trading CO.

**JCI:** LVP International in 2007, LVP Individual 2008, Local Treasurer 2009, and National Vice President 2010.

**Aspiration:** In life “To live, to love, to learn, to leave a legacy”

**My JCI vision is** “To set JCI as the best NGO for creating leaders and active citizens for our community”

Rana Tamimi
Immediate Past President

She was born and raised in Damascus, married since 12 years to her life partner. She is a busy mother of 7-year old twins who shifted her paradigms and life perspective.

**Education:** BA in Economic from Damascus university, double major in Marketing and Public Relation.

**JCI:** Proud member of JCI since it started 2004, elected as the first Local Vice President for Community Area in 2006, National Communication Officer in 2007, National Deputy in 2008 and JCI Damascus Local President in 2010

Her role model in life is “the perfect institution” founded by her parents who taught IPP Rana “How to live while I am alive”

“I Yearned to become a social activist to empower and motivate the Syrian youth”
Lana Kanaan - Secretary General

She was born in Damascus Syria, in 1989

Education: Currently she is a senior business student at the Higher Institute of Business Administration, Majoring in Finance.

JCI: She has become a JCI member on 18th February 2008, served as an Event Manager for The Enviro-Day in 2009, then became a Project Chairperson for Business Lecture Series in 2010.

Lana aims to continue her education in Masters degree and PHD, and to have her own privet business in finance field. She Loves JCI , and enjoy giving volunteering time in life.

“In JCI I learned the essence of voluntarism”

Dima El Zufari - Treasurer

She was born in Paris in 1982 and raised in Damascus.

Education: Baccalaureate from the French School of Damascus. A graduate from Sorbonne-Nouvelle University with a Business Administration Degree and a Masters Degree in International Business from the same university

Job: She works as Retail Officer at Fransabank Syria.

JCI: Volunteered in JCI Damascus 2009, became STEP Project Chairperson 2010, and now she is JCI Damascus Treasurer 2011.

“Working with JCI made me truly believe that success comes step by step”

Q&A
Q: who is the first local president in JCI Damascus?
A: Senator Saleh Rustom
Obay Al Haj Ali - Vice President for Individual Area

He was born in Damascus 1978, and was raised in an old Arabic house in Mi-dan. He is the second child of his family.

Education: Human Resources Management and Human Resource Development “IPMA The International Professional Managers Association / UK”


“If you like what you are doing, you will do it really well”

Leen Al Lati - Vice President for International Area

She was born and raised in Damascus, until the age of 15 when she had to move with her family to Cairo, Egypt and studied her high school years there. She was lucky to travel a lot at a young age, and with time; this became an expensive hobby that she enjoys the most.

Education: She moved to Lebanon for university degree at the University of Balamand where she studied Information Systems and then Political Science and International Affairs followed by Public Relations Diploma from Chartered Institute of Public Relations in London, UK.

Job: She was recently appointed by the Arab Women Organization as a Consultant for the Youth Commission, along with her job at SHABAB Project-Syria Trust of Development

JCI: In 2008 she was introduced to the Junior Chamber International while doing a research on Corporate Social Responsibility in Syria for her graduation project then joined JCI Damascus in March 2009

Aspiration: To be successful and distinguished in anything she does

“My ambition this year at JCI is to build a solid International team that will play a harmonic symphony of success”
Adib Ghazi - Vice President for Business Area

His full name is Mohammad Adib Ghazi, but only his family keeps calling him Mohammad! He was born on December 10th 1976 in Amman – Jordan. He was raised in a family of four children two girls elder than him, and a boy younger Firas!


Currently he is a Business Administration junior student at Arab International University, and two semesters yet to graduation!

Job: Industrial Manager in Ghazi Chandeliers Company


“2011 Unique & Successful JCI Damascus. 2012 Memorable Africa & Middle East Area Conference in Damascus “

Lynda Kanaan - Vice President for Community Area

She was born in Scotland/England and came to Damascus at the age of 12, she is a social person who appreciates meeting new people of all different nationalities, religions, and backgrounds

Education: BA in English Literature from Damascus University, Bachelor in 3D Design Certificate from Liverpool, Certificate in free hand drawing from Liverpool and Certificate in Graphic Design from Leeds.

Job: working in an export company

JCI: She joined JCI in 2007 and participated in all individual and community projects and activities, she was project chair person for Speak Smart in 2009, project chairperson for Save 4 Syria in 2010.

“Continuing my volunteering work in JCI to serve my community for the best future for next generations to come”

Q&A

Where is JCI head quarter located?

A: Chesterfield, St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A
Mohammad Tabbaa - Sponsorship Officer

He was born in 1973 in Damascus

Education: Bachelor degree in Economics Damascus University

Job: Owner of Tabbaa Group (advertising agency, printing and packaging)

JCI: Local Vice President for Individual Area in 2005, National Treasurer 2006, National Vice President for Sponsorship 2007, Local President 2008, National Legal Consular 2009 and Deputy National President 2011.

He believes that JCI Damascus is a true inspiration for all Jaycees and other young people to build a better society and to change the world.

“JCI Family concept is my greatest achievement in 2008”

“One for all and all for one”

Q&A

Q: Who is the first Senator in JCI Damascus?
A: Senator Mazen Mourtada

Redwan Takreti - Media Officer

He was born in Damascus 1980.

Education: Diploma in Electronic Engineering from Damascus University at 2001, and because of his plans to be a university professor, he is continuing academic studying at the Syrian virtual university in Information Systems “Artificial intelligence”

Job: Magnetic Resonance Imaging senior engineer, in addition to Field Changing Order Manager for Philips medical systems installed base in Syria

JCI: He attended many JCI international events: Syria national convention 2008-2009-2010, AMDEC north conference 2009-2010 which encouraged him to attend and graduate from “Conference organization committee Academy Austria- 2010”

In public speaking we say “The more important from what to say, is how to say it” and here is the Media roll comes out, it is very important for us as a Jaycees to explain to the society “who are we? What are we doing? Why do we exist? and what are we aiming for?” and for that the relation between JCI and Media should be coordinated according to JCI protocols and prioritize in our projects. And this will be Redwan’s responsibilities for this year.

I’ve always believed it is never late to start a new beginning, and in JCI I’ve learned “if you don’t like the rules, change the game”
Where Entrepreneurship Happens!

As per Article 12-1 in local Constitution

**Business Opportunities**

To provide the opportunity for the Individual Member to contribute to the development of the economic infrastructure, prosperity and well-being of all nations

Business Area Projects are:

1. The first Conference for business students
2. CYIA (CYIA or Creative Young Intrapreneurs Award)
3. Business Lecture Series
4. Stock Market
5. Business Game
6. STEP

Where Impression Happens!

As per Article 12-1 in local Constitution

**Community Opportunities:**

To develop the sensitivity of the Individual Member to societal problems and knowledge of community dynamics in solving these problems through actual experience.

Community Area Projects are:

1. Save 4 Syria
2. People With Disabilities
3. Sketches
4. Together Dreaming
5. My Childhood

Let’s be hand in hand to add an impression to our community through the 2011 community area. Together like beehive in its organization, activity and unity, the first step in our journey started. So join us to spread the impact.

Where Development Happens!

As per Article 12-1 in local Constitution

**Individual Opportunities:**

To provide the opportunity for the Individual Member to realize personal potential through training programs

The Projects are:

1. Best Voluntarism Project Competition among university students
2. Read on the Road
3. Book Basket
4. Basketball Competition among NGOs
5. JCI Basketball competition
6. Knowledge Club
7. Spotlight
8. Speak Smart
9. U Speak Smart
10. University Club
11. Interactive Theater
12. Public Speaking and Debate Academy
13. Leadership Academy
Where Ambassadorship Happens!

As per Article 12-1 in local Constitution

International Opportunities:
To provide the opportunity for the Individual Member to contribute to the development of goodwill, understanding, and cooperation among all peoples.

International Area Projects are:
1. The photography Competition
2. Rally Competition
3. International Arabic Public Speaking Competition

I invite you to join the 2011 International Area to be a role model of JCI Ambassadors, to be an instrument in JCI Damascus orchestra, and finally to be the JCI leader of tomorrow!

Coming soon: International Arabic Debate Competition! Join us and be part of the A-team

JCI Damascus NEWS

- JCI Damascus held its first training for this year titled “Be a Successful Project Chairperson” for two days 21st and 22nd, Jan 2011. This training is useful for those who are willing to be project chairpersons. The trainers were: NSG Alaa Al Azem and VP Obay Al Haj Ali.

- Good news! The Day Out will be on 11 February, this event is a chance for members to communicate with each others and to get to knowing the officers of 2011, in addition to having fun. So get ready for this unforgettable day!

- JCI Damascus announcements for those who interested in sports especially basketball to join our basketball team and get into competitions versus other chapters and other NGO’s.

- JCI Damascus got the first 20 point from the National 100% efficiency program.

- JCI Damascus joined the recycling paper campaign launched by Youth Volunteerism Committee to safe the environment and keep it clean.

- First Individual activity Spotlight was held on Tuesday 1/2/2011, Spotlight is a competition to test our knowledge about JCI; it started during the World Congress 2009 JCI Tunisia

Some Questions of Spotlight First Edition:
- JCI Syria was fully affiliated during the WC of .. In year .. ?
  A: Vienna 2005
- JCI Syria member was elected as international officer in the WC No…#? In Antalya?
  A: 62 WC—Senator Mazen Mourtada
- Business project born in year 2007 and still growing?
  A: Business Lecture Series
- JCI Syria chapter fully affiliated series according dates? (Lattakia—Hama-Homs-Damascus-Dir Ezzor-Aleppo)
  A: Damascus—Aleppo—Homs—Lattakia
- First AMDEC North in Syria hosted by JCI .. In year ..?
  A: JCI Damascus 2006
Nowadays who doesn't dream about the perfect smile, the smile that takes the breath away, and capture everybody's heart? As dentists we can't help but notice the increasing numbers of females and even males who are visiting clinics and dental care centers asking for whitening their teeth and adjusting their smile.

At the same time as dentists we shouldn't be forgetting about the huge amount of people with special needs suffering oral conditions that they can barely live with, the special people like mentally and physically challenged people have poor oral hygiene. The main reasons for this are:

- Low intelligent quotient (IQ) or mental retardation.
- Lack or loss of dexterity to clean the oral cavity in physically challenged.
- Malnutrition due to poor dietary habits.
- Lack of desire to keep clean due to chronic depression, and many other reasons and diseases which lead to following oro-dental problems:
  - As Dental caries.
  - Bleeding gums due to poor oral hygiene.
  - Enlargement of gums due to Anti-epileptic drugs.
  - Ulcers of the mouth due to malnutrition.
  - Foul smell from the mouth due to infection of the gums or teeth.
- Poor oral health causes further depression as the person is shunned by the care givers due to foul smell, loss of teeth can cause loss of self esteem as well.

Giving care to special people is a challenge in itself and requires lots of patience and compassion by the caregiver at home or at the institution.

Give full attention to the maintenance of oral hygiene, balanced diet regular dental intervention and regular medical check ups to ward off major psychiatric, medical and oral health problems. The drugs that cause excessive dryness should be substituted by the treating doctor.

Oral health maintenance tools:

- These people lack the motivation to keep clean.
- If the person is depressed then it is very difficult to make him open his mouth to clean it. In these cases the caregiver needs to motivate him with patience and love.
- The persons who are of low IQ or who lack manual dexterity to handle a tooth brush should be assisted by the care giver.
- The caregiver should stand behind the patient. The tooth brush should preferably be motorized as these persons won't allow brushing by hand for long.
- The brushing should be done for 2 minutes with care as not to injure the oral mucosa. After brushing the person should be made to rinse with water but they tend to swallow the water, which should be gently discouraged.
- The brush should be changed, one it shows sign of fraying of bristles as the errant bristles can injure the gums.
- And suitable dietary changes should be done to suit the life style of the patients.

Finally the mentally and physically challenged people are a valuable part of our family and society, and need full care and love from us. The effort put in to maintain their oral hygiene is going to save them from diseases, and the caregiver from repeated visits to the dentist and doctor hence saving the money too. A well maintained oral hygiene also means a well nourished, clean and easy to manage person in care.

Prepared by
Dr. Salah Aldin Mahaini
JCI Member
Congratulations!
JCI Damascus for winning an award for Enviro Day/Save 4 Syria project as a Best Local Development Program.
Enviro Day promoted the use of clothes bags as a substitute of plastic ones.

JCI Damascus participated in JCI World Public Speaking Championship 2010 in the World Congress in Japan/Osaka. The participant was: Heba Bitar.
It was the first experience for JCI Damascus to represent Syria in a World Congress in such competition.

Dear Jaycee
You can share your knowledge or your JCI experience in the next issue.

The impact of JCI within U Speak Smart project participants was not only through giving them the skills of public speaking and debate, but also JCI gave great effect on them that motivated one of the students to write a poem about JCI and presented it in the final ceremony. This shows the positive impact of JCI within its projects.

This was written by Sa’eed Romani.

Congratulations!
JCI Damascus for winning two awards in the Africa and Middle East Area Conference:
English Public Speaking Championship
English Debate Championship