

THE MAFFAA JOURNAL



April 2020

Message from Editor-in-Chief



Dear MAFFAA Supporters,

As we continue to navigate this global pandemic crisis, I wish to extend my sincerest thoughts to each and every one of you and to your loved ones at home. It is amazing to think just how quickly things have changed for all us these past few weeks here in the United States and around the globe. Under this new temporary reality I have found myself personally taking some much needed time to thoroughly reflect on the importance of my immediate family and friends including all of you.

Despite the challenges presented moving forward, I am confident that we will get through these coming months. Please know that I am only a quick phone call or message away. Furthermore, there is still much to be grateful for this past month which included a number of events honoring International Women's Month such as a program hosted by the Peruvian Embassy featuring traveling photographer Ms. Laura Grier as well as an opening exhibition at the Museum of the Palestinian People with Director Bshara Nassar.

Other community events last month included an exclusive tour and visit of the Sitar Arts Center, a local organization that seeks to provide multidisciplinary arts education to the children and youth. In addition, it was a great pleasure to meet with Mrs. Stacie Lee Banks of Lee's Flower and Card Shop, a family-owned and operated business in the U Street corridor dedicated to providing high-quality flowers and cards to local DC residents and visitors alike.

Lastly, I had the sincere pleasure of joining His Excellency Ambassador Kare Reidar Aas of Norway at his residence to celebrate the contributions of women peacebuilders in the global diplomatic community. Featured guests at this program included Ambassador Roya Rahmani of Afghanistan and Ambassador Ali Sharif Ahmed of Somalia as well as representatives from the U.S. Department of State, various non-governmental organizations, and UN-related agencies.

All the best,
Patrick Realiza
Co-Executive Director, Mid Atlantic Foundation for Asian Artists, Inc.

MARCH 2020 COMMUNITY RECAP

**CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PATRICK REALIZA MEETS WITH
JESSICA MARIE LESKIN OF THE SITAR ARTS CENTER
WASHINGTON, DC**



**CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PATRICK REALIZA ATTENDS
OPENING EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHER LAURA GRIER
EMBASSY OF PERU**



**CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PATRICK REALIZA JOINS
DIRECTOR BSHARA NASSAR FOR OPENING EXHIBITION
FEATURING PALESTINIAN WOMEN ARTISTS**

**MUSEUM OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE
WASHINGTON, DC**



**CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PATRICK REALIZA MEETS WITH
LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER STACIE LEE BANKS
LEE'S FLOWER AND CARD SHOP
WASHINGTON, DC**




**CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PATRICK REALIZA JOINS
HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR KARE REIDAR AAS OF NORWAY
FOR SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY PROGRAM**

WASHINGTON, DC



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