

# THE VISION

THE MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE



# THE FUTURE

THE MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE (MEI) seeks to build on our 70-year legacy and mission to “promote knowledge of the Middle East in America and strengthen the understanding of the United States by the peoples and governments of the region.”

Today, MEI’s role is more important than ever before. Our history of non-partisan analysis makes MEI a trusted source of information for U.S. decision-makers. Our deep ties to the region and concern for its welfare make MEI a respected partner with the peoples of the Middle East.

The result is growing demand for MEI’s scholarship, programs and initiatives both in the U.S. and the region. With more scholars joining our ranks and greater numbers

participating in our events, MEI must respond to these new opportunities and enlarge its historic home located in the heart of Washington, D.C.

Today, there is a unique opportunity to acquire an adjacent property and create an “MEI Campus.” The campus would include MEI’s policy institute, culture program, library and language center, making MEI a key destination in the nation’s capital to engage with Middle Eastern policy, culture, and education.

Our leadership, members, and many supporters have guided us to this important juncture. We invite you to join us as we launch our capital campaign to fully realize MEI’s potential.



# A NEED TO GROW

## THE EXPANDED MEI CAMPUS

DEMAND HAS GROWN DRAMATICALLY for MEI's scholarship, events and programs. Purchasing an adjacent building will enable MEI to double its roster of resident experts, increase its policy output, and undertake a wider array of activities, like hosting exchange programs with regional scholars and students.

By linking the two properties, MEI will enjoy an expanded interior garden adorned with a 17th century Syrian fountain. This garden will connect the four buildings comprising the MEI campus.



The Middle East Institute courtyard is an ideal space for public gatherings and special events.

Right: The vision for MEI's contemporary art gallery

## CAMPUS FEATURES

- The Policy and Research Center housing scholars
- The Educational Center hosting *The Middle East Journal* and online publications
- The Oman Library at the Middle East Institute holding 21,000 volumes
- The contemporary Middle Eastern art gallery featuring exhibits and installations





# POLICY

## WHAT MAKES MEI UNIQUE

MEI'S LEADERSHIP and scholars have deep regional ties. They speak the languages of the region and enjoy close relations with decision-makers and thought leaders in the Middle East. They care about the lives and welfare of the people of the region and are committed to working with U.S., regional and international policymakers to find solutions to the Middle East's greatest challenges.



**MEI's conferences attract leaders from the policy, corporate and diplomatic communities.**

**Right: President Bill Clinton and General Anthony Zinni at MEI's 64th Annual Conference**

## THE POLICY PROGRAM

- Generates thoughtful research and analysis to inform policy making
- Includes a program on Arab Transitions, a Center for Turkish Studies, a Center for Pakistan Studies, The Middle East–Asia Project (MAP), and an Iran Initiative
- Holds Track II dialogues with regional and international leaders to find solutions
- Hosts conferences and programs to highlight key issues
- Communicates with policymakers and the media to shape understanding

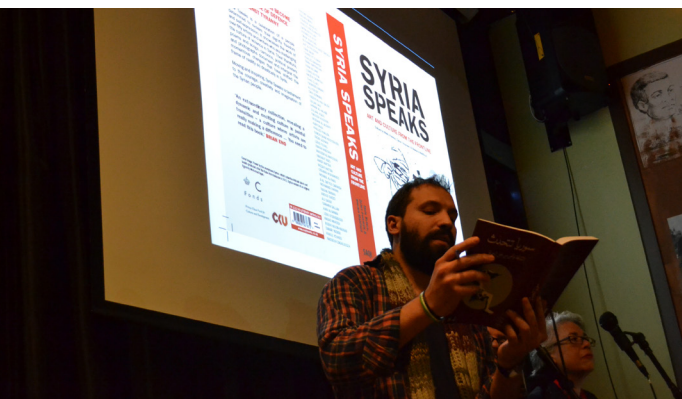




# CULTURE

## CONTEMPORARY MIDDLE EASTERN ART GALLERY

A HISTORIC “CARRIAGE HOUSE” on the property will be transformed into Washington’s only contemporary Middle Eastern art gallery. The gallery will promote the work of young Middle Eastern artists and provide a window into the issues of concern to the Middle East’s youth and civil society. In addition, it will develop the skills of regional artists by connecting them to their U.S. counterparts.



MEI hosts socially engaged artists from the region.

Right: The vision for the interior of MEI’s contemporary art gallery



## THE ARTS AND CULTURE PROGRAM

- Hosts exhibits, installations and screenings of young contemporary artists from the region
- Provides an opportunity for the 20 million tourists who visit Washington annually to engage with the region’s flourishing arts scene
- Connects the Washington policy community to the region’s cultural community



# RESEARCH & EDUCATION



## INFORMING THE NEXT GENERATION

MEI'S RESEARCH PROVIDES balanced analysis of the Middle East and informs responsible policymaking. Our language and internship programs equip young people with the skills necessary for successful international careers. MEI reaches a global audience through its website, social media and *The Middle East Journal*, the longest running peer-reviewed journal in the U.S. devoted to the study of the region.

MEI's library contains over 21,000 volumes, including a collection of rare texts.



## THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

- Hosts a specialized collection at The Oman Library open to students and researchers
- Instructs students in Arabic, Farsi, Turkish, Hebrew and Urdu through its language program
- Publishes the scholarly, peer-reviewed *Middle East Journal*

Founded in 1946, The Middle East Institute is the oldest Washington-based institution dedicated solely to the study of the Middle East. Our mission is to promote knowledge of the Middle East in America and strengthen understanding of the United States by the peoples and governments of the region.



## Middle East Institute

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