

SIR HERBERT READ AWARD

Nomination from the INSEA members

for

Dr. SARIA SIDKY

2016

SARIA SIDKY, PhD

Professor of Methods and Curricula for Art Education – Helwan University

Cairo, Egypt

Dr. Saria Sidky is a recognized authority in art education in Egypt and the Arab world, a recipient of several awards including the Cairo University's Special Award for her contribution to Art Education in Egypt (2002) and the Governorate of Fayoum's Award for her exceptional achievement in promoting the art and culture of schoolchildren. She has received her doctorate from the State University of New York in Buffalo in 1979.

Sidky is a professor of curricula and teaching methodology in Helwan University's Faculty of Art Education, where she has taught for the past forty years. She has also taught at several universities, including the Cairo, Alexandria, Ain Shams, and Asyut Universities, the International Academy for Media and Science, the Arab University, the State University College in Buffalo and San Jose College in Silicon Valley. Her publications include a number of research papers on art appreciation, arts education, art history, museum education and traditional and contemporary crafts. She has presented her work in academic conferences in Egypt and abroad. Her published works include a number of teaching guides for schoolteachers including "Art Education for Primary School Students" (1984) and "Art Appreciation and Art History for Preparatory School Students" (1986) and various teachers' guides for the Egyptian Ministry of Education. She has also led several training workshops for primary, secondary and high school teachers.

In Egypt, she has established the concept of museum education and art rehabilitation for the elderly. She has been a pioneer in establishing the art rehabilitation program for the young patients at the Cancer Institute in Cairo. During her time as head of the Department of Art Culture and Art Education Training at Helwan University, she has created numerous art programs in various hospitals, colleges, clubs and libraries, for both abled and disabled youth. Moreover, she has supervised individual and group research, practices and activities in Nubia and Cairo to support popular arts in collaboration with the UNESCO regional office in Cairo and the Egyptian Society of Folk Art, as well as with the Visual Art Sector of the Ministry of Culture.

Sidky has also introduced several concepts and theories to the field of arts education in Egypt and the Arab world such as visual literacy, visual communication, discipline-based arts education (DBAE), the power of art and the development of the mind, 21st century skills as a new approach to art education and postmodern art education. During her long career, she has been a consultant and developer for a vast number of undergraduate and postgraduate art education curricula students, not only in Egypt but also in other Arab countries. She was the recipient of several awards from Cairo and Helwan Universities, for supervising the best PhD dissertation in art education. She has also established several scholarships to enable students to study abroad and jointly supervise their theses with the foreign universities.

Sidky has trained an active team of researchers that worked with her in most of her projects, such as the revival of the Islamic spa tradition (el hammam), reviving some of the traditional popular crafts, creating a dialogue between cultures, bridging the gap between ancient, Greco Roman, Old and New Testaments, Islamic, modern and contemporary traditions, by applying some of the international new theories such as Harford Project Zero (Artful Thinking). She has also arranged several international workshops with Elute Eisner, Brent Wilson, Stanly Medea, Ell Harrouds and a group of professors from San Jose University Faculty of Fine Art and Art Education to train Egyptian staff in technology and museum education under her supervision and planning.

As an artist in her own right, Sidky is a sculptor, a printmaker and a painter. She has exhibited in Egyptian, American, Danish, Swedish and Chinese art galleries and museums. Her work is in private collections in the United States, Europe and the Middle East, and on permanent display at the Egyptian Museum of Modern Art, the Cairo Opera House, and the Cairo International Conference Center. She has received the Egyptian Art Appreciation Society Sculpture Award in 1969 and the Drawing Award in 1984 respectively.

In addition to her academic posts, Sidky has held a number of prestigious effective positions. She was the president of the National Center for Child Culture (1993-1994) and recipient of a Fulbright grant to improve museum education in Egypt (2000-2001). She has coordinated several important national projects, including one between Helwan University and the California State University in San Jose, one for the Bibliotheca Alexandrina to promote art literacy for schoolchildren and a major project of the history of writing and its cultural context held during the International Artist Book Biennale in the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in 2004, and a UNESCO project in 2007 to classify endangered Egyptian handicrafts and folk arts in Nubia and Cairo.

Sidky is a courageous and compassionate woman who is concerned with the fragmentation of human thought, and the separation we create within ourselves and as well as with others, in the universe we live in. She appreciates the value of effective communication with others, creativity and physical and psychological health of human beings, as well as social justice. Her main interests are the interactions between culture and tradition. Sidky pays great attention to culture and tradition's role in a global society to elevate the importance of human rights and dignity. She views education as a national duty, believing that in order to be a good teacher, she has to be a good learner first. Her objective is not to teach the content of the curriculum, her priority is to reveal the beauty within each individual and within herself. Her responsibility is to facilitate the sense of peace and enhance the quality of life. She is part of an international network who is in charge of supporting the role of art for developmental, communicative and cooperative purposes, through contemporary thoughts utilizing creative teaching methods to bring joy to the class in order to create a module that students can connect through the world.

Sidky's role as a social activist shows clearly in the teaching environment she creates between her students. She promotes dynamism in the face of stagnation, liberating the changing power of critical pedagogy. She believes in the artistic expressive and democratic quality of art as a powerful aspect in supporting the new generation and applies teaching strategies to change societal hierarchy to build a healthy quality that encourages open exchange of thoughts in the classroom. Sidky adds contemporary art to experimental teaching that not only makes education attractive but also achieves positive reproductive experiences within the educational environment. She is not just concerned with building working skills for the future, but also to achieve self-awareness and interactions between herself, her students and her colleagues.

Sidky's work has always maintained the same excellent qualities, and has always attempted to interrogate and test the following questions: what is the role of freedom in art programs? Where are freedom and democracy of opinion and creativity? Where do students' thoughts and opinions stand (the generation that will build the future of our country)? What is the dual interaction between the youth and the community? And finally, what is our role and responsibility in preparing this generation for life and work?

SARIA SIDKY, Ph.D.

Professor of Art Education Curricula and Methodology

Faculty of Art Education, Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt

EDUCATION

1979	PhD Art Education	State University of New York, Buffalo, NY, USA
1974	Masters of Fine Arts	Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt
1967	Bachelors of Fine Arts	Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

1989 – Present	Professor of Methods and Curricula for Art Education – Helwan University - Courses: curriculum and methods of teaching, methods of research, English for artists, fabric printmaking, visual literacy and technology. - Supervise masters and PhD dissertation in Helwan University, as well as Cairo, Ain Shams, Minya, Alexandria, Asiyut Universities.
2006	Coordinator annual orientation workshops for new graduate student Instructors - Helwan University
2004 –2007	Chairwoman - Department of Art Culture and Art Education Training – Helwan University
2000-2002	Facilitator – of several cooperative projects between the State University of New York School of Fine Arts at Buffalo and Helwan University
1999 – 2002	Founder/Administrator - Graphic Computer Center at the Faculty of Art Education – Helwan University
1996	Dean of Graduate Studies – Faculty of Art Education, Helwan University
1995	Chairman – Committee to develop the art education curricula – Al Ein University, UAE
1993-1994	Head the National Center for Child Culture
1984 – 1989	Assistant Professor – Faculty of Art Education – Helwan University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2009 and 2013	Supervisor and Curator of Contemporary Art Education Exhibition – Gezira Art Gallery
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- During international week for arts education.
- 2010 - present **Chair of Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education** for art education joint steering committee for advocacy and cooperation
- 1980 - present **Workshop Chairwoman - Egyptian Ministry of Education**
 - Organize and conduct annual art education and continuing education workshops and seminars for art teachers at all levels of instruction (1980 – present)
 - Conducted multiple educational workshops for the Egyptian Ministry of Education Training Center (1993- 2007)
 - Conducted Art Appreciation and Art Education workshops for the Experimental Schools Human Resources Development Center
- 2008-2015 **Consultant-National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Education in Egypt**
 - Member of the Committee for developing under graduate key generic skills (2010)
 - Member of the Committee for developing National Academic Reference key generic skills Standards (NARS) Grade 1-12 (2008)
 - Member of the Committee for developing National Academic Reference Curriculum Standards (NARS) for Visual Art Education Grade 1-12 (2008)
 - Member of the Committee of developing the Nile Egyptian schools a joined project of the education development fund of Egypt and the University of Cambridge (2010-2011)
- 2008 **Trainer** for the National Workshop on Establishing Internal Accreditation Systems in Art Education for Egyptian Colleges of Specific Education
- 2007 **Administrator – UNESCO Project:**
 - Endangered Egyptian folk arts database program
 - Developed training programs, monitored the progress of the project, implemented quality control on fieldwork and evaluated final results. Developed work plans and training programs to preserve endangered Egyptian folk art from extinction
- 2003-2005 **Faculty - International Media Studies Academy (IMSA):**
 - Taught special seminars on the “Art of Visual Communication”
- 2003-2004 **Consultant and Coordinator – Bibliotheca Alexandrina:**
 - History of Egyptian Writing Project in cooperation with the University of Helwan
 - Art appreciation projects for children
- 2000-2004 **Workshop Chairwoman**
 - Conducted 12 workshops with various institutions, including Egyptian Ministry of Culture, Scientific College, Center of Children Literature Research, Egyptian Council for Child and Development, Ain Shams University, Academy for Research and Technology.
- 2000-2001 **Chairperson – Fulbright joint Egyptian-American project**
 - Modernizing the museum science curricula for university and post graduate students - a cooperative project between University of California at San Jose and Helwan University

- Advisor to the Fulbright student and teacher exchange program

2000-2001 **Workshop Chairwoman - Egyptian Ministry of Culture**

- Conducted art education workshops and seminars for the continuing education programs for librarians, art museum employees and others

- Consultant for developing Art Education Curricula in Egypt – multiple projects

1995 **Consultant – United Arab Emirates**

- Committee to modernize the art education curricula

OTHER POSITIONS

2003 – present **Coordinator** – Joint Projects between Helwan University and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina

1995 – present **Judge** for Child Art Competitions in Egypt and Internationally

1998 **Coordinator** of Activities for the Center for the Health and Social Care of the Elderly

1993-1994 **General Coordinator** of the National Center for the Cultural Development of Children – Al Ahrām Art City

1993-1994 **Consultant** - Committee for Museum Science Education - Egyptian Ministry of Culture

1988 **Consultant** - Project for the design and production of toys that relate to Egypt's unique cultural history

1978 **Translator** – In the UNESCO project to translate Educational Curricula in the Arab World

PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

2016 New strategies for promoting folk arts in the Arab world” – Katara Foundation, El Doha, Qatar

2015 “The system perspective of the concept space in Islamic art and culture” – Katara Foundation, El Doha, Qatar

2013 “The education and cultural role for museum education” – Recreation of popular crafts in Egypt - ICOM

2012 “The popular art museum and the continuity circles of heritage” – the International Conference for Cultural Monitoring and Museum Politics, Lebanese University

2012 "Art Education in the face of violence," the University of Helwan, Cairo, Egypt

2012 Popular museum and the continuity of tradition. Cultural Observatory International Conference on museum policies, Institute of Social Sciences. Lebanese University.

- 2011 Systemic thinking and assessment in the revival of Islamic culture through museum education the 33rd World Congress of InSEA. Budapest, Hungary.
- 2011 "System thinking and assistance in the revolving of Islamic culture through museum education" – INSEA's 33rd World Conference
- 2010 Renewed language of arts education: creativity, interaction between theory and practice – 2nd World Conferences on Art Education 2010, Seoul, Korea
- 2010 "The renewed language of art education" – UNESCO Conference in Seoul
- 2009 "The role of the 21st century as an effective strategy for creating job opportunities" – the International Conference for Mansoura College
- 2009 Visionary Perspective of Art and Technology role in 21st Century skills-Arab League
- 2009 The role of 21st Century skills strategies in creating job opportunities Mansoura University Conference
- 2006 Museum education and the history of writing in Egypt –Bibliotheca Alexandrina
- 2002 "The role of art in teaching mental disabled children" – Center of Children Literature
- 2002 "Addicting arts education instead of addicting drugs" – Ain Shams University
- 2000 The University of Ain Shams Conference – "Together For The Sake of a Better Future for our Children"
- 2000 Developing books geared to special education students – The Supreme Council for Children
- 2000 "New perspectives for caring for the elderly" – Helwan University
- 1999 Organizer and Participant - The conference for promoting culture development of Children sponsored by Arab Council for Child Development
- 1999 "The role of art education in Arab communities" – Helwan University
- 1999 The Second Arab Conference for promoting creativity and innovation among Arab Students
- 1998 "The multiple roles of art in the care of the elderly" – The conference for the care of the elderly – Ministry of Social Affairs - Cairo
- 1994 The role of toys in child development – The Supreme Council for Culture – Cairo
- 1992 Organizer Culture and Art work shop to define universal terminology for Art – Cairo International Biennale
- 1991 "Integrating Islamic art heritage into art education for the Muslim child" – delivered at The UNESCO Regional Conference – Amman, Jordan
- 1990 Art in the Service of Islam – Art Education Conference – Rabat, Morocco
- 1990 "The role of toys in educating the Muslim child" - UNESCO Educating the Muslim Child Conference - Bahrain
- 1986 "Developing visualization skills – the role of art education" - UNICEF Preschool Education Conference, Cairo
- 1981 "A critical look at the role of art in primary education" – Helwan University

1978 "Scientific research methodologies in art education" – El Minya University Child Education Conference

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

2004 – present Member of the Committee for Child Development at the Library of Alexandria

2004 Member of the Committee for Children's books in Egyptian Association for Books

2000 – present Ministry of Education

2000-2001 Member and Consultant of the General Committee for Gifted Students

2000 Founding member of the organization for the care of Alzheimer's patients at the Faculty of Medicine – Ain Shams University

1993 -1994 President - National Cultural Center for Children

1991 President of the High Arab Council for promoting the development of cultural centers for children

1990 – present Member of the National Committee for the Cultural Development of Children – the Supreme Cultural Council

1988 President of the Committee to modernize art education and improving the curricula for high school students

1979-present Member of the Egyptian Art Syndicate

1975-present Board Member for the Egyptian Committee of Folk Arts

1967-present Board Member of the Union of University Art Teachers

PUBLICATIONS

- "The Power of Art and the Brain" - Egyptian Ministry of Culture (2010)
- "Secondary Art Teacher's Guide" - Egyptian Ministry of Education (1999)
- "Primary Art Teacher's Guide – Printing" – National Center for Education Studies (1998)
- "Art Appreciation and Art History for Preparatory School Students" –Egyptian Ministry of Education (1985)
- "Art Education for primary school students" - The Egyptian Ministry of Education (1984)

ART EXHIBITS

Aside from private collections in Europe, America and the Middle East, her art is on permanent display at the Egyptian Modern Art Museum, The Cairo Opera House and The Cairo International Conference Center. Her work also been displayed in galleries in Egypt, the United States, Denmark and Sweden and she was the

recipient of the 1969 Sculpture award from the Egyptian Art Appreciation Council which also awarded her the 1984 Drawing award.

SOLO EXHIBITS

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| 2008 | Picasso Art Gallery, Egypt |
| 1997 | Al Minia Cultural Center, Egypt |
| 1995 | Aswan Cultural Center, Egypt |
| 1994 | Asyut Cultural Center, Egypt |
| 1981 | Akhenaton Gallery – Cairo, Egypt |
| 1980 | Katrina Holm Gallery – Stockholm, Sweden |
| 1978 | Hiland gallery – Stockholm, Sweden |
| 1978 | San Simon Island Gallery – Atlanta, Georgia |

GENERAL EXHIBITS

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| 2015 | INSEA Exhibit – El Nahda Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture, Egypt |
| 2013 | El Nile Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture, Egypt |
| 1984 - 2006 | Modern Egyptian Art Exhibits in Italy India, Cyprus, Greece, China |
| 1999, 2002,
2004, 2006 | Annual Spring Exhibit – Salama Gallery, Cairo, Egypt |
| 2003 - 2005 | Panorama of Egyptian Graphic Arts in the 20 th Century – Bibliotheca Alexandrina |
| 2003 | The first International Biennale for Art Books – Bibliotheca Alexandrina |
| 2002 | Egyptian Women Artists – Peking, China |
| 1978 | Drawing Exhibit – Supreme National Art Center – Egyptian Ministry of Culture |

PRIZES AND AWARDS

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| 2015 | Award for special contribution to the graduate students of Iraqi students – University of Babylon, Iraq |
| 2001 | Award for exceptional contributions to the education of children – Province of Fayoum |
| 1984 | National Drawing Award from the Egyptian Art Appreciation Council |
| 1978 | Animation Film Award (Unit Cinema) – State University of New York and Buffalo |

1969

National Sculpture Award from the Egyptian Art Appreciation Council

SAMPLE OF SIDKY'S WORK

Printmaking



Painting



Sculpture

