

Centre of ITI, Jordan

Activity Report July 2022 – April 2024

Festivals

- The annual International Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts was held in 2022 and 2023 in the ancient well preserved Roman amphitheaters and colonnade spaces in the north of Jordan. In 2023 The National Centre for Culture and Arts (NCCA)/ ITI Jordan produced and presented a musical play entitled: “Jerassia - The Gold River” at the Opening Ceremony of the festival on July, 26.
“The Gold River” is a multimedia performance (drama, dance, music, songs and film materials), depicts Jerash as a cradle of civilizations (Greek, Roman, Nabataean, Byzantine and Islamic), that celebrated humanity and the arts through its ancient history to present time. with the participation of 100 artists
- NCCA/ITI Jordan held the annual Amman Contemporary Dance Festival in 2022 and 2023 with the participation of dance companies from France, Norway, Spain, Germany/Italy, and Jordan/NCCA MISK Dance Company. A dance workshop was conducted by Enrico Ticconi and Ginevra Panzetti/Germany and Italy for Jordanian dancers.
- Al Rahalah Theatre Festival specialized in performances in open public spaces was held in from 10-15 July 2023
- Liberal Theatre International Festival was held in 2022 and 2023 with the participation of theatre companies from Palestine, Tunisia, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Italy and Jordan
- "Ashiat Taqous" Theatre Festival was held in 2023 and in May 2024
- The annual Jordan International Theatre Festival organized by the Ministry of Culture was held in November 2022 with the participation of theatre companies from Algeria, Morocco, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Jordan
- In 2023 ITI Jordan, Lina Attel and Sawsan Darwaza, president of ITI Jordan participated in a steering committee organized by the Ministry of Culture to work on the policy of developing and restructuring of the Jordan International Theatre festival.
- Karama Human Right Film Festival, the 14th Edition was held from 5 to 12 December 2023 as a special tribute to Gaza – Palestine.
For the 14th Edition of Karama, 72 films were successfully screened from across all genres including Documentary, Fiction, Animation and experimental.
Most of the selected films resonated with this edition’s theme “Special Edition: Palestine”
Throughout the 7 days of the festival, 72 films of all genres and from over 40 different countries were screened in the three spaces of the Royal Cultural Center.

International Dance Day

NCCA was selected by the International Theatre Institute (ITI)-UNESCO to represent Arab Countries at the International Dance Day 2022. The performance featured traditional Jordanian dances by MISK Dance Company. The online celebration on April 29, 2022, included performances from five dance companies across Africa, Asia-Pacific, the Americas, Europe, and the Arab World.

World Theatre Day

On the occasion of World Theatre Day on March 27, 2024, the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with NCCA organized an event under the patronage of H.E. Ms. Haifa Al-Najjar, Minister of Culture, at Osama Al Mashini Theatre. The event featured the reading of the WTD message by Mr. Zuhair Al Noubani, and two plays were presented by youth theatre groups.

A short video by the NCCA National Interactive Theatre Troupe was published on NCCA Social Media platforms on this occasion.

The 36th International Theatre Institute (ITI) World Congress in Fujairah

- NCCA/ ITI Jordan Centre participated in the 36th International Theatre Institute (ITI) World Congress in Fujairah from 20 – 25 February, 2023 under the theme “Reunite, for the Performing Arts and Humanism”.
- NCCA Director General Lina Attel presented an overview of the achievements of ITI Jordan in theatre practices, performing arts, festivals and dance.
- NCCA presented within the event of Best Practices Exhibition around the world a description on methodology of Interactive Theatre with audience participation and a performance entitled “The Cycle of Life” performed by 2 actors from NCCA National Interactive Theatre Troupe.
- Election of the Executive Council: Jordan was elected as Executive Council member represented by Lina Attel along with 11 members from Belgium, Croatia, Ghana, India, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Germany, Italy, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and the United States of America.

Regional Theatre Based Techniques (TBT) Training

NCCA conducted TBT trainings in 2022 in Amman, Palestine, Egypt.

In 2023 a regional TBT training was held in Istanbul in cooperation with OXFAM for youth activists and Peer educators aged 18-35 from the MENA region (Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Egypt, Tunis, Kurdistan-Iraq and Turkey). The training focused on advocacy for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), enhancing participants' skills in designing and implementing peer education awareness programs, role plays, and interactive theatre performances.

Interactive Plays

NCCA National Interactive Theatre Troupe (NITT), produced interactive plays that have been touring across Jordan from 2022 -2024

"The Fisherman", "Suad's Beauty Salon", "Imaginary Barriers", and “Gaza Monologues” presented on 23/12/2023 with the participation of renowned actors from Jordan

Dance Performance

NCCA MISK Dance Company presented "Ode to Palestine", a performance by 40 students on March 9, 2024.

8 performances of Ballet Cinderella by 50 students from NCCA Dance Department and MISK Dance company were presented from 4-9 May 2024 at Royal Cultural Centre (Main Theatre)

Youth in Action and Untold Stories

Creative writing, music and theatre skills Workshops were held for 200 youth in 5 cities in Jordan which resulted in performances for their communities

Exchange and collaboration

Lina Attel Participated in **the 163rd Executive Council Meeting** from 28 November – 6 December 2023, Xichang, China.

Ms. Attel participated as a speaker at the conference of the Daliangshan International Theatre Festival and gave a presentation about NCCA performing arts projects that address human connection and cross-cultural understanding

Invited and attended in 2023 the International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama co-organized by the Deputy Ministry of Culture, the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute and the Deputy Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Cyprus.

NCCA, in collaboration with Ashtar Theatre/Palestine, presented a performance entitled "Awalem" by Ashtar Muallem on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at Al Hussein Cultural Centre.

Conducted a workshop on "Interactive Theatre" with the Arab Phoenix Foundation in Oman/ Salalah, attended by educators, and theatre directors.

As part of the Tunisian-Jordanian Cultural Week, ITI Jordan in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture held on June 3, 2024 a seminar on Opera and Musical Theatre by the Tunisian music composer, orchestra director Professor Fadī ben Othmān from the Tunisian Opera Theatre. Attended by key Jordanian practitioners in music, theatre and dance. Future co-productions between Tunisia and Jordan in opera and musical theatre were discussed to be implemented in 2025.