

## [Qatar-Indonesia 2023 Year of Culture](#) Bringing a Series of Traditional Arts Workshops to Doha this September

*Immerse Yourself in the Captivating World of Indonesian Arts and Crafts*

DOHA, 30 August 2023 — To celebrate and explore the deep cultural ties between Qatar and Indonesia, the [Years of Culture](#) initiative will bring traditional Indonesian arts and crafts workshops to various locations in Doha this September in partnership with M7 and Liwan Design Studios and Labs. The workshops have been designed by the Years of Culture team in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Research of the Republic of Indonesia and Indonesian artisans and experts in ceramics, puppet-making, dance, and batik-making.

Aisha Ghanem Al Attiya, Director of Cultural Diplomacy at Qatar Museums said, "It is always important for us at the Years of Culture initiative to create tangible connections between the cultures we celebrate each year and the people of Qatar. These workshops serve as a bridge, connecting people through shared creativity, fostering cross-cultural understanding, and preserving the rich heritage of Indonesia. We hope that hands-on, accessible engagement allows participants to gain a profound appreciation for the value of tradition, artistry, and craftsmanship, reinforcing the bonds that unite Qatar and Indonesia in a celebration of our thriving creative industries."

The workshops are accessible to participants of all skill levels. Spaces are limited and must be booked in advance through the [Qatar Creates website](#).

**Puppet-Making Workshop:** Delve into the enchanting realm of puppetry, a revered Indonesian tradition, by crafting ornate puppets under the guidance of master puppeteers. Learn the stories behind these captivating characters and gain insight into the intersection of art and storytelling.

In this workshop, participants will learn about the Javanese tradition of "straw puppets" called Wayang Suket. The workshop will open with an introduction and discussion about the history, forms, characters, and philosophy of Wayang Suket. Participants will then create their own versions and stage mini performances.

**Timing and Location:** The 90-minute puppet-making workshops will take place at Liwan. Check the [Qatar Creates website](#) for timings.

Cost: QAR 75

Age: 10+

**Batik-Making Workshop:** Uncover the secrets of Batik, a centuries-old technique of wax-resistant dyeing and create vibrant designs, guided by experts who will walk you through each step of this intricate process. Batik-making workshops will take place at M7. Check the [Qatar Creates website](#) for timings. Two types of workshops are available.

The one-hour session will introduce participants to the Indonesian art of batik, designing a pattern with wax and coloring the material. All guests will take their materials home after the session.

Cost: QAR 50

Age: 10+

The three-hour session will focus on creating a pattern and coloring a shawl-sized piece of material.

Cost: QAR 75

Age: 16+

**Ceramics Workshop:** Skilled artisans will guide participants in the intricate art of ceramics, molding clay into beautiful pottery. Participants will be able to take their creations home.

**Timing and Location:** The four-and-a-half-hour ceramics workshops will take place in Liwan. Check the [Qatar Creates website](#) for timings.

Cost: QAR 100

Age: 14+

**Dance Workshop:** Enjoy the rhythm and energy of Indonesian dance in this dynamic workshop. Learn traditional movements from experienced dancers, exploring the diverse dance forms that bring the richness of Indonesia's heritage to life.

Participants will learn the Tari Merak dance hailing from West Java and receive an explanation of the philosophy and history of the dance, also known as the Peacock Dance. No prior dance knowledge is required, and participants are advised to wear comfortable gym clothes.

**Timing and Location:** Check the [Qatar Creates website](#) for timings.

Cost: QAR 50

Age: 16+

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### About Years of Culture

Culture is one of the most effective tools to bring people closer together, encourage dialogue, and deepen understanding between nations.

Though formal programming lasts only one year, the ties of friendship that are strengthened and formed are long-lasting.

Qatar-Indonesia 2023 Year of Culture has been developed in collaboration with leading organizations in Qatar, including Doha Film Institute, Education Above All, Katara Cultural Village, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar Charity, Qatar Cycling Federation, Qatar Foundation, Qatar Museums, Qatar National Library, Qatar Tourism, with assistance from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Qatar and the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Indonesia.

Previous Years of Culture have included: Qatar-Japan 2012, Qatar-UK 2013, Qatar-Brazil 2014, Qatar-Türkiye 2015, Qatar-China 2016, Qatar-Germany 2017, Qatar-Russia 2018, Qatar-India 2019, Qatar-France 2020, Qatar-USA 2021, and Qatar-MENASA 2022.

Past sponsors include Qatar Airways, Vodafone, Qatar Gas, Shell, Ooredoo, Shangri-La Hotel and Resorts, Lulu Group International, Qatar Financial Centre, Qatar Petroleum, and ExxonMobil.

#### About Qatar Museums

Qatar Museums (QM), the nation's preeminent institution for art and culture, provides authentic and inspiring cultural experiences through a growing network of museums, heritage sites, festivals, public art installations, and programmes. QM preserves and expands the nation's cultural offerings, sharing art and culture from Qatar, the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia (MENASA) region with the world and enriching the lives of citizens, residents, and visitors.

Under the patronage of His Highness the Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, and led by its Chairperson, Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, QM has made Qatar a vibrant centre for the arts, culture, and education in the Middle East and beyond. QM is integral to the goal of developing an innovative, diverse, and progressive nation, bringing people together to ignite new thinking, spark critical cultural conversations, and amplify the voices of Qatar's people. Since its founding in 2005, QM has overseen the development of museums and festivals including the Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) and MIA Park, Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of Qatar (NMOQ), 3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum, QM Gallery Al Riwaq, QM Gallery Katara, and the Tasweer Qatar Photo Festival. Future projects include Dadu: Children's Museum of Qatar, Art Mill Museum, Qatar Auto Museum and the Lusail Museum. Qatar also has one of the largest and most ambitious public art programmes in the world. Through its Department of Archaeology, QM spearheads several initiatives to preserve and restore Qatar's historical sites and buildings. QM also initiates and supports Creative Hubs that nurture artistic talent and create opportunities to build a strong and sustainable cultural infrastructure. These include the Fire Station: Artist in Residence, M7 for innovation, fashion and design, and Liwan Design Studios and Labs. For more information visit <https://qm.org.qa>

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