



# ISLAMIC ARTS SOCIETY

*501(c)3*



## U.S. MUSLIMS CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR PLACE IN SOCIETY

PEW RESEARCH

**75%**

**75% YES**

75% of American Muslims feel there is a lot of discrimination against Muslims in American society

**62%**

**62% NO**

62% Americans do not see Islam as part of mainstream society

**50%**

**50%**

Being Muslim in America has become more difficult in recent years

Muslims are negatively framed in the media, and Islam is cast as a violent religion.

- *A review of 250,000 articles. International Communication Gazette*



## **HISTORY**

**SINCE 2014, IAS HAS BECOME AN UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION OF ARTISTS CREATING ISLAMIC ART IN THE US**

## **MISSION**

**-NON-RELIGIOUS, NON-POLITICAL**

**-TO SHARE THE RICH HERITAGE OF ISLAMIC ARTS THROUGHOUT THE CITY, STATE, AND BEYOND.**

**-TO CELEBRATE OUR CULTURE AND PROMOTE THE POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY AMONGST THE BROADER COMMUNITY AT LARGE**

## **BOARD & STAFF**

**7 MEMBER BOARD, 4 PART-TIME STAFF**

**SHAHEEN RAHMAN, KHAWAJA AZIMUDDIN, ZAKIA LALANI, MONIRA KUNDI, GULZAR NATHANI, FAHIM SOMANI, ZULFIQAR ALI**



# WHAT IS ISLAMIC ART?

- Artistic traditions that developed in the Islamic world from the 7th century onward (Southeast Asia to Spain)
- Secular and sacred works

## COMMON THEMES

- Arabic Calligraphy
- Geometric Patterns
- Biomorphic Designs
- Arabesque

## OTHER FORMS

- Ebru (paper marbling)
- Henna
- Literature
- Music

# IAS ANNUAL PROGRAMS



LIBRARY/SCHOOL  
PROGRAMS

## 2026 HOUSTON ACTIVITIES >50 PROGRAMS

- LIBRARIES
- SCHOOLS
- UNIVERSITIES
- MUSEUMS
- COMMUNITY CENTERS



PARTNER  
PROGRAMS

-MFAH, CMH, ASIA  
SOCIETY, UH.....

ANNUAL FESTIVAL



GLOBAL ART  
CONTEST  
(Love of Prophet)



WORKSHOPS

ART CLASSES  
K-12, Adults



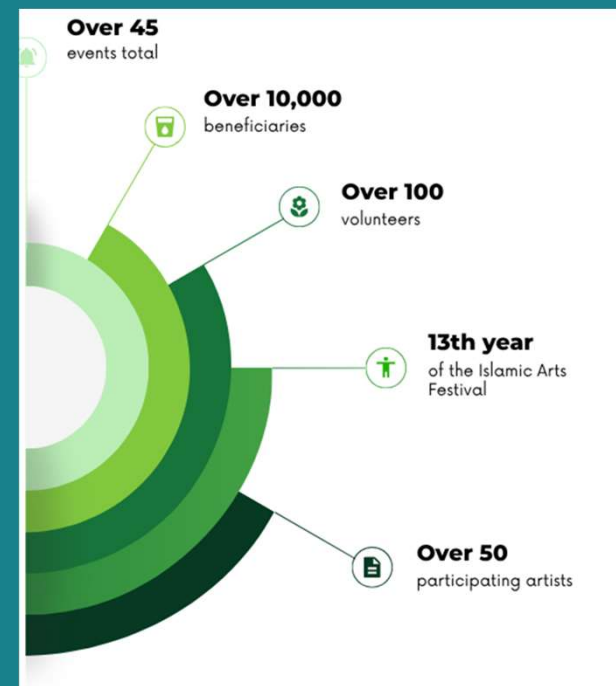
<https://islamicartsociety.org/our-events/>

# Growth & Grants over the years



- Houston Endowment
- Mid-America Arts Alliance
- BIPOC Artist Network Fund
- Texas Commission for the Arts
- Houston Arts Alliance
- The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion
- Max & Victoria Dreyfus Fund
- Alice Kleberg Foundation
- Engage
- Asian American Arts Alliance

2026



ATTENDED BY  
OVER 5,000  
PEOPLE EVERY  
YEAR!



CHILDREN'S  
ART



WORKSHOPS

# IAS ANNUAL FESTIVAL



VISUAL ARTS  
DISPLAY

- By 50 artists



**13th  
ANNUAL  
FESTIVAL**

THEATER  
PROGRAMS

- Poetry
- Film
- Storytelling
- Music
- Academic Session



LIVE ART  
DEMOS



<https://islamicartsociety.org/festival-2026/>

# NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS



GRANT AWARDED IN RECOGNITION  
OF OUR FESTIVAL WHICH  
CELEBRATES CULTURE AND  
BRINGS THE BROADER HOUSTON  
COMMUNITY TOGETHER THROUGH  
ART

# 2026



Islamic Arts Society  
*Presents the Grand 13th Annual*

## ISLAMIC ARTS FESTIVAL

*One Festival  
Endless Experiences*

**November 21st & 22nd, 2026**  
10:30 AM – 5:30 PM

ISMAILI CENTER  
2323 Allen Pkwy, Houston, TX 77019

**Art Sales | Live Shows | Food | Entertainment**

*Come see the largest festival of Islamic Arts*

Calligraphy | Painting | Woodwork | Ebru | Ceramic | Illumination Live Art  
Shows | Spoken Art | Nasheed | Sufi Qawwali Program  
Workshops | Children's Art Seminar | Film Program | Food Court

Freedom 250 | NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS | FREE | IslamicArtsSociety.org | QR Code

# 13TH ANNUAL ISLAMIC ARTS FESTIVAL

## ISMAILI CENTER HOUSTON

## NOV 21ST & 22ND

## 10:30 AM – 5:30 PM

