

جامعة نيويورك أبوظبي



Class of
2025
WRAPPED



#myNYUAD





MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

Dear Class of 2025,

As you reach this momentous milestone at NYU Abu Dhabi, I want to celebrate the extraordinary journey you have crafted, and the new doors you have now opened. You have demonstrated resilience, curiosity, and a commitment to growth throughout your time here.

You have embraced challenges, formed lifelong friendships, and expanded your understanding of the world in ways that will shape your future. More than ever, the world needs thoughtful, ethical, and bold leaders like you. I have no doubt that you will carry forward the values of integrity, compassion, and purpose that define our community.

Whether in science, the arts, business, policy, or beyond, your impact will be felt far and wide. As you take your next steps, embrace your future with confidence and conviction. Stay true to your principles, seek knowledge with an open heart, and always strive to leave a meaningful, positive mark on the world.

You are joining almost 3,000 NYUAD alumni in a global network of nearly 700,000 NYU alumni, and you will always be part of this community.

**I look forward to seeing the many ways you will shape the future.
Congratulations, Class of 2025!**



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

Dear Class of 2025,

Congratulations! You did it!

Turning the pages of this yearbook, filled with memories of friendship, learning, and campus cats, I hope you are able to look back with pride at what you have accomplished during your time at NYU Abu Dhabi.

As you embark on the next chapter of your journey, whether it be further education, entering the workforce, or pursuing your responsibilities or passions in other realms, may the

lessons you have learned here endure always and serve as a foundation for a lifetime of learning still to come.

Class of 2025, you leave behind a great legacy at NYUAD and you will always have a home here.

As you step out into the world and embrace the inevitable uncertainties that lie ahead, remember that you are ready for what comes.

Best wishes,



AISHA ALNAQBI
SENIOR DEAN OF STUDENTS



NYU
ABU DHABI



NYUAD
CLASS OF
2025
WRAPPED

nyuad.nyu.edu





**I CAME TO
NYU
ABU DHABI...**

**...WANTING
TO MAKE THE
MOST OF THE
OPPORTUNITY**

**...FEELING READY
TO FORM**

...WITH DREAMS

**...TO MEET MY
LIFE LONG
FRIENDS**

...SERIOUS

**...FEELING
EXCITED
AND EAGER**

**...WITH A
CURIOSITY
ABOUT THE
MIDDLE EAST**

**...FOR ITS
UNIQUE
GLOBAL
ATMOSPHERE**

**...TO
LEARN**

**...WITH NO
IDEA WHAT TO
EXPECT**

**...WITH
ANTICIPATION FOR
A NEW CHAPTER
IN LIFE**

...ALONE

**...TO GET A
WORLD-CLASS
DEGREE**

**...WITH FEW
EXPECTATIONS**

**...TO TRAVEL THE
WORLD AND
MEET DIVERSE
PEOPLE**

...FULL OF
GRATITUDE
FOR THE
OPPORTUNITY IN
THE FIRST PLACE

...FEELING
CONNECTED
AND INSPIRED
TO A DIVERSE
COMMUNITY

...FEELING
WISER AND
SMARTER

...WITH
FULFILLMENT

...WITH A
CLEARER
SENSE OF
MYSELF AND
THE MIDDLE
EAST

...WITH
LIFE LONG
FRIENDS

...KNOWING
MORE ABOUT
WHO I AM AND
WHAT I WANT
TO DO IN THE
WORLD

...WITH NO
REGRETS

...WITH
UNFORGETTABLE
MEMORIES AND
CONFIDENCE FOR
THE FUTURE

...FINDING
MORE THINGS
TO LEARN

...WITH
FRIENDS WHO
I CONSIDER
FAMILY

I LEFT
NYU
ABU DHABI...

...WITH A
DEGREE AND
+100 WORLD-
CLASS TOTE
BAGS

...SILLY

...WITH
A PLACE
TO CALL
HOME

...WITH THE
LOVE OF MY
LIFE





AAKARSH SINGH
India



AAKIF RATTU
Pakistan



AAMNA ALZAABI
UAE



AARUSHI PRASAD
India



AAYAT AZIM
India



ABDULLA MOHAMED HAREB
BRADHA ALMEHAIRBI
UAE



ABDULRAHMAN AL THANI
Qatar



AHMED ALAKBERI
UAE



AHMED BILAL
Pakistan



ALEX MAVRIDIS
Greece



ALI KASHWANI
UAE



ALIA AL ALI
UAE



ALIA ALMUHAIRI
UAE



AMEERA ALHARMOODI
UAE



AMINA ROTARI
Moldova



ANGELICA RAAGAS
Philippines



ARSLAN ASGHAR
Pakistan



ARYA KANADE
India

ARTS and HUMANITIES



ASSEM KARSHYGA
Kazakhstan



AYA AMINE
Morocco



AYAZHAN GABITKYZY
Kazakhstan



AYESHA AL AHMADI
UAE



AZZA ALHAJ
UAE



BATO BATBILEG
Mongolia



BRUNA ARAUJO PEREIRA
Brazil



CHRIS SHIM
South Korea

STUDENT STORIES

DAILY RECAPS

I have always loved talking about my dreams. As a child, when I had to make up love stories between the squares in the carpet to coax myself into slumber, my dreams were always so long and intricate that I never seemed to have the right words to describe them but I would always find a willing listener, my mum or my dad, to hear me out.

When I came to NYU Abu Dhabi, I would often start my mornings with Bisha at D2 recounting the storyline of last night's dream, looking at her expressions change as the nonsense I was spewing finally jolted her awake. In these daily recaps, I began relying on words in Bosnian, Arabic, or Urdu to convey ideas that simply wouldn't fit into English.



NO MATTER WHERE WE GO, WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE THE WORDS, AND EACH OTHER.

It's not that English isn't an incredible language, it bridges three continents in my friend group alone, but it is a language which lacks personality. I can say "I love you," in English without capturing even a fraction of the emotion I feel when I summon the courage to say "volim te," in Bosnian. In our group of seven languages, we have all become accustomed to weaving each other's phrases into everyday conversation without even noticing. There's a depth of emotion Bosnian conveys, the love carried in Arabic, and the jokes that only sound right in Urdu. It is for these reasons that the narrative of my dreams each one of my friends is used to hearing is adorned with the words and phrases they have taught me during my four years at NYUAD.

During those rare times all eight of us managed to gather, our conversations were always loud. I remember walking over to get my food in D1 and realizing I could easily hear our conversation

despite the blaring music and being nearly twenty meters away. No matter how loud or embarrassing, the conversations were always a mix of our native languages woven with English, punctuated by questions from anyone who couldn't quite catch every word or phrase being tossed around.

Although I might not be daydreaming about carpet squares anymore, the practice of retelling my dreams has taught me to speak in ways I knew not of before. It allowed me to speak of my first love in seven languages, each one capturing the hope I carried. And even though that love remained just a dream, what remained reality is our patchwork of languages that continues to connect us. We've built something lasting, an unwritten dictionary of inside jokes, gentle teases, and quiet comfort. No matter where we go, we'll always have the words, and each other.

AJLA SACIC

nyuad.nyu.edu



STUDENT STORIES

CELEBRATING THE VICTORIES

Having joined the badminton team in freshman year, I've grown so much as a player and as captain. The team, especially coach Pat, has always been so supportive and encouraging during the weekly training sessions. We had numerous opportunities to compete with great players from Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, and Shanghai, celebrating the victories and learning from the matches we lost.

Over the three years, I gradually realized that I'm not a really talented athlete, but I think what's more important is the journey and physical and mental growth, the joy I had during practices and competitions, and the memories with teammates on and off the court. The badminton family is truly a highlight of my NYU Abu Dhabi experience, and it will always be something special in my heart.

YUGOO LU





DANIA EZZ
Egypt



DANIEL BASURTO FOJACO
Mexico



DYLAN HERMAN
USA



DZHAMILIA EL LABBAN
Russia



EL'ISHA ALLEN
Trinidad and Tobago



FATEMA AL HAMELI
UAE



GAYA MENON
India



GHALYAH ALMATROOSHI
UAE



HAFSA KHALID
UAE



HANEY COMANDA
Philippines



HIND YOUNUS
UAE



JAIDEN MATHARU
UAE



JAM MORENO
Philippines



JANNAH MOKHTAR
Egypt



JAVERIA HAQ
Pakistan



JESS MA
New Zealand

STUDENTS



A MEMORABLE AIRPORT MOMENT

I'll never forget when we were coming back from our class trip to Morocco and we missed our layover flight. It was a class of like 20 people, including the professor, all of us just stuck at the airport around 5am.

We were so tired but we were just sitting and laughing there. That was such an NYU Abu Dhabi moment, being stuck with your class at the airport.

Marija Tomevska
North Macedonia
Arts and Humanities
Interactive Media

EXCITED FOR WHAT LIFE HAS TO OFFER NEXT

I'm really excited for what life has to offer next. But I also will be very sad.

There will be a lot of emotions on Commencement and I'm definitely going to tear up.

Azaz-ur-Rehman Nasir
Pakistan
Engineering
Electrical Engineering

MADE MY FOUR YEARS MUCH BETTER

I will never forget meeting all my friends every morning at our breakfast table.

It's a very simple thing that happened every day, but it made my four years much better.

Katerina Fialova
Czechia
Science
Physics

S QUOTES



REALIZING THAT I HAVE THE WORLD FOR ME

When I was freshman, I was just an introvert child with not a lot of experience in the world.

Now, I am a big open minded guy, mature and realizing that I have the world for me and I can do whatever I propose.

Roman Villarreal
Mexico
Engineering
Mechanical Engineering

CONVERSATIONS ABOUT OUR VALUES AND PERSPECTIVES

What I liked the most is the study sessions with my friends where we not only discussed the tasks but also had very deep conversations about our values and perspectives to different topics.

Tamila Karimova
Kazakhstan
Science
Chemistry

LEARNING TO BE MORE GRATEFUL

A lot of key milestones have occurred over the last few years.

But I think the biggest thing across these last few years is learning to be more grateful.

Devjoy Dev
UK
PhD
Engineering
Biomedical Engineering



KHADIJA ALIZADA
Azerbaijan



LIAM MCCARTHY
USA



LINDA DONG
China



LUKE NGUYEN
Vietnam



LULWAH ALBLOOSHI
UAE



LYNA AMMAGUI
Morocco



MAHRA ALHAI
UAE



MALIKA SINGH
India



MANAL ALJAEEDI
UAE



MARIAM ABDELRAZEK
Egypt



MARIJA TOMEVSKA
North Macedonia



MARYAM AL DARMAKI
UAE



MIRTILL MISZORI MISZORI
Hungary



MOHAMMED ALHAMMADI
UAE

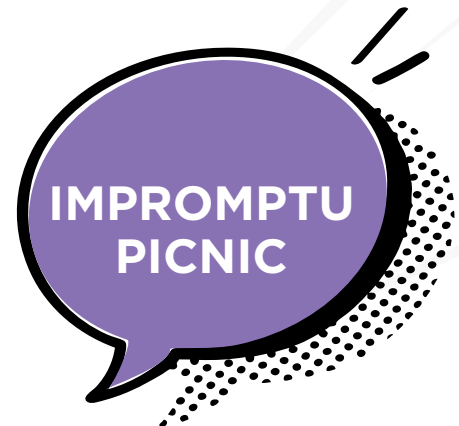


MONIKA PAWLOWSKA
Poland



NAIN RYU
South Korea

STUDENT STORIES



What does it take to go on a picnic with your friends at NYU Abu Dhabi? A Google Calendar invite, running into them on the Highline to confirm, and finding a picnic blanket (or using a D2 bag as a makeshift one). But since getting everyone together at the same time is nearly impossible, an impromptu picnic just makes more sense.

So you grab a blanket, order food, and sit on the grassy pavement near F1. Everything is going great — until 8pm, when the sprinklers go off. You get up in a rush, watching your fries soak up the water like a lost cause. Not quite the picnic we planned, but a wet picnic is still a picnic.

MATAB MASHTA



STUDENTS



IMMERSING OURSELVES IN THE CULTURE

I will never forget my J-Term in Buenos Aires. It was a film class with Professor Gail Segal and it was memorable because we spent three weeks shooting films around the streets of Buenos Aires, immersing ourselves in the culture of Argentina, and just spending time with great people, doing beautiful things. It was one of the happiest times of my life.

Alessia Piacitelli
Italy
Social Science
Economics



EXCITED FOR EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT

When I came here, I was super excited, but I felt unsure about who I was or what my place was in this world.

By being here, I realized that yes, the world is small, but it's also so much more expansive. And I'm excited for everything that's going to happen next.

Joanna Kumendong
Indonesia
Social Science
Economics



EXTREMELY TALENTED PEOPLE

I've had the chance to meet a lot of different people from around the world in the past few years, extremely talented people. I was pushed academically in a lot of ways.

And I think I'm coming out as a more well-rounded individual and as a person with a broader perspective.

Omar Rayyan
Jordan
Engineering
Electrical Engineering

"QUOTES"



SOMETHING I WOULD NEVER HAVE EXPECTED

I'll never forget the moment that I got to meet a professor whose column I had been reading for years before I even went to New York. Every Sunday I used to wake up and read a column in the *New York Times* by this professor.

I actually got to take a class with him, learn from him, and get life advice from him. It's something that I would never have expected if I hadn't come to a place like NYU Abu Dhabi.

Nirvana Amjad
Pakistan
Social Science
Economics



OPEN TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Since my first year at NYU Abu Dhabi, I've become more open to new opportunities, which has made me more adaptive to embracing new perspectives.

Over the last four years, I've been able to say yes to more things than I did before. This experience has transformed me.

Abdulla Mohamed Hareb
Bradha Almehairbi
UAE
Arts and Humanities
Legal Studies



SHAPING OUR CURIOSITY

Thank you so much for shaping our curiosity, challenging our perspectives, and nurturing our collective ambitions.

And thank you for being a shelter throughout four years of our journey.

Sanzad Hossain
Bangladesh
Social Science
Economics



NAJLA ALMAZROUEI
UAE



NOURHANE SEKKAT
Morocco



OJAS YADAV
India



Q M NAUSHADUL ISLAM
Bangladesh



RAMA ALWIDIAN
Jordan



RANIA KETTANI
Morocco



RAYA TABASSUM
Bangladesh



RAZANE SAKHI
Morocco



SAKUYA YAMANOI
Japan



SARA ALMULLA
UAE



SEO YOON (IAN) LEE
South Korea



SERHII DURYTSKYI
Ukraine



SHAHAD ALSAQQAF
UAE



SHAHD NIGIM
Palestine



SHAMMA ALKAABI
UAE



SOPHIE BIERVERT
Chile



SRI PRANAV SRIVATSAVAI
India



STEPHANIE YIN
China



SUNNY SUN
Canada



SYED FAHAD RIZWAN
Pakistan



TIMOTHY CHIU
Taiwan



VANESSA MEDINA VÁZQUEZ
Mexico



VICTORIA SAMAYOA
Mexico



YELYZAVETA DATSENKO
Ukraine



YUPU CHEN
China



ZHANIYA KORPEBAYEVA
Kazakhstan

NOT SHOWN

Ahela Saleh (Yemen)
Almaha Al Shamsi (UAE)
Alyazya Alnaqbi (UAE)
Deannndra Kidd (Jamaica)
Fatima Al Nahyan (UAE)
Fatima Aljunaibi (UAE)

Hassan Abuhailiga (Saudi Arabia)
Hind Alharmoodi (UAE)
Imane Jerid (Morocco)
Insiya Motiwala (Pakistan)
Jacky Zhu (China)
Khalifa Al Shamsi (UAE)

Mouza Almansoori (UAE)
Moza Lootah (UAE)
Nora AlSuwaidi
Omar Assem ElGamal (Egypt)
Shaikha Al Nuaimi (UAE)
Shamsa Alawadhi (UAE)

STUDENT STORIES

MY TRIP WAS
A STRONG
AFFIRMATION
OF MY DREAM

I came to NYU Abu Dhabi with a clear ambition and determination to pursue medicine. Throughout my time here, I remained steadfast in my decision and worked hard toward a future in global health. My regional seminar trip to Rwanda was a strong affirmation of my dream.

In Rwanda, we discussed African perspectives on data and technology, and their relation to healthcare disparities, reigniting my commitment to medicine as a force for change. Seeing firsthand how access to healthcare is shaped by policy, infrastructure, and systemic inequities made it clear to me: I want to dedicate my life to closing these gaps and working toward a world where quality healthcare is not a privilege, but a right.



TRIP TO RWANDA

But the trip wasn't just about data and technology — it was also about the incredible people I met along the way. Through 11 long but beautiful days of shared meals, deep conversations, and spontaneous adventures, we forged friendships that felt effortless yet profound. In laughter and hardship, we built a community that felt like home. These friends are not just classmates, they are lifelong connections.

Every conversation and every shared experience in Rwanda has left a permanent mark on me. I learned that while the journey toward global health equity is challenging, it is also deeply human. It is about the people we meet, the stories we hear, and the bonds we form along the way.

And in those connections, I found not only affirmation of my path — but also the kind of friendships that make the journey worthwhile. Special shoutout to Professor Toussaint Nothias and Professor Julianna Bidadanure for making this journey a reality!



MOUATH
ABU-DAOUD



NYU 2025 ABU DHABI

BEST
MEMORIES



A TIME
TO
REMEMBER





WE LOVE
NYUAD



STUDENTS



LOOK BACK AT THE WONDERFUL MEMORIES WE'VE CREATED

As we stand at the precipice of this journey, let us take a moment to look back at the wonderful memories we've created at this place.

I hope wherever life takes us, our paths cross again, and we are able to look back and reflect at this moment together.

Roshan Saji
India
PhD
Engineering
Mechanical and Aerospace
Engineering



BUILD CLOSER CONNECTIONS WITH MY FRIENDS

My most valuable memory was my trip to NYU Shanghai with my team mates to participate in a volleyball tournament.

It was such a great team building activity and I got to build closer connections with my friends.

Liza Datsenko
Ukraine
Arts and Humanities
Interactive Media



BECOME A MUCH MORE CONFIDENT PERSON

I have become a much more confident person, both at a professional and personal level.

I have gained various technical and personal development skills to confidently take those lessons forward and achieve my aspirations in life.

Lakshmi Likhitha Mankali
India
PhD
Engineering
Electrical and Computer
Engineering

S QUOTES



GAINED EXPERIENCES THAT HAVE OPENED MY PERSPECTIVES

I've become a global citizen from the classes I've taken, to what I've learned from the people I've interacted with.

I have gained experiences that have opened my perspectives into different viewpoints and have a wider view of how the world works.

Khadija Alizada
Azerbaijan
Arts and Humanities
Legal Studies



A PASSPORT FULL OF STAMPS

I arrived here with my suitcase, my teddy bear, and my entry permit.

And now I'm leaving with an education, a degree, lifelong connections, and a passport full of stamps.

Aya Amine
Morocco
Arts and Humanities
Interactive Media



MORE ABOUT THE PEOPLE

I realized that home is not just a place but more about the people.

Sakuya Yamanoi
Japan
Arts and Humanities
Arab Crossroads Studies

STUDENT STORIES

PUSHING MYSELF OUT OF MY COMFORT ZONE

My time at NYU Abu Dhabi has allowed me to grow in ways that I don't think any other institution could have provided, largely due to the semester I spent in New York City. Having lived my entire life in Abu Dhabi, moving across the world was a daunting experience, but I gained a strong sense of independence and community that I wouldn't trade for anything.





TAMARA
MASHNOUK

Living alone in an entirely new country, I had to learn to enjoy my own company just as much as I enjoyed networking and meeting new people. My weekend morning walks through Manhattan became my way of learning the ins and outs of the city, while also pushing myself out of my comfort zone and gaining the confidence to navigate life on my own. I ended up falling in love with the city and everything it has to offer — so much so that I returned a year later on vacation. Had I not had this experience, I don't think I would have had the confidence to apply to graduate school abroad.

Now, I find myself on my way to London for my Master's degree, a familiar yet completely different challenge. Were it not for the time I spent at NYUAD and, subsequently, NYU in New York, I don't think I would have had the space to grow in the ways I have over the last four years.





AAVISKAR PAUDYAL
Nepal



ABAY ORALOV
Kazakhstan



AHMAD OTHMAN
Jordan



AHMED ALKINDI
UAE



AHMED FARRUKH
Pakistan



ALIA ALJANAHI
UAE



AMEEN VADAKKEKARA
India



AMNA ALMHEIRI
UAE



AMNA ALRUSTAMANI
UAE



ARUZHAN ZHAMALBEK
Kazakhstan



ASTE MAYAYA
Tanzania



AVI BIST
Nepal



AZAZ-UR-REHMAN NASIR
Pakistan



BATOOL ABEDRABBO
USA



BRIJESH PHULLEL
Nepal



BUSHRA SHUMS
Sri Lanka



CHAIMAE ABOUZAHIR
Morocco



CHRISTOPHER SAMI
Fiji

ENGINEERING



DHIYAA AL JORF
Palestine



DIKSHYA NEUPANE
Nepal



DILNAZ UTEMISSOVA
Kazakhstan



FATIMA FAROOQ
Pakistan



FERNANDO CASTAÑO
Colombia



FIRAS DARWISH
Jordan



GABRIEL ROLDÁN
Guatemala



GHIDA SHAWAF
Lebanon

STUDENTS



INTERACT WITH MY PEERS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

I think John Sexton said it best when he said playing another octave of the piano. During my four years here, I definitely played another octave of the piano.

I took courses from disciplines that are so vastly different from my own. But outside of the classroom, I also got to interact with my peers from all over the world.

Oyungerel Amarsanaa
Mongolia
Science
Computer Science



NOTHING CLOSE TO THIS AMAZING EXPERIENCE

If you asked me a few years ago what I would have imagined university to be like, it would have been nothing close to this amazing experience I've had over here.

Thank you for providing opportunities to study away, to learn from such a diverse class, and also to engage in different interdisciplinary discourses. It's been an amazing experience.

Dhiyaa Al Jorf
Palestine
Engineering
Computer Engineering



THE PEOPLE I'VE MET AND THE PLACES I'VE BEEN TO

I will never forget the people I've met and the places I've been to.

I will never forget our impromptu cooking sessions in the A2C kitchen lounge, or going to the beach and walking barefoot on the sand.

Vaishali Garg
India
Social Science
Social Research and
Public Policy

STUDENT QUOTES



THE FEELING OF BEING AT HOME

All the different perspectives of people from different backgrounds really helped enriched my education.

And I don't think I'll ever forget the feeling of feeling so at home.

Victoria Samayoa
Mexico
Arts and Humanities
Legal Studies



REALLY MEMORABLE RAMADAN IN NEW YORK

I'll never forget my study experience at New York. It was Ramadan and we were all missing home, so we got together with 20 different students from NYU Abu Dhabi.

Some of us cooked, some brought food and drinks, and we had iftar together. It was really memorable and we felt that we were back home.

Khalid ElSherbiny
Egypt
Engineering
Electrical Engineering



A GREAT NURTURING COMMUNITY

Thank you so much for being the great community to nurture my talents, challenge me in new areas of my life, and comfort me when I needed.

Laura Moncada
Venezuela
Social Science
Social Research and
Public Policy



HAMDAN ZOGHBOR
UAE



HARAM JEONG
South Korea



HARRY JANG
South Korea



HAYA BASIT
Pakistan



HESSA SHARAF
UAE



HIBA ASSAMAOUAT
Morocco



INES EL BEDDAD
Morocco



İREM NAZ ÇELEN
Türkiye



JANA AWADALLA
Egypt



JENNA KHANFAR
Jordan



JOANNA ALMASRI
Jordan



KHALID ALZEYUODI
UAE



KHALID ELSHERBINY
Egypt



KUNDAI MUTUWIRA
Zimbabwe



LAYAN ALKASAJI
Jordan



LEEN KHAROUF
Palestine



MAADAA BAYARSAIKHAN
Mongolia



MAHMOUD HAFEZ
Egypt



MANDY LIAO
Taiwan



MARINE RAMAROSON
Madagascar



MARWAN IBRAHIM
Egypt



MOUAD MELOUK
Morocco



MOUATH ABU-DAOUD
Jordan



MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM
Pakistan



NASER ALHUMAIDI
UAE



NASHEED UR REHMAN
UAE



NATTY METEKIE
Ethiopia



NOUR ABDELAZIZ
Egypt



**NURBERGEN
AITMUKHANBETOV**
Kazakhstan



NURGUL ZHUMASHEVA
Kazakhstan



OMAR AL ALEELI
UAE

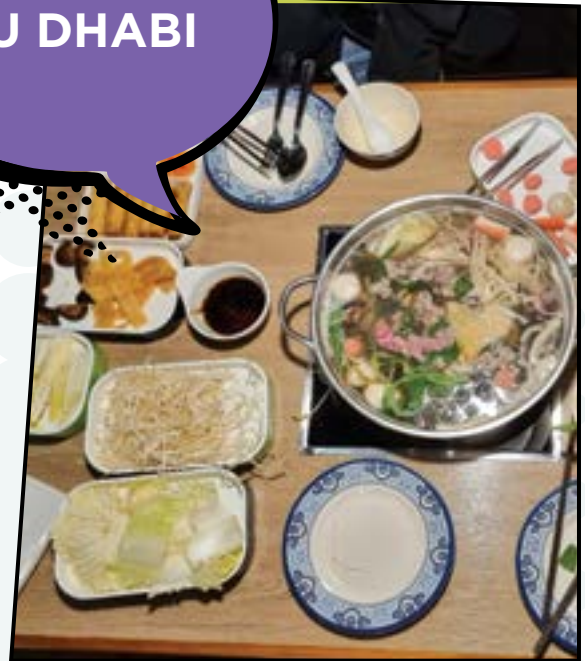


OMAR RAYYAN
Jordan

STUDENT STORIES

I AM FROM
ABU DHABI

As I am from Abu Dhabi, I thought I had a pretty good grasp of the city's tune. The city was my comfort zone, my familiar, my home turf. Coming to NYU Abu Dhabi, I found it endearing how everyone was so eager and excited over the place I considered my normal. Add to that the fact that I've never been the type for adventures. I'm not shy, per se - I just like the comfort of a schedule. Why chase after tourist spots when I can stick to my cozy cafés? Why switch up my routine when I know it like the back of my hand?



**I'VE HAD A
LOT OF FUN
EXPLORING MY
HOME WITH
YOU ALL**

Turns out, as I came to know and love, that sentiment doesn't fly with NYUAD students. The friends I made here had fresh eyes and the need to explore; their infectious excitement and my chronic FOMO pushed me to join in on the fun. I was dragged out of my "regular" and started involving myself more, peeling back the layers of the city to reveal a vibrant new hue.

From conventions to food stops, escape rooms to painted pottery, musicals to menageries... I've had a lot of fun exploring my home with you all. I still cherish my comfort, but now I switch it up every so often and wander off my normal path. I learned that from everyone here, and hope to carry it with me from here on out.



**BAYYENA
ALZAABI**



ROUDHAN



ORSI NAGY
Hungary



RAYAN ALNAQBI
UAE



RAYED KHAN PATHAN
India



REEM AL TAMIMI
UAE



REEM SAYED AHMED
Egypt



REHSHAD FARDIN
Bangladesh



RODRIGO VALDIVIA
Mexico



**ROMAN VILLARREAL
ORDONEZ**
Mexico



RUILIN ZHOU
China



SALEH ZEWAİL
Egypt



SAMROZ AHMAD SHOAIB
Pakistan



SANSHIKA GARG
India



SEIF ELSHAFIE
Egypt



TEHANI AZKAR
Sri Lanka



THEA HAYEK
Lebanon



TIM KIM
South Korea

STUDENT QUOTES

Thank you so much for everything that you've offered throughout the last four years. I genuinely feel like my growth wouldn't have been possible without it.

**MY GROWTH
WOULDN'T HAVE
BEEN POSSIBLE
WITHOUT IT**



Sara Abo Madalala
Serbia
Social Science
Business, Organizations
and Society

nyuad.nyu.edu



**Abdul Moiz Zahid
Siddiqui**
Pakistan
Social Science
Economics

**A DREAM
COME TRUE**

These past four years have been nothing less of a dream come true for me, and I hope that it's been the same for every one of you as well. I've enjoyed all of the memories I've made over here, and it's a part of my life that will always stick with me wherever I go.

STUDENT STORIES

FOREVER GRATEFUL TO NYUAD

Candidate Weekend — the first elevator rides, lounge games, and spontaneous small talk — remains etched in my memory as the beginning of my NYU Abu Dhabi journey. Even now, I shudder at the thought of playing charades back then, when my limited vocabulary would send me into panic.

To my little Aruzhan: if only you knew I never memorized every word. Instead, I learned to embrace uncertainty and confidently say, “I don’t know.” Overwhelmed by hundreds of names I couldn’t quite keep track of, I was a first-generation student stepping into a world of incredible diversity. I could never have predicted the amazing opportunities, life-changing friendships, and transformative experiences NYUAD would bring.



A WELCOMING COMMUNITY

Four years later, as my brother visited with his family and I proudly introduced him to my second home, I realized just how far I had come. Every warm greeting and every kind hello to us reminded me of my transformation. I evolved from a shy girl, once terrified of playing charades, into someone who opened her heart to a welcoming community.

My journey even inspired me to convince my Emirati best friend to join me for a study-away semester. I still recall her hesitant words: “You’re with friends, but it’s my first time going abroad without family. I’m scared.” Those words resonated with my own experience of trusting destiny and taking that leap into the unknown.

I opened my heart to NYUAD — my alma mater — and it turned out to be the greatest experience of my life. Now, as I prepare to graduate and soar into new horizons, I remain forever grateful to NYUAD for nurturing me, for teaching me how to fly. With the support of incredible friends and peers, I’m ready to step into adult life, even if a little fear still lingers.

ARUZHAN
ZHAMALBEK



nyuad.nyu.edu





ULAN KUNDIZBAY
Kazakhstan



VLADISLAV ZAPROMYOTOV
Kazakhstan



WALID AL-EISAWI
Palestine



YONGBIN KO
South Korea

NOT SHOWN

Ainara Kazymova (Kazakhstan)

Hussieny Shaaban (Egypt)

John Abanes (Philippines)

Larissa Al Kseiri (Syria)

Mansoor Abdulrazzaq (UAE)

Omar AlQadi (UAE)

Rayyan Almaazmi

BEST MEMORIES





STUDENT STORIES

**A PLACE
WHERE I COULD
BE ANYTHING I
WANTED**

There is a story I have always loved about a little fish who dreamed of being more than just a fish. It wanted to soar like a bird, run as fast as a cheetah, and climb trees like a chimpanzee. It did not see the water as a limitation; it saw the sky, the land, the trees, and thought, “Why not me?”

When I wrote my NYU Abu Dhabi supplemental essay back in 2021, I felt like that little fish. I wanted to try everything I loved, to leap beyond what felt familiar, to live a life full of stories I could tell. NYUAD became that place, the ocean wide enough for me to believe I could fly, run, and climb in ways I had never imagined. It is where my passion for becoming a doctor grew roots and branches.



WHY NOT ME?

Through classes that challenged me, labs that sparked curiosity, and mentors who believed in me even when I doubted myself, I discovered that medicine was not just a dream but a calling. It is where I found my community on the track, where every race felt like chasing something more than a finish line. The early mornings, the breathless sprints, the quiet moments after a win or a loss, they taught me resilience, discipline, and the comfort of belonging. And it is where my novel, *Don't You Forget*, was born, not just as words on paper but as a part of me. NYUAD gave me the space to tell stories, to shape them, and to believe they mattered. Like that little fish, I learned that I did not have to choose just one dream. This was a place where I could be anything I wanted. And I was.

CONFIDENCE EZEMBA



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NYU 2025 ABU DHABI



LIFELONG
MEMORIES



WE LOVE
NYUAD



A TIME
TO
REMEMBER





AADIL ZAKARYA
India



AAVISHKAR GAUTAM
Nepal



AAYAN MASOOD PATHAN
Pakistan



ABDELRAHMAN KHATER
Egypt

SCIENCE



ABDUR RAHMAN
UAE



ADAM SHARIF
Pakistan



ADILBEK TURSYNBEK
Kazakhstan



ADITYA PANDHARE
India



AISHA ALKETBI
UAE



AJLA SASIC
Bosnia and Herzegovina



AKNUR KASSYM
Kazakhstan



ALBINA UVASHEVA
Kazakhstan

STUDENT STORIES

NYU ABU DHABI
HAS GIVEN ME
A SPACE TO
GROW

NYU Abu Dhabi has given me a space to grow, to question, and to truly understand who I am and who I want to become. The person I was when I first arrived feels like a memory. Now, after these years, I will leave with more confidence, memories, and a deep appreciation of the diverse world we live in.

It was in the everyday moments with my friends that I found the most meaning. In my study away at NYU Shanghai I met most of my incredible friends. Our spontaneous walks along the Bund, and those quiet, reflective moments crossing the streets of Shanghai, surrounded by voices and stories so different yet so connected.

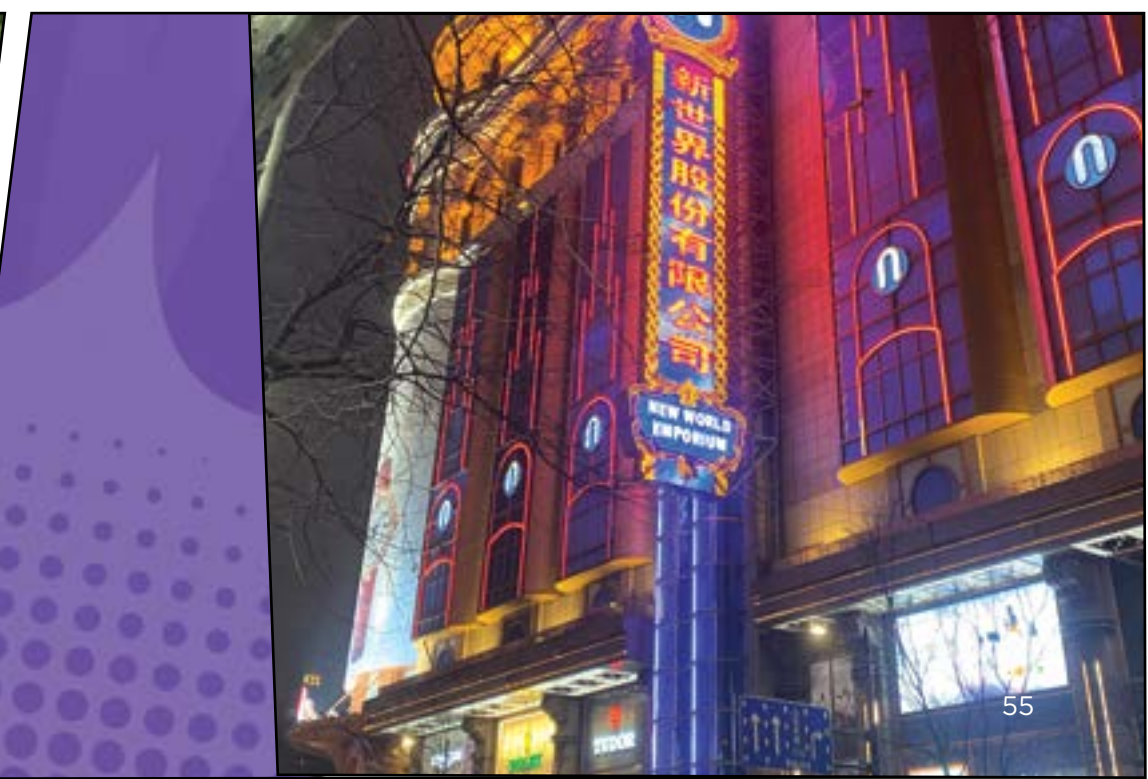


EVERY TABLE I JOINED, THERE WAS DIVERSITY

At every table I joined, there was diversity. Every meal, every discussion, every journey was a reminder of how beautifully complex we are. I think traveling with friends is like seeing places through their eyes, understanding their cultures not just through words but shared adventures, and the way we navigated familiar streets or introduced each other to foods that carried the warmth of home.

Saying goodbye to friends who have become family is difficult, especially knowing that we will soon find our paths in life and chase our dreams. No matter where life takes me, I will always carry these friendships with me, shaping the way I see the world and the way I move through it.

SHAHD NIGIM





ALEX MA
Kazakhstan



ALI ABDULLAH JAFRI
Pakistan



ANANTA KRISHNAN
MANORANJAN
India



ANDREANA DRUCE CHUA
Philippines



ANEK RAJBHANDARI
Nepal



ASSEL MUKANOVA
Kazakhstan



ASSYLBEK SADUAKHASOV
Kazakhstan



AVANEESH DEVKOTA
Nepal



AVINASH GYAWALI
Nepal



AYESHA AHMED
India



AZIQ FURQAN
Pakistan



AZKA NOOR
Pakistan



BALNUR IBRASH
Kazakhstan



BASIL AHMED QURESHI
Pakistan



BEEMNET ANDUALEM
BELETE
Ethiopia



BISHA SHAHID
Pakistan



BLESSING MADZIVANYIKA
Zimbabwe



BRUNA BARRETO
Brazil



CLEMENT SHEN
China



CONFIDENCE EZEMBA
Nigeria



CORBAN VILLA
USA



CRYSTAL JEMY
India



DACHI TARUGHISHVILI
Georgia



DANIE LAMINTA
Philippines



DANISH KHAN
India



DARIGA BOLATBAY
Kazakhstan



EMAAN SOHAIL
Pakistan



EMMA MIKLASOVA
Slovakia



EVENT SHARKU
Albania



**FAHAD BIN FAHAD
ALMHEIRI**
UAE



FAIZAN RAZA
Pakistan



FARHAN KHAN
Bangladesh

NYU 2025 ABU DHABI



FRIENDSHIP
FOREVER



CHERISHED
MOMENTS



A TIME
TO
REMEMBER





HEARTFELT
BONDS



STUDENTS



JUST LIKE YESTERDAY THAT WE STARTED HERE ON CAMPUS

It's crazy to think that it came to an end so quickly.

I feel just like yesterday that we started here on campus, and now we're here at the end of the journey.

Shadad Hossain
Bangladesh
Social Science
Economics



MEMORIES ASSOCIATED WITH RAMADAN

I will never forget the Ramadan that I've had here and all those memories associated with Ramadan.

My friends and I would wake up at 3am for suhoor, and then meet again for iftar to share how our days went.

Symbat Bekzhigit
Kazakhstan
Science
Computer Science



THANK YOU FOR ALL THE FRIENDSHIPS AND MEMORIES

Thank you so much for all the stories I will get to tell my grandchildren one day.

Thank you for all the friendship and memories we shared together.

Raya Tabassum
Bangladesh
Arts and Humanities
Interactive Media

QUOTES



A WITNESS TO EACH OTHER'S GROWTH

I'm super proud to have been a witness of our growth over the past four years. I don't think any of us have been the same since our freshman year.

The last four years have made us people we're more proud of and it's been super cool to see that happen.

Malak Elmallah
Egypt
Science
Psychology



GOING DOWN STREET WITH MY FRIENDS

I think one of my most memorable experiences was simply just going to Hamdan street with my friends, exploring restaurants, hole in the wall places, and stumbling upon random thrift shops and just doing whatever we felt like.

Nandini Gupta
India
Social Science
Social Research and Public Policy



UNFORGETTABLE J-TERM AND SPECTACULAR SUNSETS

I will never forget being in the middle of the Indian Ocean, studying oceanography for my J-term.

We've been enjoying spectacular sunsets and watching pygmy whales every day.

Sanzhar Kakenov
Kazakhstan
Science
Biology

STUDENT QUOTES



Yumi Omori
Japan
Science
Computer Science



I've become braver and more open minded. And, I now believe that I have to seize the opportunity to grow.

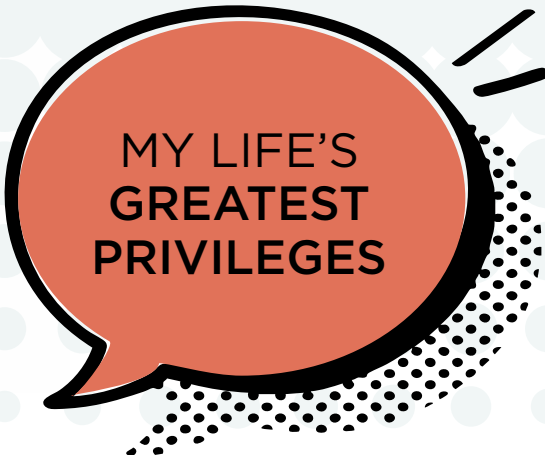
Dear Class of 2025, we made it. Four years of academic crisis, happiness, joy and opportunities, and we are finally here.



Aruzhan Zhamalbek
Kazakhstan
Engineering
Bioengineering



Dania Ezz
Egypt
Arts and Humanities
Interactive Media



Dear Class of 2025, experiencing life with you has been one of my life's greatest privileges.



FATIMA AL BREIKI
UAE



FILIP MILISOV
North Macedonia



FUAD THABIT
Tanzania



GAWEED ELMOGY
Egypt



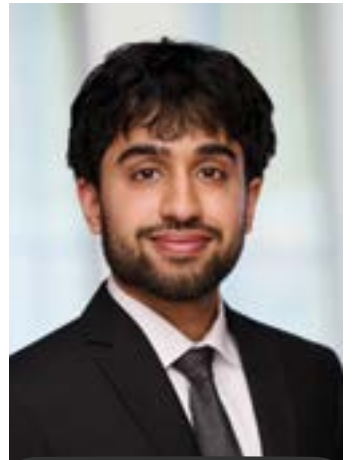
GRACE PEDROZA
Mexico



GREESHMA GIRIDAS
India



GULSIM AZIRAKHMET
Kazakhstan



HAADY KHALIL
Pakistan



HASHIM ZIA
Pakistan



HASIBUR RAHMAN
Bangladesh



HOORIYA KABIR
India



HUDA IMRAN
UAE



IMANI WILLIAMS
USA



INA NEGOIU
Romania



ISAAC OWUSU
Ghana



IVAN SIDORENKO
USA

STUDENT STORIES



I CREATE

To create is not just to produce, but to insist on existence, to pull something from thought into form, to leave a trace that resists erasure. I have never known how to be still in the face of that urgency. At NYU Abu Dhabi, the act of making was never passive; it was an ongoing negotiation between control and surrender, between what could be shaped and what refused to be tamed.

I have burned words into wood, not to destroy but to make permanent. I have painted frustration into color, written text that fractures instead of explains, and let film blur the line between seeing and knowing. Each medium held its own resistance, its own demand for something more. And still, I am left wanting. Not for answers, not for resolution, but for the next mark, the next surface, the next impossible thing to create. The next idea that refuses to stay still.

SHAMMA ALKAABI



**BEST
MEMORIES**



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**A TIME
TO
REMEMBER**





JANDOS SHEGENOV
Kazakhstan



JANINDU NANAYAKKARA
Sri Lanka



JENNA AL TAHER
Jordan



JENNIFER YUAN
USA



JEONG KYU LEE
South Korea



JHON KIM
South Korea



JOONHA YU
South Korea



JOVAN KASCELAN
Montenegro



JUAN GUEVARA
Venezuela



JUAN SOTO
Argentina



JUN LEE
South Korea



KANG HEE HUH
South Korea



KATERINA FIALOVA
Czechia



KEVIN CHU
Taiwan



KHALIL KASHWANI
UAE



KONURALP SARISOZEN
Türkiye



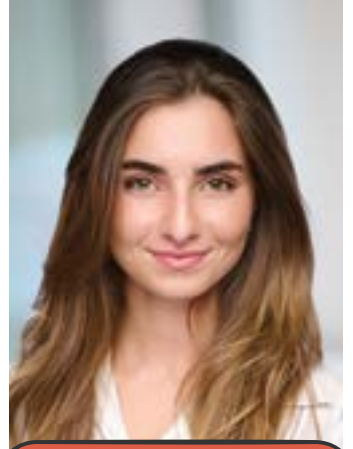
KRIPA SHRESTHA
Nepal



KRISTINE SARGSYAN
Armenia



**LEVITH ANDRADE
CUELLAR**
Mexico



LINA JANAJREH
Palestine



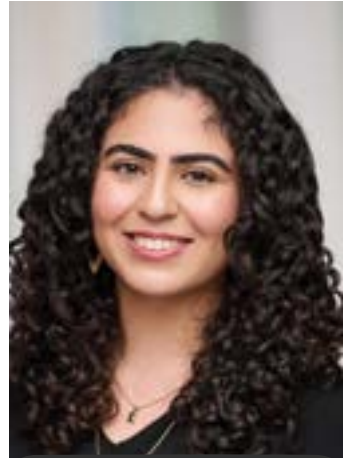
LINH TRAN
Vietnam



MAJ ŠKOF
Slovenia



MALAK ABDAN
Lebanon



MALAK ELMALLAH
Egypt



**MARÍA EMILIA BACA
MOSQUERA**
Ecuador



MARWAN ABDELHAMEED
Egypt



MARYAM AHMED ALZAABI
UAE



MARYAM ALMATROOSHI
UAE



MASHRAFI MONON
Bangladesh



MBEBO NONNA
Ghana



MIRA SALEH
Egypt



MOHAMED SAIF YAHIA
Sudan



MOHID RAZA
Pakistan



MUHAMMAD MOEEZ TARIQ
Pakistan



NADA ELSHARKAWY
Egypt



OM KOIRALA
Nepal



OYUNGEREL AMARSANAA
Mongolia



PAULINE WEE
Philippines



PAVLY HALIM
Egypt



RAHMA BEETHOVEN TAYEL
USA



RAHUL SHRESTHA
Nepal



RAJNEIL CHAUDHARY
Fiji



RAMSHA BILAL
Pakistan



RANDY YEBOAH ASAMOAH
Ghana



RUSTEM KHASSANOV
Kazakhstan



SAAKSHI MORE
Nepal



SAAMIA SHAFQAT
Pakistan



SALAMA ALSUWAIDI
UAE

LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER WITH CURIOSITY

During the January Term of my sophomore year, I took a course called *Learning From the Living Room*. On the first day, our professor gave us a simple yet profound assignment: to share a daily reflection on anything that mattered to us. As someone who had been journaling since the age of eight, this felt like a natural way to reconnect with my experiences — through writing and sharing with others.

As part of the course, my classmates and I traveled to Dubai to help develop the Tree School at Alserkal Avenue, an initiative rooted in the belief that education extends beyond the classroom. There, learning was about knowledge exchange through listening, sharing, and growing together.

I carried this lesson with me as I navigated my study away semesters, Capstone, and career development. Some of the best ideas during my time at NYUAD — joining The Consulting Collective E-Board, working at the Hilary Ballon Center for Teaching and Learning, and even finding internship opportunities — started from simple conversations with friends. Under the palms on campus, around Covent Garden in London, in West Village in New York... everywhere.

My four years at NYUAD have been an incredible journey, shaped by amazing friendships, meaningful conversations, and the great ideas they sparked.

DILNAZ AMANTAYEVA





SALEM ABIEL EYOB
Eritrea



SAM LISKE-CLARK
Northern Mariana Islands



SAMYAM LAMICHHANE
Nepal



SANDHYA SHARMA
Nepal



SANJANA NAMBIAR
India



SANZHAR KAKENOV
Kazakhstan



SARA ALRAYSSI
UAE



SARTHAK PRASAD MALLA
Nepal



SASHANK NEUPANE
Nepal



SHAIKHA ALOBAIDALLA
UAE



SHAMSA ALZAABI
UAE



SHAWN NASSABI
Iran



SHAYAN AHMAD
Pakistan



**SHEHRYAR AHMED
SUBHANI**
Pakistan



SIDDHANT ARORA
India



SOPHIE MOLINA OROZCO
Mexico

STUDENT QUOTES



Event Sharku
Albania
Science
Computer Science



Looking back, I can confidently say that I've become more resilient. I've gained a lot of patience, and have become quite an adaptable person with the community surrounding us.

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I will never forget being part of the basketball team. Through the team, I have made a lot of new friends and found a great group of individuals. Although I did have to wake up at 6am every day, it was worth it.



Jannah Mokhtar
Egypt
Arts and Humanities
Interactive Media



Priyanka Balamurali
UK
Social Science
Social Research and Public Policy



I remember coming to NYU Abu Dhabi and not being able to lift my 35kg luggage off the conveyor belt. That really motivated me to start Olympic weightlifting and take physical classes here. And now, I can confidently throw 35 kg over my head.



SOYUJ BASNET
Nepal



STEFAN KALANOSKI
North Macedonia



SWOSTIK PATI
India



SYMBAT BEKZHIGIT
Kazakhstan



TAMARA MASHNOUK
UK



TAMILA KARIMOVA
Kazakhstan



TAREK NABIH
Egypt



TARLAN ASKARULY
Kazakhstan



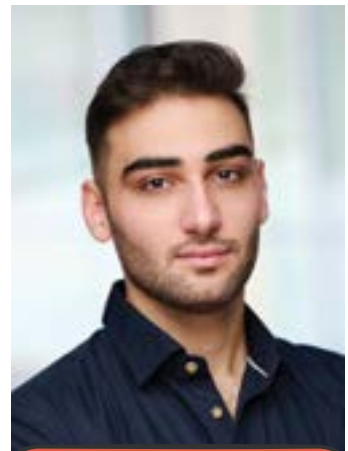
TENGIS TEMUULEN
Mongolia



THEO WELCKLE
USA



TOMIRIS DOSKHOZHINA
Kazakhstan



VAHAGN YERITSYAN
Armenia



VLADIMIR SHARKOVSKI
North Macedonia



WALID BELBACH
Morocco



WEI KUO
Taiwan



YEJI HAN
South Korea



YOUSSEF ABDELHAMID
Egypt



YUGOO LU
Taiwan



YUMI OMORI
Japan



ZACHARY RAYE
USA



ZAID SHAHID
Pakistan



ZEIN MUKHANOV
Kazakhstan



ZLATA HLUKHOUSKAYA
Belarus



AWAD ALMEHAIRI
UAE

NOT SHOWN

Aibar Talip (Kazakhstan)
An Li (China)
Hend Alabdouli (UAE)
Honey Htun (Myanmar)
Huda Ahmed (Bahrain)

Khadija Khalid (Pakistan)
Maya Lee (South Korea)
Miae Bushra (Sudan)
Pingan Yu (China)
Rojan Dangol (Nepal)

Tran Nguyen (Vietnam)
Wen Rahme (Austria)
Yared Getachew Kahsay (Ethiopia)
Yonas Atinafu (Ethiopia)
Yonathan Wagaye (Ethiopia)



STUDENT STORIES

SKETCHING MY JOURNEY

August 22, 2023 — my first day at NYU Abu Dhabi. Stepping onto campus in the sweltering summer heat, I felt a mix of excitement and uncertainty. My mind swirled with questions: after years of working, was returning to school the right choice? What would life in Abu Dhabi be like? Could this place become my new home? I had no answers.

But from the very first week, NYUAD gave me no time for doubt. Each day was filled with new experiences, learnings, and discoveries. As an artist, I wanted to capture these moments, so I began to draw my life at NYUAD.

I drew my first meal with professors and classmates, the insights from class discussions, the beautiful performances at the Red Theater, the inspiring lectures at the Conference Center, and focused hours in my studio. I sketched morning walks where I met students from all over the world, the excitement of school trips to art exhibitions in Dubai and Sharjah, the joy of yoga and belly dancing classes, and the birds chirping outside my dorm window.



At first, these sketches were just personal reflections. But everything changed when I showed them to my professors, classmates, and visitors at MFA Studio Open Day. To my surprise, they were curious and fascinated, not only by the paintings, but also by the stories behind. Their encouragement inspired me to share my journey more widely.

So I kept painting, not only campus life but also my travels across the UAE and the Middle East. By the end of my first year, my visual diaries had grown into something bigger. Inspired by Bedouin traditions, I created a tent with my diaristic paintings, inviting people to sit inside, flip through my visual diaries, and contribute their own. Later, through the MFA program, I exhibited this tent at Abu Dhabi Art, where I shared my stories with a wider audience, and encouraged them to draw their stories.

I took my NYUAD life stories to more places. At COP28 in Dubai, I presented how my experience planting mangroves with the NYUAD communities had inspired me to create artworks exploring climate and sustainability. At the China-Gulf Forum in Abu Dhabi, I shared my personal discoveries about art and culture in the Gulf and how I use art for cross-cultural communications.

Now, as I prepare for my graduation exhibition at 421 gallery, I look back at these two years and see how each drawing, each experience, has shaped me. What began as a simple diary has become a journey full of discoveries, connections and stories. Even after I leave NYUAD, I will carry this spirit forward — continue exploring, creating, and capturing new stories.



STUDENT STORIES



**DO NOT BE
AFRAID TO
EXPLORE!**



When asked about my time at NYU Abu Dhabi, my favorite answer is: everything has changed, and yet nothing at all! I arrived eager to explore and transform, not realizing that the most profound journey would be my journey inward. The best advice I have received along the way was, “Do not be afraid to explore, and it’s okay if where you land is where you started.”

My journey across countries and communities has complemented my inward exploration. In moments of quiet reflection - a phone-free weekend in the desert on *Belonging for Spiritual Seekers*, during a J-Term in Nepal titled *Being Here* - I wrestled with the big questions about who I am and why we are here. Yet I often found reflective moments in campus life, through D2 meals, and conversations over chai.

A highlight of my time has been within the student support group, REACH. REACH has evolved with the needs of our community, and is a space for belonging and care. Like fractals, our individual stories weave into something greater.

Beyond NYUAD, I carry these questions with me — not to seek answers, but to hold them with curiosity and care. Growth can also be a return to what we knew all along, but with deeper understanding. The outward journey continues, unfolding in ways yet to be imagined.

JOANNA KUMENDONG





**ABDUL MOIZ ZAHID
SIDDIQUI**
Pakistan



ABDULLAH AHMED
Pakistan



ABHINAV MANGAT
India



**ADITI KAUSHIK
JAYACHANDRAN**
India

SOCIAL SCIENCE



ADREETA RAYA
Bangladesh



AHMAD ODEH
Jordan



AHMED AL MHEIRI
UAE



AHSEN BABAR
Pakistan



AIGERIM SHINTAYEVA
Kazakhstan



AISHA ABDULLAH
UAE



ALESSIA PIACITELLI
Italy



ALYA ALHABTARI
UAE

STUDENTS



CATS BY THE PALM TREES

I hope there will always be cats by the palms for the students to go to when they're feeling stressed so they can sit and chill with the cats and go back feeling relaxed and happy.

Ruqayyah Mohamed Irshadeen
Sri Lanka
Social Science
Economics



LISTEN AND LEARN FROM DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES

Over the last four years, I've learned to listen and learn from diverse perspectives, to embrace challenges and to take challenges not as difficulties, but as opportunities for self-improvement.

Q M Naushadul Islam
Bangladesh
Arts and Humanities
Interactive Media



WE CAN MAKE IT THROUGH ANYTHING

I know that if we can get through these past four years with all the quarantines, all the tears and all the calculus exams, I think we can make it through pretty much anything.

Shanzae Ashar Siddiqui
Pakistan
Social Science
Economics

QUOTES



NEW YORK NEW YORK

My most memorable experience was my whole New York study away. I really had the best time of my four years.

And if I could do it again, I would definitely go for it.

Nisa Dogan
Türkiye
Social Science
Business, Organizations and Society



DANCING IN THE RAIN

My most memorable experience at NYU Abu Dhabi was definitely dancing at the palms during the first rain in the desert.

I never thought that being in the middle of the desert there would be so much rain.

Aarushi Prasad
India
Arts and Humanities
History



EXCITED FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER

I'm excited for the next chapter but I'm also very nostalgic about everything that I have been through over the last four years, because I know I probably will not have the opportunity to be among such individuals again.

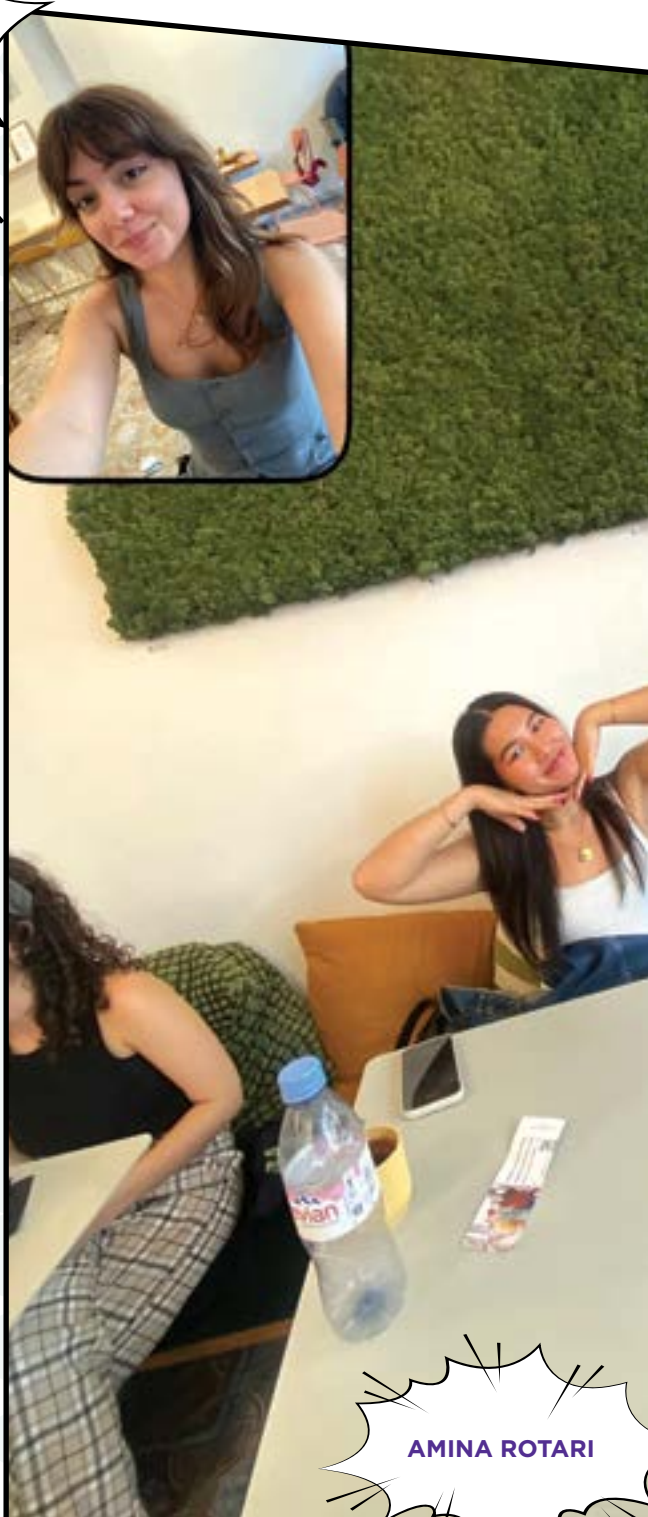
Ayesha Ahmed
India
Science
Psychology

STUDENT STORIES



TRIP TO BRUXELLES

I received a message in the summer between New York and Paris from another NYU Abu Dhabi student suggesting a trip to Bruxelles, given we were both going to be on the European continent. I recall feeling uncertain, after all, we did not know each other that well. However, not only did we have a marvelous time in Belgium, I hosted her in Paris later in the semester, and we built a beautiful friendship upon arriving back in the UAE. I will reiterate what many people have said before, NYUAD is special because of its people. The energy of the student body is what leads to unexpected connections, like I had with Jess.



AMINA ROTARI

STAY IN THE ATTEMPT

I came to NYU Abu Dhabi with a burning desire to know more about the world. Having lived my entire life in one country, I was eager to break out of the familiar and immerse myself in new places, cultures, and ideas. Over the past four years, NYUAD has given me all of that and more. It has transformed how I see the world and how I see myself within it, offering me moments of discovery that will stay with me for a lifetime. One such moment — and one my friends are undoubtedly tired of hearing about — was my January Term course in Thailand.



As an Economics major, my days are usually filled with data, regressions, and optimization models. So, when I had the chance to take a theater course taught by Professor Rubén Polendo, which included a five-day seminar in Bangkok, I leaped at the opportunity even though I wasn't entirely sure what I was getting myself into. What followed was one of the most enriching and transformative experiences of my college journey.

In Bangkok, our class was immersed in the world of classical Thai dance. We spent hours learning three distinct styles from master artists recognized by the Royal Family of Thailand. Every movement was intricate and demanding, but our professor constantly reminded us to “stay in the attempt,” a mantra that became our guide whenever we felt overwhelmed. What made the experience even more special was how we supported each other through every challenge, always saying, “I got you,” before tackling group activities. Outside the dance studio, Bangkok came alive in ways I never anticipated.

We trained in the art of Muay Thai boxing (another reminder of why I should have spent more time at the NYUAD gym), explored vibrant markets, and developed a collective obsession with Thai iced tea. Every day was packed with activity, and yet it never felt exhausting because we were all so engrossed in the richness of the experience. When I think back on those five days, it's not just the activities that stand out but also the sense of connection and discovery. By the end of the trip, our group had become a small family, bound by shared challenges (Khon), laughter, and awe.

In many ways, that trip to Thailand was a microcosm of my time at NYUAD. If there's one thing NYUAD has taught me, it's that life's most transformative moments often lie just beyond the edge of our comfort zones. As I prepare to leave this place, I hope to carry that lesson with me, embracing challenges and staying in the attempt, no matter what comes next.



ANOOSH JAMSHED



ALYA ALSAWALEH
UAE



ALYAZIA ALHOSANI
UAE



ALYAZYA ALAMERI
UAE



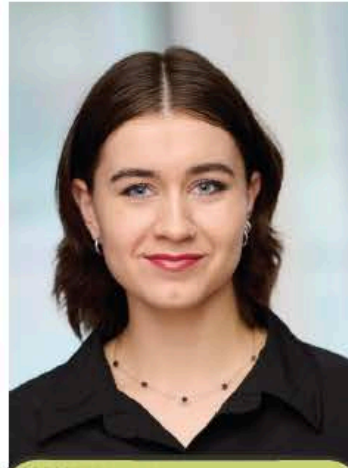
AMEYA BHATNAGAR
India



ANDY LEE
South Korea



ANOOSH JAMSHED
Pakistan



ARINA JERMITSOVA
Estonia



ARINA KENBAYEVA
Kazakhstan



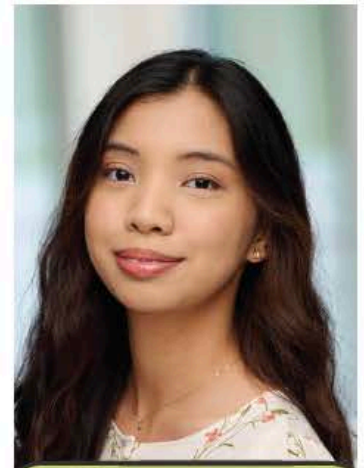
ATHBA ALTAYER
UAE



BAYYENA ALZAABI
UAE



BEOM CHOI
South Korea



BIANCA MANDAPAT
Philippines



BILAL ZIA
Pakistan



BRUNO JUAREZ
Mexico



CAMILA ALEJANDRA
GARCIA ENCINAS
Peru



CHAM DON
BADDEWITHANA
Sri Lanka



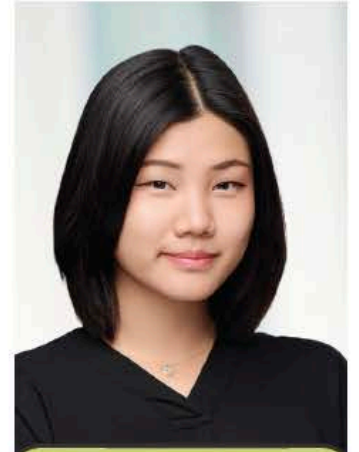
CLAUDIA ALCARRA
Venezuela



CRISTINA ZAMITIZ MENDEZ
Mexico



CURTIS LIN
USA



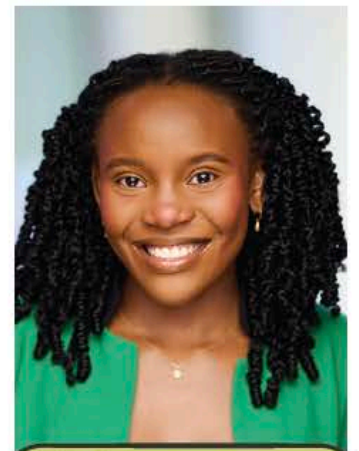
DAUN KIM
South Korea



DIAB SINGER
Syria



DILNAZ AMANTAYEVA
Kazakhstan



**DIVINE AIMEE
CHRISTELLE IRAKOZE**
Rwanda



EGIN LIGAÇAJ
Albania



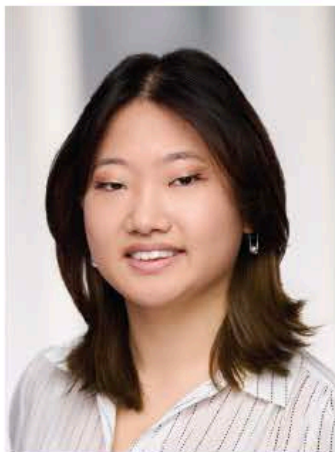
ELIZABETH LI
China



EMAAN ALI
Pakistan



EMILY KIM
South Korea



EMILY YOO
USA



EMMA BARAKAT
Palestine



EVA VANG
USA



EVAN WANG
China

STUDENT STORIES



ESCAPE ROOM

The clock was ticking, and we were running out of time. My friends and I were locked in an escape room, scrambling for clues, shouting over each other with half-baked theories, and laughing at how ridiculous we all sounded. It was chaos, but the best kind.

That night wasn't just about solving puzzles; it was about us. Just like when we first walked into NYU Abu Dhabi, uncertain and facing challenges that sometimes felt impossible, we had no idea how we'd get through. But the way we worked together, the way we trusted each other, the way we balanced panic with laughter, it was a perfect reflection of the friendships we'd built. We weren't just trying to escape a locked room; we were learning, in the most ridiculous way possible, what it means to navigate life's challenges together.

That's what NYUAD has been for me. A place where I found the people who would stay up late, figuring things out with me, whether it was coursework, life decisions, or what to eat for dinner. The ones who made stress bearable, who celebrated even the small victories, and who somehow made even the most frustrating moments fun.

UNCONTROLLABLE LAUGH

When we finally cracked the last puzzle and the door swung open, we ran out cheering, feeling like we'd won something far bigger than just the game. And in a way, we had. The real win, for me, wasn't escaping the room; it was realizing that no matter where we came from, I had found people who felt like home.

Graduation feels like another door opening, another step into the unknown. But if there's one thing this journey has taught me, it's that with the right people, you'll always find your way. Thank you to my people for sticking with me through every late night rant, every ridiculous debate, and every uncontrollable laugh. I couldn't have asked for better teammates in this escape room named NYUAD.



**BUSHRA
SHUMS**



STUDENTS



MORE CURIOUS, MORE INQUISITIVE

I have been able to train my curiosity over the past four years. I've become so much more inquisitive.

I have learned to ask silly questions, even if I'm scared at first.

Amina Rotari
Moldova
Arts and Humanities
Arab Crossroads Studies



RITUALS BEFORE STUDY AWAYS

I will never forget staying up the whole night before our class had to separate for different study aways.

We would make sure that everyone's packed, then have some tea, and play some games in the dorms before we'd go outside of the campus and just walk around as much as we could before sunrise.

Assem Karshyga
Kazakhstan
Arts and Humanities
Legal Studies



A BITTERSWEET MOMENT

It's a bittersweet moment but let's remember that although the old chapter is closing, a new one is just beginning.

Remember to be proud of yourselves to have made it so far, and to go out and celebrate with your friends and your loved ones.

Kotryna Karpauskaite
Lithuania
Social Science
Economics

QUOTES



THE SMALL MOMENTS THAT SHAPED ME

I've changed the most by realizing how much of who I am comes from the people I surround myself with.

I used to think it's about the big moments, but it's the small ones that have shaped me the most.

Leen Kharouf
Palestine
Engineering
Computer Engineering

GRATEFUL FOR THE GROWTH AND EXPERIENCE

Over the past four years, I've become a lot more open minded. I've studied disciplines and discovered ideas that I never thought I'd explore.

So I'm really grateful to NYU Abu Dhabi for making me this open minded, curious, and motivated person.

Maria Korotkina
Russia
Social Science
Economics

AN UNFORGETTABLE OMAN ADVENTURE

I think every day is a memorable experience at NYU Abu Dhabi, but one that I remember so vividly is a trip that I did with Athletics to Oman where we did deep water soloing.

It was a lot of adrenaline, a lot of fun meeting people from diverse backgrounds, diverse cultures, and just doing something that we all enjoy and love.

Fati Jada
Morocco
Social Science
Economics



FAISAL AMIRI
UAE



FATI JADA
Morocco



FATIMA AL MAZROUEI
UAE



HAEIN KIM
South Korea



HAGAR AMER
Egypt



HALA DOSHAN
Palestine



HASIBUL KADIR
Bangladesh



JACK BAEK
South Korea



JANKA SZABO
Hungary



JIHAD JAMMAL
USA



JINYANG HUANG
China



JOANNA KUMENDONG
Indonesia



KATRIN KELMAN
Russia



KHALIFA AL AMOODI
UAE



KHALIFA AL SAADI
UAE



KOTRYNA KARPAUSKAITE
Lithuania



KRISTINA SISIAKOVA
Slovakia



LATIFA AL AHBABI
UAE



LATIFA AL ZAROONI
UAE



LAURA MONCADA OSTOS
Venezuela



LINA DOAN
Ukraine



LINH HOANG
Vietnam



LUKA SALKOVIC
Slovenia



LYDIA SANZ LOZANO
Spain



MAITHA ALNAQBI
UAE



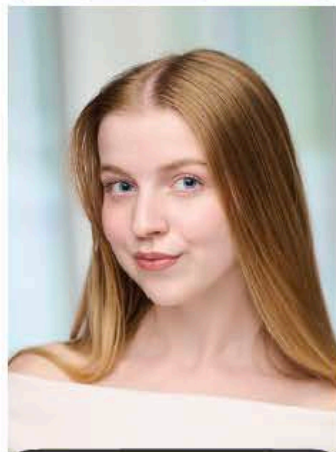
MANDIP SUBEDI
Nepal



MANE HARUTYUNYAN
Armenia



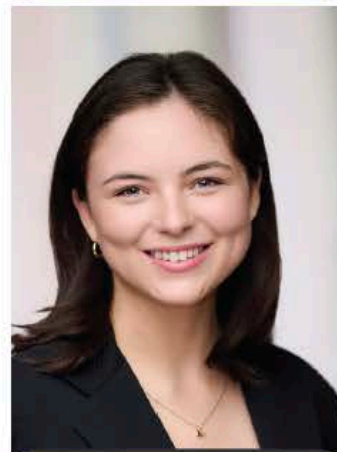
**MARIA ANTONIA
PULIDO DURAN**
Colombia



MARIA KOROTKINA
Russia



MARIA WANI
Pakistan



**MARIELLA FRÉ MUSLIH
RUBENSON**
Canada



MARYAM AHMED
UAE

STUDENT STORIES



2800KM ROAD TRIP IN ZIMBABWE

Thirty-four countries in four years, yet Zimbabwe stands apart. Luka, Abhinav, Vaishali, Shanzae, and I set off, *Still Into You* by Paramore on repeat. What we did not know was how this trip would test all of us like no other NYU Abu Dhabi final exam would.

On day two, Shanzae received an urgent call, and with 20 minutes to spare, we fought airline staff to get her on a flight home. Hours later, Luka and I realized our passports and local cash were missing, left under a hotel mattress from the night before. A frantic drive back ended with us running out of gas, leaving Abhinav as collateral at a station that only took cash. By 2am, we found him waiting, unfazed. Zimbabwe started testing us, but NYUAD had trained us well — think fast, adapt, and rely on your people.

Why pay for a driver, safari jeep, and tour guide when we could drive our own X-Trail 2014 through Zimbabwe's largest safari park? Four very independent seniors took on the challenge. "Do not get out of the car at any cost," the guards warned. But when elephants crossed our path, we decided that rules are meant to be broken — polaroids were taken,

and consequences ignored. As the hours dragged on, we ran out of water, snacks, and patience. My hands bled from steering through the bumps. But we had seen this before — wandering through alleyways in Tokyo, sprinting to class in New York, and chasing the last tube in London. NYUAD's global experiences have taught us how to survive anywhere. When we finally reached a guard post, a woman handed us water and Coca-Cola. It was the best Coke I've ever had, I swear.

Once wasn't enough - we did it all again in two more parks. We stood before Victoria Falls, the world's largest sheet of falling water. We woke at 5am to watch the sunrise over Matobo Hills. We found vegetarian food for Abhi and Vaishali in places we didn't think possible. We sang our lungs out on a karaoke night, jumped into a freezing pool, took roads locals told us to avoid, handed out snacks at a local school, and parked by a random lake just to breathe. We ran out of gas (again), with no station nearby, and had to buy fuel from a random man on the side of the road.

This trip wasn't just a road trip, it was everything NYUAD had prepared us for. The independence, the problem-solving, the trust in each other. Zimbabwe threw challenges our way, but the real lesson was knowing, deep down, that we would always find our way back - together.

CHAM DON
BADDEWITHANA



NYU ABU DHABI

UNFORGETTABLE
MOMENTS



A TIME
TO
REMEMBER



STUDENT QUOTES



Mouath Abu-Daoud
Jordan
Engineering
Bioengineering



Anywhere I go, I will
always find a friend
from NYU.

Because of NYU Abu Dhabi, I
found a leader in me, an artist
in me, a computer scientist
in me. There are also a lot of
friendships and self-discovery.
I am a much more polished
version of myself.



Aziq Furqan
Pakistan
Science
Computer Science



Mane Harutyunya
Armenia
Social Science
Economics



Dear Class of 2025,
today you can laugh
or write yourself
letters for the future.
Congratulations, you've
made it.



MARYAM ALBAHAR
UAE



MARYAM ALDHUHOORI
UAE



MATAB MASHTA
Syria



MATIAS RODRIGUEZ
Ecuador



MOHAMED ALSHAMSI
UAE



MOHAMMAD AL SUWAIDI
UAE



MOHAMMAD CHAUDHRY
USA



MOHAMMED ALAHMADI
UAE



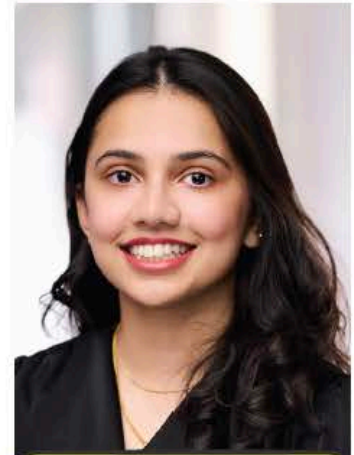
MONA ALHASHMI
UAE



NANDINI GUPTA
India



NEEL SOLANKI
India



NEHA BAIG
Pakistan



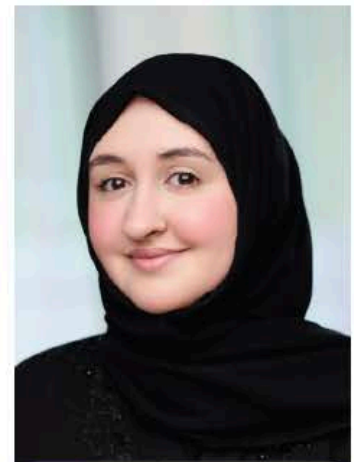
NIA ISEHAK
Ethiopia



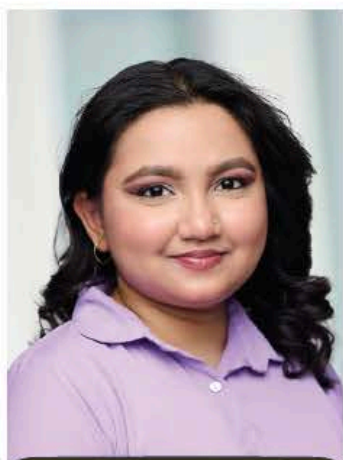
NIRVANA AMJAD
Pakistan



NISA DOGAN
Türkiye



NOOR ALYOUSEF
UAE



NUBAH MUNJERIN
Bangladesh



OMARI KASSIM
Kenya



PRATIK KAYASTHA
Nepal



PRINSA CHAUHAN
Nepal



PRIYANKA BALAMURALI
UK



RASHED ALJAILANI
UAE



RIM YAHIA
UAE



ROBERT CHI
China



**RUQAYYAH MOHAMED
IRSHADEEN**
Sri Lanka



RYAN SMITH
Belize



SAEED AL SHARJI
UAE



SAIF ALSHAMS
UAE



SANZAD HOSSAIN
Bangladesh



SARA ABO MADALALA
Serbia



SARA VUKSANOVIC
Serbia



SARAH FARHAT
USA

STUDENT STORIES

I'M FILLED WITH GRATITUDE

When I sit back and try to find the right words to sum up my four years at NYU Abu Dhabi, I realize it's not the classes or the trips that stand out — it's the friendships I've made and the incredible people I've met. Roommates, classmates, D2 staff like Ahmed at the counter or Steven who knows our order by heart, the netball team... everyone left their mark.

Take Ferrari World for example. Five hesitant faces in line, a mix of terror and excitement as we stared up at the world's fastest roller coaster. "Trust me," I said with my most convincing smile while positioning myself at the end of the line to prevent any last-minute escape attempts. The art history major was already regretting it, the computer science friend was googling safety statistics, and the econ major was deep in survival odds calculations. Meanwhile, I grinned and nudged them forward. A few moments later, their screams echoed through the air at 240 kilometers per hour. They all swore they'd never trust me again, but hey, it's a story they'll be telling for years!



Through these friendships, I've grown in ways I never expected. My playlist, once dominated by Urdu and Hindi songs, now includes Arabic melodies, thanks to our late-night study sessions where we alternated our music playlists. I've learned that growth happens in the most unexpected ways — whether it's savoring Syrian fattah, trying Bosnian borek, or sharing my mom's daal chawal with friends who'd never tasted Pakistani cuisine.

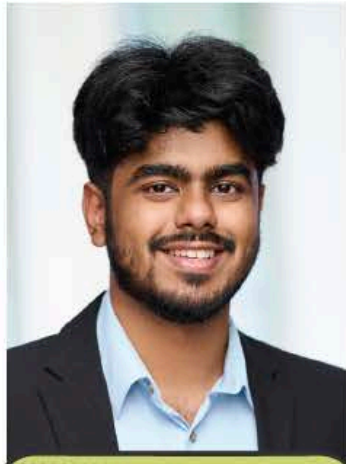
As I wrap up my time here, I'm filled with gratitude for all the unforgettable memories and the amazing people I've had the privilege of crossing paths with. Here's to the next chapter — may it be just as exciting and full of unexpected adventures!

BISHA SHAHID





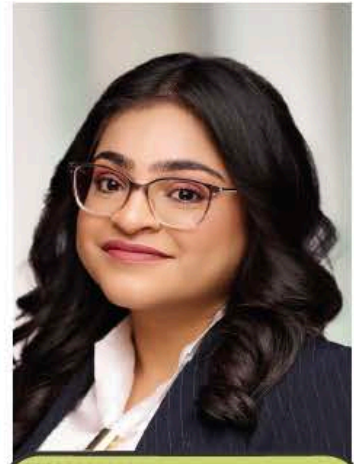
SCARLETTE JIMÉNEZ
Mexico



SHADAD HOSSAIN
Bangladesh



SHALEM SUMANTHIRAN
Sri Lanka



**SHANZAE ASHAR
SIDDIQUI**
Pakistan



SHAUNAK KHARE
India



SHAYAN HUSHAM
Pakistan



**SILVANA GARCÍA
GUTIÉRREZ**
Colombia



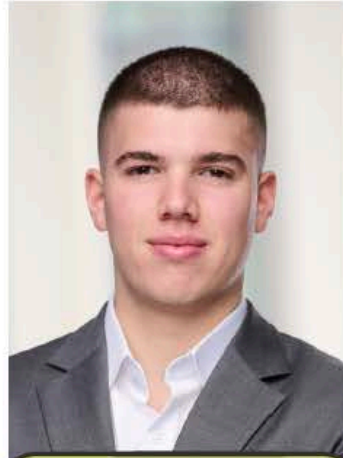
SIQIAO LIANG
China



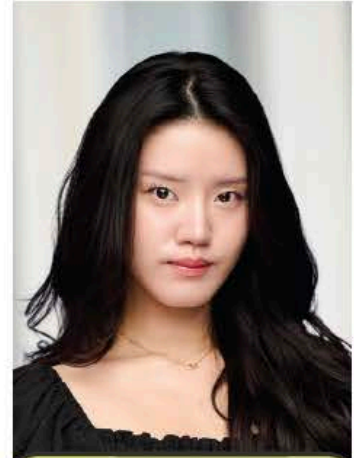
SIWON KIM
South Korea



SMRITI RAMACHANDRAN
India



SPYROS SOFIANOS
Greece



STEPHANIE LEE
South Korea



SULTAN ALJALLAF
UAE



SULTAN FAROOQ
UAE



TAANYA KAPUR
India



THOMAS KIM
South Korea



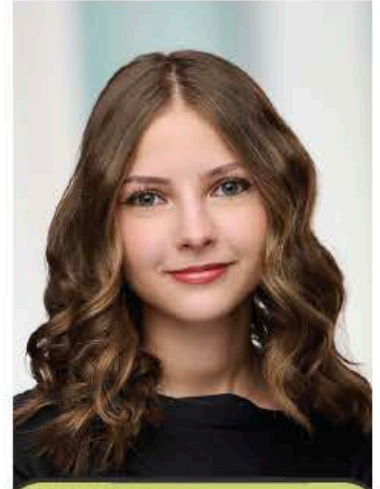
VAISHALI GARG
India



WAJID SHAFI
Pakistan



WEIWEI WANG
Taiwan



YASMINE AKASHA
UAE



YEVA STEPANOVA
Ukraine



ZAHI AWAD
USA



ZAIN SAQIB
Pakistan



ZIAD AZZAM
Egypt



ALYAZYA ALSUWAIDI
UAE

NOT SHOWN

Abdul Rafay (Pakistan)
Ahmed Alhosani (UAE)
Ainhua Ceballos Hübner (Peru)
Alejandro Castillo (Nicaragua)
Alya Al Zaabi (UAE)
Anshuman Shaji (India)
Aryan Verma (India)
Ayesha Al Ketbi (UAE)
Aysha Alkhyeli (UAE)
Aysha Saeed Al Dhaheri (UAE)
Eman Alsaffar (UAE)
Fiza Gulzar (Afghanistan)
Hessa Abdulla Al Mazrouei (UAE)
Jamal Nassar (Lebanon)
James Chang (Taiwan)
Karishma Shah (India)
Maitha AlMheiri (UAE)

Marafi Badr
Maryam Al Awadhi (UAE)
Meera Al Khazraji (UAE)
Meera Faqihi (UAE)
Mohamed Al Nahyan (UAE)
Mouhamed Ba (Senegal)
Naama Alahmed (UAE)
Nobel Rimal (Nepal)
Nusayba Almarri (UAE)
Omar Al Awar (UAE)
Peter Nguyen (Hungary)
Sara Alsuwaidi (UAE)
Shamma Alkaabi (UAE)
Yasmine Titouni (France)
Zainab Ahmed (UK)
Zhiyu Yang (China)

NYU ABU DHABI



FRIENDSHIP
FOREVER



LASTING
SMILES

STUDENT STORIES

Omar and I weren't sure what to expect from the engineering ethics class trip to Jordan since we both grew up there and we thought it might feel a bit lame. But taking our classmates around and showing them the culture and history of our country ended up being such a rewarding experience. Petra was the highlight, even though the rain kept us from camel rides and rock climbing. It has been my favorite time visiting the city.

We also spent time in Ajloun where we helped build schools and houses for local communities. It was incredible to see the impact of our work and know it was making a real difference. A special moment for me was when my mom joined us and brought along two of my favorite dishes: mloukheye, a stew made from jute leaves with garlic and olive oil, and warak enab, grape leaves stuffed with rice, meat, and spices. We sat down and ate together in Ajloun, and it made the trip even more memorable. It was truly one of the best experiences of our NYU Abu Dhabi journey.

OMAR RAYYAN + LAYAN ALKASAJI

ENGINEERING ETHICS TRIP 2022



STUDENT STORIES



RAMADAN IN NEW YORK



During our study away semester in New York, we observed Ramadan, though we deeply missed the familiar tastes of home and the warmth of shared company. To bring a slice of home to us, Jenna planned an iftar that could have fed a small village. She took charge as the head chef, while the rest of us helped by eating the dishes (I also cleaned one plate). Despite the chaos and hectic pace, the iftar was filled with all the ingredients of nostalgia and sincerity that reflected our common yet diverse backgrounds. The food was simply incredible, but the company was even better.

HAMDAN ZOGHBOR

MASTER'S



ADELE BEA CIPSTE
Latvia



AHMED ABO EL Wafa
France



DANUTĖ VAITEKŪNAITĖ
Lithuania



DIMA ABOU ZANNAD
Palestine



HALA EL ABORA
Jordan



JINYI ZHAN
China



JUDE MAHARMAH
Jordan



KATIA YESIYEVA
Ukraine



SAFEYA SHARIF
UAE



SHAHD ASSAR
Egypt



TAI-HAN CHEN
Taiwan



YIJING LI
China

NOT SHOWN

Mohamed Badhib (Yemen)
Mowen Li (China)

NYU ABU DHABI

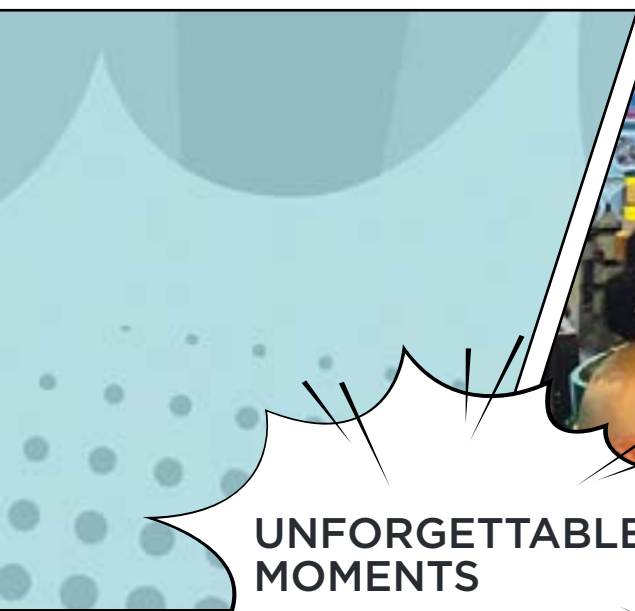


LIFELONG
MEMORIES



A TIME
TO
REMEMBER





STUDENTS



THANK YOU FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS

Thank you for all of the memories over the last four years. It's been so nice doing this with all of you.

I'm so happy I got to see you doing so many different things while we're here, and I can't wait to see what you're going to do when we're done.

Emma Barakat
Palestine
Social Science
Economics



FAMILY FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

I'm so grateful I can finally say that I have a family from all over the world and friends from all over the world.

Thank you so much for everything.

Razane Sakhi
Morocco
Arts and Humanities
Film and New Media



FINDING MY VOICE AT NYU ABU DHABI

I came into NYU Abu Dhabi having really poor public speaking skills. I was always very scared to share my story. But my time at NYUAD has given me opportunities to give speeches at COP and at different conferences.

Through those opportunities, I've really been able to dismantle those limiting beliefs about myself.

Eva Vang
USA
Social Science
Social Research and
Public Policy

S QUOTES



A UNIQUE CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE

There was this one Christmas with my friends where I was the only one celebrating. But we had a Secret Santa and were sharing gifts, while talking about our time at NYU Abu Dhabi.

It was very heartwarming to share something so special and important for me with friends who participated because they care about me.

Scarlette Jiménez
Mexico
Social Science
Political Science



LOOKING BACK WITH GRATITUDE

During my first year at NYU Abu Dhabi, I recorded a video of myself when I was curious about the different directions to take and overwhelmed by the amount of opportunities that were laid out in front of me.

Since then, I can say confidently that I have gained more clarity and faith in the things that I want to pursue and I'm immensely grateful for that.

Dilnaz Amantayeva
Kazakhstan
Social Science
Economics



EXPLORING THE UAE AS A FRESHMAN

I'll never forget how I got the chance to visit all seven Emirates in my first year as a freshman. It was really great to explore what this country has to offer beyond Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

And I will be forever grateful for camping in the desert, scuba diving in Fujairah or hiking in the Ras Al Khaimah.

Janka Szabo
Hungary
Social Science
Economics

STUDENT STORIES

GRADUATING TOGETHER, FOREVER

It all began right here, at NYU Abu Dhabi, in 2022, between late-night study sessions in Baraha and meetups at Marketplace for two slices of buffalo pizza. From navigating deadlines together to exploring Abu Dhabi's hidden spots, we quickly became inseparable. Our campus isn't just where we earn our degrees — it's the heart of our shared story, where our hearts became a living passport, stamped with laughter, courage, and dreams shared beneath countless skies.

Our love grew with every adventure, from strolling the romantic streets of Paris to getting lost together amidst Amsterdam's canals and dancing our worries away in Berlin. We filled our orange falls with dreams in New York, beach waves in Miami, and innocent laughter at Disneyland. Beside the pyramids of Giza, along the colorful streets of Istanbul, through Prague's fairytale charm, and Serbia's hidden alleys, we found pieces of ourselves in every corner of the world — while studying away together, or in some J-term classes.





In 2023, amidst these unforgettable travels, he asked me the most important question, promising forever. As we graduate together in 2025, preparing to step into the world as husband and wife, I'm reminded how our greatest adventure was simply finding each other, right here at NYUAD. Now, as we stand at the edge of graduation, ready to step forward, I realize our greatest journey began not with a plane ticket, but with the quiet moment he smiled at me on our campus, changing my world forever.

**RAYA TABASSUM AND
SANZAD HOSSAIN**



NYU 2025 ABU DHABI



FRIENDSHIP
FOREVER



NYUAD
STUDENTS



A TIME
TO
REMEMBER



PhDs



CHANGHYUN CHO
South Korea



DEVJOY DEV
UK



FENGYUAN LIU
China



KAUSHIK SUNDER
India



LAKSHMI LIKHITHA MANKALI
India



NOUR ALKHATIB
Palestine



NOURAN ELMESALAMI
Egypt



ROSHAN SAJI
India



YING ZHOU
China



ZEHAO JIN
China

NOT SHOWN

- Bashar Alhafni (Syria)

Faisal Hameed (Nigeria)

Halil Ünlü (Türkiye)

Haya Nassrullah (Palestine)

Juan Sierra (Colombia)

Ken Iiyoshi (Japan)
- Rania Ezzo (USA)

Rohail Asim (Pakistan)

Theo Busschau (South Africa)

Woonkee Jo (South Korea)

Yazan Ibrahim (Jordan)

Yufei Gu (China)

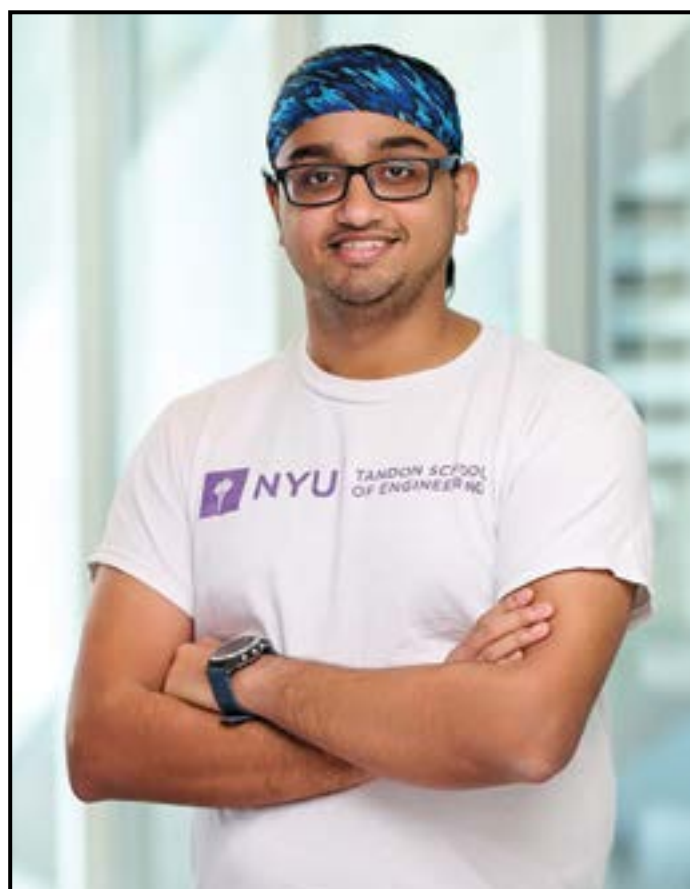
STUDENT STORIES

DRIVEN BY A PASSION FOR RESEARCH

Since I first set foot on the stunning campus of NYU Abu Dhabi in June 2022, my journey has been one of profound personal and professional growth. Over this time, I've experienced the perfect blend of rigorous academic challenges, meaningful friendships, and cultural discovery in one of the safest and most innovative countries in the world — the UAE.

When I arrived at NYUAD, I was driven by a passion for research and a desire to contribute to advancements in biomedical science. The university's state-of-the-art facilities and collaborative research environment proved to be the perfect playground for my work. My focus on developing collagen-based hydrogels for nerve regeneration has been an intellectually rewarding endeavor, but it also carried a deeper purpose: creating solutions that can positively impact lives. Working with brilliant mentors and peers, I not only honed my technical skills but also learned the importance of resilience and creativity in the pursuit of knowledge.

Beyond the research labs, I dove headfirst into the vibrant campus life, becoming an active member of the Graduate Student Council (GSC). Serving in GSC gave me a platform to advocate for the graduate student community and organize initiatives that fostered connections across programs. From cultural events to wellness workshops, each GSC activity reinforced my belief in the importance of community building. These moments of leadership and camaraderie became some of my most cherished memories.



Perhaps the most unique aspect of NYUAD is its unparalleled diversity. Coming from different corners of the world, my classmates and colleagues represented a kaleidoscope of cultures, languages, and perspectives. Together, we shared stories from our homes, celebrated global festivals, and even debated over our varying culinary preferences. Every interaction enriched my understanding of the world, and I found myself growing not just as a researcher but as a global citizen.

Living in Abu Dhabi has been another remarkable aspect of this journey. The city's seamless blend of tradition and modernity created an inspiring environment for both work and leisure. I always felt a sense of security and tranquility, whether I was exploring the breathtaking Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, cycling along Yas Marina Circuit, or simply enjoying the serenity of the Corniche. The UAE's commitment to safety and innovation has made it an ideal place for academic pursuits and personal exploration.

Outside of my academic and leadership roles, I embraced the opportunities for adventure that the UAE has to offer. From the vast deserts of Al Khatim to the lively souks of Dubai, every outing deepened my appreciation for this country's rich history and its vision for the future. Whether it was running marathons, hiking rugged terrains, or participating in local cultural festivals, each experience added a unique flavor to my time here.



But what stands out most are the people I've met along the way. The friendships I've forged at NYUAD are among the most genuine and enduring connections I've ever experienced. Together, we navigated the highs and lows of academic life, celebrated each other's achievements, and found joy in the simplest moments — be it sharing a meal, working late nights in the lab, or planning impromptu weekend trips. These friendships have shown me the true meaning of community and solidarity.

As I reflect on my time at NYUAD, I am filled with gratitude and pride. The past few years have not only equipped me with academic skills and research expertise but have also transformed me as a person. I am leaving NYUAD with more than just accomplishments; I am carrying with me unforgettable memories, invaluable friendships, and a renewed sense of purpose.

NYUAD has been a place where dreams were nurtured, challenges were conquered, and connections were forged across boundaries. It is not just an academic institution — it has been my home, my inspiration, and a launching pad for the future. This chapter of my life will remain etched in my heart as a testament to the power of learning, collaboration, and cultural exchange.

STUDENT STORIES

UNDERSTANDING WHO I AM AT THE CORE

My time at NYU Abu Dhabi was about understanding who I am at the core. It was about realizing that we are products of the decisions we make, but also the strength behind who we become. Those four years — including the 80 percent of time spent in the library — were about exploring fascinating ideas, learning about cultures, succeeding, failing, taking risks, continuing difficult tasks, sometimes procrastinating, but always knowing that we are working towards something incredibly beautiful.

We shape the mind and body of tomorrow through education and life experiences: Abu Dhabi, with the library and the beach becoming my sanctuaries; London, such a beautifully relaxed semester that I almost forgot I was a student; and New York City, the city of adulting, where a small kid learned to grow up. I feel part of me will always remain in those places; the memory of a certain image is accompanied by regret for a certain moment, but it comes with acceptance that I lived that moment, even though I can never live it again.

I know I'll cry the day this yearbook is published — not only because my friends won't be just a few meters away anymore or because I'll lose the comforting familiarity of this place — but also because I know I am ready for life's challenges. Those tears will be a mixture of joy, laughter, regret, happiness, sadness, and all those 3,000 emotions we all feel.

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NYU ABU DHABI 2025



CHERISHED MOMENTS



HEARTFELT BONDS



WELCOME TO THE NYUAD ALUMNI COMMUNITY - AND CONGRATULATIONS!

Today, you step beyond the gates of NYU Abu Dhabi, not just as graduates but as lifelong members of the global NYUAD alumni community - nearly 3,500 strong - spread across 80 countries. Wherever your journey takes you next, you carry with you the spirit of NYUAD: bold, boundary-pushing, and committed to shaping a better world.

As an NYUAD alum, you are part of something truly extraordinary. You share a unique bond with fellow alumni from New York to Shanghai, London to Abu Dhabi, and beyond. Together, we form a powerful global network, with each of you adding a unique perspective and leveraging your world-class education to catalyze positive change.

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED

Your connection to NYUAD doesn't end here - it evolves! The NYU Alumni Association (NYUAA), uniting more than 700,000 alumni worldwide, is here to keep you engaged no matter where life takes you. Our alumni team, clubs and regional alumni volunteers host events around the world, bringing the NYU spirit to your new city - whether for work, study, or adventure!

STAY IN TOUCH

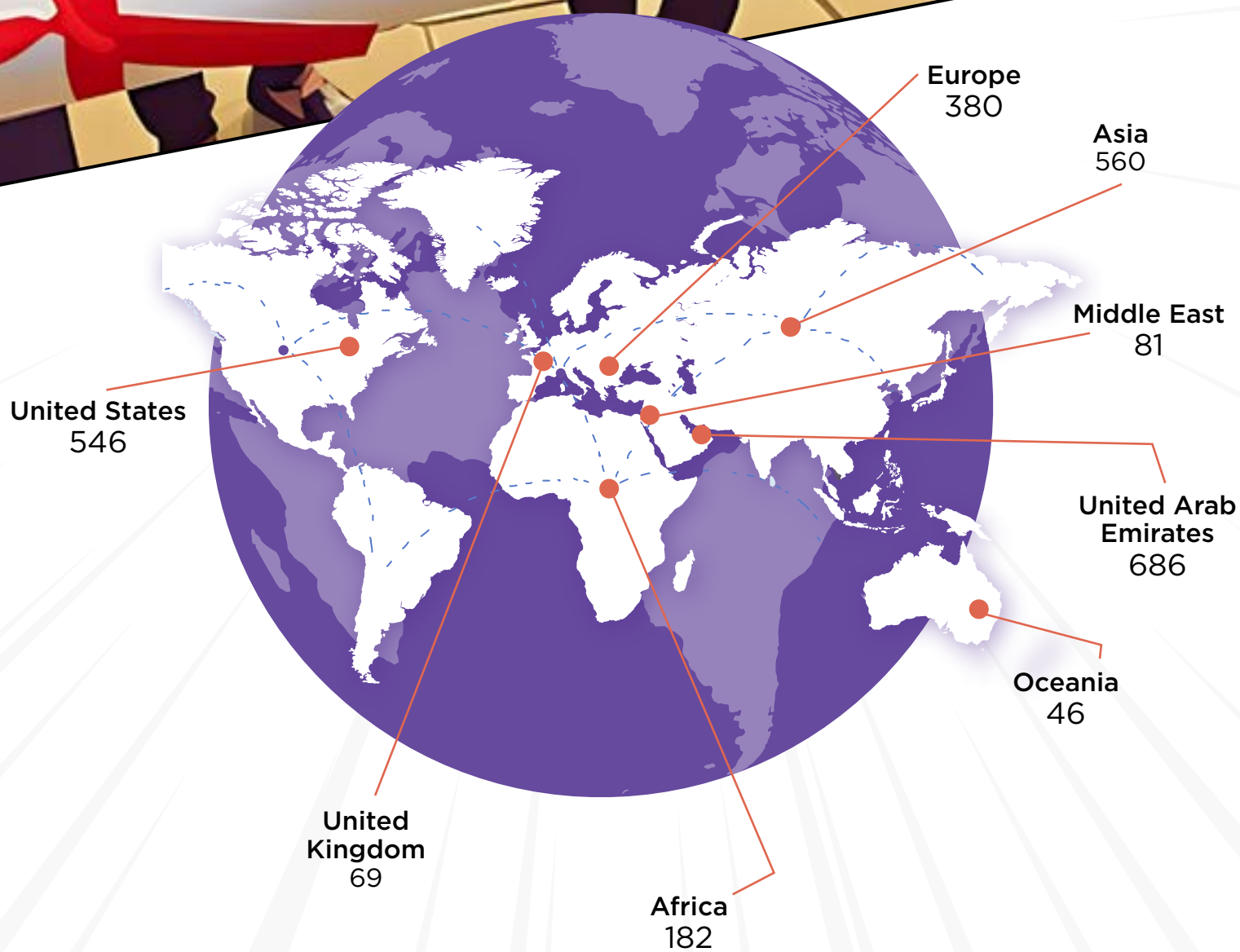
We'd love to stay in touch as you embark on life beyond Saadiyat! Scan the QR code below to ensure we have your most up-to-date contact details so you can stay in the loop about alumni gatherings, reunions, mentorship opportunities, and much more.



nyuad.alumni@nyu.edu

Welcome to the next chapter - your journey with the NYUAD alumni family is just beginning!

YOUR GLOBAL ALUMNI COMMUNITY







جامعة نيويورك أبوظبي



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