

SURVEY of BETWEEN THE LINES PARTICIPANTS
September 15, 2010

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Statements:

The information solicited on this survey is requested pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-62) and the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act (22 U.S.C. 2451, et seq.). In order to ensure that the U.S. Department of State's international exchange programs meet statutory program requirements (22 U.S.C. 2460(c)), the Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) regularly monitors the programs, gathers data about program accomplishments, and evaluates selected ones. ECA uses the information collected to inform program design, management, and funding. All personal information that is collected through surveys is considered confidential. All responses are coded to ensure the confidentiality of individual responses. Data collected under this study will not be shared, sold, or used for fundraising purposes. Survey data and findings will be used only in an aggregate form for the express purposes of fulfilling the data needs of the outcome assessment. Responses to this survey are voluntary.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average thirty-five (35) minutes to respond to this survey, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and respondents are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Please send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to: A/ISS/DIR, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520.

SV 2010-0030

OMB No.: 1405-0158
Expiration Date: 04/30/2011
Estimated Burden Time: 35 minutes

Q1. In what year did you participate in the Between the Lines program? *Please select one box.*

	✓
2008	
2009	

Q2. Exchange programs provide participants with many important opportunities for learning and engaging people from other countries. In the table below, please identify the **three** most important accomplishments resulting from your participation in the Between the Lines program.

	✓
Improved my writing skills	
Explored new or different approaches and techniques in creative writing or poetry	
Explored American literature and poetry	
Interacted with a writing community	
Built relationships with other young writers from the U.S.	
Built relationships with other young writers from my region	
Shared my culture with others	
Improved my English skills	
Lived and studied in the United States	
Other (Please write in):	

Q3. How much did the Between the Lines program meet your expectations? *Please select one box.*

Did not meet any of my expectations	Did not meet most of my expectations	Met some of my expectations	Met most of my expectations	Met all of my expectations

Q4. What is your most important accomplishment that is a direct result of your experience in the Between the Lines program?

A4. Open-ended response

Q5. How much did the Between the Lines program improve your knowledge and skills in creative writing, poetry and forms of expression? *Please select one box in each row.*

	Not at All	To a Small Extent	To a Good Extent	To a Great Extent	Not Applicable
Creative Writing					
Character development					
Plot development					
Setting					
Dialogue and voice/point of view					
Creativity					
Poetry					

Structure					
Voice					
Imagery					
Use of metaphors and/or similes					
Other skills					
Critiquing other works					
Critiquing and editing your own work					
Expressing your opinion verbally					
Presenting work to an audience					
Translation from English to Arabic of written works (yours or others)					
Translation from Arabic to English of written works (yours or others)					
English grammar					
Arabic grammar					

Q6. Have you applied the knowledge and skills that you learned during the Between the Lines program since your return home? *Please select one box in each row.*

	Yes	No
Creative Writing		
Character development		
Plot development		
Setting		
Dialogue and voice/point of view		
Creativity		
Poetry		
Structure		
Voice		
Imagery		
Use of metaphors and/or similes		
Other skills		
Critiquing other works		
Critiquing and editing your own work		
Expressing your opinion verbally		
Presenting work to an audience		
Translation from English to Arabic of written works		
Translation from Arabic to English of written works		
English grammar		
Arabic grammar		

Q7. How has your creative writing or poetry changed as a direct result of your participation in the exchange program?

A7. Open-ended response

Q8. To what extent do you think you were able to share your culture with other teachers, students and writers while you participated in the program? *Please select one box.*

Not At All	To A Small Extent	To A Good Extent	To A Great Extent	Not Applicable

Q9. What was the most significant aspect of your culture that you were able to share with other teachers, students and writers?

A9. Open-ended

Q10. Thinking back, what was your level of knowledge about the following aspects of the United States **before** participating in the Between the Lines program? *Please select one box in each row.*

	No Knowledge	Limited Knowledge	Moderate Knowledge	Extensive Knowledge
Daily life in the United States				
American writing and poetry				
American arts and culture				
Religious diversity in the United States				
Ethnic diversity in the United States				
The U.S. political system				
Education in the United States				
Freedom of speech and the press in the United States				
Voluntary community services and philanthropy in the United States				
American history				
American popular culture				
The United States overall				

Q11. Thinking back, what was your level of knowledge about the following aspects of the United States **after** participating in the Between the Lines program? *Please select one box in each row.*

	No Knowledge	Limited Knowledge	Moderate Knowledge	Extensive Knowledge
Daily life in the United States				
American arts and culture				
American writing and poetry				
Religious diversity in the United States				

Ethnic diversity in the United States				
The U.S. political system				
Education in the United States				
Freedom of speech and the press in the United States				
Voluntary community services and philanthropy in the United States				
American history				
American popular culture				
The United States overall				

Q12. How did your views of the United States Government and the American people change as a result of your participation in the exchange program? *Please select one box in each row.*

	Much less favorable	Less favorable	No change	More favorable	Much more favorable
United States Government					
American People					

Q13. What did you learn about the United States during your visit that surprised you or that you did not expect?

A13. Open-ended response

Q14. Have you shared your experience or knowledge you gained during your participation in Between the Lines in any of the following ways? *Please select all that apply.*

	√
Discussion with your family	
Discussion with your friends and community members	
Discussion with your colleagues	
Interview with a media outlet (newspaper, television, radio or Internet)	
Wrote a newspaper or magazine article, including an editorial or opinion piece	
Post on a blog or other Internet networking space	
Shared writing or poetry you wrote while in the United States	
Formal presentation at your school/university	
Formal presentation at a community event	
Other (Please write in):	

Q15. Do you think your family, friends and peers have a more favorable or less favorable opinion of the United States because of the information you shared with them? *Please select one box.*

Much less favorable	Less favorable	No change	More favorable	Much more favorable	I don't know

Q16. Have you been in contact with people you met during the Between the Lines program?

	✓
Yes	
No	

If yes, go to Q17.

If no, go to Q18.

Q17. Of the following people you met through your participation in Between the Lines, whom have you been in contact with since your return home? *Please select all that apply.*

	✓
American students	
Other exchange students in the program	
American teachers	
Arabic teachers	
Chaperones	
Between the Lines Program Director	
Between the Lines Program Coordinator	
U.S. Department of State staff in Washington, D.C.	
U.S. Embassy/Consulate staff	
Between the Lines program alumni	
Alumni of other US exchange programs in my country	
Other (Please write in):	

Q18. Have you returned to the United States since you participated in the Between the Lines program?

	✓
Yes	
No	

Q19. Do you expect to return to the United States within the next five years?

	✓
Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Q20. Do you write more or less than you did before you participated in the Between the Lines Program?

Much less than before	Less than before	No change	More than before	Much more than before

Q21. Of the statements listed below, have you done any of the following since you returned home from your exchange visit to the United States? *Please select one box in each row.*

	Yes	No
My work was published in a student magazine or student newspaper		
My work was in a local or national magazine or newspaper		
I organized a writing/poetry workshop or event		
I attended a writing/poetry workshop or event		

Q22. Do you think you will pursue a career as a writer or a poet? *Please select one box.*

	✓
Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Q23. How has your participation in the Between the Lines program affected you personally?

A23. Open-ended response

Q24. Are you in school or employed? *Please select one box in each row.*

	Yes	No
I am in secondary school/high school		
I attend university		
I attend vocational training		
I am employed		
Other (Please write in):		

Q25. Which forms of media do you primarily use to keep informed about American writing, art and culture? *Please select all that apply.*

	✓
Television	
Radio	
Film	
Books	
Newspapers	
Magazines and trade journals	
<i>Between the Lines</i> website	
Arts and culture websites	
News websites	
Social networking sites (for example, Facebook and Twitter)	
Internet photo and video sharing sites (for example, Flickr and YouTube)	

Other (Please write in):	
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Q26. In which country do you currently live?

A26. Drop-down list

Q27. Which statement best describes the geographic location where you currently live? *Please select one box.*

	✓
My country's capital	
Another major city in my country other than the capital	
A small city, town or rural location in my country	

Q28. What is your age? *Please select one box.*

	✓
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	

Q29. What is your gender?

	✓
Female	
Male	

Q30. If you have additional comments or suggestions for improving Between the Lines program, please give details here. We value your thoughts and feedback.

A30. Open-ended response

Q31. How long did it take for you to complete this survey?

Q31. Drop-down list (minutes)

Thank you for completing this survey!