



Vision

Since 2014, Tiro Association of Arts (previously Istanbouli Theatre) has worked to bring together youth of different cultural, religious and ethnic backgrounds to create an alternative and critical movement through arts and culture.

We believe culture and arts can be strong drivers of development, social cohesion and, ultimately, change.

We work to foster culture in marginalised areas in the south of Lebanon to oppose the polarization, hatred and violence that are common for the areas we work in.

We aspire to provide young people in our community with independent spaces where they can freely express themselves, and work with each other irrespective of background, gender or religious affiliation.

Our Strategy



Providing youth with free training and cultural skill development

We build the capacities of youth in the fields of theatre, photography, film and arts. The training is free of charge so that marginalized youth and groups in society have access to the training and activities.



Creating and rehabilitating alternative spaces for culture and arts

We provide an alternative place, linked to the cultural history of an area/city where people can develop themselves and enjoy cultural activities and events. Such cultural places connect and bring people together, positively (re)shaping the collective identity of the communities and people.



Promoting the south of Lebanon as a place for culture and arts

We promote the South of Lebanon and the areas we work in as places of cultural importance. With these (inter)national festivals we strengthen the image of the south of Lebanon as a place of culture and arts as opposed to hatred, war and violence.

Accomplishments



Festivals



Tiro has organized several international theatre, music and film festivals, including:

- Annual Lebanon International Theatre Festival (2015-)
- Lebanon International Short Film Festival (2014-)
- Tyre International Short Films Festival (2014-2015)
- Tyre International Music Festival (2015-2016)
- Tyre International European Cinema Festival (2016)
- TIRO International Art Festival (2018)

Cinema Renovations



Tiro has brought life to several free and independent cultural spaces, including the renovation and opening of:

- Cinema Al Hamra in Tyre
- Cinema Stars in Nabatieh
- Cinema Rivoli in Tyre

Due to external circumstances activities have moved from Cinema Al Hamra and Cinema Stars Nabatieh, however Tiro continues to work in Cinema Rivoli, Tyre.

Peace Bus



Tiro has converted a former school bus into a moving cinema and theatre, traveling to marginalized areas across Lebanon.

Tiro develops rich screening programmes and invites youth of diverse backgrounds to travel with us on a cultural journey.

The bus facilitates discussions, films, concerts, storytelling and sharing of food. Theatre workshops and performances are held in, around, and on the bus to foster lasting bonds between divided communities.

Community Events



Using these free and independent cultural spaces, Tiro focuses on the personal, cultural and social development of youth and communities in marginalized areas of (south) Lebanon.

Tiro aims to provide youth not only with a space, but with the skills and social contacts to build a brighter future for themselves and their families.

Projects supported by: Dorosos Foundation, Lebanese Ministry of Culture, Lebanese Ministry of Tourism, Municipality of Tyre, Municipality of Nabatieh, PAX (NL), UNIFIL, AFAC, Hivos, Qatar Foundation, Prince Claus Fund, Anna Lindh Foundation.

Further Information



The articles and videos below give an impression of the importance and significance of the work of Tiro Association For Arts.

ARTICLES

- **DAILY STAR LEBANON:** "Reviving Independent Art in South Lebanon."
<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/Arts-and-Ent/Culture/2017/Aug-17/416146-reviving-independent-art-in-south-lebanon.ashx>
- **REUTERS:** "Old cinemas find new life in Lebanon as cultural hubs."
<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-lebanon-cinema-restoration/old-cinemas-find-new-life-in-lebanon-as-cultural-hubs-idUSKBN19Y1UU>
- **AL JAZEERA:** "Championing Culture in Lebanon's South."
<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/06/championing-culture-lebanon-south-160628100019493.html>
- **UNITED NATIONAL INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON (UNIFIL):** 'Promoting Culture of Peace through Arts'
<https://unifil.unmissions.org/promoting-culture-peace-through-arts>

VIDEOS

- **Renovation and reopening of Cinema Stars in Nabatieh, after 27 years of closure:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2T3OztDGJI&feature=youtu.be>
- **Crowdfunding video supporting the campaign to save Cinema Stars from closure:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xdqWx7lyKjk>
- **New 'Peace Bus' project:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MqAl7zfqgls&feature=youtu.be>
- **Cinema Rivoli renovation:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_sAlc-1FqCc



Please contact
Kassem Istanbouli
for more information:

Tel: 0096 170 903 846

Email: tyroarts.association@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Istanbouli.Theatree/>