



KUWAIT: Students of the sixth batch of 'The Proteges' program pose for a group photo with US Ambassador to Kuwait Lawrence Silverman and his wife.



Officials of The Proteges program pose for a group photo. —Photos by Joseph Shagra

KIPCO CELEBRATES GRADUATION OF 'THE PROTEGES' STUDENTS

HELPING YOUNG TALENT PLAY ROLE IN KUWAIT'S DEVELOPMENT

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: Kuwait Projects Company Holding (KIPCO) organized the graduation ceremony of the sixth batch of 'The Proteges' program's students on Sunday at Yarmouk cultural center. "The Proteges has proved its success through its great projects, and we are proud to partner with this program that seeks to help talented young Kuwaitis play a role in the development of Kuwait's economy," said Abeer Al-Omar, corporate communications manager at KIPCO, the main sponsor of the sixth generation of Proteges.

Omar pointed out that investing in people is what KIPCO is keen to do. "KIPCO is always making sure to improve Kuwaiti youth's talents and develop their skills, as young people are the means to uplift any community," she said. "Their project 'Waseelah' is a wonderful platform that aims to raise awareness that all talents are influential and to motivate the general public to express themselves. We look forward to see what this generation can achieve," she added.

The Arabic word 'waseelah' means 'path'. The Proteges' students aspire to provide a path and a bridge that people can cross to reach their full potential, fulfilling their dreams and



Abeer Al-Omar, corporate communications manager at KIPCO speaks during the ceremony.

Waseelah begins its steps of achieving the mentioned goals with the cooperation of the general public. In order to gain their attention and support, the team had to brainstorm the methods of promoting Waseelah's message. Due to Kuwait's richness in plays and annual expeditions and fairs, the final decision was to create a play that shows the vitality of self-expression, and an exhibit which shows

the potential of talents. At the end of the ceremony, the Proteges' teachers of arts and letters Ghanam Al-Dikan, Bader Borsely, Jasem Al-Nabhan, Jasem Al-Yaqoub and Saher were honored for their efforts. The event was attended by a number of ambassadors and Kuwaiti singer Nabil Shaeab. The Proteges program, established in 2010, is a part of a social enterprise that is designed to



Students perform on stage during the ceremony.

positively influence the youth of Kuwait through an inclusive program that combines travel, lectures, group activities, challenges, games and fun, guided by a team of mentors. The main idea of the program is based on training youth led by a group of counselors in innovative ways, encouraging them to discover their passion and providing tools to help them face the challenges of working through work-

shops aimed at self-development, creative thinking and communication skills.

It aims to discover extraordinary potential in the youth and develop it. The Proteges' students are selected based on a thorough screening process ensuring that they meet high standards of excellence, where they accept 25 students for each generation aged 16 to 24.



HAVANA: Kuwaiti students pose for a group photo during their visit to Cuba's National Museum of Arts. —KUNA

KUWAITI STUDENTS TOUR VARIOUS TOURISTIC SITES IN CUBA, ALBANIA

HAVANA/TIRANA: Kuwaiti students on a trip financed by Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) toured various touristic sites in Cuba. The students were taken to Cuba National Museum of arts, one of the most touristic beautiful sites in the Caribbean, which included more than 5,000 arts pieces. Later, the students visited Morro Castle in Havana which shares its name with structures in Santiago de Cuba and the Castillo

de San Felipe del Morro in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In this case, the Spanish "morro" means a rock which is very visible from the sea and therefore serves as a navigational landmark. Inside the gates is an exhibition on the lighthouses of Cuba, El Morro once housed a school for lighthouse keepers.

There was actually a watchtower until the British blew it up during their successful siege in 1762. The Faro Castillo del Morro lighthouse

was added in 1846. Afterward, the students visited popular Feira Shop in central Havana, and were briefed on the historic and heritage of the area there.

Meanwhile, Kuwaiti female students, currently on a visit to Albania organized by KFAED in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, have visited the two cities of Kruje and Shkodra. Sunday's tour included the Kruje Bazaar that dates back to the Middle Ages. Located inside the fortified walls of the Kruje castle, the Bazaar is both a historic attraction and a shopping opportunity for those hunting for authentic Albanian souvenirs. The delegation also visited the George Castriot Castle, located on 600 metres from the sea level, in Kruje, 32 kilometers from the capital Tirana. During their visit to the National Museum built close to the castle, the Kuwaiti top Thanawya Amma (secondary school) students were briefed on the history of the renowned military commander George Castriot (Skanderbeg) (1405-1468). The students also toured the city of Shkodra, northwest, one of the oldest and most historic places in Albania and the Balkans. It is also an important cultural and economic center. In ancient times, Shkodra was known under the name Scodra and was the capital of the Labeates, an old Illyrian tribe. The Rozafa Castle and the Abu-Bakr Mosque are two main landmark sites in the city. — KUNA



TIRANA: Kuwaiti female students pose for a photo during their visit to the two Albanian cities of Kruje and Shkodra.

OOREDOO PARTICIPATES IN PROTEGES GRADUATION

Kuwait: Ooredoo, the fastest network in Kuwait, participated in the graduation of the 6th generation of the Proteges on Sunday evening in Yarmouk Cultural Center, an establishment of Dar al-Athar al-Islamiyyah.

The graduation ceremony was attended by Ooredoo Kuwait General Manager and CEO Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani, COO Frederic Debord, and Corporate Communications Senior Director Mijbil Alalayoub.

Commenting on this, Ooredoo Corporate Communications Senior Director Mijbil Alalayoub said, "We are very proud of the Proteges graduates today, who proved their excellence and creativity. We also take great pride in our sponsorship of Proteges, an effective and life changing program that allows youth to gain essential and practical skills and knowledge that will allow them to grow with a stronger sense

of direction. This sponsorship comes to reiterate our position as a leader in youth development in Kuwait."

The 6th generation of the Proteges titled their project 'Waseelah,' an Arabic word that means 'path' or 'way'. Waseelah is a platform that strives to raise awareness that all talents are influential, and motivate the general public to express themselves through various forms of art. It has culminated in the musical production entitled the Key of Life, which uses music and acting to demonstrate the types of classical Arabic music.

Ooredoo Kuwait has also played an active role in supporting Proteges activities, which include the lecture presented by Professor Fathi Al-Khamisi's on the revolutionary work of the Egyptian musician Sayed Darwish, and the introductory session that was held with the main mentors for this season of Proteges.



Mijbil Alalayoub

The Proteges program was launched in 2010, with the objective to mentor youth between the age of 16 and 24 by local iconic figures in different fields. The program aims to reinforce the social and personal skills of youth, develop their self-awareness and improve their critical and creative thinking. The program includes workshops, projects and open discussion circles.



Ooredoo Kuwait General Manager and CEO Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani (center) attends the ceremony.



Ooredoo officials pose for a group photo during the event.