



aroman Ezaman

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# Yalla! Let's Talk.

## Rethinking Tomorrow

An unforgettable day of inspiring stories and eye-opening insights.

**CONFERENCE PROGRAM** 







#### Yalla! Let's Talk Conference Program

#### 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Shireen Salti

#### Numbers Don't Lie: Youth Empowerment through Civic Engagement

What issues matter most to Canadian-Arab youth? Many ethnic and racialized individuals face challenges in the workplace, society, and in how media portrays their community, It's time to use this moment to spur a national conversation about the importance of Canadian diversity – both within and outside the halls of power.

#### **Mariam Hamaoui**

The Power to Mobilize a Community Starts With You

Being involved in the community is significant to shaping your future path. It encourages you to advocate for yourself and others, which, by default, positively impacts both your life and theirs. Learn how we can impact the world by believing that we can make change!





#### **Ahmed Shihab El Din**

How Our Attachment to Identity Causes Our Suffering

In a world of high connectivity, we often lose touch of the most important thing, one's self. We get lost in social constructs and struggle to let go of who we think we are to find our true selves. In this talk, learn how our voice of inner doubt and judgement limits our creativity and growth.

#### **Joze Piranian**

Everyone Stutters; I Just Do It When I Speak

From holding back from performing on stages worldwide, Joze joins us to share his journey of transformation. He discusses the best ways to confront adversity, from taking full ownership of what makes us unique, to repeatedly exposing ourselves to discomfort and even leveraging fear, as an impetus towards action.





#### **Mohamad Fakih**

The Importance of Pairing Community Development with Entrepreneurship Community engagement has been an integral and intentional part of Mohamad's entrepreneurial journey. He talks about the steps Arab millennials can take to grow personally and professionally by giving back to the community.

Entertainment by TheSoulfulPoet

12:30 PM

Lunch & Social Hour

2:00 - 3:30 PM

#### **Xavier Caffrey**

52 Cards, Infinite Possibilities

52 playing cards can be combined in infinite ways, and Xavier is on a mission to discover each and every one of them. Are you willing to follow your dreams, even if the world tells you it's impossible?





#### Shereen Aldaimalani & Noor Agha

Redefining the Arab Diaspora: Questioning Baba's Vision

Shereen and Noor hope to redefine what it means to be Arab. They aim to inspire us to form identities separate from what once was and eradicate the criteria qualifying one as Arab. Their goal is to connect with the audience by finding a way to honour the past, but not at the expense of striving for our futures.



#### **Naguib Gouda**

A Mental Health Journey: Surviving Child Abuse & Living with PTSD

The first step towards changing the narrative surrounding sexual abuse and mental health is to both actively listen and start using your voice. This talk is a reminder that you are not defined by your experiences, rather your ability to discover your inner strength and resilience through them.

Salma Hindy

Comedy & Self-Actualization: Healing Through The Journey

Engineer by day, Salma's pursuit of stand-up comedy entailed healing from her past traumas and negative core beliefs. In this talk, she dives into finding herself through her journey of self-actualization.



#### **Mohamad Sawwaf**

People Over Profit: Building a Sustainable Community Around Financial Responsibility

In a system that thrives off from taking advantage of people's misfortunes, socially responsible and ethical financing is the new way to go. Creating a level playing field starts with understanding how the system currently works, and working to achieve a community based on respect, equality, and fairness.

Entertainment by Skin N Strings

4:00 - 6:00 PM

#### **Maisam Hasan**

Work With Your Body, Not Against It

Dr. Maisam speaks about her journey with naturopathy by realizing the impact it can have on the people around us. Her talk will empower the audience with the right tools to handle today's chronic life stressors for a stronger body, mind, and soul.





#### **Ally Salama**

Harnessing the Power of Community in the Digital Era

Ally's talk is a helping hand for those with stories going untold. His path to liberation from the grips of mental illness came from reaching out for help, and finding someone there to pull him out. He leaves the audience with the digital tools needed to pave paths of growth for themselves and others.



From Trouble Maker to Global Change Maker

Lina has empowered more than 18,000 women and certified over 550 instructors globally through SheFighter. Her road to establishing the first self-defense studio for women in the Middle East reminds us that a challenging journey does not mean you will not find success.



### Rami Helali Building Social Purpose Into Your Business Is Good Business

We often aim to succeed overseas to represent our roots, but wonder, how do we take that success back to the Arab world? The Canadian company, Kotn, has mobilized the cotton industry in Egypt as it was on the brink of extinction. Through their schools and agricultural deals, they helped the Nile Delta become more alive than ever.

**Closing Remarks** 

by the YLT Conference Organizing Team