



TUCSON MED CLUB



# ZUROUNA زورونا

www.tucsonmedclub.org

A publication of the Tucson MED Club

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## Congratulations to the 2010 MED Scholarship Winners and Graduates

The MED scholarships are given every year to MED graduates from high schools who clearly demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, character, and community service. The scholarship is a one-time, non-renewable financial award. The college graduates receive a certificate of appreciation for their accomplishments. The awards and certificates were given during our annual graduation party that was held on May 1st at the Skyline Country Club. The graduation party has always been the most enjoyable MED party because of the pride we have to our MED young's who are demonstrating outstanding leadership and success in their schools. This year we have two high school graduates and one college graduate. The High school graduates were Lana Hariri (second from the left) and Zane Abdelatif (third from the left) who all will be Wildcats freshmen at the University of Arizona. Nicole Lahood (who was represented by her brother Ryan Lahood, first from right) received her B.S. from the University of Arizona.



Lana Hariri (second from the left) and Zane Abdelatif (third from the left) who all will be Wildcats freshmen at the University of Arizona. Nicole Lahood (who was represented by her brother Ryan Lahood, first from right) received her B.S. from the University of Arizona.

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On behalf of the MED Club, we wish you all success and happiness. Congratulations on your achievement.



*I am the descendant of a people that builded Damascus, and Byblos, and Tyre and Sidon and Antioch, and now I am here to build with you, and with a will.*  
**Kahlil Gibran**

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## Fast Facts

Contributed by Lana Hariri

- 55% of people yawn within 5 minutes of seeing someone else yawn.
- MasterCard was originally called MasterCharge.
- Tokyo was once known as Edo.
- On every continent there is a city called Rome.
- The oldest inhabited city is Damascus, Syria.
- The first city in the world to have a population of more than one million was Rome.
- Tourism is the world's biggest industry, affecting 240 million jobs.
- If you stack one million US \$1 bills, it would be 110m (361 ft) high and weight exactly 1 ton.
- Today there are more than 1.5 billion TV sets in use.
- China has the most TV sets (500 million).
- US citizens watch the most TV. By age 65, an American would have watched the equivalent of 9 years uninterrupted screening, viewing more than 20,000 TV commercials per year.
- In the US there are more TV sets than telephones.
- 2 billion videos are watched per day on YouTube
- Lady Peseshet of Ancient Egypt (2600-2100 BC) is the world's first known female physician.
- There are about 5,000 prince and princesses in each Saudi Arabian royal.

### Med Club Information: Please Join or Renew Your Membership for 2011

- If you are already a member, please renew by sending a check payable to: Tucson Med Club

**Fees: Family Membership: \$70**

**Individual Fee: \$35**

**Donations: MED Scholarship Fund**

- If you are not a member, you can download the application form from our website at [www.tucsonmedclub.org](http://www.tucsonmedclub.org) or contact Hassan Hijazi, MED Club President, at 520-955-3657, [hijazi@email.arizona.edu](mailto:hijazi@email.arizona.edu) or Kamal Moukabary, MED Club VP, at 520-245-9225, [kamal@moukabary.com](mailto:kamal@moukabary.com)

**Tucson MED Club is a member of the Southern Federation of Syrian Lebanese American Clubs.**

<http://www.sfslac.org/>



# The GINGHAM DRESS

## Provided by Charles Yessian

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston, and walked timidly without an appointment into the Harvard University President's outer office.

The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard and probably didn't even deserve to be in Cambridge.

'We'd like to see the president,' the man said softly.

'He'll be busy all day,' the secretary snapped.

'We'll wait,' the lady replied.

For hours the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go away. They didn't, and the secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the president, even though it was a chore she always regretted.

'Maybe if you see them for a few minutes, they'll leave,' she said to him.

He sighed in exasperation and nodded.

Someone of his importance obviously didn't have the time to spend with them, and he detested gingham dresses and homespun suits cluttering up his outer office.

The president, stern faced and with dignity, strutted toward the couple.

The lady told him, 'We had a son who attended Harvard for one year.

He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed. My husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus.'

The president wasn't touched. He was shocked. 'Madam,' he said, gruffly, 'we can't put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died.

If we did, this place would look like a cemetery.'

'Oh, no,' the lady explained quickly. 'We don't want to erect a statue.

We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard.'

The president rolled his eyes. He glanced at the gingham dress and homespun suit, then exclaimed, 'A building!

Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs?

We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical buildings here at Harvard.'

For a moment the lady was silent. The president was pleased. Maybe he could get rid of them now.

The lady turned to her husband and said quietly, 'Is that all it costs to start a university? Why don't we just start our own?'

Her husband nodded. The president's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford got up and walked away, traveling to Palo Alto California, where they established the university that bears their name, Stanford University, a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.

You can easily judge the character of others by how they treat those who they think can do nothing for them.

————— A TRUE STORY By Malcolm Forbes —————

'People will forget what you said,

People will forget what you did..

But people will never forget how you made them feel'.



View of Harvard college. Engraved in 1767 by Paul Revere.



Stanford University Oval — Photo.



# Phoenician Alphabet

Provided by Salim Hariri

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Phoenician alphabet**, called by convention the **Proto-Canaanite alphabet** for inscriptions older than around 1050 BC, was a non-pictographic consonantal alphabet, or abjad. It was used for the writing of Phoenician, a Northern Semitic language, used by the civilization of Phoenicia. It has been classified as an Abjad because it records only consonantal sounds, with the addition of *matres lectionis* for some vowels. (One of its descendants, the Greek alphabet, revamped some letters to more consistently represent vowels.)

## Spread of the alphabet and its social effects

The Phoenician adaptation of the alphabet was extremely successful, and variants were adapted around the Mediterranean from about the 9th century, notably giving rise to the Greek, Old Italic, Anatolian and Paleohispanic scripts. Its success was due in part to its phonetic nature; Phoenician was the first widely-used script in which one sound was represented by one symbol. This simple system contrasted with the other scripts in use at the time, such as Cuneiform and Egyptian hieroglyphs, which employed many complex characters and were difficult to learn. This one-to-one configuration also made it possible for Phoenician to be employed in multiple languages.

Another reason of its success was the maritime trading culture of Phoenician merchants, which spread the use of the alphabet into parts of North Africa and Europe. Phoenician inscriptions have been found in archaeological sites at a number of former Phoenician cities and colonies around the Mediterranean, such as Byblos (in present-day Lebanon) and Carthage in Tunisia (North Africa). Later finds indicate earlier use in Egypt.

Phoenician had long-term effects on the social structures of the civilizations which came in contact with it. Its simplicity not only allowed it to be used in multiple languages, but it also allowed the common people to learn how to write. This upset the long-standing status of writing systems only being learnt and employed by members of the

royal and religious hierarchies of society, who used writing as an instrument of power to control access to information by the larger population. The appearance of Phoenician disintegrated many of these class divisions, although many Middle Eastern kingdoms would continue to use cuneiform for legal and liturgical matters well into the common era.

## Phoenician alphabet

𐤀	'	𐤁	T	𐤂	P
𐤃	B	𐤄	Y	𐤅	C
𐤆	G	𐤇	K	𐤈	Q
𐤉	D	𐤊	L	𐤋	R
𐤌	H	𐤍	M	𐤎	Š, Š
𐤏	W	𐤐	N	𐤑	Th
𐤒	Z	𐤓	S		
𐤔	Ch	𐤕	'		

Type	Abjad
Spoken Languages	Phoenician
Time Period	Began 1050 BC, and gradually died out during the Hellenistic period as its evolved forms replaced it.
Parent Systems	Egyptian hieroglyphs: Proto-Sinaitic, Proto-Canaanite alphabet, and the Phoenician Alphabet
Child Systems	Paelo-Hebrew alphabet Aramaic alphabet Greek alphabet
Sister systems	South Arabian alphabet

## Fun Time at Backgammon/Cards Tournament

First Thursday of Each Month at 7:15pm, Luxor Cafe



# Graduation Party at Skyline Resort, May 1st, 2010



# Graduation Party at Skyline Country Club







# Family Picnic at Tucson Racquet Club on Sunday, September



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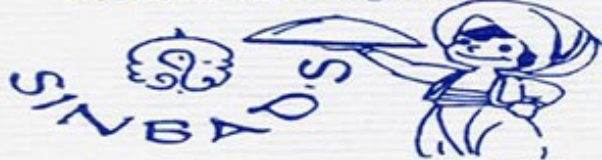
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*"You should be proud of being an American, but you should also be proud that your fathers and mothers came from a land upon which God laid His gracious hand and raised His messengers."*

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[Http://www.tucsonmedclub.org](http://www.tucsonmedclub.org)

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