

Community Life  
People. Place. Pride.

2023

# COMMUNITY LIFE ANNUAL REPORT

The year in review, from July 2022 to June 2023



Cover Photo by Marcos Aguilar





A YEAR IN REVIEW  
REFLECTING ON OUR SERVICES AND GROWTH

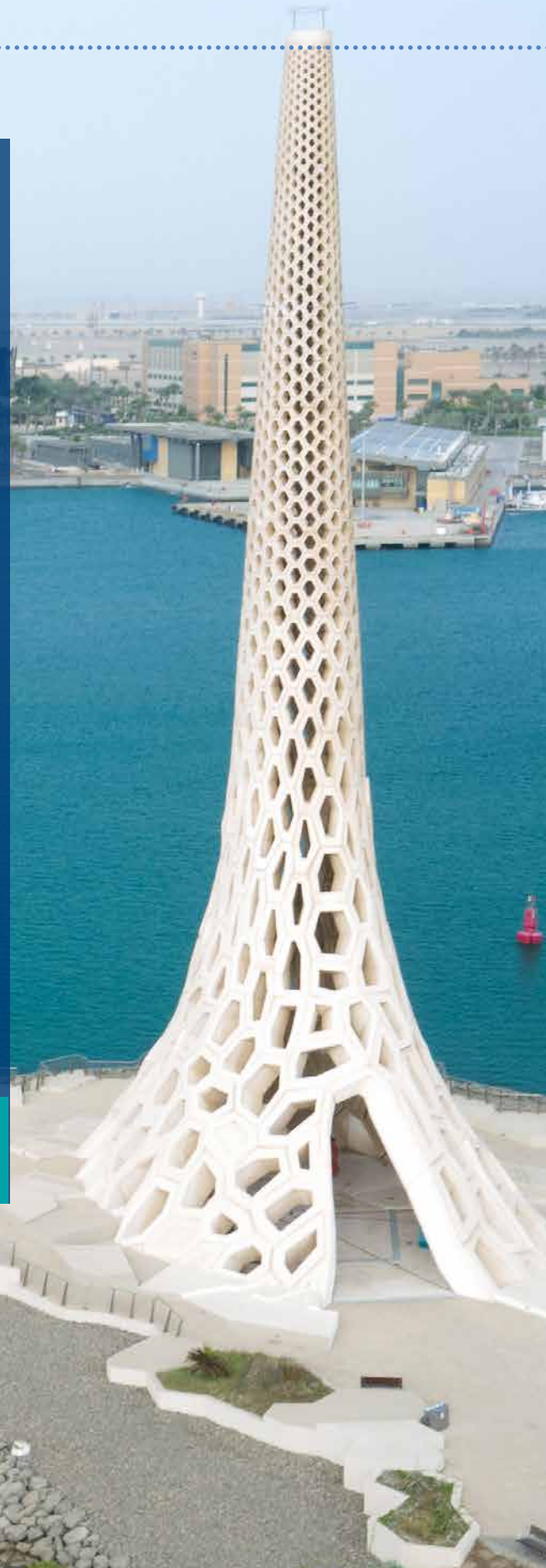
## INDEX

Pg No.

Community Life Team	3
Vice President's Statement	4
Our Community Demographics	6
Development of the Community	9
Events	13
Recreation	16
Child Care	20
KAUST Health	24
Accommodation	29
Food and Retail	31
Travel, Transportation and Logistics	33
Partnerships	34
Food Safety and Quality	36
Feedback	37
Important Links	38



[www.communitylife.kaust.edu.sa](http://www.communitylife.kaust.edu.sa)



ANNUAL REPORT  
2023

Community Life  
People. Place. Pride.

# COMMUNITY LIFE TEAM

The Community Life team is here to help each individual and family find their sense of place and belonging in the KAUST community. We aim to provide KAUST community members with essential community services, facilities, programs and events to provide everyone that lives, works and studies here the opportunity to enjoy active, healthy, balanced and fulfilled lives.

### The Community Life Team



OUR CORE PRINCIPLES  
PEOPLE.PLACE.PRIDE

**The People** who form our diverse community, **the Place**, a modern and vibrant University we call home and **the Pride** we share in our role helping make KAUST a success.



# VICE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

Welcome to our Community Life Annual Report. We enjoy pulling the report together each year, as it gives us a chance to reflect on the way our services and events have developed over the previous 12 months, and to highlight some of our ambitions for the coming period.

The Annual Report is broken down into the different teams within Community Life, and you will see details of some of the highlights for each area. The forward view is great, as it shows the focus areas for the coming period, which includes some ambitious plans.

Community Life brings together the core services and teams that serve the KAUST Community, our Annual Report is just a snapshot. Please visit our

website for comprehensive information on all the areas we cover.

Our mission is to positively impact KAUST through community engagement and collaboration by providing high-quality, accessible services. Our primary focus is to foster a community that enables every member to feel a sense of belonging and connectedness.

I would like to highlight how many of our great events this year have seen increased participation levels and engagement with volunteers from across the KAUST Community – *for the community, by the community* has been the theme we have enjoyed seeing developing.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to Raheena Abdurehim for her dedication and tenacity pulling the Annual Report together for us. We are all so busy doing the next thing that helping create the record of what has been done is not easy to get to the top of the job list. I would also add a special thanks to Stuart Gray for sourcing and presenting all the data that's included in our report. Good data really helps us illuminate what we have achieved.

I am proud of the Community Life team. They work hard to support the KAUST community with professionalism, care, enthusiasm, and innovation.

I hope you will enjoy this year's Community Life Annual Report.



**Chris Sealey**  
Vice President,  
Community Life



A WALK TO REMEMBER

Pg. 19



CELEBRATING MILESTONES

Pg. 22



HEALTHCARE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Pg. 19



THE FAMILY AND CHILD SUPPORT CENTER

Pg.22



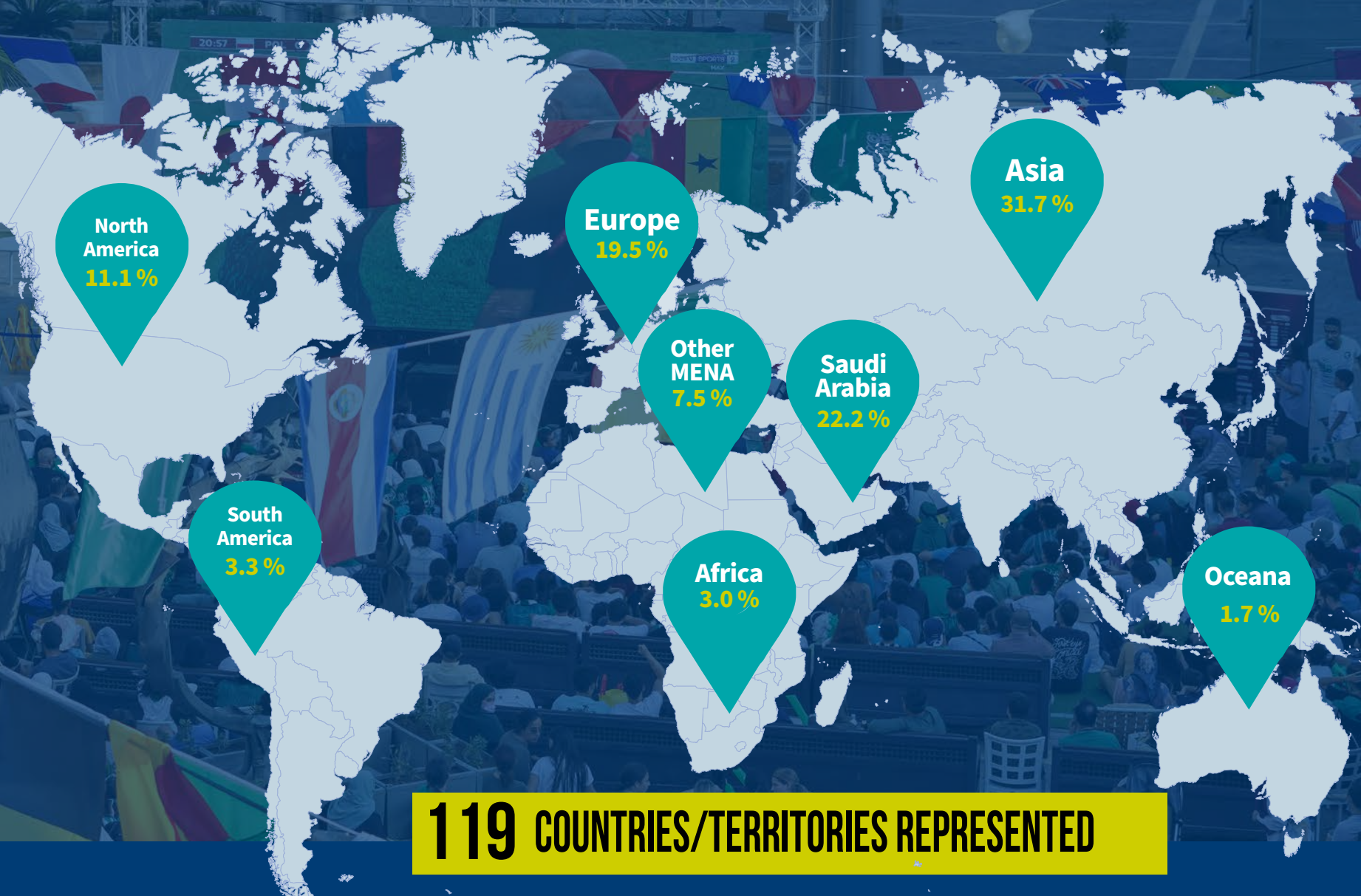
# OUR COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS

AS OF SEPTEMBER, 2023

**8,734** COMMUNITY RESIDENTS INCLUDING STUDENTS, STAFF, DEPENDENTS, BUSINESS PARTNERS AND MORE

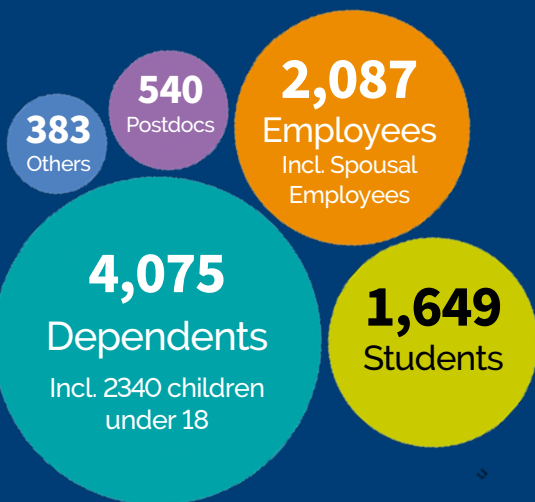
**Male**  
51 %

**Female**  
49 %

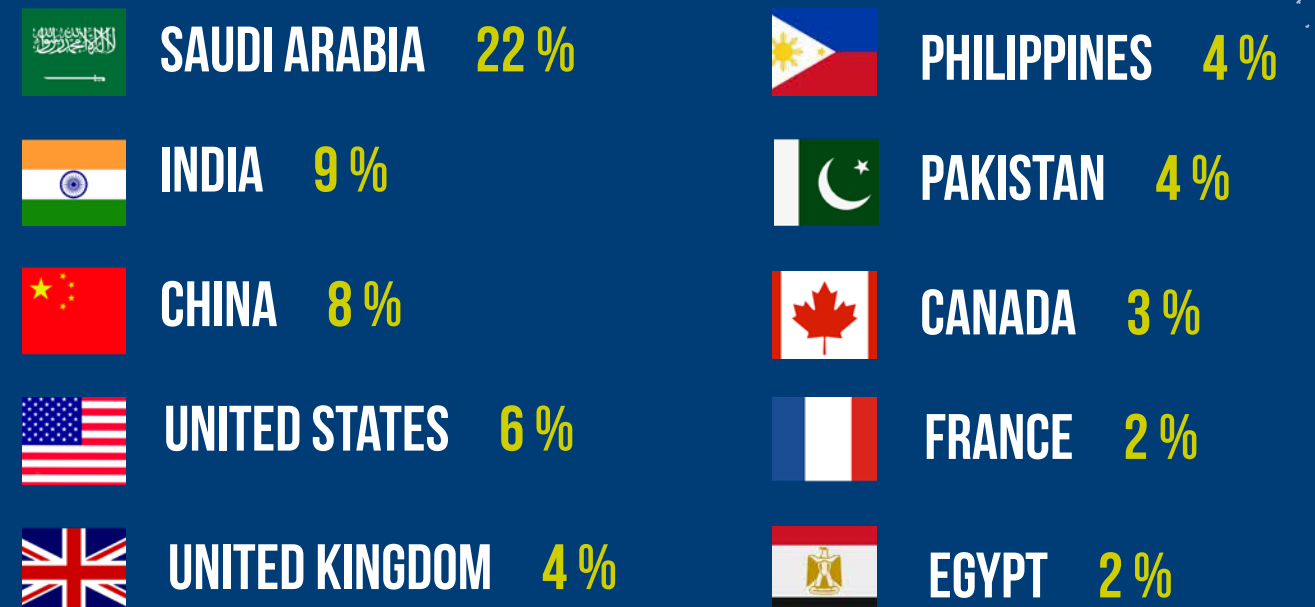
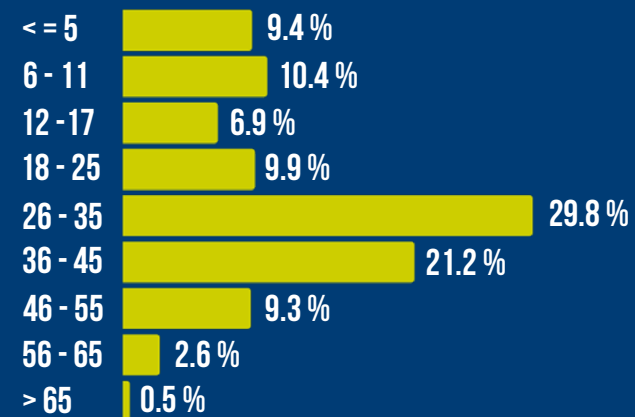


**119** COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES REPRESENTED

## BY RESIDENT TYPES



## BY AGE GROUPS





# DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

Community Life works with the community and colleagues across the University to deliver a range of programs and initiatives that make our community active and vibrant. Community members get involved in programs, projects, and initiatives, which include Youth Programs, Community Wellness Programs, Language Programs, Sports & Fitness Programs, and the Welcome to KAUST Program.

## LOOKING BACK >>

Photo from **Welcome to my Country** event at Discovery Square.

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

130 Students

KAUST's English Language Program has been a successful initiative for over a decade, offering classes from beginner to upper intermediate. It has also benefited unemployed Saudi women who wanted to improve their English skills to help in their careers, aligning with Vision 2030's goal of creating a thriving economy with more job opportunities.

The Community Market offers a platform for KAUST community artisans to showcase and sell their handmade goods, food, and art. It also provides the community a unique and fun shopping experience.

Two successful Community Markets were hosted in the last period.

**COMMUNITY MARKETS**  
over 35 Registered  
Community Artisans

### WELCOME TO KAUST PROGRAM

40 Buddies  
114 connections

The Welcome to KAUST program plays a crucial role in helping new arrivals transition into the community. Thanks to the support of community members who volunteer as 'Buddies'.

Additionally, we host regular orientations and dinners to welcome newcomers and ensure that they feel at home.

KAUST Community Clubs are groups of people with shared interests who come together to share their passions. They promote health and well-being by encouraging people to exercise, pursue a hobby, and fostering connections within the community.

This year Toastmasters Public Speaking, Dinocorns Free Diving, Girl's Football and Aikido were added.

### COMMUNITY CLUBS

37 Active Clubs

### THE HQ TEEN SPACE

Workshops on self defense, art and pottery, and board gaming were organized at the space.

The HQ Teen Space offers a safe, welcoming environment for teens to socialize and develop a sense of community in KAUST. The HQ Teen Space also offers a variety of programs and workshops that cater to the interests of teens and help them develop new skills.



## LOOKING FORWARD



LAUNCH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP TO PROVIDE A SPACE FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO SHARE THEIR SKILLS OR INTERESTS



CREATE A VOLUNTEER PLATFORM FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVENTS AND INITIATIVES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY



THE COMMUNITY KITCHEN IS CURRENTLY UNDER RENOVATION AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED AND LAUNCHED IN THE UPCOMING YEAR



IMPROVE IN-KINGDOM ENGAGEMENT AND FOSTER COLLABORATION WITH KAUST'S BUSINESS PARTNERS BY INVITING THEM TO MORE EVENTS AT KAUST

## Meet Mark Dudley, a Welcome to KAUST Program 'Buddy'



Mark Dudley and his wife, with two daughters, have lived in KAUST for about four years. He is a British expat who spent his childhood in East Africa and was inspired by its cultural diversity. He has been a great 'welcome to KAUST' buddy supporting multiple new arrivals as well as always contributing his input to improve our community programs.

"Living in KAUST has given me a unique opportunity to surround myself with a diverse set of friends and colleagues. I love hearing their stories, their differing opinions and their different outlooks on life. As well as that, I am fascinated by technology and wildlife and am never happier than when I'm in the middle of nowhere using one to aid the other."

- Mark Dudley.

## BRINGING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TOGETHER KAUST BOARD GAMING CLUB

At KAUST, there is a diverse international community, and to provide a place for community members to gather and bond over their shared love of board games, Patricia and Marcos set up the Board Gaming Club. The club aims to bring people together into a healthy and safe environment to enjoy and have fun while playing different types of board games.



The Board Gaming Club aims to bring people together into a healthy and safe environment to enjoy and have fun while playing different types of board games.

Board games are a fun and terrific way to spend time with family and friends indoors, especially during the hot Saudi summer.

as decision-making, strategic thinking, and planning. They also promote good mental health and help to keep long-lasting friendships.

Patricia and Marcos are passionate about board games and want to share this passion with everyone. Their families have taught them the importance of always learning new things, supporting each other, and sharing with others. They aim to introduce community members to board games outside the traditional card or dice games and provide a platform for experienced players to compete and challenge each other.

For them, being in a community club is all about the people. Regular club members are keen to share and teach games to novice players or invite new people to join them during game night. From it, they have made long-lasting friendships.

The games foster communication and collaboration while strengthening other skills, such

The Community Development team aims to empower clubs to become self-sufficient. An example of this was the International Tabletop Day. The Boardgaming Club organized this themselves with minimal help from Community Life.

The International Tabletop Day event encouraged fans of board games to gather and play. This year, it was a successful event with more than 200 participants, over 50 games, and several tournaments with board games as prizes. It was an excellent opportunity to introduce more community members to this hobby and to join the club.

Everyone is welcome to attend the board gaming community club. You do not need to know how to play a game or know all the rules. The group members are happy to help teach the rules and play during game nights. Join us for our next game night and choose from our extensive collection of games.



INTERNATIONAL TABLETOP DAY EVENT



# COMMUNITY ARABIC PROGRAM



The Community Arabic Language Program was created to introduce expat community members at KAUST to the rich Arabic language and the culture of Saudi Arabia. The program caters to adult learners, offering introductory levels that are gradually upgraded to intermediate and advanced levels, based on the students' requirements.

In response to parents' demands, the Arabic Program for Kids was introduced. Initially, the program combined non-native Arabic kids with kids who came from Arabic backgrounds. However, two separate sections were eventually

created: one for non-native Arabic kids and one for native Arabic kids who require more emphasis on Arabic reading and writing skills.

There is also a group of advanced-level students who wanted additional practice to further improve their Arabic language skills. To meet their requirements, the Arabic Language Café was introduced. The Arabic Café sessions take place outside of the classroom environment, with each session having a dedicated theme. Last year's theme focused on building up conversation skills, and this year's theme is focused on story reading.

All the programs have seen a growing interest from the community, with a sharp increase in the number of students in the past two years compared to previous years.

We plan to continue offering these programs and help the KAUST community learn Arabic, promoting cross-cultural understanding and communication.

If you require further details about the program, please contact us at [learn.arabic@kaust.edu.sa](mailto:learn.arabic@kaust.edu.sa).



Children practice their reading and writing.



Expat community members learning the beautiful Arabic language and culture.



# EVENTS

Events provide an opportunity for the KAUST community to socialize, network, and have fun while showcasing the diverse talents and cultures of the community. This year, we focused on improving the quality of events and directing them to the community's needs.

Meeting the goals of the Vision 2030 Quality of Life program, KAUST's events program provides

engagement options and opportunities for community members to perform, adding to the available entertainment on offer. Our priorities are to build upon the pilot programs we launched this year and continue to develop exciting and entertaining experiences in sustainable ways through volunteer community participation and partnerships.

## SIGNATURE EVENTS



SAUDI NATIONAL DAY



RAMADAN



EID FEST



PARADE OF NATIONS

Hosted at a new location with over 4,000 people in attendance.



### KAUST GOT TALENT

The popular talent show was brought back and rebranded. It was a sold-out show with 12 acts performing in the finals, filling up the B20 auditorium with over 1,000 people.



### SHREK THE MUSICAL

The Broadway Production of Shrek the Musical came to KAUST for a week of performances. With almost 3,000 people seeing the hilarious show, we hosted over 800 external guests and featured an exclusive show for the community of Thuwal.



### MUSICAL EVENTS

Within this period, there were 29 public events with music performances organized by Community Life, the Music Club and the Ministry of DJs.



### WELCOME TO MY COUNTRY

WTMC invites the community to showcase their cultural heritage by sharing art, traditions, flavors, and music from their homeland. Welcome to my Country, India and China were hosted in the last period.

### COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Over 2,500 people attended the event, featuring 190 TKS children and 63 musicians performing 12 musical acts from various genres including Arabic, electronic rhythms, gypsy jazz, and more.



### “ EVENT TESTIMONIALS

“The music rocks. Children enjoyed fullest. I hope to see these kind of events more frequently.”

- **About the Music Festival**

“Excellent event. Great to see the square so full and vibrant.”

- **About Welcome to My Country - China**

“It was a great atmosphere in Discovery Square during the matches, particularly the final! Thank you for facilitating this opportunity for the whole community.”

- **About FIFA Fan Zone**



### WORLD CUP FAN ZONE

KAUST revitalized Discovery Square with the immensely popular FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, uniting the community as residents cheered for their home country team. For 28 days, there were activations with big crowds for the matches featuring Saudi Arabia.

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS  
CALENDAR** 

For any event related queries, please email us at [community.events@kaust.edu.sa](mailto:community.events@kaust.edu.sa)



# RECREATION

Recreation services provide marine and watersport activities, multiple recreation facilities, swimming pools, indoor and outdoor cinema viewing, a rock-climbing wall, a bowling alley, an array of racquet sport facilities, grass turf athletic fields, a nine-hole golf course, over 30 parks and playgrounds throughout the community.



**340 K**

VISITORS TO RECREATION FACILITIES AND LIBRARY



**49 K**

USERS OF MARINE FACILITIES & SERVICES



**12 K**

MOVIE TICKETS SOLD



**6 K**

ROUNDS OF GOLF PLAYED

## LOOKING FORWARD

Photo from **Bike Race** as part of Bike Week December, 2022.

## LOOKING BACK

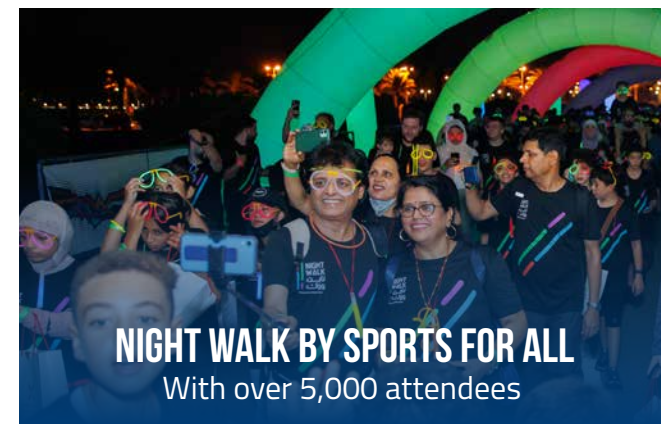


REVAMPED THE LIBRARY WITH NEW FURNITURE TO EXPAND SEATING CAPACITY AND ELEVATE THE OVERALL AMBIANCE



REFURBISHED THE FLOORING AT THE IRC ARENA, THE SQUASH COURTS, AND THE BADMINTON COURT

## HOSTED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN KAUST



IMPLEMENT ONLINE BOOKING AND ONLINE PAYMENT SERVICES



PROVIDE NEW GOLF CARTS WITH BUILT-IN GPS SYSTEMS



RENOVATE THE RUNNING TRACK AT HARBOR SPORTS CLUB



RENOVATE THE SOFT PLAY AREA WITH BETTER EQUIPMENT



# LEAD CLIMBING COMPETITION



Climbing prowess - Climbers from all over the Kingdom showcased their skills at the wall.

The weekend of **February 10 and 11, 2023**, marked a significant milestone for climbing enthusiasts around the Kingdom. In collaboration with the Saudi Climbing and Hiking Federation, KAUST hosted the first national Lead Climbing Competition, drawing climbers from all over the country.

Over 40 skilled men and women, aged 16 and above, gathered at the newly revamped Island Recreation Club Climbing Wall, all determined to showcase their

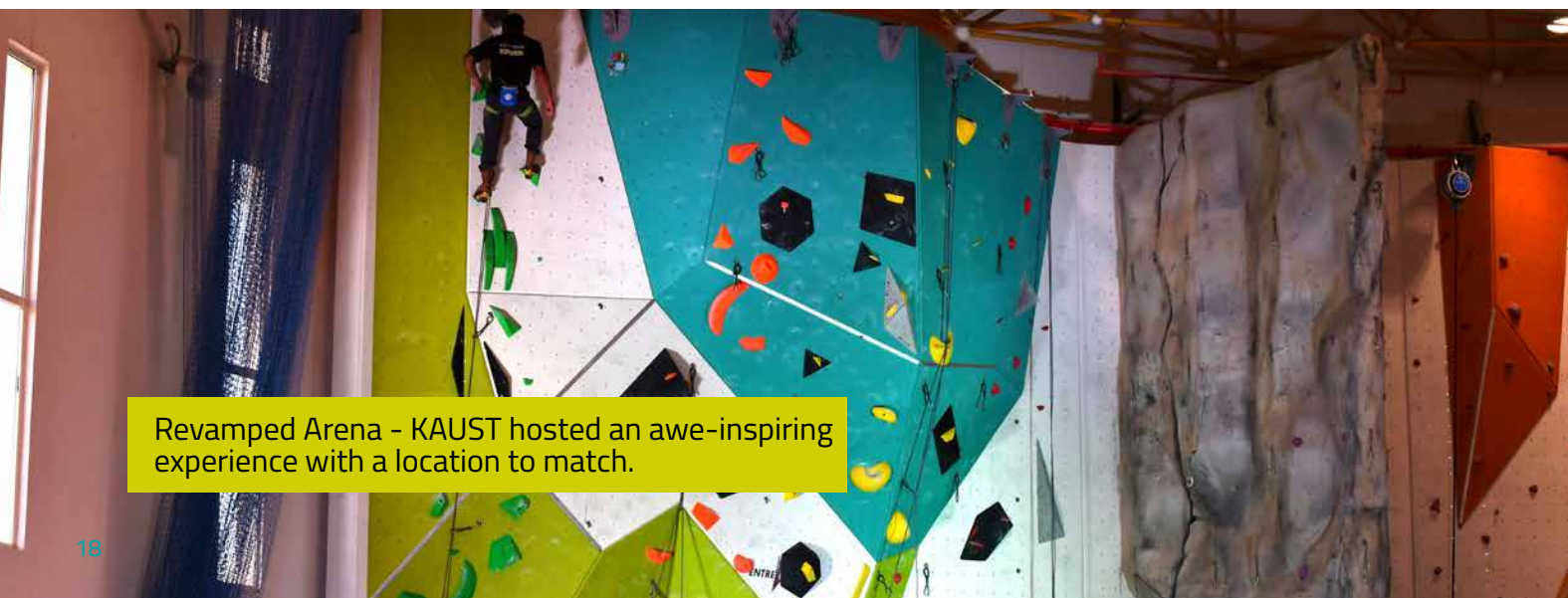
climbing prowess and conquer the walls. The arena buzzed with energy, resonating with the cheers of over a hundred enthusiastic spectators who rallied around the competitors, cheering them to the top. The competition culminated in a remarkable outcome, with 3 of the victorious climbers hailing proudly from the KAUST community.

This event followed KAUST's recent entry into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Saudi Climbing and Hiking Federation,

the national governing body overseeing all aspects of rock climbing and hiking in Saudi Arabia. This partnership was forged with the aim of promoting and developing the sport of climbing on a national scale.

"The feedback received was nothing short of exceptional," shared Adil Mehdi, the Manager of the Island Recreation Club. "Not only from the competitors themselves but also from the spectators who got to immerse themselves in the experience for two thrilling days." Adil highlighted the immense significance of KAUST's collaboration with SCHF, especially considering the strong community of climbing enthusiasts within KAUST. He added, "Bringing the competition right to their doorstep at the IRC Arena was truly awe-inspiring for climbers within the KAUST community."

As the climbing journey continues, KAUST is poised to host even more vibrant events, with the Youth Climbing Competition scheduled for the last quarter of the year. Looking ahead, KAUST's vision extends to forging additional partnerships to help cultivate a new generation of athletes while propelling sports to new heights.



Revamped Arena - KAUST hosted an awe-inspiring experience with a location to match.



# KAUST WELCOMES THOUSANDS OF PARTICIPANTS FOR A WALK TO REMEMBER

On Thursday, October 13, 2022, approximately 5,000 participants from all around Jeddah gathered at KAUST's Safaa Stadium to embark on a journey of fitness and fun. With their glowing accessories in tow, people of all ages and interests set out on the 3-4 km stroll to celebrate movement in an entertaining framework.

The walk extended along illuminated routes where various sports stations and challenges were set up. It culminated in a festival extravaganza filled with toe-tapping music and heart-pounding activities and brimming with flavors from the food corner.

Organized by the Sports for All Federation, the Night Walk made its debut in the city of Riyadh in 2017 as part of the Quality of Life Program that falls under the Kingdom's Vision 2030. It quickly turned into a hit phenomenon,

drawing thousands of walkers from all around the Kingdom and expanding to different cities, such as Abha, Khobar, and Jeddah.

Commenting on this large-scale event at KAUST to welcome attendees from across the region, Chris Sealey, the Vice President of KAUST's Community Life stated, "KAUST is proud to host the Night Walk and welcome thousands of walkers from Thuwal, KAEC, and Jeddah to walk through the amazing lighting and music displays and enjoy the festival atmosphere. We look forward to welcoming more people to similar events in the future."

The event's resounding success stands as a testament to the dedicated efforts of KAUST's Community Life, its community member volunteers, and event sponsors, Coastline, SAPTCO, DSFH, and MACC.

Looking forward, KAUST is committed to collaborating with local and national communities to offer a wide array of leisure experiences that unite people and promote healthier living.



A family event - People of all ages and interests gathered at the Safaa Stadium.





# CHILD CARE

Our Daycare and KAUST Children's Center (KCC) offer excellent opportunities, facilities, and resources for children to develop, learn, and play. These programs collaborate with The KAUST School (TKS), the IB World School on campus.



335

WEEKLY AVERAGE OF STUDENTS IN DAYCARE



96.7%

OVERALL SATISFACTION RATE FOR DAYCARE SERVICES



181

DAYS OF AFTERSCHOOL CARE PROVIDED AT THE KCC

## LOOKING FORWARD

## LOOKING BACK



SEASONAL OFFERING TO BUSINESS PARTNERS INTRODUCED FOR DAY CARE DURING SUMMER MONTHS



TRAINING WITH ACT CENTER IN JEDDAH ON "EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT" ON EARLY INTERVENTION



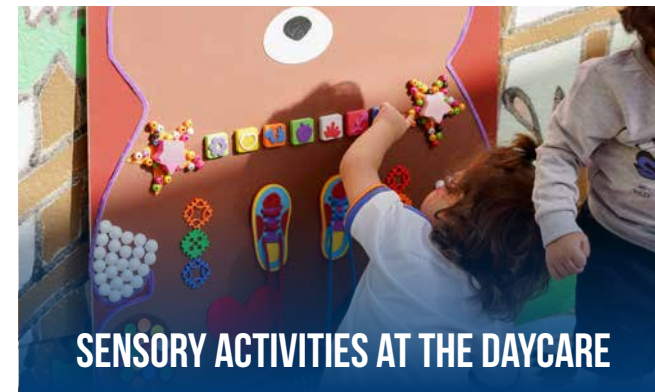
INTRODUCING INTERACTIVE LITERACY AND NUMERACY AT KAUST CHILDREN CENTER



ENHANCED RECEPTION AREAS TO CREATE FRIENDLY WAITING AREA FOR PARENTS



LED SCREENS ACROSS THE DAYCARE BUILDINGS TO HIGHLIGHT DAYCARE ACTIVITIES



SENSORY ACTIVITIES AT THE DAYCARE



DRAMATIC PLAY AT THE DAYCARE



FIELD TRIPS AT THE KCC



GUIDED LEARNING AT THE KCC



DEVELOP A LEARNING PROGRAM IN COLLABORATION WITH TKS FOR K1 AT THE DAYCARE



INCREASE COLLABORATIONS WITH KAUST ENRICHMENT FOR YOUTH (KEY) TO CREATE UNIQUE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



RENOVATION OF PLAYGROUNDS AT ECC1 WITH MORE AGE-APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT



EXPAND KAUST CHILDREN CENTER TO WELCOME GRADE 4 CHILDREN FROM TKS



# CELEBRATING MILESTONES THE GRADUATION CEREMONY

A group of shining stars, ready to take on the next chapter of their lives.

The daycare provides child care services for infants as young as two months old up to children aged three and a half years. As part of the program, they help prepare children for the transition to kindergarten by teaching them important life skills.

themselves, enabling them to become self-reliant and confident. While some children may be more ready than others, the carefully designed program ensures that most children are well-prepared for kindergarten.

Parents and family are invited to participate and cheer for the children. Each child is called to the stage in their gown to receive their graduation certificate while a photo of the child and their name is displayed on the screen.

This involves teaching children self-care skills such as dressing, feeding, and cleaning up after

To celebrate this important milestone, the daycare holds a graduation ceremony prior to the children leaving for kindergarten and to grade 1.

To make the day even more special, the daycare arranges for professional photographs of the graduates with their families

and provides refreshments. The children in the afterschool program also showcase their talents on the stage with various costumes and props that match the song they are performing. The themes and choreography change according

to the creativity and inspiration of the children. The graduation ceremony is not just a formal event, but also a family day where parents can enjoy fun games with their children. This is particularly beneficial for children who

may feel nervous about being on stage in front of a crowd. Overall, the daycare's program helps children develop important skills and celebrate their achievements before moving on to the next stage of their education.

## “ PARENT TESTIMONIAL

“My son started daycare in February, it's been amazing watching him develop. He started very shy, he still is shy but now interacts with other children and adults a lot more. Seeing him confident about colors, numbers, letters, and talking about his feelings has been impressive in such a short time.”





# KAUST HEALTH

Driven by our desire to support overall community well-being, KAUST Health offers a broad range of services that focus on a holistic approach to prevention, treatment, and follow-up for our patients. We pair qualified and experienced medical professionals with modern medical technology to keep you well.

## LOOKING BACK >>



TRANSITIONED ALL OF THE KAUST HEALTH SERVICES TO INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER



LAUNCHED A NEW FAMILY AND CHILD SUPPORT CENTER IN COLLABORATION WITH KAUST COMMUNITY



RE-ACCREDITATION OF JCI GOLD STANDARD QUALITY ASSURANCE

## LOOKING FORWARD >>



INTRODUCE NEW SERVICES INTO KAUST HEALTH, INCLUDING A RANGE OF SPECIALTY CONSULTANTS, DENTISTRY SERVICES AND ADDITIONAL CAPACITY IN BUSY AREAS



FURTHER DEVELOP THE HEALTH PROMOTION AND ILL HEALTH PREVENTION PROGRAM

## HEALTHCARE IN OUR COMMUNITY



We're excited to announce the arrival of the International Medical Center (IMC) as the new primary care clinic provider for our community. This transition marks a pivotal moment in our commitment to delivering exceptional healthcare services that cater to the unique needs of every individual.

IMC brings with it a wealth of experience and innovation, setting the stage for a new era of healthcare excellence. With a steadfast mission to provide world-class medical care that is both accessible and personalized, KAUST Health is dedicated to transforming health outcomes for our community members.

In response to the diverse health needs of our community, KAUST Health is proud to introduce a

spectrum of specialized medical services. From cardiology to orthopedics, nutrition, ENT to dermatology, these new services ensure that every individual can access the care they need under one roof. Our team of skilled specialists is committed to addressing a wide array of medical concerns with expertise and compassion.

**Your voice matters, and KAUST Health has listened attentively to your feedback.**

The new provider is dedicated to enhancing your healthcare experience by streamlining services and reducing waiting times without compromising the quality of care. This patient-centered approach ensures prompt attention and care, allowing you to focus on your health and well-being.

Beyond clinical care, IMC is excited to introduce a series of health promotion programs designed to empower you with the knowledge and tools needed to lead a healthier life. These initiatives include workshops, wellness seminars, and educational resources covering various health topics. Our commitment extends beyond medical treatment to support you in living your best and healthiest life.

The transition to the new business partner has been a collaborative effort aimed at ensuring continuity of care. Over 32,000 patient files have been seamlessly transferred, thanks to the dedication of multiple teams working cohesively to make the transition as smooth as possible. Your medical history and records remain safe and accessible for ongoing healthcare needs.



### MEET KATE JASINA, CHARGE NURSE, OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT (OPD)

We proudly highlight Kate Jasina, the Charge Nurse for our Outpatient Department (OPD) at KH. With a wealth of experience and a compassionate approach to patient care, Kate is pivotal

in delivering exceptional healthcare services. Her dedication to patient comfort and well-being sets the tone for the caring environment we strive to provide.





## THE FAMILY AND CHILD SUPPORT CENTER (FCSC) USING EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE THERAPEUTIC SUPPORT

The Family and Child Support Center (FCSC) opened in KAUST in October 2023 and is in Gardens beside the main TKS campus. It is truly a community-led initiative envisaged by parents and supported by KAUST leadership, advocating for additional support for their children's language, academic, social and emotional needs.

The FCSC is managed by KAUST Health with a remit to support the language, motor, emotional, and academic development of children and young people aged 18 months to 18 years; with a

special regard for the health and wellness of neurodiverse children and families in KAUST.

"In less than twelve months, the FCSC team working alongside parents and critical stakeholders in TKS, TKS Enrichment Office, Daycare, and KAUST Health have taken an idea and made it a reality.

I have no doubt as we complete one year of service and move to develop further in year two that the Center will go from strength to strength and be a beacon of excellence for those children who require access to support and the families around them."

says Daniel Buttigieg, Director, KAUST Health.

Since last October, our team has facilitated over 500 hours of intervention by administering comprehensive assessments and over 60 individual consultations.

An activity program for the Center to maximize outreach to the KAUST community by creating venues that allow parents and children to exchange views and experiences within a fun, informative setting has been created.

Activities and interventions are available to all children at KAUST, regardless of their level of need.

autism intervention). We also ran a Parenting Course (Love and Logic©) and reading and writing group interventions.

## CREATING STRATEGIC LINKS WITHIN THE KINGDOM

Service offerings have been enhanced to include a Speech and Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist and Clinical Psychologist on the team. This multi-disciplinary team now provides holistic support, focusing on early intervention.

In its first year, the FCSC introduced innovative programs to KAUST for the first time. These included PEERS© (a social skills program), Sensory Circuits (a motor skills program), Floreo™, Ovation™ (Virtual Reality programs), and PACT (a parent-led, play-based

## PARENT VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

Central to the work of the FCSC is the Parent Volunteer Committee. They run monthly family socials, organize dyslexia and autism awareness weeks at KAUST, and help establish research partnerships within KAUST, the Kingdom, and internationally. For parents, having a Center like the FCSC can be a lifeline.

Professor Ahmed Eltawil of CEMSE (Computer, Electrical, and Mathematical Sciences and Engineering) and

Mai Beshady, Chair of the parent committee at FCSC, comments that the FCSC is slated to become a pillar of the KAUST community that brings people together with the goal to support and nurture our children and each other, "It is truly a testament to the uniqueness of the KAUST community. The impact of the Center within KAUST has been phenomenal from day one and will have a far-reaching impact on the lives of many within KAUST and beyond."

According to Dr. Paul O'Callaghan, the FCSC Clinical Lead, it is this combination of clinical expertise and parent-to-parent support that makes the FCSC so unique, "Parents are the true experts on their children. The FCSC began as a parent-led initiative of parents advocating for the children, and it is this parent engagement that will be the bedrock of the success of the FCSC."

Visit [fcsc.kaust.edu.sa](https://fcsc.kaust.edu.sa) to learn more.



Family and Child Support Center officially launched on October 2, 2022.



The FCSC began as a parent-led initiative of parents advocating for the children.

## “ PARENT TESTIMONIALS

"I truly don't know what we and other families with children with special needs would have done without the FCSC in KAUST this year. Thanks for being so passionate, supportive, and resourceful. It is priceless."

"I have valued receiving specialist knowledge and care for special needs children, excellent communication with the parents and readiness to go the extra mile to do new things for special needs children and their parents. It is a great place to receive advice and support"

"We participated in the PEERS course. The course was well organized and helped our child to interact more with others, resolve conflicts, and accept new situations very well. We are very pleased with the improved mental attitude and capability in social situations that they gained"



# ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation Services monitors and responds to the accommodation needs of KAUST's diverse and growing community. The service welcomes and orients new residents to KAUST, ensuring a pleasant residential environment for the community. The residential KAUST accommodation includes 3,736 long-term units and 315 rooms of short-term accommodation.



2,221

UNITS PREPARED TO WELCOME NEW KAUST RESIDENTS AND SUPPORT THE MOVES OF EXISTING RESIDENTS INTO NEW HOMES



2,505

RESIDENTIAL KEY SUPPORT FACILITATING REQUESTS, LOCKOUTS AND EMERGENCY ACCESSES



23 K

RESIDENT ENQUIRIES SUPPORTED BY HOUSING RESIDENT RELATIONS



1,385

VISITING STUDENTS ACCOMMODATED FROM VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

## LOOKING FORWARD

### LOOKING BACK



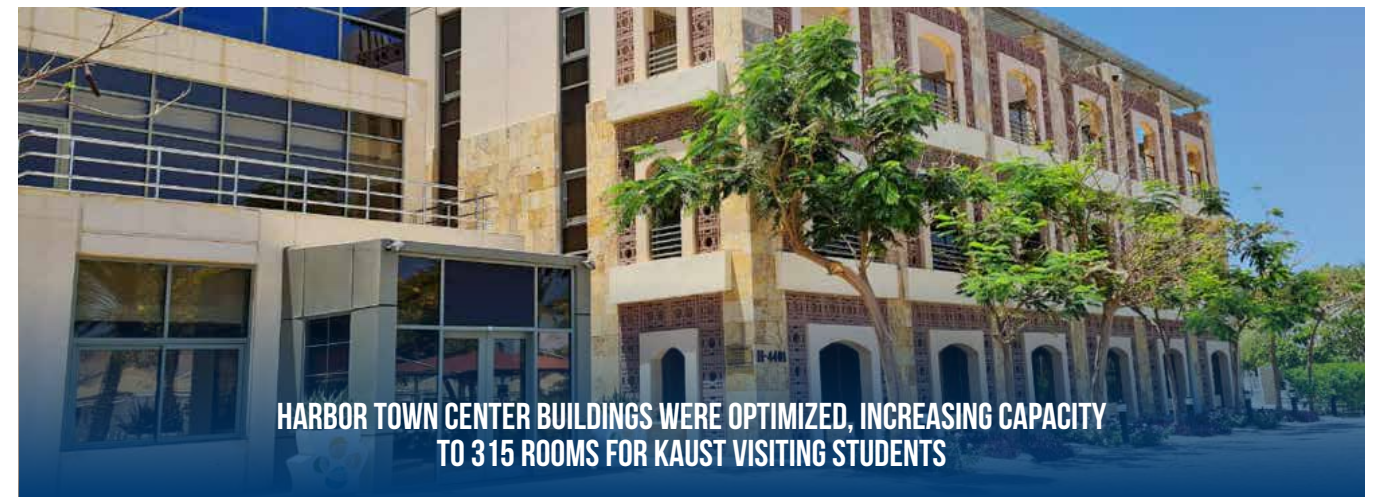
CLOSE MONITORING OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND SUPPORTED THE TRANSITIONING OF OVER 100 SHARING UNITS TO THE PALMS NEIGHBORHOOD



THE NUMBER OF KEYS IN 348 UNITS WERE REGULARIZED TO REDUCE THE BURDEN OF ACCOUNTING FOR A LARGE NUMBERS OF KEYS



950 TOURS OF THE KAUST SMART HOME WERE CARRIED OUT AND FACILITATED TO KAUST BUSINESS RELATED ACTIVITIES



HARBOR TOWN CENTER BUILDINGS WERE OPTIMIZED, INCREASING CAPACITY TO 315 ROOMS FOR KAUST VISITING STUDENTS



SUCCESSFUL TRANSFER OF ALL RESERVATION PROCESSES TO THE AL KHOZAMA HOTEL, IN COORDINATION WITH KAUST DEPARTMENTS



RECEIVE 339 UNITS IN THE HARBOR NEIGHBORHOOD FOLLOWING RENOVATION



VIRTUAL TOURS OF ALL KAUST ACCOMMODATION TO OFFER REMOTE ACCESS TO KAUST HOUSING BY FUTURE RESIDENTS



SUPPORT THE MOVES OF STUDENT FAMILIES BACK TO THE HARBOR NEIGHBORHOOD FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF RENOVATED BUILDINGS



# FOOD AND RETAIL

Food and Retail Services manages a wide range of outlets, all located within a few minutes of your home, classroom or office. Our main objective is to provide the community with a pleasant shopping and dining experience. We take pride in going above and beyond to create an atmosphere that the community will love.



364 K

VISITORS TO THE  
CAMPUS DINER



87.4%

SATISFACTION SCORE  
ACROSS ALL FOOD & RETAIL  
VENUES



1,530

ORDERS PLACED VIA THE  
NEW KAUSTCENTRAL  
FOOD APP

## LOOKING FORWARD >>

## LOOKING BACK >>



LUGMETY EXPANDS OFF-CAMPUS DELIVERY SERVICES TO JEDDAH, KAEC, AND ABHUR



INTRODUCED THE SOCIAL TABLE AT THE CAMPUS DINER TO ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS & MEET NEW PEOPLE



INTRODUCED THE REUSABLE FOOD CONTAINER PROGRAM TO REDUCE SINGLE USE PLASTICS AT THE DINER



BARNS, MEDD CAFÉ, MOONLIGHT CAFÉ, AND KRISPY KREME OPENED THIS YEAR, PROVIDING THE COMMUNITY WITH A VARIETY OF COFFEE OPTIONS



## POP-UP SHOP SEES 600% INCREASE IN UTILIZATION AND HOSTS 15 UNIQUE VENDORS

The KAUST Pop-up Souk is a short-term space for shops, activities, and programs that was introduced by the Retail team to create a partnership with vendors outside KAUST. The aim is to host selected stores that offer products required by the KAUST community residents for limited periods.

The retail services team carefully plans according to the different needs of the KAUST community, such as a watersports store during summer, a stationary store before the back-to-school period, and a flower store around Mother's Day.

The project has been a great success, with the Pop-Up Souk being operational for 288 days, a

+600% increase compared to the previous period. Over 15 varied shops were featured, including electronics, carpets and a pet store.

The team looks forward to hosting more exciting pop-up shops catering to the KAUST community's diverse needs.

## CUSTOMER TESTIMONIAL

"Do yourself a favor and visit Campus Diner. The service is unmatched. The staff truly cares about your experience. The food is absolutely amazing – everything we tasted melted in our mouths. Absolutely the best meal we had in a while. Highly recommend."



NEW INITIATIVES TO REDUCE SINGLE-USE PLASTICS IN THE COMMUNITY



ATTRACT OTHER ESSENTIAL SHOPS LIKE FLOWER SHOP, GIFT SHOP



LAUNCH THE POP-UP RESTAURANT BRINGING POPULAR RESTAURANTS ACROSS KSA TO KAUST FOR LIMITED PERIODS.



INTRODUCE FOOD LOCKER PICKUP STATION AT THE CAMPUS DINER



# TRAVEL, TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Our travel, transportation, and logistics teams provide many of the essential services to support day-to-day life in the community, including taxi, bus, and car services, mail and courier services, materials management, and more.



20 K

FLIGHT, HOTEL, AND CAR RENTAL BOOKING ARRANGED BY KANOO



1 M

BUS PASSENGERS INCLUDING ON DEMAND, COLOR CODED, AND OTHER BUS SERVICES



49 K

TAXI BOOKINGS



163 K

PARCELS HANDLED BY MAIL AND COURIER TEAM



LOOKING FORWARD >>

## LOOKING BACK >>



STARTED USING REUSABLE PLASTIC BOXES FOR KAUST INTERNAL MOVES



NEW TAXI BOOKING FEATURE ON KAUST CENTRAL FOR PERSONAL TAXI



LAUNCHED NEW PERSONAL BOOKING SYSTEM THROUGH KANOO "PAXS"



PILOTED AN ELECTRIC BUS AND DEVELOPED A UTILIZATION PLAN FOR ON-DEMAND AND SHUTTLE SERVICES



PILOTING THE WAYZ E-VEHICLES FOR LOGISTICS MAIL OPERATION IN SUPPORT OF KAUST SUSTAINABILITY VISION

## CUSTOMER TESTIMONIAL

"Without the excellent services and friendly workers of UPS, life at KAUST would almost be unimaginable. Many thanks for UPS excellent service that always goes beyond!"



DIGITALIZE HOUSES INVENTORY TO BE ACCESSIBLE & MANAGED THROUGH KAUST PORTAL



CREATE AN ENHANCED BOOKING SYSTEM FOR OFF-CAMPUS BUSES



# PARTNERSHIPS

Community Life is committed to creating long-term meaningful relationships with governmental, semi-governmental, and private organizations that align with the University's objectives and the Saudi Vision 2030. These partnerships enrich both communities and provide opportunities for collaboration, engagement, and learning.

## SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS IN THE LAST PERIOD



### KAEC

KAUST has opened its gates to the KAEC community, including EEC, ECZA, & LUCID, to explore our beautiful campus and public areas. This agreement includes collaboration and engagement in the major events held in KAUST & KAEC to enhance our offerings and services to meet the evolving needs of our communities.



### GOLF SAUDI

For two consecutive years, KAUST has partnered with Golf Saudi for the Public Investment Fund Saudi International tournament. This partnership provides excellent visibility for KAUST research and collaboration on sports initiatives. Additionally, KAUST community members can enjoy exclusive experiences such as engagement with TKS students, discounts, and transportation to the event. This year, KAUST hosted the partners golf clinic at Safaa Golf Club, getting more exposure and awareness.

### SAUDI TENNIS FEDERATION

The primary goal of this partnership is to support aspiring tennis players by organizing events, raising awareness about the sport.



### THE SAUDI CLIMBING AND HIKING FEDERATION

Through this partnership, KAUST will co-host annual competitions and organize activities to develop confident climbers and outdoor adventurers in the kingdom.

### DIRIYAH BIENNALE FOUNDATION (DBF)

The DBF's Islamic Arts Biennale is the first of its kind in the world, showcasing the art and creativity of Islamic culture past and present. KAUST's collaboration with the DBF creates internal collaborations engaging various departments, such as Office of Arts, Office of Enrichment, Faculty, TKS, SNA, GBC, and Community Life working together in valuable and meaningful collaborations.



### JEDDAH PRO FA

With this partnership, KAUST supports the professional women's first-division league.

JPFA operates the KAUST Falcons football program, providing player development, team training & program management.





# FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY

Ensuring the safety of the food for the KAUST community is of utmost importance. To achieve this, our team provides training to food service providers and closely monitors their compliance. From farm to plate, we work tirelessly to implement and enhance a world-class food safety system.



**501**  
FOOD HANDLERS  
TRAINED



**411**  
INSPECTIONS



**816**  
SWAB TESTS

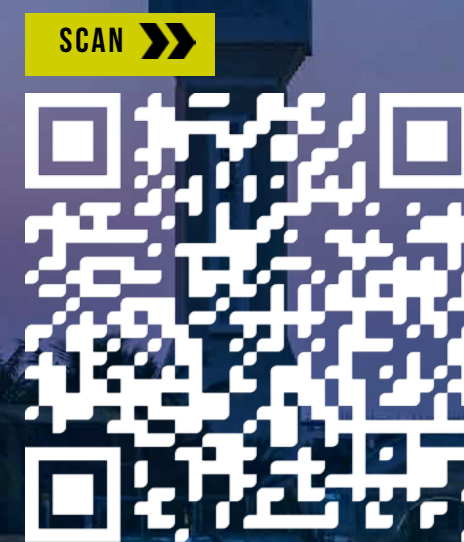


**633**  
WALKTHROUGHS



FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY TEAM ALSO SUPPORTED DIFFERENT PROJECTS IN SUSTAINABILITY, SUCH AS THE COLLABORATION WITH ETAAM SAUDI FOOD BANK DURING RAMADAN FOR THE COMMUNITY RAMADAN BASKET.

# LET US KNOW YOUR FEEDBACK



HELP US IMPROVE BY PROVIDING YOUR FEEDBACK ON COMMUNITY LIFE SERVICES. THIS FORM IS MONITERED BY OUR TEAM THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO ENSURE QUALITY SERVICES.



# KNOW WHERE TO GET INFORMATION FOR LIFE AT KAUST

 @KAUST.LIFE #KAUSTLIFE

SCAN >>



## COMMUNITY LIFE WEBSITE

[communitylife.kaust.edu.sa](https://communitylife.kaust.edu.sa)  
*For programs, activities, offers and services that are available to you*

SCAN >>



## THE LENS DIGEST

[thelens.kaust.edu.sa](https://thelens.kaust.edu.sa)  
*Subscribe for all KAUST news and events to be sent directly to your inbox*

SCAN >>



## KAUST CENTRAL APP

Google play and Apple Store  
*Order food, check bus routes, book taxis, maps and more*

SCAN >>



## 959 APP AND HELPDESK

Google play and Apple Store  
*For maintenance, gardening, housekeeping, childcare and more*





**Community Life**  
[communitylife.kaust.edu.sa](http://communitylife.kaust.edu.sa)

جامعة الملك عبد الله  
للعلوم والتقنية  
King Abdullah University of  
Science and Technology

