



Bethlehem University Foundation

October 2022 Newsletter

Greetings from Bethlehem University Foundation! October 3rd marked the start of the 2022-2023 Academic Year and the beginning of our Golden Jubilee Season! For fifty years, Bethlehem University has remained the only Christian-Catholic university in the Holy Land.

The start of this Golden Jubilee year has not been easy, however. Students have experienced interruptions to their learning by calls for general strikes as the Palestinian community suffers increased violence and political unrest. Many students that attend Bethlehem University also live in Jerusalem and during Jewish holidays, cannot commute to Bethlehem as public transportation ceases to operate. *Students of Bethlehem University face challenges unlike any other collegiate student in the world.*

The month of October also marks the beginning of the olive harvest season. As you may know, the olive tree symbolizes peace and friendship. Palestinians regard the olive tree as a symbol of their strength and resilience as the olive tree is draught-resistance and can grow in the harshest of conditions. Even with its resilient nature, the olive tree still needs care and support. Our students at

The Georgette Salameh Center is well under way, and we need to raise an additional 1 million dollars towards its completion by May of 2023. For students to experience this first-of-its-kind center, we need your help! The center is multi-purpose and will have a gym, theater, and a welcoming center with which to receive the many pilgrim groups that visit campus. Student Mwayad Al Darawish says of the center that “in the current situation, we are crowded in multiple places where we don’t have enough space to chat with our friends and study. That’s why we need a place where we can do all these activities together.”

Today marks one month until the world comes together for an international day of giving. **Please join us in our Giving Tuesday campaign.** Our overall goal is to raise \$1 million for the completion of the Georgette Salameh Center, and on Giving Tuesday we need to raise at least \$50,000, which is \$1,000 for each year the students, Brothers, faculty, and staff have endured hardships in the Holy Land. Let’s finish construction on the Georgette Salameh Center and give students like Mwayad a place to build community.

Bethlehem University similarly need your support to give them access to quality education and facilities such as the [Georgette Salameh Center](#) to find peace amidst challenging struggles.

Thank you for your ongoing support for students at Bethlehem University. Please follow us on our social media and stay up to date throughout our Giving Tuesday campaign



DONATE NOW

Bethlehem University Foundation

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