

## *Sculptor Bassam Moushantaf Presents Lerc with One of His Sculptures*

*By LERC Staff  
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*Mr. Moushantaf*

Sculptor Bassam Moushantaf visited LERC and presented one of his art pieces to its museum on September 15, 2016. Mr. Moushantaf was received by Dr. Guita Hourani, Director of the Lebanese Emigration Research Center (LERC) at NDU and Senior Indexer and Archivist Ms. Liliane Haddad.

Mr. Moushantaf was encouraged by his friend Dr. Nicholas (Nick) Kahwaji to visit the Center and to discuss his migration experience in Italy and then Oman. Mr. Moushantaf was born in Abra South Lebanon; following his graduation from high school, he left to Italy during the 1975 war where he studied art. He later joined his father in the Sultanate of Oman where the latter was the CEO of a marble and stone plant.

Working at the plant, although in management position, brought him closer to the elements of nature that he loves and by which he is inspired to create. His passion for sculpting was detected when at the age of 13; he made a sculpture from stones he gathered from his native village.

Mr. Moushantaf calls himself an amateur, but according to artist Alfred Basbous he had talent that will no doubt make him an artist. Mr. Moushantaf continues to live and work in Oman; he comes often to Lebanon to visit his family.



*Mr. Moushantaf's gift to the LERC Museum*

Mr. Moushantaf is in the process of sculpting a piece on the Lebanese aboard the Titanic to add it to the Titanic Collection at the Center's Museum. LERC thanks Mr. Moushataf for his generosity and wish him continued success in his art.