

Painter Gabriela Abud of Mexico Donates a Painting to the LERC/NDU Museum

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Painter Gabriela Abud of Mexico donated a superb painting to the Lebanon Migration Nucleus Museum (LMNM) of the Lebanese Emigration Research Center (LERC) at Notre Dame University (NDU). The painting of Painter Abud is entitled “La Independencia Nos Ha Dado Presente Y Futuro” [Independence Has Given Us Present and Future]. It is oil on canvas (80 x 80 cm) which the artist completed in 2010. The scene is of children celebrating the festivities of September 16, the Anniversary of Mexico’s Independence. The painting is of vivid colors that reflect the vibrant colors Mexico is known for and is adorned by “the Angel of Independence” most commonly known by the shortened name *El Ángel* and officially known as *Monumento a la Independencia*, one of the most important symbols and recognizable landmark of Mexico City.



“Children Celebrating the Independence of Mexico” by artist Gabriela Abud, LERC/NDU Museum (December, 2013)

Ms. Abud is a prominent painter of Lebanese descent. She holds degrees in art history, watercolor technique, human figure drawing and painting. Her works are exhibited in the Museum-Study Master Luis Nishizawa and in the National Watercolor Museum Alfredo Guati Rojo. She has held 33 solo exhibitions, three of which were in Lebanon. She has also exhibited

her work in Florida and Arizona Universities in the USA, the Art Galery Alfredo Atala Boulos Centro Libanés, La Salle University and the Leopoldo Flores Museum in México.

The two art pieces were brought to the Center by Mr. Nabil Semaan, official representative of the *Alfredo Harp Helú Foundation* in Lebanon. The Foundation generously financed the shipping and customs clearance of the two items as its contribution to this endeavor.

Philanthropist Alfredo Harp Helú established the Foundation with the belief that “*actions for the benefit of people are seeds that sprout now and that will start growing for the well-being of future generations.*” His Foundation’s different programs ranging from education and culture to sports and development have been empowered by his vision and philanthropy.

With the assistance of Mr. Antonio Trabulse Kaim Director of the *Instituto Cultural Mexicano Libanes* and Mr. Semaan, LERC was able to receive these two invaluable items to enrich its collection in general and that of Mexico in particular.



Mr. Semaan and Dr. Hourani unveiling the two art pieces at LERC/NDU Offices (December 2013)

The painting will be hung in the museum in a ceremony during Ms. Abud’s visit to the Center in 2014.