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Our Founders Go Above and Beyond



Jamil's Residency at Joan Mitchell Center

Our Founding Artistic Director Jamil Khoury was one of 32 artists selected nationwide for a month-long residency this April at the Joan Mitchell Center in New Orleans. He was awarded this honor through a partnership with 3Arts.

Jamil's residency, funded through the generosity of the Joan Mitchell Foundation, provided him with space to create alongside a community of artists from various disciplines. In addition to the *Mosque Alert* podcast he is developing, he was also given the opportunity to screen his newest video play, [Obstacle Course](#).

Jamil took a moment to tell us about this experience:

"It was truly an honor screening *Obstacle Course* at the Joan Mitchell Center in New Orleans last night. The conversation that followed included a lively and, at times, heated exchange about NIMBYism (Not in My Backyard) in New Orleans, particularly as regards post-Katrina rebuilding efforts, and the questions of race and class that continue to plague those efforts."



We're excited to hear more about this residency upon Jamil's return! Until then, we'll let him get back to work.

Watch "Obstacle Course" Today!

Malik's Inspirational Talk at the Ismaili



Click to experience Silk Road Rising Founding Executive Director Malik Gillani's talk about the lasting impact of storytelling and why it is crucial that Muslim Americans tell their own stories.

Last week, Silk Road Rising Founding Executive Director Malik Gillani was invited to the Ismaili Community Center to speak about the important role art plays in the Muslim American journey.

Malik may not be a playwright, but he is most certainly a storyteller. Watch the video above and learn from what he has to say.

The talk begins with a simple yet profound observation: a crease on paper, once folded, can never disappear. Similarly, the human mind absorbs and remembers a story once it's heard. Malik presents a compelling argument that Muslim Americans must create and share their own stories to counter the negative narratives that are so prevalent today. Listen as Malik shares why Muslims have a responsibility to create and widely distribute their stories.

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