

Arab Diasporas/Comparative Diasporas Film Series

**Tuesday, January 31, 2006**

**6:30-9:00 p.m.**

**Room 2195, Social Science Building  
University of Michigan-Dearborn**

***Benaat Chicago: Growing Up Arab and Female in Chicago*, Directed by Jennifer Bing-Canar and Mary Zerkel, 30 min., 1996.** This video is the result of the directors' year-long collaboration with Arab American teenagers to document their lives growing up on Chicago's southwest side. It addresses stereotypes and racism towards Arabs and Arab women, while showing what makes many Arab Americans proud of their cultural heritage. Thought provoking and insightful, this video is a complex portrayal of a Chicago community often kept invisible. <http://arabfilm.com/item/20/>



***Tales from Arab Detroit*, Directed by Joan Mandell, 45 min., 1995.** When an Arab American community center brings an Egyptian poet to perform a 1000-year-old epic, sparks fly. The result is a familiar American tale: parents trying to pass on cherished traditions and language, while their children are at home in a world of McDonald's and MTV. With mesmerizing imagery, humor and warmth, TALES FROM ARAB DETROIT blends voices, poetry, song and dance into everyday stories of cultural conflict and resilience within the largest Arab community in North America. <http://arabfilm.com/item/196/>

**Post-Screening Roundtable Discussion with:**

**Nabeel Abraham**



- Director, Honors Program, Henry Ford Community College.
- Professor of Anthropology, HFCC.
- Co-Editor, [Arab Detroit: From Margin to Mainstream](#).
- Author, [Arabs in the New World](#), & [The Arab World and Arab-Americans](#).
- Essays appear in various publications including, [Middle East International](#), [Detroit Free Press](#), [New Outlook](#), [Middle East Report](#), and [Invarianti](#).

**Sumer Khoury-Friedrichs**



- Featured in the documentary, "Tales From Arab Detroit"
- Born in Detroit of Palestinian and German decent.
- B.A. Telecommunications & Psychology, Michigan State University
- Advertising Producer
- Worked in news and sports for ABC/ESPN.

**Sriya Shrestha**



- Graduate Student, Masters in Liberal Studies, UM-D
- Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Arab American Studies, UM-D
- B.A. Gender and Sexuality Studies & Metropolitan Studies, New York University
- Worked with youth organizing & education programs, Asian American Legal Defense Education Fund (AALDEF) & Desis Rising Up and Moving (DRUM)

Free and open to the public.

Space is limited. Please RSVP by Monday, January 30, 2006 at [caasumd@umd.umich.edu](mailto:caasumd@umd.umich.edu) or call CAAS at (313) 583-6334