EXPO 2020
Young Stars
EXPO 2020
Young Stars Toolkit

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Expo 2020 Young Stars has been created to provide an extraordinary opportunity for the students of the UAE to perform in Al Wasl Plaza as part of this global event.

Expo 2020 Dubai will take place from 20 October 2020 to 10 April 2021. During the Expo period, schools from the UAE will be given the opportunity to create a short piece to be performed on the central stage of Al Wasl Plaza.

Each school will create its own unique show based on the themes and spirit of Expo 2020. Our aim is to tap into the talent and creativity of schools to interpret the Expo theme and subthemes.

Stage to showcase their performances and pride in hosting Expo 2020 in the UAE. We are delighted to celebrate their individuality as we offer each school their moment to shine. Each child and school have their own strength and approach, and it is this uniqueness that they will be encouraged to develop.

Expo celebrates the diversity of schools and students. Students may have the opportunity to write scripts, design and make props or work behind the scenes.

Each one of us has a vital role in making this a reality, from the students on stage to the family supporters and our passionate teachers. Every school will be celebrated and the event will be a mixture of fun, creativity and unity. Expo 2020 Young Stars provides a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the children of UAE, and their schools and families, to play an active role in Expo 2020 and showcase their talents to the world.

School students will take the
### Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXPO 2020 Young Stars Toolkit Release</td>
<td>October 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>October 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Announcement of selected schools</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creative Toolkit Release</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission of Creative Concept</td>
<td>February 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expo 2020 to review progress of school performances</td>
<td>March– April 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations and Technical Toolkit Release</td>
<td>May 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dress Rehearsal Date</td>
<td>Up to 4 weeks prior to performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Date – Calendar of performance days throughout Expo 2020 period</td>
<td>To be confirmed by Expo 2020 Team</td>
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Al Wasl Plaza is the heart and soul of Expo 2020 Dubai.

It is here that Dubai will welcome the world and where many and varied cultural activities and entertainment will take place. The opening and closing ceremony will occur in Al Wasl Plaza, as well as musical and theatrical performances and fully immersive experiences using projections and sound.

Al Wasl Plaza is where the extraordinary comes to life.

The internal space of Al Wasl Plaza is 130 metres in diameter with a soaring trellised dome of 67.5 metres. In the evenings, the space will become fully immersive using state of the art projections that will bring the dome to life.
With a warm and generous Emirati welcome, I invite you into my home.

You may be surprised by what you find. I live in a unique and magical place.

I will soar through the air, I will tell you tales from my past and shine a brilliant light on my place in the world, on my region, my city and my heart. My light will shine beyond my physical presence to the entire globe.

I will take your breath away with my ingenuity and splendour and will weave magic like you have never seen before.

You will not forget me.

I am the extraordinary soul of Al Wasl Plaza.
We want to give our children an opportunity to perform in this very special location and on its central stage. There will be two opportunities for schools to perform: every weekday morning and in the early evenings on weekends.

You will be provided with professional staging and technical support on the day of the performance. Teachers will be supported with upcoming detailed toolkits to guide them through the creative and technical/operations process to help bring their show to fruition. Most importantly, this is about children having an experience that will engender confidence, achievement and pride.

Each school will be allotted a set amount of complimentary tickets, which they may distribute as they deem appropriate. We encourage schools to invite family members and students not performing on the day to attend and be part of the overall experience.

We look forward to working with you in celebration of our youth and Expo 2020 Dubai.
EXPO 2020
SCHOOL PERFORMANCE THEMES

The four show themes will form the creative framework within which schools will plan their performances. These themes are:

- **Opportunity**
  The World of Opportunities

- **Mobility**
  The Universe in Motion

- **Sustainability**
  The Sustainable Planet

- **The UAE**
  The Legacy of the UAE
Can you think of a time that someone told you that you weren’t smart enough, old enough, or big enough to do something?

How did it make you feel?

Were you frustrated that you weren’t given a chance to prove yourself?

Well, the power of Opportunity can change that. Opportunity is all about giving you more possibilities to show what you’re capable of, but it’s not just about proving what you can do now, it’s also about helping you achieve more in the future, so you can become the absolute best version of yourself.

School is definitely a great example of Opportunity. The internet and digital world are also great gateways to amazing opportunities, when used properly. The city and country in which you live also greatly impact your level of Opportunity.

Unfortunately, not everyone has access to these opportunities. Even basic items that we never even think about, like clean water, healthy food and a home aren’t available to everyone.

Can you think of other examples of things in your life that create opportunities for you to be the best version of yourself? What are some ways that we can help people who currently have less opportunities than you or me?
Mobility
The universe in motion

When you take a bite of an apple or eat a slice of an orange, where does it come from? What about your phone, where was it made and how did it get all the way to you?

Think about the last vacation you took. How did you get there? Did you walk? Probably not. Maybe you went by car or took a plane.

Take a look around you and many of the things you use and love every day are actually made possible by the power of Mobility.

This isn’t something new. It’s been going on since the earliest humans took their first steps towards a new land. Even your great grandparents relied on Mobility, whether it was riding a horse or sailing a ship. In the future, the power of Mobility might even take you to Mars, and you’ll be one of the first people to settle on an entirely new planet.

But Mobility isn’t just about the movement of goods and people, it’s also about human progress and the movement of ideas. It can include robots, artificial intelligence, travel through space and time and much more.

Can you imagine how Mobility will shape our lives in the future?
Sustainability
The sustainable planet

We’ve all heard about Sustainability.
Sustainability means DON’T cut down trees, DON’T drive cars that use too much gas and DON’T use plastic, right?

But that’s a lot of ‘DON’T’, so what should we ‘DO’?

What are the things we can do that will help us protect our planet, while also living a life with all the things we enjoy. We can’t live a life that destroys nature, but we also can’t expect to go live in the desert and forest like our ancestors did.

Just because you shouldn’t drive a car that uses too much gas, doesn’t mean you should stop driving all together. Renewable energy, like solar power, wind power and hydropower are great sources of powering the city of the future. Instead of plastic bowls and plates, maybe we can make edible utensils, which we can also eat when we’re done with them – removing all waste.

What are some other examples of sustainable challenges that the world is experiencing in our oceans, sky and land? What are some ways we can solve them? If we could design a city for the future, how would it work, who would be invited to live there?
Imagine that you’re speaking to a friend or someone who has never been to the UAE, how would you describe it?

The UAE is a nation that has opened its arms to people all around the world and given them an opportunity to live a better life.

Whether you’re a citizen or not, this country is a place we can all call home and take pride in. Maybe you’ll choose to talk about how you’ve made friends with people from so many different countries, the unique experiences you’ve had or how the UAE is always looking to push the boundaries of what is possible.

Think about the particular songs, dances, stories and foods that capture the tradition of the UAE. What is special about this country that you can’t experience anywhere else, past and present? These customs are things that people from other parts of the world would love to hear about and can help them to learn about the country.

Tell us about some of the things that make you most proud and try to express it in the best way you can.
THE CREATIVE OPPORTUNITY

You can use one or more of the Expo 2020 show themes in your performance.

The type of performance you choose is at your discretion. Performance types might include music, dance, a theatrical interpretation such as poetry or a recitation. You should plan what type of performance will work best for your students taking into account age and experience.

More details regarding the creative opportunity, such as scenic props and much more will be provided in the upcoming Creative Toolkit in January 2020.
Students will be sharing the Al Wasl Plaza with other daily performances. Just prior to the school performance, a national day ceremony will take place, welcoming one of the participating countries to Expo 2020. This will occur on a different stage but there may be dignitaries and other members of government and staff around the area in the lead up to their performance. This will provide a wonderful opportunity for your students to cross paths with people from different parts of the world and even a world leader. Who knows!

Al Wasl is a dynamic, large open space. We can expect the size of the audience watching the children to be around 1000 people. In addition, we can expect that there will be flow of up to 20,000 other visitors through the space.
Our stage is at the centre of the Al Wasl Plaza venue and we want this to be an exciting and awe-inspiring experience for your children, but also one in which they feel comfortable.

The stage set will be designed to reflect the four themes. In order to create a sense of magic and storytelling, we have designed a pop-up scenic stage set. The backdrop may change depending on the themes you choose.

The stage and venue will be fully accessible to all, including people of determination. The stage will have a width of 16 metres and a depth of 9 metres.

The Creative Toolkit that will be provided will give more details about the sets and how the students might be involved in creating artwork for the backdrops.
The Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of student performers</td>
<td>100 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage Capacity</td>
<td>Max 50 students at one time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual Performance Time</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time in Al Wasl for setup &amp; show transition</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage Width</td>
<td>16 metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage Depth</td>
<td>9 metres</td>
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</tbody>
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It is anticipated that the actual time on stage will be between 20-30 minutes. The total time including transitions with the host may be up to 45 minutes.

The maximum number of children participating per school is 100. The stage will accommodate up to 50 students at any one time.

Within the performance time, you can bring groups of students on and off stage so you may want to use 3 different age groups. We suggest dividing students into groups, and having either two groups perform for 15 minutes or three groups for 10 minutes each. This way, you can have multiple groups perform on the day.

A number of schools will be selected to perform on weekend evenings in Al Wasl Plaza. These performances will incorporate the use of projections.
The Host

There will be a professional host who will set the scene for the performance each day and will be the first person that the audience encounters. For example, they may surprise the audience by emerging from a secret door on the stage or from behind a scenic prop and look around in wonder at where they have found themselves.

Our host will have all the traits we want to imbue in Al Wasl Plaza. They will be warm, welcoming, fun, engaging and even a little bit magical.

Our host will be a “ringmaster” who will introduce the acts and guide students and the audience through the performance. He or she will help to link the acts together so as to provide a seamless show. They will have fun with our students, help them relax and ensure that they and their families have an enjoyable and memorable experience.
SECURITY NOTE: Please ensure all props and instruments fit within a 1m x 1m container. If you have any objects that may exceed this size, please notify us ahead of time, otherwise there may be significant delays. Please avoid any aerial objects (ex: drones), flammables and very sharp objects.

More details will follow in the upcoming Creative Toolkit in January.

Music can form an important element of any performance. We ask all schools try to create their own original music and not rely on pre-recorded tracks for their performance. More details regarding music will be released in time.

Expo 2020 will be providing music backline support – including amplifiers, rhythm section (drum kit), keyboard, as well as microphones and stands. Schools should plan to bring their own portable (hand-held) instruments if your performance requires it.

Students may bring violins, guitars, flutes, clarinets, saxophones, cymbals, tambourines, cowbells, maracas, triangles etc. It is your choice.

While Expo will provide the stage set, you can think about making hand-held theatrical props to enhance the performance for example, flags, handmade objects etc.

Costumes can play an important part in your performance. This can be as simple as a t-shirt or something more elaborate. Remember the themes that you can choose from can inspire some innovative and creative thinking! As part of the UAE’s values of tolerance and Expo 2020’s policies, we ask that costumes are culturally sensitive, non-political, avoid religious symbols and are not commercially branded.

It is your choice if you want to include costumes and theatrical props but remember that designing and making these elements are a great way to get all students involved in the lead up to the event.
Rehearsals

An important part of this creative process is rehearsal planning. You should plan to have regular rehearsals at your school in the lead up to your performance.

When selected, Expo 2020 will request a progress update once during the planning period to see how you are progressing and provide any feedback you may require.

Expo 2020 will also provide an opportunity for you to undertake one dress rehearsal at the Expo Site at a space located in the Visitor Centre. It will be a replica of the stage in terms of dimensions and will have all amenities and services required. Details will be included in the Operations and Technical Toolkit to be released in May 2020.

This space can be accessed up to four weeks prior to your performance and a slot will be provided in due course.
The Audience

Each school will be allotted a certain number of tickets by Expo 2020. We encourage schools to provide tickets to students who have participated in the development of the show, but not necessarily performing on stage.

It will be the responsibility of the school to distribute tickets among children and family members.

The terms and conditions of tickets will be provided in the upcoming Technical and Operations toolkit in May 2020.
If your school is interested in participating in this exciting opportunity, please complete the registration form at schools.expo2020dubai.com. Performances will be limited to a set number of schools, so send in your application as soon as possible! We will be in touch once we have received and processed your registration.

We suggest that you should start thinking and planning for your school’s performance as soon as you submit your form. There is lots of information enclosed in this kit to help you get started.
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