

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EMIGRANTS

الجمهورية اللبنانية
وزارة الخارجية والمغتربين



2017 CONFERENCE



LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
SEPTEMBER 23 & 24, 2017

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ASSOCIATION OF BANKS IN LEBANON

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Dear Fellow Lebanese
Citizens and Descendants
Residing in North America,

I am pleased to announce the Second Lebanese Diaspora Energy Conference for North America-Las Vegas.

The success story of LDE brings Lebanon closer to you for the second time in North America. This is a great moment to bring together the Lebanese potentials into a land of boundless opportunities. The land of our ancestors Lebanon!

To our 'Diaspora' who have travelled far and wide from Lebanon to North America; I acknowledge your commitment to fostering the relationship between the Diaspora and Lebanon. Your presence here at the conference is a clear indication of your relentless loyalty and commitment to Lebanon.

LDE is an attempt to engage the diaspora into immeasurable prospects of cooperation aiming at tightening the bonds between the diaspora, Lebanon, and other partners in North America.

Our Lebanonity has always been the hallmark of our worldwide success. Knowing that your heart strings are firmly attached to your roots in Lebanon, the land you still cherish! LDE offers you the opportunity of a one stop shop to register your vital records, and to apply for redeeming your Lebanese nationality.

The seed, planted there long ago, is at last blossoming into success.

Welcome to LDE 2017 North America!

**LDE-North America
September 23 - 24, 2017
Las Vegas - USA**

Saturday, 23 September 2017

08:00 - 10:00

Registration and Morning Coffee.
Exhibition Area Inauguration.

10:00 - 11:00

Official Opening Ceremony.

11:00 - 12:30

Energy Sector: Opportunities for Partnership in Lebanon

This panel will present the opportunities to invest in the Energy sectors in Lebanon arising from the strategic plans of the Lebanese government. The Oil and Gas Sector presents promising prospects to explore. The climate and geography of Lebanon offer renewable energy sources as Solar and hydroelectric energy to exchange knowhow, invest, and exploit.

The energy sector offers to the Lebanese Diaspora, its partners overseas, and the stakeholders in Lebanon immense investment and exploitation opportunities.

12:30- 13:30

Knowledge Economy: Partnerships between the Public, Private, and Educational Institutions

This panel aims to define the best instruments to invest in prominent and endless human resources which kept Lebanon on international levels for decades. The panelists will present investment and cooperation opportunities on how to make Lebanon a center of talents and startups, in concert with the Lebanese Diaspora and their partners. The Lebanese Central Bank will present wide incentives to subsidize investments that affect the Knowledge Economy in Lebanon. The role of educational institutions, researches centers, and financial corporations are instrumental in this public private partnership connecting people to achieve.

13:30 - 15:00

Lunch

**LDE-North America
September 23 - 24, 2017
Las Vegas - USA**

Saturday, 23 September 2017

15:00 - 16:30

Diaspora Institutions: Role, Opportunities, and Prospects

This panel will present potentials for Lebanese Diaspora institutions and figures in public affairs, education, culture, law, sciences, high-tech, sports and arts for further cooperation and achievement within the host communities as well as with Lebanon.

It will discuss tools to achieve success, organize a trans-national platform of cooperation and a network of information.

The panel will highlight the initiative to create the Emigration Supreme Council as an executive and consultative body for Lebanese governmental immigration policies and lobbies.

16:30 - 17:30

**Entertainment Industry and Media:
Partnership Prospects and Initiatives**

This panel highlights the potentials of those sectors where Lebanese creativity has left fingerprints in many fields. The panel lays out the various investment possibilities taking into account the funding initiatives of BDL. Likewise it highlights the cultural heritage of Lebanese and their contributions in arts and media and branding Lebanon and Lebanese brain power.

On the other hand based on the media forum recommendations of LDE 2017, the panel offers a platform to discuss the need of broadcasting Lebanon as a peace oasis where civilizations dialogue produces tolerance, common living and respect as an example or a mission.

19:30 - 23:00

Official IDAL Gala Dinner

**LDE-North America
September 23 - 24, 2017
Las Vegas - USA**

Sunday, 24 September 2017

09:00 - 10:30

**Banking and Financial Products and Partnership
Opportunities in Lebanon, the US and Canada**

This session will present and discuss the role of Lebanese banks and financial institutions in offering financial instruments and investment opportunities for the Lebanese and their descendants in the USA and Canada. The panel offers the possibility to discuss the laws and regulations that hinder the flow of funds and circulation of remittances and reflects on solutions that enhances them.

The panel will also shed more light on the subsidies offered by the Central Bank under circulars 331 and 416 making the financial products and services even more attractive to potential investors. It will also discuss the Diaspora Fund initiative by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants.

10:30 - 12:00

Lebanity: Reacquiring the Lebanese Nationality

This session will present the executive phase of the Law of Lebanese Nationality Restoration. It will explain even further the process of reacquiring the Lebanese nationality.

The role of the diplomatic and consular missions will be discussed to explore means of becoming more efficient and effective for the proper registration of the Lebanese and their descendants abroad.

The session will further discuss the opportunities offered through private initiatives of diaspora institutions, religious entities, clubs, universities, schools and annual festivals held by community in marketing the new law as an appealing product in all aspects.

12:00 - 13:00

Closing ceremony

13:00 - 15:00

Closing lunch

Meet our speakers, panelists and moderators of the first day

Keynotes speakers of the Official Opening Ceremony

H.E. Ambassador Johnny Ibrahim Consul General in Los Angeles
H.E. Congressman Ruben Kihuen
H.E. Congressman Darell Issa
H.E. Gebran Bassil Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Energy Sector: Opportunities for Partnership in Lebanon

H.E. Cesar Abou Khalil Minister of Energy and Water
Opening remarks
Mr. Nijad Fares. Keynote speaker

Sub-panel: Oil and gas

Dr.Michel Bufadel. The potentials of oil and gas for Lebanon and how to collaborate with Oil Companies not only to extract oil and gas but also to develop skills in Lebanon with external funding.

Mr.Alexander Chequer. Projects and infrastructure development. Gas to Power Project Development.

Mr.Georges Sassine. Oil and gas in Lebanon, laws and regulations, transparency, environmental protection, review about bidding companies.

Moderator: Mr. Wissam Chbat head of Lebanese petroleum administration.

Mr.Mark Sater. Providing a life experience in the field of oil and gas business for the stakeholders in the energy sector in Lebanon.

Sub-panel: Renewable energy

Mr.Philippe Ziade. Bringing world renowned brands specialized in solar energy and triggering their interest in Lebanon to make it the hub for tech support for solar in the region. Investing in Lebanese talents to become leaders in the renewable energy and technology fields.

Mr. Marwan Azzi. Renewable sector in the Middle East: phases of development and Financing, assistant role of government, PPP model.

Moderator: Mr. Pierre El Khoury head of LCEC.
Lunch keynote speaker: Dr. Phillip A. Salem

Knowledge Economy: Partnerships between the Public, Private, and Educational Institutions

Mr. Nabil Itany. IDAL initiatives to enhance investments in knowledge economy. Procedures and incentives.

Dr. Joseph Jabra LAU. Connecting the Diaspora with Lebanon through higher education.

Dr. Rand Ghayad. Lebanon's economic potential in a regional and global context: the creation of a new role for Lebanon on the economic map and considering the role that the Lebanese expatriates can play in an emerging Lebanon.

Mrs. Sandra Shehab. Power of NVIDIA and how to help align in the areas of Healthcare, Higher Education, CyberSecurity and Finance to leverage NVIDIA technology as leaders in Deep Learning and Artificial Intelligence

Mr. Selim Noujeim. Cooperation between the Lebanese government and with the business sector to offer apprenticeship training program to the youth. exchange programs between Lebanese universities and American based institutions.

Mr. Fadi Garabet. Assessing US demand for Human Capital, Products and Services Competition in and for the US market. Differentiation elements and value of Lebanese Capital.

Moderator: Mr. Nicolas Chammas. Journey of success and expertise as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and past President of the MIT Alumni Association worldwide.

Diaspora Institutions: Role, Opportunities, and Prospects

Mrs. Roula Moussa. Connecting Diaspora: A thrilling program and platform conceived to provide all information and data to link the Lebanese worldwide and to enhance mutual investment.

Mr. Youssef Butros. The Role of Lebanese Canadian chamber of commerce as a trans-national platform of cooperation and a network of information.

Mrs. Lesly Touma. ATFL & the work carried on primarily in the US to strengthen the US Lebanese relations.

Mrs. Joy Jammal . Lebanese Industry and the Diaspora role: “together we are stronger”.

Mr. George Kadifa. Building and managing technology businesses.

Moderator: Dr. Nadera Nassif: Building Peace Culture: Peace education possibilities in Lebanese schools.

Entertainment Industry: Partnership Prospects and Initiatives

Ms. Maysa Karaa. Personal experience as a young emerging Lebanese talent in the realm of music.

Mrs Hay-love Hadchiti. Our vision is to shed the light on Lebanese cinema and showcase it where it belongs too. Our mission is to introduce the Lebanese culture through cinema all over Canada.

Mr. Talaat Captan . A journey of success in entertainment industry.

Mr. Sam Lahoud. The Mission of NDU International Film Festival in promoting young filmmakers by screening their films in front of a large audience base, promoting their talents and artistic excellence.

Moderator: Mr.Jerry Absi. The importance of Lebanese live arts and co-productions between the Homeland and the Adopted land and the role of Lebanese radios in supporting our communities abroad, connecting the Lebanese diaspora to their fellows in Lebanon , and bringing our young generation closer to their roots.

Gala Dinner:

Guest Speaker: Mr. Anthony Vincent Zehenni.

Keynote Speaker: Mr. Nabil Itani

Meet our Emcees

Mrs. Liz Habib

Mrs. Christine Abi Najem

Meet our Stars

Mrs. Cinthia Baroud.

Mr. Usama Baalbaki.

Mr. Nemr Abou Nassar.

Mr. Amine Hachem.

Mr. Shaun Agostine.

Meet our speakers, panelists and moderators of the second day

Banking and Financial Products and Partnership Opportunities in Lebanon, the US and Canada

H.E. Raed Khoury Minister of Economy and Trade. Opening remarks

Dr. Saad Andary Vice Governor of BDL. Lebanon procedures to maintain financial integrity and governance in its banking system. providing the needed forms of financing for the Lebanese at home and to attract those in diaspora.

Mr. Elias el Achkar. The Lebanese Banking Sector: A Reliable Financier, Consultant and Partner.

Mr. Mike Ahmar. The cooperation between LAU and the Central Bank of Lebanon regarding circular 331.

Examining the Diaspora's banking concerns relating to the working relationship with Lebanese banks.

Moderator: Mrs. Jamal Najem. Role of women in banking and financial institutions.

Lebanity: Reacquiring the Lebanese Nationality

Dr. Ray Hachem.ALMA . The Lebanese community center project.

Mr.Neemat Frem. Journey of the Maronite foundation, role and challenges.

Mrs.Nada Abi Samra. The role of the Christian Lebanese Foundation in the World.

Testimony about Reacquiring Lebanese Nationality procedure.
From New York: Mrs. Siham Bazzi.

Mr. Mark Saykaly: Cedars Cancer Foundation, encouraging emigrant youth to visit Lebanon.

Moderator, Mr. Rawi Hamdan: Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants.

Closing ceremony

Keynotes speakers of closing ceremony.

H.E. Johnny Ibrahim Consul General in Los Angeles .Recommendations.

H.E. Gebran Bassil Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants. Closing speech.



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THE LAND
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THE LIFE
YOU LOVE



INVEST IN LEBANON

Investment is not just about figures and assets. It also means implicating ourselves in a vision for a better future, and what better way than investing in something we deeply care about? At the Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL), we provide you with all the support and guidance that you need for the success of your investment venture in Lebanon.

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INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY OF **LEBANON**

Presidency of the Council of Ministers

WHO WE ARE

The Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL) is the national investment promotion agency that was established in 1994 with the aim of promoting Lebanon as a key investment destination, and attracting, facilitating and retaining investments in the country. IDAL provides local and foreign investors alike with a range of incentives and business support services across the following sectors; Industry, Agriculture, Agro-Industry, Tourism, Information Technology, Technology, Telecommunication, and Media.

OUR SERVICES

- Providing economic, commercial, legal, industrial and other information relevant for investment decisions.
- Mediating contacts between investors and entrepreneurs to identify potential joint-venture opportunities.
- Providing information on economic sectors with investment potential.
- Granting various types of fiscal exemptions and fees reduction to investment projects as stipulated in Investment Law No. 360.
- Participating in the capital of joint-stock companies in specific fields.
- Facilitating the issuance of permits and licenses required for starting and operating a business through coordinating with corresponding public institutions.
- Arranging for business meetings with officials from both private and public sectors.
- Providing on-going support for investment projects.

OUR INCENTIVES

IDAL grants incentives and fiscal exemptions for investments in key sectors based on geographical location, sector of coverage, and investment size. If eligible, you can benefit from full tax exemption for up to 10 years, free land registration, 50% reduction on work permits and construction permits fees, and many more.

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Official Opening Ceremony Keynote Speakers



H.E. Johnny Ibrahim

Ambassador Ibrahim is the Dean of the Los Angeles Consular Corps; he assumed his responsibilities as Consul General of Lebanon in Los Angeles, on April 2, 2012. He has a distinguished career as diplomat since more than 21 years.

He served in diplomatic positions in the Netherlands, Geneva, and at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants dealing mostly with multilateral, political and legal issues. He participated in the Delegations of Lebanon to the United Nations and to other International Organizations in New York, Geneva and The Hague.

He was recognized by the International Who's Who Historical Society for Distinguished achievements in Public Service. During his assignment in The Netherlands he served as Vice-President to The Hague Diplomats' Club.

He holds a Master in Business Administration and International Affairs from Notre- Dame University - Lebanon, a Master in Diplomacy from the Mediterranean Academy of the Diplomatic Studies in Malta, a Master in Public Administration from the French Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA), and an Advanced LL.M. in Public International Law and International Criminal Law Specialization from Leiden University in the Netherlands.

He holds a certificate of Advanced Studies in Public International Law and Private International Law from The Hague Academy of International Law and a Certificate in National Security Strategic Studies.



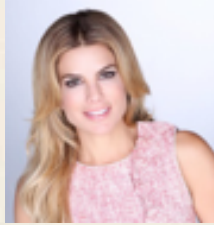
Congressman Ruben Kihuen

Representative from Nevada; born in Guadalajara, Mexico, April 25, 1980; graduated from Rancho High School, Las Vegas, Nev., 1998; attended College of Southern Nevada, Henderson, Nev.; B.S., University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nev., 2004; academic adviser, College of Southern Nevada, Henderson, Nev.; staff, United States Senator Harry Reid of Nevada, 2004-2006; member of the Nevada state assembly, 2007-2010; member of the Nevada state senate, 2015; elected as a Democrat to the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress (January 3, 2017-present).



Congressman Darrell Issa

H.E. represents the people of California's 49th Congressional District in the United since 2001. He served as CEO of California-based Directed Electronics, a company that he founded and built in the mid-1990s to become the nation's largest manufacturer of vehicle anti-theft devices, including the highly-successful Viper system. During his leadership of Directed Electronics, H.E. served as chairman of the Consumer Electronics Association, an organization of 2000 companies within the consumer technology industry that hosts the annual Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.



Mrs. Liz Habib

She is an Emmy award-winning journalist and television anchor with more than 20 years' experience covering the biggest news, entertainment and sports stories in the world. She currently hosts "Good Day LA" on KTTV, Fox 11 Los Angeles from 7-10 am.

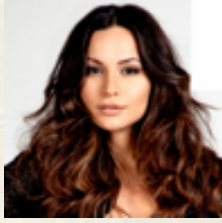
Mrs. Habib cohosts, anchors the news, does interviews with newsmakers and politicians, talks with show business celebrities and sports stars. She also is a sports anchor and reporter and anchors sports specials including "Sports Wrap" which airs on Sundays after NFL football games. She has contributed to Fox News, CNN, and Fox Sports.



Mrs. Christine Abi Najem

Mrs. Abi Najem is a Lebanese American award-winning singer-songwriter, poet and journalist born in Lebanon. She started writing at the age of 10. She wrote poems and played for her school. Mrs. Abi Najem graduated from Notre Dame University in Lebanon with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Advertising and Marketing and a Master's degree in Journalism. She was elected Miss NDU 2005. Affected by her father's death in war in Lebanon she wrote and published a book called "Arajeeh" which means swings. The book won an award of achievement for outstanding poetic writing from the World Lebanese Cultural Union. Prior, she wrote a weekly column for a magazine in Lebanon and for Al Mouhajer online newspaper located in New York.

She moved to the States in 2006, she lives in Virginia with her husband and their two children. Recently, she released a new CD called "My ignorant Heart" where two of her songs on the CD are award-winning. She won an honorable mention for her song "This pure love", Top 5 Pop song for her song "Lots of first times" and a semi-finalist for her song "My ignorant heart" in the "Song of the year" songwriting competition.



Mrs. Cinthia Baroud

Singer and songwriter, Mrs. Cinthia is the first Lebanese arab singer to have made it to the quarter finals in The Voice Canada in 2015. She keeps herself busy with writing songs; not only is she an artist, but she's a devoted Music and voice teacher. Mrs. Cinthia manages to keep her activities and career on top of the game while pursuing a master's degree in Music education. The multi-lingual singer and songwriter launched her new single "La La Land".



Mr. Usama Baalbaki

Chairman of the board for the National Arab Orchestra, he began studying music at the age of eight learning to play the 'oud and accordion, eventually playing and singing at the age of twelve on "Mamma Anisa," a Kuwaiti children's television program. Moving to the USA in 1987, Mr. Baalbaki established himself as an active performer whose musical ability has led him to travel across the nation; sharing the stage with many great artists from the Middle East and the United States, including artists such as Tony Bennet.

As a result of his singing and community involvement, he played the role of Egyptian composer and singer, Mohamed Abdel Wahab, in the play Rasasa fi al Qalb written by Tawfik Hakim. In 1999 Usama received the AMAL award from ANA/MBC Radio and TV in Washington D.C. for the best Arab American vocalist.



Mr. Nemr Abou Nassar

Lebanese/American Stand-Up Comedian who is credited with establishing and pioneering the stand-up comedy scene throughout the Middle East where he performs in English. Nemr grew up in San Diego and then moved back with his family to Lebanon

when he was 11 years old. He went on to break down barriers and unite people in a region where bombing on stage can have a completely different meaning. Nemr has numerous television credits from major networks in the Middle East, has been seen on CNN and recently appeared on “The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore.”



Mr. Amine Hachem

Amine J. Hachem is (a Lebanese-American) an operatic and crossover tenor who has captivated audiences across the United States, Europe, and the Middle East. He has been a leading tenor in several operas and musicals and has also performed in numerous cabarets, and concert venues all over the world.

Last season, Amine “pushed the boundaries of operatic music by integrating it with unconventional sounds from around the world.” (BroadwayWorld), and sold out his show “



Mr. Shaun Agostine

Internationally awarded piano composer.

He is a 15-year-old Award Winning Pianist and Composer. He composed his first piece of music at the age of 8 and has performed his compositions at a number of prestigious events including The Julliard School in New York, The National History Museum in London, The World Classical Series in Dubai, TedX, Sao Paolo, Brazil... He

already released as such a young age 5 albums, the last 3 were recorded at Abbey Road Studio Two in London.

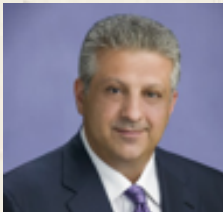
Energy Sector: Opportunities for Partnership in Lebanon

Session 1: Oil and gas



**Mr. Cesar Abi Khalil:
Minister of Energy and Water. Opening remarks**

H.E. Holds a degree in Civil Engineering from Saint Joseph University in Beirut. Member of the Lebanese Engineers' Association since 1995. Activist in the ranks of the Free Patriotic Movement since 1989. Chairman of the FPM Engineering Committee in 1993 and 1994. Responsible for the displaced FPM's displaced dossier between 2005 and 2010. Legislative elections candidate in Aley in 2009. Advisor to the Minister of Energy and Water since 2009.



Mr. Nijad I. Fares, Keynote speaker

Mr. Fares is the Chairman of Link Group, L.L.C. and WEDGE Equities, L.L.C., as well as a director of the WEDGE Group Incorporated, a Houston-based international investment firm with interests in real estate, manufacturing and oilfield services. He served as the first president of the American Task Force for Lebanon. He also served on the Houston Police Officers' Pension System, a public board with over \$2 billion under management. In June 2006,

He is a member of the Professional Board of Advisors of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. In addition, he was a senior board member of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and a member of Tufts University's Veterinary Board of Overseers. Mr. Fares is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. Most recently, in June of 2011, Mr. Fares was appointed a Knight in the Pontifical Order of St. Gregory by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI in Rome.



Mr. Philippe Ziade

Founder and Chairman of the Board of Growth Holdings. He is recognized as a leader in his industry, gaining recognition in residential real estate, multi-family projects, custom homes developments, commercial projects, senior assisted living projects, and gaming resort hotels.

Graduated with dual degrees in Civil and Mechanical Engineering and recognized internationally as a brilliant business man and entrepreneur. He has a singular vision to balance both the art and science of business. He is known for having founded Appleton Properties, Incloud Software, Unibuilder Software, Growth Construction, Progressive Construction and Growth Luxury Homes.

These companies are dynamic multi-million dollar companies in the Real Estate, Technology, Construction, Hospitality and Entertainment sectors. Mr. Ziade has also developed proprietary management software for his operations in real estate and construction. His software is recognized by industry professionals as innovate and cutting edge in the industry.



Michel C. Boufadel, PhD

Professional Engineer (PE); Fellow, American Society of Civil Engineers (F.ASCE) Diplomat, Water Resources Engineering (D. WRE); Board Certified Environmental Engineer (BCEE) Professional Hydrologist (P. Hydro.). Director, Center for Natural Resources Development and Protection, NRDP, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJExpert for the Department of Justice of the USA and for the American Petroleum Institute. Mr. Boufadel is an expert for the Ecuadorian Government on oil spills and for the US Environmental Protection Agency on the oil spill in the Kalamazoo River (MI) in 2010.



Mr. Marwan Azzi

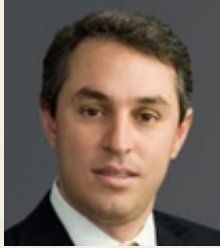
Mr. Azzi is an international partner of Norton Rose Fulbright International, LLP, New York. His practice focuses on domestic and cross border corporate transactions with emphasis in emerging markets. His experience includes representing US and international corporate clients and investment funds in mergers and acquisitions, private equity investments, joint ventures, strategic alliances and financing transactions. Mr. Azzi is very active in energy-related matters around the world and has an extensive experience in transactions pertaining to this industry. He is experienced in Corporate, M&A and Securities, Mergers and Acquisitions, Private Equity, Projects and Project Finance.



Mr. Georges Sassine

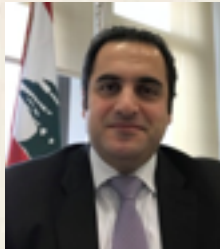
President of the Lebanese Oil and Gas Initiative (LOGI), an NGO building a global network of experts to help Lebanon benefit from its oil and gas wealth. In his private sector career, he is currently a Principal with GE Energy Consulting. He previously led a product line at GE Power, he was head of strategy and business development for GE's emergency power business, and was part of GE Energy's Global Strategy team.

Mr. Sassine previously worked with several multinational corporations driving policy analysis, investment and business strategy. He has published advancing innovative solutions to Lebanon's pressing challenges in various renowned magazines and newspapers. Executive Magazine and the Daily Star. Mr. Sassine holds a Master in Public Policy from Harvard University, and a bachelor in Mechanical Engineering from the American University of Beirut.



Mr. Alexandre R. Chequer

Mr. Chequer is a partner of Mayer Brown LLP. He is the Co-lead of the Energy group at Mayer Brown and global lead of the Oil & Gas group. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, projects and infrastructure development. The oil and gas development projects in the upstream, midstream and downstream. Reflecting his pre-eminence in project development and business transactions, he has been selected for “Leaders in their Field” recognition in the areas of corporate/M&A, energy and natural resources and oil and gas law by Chambers Latin America (2007 through 2016). He has also received “Leaders in their Field” designations (general business law and overseas specialists) from Chambers Global (2007 through 2016). In addition, Mr. Chequer has been listed in The International Who’s Who of Oil and gas Lawyers (2007 through 2015) and Legal 500 in 2013 through 2016.



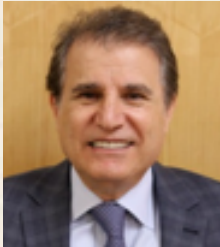
Mr. Wissam Chbat

Mr. Chbat is the Chairman of the Lebanese Petroleum Administration (LPA). He has 20 years of experience in the Oil and Gas E&P. He graduated from the American University of Beirut in 1995 (B.E Electrical Engineering) and holds a Masters in Finance from the Ecole Superieure Des Affaires - Beirut and ESCP-EAP Europe. He has been a board member at the Lebanese Petroleum Administration and head of the Geology and Geophysics department Since 4 December 2012 and on 4 December 2016 he assumed an additional role as the chairman of the board of the Lebanese Petroleum Administration.



Mr. Pierre El Khoury

Mr. El Khoury is the director of the Lebanese Center of Energy Conservation LCEC. He graduated from the American University of Beirut (AUB) and holds a Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master Degree in Engineering Management. He joined UNDP in 2005 to become a member of the LCEC project team. Mr. El Khoury became the project manager of the center by end of 2008, and with the institutionalization of the LCEC in 2011, he headed the first Executive Board. He is the main writer of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Lebanon. Mr. El Khoury is also the main developer of the concept of NEEREA, Lebanon's national financing mechanism. He is the national representative of Lebanon in the Board of Trustees of the Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE). He is also Secretary of the World Energy Council (WEC) Lebanon Committee, the national focal point of IRENA, MSP, and many other initiatives.



Mr. Mehdi Abdul Sater (Mike Sater)

Known as Mike Sater in the United States of America, Mr. Mehdi Abdul Sater was born in the historical region of Baalbeck in Lebanon. He graduated High School from the Bourj el-Barajneh High School. In 1976 he decided to travel to the United State to pursue his studies at California State Polytechnic University, where he earned his Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering and his Master's Degree in Structural Engineering. He built Sater Oil International, LLC into a business with multiple subsidiaries and over 20 Companies that are under this umbrella. Mr. Sater founded multiple Franchisee Associations and was the first President of the Franchisee Advisory Council to BP (British Petroleum and ARCO).

Knowledge Economy: Partnerships between the Public, Private, and Educational Institutions



Mr. Nabil Itani

Mr. Itani is Chairman and General Manager of the Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL). His career spans over three decades of professional achievement, including significant contributions to the architectural profession and diligent service to his native Lebanon. An accomplished architect and architectural consultant, his professional experience is wide-ranging and far-reaching, encompassing the design and supervision of landmark projects in Lebanon and around the Arab world.



Joseph G. Jabbara, Ph.D.

President of the Lebanese American University (LAU). He assumed the presidency of LAU on Aug 1, 2004. Dr. Jabbara's leadership has launched the university on the path of institutional and academic renaissance. Prior to his role at LAU, he served as Academic Vice President at (LMU) in LA, California, from 1990 to 2004. He had earlier served as Vice President, Academic and Research, (SMU) in Halifax, Canada, from 1980 to 1990. Dr. Jabbara earned his law degree at the USJ in Beirut, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the (CUA) in Washington, D.C. He is the author, co-author, and co-editor of 12 books. He has also published over 33 articles and 26 book reviews in both English and French.

Knowledge Economy: Partnerships between the Public, Private, and Educational Institutions



Dr. Rand Ghayad

Mr. Ghayad is an expert on questions related to unemployment, job displacement, and the evolution of workers' careers. He is currently a faculty member at Harvard University and an economist at The Brattle Group in Boston where he assists the U.S. government and Federal agencies in white collar criminal and civil investigations. Mr. Ghayad is the author of "The Jobless Trap", a manuscript cited in hundreds of journals and media articles, books, conferences and congressional testimonies by Nobel Prize winners, academics, and policymakers.



Mr. Selim G. Noujaim

Former State Representative-Connecticut General Assembly. Chairman, Regulations Review Committee. MR. Noujaim is a Former President and CEO of the American production & Inventory Control Society (APICS). He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Post University, Sacred Heart High School as well as Chairman of Saints Peter and Paul School Board. He served as Vice Chair of the Waterbury Regional Chamber of Commerce as well as an active member of the Smaller Manufacturers Association of Connecticut. The company participates with the Department of Labor (DOL) to seek and train young students who wish to enter the field of manufacturing.

Knowledge Economy: Partnerships between the Public, Private, and Educational Institutions



Mrs. Sandra Chehab

President of the Lebanese American Association (LAA) a non-profit, non-sectarian association focused on aiding with Scholarships, Fundraisers and Donations. She has been in the Finance and Information Technology industry for 20 years and moved to the Bay area in March of 2000 with IBM. Mrs. Chehab worked for Fortune 500 companies as well as private and consulting firms. She is currently a Global Account Manager and Partner Manager for NVIDIA, a leading technology manufacturer specializing in the manufacture of graphics-processor technologies for workstations, desktop computers, and mobile device. She Graduated from the University of Toronto with a Specialist Bachelor Degree in Economics and Finance, Accelerated Computing, Deep Learning and Artificial Intelligence.



Mr. Nicolas Chammas

Mr. Chammas is a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Past President of the MIT Alumni Association worldwide, and Chairman of the Beirut Traders Association (BTA) since 2010. He is the Vice Chairman of Cedrus Bank and Managing Partner at Elie D. Chammas & Co. He graduated with distinction from the American University of Beirut (Bachelor of Engineering), the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Master of Science in Civil Engineering), and Harvard Business School (Master of Business Administration with a focus on the international economy).

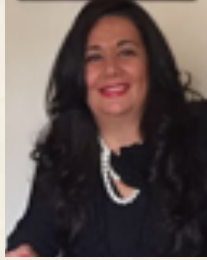
Knowledge Economy: Partnerships between the Public, Private, and Educational Institutions



Mr. Fadi Garabet

Mr. Garabet is the general manager of Agiline LLC - Ontario, CA. He is the Director of Development in North America for Notre Dame University - Louaize, Lebanon. Mr. Garabet held various management and executive positions across several industries including Software Development, Manufacturing and Wholesale Distribution with extensive experience in Marketing, Negotiations, Sales, Finance, Planning and Project implementation. He is involved in several new products; design, creation and launching, with strong background in Information Technology and analytics.

Diaspora Institutions: Role, Opportunities, and Prospects



Dr. Nadera Nassif

Dr. Nadera Nassif Holds a Doctorate degree in International Education also she holds a Master's degree in Organizational Management and Leadership. She is the president and founder of Global Schooling Systems. Dr. Nassif is an International Educator who specialized in Peace Education. Her rich diverse background allowed her to succeed in promoting peace education knowledge and skills in schools. She led successfully many non-profit international organizations, business entities, and private programs. She helped introduce the Bilingual Programs (Arabic/ English Languages) to Hamtramck Public Schools in Michigan as a community Liaison and teacher.



Mrs. Leslie A. Touma

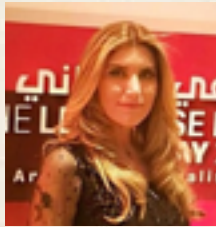
Mrs. Touma is the executive director of the American Task Force for Lebanon. The Washington DC-based ATFL is made up of prominent Americans of Lebanese heritage working to educate the government and people on the ways in which a strong, independent and prosperous Lebanon is in the best interests of the United States. Mrs. Touma served as a policy analyst for strategic and nuclear defense issues at the US Department of Defense. She holds a B.A. in history and political science from Kalamazoo College and a master's degree in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

Diaspora Institutions: Role, Opportunities, and Prospects



Mrs. Roula Moussa

Establisher of entrepreneurial leader, she is known for being results-driven and highly motivated when working in challenging environments. Mrs. Moussa is the founder and managing partner at Netways, founded back in 1996, the first web development company in the Arab world and one of the leading provider of business technology and e-Government solutions in the Middle East region. Her company has been recently recognized as “The Microsoft Country Partner of the Year 2013” for the United Arab Emirates. Holder of an Engineering Diploma from the ESIB University (École Supérieure d’Ingénieurs de Beyrouth), Mrs. Moussa has an extensive background in IT and Telecommunication.

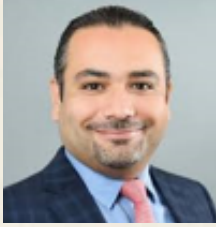


Mrs. Joyce Jammal

Mrs. Jammal is the Co-Founder and Managing Partner of OJAMCO, a leading company in the printing and packaging industry in Lebanon. She is also the Co-Founder and Managing Partner of the OJAMCO Group, a major agent and distributor in Lebanon of the largest American and European manufacturers of food processing lines and packaging machinery and materials. Furthermore, she is the Founder and the General Manager of JOYPACK Co, a firm that represents internationally major American and European suppliers of turnkey industrial lines. She started her career in the Marketing Department of the multinational company Unilever.

Mrs. Jammal has been a Member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Lebanese Industrialists since May 2014. She is the first woman in Lebanon to be elected to the Association’s Board of Directors. In addition, she is the Chairperson of the Lebanese Diaspora Committee at the Association of Lebanese Industrialists since May 2014.

Diaspora Institutions: Role, Opportunities, and Prospects



Mr. Youssef Boutros

CPA, CA President Senior Director, BDO Canada s.r.l./S.E.N.C.R.L. Mr. Youssef Boutros is a Certified Professional Accountant with BDO Canada, an accounting firm specializing in services for SMEs. With a background in business administration and more than ten years of experience, Mr. Boutros' expertise includes auditing, advisory services and tax planning for companies in various sectors including real estate, manufacturing, consumer goods and non-profit organizations.

Mr. Boutros received his Chartered Accountant designation in 2009 and has been a member of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants since that time. He graduated in public accounting from the École des Hautes Études Commerciales, HEC in Montreal and holds a Bachelor in Business Administration from the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, USEK in Beirut.



Mrs. Tonia Khouri

Mrs. Khouri and her family own a home services company, Green T Services. They started their business with literally one man and one truck and now have over 150 local employees. Since 2012, Mrs. Khouri has served on the DuPage County Board as Chair of Economic Development. As a DuPage County Board Member, she has never voted for a tax increase. In fact, a cut by \$376.5M was done on the overall budget saving taxpayers an estimated \$110M through shared services, joint procurement and consolidation.

Diaspora Institutions: Role, Opportunities, and Prospects



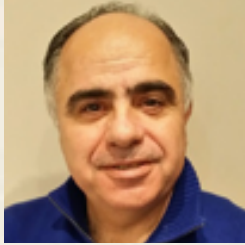
Mr. George Kadifa

Managing director of Sumeru Equity Partners, Chairman Lebnet. Mr. Kadifa is focused on the firm's software investments and is a member of the Executive Committee. He has three decades of operating experience in the technology sector.

Prior to co-founding Sumeru Equity Partners, George was Executive Vice President at HP, reporting to the CEO and member of Executive Committee. He was responsible for leading growth initiatives and alliance programs with key partners, service providers and the largest customers. Mr. Kadifa previously served as Executive Vice President of HP Software. He led HP's \$4-billion software business that includes IT/Cloud Operations Management, Application Delivery Management, Enterprise Security, and HP Big Data.

Mr. Kadifa has significant expertise in building and managing technology businesses. He has held various leadership positions at technology and management consulting companies such as IBM, Corio Corporation (founder), Oracle, Booz-Allen & Hamilton and Xerox.

Entertainment Industry: Partnership Prospects and Initiatives



Mr. Jerry Absi

Mr. Absi is the producer of Sawt El Noujoum, the Arabic radio show on CHIN 97.9 FM. He is a graduate of the University of Ottawa with a degree in Theatre. Mr. Absi acquired a lifelong of experiences in theater and live entertainment in multicultural productions as well as English theater productions with over 230 projects in his portfolio. As if theatre didn't keep him busy enough, he found a new home in the radio industry when he brought the Lebanese/Arabic radio to the Nation's capital of Canada. This great feat has earned Jerry the community title of "Goodwill Ambassador of the Middle East"



Mrs. Hay-Love Hadchiti

Mrs. Hadchiti is a director and producer and broadcasts live programs and documentaries. She is the President of the New Dimension to the Universe and holder of a license (Bachelor's degree) in communication, Radio, Television and Film. She organized, participated and presented workshops and seminars on Lebanese cinema, since 1993.

Mrs. Hadchiti participates in the preparations the casting of the comedians and in the technical casting, the locations, the shooting, in the post-production and the subsequent promotion. During the shooting she assures the direction and productions are carried on perfectly. She is the Founding Director of the Lebanese Film Festival in Canada.

Entertainment Industry: Partnership Prospects and Initiatives



Mr. Talaat Captan

Mr. Captan's career spans 35 years of successfully building disruptive entertainment businesses including Air Hollywood, the world's largest aviation-themed entertainment studio; Green Communications, an international film production and sales agency; Apex Stock, a premier stock footage agency; Prime Pictures, an international film and television distribution agency that owned and operated several cineplexes throughout the Middle East called Cinema City; and The Pan Am Experience, a 1970s-themed airline experience. Overall he has produced 22 feature films and has distributed hundreds. By his peers and all professional standards, Mr. Captan is known as an entrepreneur and a pioneer.



Mrs. Maysa Karaa

Born in Beirut, Lebanon Mrs. Karaa is a Lebanese American Grammy nominated singer currently based in Los Angeles, California. She first moved to Boston in 2007 and graduated from the prestigious Berklee College of Music in 2012. While in Boston, she toured with Italian tenor Pasquale Esposito, and later collaborated and toured with Arabic musician Simon Shaheen. She has also toured with the Berklee World Strings Orchestra. Mrs. Karaa was awarded the National Cultural Award of Lebanon for the song at the American Hustle premier in Beirut, and as of 2014 she moved to Los Angeles and pursued her singing career. Vocalist and songwriter Mrs. Karaa defines a new era of musical inclusion. Her songs tell of a journey connecting her origins in the ancient land of Lebanon.

Banking and Financial Products and Partnership Opportunities in Lebanon, the US and Canada



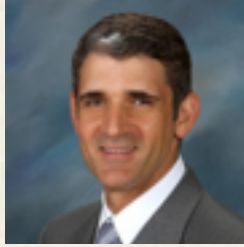
Mr. Raed Khoury: Minister of Economy and Trade Keynote Speaker

H.E. is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and holds a BA in economics and a master's degree in banking and finance from the American University of Beirut (AUB). He is founder of Cedrus Invest Bank and Cedrus Bank SAL, and has extensive and varied banking experience with a focus on wealth management, investment, and commercial banking services. He also spent more than seven years with Audi Group where he held senior management positions in private banking in Lebanon, Switzerland, and Saudi Arabia.



Dr. Saad A. Andary

Mr. Saad Andary is Second Vice-Governor of the Banque du Liban, since April 2009. He is a member of several Bank committees including the Higher Banking Commission and is "Membre du Conseil de Surveillance de l'Ecole Supérieure des Affaires". Mr. Andary held several senior executive positions in the financial sector and chaired the Association of Banks' Human Resources Committee. He directed Lebanon's "Young Entrepreneurship" initiative, launched by BDL in 2009 supported by ESA and the civil society. Mr. Andary holds a Ph.D. (Econ.) from the University of Aberdeen (U.K.); M.A. (Econ.) from Durham University (U.K.); and B.A. from A.U.B.



Mr. Mike Ahmar

Mr. Ahmar is the President of Ahmar Investment Inc., a real estate development company. He is a founder and the Executive Chairman of the Board of Partners Bank of California.

Mr. Ahmar founded ICG in 1985, a leading specialty distributor of desktop displays, A/V presentation products and digital imaging peripherals for the commercial and consumer technology markets. In June 2006, ICG was acquired by Electrograph Systems, Inc. a portfolio company of private equity firm Caxton-Iseman Capital, Inc. Mr. Ahmar spent 21 years building ICG from the ground up. As a result of his leadership, ICG has twice been listed as one of Inc. Magazine's 500 fastest growing companies in the U.S. Mr. Ahmar earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics Engineering from Northrop University and Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from San Jose State University.



Dr. Elias El Achcar

Mr. Al Achcar is the Director, Research and Statistics Department, at the Association of Banks in Lebanon (ABL), Beirut, Lebanon. His primary responsibilities include meeting the department's objective of providing the Board of Directors and Banks' executives with: -Up-to-date information and analysis on the financial and economic conditions prevailing in Lebanon through weekly, monthly and yearly periodicals, bulletins and reports. MR. Al Achcar holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Leeds, Leeds, UK, 2004. His fields of specialization include Money and Banking and Macroeconomics.

Banking and Financial Products and Partnership Opportunities in Lebanon, the US and Canada



Mrs. Jamal Najem, Moderator

Holder of a Bachelor degree from the University of Ottawa in Social Science with major in Political Science. Mrs. Najem is a certified business analyst and project manager. Multilingual leader, (French, English, and Arabic) with international experience, skilled in Business Development, Program Delivery, PMO Setup, IT Operations, Organizational Leadership, BPO, and IT Outsourcing, Strong negotiator and vendor management expertise.

Mrs. Najem Led 5 to 10 large transformation programs and has a network of over 3000 professionals including some of the most experienced talents in BSS/OSS and IT Transformation space. She has more than 15 years of experience setting up PMOs and delivering \$5M to \$100M IT programs.

Lebanity: Reacquiring the Lebanese Nationality



Mr. Neemat Frem

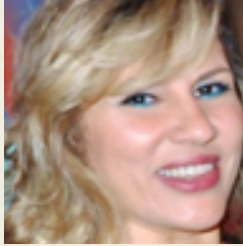
Mr. Frem is the Head of the Maronite foundation which mission is to re-connect and to strengthen the ties between the Maronites in Lebanon and in the Diaspora. He serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Industrial Development Company and the chief Executive Officer of Interstate Resources. Mr. Frem is also the President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of INDEVCO Group. He is responsible for managing over 30 plastic, papers, corrugated, tissue and disposable products manufacturing plants in the Middle East, Europe and the U.S., as well as 20 commercial companies worldwide. Mr. Frem holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from the American University of Beirut.



Dr. Ray Hachem

Dr. Ray Hachem, MD, FIDSA is a Professor of Medicine and Director of Extramural Education Program in the Department of Infectious Diseases, Infection Control and Employee Health at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas. He is also a Co-Inventor on several U. S. patents for medical related inventions. Author of over 220 peer reviewed articles. He is an active member of many medical associations. President of the American Lebanese Medical Association (ALMA) an association which promotes healthcare in Lebanon, providing scholarships to the Lebanese medical students and assisting them with medical education and to serve the people in need in Lebanon through various humanitarian projects. Dr. Hachem is also on the board of directors of the National Apostolate of Maronites.

Lebanity: Reacquiring the Lebanese Nationality



Mrs. Nada Abi Samra

Mrs. Nada Salem Abisamra is a passionate and highly motivated person who is committed to excellence and innovation, and will do anything to get any challenging job very successfully done. Nada holds a bachelor's degree in languages (Arabic, French, English), a teaching diploma, and two master's degrees. Nada was appointed Director of Project Roots in October 2013 and Director of The Christian Lebanese Foundation in the World towards the end of November 2013, when the organization was established.

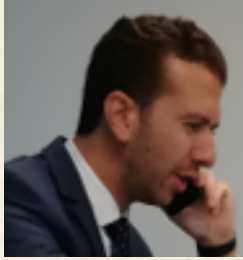


Mr. Mark Saykaly

Mark Saykaly is a successful business leader and a pillar of the Montreal Lebanese community with a longstanding commitment to community service, particularly in the fields of health care and education. A graduate in commerce from Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, Quebec Mark spent more than forty years in the apparel industry, serving before his retirement as President of Frenchmaid Lingerie Company, a family owned and managed company. Following in the footsteps of both his mother and sister, Mark is currently the Chair of the Cedars Cancer Foundation, which recently celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.

In this capacity he works closely with both its donor and volunteer communities as well as the leadership of the adult and pediatric cancer missions of the McGill University Health Centre and the McGill Faculty of Medicine.

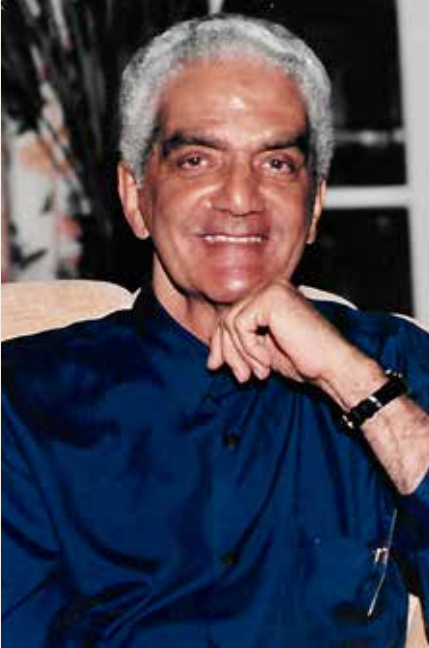
Lebanity: Reacquiring the Lebanese Nationality



Mr. Rawi Hamdan

Following in the steps of his Father Ambassador Mustapha Hamdan, Mr. Hamdan is a diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, he is a holder of a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, and a Master's degree in International Relations from the Lebanese American University in Beirut. His Thesis, depicting Legal interplay between the EU and the Middle East was publicized in the year 2012. He has attended International Organizations seminars and simulations organized by Harvard University and participated as well in various forums, conferences, and training courses on the issue of Nationality,

Human Rights, and Crisis Management. Currently, he is serving at the Directorate of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lebanon. Mr. Hamdan moved to Los Angeles to assist in the preparations for the second LDE conference for North America, in Las Vegas, NV.



Anthony Vincent Zehenni's story is one that spans the globe. His parents, Amelia Courry and Raymond Elias were born, raised and married in Lebanon. In 1915 they immigrated and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio. Growing up in the depression wasn't easy for anyone and especially not for new immigrant families. Since his first job selling papers at age of six, Tony has had a phenomenal work ethic.

By age twelve, he was delivering singing telegrams for Western Union. He studied to be an auto mechanic, but eventually he found his talent by becoming dance instructor at the Arthur Murray Dance studio. After helping the Murray's start the "Cha Cha" craze that swept the nation, Tony moved to Los Angeles in 1952 and opened two of his own dance studios. In Los Angeles Tony found work with the Studios as a choreographer and eventually worked on projects like "Seven brides for Seven brothers," "No business like show business," "The Bell Telephone Hour" and many others.

In the late 50's Tony again changed career paths and went to work for Litton Industries where he was quickly promoted to the top position in their real estate division. In 1961 Tony started his own company, Aladdin Developers. For the last 56 years, Aladdin Developers, Inc. has been renowned for their quality construction, effective management and investment sustainability.

Developing projects from the world famous resort at Arrowhead Lake to emerging African nations; Aladdin may be best known for their namesake hotel and casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Vatican bestowed Tony with the honor of Knight in the Order of St. Gregory. But most importantly, Tony is happily married to his wife Tanya and is the dedicated father of four children; Tony Jr., Jennifer Lynn, Joann and Katherine.

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