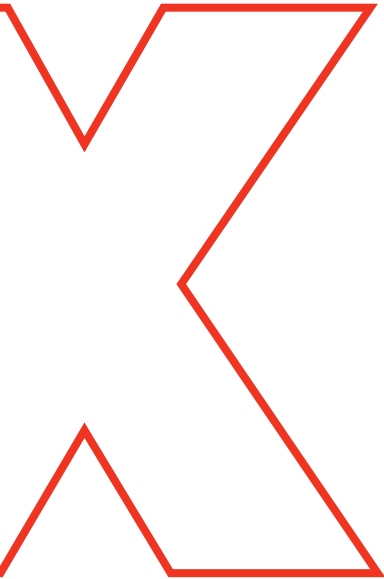
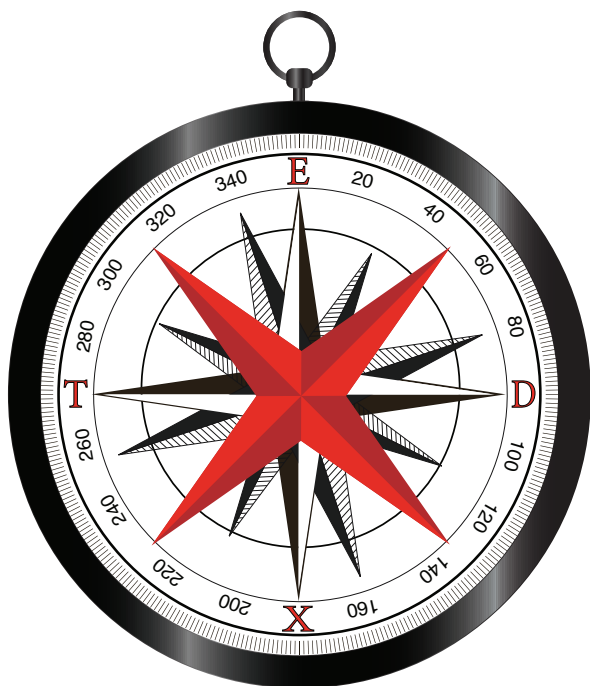


**TED<sup>x</sup>**

AmericanUniversityofKurdistan

x = independently organized TED event





# THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

## Our partners

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**ARCELLA**



## Platinum

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**VANTAGE**

**VOLUNTEER.KRD**

## Gold

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## Silver

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# Program **Schedule**



9:00 - 12:00PM	Workshops by volunteers.krd
12:00PM - 01:30PM	Registration
01:30PM - 02:00PM	Red carpet
02:00PM	Event starts
02:00PM - 02:15PM	Welcome Remarks
02:00PM - 03:02PM	TEDx Talks
03:05PM - 03:20PM	INTERMISSION 1
03:05PM - 03:15PM	Entertainment session: Opera group
03:20PM - 03:47PM	TEDx Talks
03:50PM - 04:25PM	Coffee break/ Exhibition
04:30PM - 05:12PM	TEDx Talks
05:12PM - 05:20PM	INTERMISSION 2
05:23PM - 06:15PM	TEDx Talks
06:15PM	Event ends



# About TEDx

**What is TEDx?** In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TED has created a program called TEDx. TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. Our event is called TEDx[name], where x = independently organized TED event. At our TEDx[name] event, TED Talks video and live speakers will combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events, including ours, are self-organized.



**About TED:** TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas worth Spreading. Started as a four-day conference in California 30 years ago, TED has grown to support its mission with multiple initiatives. The two annual TED Conferences invite the world's leading thinkers and doers to speak for 18 minutes or less. Many of these talks are then made available, free, at TED.com. TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Nandan Nilekani, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Sal Khan and Daniel Kahneman.

Follow TED on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/TEDTalks>, or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/TED>.



# About TEDxAmericanUniversityofKurdistan

Students at the American University of Kurdistan founded the non-profit TEDxAmericanUniversityofKurdistan with the support of AUK's staff members and Alumni. Together united, they all shared a common goal of encouraging others to effect positive change in the world. The students have complete confidence in the potential of young people to effect positive change at both the micro and macro levels. Starting with the university, this event will spark a wave of transformation across all of Kurdistan by bringing together inspired individuals.

This year, we invite you to embark on a journey into the unknown with our theme, UnXplored. In a world where boundaries are constantly being redefined, we believe there are still countless uncharted territories waiting to be uncovered—whether they lie within ourselves, in our communities, or in realms of science, art, and technology

UnXplored represents the courage to step outside comfort zones, to question the familiar, and to embrace the possibilities that lie beyond the obvious. This theme encourages each of us to redefine our understanding of the world, challenge the status quo, and pursue paths that might lead to groundbreaking insights and innovations



# Our Speakers

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**BANAR HUSHIAR**  
TEDxSpeaker

Banar Hushiar: a passionate 26-year-old journalist and film producer with seven years of experience. Raised in a family that champions women's empowerment, Banar overcame challenges to pursue her dreams and is fluent in Kurdish, Arabic, and English. From working with national to international TV channels, she brings the beauty of Kurdistan to audiences worldwide. As a former regional director for a French organization, she has empowered women journalists and recent graduates. Banar's love for culture and nature shines through in her storytelling, and she's set to make a lasting impact.



**YOUSIF ISMAT**  
TEDxSpeaker

Yousif Ismat. At just 19, Yousif ranked first in Iraq's International Baccalaureate in 2023. A self-taught iOS developer, he has built over 20 apps, from budgeting tools to entertainment platforms, mastering Swift and exploring AI and machine learning. His vision? To create tech that drives change for the masses.

# Our Speakers

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BIRHAT GEED  
TEDxSpeaker

Birhat Ageed is a dedicated nursing student at the American University of Kurdistan, where he also tutors fellow students in English. Driven by a strong passion for both nursing and education, he has actively volunteered as a teacher, combining his love for learning with a commitment to supporting others on their educational journeys.

In his TEDx talk, Birhat will discuss the topic of people-pleasing, examining how this behavior affects both personal and professional life. He will offer practical strategies for establishing healthier boundaries and achieving balance



BRENDA HERSHEY  
TEDxSpeaker

Meet Brenda Hershey, an international humanitarian, author, and Executive Director of TRY Global. With a background in trauma recovery and disaster relief in the Middle East, Brenda's mission is to help individuals take control of their mental and physical health. Armed with expertise in trauma-informed practices grounded in neuroscience, she leads TRY Global in .empowering at-risk communities

Brenda will share her insights on how understanding the mind-body connection .can unlock resilience and transform lives



# Our Speakers

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MARYAM RASHEED  
TEDxSpeaker

Meet our speaker Maryam Rasheed , a dedicated 5th-year medical student at the University of Duhok, with hands-on experience in clinical practice and healthcare. Beyond excelling in medical training and academic projects, her leadership and teamwork skills shine through various student-led initiatives. A passionate advocate for the surgical field, Maryam also channels creativity through sketching and writing, offering unique insights into the world around her.

At TEDx UnXplored, she'll dive into Digital Childhood, exploring how technology intersects with healthcare and education from an early stage of life. Don't miss the chance to hear her vision!

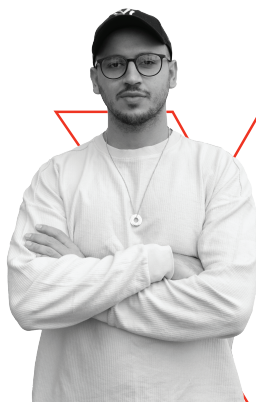


CHANG FARHAN TAHIR  
TEDxSpeaker

Meet our TEDx Speaker Chang Farhan Tahir| Born and raised in Duhok, Iraqi Kurdistan, she is a student in the MA program in Management of Arts & Culture at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, she has dedicated her career to connecting communities with their roots. Her work spans roles like Activities Manager at Nawroz University and contributions to the Land of Nineveh Archaeological Project, where she championed heritage preservation. Currently researching museum studies, she aims to create a future where Kurdistan's rich history is celebrated and shared across generations.

# Our Speakers

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KAIWAN SHABAN  
TEDxSpeaker

Meet our speaker: Kaiwan Shaban, a 25-year-old visual artist hailing from the city of Akre in the Kurdistan region. Currently based in Warsaw, Poland. His art represents an amalgamation of digital art and cinematography that conveys the best of both worlds, allowing him to translate his imaginative ideas into a distinctive form of creative self-expression. Throughout his career, Kaiwan has worked with prestigious clients such as Apple, Adobe, Mercedes, Audible, Sony Music, and Jaguar, to name a few.



JACK JENDO  
TEDxSpeaker

Meet Jack Jendo—an entrepreneur, digital strategist, and advocate for using technology to make a difference. As the founder of Brain Digits, he empowers communities and leaders to tap into the power of AI, big data, and blockchain for positive change.

With over ten years in leadership and digital transformation, Jack believes technology can enhance human potential and create a better future. Today, he's here to share insights on how we can rethink leadership, embrace innovation, and unlock new possibilities for growth. Let's welcome Jack Jendo!



HALMAT KESTAI  
TEDxSpeaker

Meet Halmat Kestai: a journalist, presenter, podcaster, and media expert with over a decade in public affairs. With a master's in media science from Germany and 20 years abroad, he brings a wealth of experience in marketing, media management, and creative writing. Since returning to Kurdistan, Halmat Kestai has shaped local media as a producer and news editor, and since 2019, he's led marketing and media at the American University of Kurdistan.

# Exhibits

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- ✕ Randor
- ✕ Zuhur-stitches
- ✕ Sharmeen designer
- ✕ Food Lover
- ✕ Bahoz production
- ✕ Cecilia
- ✕ Balloons.by.stella
- ✕ Alakhawain
- ✕ Art Arzuu
- ✕ La Beaute

## Main Organizing team member names and titles

Team Member Name	
Amena Idris	Midya Hasan
Zhehat Sarwar	Haidy Hussein
Herish Badal	Noorhan Taha
Sazan Dewaly	Sara Hamid
Amir Sulaivani	Ayman Hasan
Lelav Ameen	Aiyhm Abdulhaleem
Danar Bervari	Muhammed Idris
Omran Omar	Samyan Ismael
Dunya Issa	
Ahmed Balatay	
Baraan Zibari	
Soongul Ali	
Dara Mustafa	
Dalal Al-Qasem	
Fatima Ali	
Muataz Ali	
Adan Rashid	
Ali Sulaivani	
Ahamed Masood	
Rawand Haji	
Rezan Ali M.saleem	
Dareen Tameem	