AYUB RAOUF

Sulaymaniyah
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VISUAL ARTIST

PAINTING / ABSTRACT ART / ILLUSTRATION / ART EDUCATION / COMMUNITY ART

PROFILE

Kurdish visual artist and art educator based in Sulaymaniyah, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. His practice spans painting, abstract art, illustration, visual arts education, public and community art, environmental projects, and creative programs for children and young people. His career combines independent studio practice with exhibitions, symposia, humanitarian visual communication, arts education and socially engaged projects across Kurdistan and Iraq.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS & SYMPOSIA

2025	Kurdistan Artists Abstract Art Exhibition — Sulaymaniyah
2024	Babylon Art Symposium — Babylon, Iraq
2023	“Dance of Color and Creativity” Art Symposium — Penjwen
2022	Nature Art Symposium — Sulaymaniyah
2021	Sulaymaniyah Artists Exhibition — Sulaymaniyah
2021	Galawezh Festival Group Art Exhibition
2013	Rainbow Season Exhibition — Shanadar Gallery, Erbil
2013	Sulaymaniyah Artists Group Exhibition — Amna Suraka Gallery Hall
2013	Kurdistan Artists Symposium — Erbil
2012	Solo Exhibition: 24 paintings — Sulaymaniyah Museum Hall
2012	16th Galawezh Festival Group Exhibitions — Sulaymaniyah & Basrah
2009	Second Painting Competition — Youth Freedom Organization
2007	First Painting Competition — Youth Freedom Organization

EDUCATION

2018	Bachelor’s Degree in Fine Arts — University of Sulaymaniyah
2003–08	Diploma in Visual Arts — Sulaymaniyah Fine Arts Institute

AYUB RAOUF PROJECTS & PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

SELECTED ART PROJECTS & LEADERSHIP

2026 — **Concept Creator & Artistic Supervisor — “100 Colorful Windows Towards the Sky”**
Large-scale collaborative children’s painting event at Azadi Park, Sulaymaniyah, with ten established local artists, within Kurdistan Save the Children activities.

2025 — **Art Workshop — Juvenile Correctional Facility**
Conducted an art and painting workshop with children and adolescents within Kurdistan Save the Children activities.

2025 — **Abstract Art Workshops — Hiwa Foundation, Sulaymaniyah**
Conducted more than ten abstract art workshops for children.

2024 — **Founder — AYUB ART Gallery, Sulaymaniyah**
Founded an independent space for exhibiting personal artworks and providing ongoing drawing and painting courses.

2024 — **Children’s Art Coordinator — Kurdistan Save the Children**
Oversees and coordinates children’s art activities and creative programs.

2024 — **Children with Thalassemia Art Exhibition**
Organized an exhibition presenting artworks created by children with thalassemia.

2023 — **Environmental Art Exhibition — Youth Centers**
Supervised artworks by participants from Sulaymaniyah, Darbandikhan, Kalar and Khanaqin youth centers, focused on environmental protection.

2021 — **Project Manager — “To Continue, Together, Protect the Environment”**
Lanay Tawar Organization for Continuous Development.

2018 — **Art Project Manager — “Mural for Environment”**
Managed a large-scale public environmental mural project in central Sulaymaniyah covering more than 400 square meters.

ILLUSTRATION & HUMANITARIAN VISUAL COMMUNICATION

2018 — **Save the Children International — IDP Camps | 60 A3 Watercolor Illustrations**
Produced original illustrations for health and hygiene awareness among children and families. Everyday scenes were translated into accessible visual guidance and adapted for brochures, presentations and community education.

2017 — **Oxfam — Villages around Khanaqin, Iraq | 110 A3 Watercolor Illustrations**
Created illustrations inspired by the daily lives of children and families, communicating health, hygiene and everyday safety guidance through visual storytelling for brochures, presentations and community awareness.

2016 — **Qandil Humanitarian Organization — IDP Camps | 80 A3 Watercolor Illustrations**
Created illustrations depicting daily life in displacement camps and practical health messages, including handwashing after using the toilet and before eating. The works were used in brochures, presentations and awareness activities.

250 original A3 watercolor illustrations produced across three humanitarian visual-communication projects (2016–2018).

AWARDS & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2017	**Best Artist of the Year recognition — Kurdistan Artists Syndicate, Sulaymaniyah**
2009	**First Place — Second Painting Competition, Youth Freedom Organization**
2007	**Second Place — First Painting Competition, Youth Freedom Organization**
2012–	**Member — Kurdistan Artists Syndicate**
2015–	**Member — Concept Art Group**