



CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

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The Best of Oregon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BILINGUAL ARABIC AND ENGLISH POETRY READING HONORS AL MUTANABBI STREET

BEAVERTON, Ore. – An intercultural dialogue led by the Al Mutanabbi Street Starts Here Coalition of Oregon will happen Saturday, May 5 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at Beaverton City Library located at 12375 SW 5th St.

Al Mutanabbi Street, the “ancient booksellers’ street” in Baghdad – remembered as the street of the Shabandar Café, where Iraqi writers, intellectuals and ordinary people would congregate to work and converse – was bombed on Mar. 5, 2007. This attack on books and ideas pierced the heart of San Francisco poet and bookseller Beau Beausoleil. Beausoleil called for artists, printers, poets, writers and printmakers to respond to this attack. In 2018, more than 30 cities around the world are celebrating this stand for culture.

The Al Mutanabbi Street Starts Here Coalition will remember Al Mutanabbi Street through a bilingual poetry reading in English and Arabic. The event is the final in a two-month series of happenings. To view the full listing of activities and to learn more about the series, its background and development, visit www.iraqisocietyoforegon.org/al-mutanabbi-street.

This program is free and open to the public; no registration is required. For more information, visit www.BeavertonLibrary.org or call 503-644-2197.

Beaverton City Library is one of fifteen member libraries in Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS), which works to provide responsive and efficient library service countywide through centralized catalog, courier and other services.

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Caption: Join Beaverton City Library for an intercultural dialogue led by the Al Mutanabbi Street Starts Here Coalition of Oregon on Saturday, May 5 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. *Photo courtesy Iraqi Society of Oregon.*