

The Source

DEC 2023

42

أبو ظبي
ABU DHABI



Happy New Year
from us to you!



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A Message from Marcos Muller Habig

Reflecting on an unforgettable year,
and looking ahead towards 2024

As we approach the end of 2023, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible milestones that we have achieved together this year at 42 Abu Dhabi. It fills me with immense pride to witness our students' unwavering dedication, passion, and exceptional drive throughout their learning journey.

42 Abu Dhabi has been experiencing unprecedented growth, with an increasing number of students choosing to embark on their coding journey with us. Throughout the past year, we successfully organized over 9 hackathons and 20 workshops, often in collaboration with esteemed industry partners. Many of our students have also already secured internships with industry leaders, utilizing their coding expertise to make a significant impact in vital sectors of the Emirate.

In the upcoming year, we will focus on expanding our network of partners to ensure that we continue to connect the talented generation of coders at 42 Abu Dhabi with key pioneers across diverse fields.

As we eagerly approach 2024, I urge each and every one of you to continue your extraordinary work and dedication. Together, we will propel Abu Dhabi's digital transformation to unparalleled heights and build a generation of coders who are equipped to build the Emirate's digital future.

Wishing you all a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year ahead!





INTRODUCING AI Google



Did you know?

Google is rolling out new AI models for health care. Here's how doctors are using them!

Google announced MedLM, a suite of new health-care-specific artificial intelligence models designed to help clinicians and researchers carry out complex studies, summarize doctor-patient interactions and more. The move marks Google's latest attempt to monetize health-care industry AI tools, as competition for market share remains fierce between competitors like Amazon and Microsoft.

*Source: **CNBC**



What's up at 42 Abu Dhabi?

Workshop on Cyber Security in the Digital Age

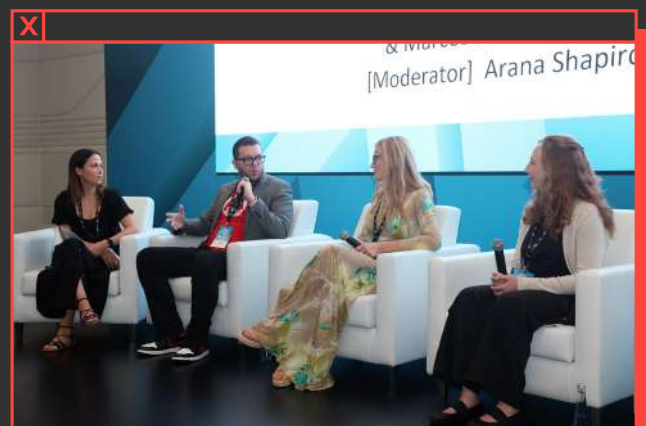
42 Abu Dhabi hosted a workshop in collaboration with the UAE Cyber Security Council, and Anxinsec, a leading solutions provider in the cyber security industry. The workshop, titled "Navigating the Future: Cyber Security in a Digital Age", was delivered by H.E. Dr. Mohamed Al Kuwaiti, Head of the UAE Cyber Security Council, in addition to industry experts from Anxinsec.

The workshop emphasized the critical role that cyber security plays in the current digital landscape and how it evolves with technological advancements. Attendees gained valuable insights into the latest trends, best practices, and cutting-edge strategies shaping the industry. The session also encouraged participants to acquire practical skills and stay ahead of the cyber security curve in order to thrive and succeed in their future digital careers.



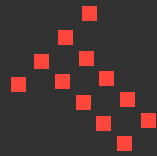
Spotlighting Gamified Learning at Games for Change Middle East Summit

42 Abu Dhabi joined the Games for Change Middle East Summit, co-hosted with Abu Dhabi (AD) Gaming and the U.S. Mission to the UAE. This 2023 event, following the previous year's success, showcased top video games experts from the US and MENA region. Held at W Hotel, Yas Island, from December 14-15, 2023, it included Marcos Muller Habig, Acting CEO of 42 Abu Dhabi, in a panel discussion and topic table, focusing on the use of games in educational impact.



Uncovering the Secrets of Miza

We were thrilled to host the recent Miza workshop, where we had the incredible opportunity to discuss the future plans for our beloved Miza area. The workshop brought together a number of 42 Abu Dhabi students who engaged in a dynamic brainstorming session, envisioning the recreational activities they wished to see in this vibrant space.



Family Day: Celebrating Learning and Togetherness

At 42 Abu Dhabi, we always strive to create unique and engaging experiences that go beyond traditional learning. That's why we were thrilled to host our very own Family Day event, a day filled with learning, laughter, and togetherness!

Our campus came alive with the sounds of joy and the spirit of community. It was a chance for families to connect, bond, and witness firsthand the incredible growth and achievements of our students.



CODERS SPOTLIGHT

Coders' Spotlight & Success Stories

Salam Sibai

1. Tell us about yourself and your background before joining 42 Abu Dhabi.

I'm a game designer and developer, currently working as a VR developer at Abu Dhabi Police. My coding journey started back in 2016 two years into pursuing a Biotechnology Bachelors degree and signing up for a mandatory coding course. I quickly realised that my passion lay in programming. I found so much joy in coming up with and implementing ideas, turning my vision into reality through code, and that's when I changed my major to Computer Science.

2. Can you share some memorable moments or experiences at 42 Abu Dhabi?

One of my most memorable moments during my time at 42 Abu Dhabi was that I was able to win the 3rd place in the chess tournament hosted by 42 Abu Dhabi and the Abu Dhabi Chess Club. It was a tough tournament and all of the other participating students were exceptional. Through this tournament, I met more peers who share the same love for chess and puzzles that I do.

3. Are there any specific industries or domains that you are interested in applying your coding skills to?

Since I started broadening my knowledge of different tech industries, I became captivated by the art of game design and development. Not only would game development allow me to practice my love of puzzles and puzzle making, but it would also allow me to use and expand my technical skills as a coder, allowing me to give back to the local and global communities through the joy and magic of gameplay.



4. What advice would you give to someone who is considering join 42 Abu Dhabi or starting their coding journey?

As someone who joined 42 Abu Dhabi with a background in computer science, I would say the best advice is to always be open to the idea of continuous learning. Not only did 42 Abu Dhabi allow me to continuously practice coding, but I have also undoubtedly learnt an ocean of knowledge, techniques, and skills both as a coder and as a peer. I am definitely not the same developer before and after joining 42 Abu Dhabi.

5. Are there any accomplishments or milestones that you are particularly proud of during your coding journey?

During my coding journey, I was honored to be selected twice to participate in the Gulf Programming Contest. I have also won multiple hackathons and game jams, and participated in the sustainability hackathon at 42 Abu Dhabi. I look forward to participating in more hackathons and events at 42 Abu Dhabi in the near future.

6. Are there any coding or tech-related blogs, books, or resources that have been particularly helpful to you?

I usually refer to mostly online courses and videos for learning, one YouTube channel that helped me out while learning how to use the Unity Game Engine was Brackeys.

Obada Outabachi

1. Tell us about yourself and your background before joining 42 Abu Dhabi.

I was a fresh 2021 high school graduate before joining 42 Abu Dhabi, still 18 years old back then. I researched some of the promising, impactful and growing careers before deciding to dive into software development. I started taking some introductory online courses on computer science and learned some programming languages before hearing about 42 Abu Dhabi from my cousin who did the piscine in 42 France. I thought it's a very good opportunity and decided to join.



2. Can you share some memorable moments or experiences at 42 Abu Dhabi?

I would say the piscine was definitely the most memorable part of 42 Abu Dhabi so far. It changed me in some sort of way because I discovered how much potential I really had. It was the most intense 25 days that I have ever experienced. I met a huge number of people from many cultures which I was not exposed to before. I also learned much more than I ever thought I could in a 25-day period.

3. Are there any specific industries or domains that you are interested in applying your coding skills to?

I am interested in the AI and machine learning field, as I think it impacts every other field, and will keep doing so on a bigger scale in future years. I enjoyed doing math in high school, so a math-heavy field like Artificial Intelligence would be suitable for me. Seeing how it makes a positive impact on important fields like medicine, engineering, or even households, pulls me into being a part of it.

4. What advice would you give to someone who is considering joining 42 Abu Dhabi or starting their coding journey?

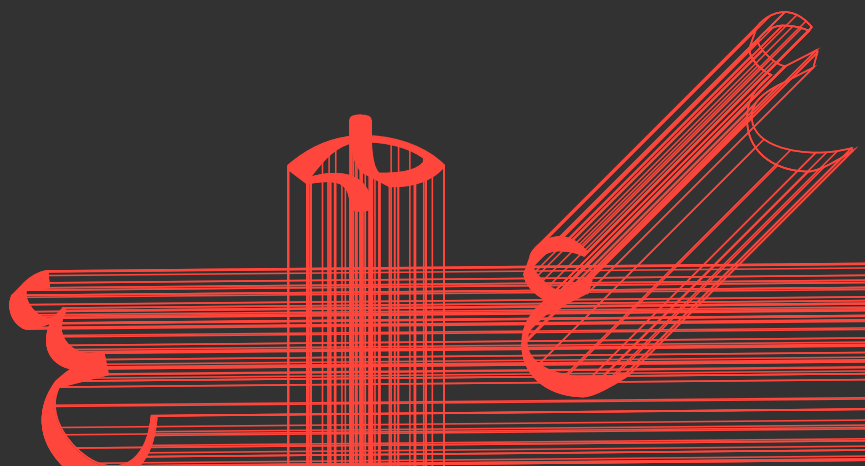
I would say that it's a journey that needs lots of commitment, time and effort. It's definitely easier to think of it one part at a time, rather than being overwhelmed by the whole process at once. Tell yourself, "I am going to start with the piscine/course, and see if I like it". You'll find yourself discovering potential and ready for the next stepping stone in the software development career. I'd also say go through some introductory courses like CS50x before starting the piscine, as that'd give you a small boost to start with.

5. Are there any accomplishments or milestones that you are particularly proud of during your coding journey?

Surely! I've created some projects that I am proud of and have developed my skills a lot as a software developer. One project I am proud of is MiniRT, which is a 3D renderer that uses ray-tracing, which is similar to Unreal Engine for a modern comparison. Of course, it doesn't stop here! I am striving to finish the common core and hit a bigger milestone in the near future.

6. Are there any coding or tech-related blogs, books, or resources that have been particularly helpful to you?

As previously mentioned, CS50x is a great introductory course to computer science, as it teaches you the very core principles of programming. There is also [freecodecamp.org](https://www.freecodecamp.org) which offers very useful free courses in programming in many different programming languages. Edx, Coursera and Udemy also offer great opportunities to gain very insightful knowledge in software development.





Wahab Yaseen

1. Tell us about yourself and your background before joining 42 Abu Dhabi.

My passion for cybersecurity began right after high school. Eager to broaden my IT knowledge and connect with peers sharing similar interests, I chose to join 42 Abu Dhabi.

2. Can you share some memorable moments or experiences at 42 Abu Dhabi?

Passing the 'libft' project alongside my friends was a surreal experience, marking my transition to a full-fledged coder and student at 42 Abu Dhabi.

3. Are there any coding or tech-related blogs, books, or resources that have been particularly helpful to you?

For those considering 42 Abu Dhabi, I recommend starting with basic C programming videos. This will familiarize you with the terminology and concepts crucial for success in the piscine.

4. Are there any accomplishments or milestones that you are particularly proud of during your coding journey?

A highlight was my role as a core member of the robotics team, developing a robot from scratch and representing 42 Abu Dhabi at GITEX 2023, a significant global event.

