



## ALSOLIMANYA CAFÉ

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7/14/2004

THE NETWORK OF ARAB-AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS OF NEW YORK

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

A few days ago, Alsolimanya Café had the pleasure of joining the street fair you organized in downtown Manhattan, NY. The hard work of your volunteers was paid off with the huge success of this event. With over 12,000 people passing through the street fair it was the biggest Arabic event in the USA. Most passersby were excited and delighted to experience our music, food, and culture. You did a great job of publicizing this event which rewarded all the participating merchants with great revenue.

Putting aside the great commercial success, I believe that you have done a wonderful job of introducing our Arabic community to the American public. If the public becomes more familiarized with our roots and culture, each and every one of us Arab Americans will face more understanding and less discrimination. People hate what they don't know and you have a duty to fight discrimination and ignorance by holding more events similar to this one. It is your duty to share your experience and expertise with NAAP chapters in other cities and to replicate the same thing over and over again in every city in the USA.

I understand that for this great success to have happened, many of you had many exhausting days and nights .... Well it was all well worth it. To all of you guys and girls, many thanks from all of us who exhibited in ~~your~~ our 2004 New York Street Fair.

As for the question which might cross your mind ("Would I do it all over again?") I have to ask you for one change. This year I had two spaces. Next year I want FOUR.

One of many grateful exhibitors,

Mohamed Soliman