

# **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR BEIRUT**

A shared UWC Maastricht & UWC Lebanon initiative

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Established in 2009 in the heart of mainland Europe, UWC Maastricht brings together students between the ages of four and eighteen from over one hundred countries. Two hundred students join us in our residential community to study towards the two-year IB Diploma. Many of our students receive full or partial scholarships, enabling them to aspire their educational dreams regardless of their parents' ability to pay.

As part of the global United World Colleges movement, we make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future. We deliver a challenging and transformational educational experience to a deliberately diverse group of young people, inspiring them to become agents of positive change.

## Scholarships for Beirut

The major explosion in the port of Beirut, Lebanon, on 4 August 2020, has significantly damaged an already fragile society. The explosion is compounded with the worst economic fall-out that the country has ever witnessed, on top of the world's largest refugee crisis and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that continues to impact the country.

More than 160 public and private schools have been affected by the explosion, affecting the continuity of learning for at least 85,000 students.

UWC Maastricht and the UWC Lebanon National Committee are determined to support talented and ambitious young students from Beirut to continue their education and achieve their dreams. We launch this fundraising initiative to provide scholarships for their continued education at UWC Maastricht.

Students directly or indirectly affected by the explosion will be selected by UWC Lebanon to enter the IB Diploma programme at UWC Maastricht from September 2021 onwards. Our aim is to raise funds for at least three full scholarships every year.

## Connecting Maastricht & Lebanon

Ever since the foundation of UWC Maastricht, the school and UWC Lebanon have fostered a special relationship.

Last year, Lebanese artist Nadim Karam donated his remarkable artwork Politics of Dialogue: The Merry-Go-Round (2019) to UWC Maastricht, as a token of appreciation for the many students from Lebanon and the Middle East who have had the opportunity to study at the school.

Through this new scholarship initiative, we want to ensure that this dialogue continues, year after year after year.



*"My experience so far has been way more different than what I expected in every single aspect. Meeting and living with so many young people from all over the world with different points of view coming is hard but invaluable. I learn to become independent and organized but there's always people who you can reach out to if you ever need help in anything."*

Anna, Lebanon, Class of 2022

For students like Anna, UWC Maastricht not only offers a significant and life-changing experience in itself, but also a pathway to pursue a university education. Almost all of our graduates continue their education at universities around the world, often again on generous scholarships.

## We need your support!

We invite individuals, institutions, corporations and foundations to join us in support of this initiative.

## For more information, please contact:

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## Donate

The Foundation of UWC Maastricht is recognized as "Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling" (ANBI). This means that your gift is deductible from your taxable income! Your donation to Foundation United World College Maastricht indicating Scholarships for Beirut can be transferred to NL98RABO0103430652 (IBAN), RABONL2U (BIC) . For more information with regards to making a donation, please contact the UWC Maastricht advancement office via [advancement@uwcmaastricht.nl](mailto:advancement@uwcmaastricht.nl)

**"When disasters hit, education can provide a vital lifeline to children whose lives have been turned upside down, providing a safe-space when in school and a sense of normalcy amidst the chaos"**

UNICEF Lebanon Representative Yukie Mokuo.