

This led Abdulaziz Al-Darmi, a music lover, to set up a better space for oud and violin lovers where they can shop, repair and learn in a modern and popular setting. Also, the oud is widespread in Kuwait, but violin players find it difficult to buy a good violin or fix their own. Enter "Strings", a shop that targets parents and youths from a conservative background. It is located in a place where furniture, accessories and clothing are sold together with music instruments.

Darmi got enchanted by the appreciation of music in France, where he used to study. "It fascinated me how the French public are aware and interested in the violin in specific. I play both the oud and violin. I'm also a collector of old and new violins. Whenever they saw me carrying my violin, they started asking me about it. How old is it? Where was it crafted and so on," he said. "My passion for music led me to craft my own oud. I have my own workshop at home where I practice woodwork. I was lucky to be trained by the most famous oud maker in Kuwait, Ahmed Al-Abduljaleel," Darmi added.

Darmi has a mission to liven up the art of music, and he's willing to organize music talks to gather professional and academic music players with amateurs. "Music is not a commodity - music transcends the soul. Therefore, the time has come for amateur musical instrument players to show their talents to the world without being ashamed," he declared.



The lewd reputation of some music shops led one local to try to change the mindset about oud.



Public Affairs and Political Assistant (LE4)

About the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

The role of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) is to advance the interests of Australia and Australians internationally. This involves strengthening Australia's security, enhancing Australia's prosperity, delivering an effective and high quality overseas aid program and helping Australian travellers and Australians overseas.

The department provides foreign, trade and development policy advice to the Australian Government. DFAT also works with other Australian government agencies to drive coordination of Australia's pursuit of global, regional and bilateral interests.

About the Position

Under general direction the Public Affairs and Political Assistant manages the Embassy's public affairs and public diplomacy program and provides administrative support at the Australian Embassy in Kuwait.

The key responsibilities of the position include, but are not limited to:

Administer the Embassy's public affairs, including its social media, and public diplomacy programs,

Prepare meeting summaries for the Head of Mission.

Prepare Third Person Notes (TPNs) and other official correspondence

Undertake less complex translations for TPNs.

Monitor the Embassy's generic email inbox.

Assist the Consular and Passport officer with the provision of services in accordance with established guidelines.

Qualifications/Experience

Graduate degree desirable.

At least 2 years' administrative experience, public affairs, media or public diplomacy discipline.

Fluent English and Arabic.

Selection Criteria

1. Demonstrated experience in the provision of public affairs, social media and public diplomacy programs
2. High level communication and interpersonal skills in working with all levels of clients and stakeholders
3. Well-developed organisational skills, analytical and problem solving skills
4. Ability to work independently or as part of a team

Please send your application in English including a CV with photo to
austemb.kuwait@dfat.gov.au or by post to:
P.O Box 2276, Safat 13023 by 24 September 2015.
We regret we will be unable to reply to unsuccessful applications.