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## **AAU Launches Second Cultural Excellence Competition**

The Second Inter-School Cultural Excellence Competition, organized by Al Ain University of Science and Technology, kicks off for the academic year 2013 – 2014 with twenty five schools from the eastern region of Abu Dhabi participating. The competition, which lasts for ten days, is considered the first of its kind to support distinguished high school students.

The various rounds of the competition will take place at AAU campus in Al Ain with competing teams divided into groups where one team from each group qualifies to the quarter finals, then the semi-finals, and the finals. Accordingly, the top three teams will be named. The first place winning school will be awarded twenty thousand dirhams, while the second place winning school will receive fifteen thousand dirhams and the third place winning school ten thousand dirhams.

On this occasion, Dr. Noor Aldeen Atatreh, AAU Chancellor, mentioned that the competition is a translation of the AAU's belief in its active role in community engagement which dictates supporting excellent students and creating a positive spirit of competitiveness among school students. Atatreh also reiterated that the competition has helped spread the culture of creativity through discovering talented and distinguished students; highlighting their ability for collaboration, planning, team-work, and responsibility; and enriching their knowledge.

The AAU Chancellor mentioned that AAU has always been a patron of talents and excellence through incentives and awards allocated to students. "We aim to instill a spirit of positive competiveness, challenge, and determination among the students: the future carriers of the beacons of knowledge and science," Atatreh added.

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