

Sarah: “Overall I really enjoyed being a part of the Qisasna program. I was able to learn so much and as a person who really likes learning about other cultures, this is a fantastic opportunity for me to be able to learn and engage with people, my peers from Yemen, and I was able to learn so much about their personalities and their interests and personal lives, and also work together with them in creating a podcast. That was something which is one of our shared challenges as we are facing it together with the rest of the world in the year 2022. I’m really grateful to be given such an opportunity, being able to just be a part of a virtual exchange program. I loved being a part of it.”

Hussein: “I was a student in Qisasna between the period of January to April 2022. If I can say something in brief about this program, I would say that I was really happy and that’s because I could talk for the first time with American people. I could make very nice relationships and friendships with people from another culture. Also, I could make my culture more popular in the American team. I could talk about my culture and I could know more about their culture. It was a very nice program and I really hope everybody has the same opportunity that I had.”

Sarah: “I gained a lot of skills through this Qisasna journey. Some soft skills from participating include cultural sensitivity, exposure to other cultures and inter-cultural dialogue, etc. Some hard skills that I accrued were the pre-podcast process (such as doing the treatments), scripting, recording basics, crafting, adjusting the audio together, how to create podcast cover art, how to advertise to your audience through social media, and so much more! All of which I am very grateful to have been able to absorb.”