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ne of the hard-hitting realities we need to face right now is how dogs continue to be neglected when it comes to a permanent solution for their welfare and health; however from this unfortunate situation, what needs to be applauded is how compassionate and persistent welfare programs from various NGO's have also taken form and come into the limelight.

With so many people involved in social welfare of animals, especially strays, where they are leading a miserable life, the ability to singlehandedly take gigantic steps to ease their suffering is commendable. Alise Lappo is one such person. Having begun as an intern under Fathiya Âl Bastaki, who herself is in this noble field with her initiative called 'Bahrain Strays' on Facebook, served as an inspiration for Alise in treading the path of social cause for dogs. Her love for dogs drew her attention towards strays, which were deprived of love and affection. Initiating her welfare task, she found a pack of strays in areas like Sitra, Tubli and Salmabad. Treating, caring, loving, feeding and stroking 300 dogs affectionately isn't easily done, but passion had lead the way. Lappo says, "Treating 300 dogs alone and that too in a day



requires commitment and even though feeding them takes me 6-7 hours which I solely do on my own as nobody is there to help me out, I continue to do so because of my passion and love for these poor souls.

The first step that needs to be taken is nourishing the strays and focusing on their health check. "They are taken to hospitals whenever there are ticks. However feeding is a regular task and they are fed three times a week with leftovers from restaurants, along with chicken from Burger land, generously provided free of cost, savs Lappo. She also mentioned about the hospitals that are conducting surgeries free of cost and this initiative is in fact helping in reducing the sufferings of the strays.

Food, which serves as the savior for them, at times becomes difficult to cater, owing to the territories they own in different locations. "People who want to offer any leftovers can contact me; they can even donate bottles of Laban, 20ml shampoo or dry fruit packets, these can serve as an excellent method for storing leftovers," the social worker said.

Looking back at how 30 dogs were poisoned in old Sitra last year,

under the fear of contraction of ticks and rabies, Alise stated how spreading fear about these creatures amongst the public is creating immense nuisance and will further dampen the efforts to relieve their suffering. They are the beautiful creations of the Lord and one should extend their hand of friendship instead of fearing them. By doing so, one will definitely get to see the loving side of the strays and understand their condition.' For those who wish to help Alise in her daily efforts to feed them or would like to donate containers for food distribution, can call her on 39433899.



Alise Lappo

## Open Call for Artists in Bahrain!

ahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities is setting the stage for the Fine Arts Exhibition to be held in the beginning of 2018, announcing an open call for local and Artist in Residence to register and take part in this annual event

In its 44th edition, the exhibition is open to all artists living in the Kingdom both national and international, living as artist in residence, regardless of tendencies, their styles and schools of thought. Bahrain Annual Fine Arts Exhibition continues its conquest of the traditional visual boundaries and transcends limits by mixing colours with thoughts, brushes with love of the open-ended spaces. BACA invites artists to submit their different their artworks that could include any of the following: sculpture, oil-painting, graphics, photography and all types of painting styles. Since its inception in 1972, it has always attracted young talented and creative artists given its splendid art treasures. During the Annual Fine Arts Exhibition, the art community gathers to present their finest work, uninhibited by a subject or theme, showcasing a colorful display of styles, techniques, through different mediums of expression. Thus, the exhibition has become is a dialectical image not because it immobilizes time but because it captures the unity of past and future in a mobile present.



Artists may submit applications for participation only by filling in the online form on Bahrain's Authority of Culture and Antiquities' website www.culture.gov.bh. It is now a requirement that each artist should upload an image of his artwork/s when registering for the competition online.For more information, email:fineart@culture.gov. bh. Registration is open until 15 December 2017



send your entries to editor@weekender.bh/ show us the island through your lens