

Next Generation Steps Into the Spotlight

● Watercolour workshops and 3x3 basketball drew crowds on day one of the 15th edition

● Bahrain's flagship youth initiative returned to Exhibition World Bahrain with workshops spanning art to sport.

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Summer has taken on a new purpose at Exhibition World Bahrain, where Youth City 2030 has returned with a packed programme of workshops, challenges and hands-on experiences designed to inspire Bahrain's next generation.

Now in its 15th edition, the Kingdom's flagship youth empowerment initiative has once again transformed the venue into a lively hub of learning, creativity and innovation. Since its launch in 2010, the programme has supported Bahrain Economic Vision 2030 by equipping young people with practical skills, encouraging innovation and preparing them for future opportunities.

This year's edition features dedicated centres for Entrepreneurship and Leadership, Arts and Culture, Science and Technology, Media and Digital Inno-



Activities kicked off yesterday at Exhibition World Bahrain as Youth City 2030 began



vation, and Sports City, offering participants the chance to explore everything from business and digital content creation to



Abdullah, a student at Ahlia University, represents Halla Cafe at Youth City 2030 alongside other young exhibitors showcasing their talents and entrepreneurial skills.



emerging technologies, arts and athletics.

The opening day drew enthusiastic participation, with an interactive watercolour painting workshop emerging as one of the biggest crowd-pullers. Participants learned the basics of sketching, composition and colour mixing before creating their own artwork under the guidance of instructors, building creativity, confidence and self-expression along the way.

The event features five centres covering entrepreneurship, arts, science, media and sports for youth aged 9 to 35.

At Sports City, aspiring athletes took to the court for 3x3 basketball sessions combining skill stations with mini matches, focused on improving ball control, shooting accuracy, agility and tactical awareness, while reinforcing teamwork, communication and quick decision-making.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Abdullah, a student at Ahlia University representing Halla Café, said he was proud to take part in Youth City 2030 alongside several other young entrepreneurs.

"I'm really happy to be here. Youth City 2030 has given me the chance to meet new people, gain practical experience and apply what I'm learning at university. It's a great opportunity to build skills while working with others in a real-world environment," he said.

With six weeks of activities still to come, Youth City 2030 continues to reflect Bahrain's commitment to equipping young people with future-ready skills and giving them an active role in the Kingdom's development.

GOSI Takes Social Insurance Drive to Youth Festival

The General Organisation for Social Insurance (GOSI) is participating in City of Youth 2030, using the platform to raise awareness about social protection among young people and those preparing to enter the workforce.

GOSI Chief Executive Officer Sahar Rashed Al-Mannai said the participation reflects the authority's commitment to building an insurance culture across society, particularly among youth.



"The initiative aims to help young people understand their insurance rights and responsibilities."

- SAHAR RASHED AL-MANNAI

"The initiative aims to help young people understand their insurance rights and responsibilities while introducing them to the services and protections GOSI provides," she said.

The space hosts awareness programmes and interactive activities covering insurance eligibility, the rights and duties of insured individuals, and the authority's digital services.

An interactive corner allows visitors to test their insurance knowledge through innovative activities designed to deliver key messages in engaging ways.

Space Agency Launches 11 Youth Training Programmes

The Bahrain Space Agency (BSA) is expanding its presence at Youth 2030 City this year, offering 11 training programmes and an interactive platform at the event's Science and Technology Centre.

BSA Chief Executive Dr Mohammed Ibrahim Al Asiri said the agency's third consecutive participation reflects its commitment to raising awareness of space sciences and advanced technologies among young people, describing investment in youth as investment in Bahrain's future.

Programmes target two age groups — nine to 14 and 15 to 35 — and include a Lunar Colony Hackathon, developed in partnership with the Ministry



Dr Mohammed Ibrahim Al Asiri



Eng. Ayesha Khalid Al Haram

of Youth Affairs and Khalifa Al Mubara Foundation, challenging participants to design a moon base capable of sustaining human life.

The agency is also delivering training for the first time under the Youth to Youth initiative through its "Bahraini Whose Ambitions Reach

Space" programme, with nine trainees enrolled in its inaugural edition.

Engineer Ayesha Khalid Al Haram, head of the Youth Orbit Committee, said strong public interest reflects the next generation's passion for exploration and emerging technologies.

Skills, AI and Startups

Youth City Grows Into Bahrain's National Talent Engine



"Our goal is to equip young people with future-ready skills that match global trends and the evolving demands of the labour market."

- NANI MOHAMED AL BATTI

Youth City 2030, organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs in partnership with the Labour Fund (Tamkeen), is consolidating its position as Bahrain's leading national platform for youth investment, according to a senior ministry official.

Assistant Undersecretary for Support and Initiatives Nani Mohamed Al Batti said the initiative has earned widespread institutional confidence, bringing

government, private, and civil society organisations under one roof to pool expertise and resources in preparing a skilled, future-ready generation.

She noted that growing participation across sectors reflects the platform's national credibility, highlighting its role in fostering knowledge exchange, strengthening partnerships, and promoting shared responsibility in human capital development.

Al Batti added that training

content is continuously updated to reflect global shifts and labour market demands, focusing on high-value skills including esports, artificial intelligence, digital transformation, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

She described Youth City 2030 as a vital bridge connecting young Bahrainis with leading national institutions, offering direct exposure to specialised expertise and emerging professional opportunities.

Japan Week Comes to Bahrain

Five-Day Cultural Festival to Feature Cooking, Tea Ceremony and Pokémon Activities for Bahraini Youth

The Embassy of Japan in Bahrain, in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth Affairs, will host Japan Week from July 26–30 at Youth City – Exhibition World Bahrain, offering cultural activities designed to strengthen ties between the two nations.

The five-day event features three flagship programmes open to participants aged 15 to 35.

A Japanese cooking workshop, led by Embassy Chef Tatsuji Seta, runs July 27–29, where participants will learn to prepare Maki Sushi, practice decorative ingredient cutting, and pick up Japanese culinary phrases. Certificates will



be awarded upon completion.

A traditional tea ceremony, hosted by Budoor Steele of Chawan Tea House, takes place on July 26 and 30 from 4:00 PM, introducing participants to matcha green tea and Japanese values of mindfulness and hospitality. Registration is required via the

eShabab application.

Pokémon trading card game sessions, organised by Active Gulf FZCO, run across all four days from July 27–30, with morning and afternoon slots catering to different age groups, aiming to build critical thinking, teamwork and communication skills.

NCSC to run two specialist programmes at national youth initiative

The Chief Executive of Bahrain's National Cybersecurity Centre (NCSC), Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, praised Youth City 2030 as a flagship national initiative reflecting the Kingdom's commitment to investing in young people and equipping them with future-ready skills.

Shaikh Salman highlighted the Ministry of Youth Affairs' role in delivering the event, describing it as an integrated platform offering quality programmes and training opportunities aligned with labour market demands.



Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa

The NCSC will participate in Youth City 2030 in August with two dedicated programmes. The Cyber Youth programme will build participants' aware-

ness of cybersecurity concepts, digital risks, and safe online behaviour through interactive training combining theory and practical exercises.

A second workshop, Career Guidance in Cybersecurity, will outline professional pathways, in-demand skills and certifications, and educational opportunities available in the sector—helping young Bahrainis make informed career choices.

Sheikh Salman said investing in Bahraini youth remains a cornerstone of the Kingdom's ambition to lead regionally in cybersecurity and digital transformation.