Diwali at NYU Abu Dhabi

Last November, NYU Abu Dhabi students celebrated Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, marking the event with traditional dances, music, food, costumes, and decorations. Sophomore Anirudh Sood, delighted with the event, says, “The festival honestly surpassed all our expectations. It not only marks religious celebration, but also a coming together of community to build stronger relationships.” Cosmopolitan Bollywood dance choreography, as well as regional Indian steps, created a fun-filled atmosphere that brought a taste of Hindu culture to the international student body.

Sharing Cultures on Africa Night

At the end of the fall semester, NYU Abu Dhabi students held an event to showcase Africa’s cultures and countries. Dancers performed both traditional and contemporary dances, the fashion runway showcased Africa’s textiles and colors, and musicians played tribal and traditional rhythms. This was not a sit-back-and-watch event—audience participation was encouraged. Freshman Abdoulaye Ndiaye from Senegal said, “The event created an authentic experience of Africa. Every single detail was highlighted to try and bring as much of our continent as we could to Abu Dhabi. Whether it was the food, the clothing, the setting, or the dance performances, I felt as if I were back home for a few hours.”