

## Spotlight: Dr. Farouk El-Baz

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Photo: [Boston University](#)

Farouk El-Baz, born in Egypt in 1938, is known for his work with NASA. Dr. El-Baz's main job at NASA was to help choose the site where six NASA space shuttles would land on the moon. Choosing a landing site on the moon was especially difficult because of the craters on the lunar surface. Dr. El-Baz also helped coach Astronaut Al Worden, on Apollo 15 mission, to say in Arabic, "Hello good people on Earth," during his landing on the moon.

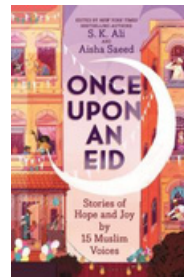
Dr. El-Baz has received many awards and honors for his work. He has even had a Star Trek shuttlecraft and an asteroid named after him; both are called "El-Baz."

Dr. El-Baz worked at NASA from 1967 to 1972. After NASA, he established the Center for Earth and Planetary Studies at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., where he worked from 1973-1982. Today, Dr. El-Baz is a professor at Boston University where he works to use space technology to understand archaeology, geography, and geology.

## Around the District

Commemoration of National Arab American Heritage Month at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. There will be fashion, food, music, and art.

## Reading Recommendations



Edited by S.K. Ali and Aisha Saeed, Age 8+  
This collection of 15 stories celebrate Eid, marking the end of Ramadan and the pilgrimage to Mecca. Stories are told through poetry, graphic novels, and short stories.



By Nina Hamza, Age: 8+  
Ahmed Aziz is having a bad year. His family moves from Hawaii to Minnesota, so his father can get the medical care he needs. Ahmed has tough time adjusting. But he also learns new lessons about himself and his family.



By Malaka Gharib Age: 11+  
Gharib's autobiographical graphic novel tells her story of trying to fit in as a Filipino-Egyptian immigrant to America, while also trying to honor her culture and traditions.



By Rhonda Roumani, Age 8+  
Kareem is a graffiti artist living in Syria, secretly tagging messages of freedom. His cousin, Samira, in the United States, is also an artist. Then Kareem comes to live with Samira's family, and she must decide if she stands up for him.