

## Decoding a Civilization: Exploring Ancient Egyptian Life Through Art

Murfreesboro, TN – The Todd Art Gallery at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) will host an insightful lecture, **"Decoding a Civilization: Exploring Ancient Egyptian Life Through Art,"** on **Tuesday, March 18, from 2–3 p.m.** in **Todd Hall, Room 224A**. This event, presented in collaboration with the **MTSU Middle East Center, the Department of Art and Design, and Todd Art Gallery**, offers a rare opportunity to explore the profound artistic and cultural heritage of Ancient Egypt through the lens of visual storytelling.

### Featured Speaker: Prof. Sara A. Abdoh

**Prof. Sara A. Abdoh**, an esteemed **Egyptian art historian, researcher, and educator**, delivered the lecture. She is an award-winning art historian and associate professor with experience as Head of the Department of Sculpture, Architectural Formation, and Restoration at the Faculty of Applied Arts, BU, Egypt, and a visiting professor at Catania University, Italy. Prof. Abdoh earned her **bachelor's degree from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Alexandria University** and later completed a **master's and Ph.D. in Art History from Helwan University**.

Her expertise spans multiple disciplines, including **Ancient Egyptian Art, Digital Art, Sculpture, Architectural Formation, and the History of Restoration**. She is internationally recognized for her contributions to the study of art history and its intersection with **digital technology**. She has authored **"Art and Technology in the 21st Century,"** a groundbreaking work exploring the **Metaverse, NFTs, VR, AR, and XR in contemporary artistic practice**. The book has received high praise from scholars, including renowned archaeologist **Dr. Zahi Hawass**. Prof. Abdoh has also been a **keynote speaker at international conferences**, such as the **Malaysia Digital Futures International Congress 2023**, where she discussed **the role of arts in sustainability and climate change solutions through digital innovation**. She serves as the international chair at the DIFCON 2024 and 2025. Abdoh has received international awards from Italy and India for her academic achievements. She reviews scientific journals and international conferences across various countries, including Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom, China, Croatia, India, Portugal, South Africa, and Greece. She is a member of the editorial boards of several prestigious international scientific journals and has numerous publications in global conferences and academic journals. In addition to her research and editorial work, she teaches at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels and supervises several doctoral theses.

### Todd Art Gallery's Excellence in Arts Programming

The **Todd Art Gallery** is vital to MTSU's **Department of Art and Design**, serving as a space for **thought-provoking exhibitions, guest lectures, and community engagement**. The gallery consistently fosters an **innovative and educational environment**, bringing artists, scholars, and students together to explore diverse creative and cultural expressions.

Recognizing its dedication to curating meaningful and accessible art experiences, the **Todd Art Gallery was awarded the 2025 TAM (Tennessee Association of Museums) Commendation Award**. This prestigious honor celebrates **the gallery's outstanding exhibitions and programming, reinforcing its role as a leader in the state's arts and cultural landscape**.

### What to Expect from the Lecture

Attendees will understand **how art shaped daily life in Ancient Egypt**, from **hieroglyphic inscriptions and funerary art to monumental sculptures and intricate murals**. Prof. Abdoh will explore the **symbolism, techniques, and storytelling** embedded in these works, revealing how art functioned as both a **spiritual tool and a historical record**.

This lecture is open to students, faculty, and community members interested in **art history, archaeology, Middle Eastern studies, and visual storytelling**. Whether you are a scholar, an artist, or simply curious about Ancient Egypt, this event offers a **unique chance to explore the artistic achievements of one of the world's most influential civilizations**.

For more information about the **lecture, Todd Art Gallery, upcoming exhibitions, or other programs offered by the MTSU Department of Art and Design**, contact [ToddArtGallery@mtsu.edu](mailto:ToddArtGallery@mtsu.edu) or call **615-898-5532**.