



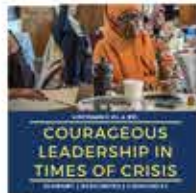
ISLA
Islamic Schools League of America
Supporting Islamic Schools Since 1988 | www.islausa.org

Resilience: Growing stronger through challenges

2021 Annual Report



ISLA's 2021 Year in Review



JAN 7-MARCH

ISLA Leaders' Cohort: **Courageous Leadership in Times of Crisis**
Leadership PD



JUNE 14

Book Talk: Curriculum Renewal for Islamic Education
General PD

JAN-FEB 13

Contemporary Issues in Islamic Education
Leadership PD, Resources

JAN 7

After the Capitol Hill Attacks:
Leadership PD, Resources

MAR 12

ISLA-CMP Ramadan Fundraising Workshop
Leadership PD, Resources

APRIL 29

Restorative Justice in Islamic Schools
General PD

JUNE

JEMS Fall 2021: The Impact of COVID-19 on Islamic Schools in the United States: Implications and Recommendations
Publication

JAN/FEB

Islamic Horizons January/February 2021: **The challenge and the relief** -Dr. Fawzia Tung
Publication



FEB 26

Islamic Horizons March/April 2021: **Rising with Resilience** by Shaza Khan
Publication

APRIL 19

Ramadan Joy at Home! **Creating Family Traditions: to parents of children ages 3-18, tips and tricks for home**
Community Enrichment

MAY 10

ISLA's Storytime & Writing Workshop!
Community Enrichment

APRIL 22

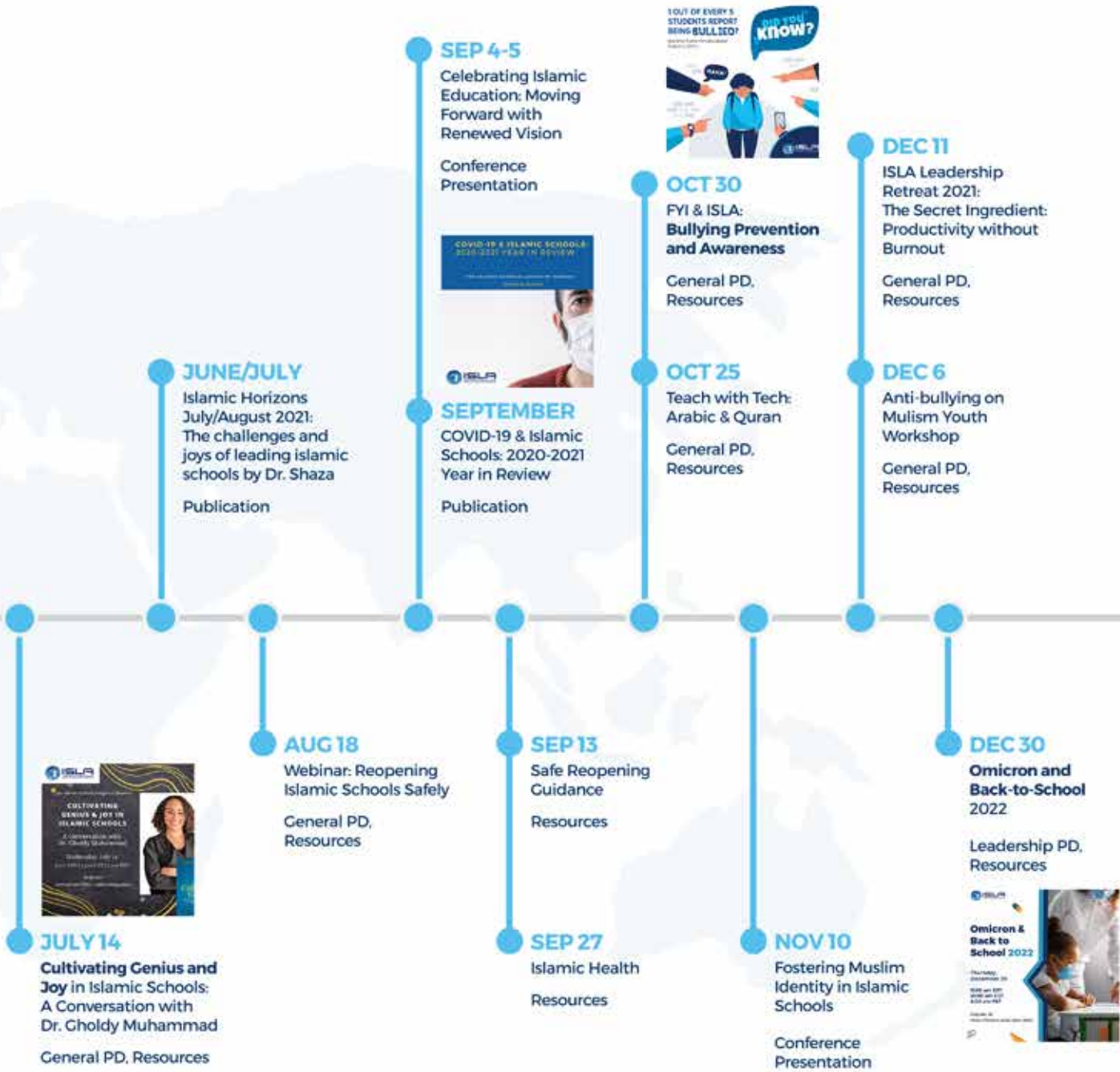
Report: **Profile of Islamic School Principals in the United States**
Leadership PD, Resources



JUNE/JULY

Islamic Horizons July/August 2021: **The challenges and joys of leading Islamic schools** by Dr. Shaza
Publication

ISLA's 2021 Year in Review



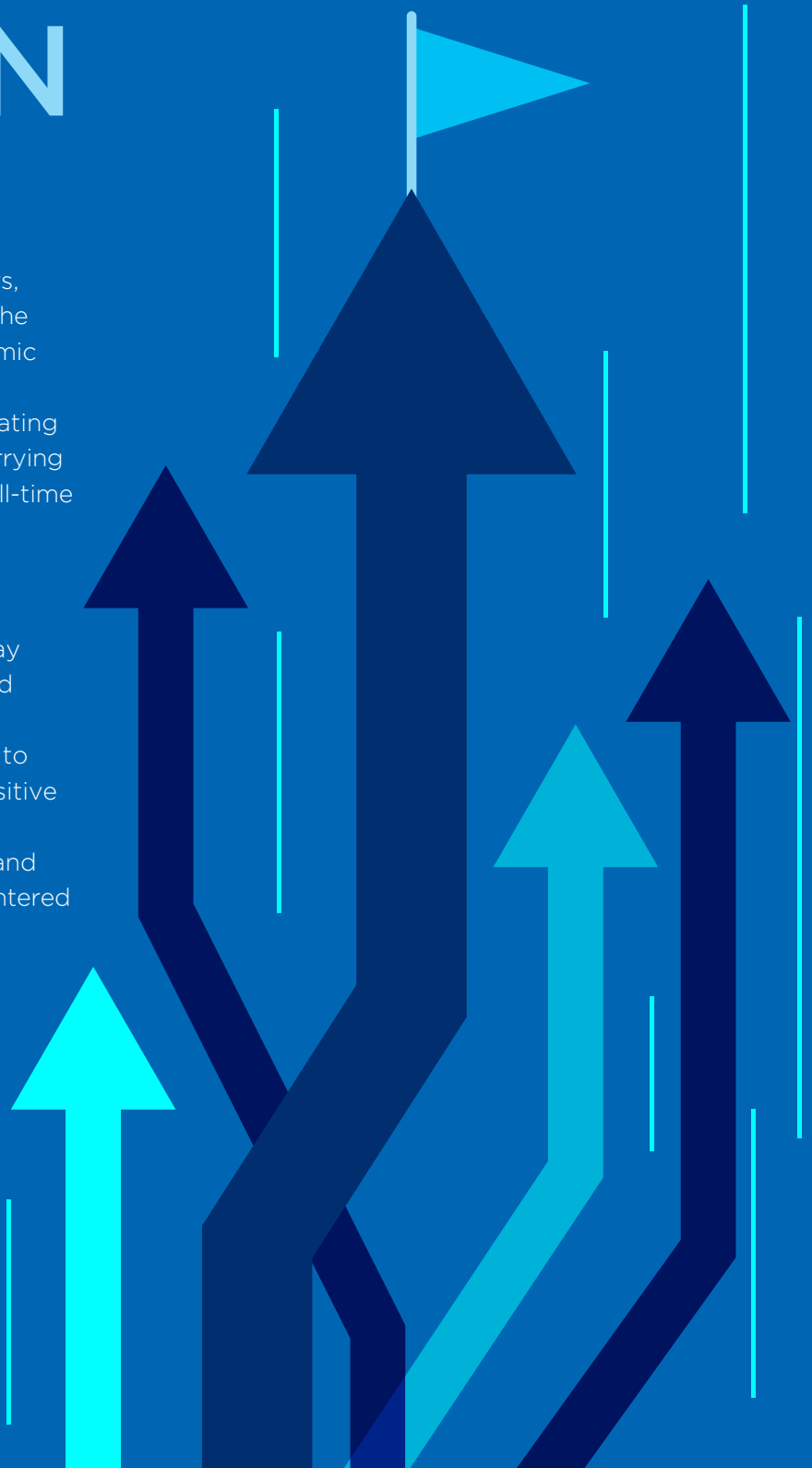
MISSION & VISION

MISSION

ISLA works in partnership with educators, organizations, and universities to foster the development, growth, and quality of Islamic education. We do this by establishing networks, providing resources, disseminating knowledge, nurturing leadership, and carrying out research on Islamic education and full-time schools.

VISION

ISLA envisions and works towards the day when Islamic schools will be the preferred centers for learning and leadership that nurture and encourage America's youth to develop their innate creativity and inquisitive nature in the pursuance of academic excellence while anchoring their hearts and souls in a moral framework of a God-centered life.



ISLA Board & Organization

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Dr. Seema Imam**
Chair
- **Sergil Naviwala,**
BA, CPA Treasurer
- **Rasha El-Haggan**
Member at large
- **Dr. Berthena Nabaa-McKinney**
Member at large
- **Dr. Patricia Salahuddin**
Vice Chair
- **Dr. Fawzia Tung**
Secretary
- **Dr. Nadeem Memon**
Member at large
- **Mussarut Jabeen**
Member at large

2021 STAFF

- **Dr. Shaza Khan**
Executive Director
- **Dr. Samar Al-Majaideh**
Research Associate
- **Celsabeel Javeed & Valentina Serrano**
Executive Assistant
- **Claudia Carballo**
Finance Manager
- **Yahya Van Rooy**
Community Development
Coordinator
- **Roman Milker**
Website Development & Support



Professional Development & Resources

A part of ISLA's mission has been to nurture leadership and provide resources to educators. We've aimed to do just that this year through the numerous trainings offered in 2021.

1320 educators trained on critical issues in Islamic education, including:



Restorative Justice



Gender, Sexual Identity & Islamic worldview



Mental Health & Wellness



Anti-Bullying



Cultivating Genius



Productivity Without Burnout

Alhumdulillah, we were able to provide leadership and guidance on COVID-19 to 300 schools in network and 75 member schools through resources developed with partnering organizations, such as:

- Safe Schools Reopening Infographic and Joint Statement (with National Muslim COVID-19 Taskforce and Black Muslim COVID Coalition)
- Webinar with Dr. Fauci and other medical and public health experts

IMPORTANTLY, IN 2021, ISLA:

- Led three cohorts comprised of nearly **150 educators** from across the world to understand how to address **Gender & Sexuality in Islamic Schools** – a topic many feel lost about and for which few resources are readily accessible.
- Partnered with Family & Youth Institute to provide training to **nearly 200 educators** in 2021 on **"Bullying"**.
- Organized and Hosted panel discussions, webinars and book clubs on **Race, Racism and Equity** in Islamic schools, including training on Black-centered pedagogy such as restorative justice and cultivating genius.
- Hosted **"Teach with Tech"** seminars for **100s of Islamic school educators** on important topics including: classroom engagement, classroom management, digital interactive notebooks, digital Quranic instruction and more.
- Provided customized professional development to several Islamic schools on **classroom management, differentiated instruction, English as a Second Language instruction** and more to over **50 teachers** in Islamic schools across the country.

Testimonials



Principal
Yahya Van Rooy

I see ISLA as a great source of inspiration and community... a place where I can grow and develop as an Islamic school educator.



Principal
Muniba Ali

It is such a comfort to know that you can be part of a community of professionals who can connect with you, advise you and share resources with you.



Yaqeen Institute
Dr. Tesneem Alkiek

ISLA was able to connect Yaqeen Institute to so many schools thanks to their vast and wide network. We're so grateful for ISLA's support!



Principal
Azizah Ali-Reagan

For me, it was a God-send and really a blessing. I'm very appreciative of the support that ISLA has provided me and my school.



Participant
ISLA & FYI Anti-Bullying Workshop

The presentation had excellent information to reinforce during staff meetings and PD days.

Research

ISLA is dedicated to conducting research on critical topics in Islamic education. We aim to benefit Islamic schools through our findings and use them to provide research-informed services like live webinars, professional development, and training.

Throughout the pandemic, ISLA researched its impact on Islamic schools. We created reports to make our findings easily accessible to all. Through our research, Islamic schools have been able to approach COVID-19 with data to drive their decisions and provide safe and healthy spaces for their students to continue with their Islamic education.

ISLA's Research Publications



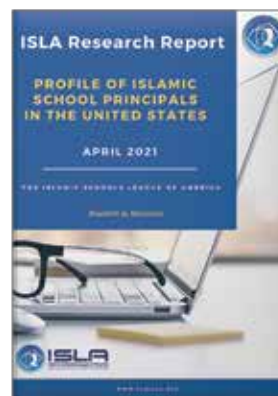
Comprehensive Database Project

ISLA began research and development for a comprehensive Islamic school census, which will collect detailed information on Islamic schools and enable ISLA to identify trends, challenges and successes over time. Reports will be created to provide foundational data and insights that enable data-driven services for Muslim Americans that seek to uplift and empower our ummah.



COVID-19 & Islamic Schools 2020-2021 Year Review

ISLA surveyed Islamic schools to better understand how they were doing one year after COVID-19 disrupted the world. The data demonstrated Islamic schools' resilience and resourcefulness, and also provided suggestions on how to continue to navigate the ongoing pandemic.



Profile of Islamic School Principals

ISLA's Profile of Islamic School Principals in the United States is the most up-to-date and comprehensive report available on Islamic school principals. It details the educational attainment, average salaries, benefits, responsibilities, and job satisfaction of this demographic.



Islamic School Alumni Research

ISLA administered a qualitative study with 37 Islamic school alumni from around the U.S. to better understand how Islamic schools impacted their sense of belonging, Muslim identity and sense of purpose in life.

Closing the Gap: Job Postings & Opportunities

We're Hiring!
ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS

Al-Rahmah School is a well established Islamic School in the Baltimore area. We are currently seeking qualified and motivated educators for the positions of elementary and middle school teachers.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- US Bachelor's Degree or higher in the specific subject areas of teaching
- Certification/Degree in Education or equivalent US classroom experience
- Willingness to learn
- Good communication skills
- Teamwork skills
- Problem-solving skills

WHY ARE?

- Supportive team environment
- Collaborative planning opportunities
- Mentoring partnerships
- Diverse staff and student body

SEND YOUR RESUME TO:
careers@alrahmah.org
or visit www.alrahmah.org

50+ JOB OPENINGS LISTED

The pandemic exacerbated an already difficult situation facing schools around the nation- both private and public. Namely, an unprecedented teacher shortage plagued the nation after a year and a half of disrupted teaching and learning due to COVID-19.

ISLA has sought to support Islamic schools with addressing this problem by providing job posting opportunities to ISLA member schools. Last year alone, over fifty job ads were posted on ISLA's website, helping schools reach their target audience of Muslim educators.

GOOD TREE ACADEMY
Interested in working in a vibrant Islamic environment in the heart of DFW?

Join Our Team!

Positions Available:

- Human Resources Manager
- Director of Operations
- Assistant Principal
- Librarian
- PE Teachers (male & female)
- Art Teacher
- Elementary Teachers
- Middle School English, Social Studies, Math & Science Teachers
- Arabic & Islamic Studies Teachers
- Quran & Hifdh Teachers
- Teaching Assistants
- Substitute Teachers

Email your resume to:
hr@goodtreeacademy.org



AUSTIN PEACE ACADEMY
Excellence: Faith, Character, Academics

WE'RE HIRING!

We are seeking Qualified Candidates for the 2022-2023 Academic School Year for the following positions:

- Elementary Teachers
- Middle and High School Science & Social Studies Teachers
- Dean of Students
- Islamic Studies and Quran Teachers

BENEFITS & FEATURES

- Competitive Salaries
- Professional Development Opportunities
- Supportive Facilities
- Fully equipped computer and internet lab
- Multi-Cultural School Environment

WANT TO BE A PART OF OUR TEAM?

Ranked #1 Best Private K-12 School in Austin Area by Niche
A professionally involving and engaging environment dedicated to raising the next generation of American Muslims

Austin Peace Academy 5510 Manor Rd Austin TX 78723 512 926 1227 www.apacademy.org

Community

Building Professional Communities of Practice

“ISLA is at the forefront of tackling issues in real time, providing guidance, facilitating community support, and creating and curating resources to address critical, contemporary issues within an Islamic framework.”

In 2021, ISLA continued to Develop Professional Communities of Practice through:

Administrator Meetings

- ISLA continued to host administrator meetings for Islamic school leaders to address critical issues
- Immediately after the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol, ISLA hosted an emergency meeting to help leaders process and discuss how they can guide their students through this critical moment in U.S. history

ISLA Virtual Leadership Retreat

- ISLA’s Leadership Retreats allow Islamic school leaders a space to reflect on their own challenges and to reconnect with one another and Allah
- This year’s Leadership Retreat was hosted online and focused on ways to beat burnout by understanding and embracing barakah values, mindsets and rituals with the founder and CEO of Productive Muslim, Mohammed Faris

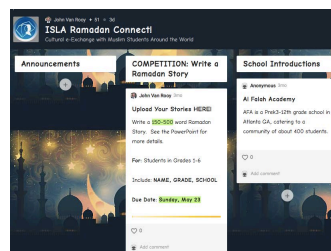
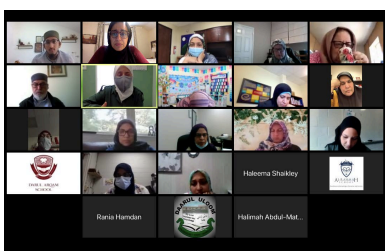
“ISLA’s Secret Sauce is providing a platform that nurtures a professional community that can engage with support and resources in real time...”

Ramadan Connect Program to connect Muslim students from around the world

- 22 Schools participated from the U.S., Australia, South Africa, and Saudi Arabia
- Padlet engagement included 230 Posts, 123 Comments and 138 Contributors
- ISLA hosted 3 live events, including a Creative Story Writing Contest in which winners received a workshop with award-winning children’s book author, Dr. Fawzia Gilani-Williams

Ramadan Joy at Home

- ISLA invited world renowned Muslim artists, authors and speakers to inspire Muslim families how to create Ramadan traditions, especially while the pandemic still impacted many people’s ability to celebrate in their traditional ways.



Finances

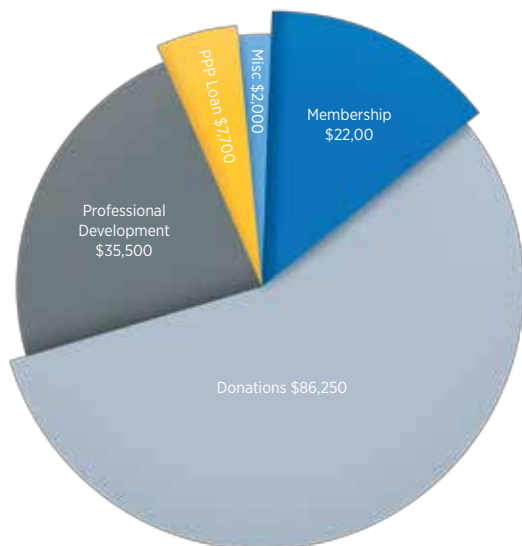
Over the years, ISLA has increased its reach to Islamic schools and educators across the world. A strategic effort to build its donor base through monthly giving and on-going online fundraisers throughout the year, ISLA's capacity has grown significantly.

In addition to donations, ISLA has sought to develop a robust professional development program that provides training on important, timely-issues. We have worked with numerous Local Educational Agencies to help Islamic schools utilize their title funds to pay for our high-quality professional development sessions.

As the pandemic continued to impact travel, costs remained relatively low as conferences were held virtually and professional development was also conducted over Zoom.

Finally, ISLA's volunteer network has also expanded, allowing our organization to provide more services to Islamic school educators while maintaining low operational costs.

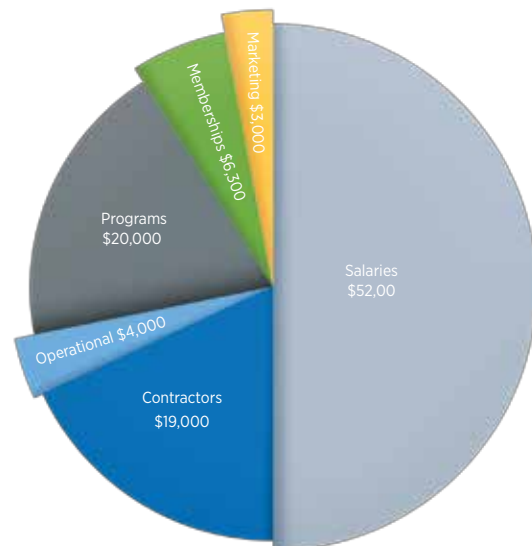
2021 INCOME SOURCES



■ Membership ■ Donations ■ Professional Development
■ PPP Loan ■ Misc

INCOME	
Membership	\$22,000
Donations	\$86,250
Professional Development	\$35,500
PPP Loan	\$7,700
Misc	\$2,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$153,450

2021 EXPENSE SOURCES



■ Marketing ■ Salaries ■ Contractors ■ Operational
■ Programs ■ Memberships

EXPENSE	
Salaries	\$52,000
Contractors	\$19,000
Operational	\$4,000
Programs	\$20,000
Memberships	\$6,300
Marketing	\$3,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$104,300

ISLA'S 2021 IMPACT



**300 schools in network
& 75 member schools**

50k

**50,000 students
impacted**



**1,320 educators
trained**



**50+ job openings
listed**

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS



Registry and Real-time Research on Islamic Schools



Report on "Profile of an Islamic School Principal"



Report on "COVID-19 & Islamic Schools- Impact on enrollment, challenges and successes"



Report on "COVID-19 & Islamic Schools: 2020-2021 Year in Review"

COVID-19 LEADERSHIP & GUIDANCE



Safe Schools Reopening Infographic and Joint Statement



Coordinated & Co-hosted webinars with medical & public health experts, including with Dr. Fauci



Member of National Muslim COVID-19 Taskforce

TRAINING PROVIDED ON



Restorative Justice



Gender, Sexual Identity and Islamic Worldview



Mental Health and Wellness



Anti-Bullying Workshop



Children's Story Writing Workshop

MEMBERSHIP & COLLABORATION

Membership: Council for Islamic Schools of North America, Member of Council for American Private Education, **Research and Training Collaboration:** Yaqeen Institute, Family & Youth Institute (FYI), IIIT, ISPU, PCORI

ISLA Member Schools

Members Schools in 2021

- Al Falah Academy
- Al Fatih Academy
- Alazhar School
- Iqra Academy
- Makkah International Institute
- Muslim Center Junior High School
- Quba Islamic School
- Reviver Academy
- Unity Academy of Chicago
- Al Hidayah Learning
- The Islamic Academy for Peace
- Augusta Science Academy
- Hidayah Academy
- Eman Schools
- Islamic Center of Naperville–Noor Academy
- Al-Ikhlās Training Academy
- Bayaan Academy
- ZamZam Knowledge Academy
- Tarbiyah Academy
- Islah Academy
- Averroes High School
- Al Taqwa Secondary School
- Annoor Academy of Knoxville
- Indiana Horizon Academy
- Muslim Academy of Greater Orlando
- Houston Peace Academy
- Universal School
- ILM Academy
- Good Tree Academy
- Nur Islamic School of Louisville
- Ibn Seena Academy
- Al-Salam Day School
- Garden of the Sahaba Academy
- Salah Tawfik Elementary and Middle School
- Austin Peace Academy
- Islamic School of Muslim Educational Trust (ISMET)/ Oregon Islamic Academy (OIA)
- Lexington Universal Academy
- Genesee Academy
- Hadi School of Excellence
- Al-Rahmah School and Nursery
- Pleasant View School
- Noor Academy of Arizona
- Washington International Academy
- Dayton Islamic School, Inc
- Al-Iman School
- Al Hamra Academy
- Crescent View Academy
- City of Knowledge School
- Peace Academy
- Arizona Cultural Academy
- Miftaahul Uloom Academy
- ILM Academy
- Muslim Community School and Alim Academy
- Panama City Advanced School
- Al Madina School of Richmond
- Brighter Horizons Academy – College Preparatory
- Islamic School of Irving
- Orange Crescent School
- Universal Academy of Florida
- Universal Academy of Pittsburgh
- Al Fatih Academy
- Noor-UI-Iman School
- Al-Huda Global School
- Furqaan Academy
- Huda School & Montessori
- Greater Lansing Islamic School
- El Sewedy International Academy of Cincinnati
- City of Knowledge
- Al-Noor Academy

Vision 2022

Anas ibn Malik reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said:

I am amazed by the believer. Verily, Allah does not decree anything for the believer except what is good for him.

Musnad Ahmad 12495

Alhumdulillah. The past two years have helped ISLA and its member schools become better connected, more informed and more focused on providing high-quality educational services to our communities. It has been an honor to partner with Islamic schools and educators in this noble effort!

Our commitment in 2022 and beyond is to continue working collaboratively with Islamic school educators and experts in diverse fields to uplift the sector of Islamic schooling in the United States and around the world.

ISLA's multifaceted efforts are amplified through our partnership with organizations such as Yaqeen Institute, the Council for Private Education in America, Council of Islamic Schools in North America, The Islamic Seminary of North America, the Initiative on Islam and Science, the National Muslim COVID-19 Task Force, The Family and Youth Institute and other leading organizations across the world.

This coming year, ISLA plans to:

- Administer Islamic school census survey to account for every Islamic school in the U.S.
- Offer professional development on critical topics such as mental health, anti-racism, sexual abuse, and more.

- Publish the findings of ISLA's Alumni Research on multiple platforms, including peer-reviewed journals, edited book volumes, Islamic Horizons magazine, and others
- Provide consultation and support to the Initiative on Islam and Science on an innovative Islam & Science curriculum
- Continue interviewing Islamic education pioneers for ISLA's Pioneers' Project
- Expand ISLA's reading lists and create other high-quality resources

The work that we plan to do in 2022 and beyond is only possible with the continued support of our partnering organizations and donors. We hope that you will continue to engage with ISLA through our programming and support us with both your donations and duas.

Thank you for your trust!





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ISLA's Annual Report 2021

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Islamic schools.

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POWER OUR MISSION

Support foundational research
like the Principal Report.

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Islamic school educators.

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