



Fidaa Ataya, winner of the WHO short film competition On Tuesday 29 May, young Palestinian filmmaker Fidaa Ataya was awarded first prize in the WHO short film competition on the theme Ageing and Health, on the occasion of World Health Day. Fidaa's film, "At the end of our lives", captured the challenges of daily life of an octogenarian refugee couple living in their village near Ramallah and separated from their children.

Fidaa Ataya was born and lives in Kufer Ni'meh. She has made seven short films and learnt her film making skills at the Amin Media Network.

She was asked why she made the film 'At the end of our lives' and said, "I love making films and I enjoy competitions, therefore, I used my storytelling skills in combination with my interest in collecting traditional Palestinian stories from older people. It was my father who first met Um Mohamed and Abu Mohamed (the octogenarian couple) when he was driving the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) mobile clinic to their village. On returning home he told me about the older couple and I decided to make a film about their life."

Fidaa is an active young woman who enjoys working with children and youth in many organizations. She performs puppet shows, enjoys story telling and promotes development through sports. "Children are always happy after they have participated in our activities. For me, puppet shows, story telling and playing sports are good ways to share different messages with children. The last performance taught them the importance of being honest."

She has received training in various fields in Beirut, Lebanon, at the Tamer Institute in occupied Palestinian territory and the Amman Arab Education Forum and attended training in Qatar conducted by the organization Right to Play and the UN Office on Sports for Development and Peace. Fidaa dreams of receiving a scholarship to study for a Masters Degree in Drama in the United Kingdom.

["At the end of our lives" film on the Regional Office Facebook page](#)

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