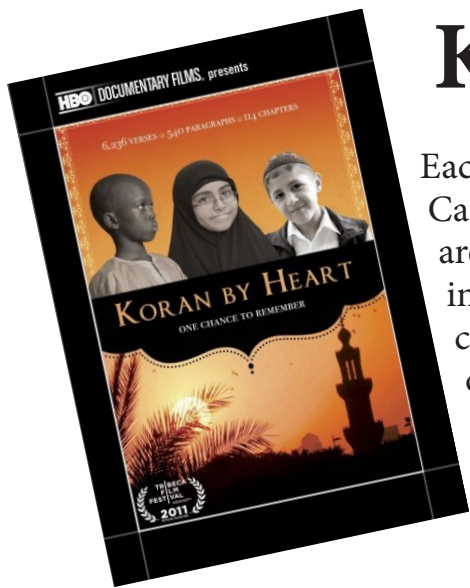


# Bridging Cultures



Made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities Bridging Cultures: Muslim Journeys Bookshelves Grant



## Koran by Heart

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

7:00 pm ~ Edmunds Conference Center

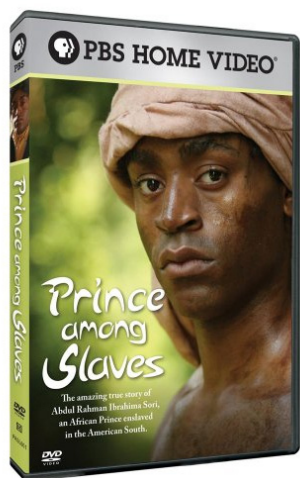
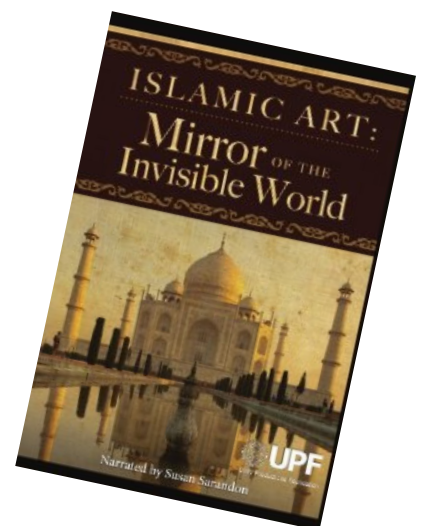
Each year, over 100 young students from more than 70 countries across the Islamic world arrive in Cairo to compete in the world's oldest and most prestigious Koran reciting contest. Some competitors are as young as seven, and several have memorized the entire 600-page Koran without actually speaking Arabic. This inspiring documentary follows three 10-year-old children as they leave their native countries to participate in this competition. The film journeys through the Muslim world, chronicling the lives and motivations of these three talented children as they face uncertain futures amidst the controversies and divisions that engulf their regions. The documentary captures touching moments of them at home with their families, where they open up about life and religion, academic dreams and career aspirations.

## Islamic Art: Mirror of the Invisible World

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

7:00 pm ~ Edmunds Conference Center

A ninety-minute documentary of stunning breadth and beauty, *Islamic Art: Mirror of the Invisible World* transports viewers over nine countries and across 1,400 years of cultural history to reveal the astonishing riches of Muslim arts, crafts, and architecture. Exploring distant locations and many rare pieces of art, the film illuminates the history of a global culture, reflecting the Islamic world as it developed over centuries and as it is today.



## Prince Among Slaves

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

7:00 pm ~ Edmunds Conference Center

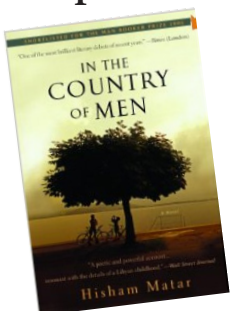
In 1788, the slave ship *Africa* set sail from the Gambia River, its hold laden with hundreds of men, women and children bound in chains and headed for America. Eight months later, a handful of survivors found themselves for sale in Natchez, Mississippi. One of them, a 26-year-old named Abdul Rahman, made an astonishing claim: that he was a prince of an African kingdom larger and more developed than the newly formed United States. This is the remarkable true story of an African prince who endured the humiliation of slavery without ever losing his dignity or hope for freedom.

# Book Discussion

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

12:00 pm ~ Edmunds Library

In addition to the three above films, the NMCC library received 25 books as part of the *Bridging Cultures* Bookshelf grant. Come learn about two of these books with discussions led by NMCC faculty:



**Jan Grieco** – *The Butterfly Mosque* by G. Willow Wilson

**Lynne Nelson-Manion** - *In The Country of Men* by Hisham Matar

Gail Roy, from the NMCC library, will also speak briefly about the purpose of the National Endowment for the Humanities award.

**ALL OF THESE EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**