



## Teacher/Viewing Guide

### Arab American Stories – Episode 102

Frederique Boudouani

Co-owner, Schera's Restaurant

Grade Level 9-12

#### Episode Overview:

Frederique Boudouani is the co-owner of Schera's Restaurant in Elkader, Iowa. This episode takes a look at the interesting connection between Elkader, Iowa and its namesake Emir Abd Elkader, the Algerian national hero, political and military leader who led the Algerian struggle against the French colonialists in the mid-nineteenth century. The segment focuses on how Edward Olson, the mayor of this small midwestern town, and Algerian-American Frederique Boudouani worked together to rekindle the connection to Elkader's sister-city in Algeria, while also bringing Algerian food and culture to the community.

Elkader, a Northeast Iowa community of some 1200 inhabitants, was founded in 1846 by Timothy Davis, John Thompson and Chester Sage. Davis was an admirer of the courageous and world-famous Algerian freedom fighter Emir Abd Elkader, who in 1830 began a fight against French colonialism in his country that would eventually last for more than 130 years. Davis, challenged with the task of choosing a name for the new Iowa community, Americanized "Abd Elkader" and proposed the name "Elkader."

#### Previewing Questions:

1. How can cooperation between others lead to understanding in a community?
2. Can one person make a difference in a community?
3. What is a global society? What elements of a community represent the culture of the people who live there or its history?

#### Vocabulary :

1. Emir: An Arabic Muslim ruler or military commander.
2. Sister City: A city in a foreign country that is linked to one in another country, usually for the purposes of cultural exchange.
3. Midwest: The region of northern states of the US from Ohio west to the Rocky Mountains.
4. Mosque: A Muslim place of worship.

#### Lesson Overview/Review:

After viewing the segment on Frederique Boudouani and Elkader, Iowa, students should be prepared to discuss the concept of global connections, how cities and towns are named and the importance of knowing the history of places and people. Students should consider the following questions:

**Post-viewing Class discussion:** After viewing the segment, consider the following questions:

1. The stated goal of the Elkader's Sister Cities Friendship Club is to "To promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation - one individual, one community at a time. Think global . . . act local." What does this statement mean to you?
2. After viewing the segment, how do you feel about the idea that one small act can make a big difference?
3. What are some things you can do in you school or community to promote understanding and cooperation?



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4. Can knowing the history of a town shape its future?

**Journal option:** Ask students to respond to the following statement from the Elkader's Sister Cities Friendship Club: "Think Global... Act Local." What does that statement mean? How can you make a global difference on a local level?

**Activity:** Frederique Boudouani and Edward Olson's dream of restoring the heritage of Elkader, Iowa began with researching the city's name and history and strengthening its connection with Sister Cities International. What is the history of your city?

First, have students research the name of their hometown. Where did the town get its name? What is the historical significance of the name? Next, have students go to <http://www.sister-cities.org/> and either find their hometown's sister city or find out how to register their school as a sister school at <http://www.sister-cities.org/sister-schools>

**Explore online:** Use the following resources to allow your students to further explore the topic and the Arab American community:

1. [http://www.elkader-iowa.com/sister\\_cities/history.html](http://www.elkader-iowa.com/sister_cities/history.html)
2. <http://www.elkader-iowa.com/Historic-Sites.html>
3. <http://www.sister-cities.org/>

**Interdisciplinary Options** Math/Economics – Global Economies, Sociology , World Cultures

### Common Core Alignment

- RI7 Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
- W6 Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of three pages in a single sitting.
- W7 Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.