

**FORTUNE/STATE DEPARTMENT
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN LEADERS MENTORING PARTNERSHIP
MENTEE SPOTLIGHT:**



MarieJoe Raidy

Born in Lebanon, MarieJoe Raidy studied at the American University of Beirut. She is Creative Director/Shareholder for Raidy Printing Group, a leading offset printing entity based in Beirut and Dubai. The company serves a variety of clients in **Lebanon, the Middle East, North Africa, the Persian Gulf, and Europe**, and offers a team of experts and an array of offset printing solutions, including typesetting, color separation, design, pre-press publishing, press, post-printing and delivery. International Recognition for Raidy include the *MFJ Award* for printing, as well as publication of their design work in such professional outlets as *The Secret Life of Logos*, *Global Corporate Identity 3*, *The Big Book of Layouts*, *Instant Graphics*, *Print and Production Finishes for Sustainable Design*, and *Design Elements*.

MarieJoe teaches Graphic Design and Print Production at Saint Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon. Her visual work has been exhibited at the International Museum of Women in San Francisco, Studio 4-11 in Belfast, the ADG, Xanadu, the Art Lounge, Espace SD, Kent Explora and Daraj El Fan in Beirut, the Goulburn Library in Australia, to name a few.

This November 2008, MarieJoe spoke in the Plus International Design Festival in Birmingham, UK. The lecture was focused on "the role of leadership and technology in today's print world".

As part of the 2007 FORTUNE/U.S. State Department Global Women's Mentoring Partnership, MarieJoe had the opportunity to be co-mentored by Michele Mayes, Senior VP and General Counsel, Pitney Bowes, Inc., and Leslie Abi-Karam, Executive VP and President, Mailing Solutions Management, Pitney Bowes, Inc. MarieJoe benefited from the experience of the diverse women leaders she met during her exchange and has used her own exchange experience to help her fellow women leaders in Lebanon.

On her FORTUNE Exchange Experience:

“My experience with FORTUNE was very insightful. I was able to meet wonderful women to aspire to, from different backgrounds, cultures and professions, such as Kathleen Vaughan, Anne Moore, Zeinab Salbi, to name a few. It has increased my network and has helped me connect with professional leaders from around the world. I was lucky to be paired with Michele Coleman Mayes and Leslie Abi Karam, with whom I am still in touch today. They have conquered a part of my heart forever.

There is something absolutely magical about connecting or being paired with someone who comes from a different culture, who was raised differently and followed a different path in life. And as much as we learn from our differences, what is even more surprising is our similarities.”

Most Rewarding Professional Experience:

“The reward and appreciation and respect were the most rewarding part of the exchange. Connecting with other women who are as career oriented yet in their own way, is a fruitful exchange. Knowing that they struggle as much, but in different ways and on different levels, opens up room for conversation, exchange, orientation and hence evolution no matter how minimal.”

On how her role as a woman leader in her own country has changed as a result of the program:

“I became more socially active and became an active member of several effective business organizations who work on positive exchange and education in our society.”

On her relationship with her mentors:

“I am very much in touch with my mentors who support me still in my endeavors. I am also in touch with other Lebanese women who were selected in such programs. We have all touched each other's lives positively and they all know they have a place called home somewhere in Lebanon.”

On how she is taking her FORTUNE experience and sharing it with her community:

“Not alone, no. But I have joined forces with other active organizations who had already taken interesting initiatives but needed more active people, such as the Lebanese League for Women in Business, Child of Lebanon, the Lebanese American Chamber of Commerce with the Better Business Group promoting transparency and business ethics in Lebanese businesses.”

On her long term goal:

"To continue being the best at what I do while being socially active and raising awareness on the importance of implementation of basic human rights in my country. To pass a message which says "we can do it. better."

"A Lebanese woman does not have the right to pass her citizenship to her child. A Lebanese man can. Not one good explanation is given for that. It is about time this changes. And by joining forces and hands, it can. It shall."