



**MATANEL FOUNDATION**  
**ACTIVITY REPORT – Performing Arts at Boyar**

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### Summary

The Society for the Advancement of Education is grateful to the Matanel Foundation for its support of students at Boyar High School in Jerusalem. As approved by the Matanel Foundation, the funds for the renovations of the Boyar Auditorium were once again directed towards the ongoing upkeep of the Auditorium. The following activity report describes how the funds were used on the school auditorium, which is in need of renovations and also reports on the funds provided for scholarships to Boyar students in need who have shown progress in their studies.

### Achievements

The Mae Boyar High School in Jerusalem is one of the most outstanding high schools in Israel. It is known throughout the country for its excellence, with hundreds of students vying for admission each year. Established in 1964, Boyar High School is dedicated to providing a high quality education, and encouraging its students to strive for excellence both academically and socially. While Israeli students typically choose one particular subject as their major during their high school years, students at Boyar choose two subjects on which they wish to focus. While the two subjects may be closely related – such as mathematics and computer science, this is not required, and students often choose to focus on two unrelated areas of study for example, Physics and Music.

Included among the many prominent alumni who have graduated from Boyar over the past five decades are university professors, current and former professionals from the Israeli Ministry of Justice, and a former president of the Israel Society for Cancer Research.

Thanks to the Matanel Foundation, Boyar High School was able to continue work on the necessary upkeep and of the school auditorium. The auditorium is used on a regular basis for a wide variety of functions, such as theater performances, concerts, and numerous special events, for both students and outside guests. The upkeep of the auditorium is necessary in order to maintain the sound quality of events,



improve the comfort level for audience members, and create a nicer and more welcoming atmosphere for guests.

Among the maintenance that we carried out are the following:

- Repairs to the wooden stage planks, which were broken and unsafe
- General maintenance of the auditorium, such as electricity work, general repairs, and plumbing
- Maintenance of the air conditioning system which is old and in need of desperate repair

### **Performing arts at Boyar – The Auditorium**

A variety of special events took place in the school auditorium during the 2016 – 2017 academic year, including various speakers who gave inspirational talks to the students.

One such speaker was Mr. Natan Sharansky, Chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Israel and a former renowned Refusenik in the Soviet Union who spent nine years in Soviet prisons. Sharansky spoke at the end of the year to the 11<sup>th</sup> graders as part of the closing ceremony, of the special “Identity” program, held in the school auditorium. During the program the students discuss issues of identity: personal, communal, civic, state, and national. Sharansky spoke about his own personal story towards finally receiving his Israeli citizenship. During this ceremony, the students received their Israeli ID cards.

In addition to bringing in speakers for the students, two or three times a year special evenings are conducted for the parents, and guest speakers are brought in for them as well. Topics included adolescence, IDF service, drug abuse, drunk driving and more.

Another Speaker, Roei Ben-Tolila, who was wounded during his IDF service and has since been paralyzed and wheelchair bound. Roei spoke to the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders just before Hanukkah, about his personal struggle. How instead of completely just focusing on the negatives of this new challenge of penalization, he decided to rise to the challenge and created a program for helping others. Roei set a great example for the students about positivity in the worst case scenarios.

During the spring months, the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade theater classes held performances for their classmates as well as friends and families. Some of this year’s plays included “A Good End” by Anat Gov, “Women Behind Bars” by Tom Eyan, “Baby Baby” by Ray Cooney, “Kizuz” by Ilan Hazor and more.

Five final movies made by the 12<sup>th</sup> grade Film class, were presented at a special evening in the Auditorium where faculty, families and friends were all invited to watch.

During the annual “Festi-Boyar” talent show, held in the Auditorium on Purim, the entire school gets together to see their talented friends sing, dance, cite poems or play music. The students come dressed up for Purim, and the event is always a colorful and joyful one filled with fun and many talents.

With such an abundance of activity in the school auditorium, renovations are essential. The Matanel Foundation’s grant has allowed us to begin this important task, and improvements are ongoing.



## Scholarship Assistance

Thanks to the generosity of the Matanel Foundation, 20 deserving students from Boyar, who have shown progress in their studies were able to receive a 500 NIS scholarship each. The Subsidies Committee, which includes Boyar management as well as SAE officials, determined which students in need of assistance who have shown progress in their studies would receive the scholarships. Below is a story of a student who benefitted from the scholarships.

**Tamesgan (Temi) Ashta studies in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.** His family made Aliyah from Ethiopia in 2003. The family consists of seven people, the parents and five children, two of which are out of school, and one of them still lives at home. Both parents work, but struggle financially to provide for their family. They live in the neighborhood of San Martin in Jerusalem.

Temi was born in Ethiopia, but grew up in Israel and is fluent in Hebrew, though his parents struggle with the language, the older children help them when speaking to the school or when needed also with other non-Amharic speaking adults. Due to his family's financial situation, Temi receives travel money from Boyar to get to school and back home.

Temi came to Boyar in seventh grade from Givat Gonen Elementary School. From the start he proved to be a quiet boy, smiling and modest, and though he was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), he has high educational aspirations and is hard working. His teachers all say that he is an intelligent young boy. He receives additional tutoring in English through the Niot Learning Center in school. His homeroom teacher said that he could see that Temi is doing better in class, his notebooks are more organized and he is taking active part in class. Temi's hard work and learning efforts were evident in his recent report card.

In addition to focusing on his learning, Temi is also an avid basketball player and represents Boyar in the various basketball tournaments.

## Evaluation

Evaluation of the students is conducted through examinations and scholastic achievement, as well as interaction and discussions with the teachers. Success for Boyar students means more than grades. Along with educational excellence, there is also a strong emphasis on social values and leadership, as well as excellence in sports, art, and culture.

All purchasing of equipment was monitored internally by the Building and Safety inspector Mr. Itzhak Dahan.



### Advancement of the Program

True to the Boyar spirit, we will continue to encourage and motivate the students to excel in their studies and social networks, and to always strive to reach their potential - personally, socially, and academically. Renovations and upkeep of the auditorium will advance, as we continue to bring additional motivating speakers, to inspire both the students and their parents.

**We extend our deepest appreciation to the Matanel Foundation for your support of the Mae Boyar High School. Your generosity allows us to offer the best possible education to some of Israel's most deserving and promising young adults.**

### Financial Report

#### Performing Arts at Boyar - Auditorium upkeep

| Project Expense               | Actual (in US\$) |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Stage Repairs                 | \$ 944           |
| General Maintenance           | \$ 2465          |
| A/C Maintenance               | \$ 6,655         |
| <b>Total Project Expenses</b> | <b>\$ 10,064</b> |
| Project Income                |                  |
| Matanel Foundation            | \$10,000         |
| SAE                           | \$64             |
| <b>Total Project Income</b>   | <b>\$ 10,064</b> |

#### Scholarship Assistance

| Project Expense                  | Details                            | Cost in NIS    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Matanel Scholarships             | 500NIS x 20 students               | 10,000         |
| Other Scholarships               | 50 students assisted in total      | 192,737        |
| <b>Total Project Expenses</b>    |                                    | <b>202,737</b> |
| Project Income                   |                                    |                |
| Matanel Foundation               | Scholarships: 500NIS x 20 students | 10,000         |
| Marmamet (Ministry of Education) |                                    | 71,770         |
| SAE                              | Social Aid for 50 students         | 120,967        |
| <b>Total Project Income</b>      |                                    | <b>202,737</b> |



**Boyar Students who received Matanel Scholarships (CONFIDENTIAL)**

|    |                       |            |
|----|-----------------------|------------|
| 1  | Hodaya Vandemu        | 7th Grade  |
| 2  | Avigail Vandemu       | 7th Grade  |
| 3  | Adam Vandemu          | 7th Grade  |
| 4  | Mika Nandeza          | 7th Grade  |
| 5  | Tamesgan Ashta        | 8th Grade  |
| 6  | Yasu Maharat          | 8th Grade  |
| 7  | Kami Kisling          | 8th Grade  |
| 8  | Shalev Amar           | 9th Grade  |
| 9  | Uri Miles             | 9th Grade  |
| 10 | Mali Rata             | 9th Grade  |
| 11 | Stav Ben Lulu         | 10th Grade |
| 12 | Nehorai Tamim         | 10th Grade |
| 13 | Anael Dvora Ittenberg | 11th Grade |
| 14 | Ariel Zalvinsky       | 11th Grade |
| 15 | Helen Mologeta        | 11th Grade |
| 16 | Ron Miles             | 11th Grade |
| 17 | Noam Maldav           | 12th Grade |
| 18 | Nofar Dvir            | 12th Grade |
| 19 | Mai Mina              | 12th Grade |
| 20 | Matan Peleg           | 12th Grade |