



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. Due to unexpected unavailability of finances, the original plans for overall renovations of the Boyar Auditorium were suspended until new funding is secured. Following approval from the Matanel Foundation, via Ami Bouganim, we transferred the Matanel funds to the ongoing upkeep of the Auditorium. The following activity report describes how the funds were used to support scholarships for 20 deserving students from 7th through 12th grades. In addition, your support allowed us to begin work on much-needed renovations of the school auditorium.

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.

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.



Performing arts at Boyar – The Auditorium

Thanks to the Matanel Foundation, Boyar High School was able to begin work on the necessary upkeep and renovations 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 renovations we are making will improve 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 stage, which was broken and unsafe
- Repairs to the piano, which is used in many Boyar performances
- General maintenance of the auditorium, such as painting, window repairs, and plumbing
- Maintenance of the air conditioning system

A number of special events took place in the school auditorium during the 2015 – 2016 academic year, including various speakers who gave inspirational talks to the students. One such speaker was Ms. Ami Flamour, a Boyar alumna who is now Director General of the Israeli Ministry of Justice. She spoke to the girls about opportunities and challenges for women working in the public sector. The girls were extremely inspired by Ms. Flamour, particularly knowing that she was a Boyar graduate. 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.

During the spring months, the 11th and 12th grade theater classes held performances for their classmates as well as friends and families. Some of this year's plays included "Izrael Journal", "Concerta for Eight", "Accidental Death of an Anarchist", "With a Smile and a Gun", and more.

Boyar students spend some of their time during 11th grade discussing different issues of identity: personal, communal, civic, state, and national. At the end of the year, they received their Israeli ID cards in a special ceremony held in the school auditorium, attended by MK Rachel Azaria.

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, we were able to provide 20 deserving students with scholarships of 500 shekels each. Boyar's principal, together with the Subsidies Subcommittee of the Parents and Teachers Association, determined the students who have shown the most progress in their studies and were in need of the assistance. Below are three of Boyar's students who benefitted from the scholarships.



Shalev entered Boyar in the seventh grade, and received her scholarship the following year. Her family is going through bankruptcy proceedings and they have had to sell their home. In addition, her father is unable to work, and her mother is the family's sole provider. Shalev is an excellent student who has consistently received high grades. She is also very active socially with many friends. More than pushing herself to succeed, Shalev makes a great effort to encourage others to always do their best and to believe in themselves.

Mai joined Boyar in ninth grade. Her parents are in the middle of a divorce and have very high expenses. Throughout the years, she has always been a positive figure demonstrating motivation to learn and investing a lot of her time to reach high achievements. In the last year, we have seen an increase in her motivation which is reflected both in educational and social aspects. She volunteered to organize large projects for the entire grade and has become a prominent figure in her grade. She gives her all when organizing the various events, and all this while maintaining her academic achievements. Mai also knows to seek assistance in subjects that she is struggling with, something that she did not do before. The ability to ask for assistance is very significant for her and advances her toward a more significant success. Her significant improvement is also seen in her taking initiative and in her prominent social doing at school.

Ariel came to Boyar at the beginning of 10th grade from "ORT Minkoff". He is a quiet and sensitive boy, and it took him a while to find his place in the class. He showed little interest in social and educational activities, mainly focused on his studies and coping with stress involved with the transition from middle school to high school. Since joining Boyar, Ariel has gone through an exciting process. He opened up to his peers and decided to join the annual class trip, which was not an obvious choice and it required him to make an effort and show the will to cope with the challenges. The trip turned out to be a very positive experience for him. In addition, Ariel works and develops methods for coping with stress, which positively affects his entire experience in the school and in particular on coping with exams. This process led him to have an impressive term report. Ariel is an example of a student who went through a social process that has influenced the way he learns, and he has also experiencing successes both scholastically and socially.

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

No changes are planned at this time. 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
Stage Repairs	\$ 585
Piano Repairs	\$ 1,100
General Maintenance	\$ 3,800
A/C Maintenance	\$ 4,600
Total Project Expenses	\$ 10,085
Income	
Matanel Foundation	\$ 10,000
SAE	\$ 85
Total Project Income	\$ 10,085

Scholarship Assistance

Project Expense	Details	Cost in NIS
Matanel Scholarships	500NIS x 20 students	10,000
Additional SAE Scholarships	57 students assisted in total	97,348
Total Project Expenses		107,348
Project Income		
Matanel Foundation	Scholarships: 500NIS x 20 students = 10,000 NIS	10,000
SAE	Scholarships for 57 students = amount varying	97,348
Total Project Income		107,348



Boyar Students who received Matanel Scholarships (CONFIDENTIAL)

1	Noam Rosen	7th Grade
2	David Bizonach-Dweit	7th Grade
3	Kami Kisling	8th Grade
4	Yasu Maharat	8th Grade
5	Atasha Tamasgan	8th Grade
6	Guy Nuvo	8th Grade
7	Mali Rata	9th Grade
8	Shalev Amar	9th Grade
9	Stav Ben Lulu	10th Grade
10	Tamim Nehorai	10th Grade
11	Hadas Shabtai	11th Grade
12	Ariel Zalvinsky	11th Grade
13	Anael Dvora Ittenberg	11th Grade
14	Amit Swisa	11th Grade
15	Erez Daniel	11th Grade
16	Ron Miles	11th Grade
17	Nofar Dvir	12th Grade
18	Matan Peleg	12th Grade
19	Mai Mina	12th Grade
20	Noam Baldav	12th Grade