

3/11/2019

MATANEL FOUNDATION activity report 2019

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

**Program: Summer Youth University,
Tel Aviv Youth University**



Year: 2019

Please present your activity report according to the following lines. The whole rapport will not exceed 2 or 3 pages (as word document).

Name of the Program: Summer Youth University

Year of activity: 2019

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Number of active participants in the program: 44 (note that in the financial report we note 47 students due to withdrawal of 3 students in the first day) .

Estimated number of impacted participants: 44

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

Introduction

The University of Tel Aviv ran, for the 19th year, its "Summer Youth University". The program is attended each year by exceptional high-school students who have successfully completed grades 10 and 11. Program participants from a lower socioeconomic status, who

demonstrate a high potential for excellence in their studies, are identified with the help of high school headmasters from population centres in Israel's social and geographical periphery: religious alongside secular, Jewish alongside Arab, new immigrants alongside veteran inhabitants.

The young students live in boarding conditions and return home during weekends. Daily activities last from morning till evening, and include participation in academic courses, study and reinforcement groups, learning skills, reading and writing in English, social and cultural activities etc. Pupils can choose from a variety of different courses from the Humanities and Social Sciences Faculties: psychology, political thought, sociology, development psychology, Animal Cognition etc. Personal tutors, themselves graduates from the program, guide the pupils and assist them in handling their study material through the development and strengthening of learning skills and personal empowerment.

The students, all first-generation in higher education, arrived from across the country – Or Akiva, Eilat, Amirim, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Bustan HaGalil, Bueina Nujidat, Bir Hadj, Daliyat al-Karmel, Daburiyeh, Deir Hanna, Dir AlAsad, Hadera, Haifa, Yanuh-Jat, Yarkah, Yeruham, Jerusalem, Karmiel, Mitzpe Ramon, Majd Elkrum, Ma'a lot, Nahariya, Nazareth Illit, Uza, Ozem, Afula, Furadis, Kiryat Arba, Kiryat Bialik and Kiryat Gat, Kiryat anavim, Shlomi and Talmey Yafe.

The students have successfully passed 3 academic exams. In addition to the academic courses, they took a course in Academic Literacy, in which they practiced academic skills such as: lecture notes, searching, reading articles and summarising them, academic writing, examination skills etc. The course aimed at offering the pupils the academic skills they will require in order to succeed in their academic courses.

Students collected academic credits they can use when applying for university studies in the future. Credits may also be converted, while in high school, for relevant matriculation examinations (In Hebrew "Academia Ba'Thichon).

Alongside their academic studies, students experienced and participated in a social project as well as social and cultural activities. (Detailed below).

We should note that the group of students in the program was diverse. They came from various locations around the country, from a variety of religions and cultures, different sectors and ethnic groups and origins. Through the program they learned to develop tolerance and patience and formed ties of friendship. Having mutual goals and working together in teams bonded the students and enabled them to put aside their disputes and differences.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.):

Significant achievements:

Academic: participants in the program are excellent students from the periphery, undergoing their first academic engagement. A successful academic experience in the program is significant to their future journey. Taking part in challenges and withstanding them served to strengthen their self-image and sense of competency. We are delighted to list the high-average results achieved by pupils in the program during the current semester. We would like to believe that experiencing their own success was an empowering experience, and that many of these pupils would set their future aspirations higher, as they continue to improve their achievements, both in school and in their personal lives. Here is the table of results:

Scholarly achievements summary table:

Course Name	Average
Introduction to political thought	88
Introduction to Psychology	82
Introduction to Sociology	90
Development Psychology	83
Animal Cognition	78

Socially - a mutual project with the European Union, aimed at incorporating the youth in decision making processes.

WYRED Project crosses borders and forms part the European Union's Horizon 2020 Fund, which is set to incorporate the youth in decision-making processes related to the society of the future. As part of this project, the youth are required to investigate and observe issues that they believe would influence the future of society in coming decades, and act in order for these issues to receive public response, as it is held that decision-makers should listen to the voice of the youth while setting out to make decisions that would influence their future, and within an overall practice of involving the public in the decision-making process, through the encouragement of active, aware and influential citizenship.

In Israel, the Unit for Technology and Society Foresight at Tel Aviv University chose to run the project in partnership with Tel Aviv Youth University, the Unit for Science Oriented Youth, as part of the Summer Youth University project. Students took part in lectures and excursions that exposed them to various facets of Israeli society. Final group projects dealt with divisive and unifying issues in Israeli society, such as the four tribes, acceptance of the different, racism and social gaps.

Additional Events: Enrichment lectures: Students attended lectures aimed to form a close and direct acquaintance of issues that could affect the society of the future. Among the lectures

- **Dr. Ahron Hauptman**- Forecasting and prediction- the worst case scenario.

- **Lior Tal** - "The Israeli Tribes", in the spirit of a speech by the State President.
- **Liat from "The Natural Step"**- sustainability and reduction of food waste in the modern world.
- **Lilach Gadol**- Activism- the first step.

Excursions and a show:

Excursion 1 - Art and Protest - graffiti excursion in Florentin.

Excursion 2 - Social Gaps - an excursion in Tel Aviv, from Rotschild Boulevard to the southern part of the city.

Excursion 3 – Internet and technology- visiting in the Mako HQ, introduction to the impact of the internet on our society.

Excursion 4 – Dialog in the Dark, an introduction to the world of people with disabilities.

Theatre production in Beit Lessin: "Oyev Ha'zibur" ("the public enemy").

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...):

Evaluation and results:

1. Scores in academic exams - all the pupils who participated in the program have successfully passed their academic exams and took part in the literacy course, as well as in a related course in English or in Research Methods.
2. The average score in the academic examinations is: 84
3. Pupil feedback indicates a high level of satisfaction from the program. Appendix 2.
4. A number of pupils from the program will be integrated in the current year of study in follow-up courses, indicating the high motivation among pupils to continue developing the learning skills and build on achievements attained during the summer.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

Conclusions for further action:

1. Next year, we will continue to run the social project in partnership with the European Union. The project encouraged pupils to develop creative and independent thinking, and to develop various significant outcomes.
2. A proposal to hold a follow-up project during the second semester for pupils who took part in the summer project.

Timetable for next year:

1. Interviews for the training team - January - February 2020
2. Registration for pupils in the Summer Program תש"פ opens - March 2020
3. Entrance examinations - March - May 2020
4. Orientation Day for students who are accepted to the program- June 2020
5. Study at Summer semester opens - July 2020

Please join the Evaluation Report, the Financial Report and the list of the participants to the program (as PDF documents)- please see attached Appendix 1 + Appendix 2

Please join photos – as JPG files – and any link or any other document connected to the program which will seem to you relevant – as PDF document.

Please join a 5 minutes movie which presents your institution and the particular project supported by the Matanel Foundation. The movie should be accessible to the philanthropic world and to other potential donors.

Please see below two movies which are the products/ outcomes of the WYRED Project

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40-qyuh6h4Q&feature=youtu.be> Racism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWNjKPceJcE&feature=youtu.be> Bridging between the

Four Tribes