

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program: "Night Birds - Piyut and Reflections"

Year: 2025-6

Name of the Program: "Night Birds - Piyut and Reflections"

Year of activity: 2025-6

Name of the report's writer: Yair Harel

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Number of active participants in the program:

Approximately 360,000 cumulative listeners (average of 15,000 listeners per program, including live broadcast audiences and digital platforms such as Spotify).

Additional programs – before Yom Kippur + Rosh Hashanah – 300,000

Estimated number of impacted participants:

Approximately 660,000.

Current state of the program:

Between March 2025 and February 2026, we completed 24 episodes of the program. All episodes are available on the Piyut website + Spotify alongside programs from previous years. Thanks to the support of the Matanel Foundation, this season featured prominent guests from the fields of music, culture, and philosophy in Israeli society, expanding both the scope and character of the program. We aspire to continue toward an additional season.

Main achievements during the last year:

The program is broadcast regularly every two weeks and enjoys a strong reputation on Galei Tzahal radio. During the reporting period, 24 programs were broadcast, featuring more than 30 distinguished guests.

Among the guests were Tom Cohen (Musical Director of the East–West Orchestra), Prof. Meir Buzaglo, Prof. Haviva Pedaya, Elad Levi (Musical Director of the Andalusian Orchestra), singer Riff Cohen, poet Yonadav Kaplon, poet Rivka Miriam, musician Yagel Harush.

As a testament to the program's reputation, we were invited to produce a special two-hour broadcast on the eve of Yom Kippur, aired during peak listening hours.

In addition, a special program commemorating the great Yemenite paytan Aharon Amram, recorded together with his three sons and successors, was selected for additional rebroadcast on Rosh Hashanah.

Evaluation:

The program demonstrates a broad and diverse range of guests, strong audience engagement, and wide dissemination. Listener feedback has been consistently positive.

The Program is well known in the musical and cultural field. Many ask to be invited as guests. All those we approached were glad to take part.

Several episodes were selected for additional rebroadcast in prime time, reflecting their cultural and artistic impact.

The Station is interested that the program will continue and grow to a weekly broadcast.

Provisional guidelines for next year:

Galei Tzahal has expressed interest in continuing the program for another year.

We intend to apply for an additional grant from the Matanel Foundation.

Meanwhile In order to maintain continuity, we plan to broadcast one new program per month, followed by a rebroadcast in the subsequent week.

Attached materials:

Evaluation Report, Financial Report, and participant list (PDF).

Photos (JPG) and additional relevant documents (PDF).

A five-minute film presenting the institution and the Matanel-supported project:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rk5r-fbZKrY&t=2s>