

Report on Brincat IASA Summer Camp July, 2023



On Sunday, June 25th, 79 boys and girls from across Israel embarked on an enriching journey at IASA's Brincat summer camp. These exceptional students, hailing from diverse backgrounds, were about to experience a week filled with learning, personal growth, and unforgettable memories. After tearful goodbyes at the end of the week, they head home with new skills in their heads and the physical projects they completed over the week in their hands—evidence of an intensive, highly rewarding experience. Since it began, the Brincat Summer Camp has been a transformative experience for those who

attend, extending ICEE-IASA's Mission of Educational excellence to every corner of the country this summer's students came from.

EDUCATIONAL TRACKS

Building upon the success of previous years, this year's camp offered four educational tracks: Music, Art, Science, and Humanities. Each track provided a unique and immersive experience for the campers, allowing them to delve deeper into their chosen field of interest than they are able to during the entire year at their schools. With the full range of resources available at IASA, the campers are able to have experiences that leave a lasting and indelible impression.

Music Track

Under the guidance of Yisrael Sharon, director of IASA's Music Department during the school year, students in the Music track embarked on a collaborative and expansive musical journey. Under Sharon's supervision and the help of our music counselors, the participants honed their performance skills, delved into music theory, developed their ear training and musical perception, explored music history, and ventured into composition. The grand finale came in the form of an exceptional graduation concert, where the students showcased their remarkable talents after one week of intensive training together.



Art Track

For many campers in the Art track, their time in IASA's well-equipped studio workshops is their first time in such a thoroughly equipped, quality space to create art. From brush and ink to lithography, block printing, sculpture, and multimedia, they had the opportunity to explore a rich variety of artistic mediums, immersing themselves in the world of visual arts. Throughout the week, they engaged in hands-on activities, learned about art history, and undertook various projects. At the closing exhibition where their works were displayed, each camper was able to present their creations to the entire camp community— a celebration of their individuality and creativity.



Science Track

A few years ago, the Science Department decided that the best way to run the Science track at Brincat Summer Camp was to divide the Science program into two tracks- Geochemistry and Physics.

Through a series of guided and self-driven experimentations over the course of the week, students in the **Geochemistry track** delved into the intriguing processes that shaped our planet millions of years ago. Through hands-on experiments, they investigated the composition of rocks and soils, uncovering the formation of seas and continents, and gained a better understanding of the underlying scientific principles while exploring the ever-evolving chemical processes of the Earth.



Meanwhile, the campers in **Physics track** engaged with mathematics and physical sciences in unique and creative ways that conventional Physics education during the school year tends to shy away from. To expand the campers' understanding of mathematical principles, they constructed basic formulas and investigated the behavior of objects in space through interactive and self-guided experiments. The course

incorporated engaging demonstrations, experiments, challenges, and model-building, providing a comprehensive understanding of various physical phenomena ingrained into the friendship and camaraderie so important to making the summer camp experience.

Humanities Track

The Humanities track focused on exploring literature, history, and culture, with this year's theme dedicated to fiction and fantasy. Students delved into different works, engaged in critical analysis, and crafted their own



writings in the genre. The Brincat Camp system promotes creativity through collaboration, where students are encouraged to share and give helpful critiques on each other's works. By learning how others see their work, campers develop an eye for how to write for an

audience. From imaginative narratives to thought-provoking analyses, their written works culminated in a booklet that they proudly took home at the end of the camp.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to the educational tracks, the camp emphasized social connections and enjoyable experiences. After mornings of creation, collaboration, and creativity, afternoons were dedicated to social and cultural activities. This year, the students visited the Biblical Zoo in Jerusalem, explored the Yehoshua Gardens in Tel Aviv, and participated in team challenges and outdoor adventures. These activities fostered bonding among the campers, allowing them to create lasting memories and form friendships that extend far beyond the week at IASA.



Testimonials

The success of the 2023 Brincat IASA Summer Camp is best reflected in the testimonials of those who experienced it. The following are actual WhatsApp messages we received from our campers' parents at the end of the week:

“Our daughter stepped out of the car and exclaimed, “This has been the best week of my entire life!” What more could we ask for? Thank you so much to the entire team of instructors for your dedication, investment, and the immense fun you provided for the children. She had a truly wonderful time with everyone she met, forming friendships that we hope will last! She found the studies intriguing, and the week was filled with enjoyment and interest from morning till night. It's so fantastic that she starts her summer vacation this way. Thank you very, very much, and may your efforts continue to be successful.”



“Thank you so much for the quality time you spent with our wonderful kids. Leah came back bright and happy, and all week she couldn’t stop talking about how she found herself in a place that is completely her own.”

“Our daughter had an exciting and empowering week at the summer camp. From the very first day, she called us to share her joy and enthusiasm with every moment and every activity... She returned home excited and happy. There’s no doubt that the summer camp dedicated time and thought to all the content and the daily schedule, and for that, we extend a big thank you from the bottom of our hearts!”

“...Thank you for the special experience of Brincat Camp at IASA. Unfortunately, we are parting ways after 8 cycles of camps, but perhaps we will meet again with our grandchildren... Continue on your path, continue with the camps that are so invested in content and joy. You and your team have done such a wonderful job.”

“We also wanted to join in with our thanks and compliments. Michael went for a whole week without Mom and Dad for the first time. [...] He thoroughly enjoyed the company of the children and the social activities. It’s obvious that the dedicated learning he experienced pushed him to invest in himself and challenge himself at every moment. We didn’t expect so much from just one week... a dedicated, interesting, challenging, and amazingly organized week. What can we say? Many, many thanks.”

“As the mother of a pianist, I want to express my gratitude. For us, it was a very different experience, and we had many concerns. [We come from] a religious kibbutz, we worried what it would be like for our daughter in an unfamiliar social setting. This is not her usual crowd at all... [But] she returned with excitement, with new friends who have already become true friends, including hugs and tears of farewell. So, I thank you for providing her with a place where she can be herself.”

Acknowledgments:

We extend our appreciation to Ofer and the entire team of instructors for their dedication, investment, and commitment to providing a quality and enjoyable experience for the campers. Their efforts and the exceptional environment they created are what made the camp such a resounding success.



ON BEHALF OF THE EDUCATORS AND CAMPERS:

***Thank you to the Brincat Family for an amazing week
at IASA!***

***Your generosity has allowed ICEE-IASA to reach
children who wouldn't otherwise have such a unique,
and inspiring educational experience!***