



FALL 2022 SEMESTER
YEAR END REPORT
(January 2023)

With another exciting and enlightening semester “in the books”, IASA students celebrated the New Year by returning to campus eager to build upon their fruits of labor from their studies throughout the Fall semester.

Within each department of study, students are imbued with the best educators Israel has to offer: they learn from our staff, experts in various fields, and from each other - pushing their creative and intellectual boundaries. Here is an update from each department, alumni, and a preview of the coming semester.

Department of Science:

This year, we welcomed 45 students to the Science department in the 34th cohort of IASA. Over the next few months, they will choose their specialization within the department. To help the incoming students make this big decision, 11th and 12th grade students from the Science department organized Physics, Chemistry, and Biology “days” for the entire school. In Chemistry, for instance, an event showcasing 11th graders projects had students examining the properties of plaster, making plastic out of milk, and dying fabrics using turmeric and hardened glass through a chemical process. At the end of the evening, students Yotam Berliner and Nir Lindenberg were awarded a prize for excellence in laboratory work. Besides the applied creativity and leadership skills for the upper classes, the 9th and 10th graders had an opportunity to talk with the older students about their majors, figuring out exactly which department best suits them. Thus far, 26 students chose Computer Science, and 11 students from the Humanities Department chose Science as their minor.



An exciting addition this year was the Department of Computational Science (DCS). With Israel's flourishing hi-tech industry and IASA's top tier education, we aim to give students a foot-in-the-door to become leaders in one of the biggest and fastest growing sectors of Israel's start-up economy. Eighteen students have already chosen DCS as their major!

Art, Music and Humanities Departments

Students of these departments work toward their individual "Final Project", which is the culmination of their academic, theory and experiential learning experiences at IASA. With the help of staff advisors, they create a piece in the field of their choice showing the world what they learned and where they hope to go.

Since the start of the Fall semester, the 12th grade students have been working with their advisors on their Final Projects. Devoting between 2-4 hours each day, senior students have been developing the theory for what their project will look like. They are now finishing the planning stage and will move into application later this month. Every year, we are amazed by the unique perspective each student brings. This year is shaping up to be no different. We look forward to updating you as they complete their projects!

The Humanities Department said goodbye to 18 visiting students from Katedrála High School in the Czech Republic who participated in our annual Humanities exchange program. Our first such visit since Corona, the two classes toured the Musrara neighborhood together, home of the famous Naggar School of Art and Society where they learned about the intersection between Art and social protest, walked the Arugot River by the Dead Sea and enjoyed day trips in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. IASA Humanities students will visit the Czech Republic this Spring.

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Alumni Spotlight: Yonatan Gideoni Chosen as 2023 Israel Rhodes Scholar

Annually, two scholars from Israel are chosen to study at Oxford University through its distinguished Rhodes Scholarship. We are proud to tell you that one of our very own graduates, Yonatan Gideoni (Class of 2019), was chosen this year for his pioneering work in artificial intelligence! Yonathan also teaches physics and computing IASA and his passion for teaching these subjects sent ripples through the entire school. Through his experience working on autonomous vehicles at Mobileye, he volunteered and mentored our students in Robotics competitions. We are proud of Yonatan for this amazing achievement and wish him best of luck in his studies!

Special Lectures and Field Trips

Every year each department at IASA arranges a series of trips, lectures, and experiences in the field for its students that takes their learning beyond the classroom. We aim for trips that will engage students at their age level while showing them the extensive possibilities in their field.

Science students have a lecture and tour series hosted in cooperation with The Van Leer Institute and the Israel Academy of Science in Jerusalem, where they will see the thriving Tech and Science industries within Jerusalem. This year's highlight, however, is still to come, with 12th Graders scheduled to take a senior trip to visit the CERN Particle Accelerator in Geneva, Switzerland. A capstone on the IASA experience for years, this trip has been on hold since Corona. We are thrilled to be able to resume this important milestone!

Art Department: hands-on experiential learning experiences are one of the best ways students develop creatively beyond the classroom. So far this year, we have taken our students to two of Israel's artistic centers, representing the radically different paths available to students: The Israel Museum in Jerusalem,



where students saw some of the greatest art from Israel and around the world on a special guided tour and *HaMiffal* ('The Factory') a work- and event space for artists in central Jerusalem. There, students met IASA Alumni pushing the boundaries of contemporary Israeli Art. Students also visited Beit Hansen, Beit HaOmanim (The Artists' House) and the Barbour Gallery in Tel Aviv. For the next semester, we will be visiting The Tel Aviv Museum of Art, as well as hosting lectures from professionals in a variety of artistic fields.

Students in the Music department have been especially fortunate this quarter. Already this year, they have taken trips to the Israel Museum, The Jerusalem Piano Festival, and The Jerusalem Music Festival, where we met with IASA graduate Uriel Herman (2022), who performed a piece derived from his senior project. For the coming semester, a trip they are looking forward to is a visit to The Tel Aviv Opera House, where students will see a performance of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.

Tours were also a staple of IASA's Middle School this year, whose 9th grade students visited Jerusalem's historic Nakhlaoth neighborhood and Mahane Yehuda Market to learn about urban renewal. Students also visited the Rehavia neighborhood to learn about key figures in the establishment of Israeli politics in the formative years of the State, including the barracks of the second Israeli president Yitzhak Ben Zvi. Seventh grade students took trips to the Science Museum and the Kiryat Yuval and Kiryat Menachem neighborhoods to learn about the new immigrant communities in the neighborhood.

The faculty of IASA and its students have accomplished so much in these past months. We look forward to sharing more student and alumni accomplishments during the coming year.