

Israel Center for Excellence through Education (ICEE)
Israel Arts and Science Academy (IASA-HS)
Mid-Year Report - January, 2018

Home for the Weekend!

IASA students are a diverse crew with many different opinions, but there's one thing they all agree on: IASA is home! As is the tradition, last year's graduates returned to the dorms for the fall Alumni Shabbaton. Almost the entire 2017 graduating class got leave from the army or their National Service programs and came back to IASA for Friday night dinner and activities throughout Shabbat—a true taste of home!



Community Library

What do you do when you've finished an amazing book and want to share it with all your friends? Put it in the community library! IASA students built an open give-and-take library and filled it up in no time with books donated from their own bookshelves. Students in search of a reading adventure can drop in to find a new book, and neglected books find new readers! All in a cozy corner of the dorms.



Crown Community Service Program

Community Service has always been an integral part of the unique IASA life. Exciting new programs this year include:

WIZO Women's Shelter: Students provide emotional support to children of abused women who have fled their homes. They engage them in play and creative activities.

Israel Free Loan Association (IFLA): We were very excited when an IASA graduate working with the IFLA reached out to us to ask for current students to volunteer. It is

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great to see how IASA alumni are integrating the community service values learned at IASA into their lives and continue to view IASA as a driving force of social action.

Sexual Abuse Crisis Center: Sexual abuse is a severely under-addressed problem, especially in disadvantaged populations. In this exciting new program, IASA students are working together with students from across Israel to provide peer-to-peer awareness and support programs for students in underserved schools.

Music Department

IASA Alumnus Wins 1st Place at MozARTè Competition in Aachen, Germany



IASA graduate 22-year-old Almog Segal won 1st Place and Audience Favorite prizes at the 13th annual MozARTè piano competition in Aachen, Germany. We are proud of our rising star on the Israeli and international classical music scene.

IASA Students Perform with the Acclaimed Meitar Ensemble

We are looking forward to a very special event in February: IASA students Avishai Haas and Ido Gal will perform with the Meitar Ensemble in a concert at Kibbutz Sde Boker. The Meitar Ensemble is internationally acclaimed and has recently returned from tours in Canada, Romania and Germany.

The IASA Strings Ensemble

We are very proud to introduce IASA's new Strings Ensemble. The Ensemble performed compositions by IASA students at its inaugural performance: a ceremony in memory of Raphi Amram who, along with Mary Jane and Bob Asher, founded IASA. The Ensemble also performed a concert for IASA's Middle School. It is wonderful that the Middle School students already see the high school students as role models.

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Art Department

The big news in the Art Department is that the 12th-grade students are celebrating completing their Final Projects!



This year's fascinating subjects include:

- Iranian Resistance Art
- Depictions of Witches: Middle Ages to the Current Day
- The Unique Nature of Dance Photography
- Mother-Daughter Relationships through Art

Humanities Department

Trip to the Judean Desert

11th-grade students studying The Three Great Monotheisms toured a monastery in the Judean desert and learned about Chariton the Confessor and the Byzantine desert monastics.



Visit from Prague

For the 4th year running, IASA is participating in a cultural exchange with students from the Archbishop Grammar School in Prague. 12th-grade IASA students and their guests visited a synagogue and a church together, toured the Old City of Jerusalem, read Czech literature, visited Tel Aviv, and developed cross-cultural bonds. IASA students look forward to their week in Prague in the spring.

Science Department

Chemicasino

11th-grade chemistry students organized a gala casino night with a twist—all the “betting” was on the results of science experiments. That’s the IASA way—a fusion of fun and learning.



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Visiting Lecturers

IASA believes that young learners need access to the wisdom of experts. Recently, our students enjoyed the following lectures, followed by in-depth discussions:

Dr. Shuguang Zhang, MIT: Curiosity-driven research Leads to New Knowledge-based Economies

Prof. Eran Meshorer, Hebrew University: Stem Cells and Neurogenerative Disorders

Prof. Yossi Matias, VP Engineering at Google and Prof. Aaron Chanover winner of Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Technion: Engineering and Technology in the Age of Megacompanies

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The Ramon Space Olympiad: Space and Astronomy Research Competition

We are entering Stage 3 of the space competitions ICEE operates for the Ministry of Science and Technology, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Ilan Ramon Foundation. The elementary and middle school competitions expose students to complex subjects in astronomy and space exploration. In each competition, participants from over 200 schools compete in a five-stage process which includes solving puzzles, completing online tasks, planning and carrying out activities in their communities, and building 3-D models.



This report is a small snapshot of a few of the activities that have taken place during the first half of this school year. IASA continues on its path of raising its level higher and higher. IASA always was an excellent, even outstanding school. Today it offers an unparalleled educational experience to Israel's brightest and highly motivated young people.

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