

iEARN Centre
Pakistan

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Society for International Education

newsletter
Jan - March 2015



SIE-Access Award Ceremonies



200 newly enrolled Access students along with 100 Access alumni passionately participated in the Award Ceremony of English Access Microscholarship Program Karachi – Hyderabad (2014-16) on 24th February 2015 held in Hyderabad.

Access students, Access alumni and teachers shared their enriching experiences with the audience during the event. Farah Kamal, General Secretary of Society for International Education (SIE) gave a brief overview of the program and welcomed the newly enrolled students to this fabulous learning opportunity. Brain Heath, Consul General, US Consulate General, Karachi was the Chief Guest. In his speech, he warmly welcomed the Access teachers, students and alumni to this wonderful program. The highlighting feature of this ceremony was the musical concert of "Mary McBride Band" arranged by the US Consulate General, Karachi. Not only students made the best out of the concert but also adults including the schools' management had the best fun ever. 1000 Access students participated enthusiastically in the opening ceremony of English Access Microscholarship Program Karachi and Karachi – Hyderabad (2014-16) on January 10 and 24, 2015.

During the event Access students, Access alumni and teachers shared their enriching experiences in their speeches with the audience. Farah Kamal, General Secretary of Society for International Education (SIE) gave a brief overview of the program and welcomed the newly enrolled students to this fabulous learning opportunity. She thanked the U.S. Embassy, Islamabad and U.S. Consulate General, Karachi for funding and supporting the Access Program. She also shared exciting moments of the Access program through a video.

Brain Heath, Consul General, U.S. Consulate General, Karachi was the Chief Guest. In his speech, he warmly welcomed the Access teachers, students and parents to this wonderful program. Mr. Heath also awarded certificates to the Access students for receiving the English Access Microscholarship. Rest of the guests from the U.S. Consulate General, Karachi included Mr. Mark Kendrick, Public Affairs Officer, Ms. Priscilla Guzman, Cultural Attaché & Ms. Aisha Amanullah, English Programs Coordinator. They all were pleased to meet the Access students and teachers and wished them good luck for future endeavors.

Message from I AM KARACHI

I AM KARACHI is a socio-cultural peace campaign that inculcates hope, pride and ownership in the citizens of Karachi to collectively strive for a peaceful city. The three main objectives of the Campaign entail reclaiming public spaces, bringing civil society together and enhancing public awareness and advocacy. Since the campaign's inception, Society for International Education has played a prominent role in promotion and coordination of I AM KARACHI. SIE has successfully helped the campaign achieve a presence on social media which includes Facebook, twitter and instagram, continuously engaging audiences while disseminating information about the campaign. On ground, SIE has provided effectual logistical support at I AM KARACHI activities, managing the campaign stall and information booths while dealing with incoming queries, distributing campaign merchandise and making audio and video bites overall making campaign activities fun and engaging attracting more and more individuals to support the campaign. Examples of such activities are the Karachi Literature Festival, the Children's Literature Festival, the NAPA International Theater Festival and many more where SIE by its efforts successfully created buzz about I AM KARACHI amongst attending audiences.

Wajiha Naqvi
Campaign Manager,
I AM KARACHI

*"Educational Technology isn't about things better,
its about doing things better" ~ Anonymous*



World-Wide Instameet 11 Karachi

Since the earliest days of Instagram, people have been meeting up to connect, take photos together and inspire one another. These real-world meetups, which come in all sizes, are known as InstaMeets. In the past year, there have been more than 1,000 Instagram Meetups in over 70 countries. The 11th Worldwide InstaMeet took place on the weekend of March 21-22, 2015 and I Am Karachi campaign organized the official Karachi meetup on 21st.

More than 80 Instagram photographers and enthusiasts joined their creative hands and to use their cameras and smartphones to take photos of the National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA – formerly Hindu Gymkhana) building in Saddar Town, Karachi. Visually-rich, the NAPA building was able to keep the creative instagrammers interested and intrigued for hours.

The main goal was to bring people who can share love and curiosity for Instagram in Karachi. This ensured that anybody who wanted to take part in our initiative felt included. Indeed people found it a meaningful place in the meeting we organized for portraying Karachi on global event and promoted



the main gist of I AM KARACHI campaign by reclaiming public spaces.

The event was announced through various social media platforms using “infograms” which included all basic information about the event. People signed up using an online form. Instagram Headquarters sent the team some souvenirs for people who attended the event. These included name tags, tattoos, stickers, a balloon and a flag which were given to attendees. The team also got special Instagram frames made which the participants really loved.

SIE-Access Teacher Training of Module-2

42 Access Teachers and Coordinators of SIE-Access Karachi-Hyderabad and SIE-Access Karachi joined to participate in Teacher Training of Module-2 held on January 24, 2015. The training focused at revisiting American Headway series and sharing of Academic & Activities Calendar for Module 2.

Ms. Priscilla Guzman gave a brief talk to the participants. She appreciated SIE-Access teachers’ efforts and work by mentioning “This program will not only change lives but will bring great opportunities ahead. Access program is for the people and SIE-Team is doing great work by making it sure that under-served communities are benefitted. U.S. Consulate is always willing to help you all by providing various resources required and opportunities.”

During the training, discussion on activities pertaining to U.S. Culture and values were also made part of the agenda. This includes U.S. Holidays, U.S. History, U.S. Popular Culture, U.S. Education, Gender issues, Democracy, Ethnic Tolerance, Environment and Civil Society.

Access Alumni Training Workshop

26 Access students participated in the Access Alumni Training Workshop at iEARN Training Center. The training workshop was organized for those Access alumni who are already teaching English language to community-children in Access Alumni English Clubs. Access alumni Clubs are effectively functional at almost every Access center.

The training workshop focused on the following as the major components: 1. Orientation of the resources (ELT Books) provided by the US Consulate General, Karachi. 2. Sharing Scenes from Classrooms for Discussion and Analysis. 3. Tips & Guidelines for Teaching Efficiently. 4. Effective Use of Supplementary Resources.

In addition Access alumni were oriented on using online resources. They also explored Authentic Resources and ELT-games via www.americanenglish.state.gov.

By the end of the training, all participants were excited to conduct their classes as early as possible - as they were highly motivated and wanted to make the best use of the resources, activities and strategies learned.



iEARN and I...

I have been working with SIE since 2012. I started as social media officer for Youth Empowerment and Leadership Program; I am currently working as Digital Media officer



for Humans of Lyari, Photojournalism training program for underprivileged youth in Lyari. SIE has grown me not only as a professional but as a person too.

SIE has always encouraged its employees to experiment and learn new things. I have found new capabilities and potentials in myself while working in this organization. SIE has always incorporated new technologies in their project, and as an engineer this has always interest me.

I have been privileged to run the very first STEM based learning program at SIE in collaboration with Level Up Village, where elementary and middle school kids use technological tool to learn science, math and engineering. We have done 3D designing and printing course, Math and Minecraft, Mobile App Development, Global Chemist and Global Doctors classes.

Access Alumni as Change Makers

Many Access alumni at various centers are doing a remarkable job by running Access Alumni English language clubs. These alumni teach Basic English language to their community-children who are willing to learn English language.

Access alumni teach and assist learners to come out of their shells and make them learn English language as well. They even counsel and mentor the students of their clubs for their careers and further education. When the alumni were interviewed to ask what have they learned from this teaching experience so far. The enthusiasm among alumni is amazing! Not only they are enjoying by teaching new comers and struggling students, they are learning how to teach English and are also improving their English.

Many access alumni are teaching English at various schools in their communities. Some are also giving tutorials to students of different grades at their homes. They are bringing positive change in their communities which can be quite evidently observed. They all believe that “English is the Key” and by teaching English they can help every other person to prosper.

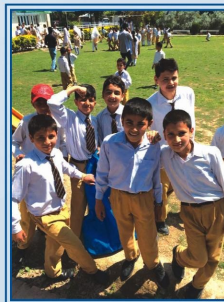
Plantation for a Healthy Environment

YES Alumni Umerkot along with set of volunteers spent a day long activity in a public place for a greener environment along with taking care of already planted plants and trees. This activity was conducted as their Global Youth Service Day 2015 celebration, which was the outcome of the session they conducted in the month of February: Youth Activism and importance of volunteerism.



Project Re-Educate Workshop

YES Alumni Peshawar conducted Project Re-Educate Workshop focusing on creating awareness about environment, child rights, time management, community service activities and cleanliness through various sessions and activities. The participant students were 35 from Peshawar Excellence School, Peshawar. In addition, the workshop also focused on personal development and grooming of the students in order to provide them with a platform to learn about innovative ways of giving back to their community.



US Summer Sisters Exchange Program 2015

iEARN Pakistan in collaboration with U.S. Pakistan Women's Council selected 12 dynamic girls nationwide for the 2nd year of U.S. Summer Sisters Exchange Program. The girls from Gilgit, Peshawar, Islamabad, Lahore, Rawalpindi, Bahawalpur, Larkana, Hyderabad and Karachi will be spending their summers in different short courses in the most prestigious universities of United States i.e. Harvard University, Babson College, Barnard College (University of Columbia), George Washington University, American University, Smith College and Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Center. This program will benefit the girls to develop their leadership skills, form lasting friendships, and learn how to become an entrepreneur or how launch a career in business, science, writing or international relations.

K-L YES – 13 (2015-16) Program YES Orientations

iEARN Pakistan, Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (K-L YES) program 2015-16, YES Orientations was conducted for 71 students and their parents in Islamabad on 10 March 2015 for Central, Punjab, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Azad Kashmir and Tribal Areas of Pakistan students. The same event was conducted for 37 students from Sindh and Balochistan and their parents in Karachi on 28th February, 2015.



The guests from US Embassy Islamabad, Ms. Angela Aggeler, Counselor for Public Affairs, Ms. Judith Ravin, Cultural Attaché and Mr. Jameson Debose, Foreign Service Officer Generalist were present at YES Orientation Islamabad. Ms. Angela Aggeler while talking to the parents emphasized on building the bridges between cultures and the importance of educational exchanges that help people understand each other. She congratulated the students on their selection as K-L YES participants and thanked the parents for their support to the children.

Ms. Li Ping Lo, Cultural Affairs Officer and Ms. Priscilla Guzman, Cultural Attache' US Consulate Karachi were the guests at YES Orientation in Karachi. Li Ping lo congratulated the students and thanked their parents on their support to the students and explained them the importance of being an exchange student.

K-L YES Students Workshops both in Karachi and Islamabad were conducted the next days of the YES Orientations to train K-L YES-13 students to participate in iEARN online collaborative projects and help students improve their English Language proficiency. Students were taught to use tools for iEARN online collaborative projects, English Language assignments, American Culture, Sports, US High Schools, Education, US History and Social media.

K-L YES Moments

Sanaullah Rabbani, a K-L YES student from Pakistan shares his experience speaking in a Placement Organization conference, "This Conference was a great learning experience for me. I was given with an opportunity to speak about Pakistan and it's amazing culture, people, traditions and what not. Meeting new people is always a great way to build connections. I answered a lot questions and cleared up some concerns of the Organization's Volunteers i.e., Host families, Local coordinators and staff regarding Pakistani Exchange Students. It was my utmost



pleasure to be a part of such a Conference."

Anosha Rahim from K-L YES Pakistan is currently an exchange student in Appleton, Wisconsin. She hosted a stall in International Fair and represented Pakistan. She shares her experience there as: "Set up a table (with the help of my host family) for Pakistan in the International Fair hosted by



Odyssey. It was an honor being the only one Pakistani representing Pakistan while other nationalities had groups of people representing their countries. Stamping people's passports and handing out food was fun. One man just came up to us and said he could smell the "chicken tikka" from across the whole gym and wants to have some."

iEARN Clubs Tech Lab in Schools

In March 2015, iEARN Pakistan team visited four iEARN Club Schools. These schools were selected for setting up iEARN Club Tech Lab as part of iEARN School Based Club Program. This tech lab is consists of latest technology equipment that includes:

- ♦ Intel Core i3 Desktop computer with Samsung LED 18.5" and all accessories
- ♦ Canon Digital Camera with pouch and 8GB SD card
- ♦ Tripod Stand

tech lab equipments will be kept in schools in easy reach of students, who can utilize them for iEARN/SIE project work and other project related activities.

iEARN Pakistan is planning to setup these Tech labs in more schools who are actively involved in iEARN Club activities.

The schools administration expressed their gratitude towards iEARN Pakistan's great effort in setting up iEARN club tech labs in these schools and to promote use of technology to connect teachers and students globally. They committed to move ahead with iEARN Pakistan and support them in future for the welfare and prosperity of their students.



Reach Out-Youth Volunteering and Community Service Training

iEARN Pakistan conducted a training titled 'Youth Volunteering and Community Service' on Saturday, 14th February, 2015 at iEARN Centre, Karachi. This workshop focused at training teachers for enhancing basic concepts of youth volunteering and community service. It also focused at explaining the difference between Community Service and Service Learning concepts, and understanding the need of integrating Service learning in school curriculum. Various project ideas were discussed and an introduction to GYSD (Global Youth Service Day) was also given and how teachers can engage students in these service learning activities.

Participants also got chance to explore iEARN collaboration centre and learn about community service projects carried out by youth in iEARN forums. Participants made a framework for service learning projects and planned to engage their youth in community service project activities once they go back to their schools.



iEARN Clubs Meeting

54 teachers from 33 schools in Karachi and Hyderabad gathered for iEARN Clubs meeting on Tuesday 10th March 2015. This 2-hour meeting was conducted at iEARN Centre Karachi for schools who are already running iEARN Clubs in their schools. Other iEARN schools who are planning to set up iEARN School based Clubs also attended the session. Purpose of this meeting was to share the updates and progress of iEARN project activities in schools, club structure in their schools and how it is running, projects selected/completed and successes and challenges faced. The participants shared their success stories and also shared their future plans.

Some upcoming project activities were discussed with teachers to engage their students in it. This includes iEARN Global Art Exhibition and celebration of GYSD 2015. They were also invited to participate and present their student work in SIE "Teaching Digital Natives" Conference that will be held in May 2015.

iEARN Pakistan took this initiative of forming iEARN Clubs in schools in 2010 and has been successful in establishing iEARN school based clubs in several schools in Karachi.

These lab equipments are for the use of students to get an easy access to iEARN online collaborative forums and become part of iEARN community and learn positive use of technology.



"Teaching Digital Natives –Reach me if you want to teach me..."

Society for International Education (SIE) as part of its ICT in education programs is hosting a day-long conference on 23rd May, 2015. This program would feature some of the ICT based projects that SIE has implemented in its partner schools. The aim of this conference is to equip participants with best practices of teaching and learning in the 21st century.

The partner schools will be given an opportunity to share their SIE project activities they have been doing in schools. Program will also have Media screening of Adobe Youth Voices final products and Gallery Exhibit of Photojournalism photographs.

During the conference workshops will be arranged for teachers and students to get introduced to cutting edge technology integration in education that can be implemented in their classrooms.

TEACHING THE DIGITAL NATIVES

MAY 23, 2015

Applications are Open!

Send your applications to alema@iearnpk.org

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A Project of Society for Int'l Education

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