

Society for International Education

NEWSLETTER

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2018

SIE participates in 2018 iEARN International Conference

SIE four member delegate including a teacher from iEARN member school participated in 2018 iEARN International Conference and Youth Summit from 09th – 14th July, 2017.

The conference sessions were held at John Handley High School, Winchester, Virginia, United States of America for participants who were accommodated at Shenandoah University just two miles away from conference venue. The theme for the iEARN 2018 Conference and Youth Summit was "Global Collaboration for Sustainable Development", which provided an opportunity for more than 400 educators and students from more than 50 countries to connect over education and services across the globe.

This year iEARN celebrated its 30th anniversary to show worlds largest network of teachers and students who work for global collaboration by connecting through technology to work on projects that have a positive impact on the planet, their countries, and their communities. These projects that have changed the world while also envisioning a future where educators and youth work together to build a more peaceful and sustainable planet. Through out the conference, the educators and students from more than 50 countries around the world attended workshops and session on different topics. they also shared their experiences and learned more about the use of technologies in

education to reach out, learn and build a better world together. A memorial session was held to pay tribute to Dr. Tonya S. Muro, Executive Director iEARN USA for her untimely death on March 5th. In her memory, The Tonya Muro Leadership Award was established, and four scholarships have been awarded to exemplary educators and youth from Uganda, USA, Tanzania and Argentina to attend the 2018 iEARN International Conference and Youth Summit.

The members of Pakistani delegates attended iEARN Assembly Meeting held prior to conference on 7th and 8th July. They also presented workshops sessions during conference which were appreciated by conference participants. Sessions done by other educators were also very informative and gave new ideas, opening doors for future collaborations. The five day conference included cultural excursions to Shenandoah Valley, International cultural night, Interactive workshops keynotes and plenaries by other organizations working in the field of global education and virtual exchange.

The event was very well organized with exceptional support from volunteers and community members from Winchester City to make this event worth experiencing. The event concluded with a closing ceremony and gala dinner on 13th July, 2018.

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SIE WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS

Workshops & Trainings

قومی نغموں کے زریعے اردو پڑھائیں Workshop on

An interesting Urdu workshop was conducted on August 18th, 2018 at Globe- the SIE training Centre. Nine teachers from different schools of Karachi and Hyderabad registered for this training.



The workshop was conducted by Khurram Ali Shafique, a research consultant with Iqbal Academy Pakistan and recipient of the Presidential Iqbal Award, which he received for his unique work on Iqbal.

The workshop focused on getting benefits from our national assets and also highlighted some unique strategies of learning Urdu through songs.

In this workshop, teachers learned ways to keep students' interest in day to day classroom teaching and also helped teachers to discover interesting activities. The skills learned in this workshop can not only be seen in the classroom but also encouraging positive social behavior.

ورک شاپ بہت بہترین انداز سے کروائ گی۔ سب سے اہم بات یہ ہے کہ قومی ترانہ میں " حبالوطنی جو دکھائ گی وطن کے بارے میں روشناس ہوسکیں" ۔

Workshop Participant (Q.B.H.H.S. School)

آج کی اس ورکشاپ سے ہمیں بہت کچھ سیکھنے کا موقع ملا کہ ملی نغموں کو کس طرح ہم " پہلے سمجھیں اور اسکو بچوں کوسیکھایں اور ان کے اندر وطن سے محبت کا جزبہ پیداکریں۔"۔

Workshop Participant (Stanmore School)

Workshop on 'Advanced Documentary Skills'

To equip teachers with some video editing skills, Society for International Education conducted another professional development workshop on

'Advanced Documentary Skills' on September 8th, 2018. This workshop aimed at providing essential skills needed for reflective experiences for teachers to reconstructs, reenacts, and captures school events, the emotions, and the accomplishments.



This skill can also be used to enhance their teaching and learning methodology and assess student understandings about a concept taught. The participants included 10 teachers from different schools of Karachi. The workshop was conducted at Globe- the SIE training Centre.

During workshop, the presenter shared tips and tactics of capturing the clips with wonderful angles. Participants were given time to plan for their own video and practice to edit. The participants created amazing clips using Adobe Premiere CC and explored different software options. Participants learned about Adobe Premiere tools and applications and their use in classrooms for multimedia learning.

Workshop on "A Reflective Teacher is an effective Teacher"

This workshop was conducted for teachers of primary and secondary level on September 1st, 2018.

13 teachers from different schools of Karachi registered for this training. The training was conducted at Globe - the SIE training Centre.



The workshop focused on developing

a process of reflective thinking in teachers so that they are able to reflect back on what was happening in classrooms, what went wrong and areas for improvement.

The participants were engaged in hands on activities to get an understanding of reflective teaching practices and analyze their teaching methods and style, ultimately becoming a more effective educator.

"We have learned different ways to reflect and engage the learners in different situation which was the most useful strategy." – Workshop Participants (Mahjabeen Khan)

"The workshop was very useful and we learned how to take students who are slow learner with the rest of the class." – Workshop Participant (Sadia Fareed)

"Presenter thought us how to teach in class and mold him/herself positively" – Workshop Participant (M.Bilal Malik)

Student Learning and Outcome

Students of Beacon House School System, Cambridge branch, Latifabad along with their teacher attended a workshop on 'Green Screen Effects in Media Making' at Globe– the SIE Training Centre in April.

After attending the workshop, these students organized a 60 min session to disseminate their learnings about Green Screen Effects in media making at the Youth conference held in their school.

The session included various interesting activities for students including Chroma key effect to create videos, newscasts, commercials and digital stories -

"The session at the Youth Educational conference was exceptional and we shared our experiences to the students and they learnt a lot of things from us"—Musa Nadir



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U.S. SUMMER SISTERS PROGRAM

The US Summer Sisters Exchange Program

Reentry Seminar 2018

Guests from the US Embassy, Staff at Society for International Education, and alumni of the U.S. Summer Sisters Exchange Program 2018 celebrated another successful batch of the Summer Sisters Program 2018 at the Re-Entry Seminar in Islamabad on Saturday, September 1st, 2018.

The 22 girls attended American University, Babson College, Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Center, Emory College, Georgetown University, George Wash-



ington University, Harvard University, Smith College, Brown University, University of Chicago, Duke University, National Student Leadership Conference and Washington University during the summer of 2018.

The alumni of the Summer Sisters 2018, among other things also discussed ways they can become mentors for the upcoming batch of Summer Sisters, and ideas they will become ambassador of the program in their schools encouraging other girls in the application of the program. American University in partnership with iEARN, has been running the Summer Sisters Exchange Program successfully for the past four years in Pakistan.

The U.S. Summer Sisters Exchange program aims at empowering women for Pakistan. Angela Cervetti, Deputy Public Affairs Officer; Mathew Singer, Country Cultural Attaché; Marcia Outlaw, Assistant Cultural Attaché; and Sharif Sabir, Senior Advisor on Cultural Affairs from US Embassy Islamabad heard presentations from girls who attended various programs in the prestigious U.S. universities.

"Throughout your career, stay connected with people you met in United States, it is going to help you, just like keeping this alumni network strong." Angela Cervetti, Deputy Public Affairs Officer US Embassy Islamabad.

The girls talked about their experience, academic and personal achievements, and differences between the two countries, their future goals and learning through the program. Their narrative about their program was recorded in the form of a booklet distributed at the event.

The Seminar was part of Reentry Program, that constituted of a workshop earlier, where recent alumni were made aware of ways through which they may give to their communities, how to apply for grants, get membership registration for PUAN as well as learning to motivate others for good cause and being a leader.



Young Leaders Award

The US Department of State honored 10 outstanding young leaders from around the world, including Dania Hassan from Pakistan in recognition of her efforts to promote positive social change in the education sector of Pakistan, in a graceful ceremony in Washington D.C.

Dania Hassan, 18, attended John's Hopkins University's summer school through the US Summer Sisters Exchange Program. The U.S. Summer Sister Exchange Program offers high school females an opportunity to attend pre-college summer programs at prestigious American universities. The exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State and is administered by a consortium of partners, including American University, iEARN, the Society for International Education, and the US-Pakistan Women's Council.

After returning from the program, Dania indulged herself in various Summer Sisters alumni activities and led most of them. She did over

15 projects that includes training students of underserved areas self-defense, basic health and hygiene, oral care, knowledge of good touch and bad touch, keeping environment green, healthy eating etc. Not only had these, the alumna also



done projects to revive extracurricular activities in the public schools which don't exist anymore due to lack of resources. Dania has also worked in different public hospitals and orphanages, where she celebrated Eid and Independence Day with the ones who are suffering. The activities in Pakistan. She is the youngest high achiever of the Pakistan-US Alumni Network's '30under30 series.'

Summer Sisters Alumni Project-Eid ul Azha Celebration

Summer Sisters alumna Dania Hassan along with the volunteers celebrated Eid ul Azha at Sulemania Bachon Ka Ghar located in Clifton Block 1, Karachi on 23rd August.



A need of gifting Eid presents was felt by the volunteers and hence, this project was executed. The children were given various sizes of athletic/sports materials and games to play with during their free time as well as on Eid. The game sets included cricket equipment, dart games, board games such as chess and ludo, footballs, rubber balls, etc. The idea behind gifting such collective presents was to enhance the interest of games and sports in children and to increase their physical activity to lead to a healthy lifestyle. Each child was also given one stationary item as Eid present and the volunteers shared 'meetha' (dessert) with the children. The staff of the children's home was very thankful to the volunteers who visited and the children were happy too.

Summer Sisters Alumni Project- ChaandRaat Mela

August 22nd 2018 (Karachi): Summer Sisters alumna Dania Hassan along with the volunteers spent Chaandraat at Sirat Ul Jannah Children's Home where they celebrated a ChaandRaat Mela/carnival. Total 13 volunteers participated in the carnival. The carnival was celebrated at the rooftop of the building which were decorated by the volunteers.

Mehndi (Henna), face painting and a food stall were set up for the children. Volunteers applied henna on the hands of girls and boys went for their face painting. Snacks were also distributed to each child along with the Eid gift. Overall, it was an amazing mela to celebrate Chaandraat with children. Some volunteers stated that it was the best Chaandraat of their lives.

YES ALUMNI PROGRAM

Activities Update

YES alumni - Green Wave Tree Plantation Project

YES alumni from Rawalpindi and Karachi launched the green wave project to highlight the importance of tree plantation for the betterment of environment.

The project provided an opportunity to the community members to play a role in making the city greener. The project was a result of the recent heat wave in Pakistan as well as the climatic changes that is leading to shortage of water.



The alumni also educated the students about playing their role in being an effective part of their society and community members as well as encourage them towards the best of their behaviors. This engaged the YES alumni in maximum numbers as well and addressed the very important need of the hour. Overall, nearly 110 students were part of the activity.

The students appreciated the efforts of YES alumni and said that such programs are effective in ensuring positive outcomes for the community. They also said that engaging the students in maximum numbers in such activities will provide the students with responsibility towards making their communities better.

YES alumni - Sports Gala 2018

YES alumni from Hunza carried out two successful 3-day sports camps in Hunza for students. The project aimed to empower girls through sports. The project stemmed from the fact that Hunza is a remote area and girls are not encouraged to participate in sports.

Gender inequality is a prevalent issue in the twenty first century but it is most prominent in sports. Hence, through this project, girls of local villages in Lower Hunza learned to play different sports. It helped them to be strong and in building their confidence.



They also learned diplomacy and learned to rise as a community. This also provided a platform for them to utilize their energy positively. Also, this project created a sense of sisterhood and togetherness that they can fight the resistive forces in the society which stops them from becoming the empowering leaders of tomorrow. The first two days of the project focused on teaching them the basics of volleyball and football.



The third and fourth day of the project was used to conduct a tournament among the participants. It aimed at teaching the participants about handling the pressure of competing in a tournament. The alumni also formed sports clubs there and gave the sports equipment to the local schools so they can

continue their sports activities with ease. Overall, a total of nearly 100 girls participated in the activities and created a massive impact at local and regional level.

YES alumni - Sustainable Development Goals Workshop

YES alumni Gilgit and Hunza organized a 2-day camp for the youth and the focus of the camp was to raise awareness about sustainable development and various aspects of sustainability.

Unlike the traditional approach towards economic development and its conflict with conservation of environment, the camp highlighted how all these aspects are intertwined. The students learned the basic steps towards sustainable future. There was also a session to discuss youth issues and consider it as a way forward.



Through this project, the students learned about the local, national, and international problems about education, environment, gender equality and infrastructure. Furthermore, the students learned about Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a comprehensive manner. Hence, this was a perfectly designed series of valuables that assisted to improve and encourage thorough development of youth.

The project was widely appreciated by everyone involved and said that such programs are important for the development of the young people. It gives them a sense of purpose and determination in their pursuit towards their dreams. The school administrations also appreciated the YES alumni for informing the students about the SDGs and ways in which they can be contributing members of their society.

Eid-ul-Azha Celebration Projects 2018

YES alumni from Faisalabad, Gilgit, Islamabad, Lahore, Mansehra and Rawalpindi carried out the project "Eid-ul-Azha Celebration" projects focusing on visiting the children at orphanages and underserved locations as well as spend time with the elderly people at Old Age Homes on the occasion of Eid.



The alumni distributed small Eid gifts among them along with playing board

games, sing songs and spend an excellent time with them. The alumni distributed candies, sweets and juices among the participants, shared henna and bangles as well as played outdoor sports with them. Overall, it was a fun day for the participants as they celebrated Eid which usually would have been a dull occasion for them. Nearly 20 YES alumni participated in the project along with benefiting nearly 300 people. The project was widely appreciated by the children, community members and other participants. They said that they never expected their Eid to be so colorful. They were thankful to the YES alumni for taking the time and spending their Eid with them.

YES alumni - English Language Improvement Workshop

YES alumni Pakistan carried out a day-long English language improvement session with the students at Lahore. Through careful consideration and deliberation, the alumni addressed the needs of the students with topics including various aspects of English language such as Reading, Writing, and Speaking.

Listening along with Online Education, Confidence Building, Leadership Skills and Team building traits. All the sessions will be conducted were conducted by YES alumni. The students were encouraged to think out-of-the-box and discuss the learning aspects in a comprehensive manner. The



alumni also provided the students with reading material and a list of online resources that the students can access in their free time to improve their English language skills. A total of 30 students were part of the workshop.

YES alumni - Summer Camp Umerkot 2018

In Umerkot district schools/institutes mainly focus on academics, and very less focus is given to develop creative skills of students. To overcome this situation, a small team including YES Alumni and non-Alumni thought of a two days workshop and named it Summer Camp 2018 on 4th and 5th August. This two day workshop benefited around 60 local school students of Umerkot. Workshop had different speakers addressing different topics along with fun activities and interactive sessions. Students learned things which they don't get to learn in their academics or schools. Second day of the workshop was field visit and plantation.

Students were taken to Arid Zone Research Institute (AZRI) where Dr.Gul Mari, research scientist showed around different species of plants and how they are protecting rare species. They also had different ways to produce energy such as wind mill, bio gas. Overall two days were the most exciting days for students to make their summer vacations entertaining, memorable and informative as well. Such activities in area like Umerkot are welcomed more than anything by local school students.



YES Pakistani Sign Language Training Program

YES PSL Training Program was a four months long project led by three YES alumni in collaboration with ConnectHear. PSL Interpretation Training Program (Karachi) provided hearing individuals with a basic hold over sign language with an opportunity to get trained and become part of the professional interpreter network.



Upon completion, they will engage in various interpretation projects (both in person and video based) as a source of serving the 10,000,000 deaf individuals based in Pakistan and earning a decent income. The program included training the hearing individuals about the history of Sign language, the variations in Signs all over Pakistan, Sign Language dictionary and most importantly the rules of interpretation. This extensive program would not only allow us to increase the number of interpreters but would also create a uniform system for all interpreters to follow and abide by. Project Goals were to train people with basic sign language knowledge to develop into advanced interpreters. It was also to make society inclusive for the deaf by increasing the availability of qualified interpreter. In addition, it was required to attract more individuals to explore the field of interpretation. It increased part time and full-time



interpretation opportunities for the participants. The project started with a recruitment process where 20 students were selected based on their previous knowledge of Sign Language and connection with the Deaf Community. 36 total classes were held every weekend (Saturday and

Sunday) for four months. The classes included basic in-house training, visits to deaf schools, organizations and on-field work with the deaf individuals. The class also got opportunity to interact with the Deaf Community through events like Eid Milan Party, Youth Activity Day and Deaf Theatre Competition. This allowed the participants to practice what they have learnt with the target audience.

The teaching module included how to give personal introduction, alphabet signing both single and double handed, vocabulary specific sign of words using available dictionaries, phrases specific sign of sentences, code of ethics and rules regulations to become an interpreter. They also got trained on how to interpret any dialogue for in person and videobased interpretation. During the course, the organizing alumni arranged a meeting with deaf community where the deaf community directly communicated with the trainees and helped them improve their language skills. The project was widely appreciated by the participants and said that it was a life-changing experience for them.



GLOBAL COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

with iEARN Online Projects

Join iEARN Projects and become Global Citizens

iEARN Projects align to UN Sustainable Development Goals. iEARN Projects connect youth to change the world!

Join iEARN project groups where students are creating, researching, sharing opinions and becoming global citizens and see how these SDGs improve the quality of life on the planet.



iEARN Learning Circles Registration Open!

Ready to join a global project but not sure where to start? Register now to join teachers from all around the world, who will be participating in the next session of IEARN Global Learning Circles! There is a topic of interest for everyone in all grade levels.

The project will run from **September 30, 2018 until January 15, 2019**. You are guided by facilitators along each step of the process, so Learning Circles is an excellent choice for beginners as well as experienced iEARN teachers.

Get to Know Others Project

Students of Aga Khan School Garden of class 6 celebrated the Eid festival under the iEARN project, Get to Know Others on 13th September 2018. Eid is an important religious festival celebrated by Muslims worldwide.

Students learned about different rituals and congregations at the mosques and Eidgahs. They also learned about religious obligations of charity for all Muslims, who meet the necessary criteria of wealth.

The students really enjoyed the activity. They learned about the traditions and religious values in real life scenario.





International Book Club

Join the <u>International Book Club</u> and collaborate to read and discuss books that connect to SDG's.

There are two ways to participate in the project: connect with another teacher in another country to form a book club partnership and select your books and activities - OR - you and your students may collaborate with a group of other teachers and students from several countries to read, discuss, and complete projects related to our featured books for this year.

September 2018 features *The Story of Filomena: Book One of The Adventures of Filomena* by Fernando M. Reimers.

iEARN Project Video Spotlights

iEARN projects are designed and facilitated by educators from around the world. Check out these new iEARN project videos created by our project facilitators!

The videos introduce participants to the <u>Girl Rising Project</u>, <u>Teddy Bear Project</u>, <u>Machinto: Hiroshima for Peace</u>, and <u>Global Art Project: A Sense of Caring</u>. Check the Youtube link below to watch iEARN Project videos.

https://www.youtube.com/user/iearnusa/videos

Thanks to all iEARN facilitators for their efforts in guiding global project collaboration!



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