

# Society for International Education

*Learning with the world, not just about it...*

Newsletter

July - September 2012

## Youth Tech Camp Pakistan 2012

The U.S. Department of State sponsored Youth Tech Camp supports Secretary Clinton's 21st Century Statecraft policy by encouraging young people to engage and contribute to the digital networks and technologies of today's interconnected world.

"Today you will be participating in one of the most innovative programs offered by the US Department of State. Youth Tech Camp Pakistan encourages young people to engage and contribute to the digital networks and technologies of today's interconnected world", said US Ambassador Richard E. Hoagland at the opening of the Youth Tech Camp Pakistan 2012.

In Pakistan, 40 alumni of the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program spent



three days of learning how technology is leveraged for social activism. These alumni came from different cities of Pakistan and will convene in Islamabad for three-day Youth TechCamp 2012. They were engaged in learning about the technology tools for the 21st century and developed the following as their final products.

1. Blog on social activism and volunteerism catered for YES alumni and State alumni audience
2. Short documentary of the Youth TechCamp and importance of Technology & Social Activism.
3. Social Media campaign that markets finished above products

Renowned professionals and trainers including Faisal Kapadia, Nighat Dad, Saad Hamid, Faisal Chohan, Hammad Ilyas from the field of social media and citizen journalism conducted and facilitated the sessions and provided guidance to the participants. The sessions included Digital Storytelling, Citizen Journalism, Photo Journalism and Social Media Tools. These were interactive sessions and the participants had the opportunities to utilize their potentials and talents to create the quality content and share it on Social Media and other Citizen Journalism forums.

Youth Voices International is conceptualized online interactive platform for youth, designed and launched as one of the products of the Youth Tech Camp, Pakistan 2012 organized by iEARN Pakistan in Islamabad September 2012. The three days residential Youth Tech Camp, Pakistan finally closed on 29th September 2012 in Islamabad. Please check at [www.youthvoicesinternational.com](http://www.youthvoicesinternational.com)

## iEARN Pakistan's new project launch PHOTOJOURNALISM 2.0: IMAGES OF SOCIAL CHANGE

EMPOWERING A NEW GENERATION OF CIVIC EDUCATION LEADERS IN BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN AND TAJIKISTAN.

iEARN Pakistan is proud to launch this collaborative projects with iEARN USA, with support from The Office of Press and Public Diplomacy, Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs to foster positive and productive interaction among educators and students through a global high school photojournalism education program. Through 'Photojournalism 2.0: Images of Social Change', participants will use photography and technology to address social issues and to make positive contributions to their communities .

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**Celebrate UN International Days by integrating iEARN Projects**

International Day of Older Persons (October 1)

iEARN Project:: Oral History

Universal Children's Day (November 20)

iEARN Project:: Global Art-Sense of Caring

Human Rights day (December 10)

iEARN Project:: One Right, One People

Download lesson plans at:

[http://www.iearnpk.org/iEARN\\_workshops/intl\\_days.htm](http://www.iearnpk.org/iEARN_workshops/intl_days.htm)



**Access Program 2012-14**

Just as Access1 came to an end, preparations for the launching of Access 2 started. Selection of 15 Access Centers for the new program had already taken place in June. But now an even bigger challenge of sorting out the admission related matters for 1500+ students was faced by the Access team. A day of teacher training was arranged on September 8<sup>th</sup>, and classes for Access 2012-14 began on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Though just a few classes have taken place, students are already finding the learning environment much different from the ones they have to face in the 'regular' school. Students spontaneously offer their thoughts that in Access, teachers are friendly, they speak English all the time, and learning English is fun.



**iEARN Training for SPELT (ICELT) participants**



iEARN Pakistan conducted one day workshop for 15 participants from Society of Pakistan English Language (SPELT) ICELT (In-service Certificate in English Language Teaching) program on July 2, 2012 at iEARN Centre, Karachi. The workshop aimed at training teachers in engaging their students in iEARN online collaborative projects and integrating technology in education. The workshop also focused on social media and web 2.0 tools and their uses in education

**O3: Our Home, Our Neighborhood, Our World - follow up session**

The O3: Our Home, Our Neighborhood, Our World follow-up session was conducted on July 12, 2012 at iEARN Centre Islamabad. Teachers who participated in 6-week O3 online course attended the daylong session and shared their course experiences.

They discussed the successes and challenges that were faced during course completion. Teachers also participated in creative art activities to present a cultural journey through Punjab, and planned to do it with their students in school. Teachers shared their social action plans; a few of them have already started working on it. Some future activities were also discussed with teachers.



**Access Program Updates**

The last two weeks of classes for students of Access 1 were conducted in July. True to the title the *intensive* classes offered 4 hours of classes, six days a week. A variety of activities like community service, iEARN online projects, audio-video lessons and some fun learning activities in the classroom made the intensive classes interesting yet challenging. Towards the end of the program all Access students took the Secondary Level English Proficiency (SLEP) Test. Predictably, as the end drew closer students started feeling a bit emotional – they had been on a two year long journey of learning together and the journey was coming to an end. The prospect of retaining a bond with Access through Access Alumni Association somewhat allayed the students sad feelings.

## K-L YES-09 Proposal Writing Workshop

The K-L YES alumni conducted a Proposal Writing Workshop for newly returning exchange students of YES Program in Hyderabad and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It gave them a chance to learn about Proposal Writing, Budgeting and YES Alumni Association Pakistan. The alumni participating in the workshop ended up proposing 4 projects, to be carried out in coming 2 months.



## K-L YES students depart to USA

In August and September 2012, K-L YES students, who were finally selected to participate in Youth Exchange and Study program 2012-2013, left for the USA in small groups from Karachi and Islamabad Airports. These groups of K-L YES students were lead to Washington DC by YES alumni who served as flight leaders. These students were selected from 34 different locations including Karachi, Hyderabad, Mirpur Sakro, Mirpurkhas, Chakwal, Rahim Yar Khan, Talagang, Lahore, Gujrat, Jehlum, Faisalabad, Muzaffargarh, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Nowshera, Mardan, Abbottabad, Gilgit, Hunza, Gahkuch, Gawader, Quetta, Swabi, Pallandri (AK), Turbat, Skardu and Gilgit Baltistan. 12 Alumni from all over

the Pakistan ran the Pre Departure Orientation sessions for the departing 108 students, along with the support of iEARN staff. Various sessions and trainings on exchange related topics were conducted by the alumni team. This was the longest PDO in history of KL-YES over 8 days. The participants of YES-10 were inspired by the leadership skills of the Alumni team.



## Alumni Projects in different Alumni Chapters

The Access Alumni of Lahore organized a 3-week long summer camp for more than 160 orphans of age 12-16 years in 'Dar-ul-Shafqat' house. The alumni designed the program to educate these kids with basic English language course and to help them acquire creative skills of drawing and presenting.

The Hyderabad chapter carried out a one-day project of tree-plantation around the Mir Tomb area. They planted 25 trees with the help of local

kids and educated the kids regarding the importance of plantation and trees. The alumni showed great courage the natural renovation of the historical place.

The Quetta chapter alumni ran a project benefiting 16 students for 12 days about enhancing reading habits. Along with enhancing reading habits, this project also taught the students library etiquettes, team work and journal writing through different activities.



## My Experience with iEARN..



My relation with iEARN has always been valuable and precious. Since 2009 when I began my career as a YES Alumnus, I have been leading the KPK Alumni Chapter since 2010 enforcing changes, leading initiatives and work towards success of the Association.

When I was posted as the "Youth Programs Coordinator" earlier May this year, my joy was out of bounds. This opened up so many ways for me in terms of career and education. I am currently a student of BSc. Social Sciences at Institute of Management Sciences Peshawar. Keeping this in view, I opted for this opportunity to polish my skills, learn and become a better individual. I believe this is a great organization which can shape up my ambitions and goals. I have always kept close ties with iEARN and hopefully it will remain this way as I intend to prove myself and make a difference.

I would like to take this opportunity and thank Ma'am Farah, Sir Saleem, Sir Irfan and the rest of the staff members to entrusting me with this responsibility and giving me a chance to lead the Alumni Association. This means a lot to me and I am glad that iEARN has been a key part of my life. Cheers!

Hafiz Hassan Saeed  
Youth Programs Coordinator  
iEARN Pakistan

## iEARN and I...

This place has always been very special to me. The iEARN family has seen me transform



from a hyper teen to a young professional. The environment of this place has always inspired me to work hard towards the goal. Being a KL-YES alumnus I have been involved with iEARN previously in various campaigns, fund raising and project. Even after being hired by iEARN as a Youth Program Coordinator, I still feel at home.

The senior staff is always there for my support and they all are open to ideas. I really enjoy the freedom of implementing innovative ideas in alumni projects.

The diversity of work and projects is another reason that makes iEARN my second home. I've been involved with Access Program, Children Council and KL-YES Alumni association. Now my firm believe is that "Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs". I plan on doing my small job with this prestigious organization for a long time.

Bilal Zubair Khan  
Youth Program Coordinator  
iEARN Pakistan



*"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." ~Eleanor Roosevelt*

## iEARN Clubs' Meeting

iEARN School based Clubs meeting was held at Rangoonwala Hall on September 28, 2012. Teachers from different iEARN Club Schools attended the meeting. The agenda of meeting included introduction of new iEARN Collaboration centre, suggestions for choosing some new projects and activities, and planning for the next 6 months. Teachers were also asked to join facebook group for iEARN Club members to share and stay connected to each other. After planning for the next 6 months, the teachers will upload their plans on the facebook group page. iEARN Pakistan initiated this idea of establishing iEARN Clubs in schools in 2011. It was piloted in 5 schools and now has been successful in establishing these clubs in more than 25 schools in Karachi. New schools are welcome to join. Contact [alema@iearnpk.org](mailto:alema@iearnpk.org).



## Executive Committee Elections 2012

The Children's Council launched an election campaign, for the Executive Committee 2012, in different schools and communities of Karachi. The campaign was also advertised through social media. 11 orientation sessions were conducted in July with 1200 girls and boys from the different public and private institutions. Flyers, membership and nomination forms were distributed and children were briefed about the election. During the second phase of the activity, elections were held across Sindh in August 2012. General member elected 15 members of the Executive Committee who will run the council and hold consultations with children to identify and prioritize the issues of serious concern to them.



## Children's Council establishes Child Rights Clubs

10 Child Rights Clubs have been established by Children's Council in different schools and communities in Karachi to create opportunities where children from advantaged and disadvantaged backgrounds can get together and combine their strengths and resources for building their collective resilience through empowerment, participation and exchange of information and support. The clubs have been formed in SITE Area, Baldia Town, Shanti Nagar, Mehmoodabad, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Orangi Town, Liaqatabad, North Nazimabad and PECHS.



International Education and Resource Network  
Pakistan

(A Project of Society for International Education)

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[www.youtube.com/iearnpk](http://www.youtube.com/iearnpk)