



May 2018

The European School

Newsletter

Europe Day at the European School

Within the framework of Europe Days, the European School celebrated Europe Day on May 7, 2018. Our students organized an EU exhibition in the school's courtyard, presenting national dishes, culture and traditions of EU member states.

We were honored to host ambassadors of European countries and representatives of state institutions and agencies. Mikheil Janelidze, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, congratulated the guests, delivered a welcoming speech, discussed the importance of education and Georgia's European integration prospects.

It's become a tradition to celebrate Europe Day at the European School. Yesterday marked our eighth celebration of Europe Day.

As an international school, we're encouraging our students to become globally-minded and capable international citizens and embrace the richness of a variety of cultures.



Self-Government Day at the European School

The European School organized Self-Government Day on May 11, 2018. Students assumed the role of a teacher for a day. They offered interesting classes, arranged flash mobs and started charity campaigns - with the money raised, they bought books and donated them to SOS Children's Village Georgia.

Some of our students decided to test their skills outside of the classroom walls and assumed the roles of the Academic Director, program coordinators, psychologist, doctor, PR manager, security guards, etc.

At the end of the day, students admitted that being a responsible adult is harder than they thought.



TEDx Event at the European School

On May 22, the 6th annual TEDxIBEuropeanSchool conference was held at the European School. It was a licensed, independently organized event which re-created the unique TED experience. The European School students presented twelve idea-focused talks on wide range of subjects. A young jazzman, Papuna Sharikadze, joined our students, delivered an inspirational speech and performed a piano recital.

The theme of the event was “Finding a New Point of View.” The students’ talks were an organic representation of their interests, based on their personal points of view and shaped by their life experiences and values. The attendees had an opportunity to look at phobias, modeling, winemaking, personal diaries, veganism and even homework from different angles. The event fostered inspiration and was an intellectual stimulation for the delegates.



Celebrating Independence Day at the European School

A whole series of events designed to celebrate Independence Day of Georgia were planned at the European School. Students exhibited national symbols of first Republic of Georgia: the flag, coat of arms, currency, etc. Students discussed the importance of Independence Day and decorated the school yard with Independence Day symbols. American High School grade 10 students covered the walls with “100 FREE” signs.

On May 26, 2018 the day started with a flag-raising ceremony. The flag was designed and made by our students. The students were dressed in Georgian flag-themed t-shirts of their own design. The School played the anthem of Democratic Republic of Georgia during the flag-raising ceremony.



The Robotics Lab hosted demo lessons. The students presented a project about Democratic Republic of Georgia. They worked individually and in teams, made brochures about Democratic Republic of Georgia and distributed them among students and teachers. They tried their hand at drawing the old and current flags of Georgia with a 3D pen.

The day ended in the main hall of the European School – Irakli Khvadagiani, a young researcher from Soviet Past Research Laboratory, sat down with our students and discussed the unique archival collections.

Minister of Justice of Georgia Visits the European School

On May 30, 2018, Tea Tsulukiani, Minister of Justice of Georgia, visited the European School and attended Grade 9-10 students’ project presentations. Students were split into German- and French-speaking groups. In groups students discussed bullying: the causes and symptoms, possible negative effects of bullying and ways to prevent it. They learned about how other countries – France and Germany, in particular – tackle bullying. Toward the end, the Minister summarized the meeting and informed our students about the mechanisms that Ministry of Justice of Georgia has put in place to prevent bullying. In her concluding speech, she touched on the importance of learning French and German languages as part of global competence.



American High School Grade 10 Visit BOLNISI-TANDZIA



On Friday, June 1, seventeen Grade 10 students accompanied by their Georgian teacher, Mrs. Tekla Beradze, and Mr. Joseph Blake, Director with two professional hiking guides explored the natural beauty of the hills of Georgia on their way to admire the famed church of Bolnisi – Tandzia. Encapsulating the vibrant historical and religious nature of the area and the foundations of the church in the 13th Century, both students and staff were mesmerized by the verdant valley and tranquility of its location. Upon reaching the historical and beautiful edifice, a true sense of achievement after the three hour hike up through the hills and across the river was felt and celebrated by all. “It was an incredible day and one to be remembered” stated Ana Darchiashvili. Her statement was concurred by Tamar Chelidze who remarked “Beautiful and serene...simply beautiful!”

Flower Festival at the European School

On June 1, 2018, the European School organized a flower festival. Students from Georgian Program and IB Programmes showcased school spirit, creativity and fun. The school yard was filled with students’ creative works. The students organized a fundraiser – decorated flower pots and put them up on sale. All the money raised will be donated to charity. The students from grades 5-6 painted children’s faces in flower designs, made flower wreaths and organized a flash mob dance. The students from Georgian Program and IB Programmes performed on stage. Parents, along with their children, enjoyed the flower festival.



Class of 2018 Graduates

On Wednesday, June 6, the European School community gathered to celebrate and honor the Class of 2018 which included students of the Georgian Program, International Baccalaureate, and American High School for their high achievements and future success. This year's graduates have been accepted to many schools of higher education within Georgia, Europe and the United States which include Erasmus University (Netherlands), IE University (Spain), King's College, London, Pepperdine University, (USA) and University of California, Los Angeles.

Their educational promise has been fulfilled and they will continue on their journey to excellence at many of the top universities in the world for their future in our ever-evolving global community. Our hopes go with them for not only their future, but that of Georgia and the greater world.

As a school community we are and continue to be highly impressed by their intellect and dreams. May they continue to soar and most importantly bring them and those of their families and friends much joy and happiness. They themselves hold the future in their minds and hearts!

As they continue their journey, we are reminded of a quote by the celebrated American writer, humorist, entrepreneur, publisher, and lecturer, Mr. Samuel Clemens or Mr. Mark Twain. He stated "Always do what is right....this will gratify some and astonish the rest." An apt phrase that continues to inspire.

CONGRATULATIONS graduates and more importantly BEST WISHES on your future.

Joseph M. Blake
Head of American High School



European School Graduation Ceremony 2018

On June 6, 2018 the European School hosted the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2018! The school hallways and front yard were filled with school spirit as students, parents and guests gathered to celebrate. Tamta Diasamidze, the European School student and award-winning singer, gave a heartfelt performance of the national anthem.

Sophio Bazadze, Academic Director of the European School, Christo Steyn, Director of the International Baccalaureate Programmes, and Joseph Blake, Head of American High School, delivered opening speeches and welcomed our graduates.

Three valedictorians from the Class of 2018 delivered speeches.

Before conferring diplomas on the eager graduates, our commencement speakers, Giorgi Sharvashidze, Rector of Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University, Davit Lortkipanidze, Director General of Georgian National Museum, and Michael Cowgill, President of Georgian American University, addressed our graduating class and wished them well in their journeys beyond the European School.



After throwing their caps in the air, our graduates proceeded to the European School courtyard where they performed a farewell concert.