



Newsletter

Visit to the U.S. Ambassador Kelly Degnan to the European School

On Thursday, March 31st, the American High School hosted an event marking 30 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Georgia with visiting honorable guests: U.S. Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan and the Attaché for Culture and Education Mr. Christopher Anderson.

During the event, the AHS students presented their articles published in the newspaper dedicated to U.S.-Georgia relations. Students spoke about shared values including democracy, human rights, which hold the key to freedom and peace. They compared education systems in both countries, highlighted the importance of cooperation between the US and Georgia in a number of fields, and shared stories about their impressions of America.

Sophia Bazadze -the School Director, Irma Barbakadze -the Head of AHS, Mariam khatiashvili- AHS Student Engagement Coordinator, all three alumni of U.S. exchange programs, delivered speeches at the event and noted with gratitude how important was experience gained abroad, how it contributed to the development of the ES, AHS, and enriched student learning in general.

After the presentations, Ambassador Degnan visited the exhibition of students' works dedicated to U.S.-Georgia relations and talked to students. In the end, the honorable guest was interviewed by the AHS student.



The European School and Les Roshes Signed a Memorandum of Understanding

The European School and Les Roshes - one of the world's leading hospitality institutions, signed a memorandum of understanding

On May 6th, the European School and Les Roshes - one of the world's leading hospitality institutions, signed a memorandum of understanding. Parties have announced a unique partnership to deliver an International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP) in hospitality. The memorandum was signed by the European School Director Sophia Bazadze and Les Roches Global Hospitality Education CEO Carlos Díez de la Lastra.

In September 2022, the ES will offer its first cohort of CP students a unique hands-on professional experience in hospitality. The qualifications will lead the ES students directly to exciting higher education opportunities and career pathways.

After the official ceremony, the European School students offered guests a Spanish cultural celebration planned for Seville April Fair. Carlos Díez de la Lastra mentioned: "This is hospitality - when you make your guests feel at home."



Europe Day

Every year, the European School celebrates Europe Day aiming to develop among students respect for their own culture and the cultures, languages, values and traditions of others.

The Europe Week program started with a showcase of a documentary film - Europe and Me, presented by Young European Ambassadors.

The Europe Day activities included an exhibition of books on EU: Travel to European Union and Let's Explore Europe, the entertaining group games and fun challenges providing information about the EU. Children learned more about EU member states, EU Flags, wrote short letters to the EU, and demonstrated traditional costumes.

The Europe Day festivities at the European School concluded with a visit of Mr. Romain Strasser - Head of Intercultural and Religious Dialogue Unit of the European Parliament. Students discussed EU-Georgian relations and common values with the guest.

Throughout Europe Week, the European School opened its doors for exceptional visits, debates, interactive presentations and games to highlight diversity existing at the school.



Independence Day

The European School celebrated Independence Day of Georgia with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervor. On that day, a sense of happiness and pride was seen on the faces of all the students and teachers.

The program started with a procession of students carrying national flags, followed by a parade in the schoolyard, where the primary program students showcased their respect and love towards their nation by dressing up in national costumes.

After the flag hoisting ceremony, the celebration continued in the main hall, where History teacher Maia Tsenguashvili addressed students with a motivational and patriotic speech.



Students paid tribute to the Georgian national heroes, by wearing t-shirts with their printed images. They also demonstrated amazing dance and song performances. In the end, guest historian Irakli Iremadze acquainted the audience with the history of the First Democratic Republic of Georgia.

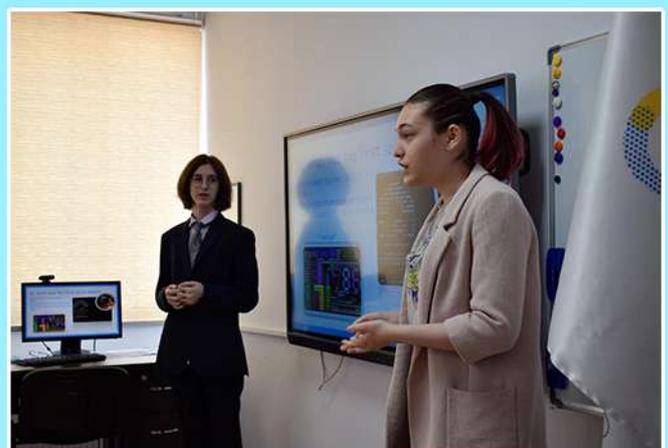
The day was the celebration of freedom, pride, and dignity.

Student Academic Conference

On May 26th to June 3rd, the European School hosted an annual Student Academic Conference. In an engaging and dynamic environment of the conference, students shared research results around topics from Language and Literature, Mathematics, Innovative Technologies, Sciences, Social Sciences and Arts.

At both conferences, Attendees enjoyed a celebration of student research and creative activities performed under the guidance of faculty.

In the near future, the student research papers will be published in the school Almanac.



Day of Mother Language

On April 14th, the European School celebrated the Day of Mother Language (Deda Ena). For the Georgian nation, there is a fundamental bond between the mother language, independence, a sense of identity, and ethnic consciousness.

Korneli Kekelidze Georgian National Center of Manuscripts presented “The Knight in the Panther’s Skin” manuscripts from the 17th century (Begtabel’s manuscript and Tsereteli’s manuscript) and photos from old manuscripts;

Video installation about Georgian manuscript heritage was shown;

MYP students from grade 7 calligraphically rewrote “The Knight in Panther’s Skin” and made presentations about the significance of this epic poem and its translations;

Elementary school students met calligrapher Mariam Tepnadze, attended the workshop, and got acquainted with the art of calligraphy. Students displayed works created during the workshop, held a quiz show, and presented Georgian alphabet types: Asomtavruli, Nuskhuri, and Mkhedruli to younger students;

AHS students from grade 9 created cards displaying speaking rules and shared them with friends;

Students from grades 5-7 made presentations on topics: The Role of National Symbols and Anthem and History of Georgian Anthem.



Flowers, Flowers, Flowers Everywhere

The Flower Festival of the European School was attended by hundreds of students in colorful floral print dresses and flower crowns highlighting the beauty of flowers.

The school Flower Festival featured art exhibitions, concerts, and craft workshops held in the school's beautiful garden. This amazing celebration showcased the creativity of the European School students.



Exhibition of Projects

The European School library hosted an event of the Georgian Program 11th grade students - exhibition of projects. The conduct of the project in such a format is the first precedent for the Georgian Program based on the National Curriculum. The format reflects the various international approaches of project-based teaching and learning for the students. The aim of the project is to maximize the personal skills and abilities of students. The event was held in a hybrid format. The students shared an interesting experience with the school community.



Students selected various interesting topics for their projects: Heroism from Pathetic to Reality, Graphic Painting, Hydroponic System Nero, How to Create a Perfect Hero?

Projects had different goals: to increase the interest of young people in unique Georgian culture and traditions, to create digital art utilizing computer technology, to analyze the role of a healthy lifestyle, etc. To visualize projects, students exhibited various products: handmade clothes, graphic art, photo collage, ceramics, panel, and arranged degustation of sweets.

Saturday School

The European School successfully implemented Saturday Academic Program for elementary and middle school students from grades 1 to 6. It provides two courses: Mental Math and Math and Logic. A Memorandum of understanding was signed between the organization Smart Man, represented by director's representative Sahar Harb, and the European School, represented by its Director Sophio Bazadze, to implement above mentioned and similar educational innovations.

□ Within the Math and Logic course, students engage in awesome Math games and activities. The program is designed to give students greater exposure to Mathematics through interesting topics and activities and provides spaces for the extension of mathematical proficiency in learners.

□ The Mental Math program boosts arithmetic calculation skills and supports brain development. Every activity requires a high level of attention and focus, using multiple skills at the same time. These activities enhance the development of both brain hemispheres. The ES students use a special instrument abacus for math operations.



Second Grade is Blazing New Trails

Collaboration in PYP is key to the success of every classroom.

Ms. Salome Betchavia, (grade 3A homeroom teacher) introduced Second Grade to Pathways School in Noida, India. Ms. Elizabeth and Ms. Eka lead their students in a meeting, held on January 21, 2022.

Pathways School has a Second-Grade student population of almost a hundred students! Mrs. Zarema Dawson is the coordinator of all 9 Second Grade classes.

Each class shared a short PowerPoint presentation about their school. Students learned where each school, city, and country are located on the world map. European School students and teachers wore crowns, with the flags of their country, and the countries of their parents. The Pathways students really enjoyed that. Some European school students were able to say: hello” in their native language.

Mrs. Zarema Dawson, coordinator of Second Grade, is a native from Kazakhstan and immediately recognized the flag of Kazakhstan on the crowns of two of our students! They were delighted!

\Pathways school’s students asked questions about subjects, lunches, and even how long our lessons are. Ms. Elizabeth mentioned that Georgian is one of the oldest languages in the world today. Our students showed them their Georgian Textbooks, to show how unique the written letters in Georgian are. Ms. Eka demonstrated the sounds of the letters and a few facts about the Georgian alphabet.

The meeting lasted 40 minutes and there were 82 students online from India. It was impossible for everyone to ask their questions. Our next meeting will be in early February.

Our Second Graders experienced a whole new culture and made their first International, friends as representatives of the European School. We are honored to forge a new friendship and to collaborate and build strong bonds for the future.



Read Aloud day with IB Partner : Pathways School in Noida, India

On Read -Aloud day, Ms. Zarema from Pathways School read the Book The Someone New by Jill Twiss, a book about how kindness is better than fear. Students answered questions and discussed when they were afraid and how they could show kindness when they see someone is scared.

In the spirit of Georgian generosity, European School’s second graders gave a selection of posters with kindness messages to each second grade class in Pathway School to color and share with their community. ES second graders also colored and shared their posters with the staff and students in the PYP.



Government and its Functions

On April 6th, 2022, the fifth graders of the European School PYP program had the pleasure of meeting the guest speaker Mr. Gia Poladishvili - practicing Tbilisi attorney. The meeting aimed to give opportunity to students to further inquire into the unit of How We Organize Ourselves around the topic of Government, its function, and its purpose.

The meeting was initiated by 5A PYP student Ana Mtchedlidze, who invited the guest to our school. Students of three classes were able to ask their questions, which they found very interesting and quite challenging at times, as they tuned into their further inquiry and learned many facts about the structure and the function of the Georgian government. Mr. Poladishvili has found the meeting very active, productive, and simply amazing.



Student-Led Conference

On April 8, 2022 MYP school held a very important event. A Student-Led Conference (SLC) was arranged by students in Grades 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The SLC is designed to provide MYP students with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes necessary to become active and responsible lifelong learners who help to create a better and more peaceful world.

During the preparation for the aforementioned event and the conference itself, MYP students demonstrated Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills and IB Learner Profile attributes, personal responsibility in learning, reflection and setting of goals for further academic and personal development.

MYP parents eagerly participated in the Student-Led Conference and reinforced their understanding of IB philosophy, MYP teaching and learning together with assessment practices while raising awareness of their child's ability to reflect on their own learning.

We are proud of our students' achievements and parental contribution.



Digital Design Project

Using digital design, robotics, and FabLab, the MYP project was initiated to create educational and eco-friendly toys for kindergarten students.

The project lasted for two months. The students studied how to create a toy design in general, taking into account the age and features, prototyping, and determining its final design.

Up to 35 different types of wooden educational toys were created within the MYP project.

Educational, puzzle-like toys created by 7-grade MYP students were donated to kindergarten students.

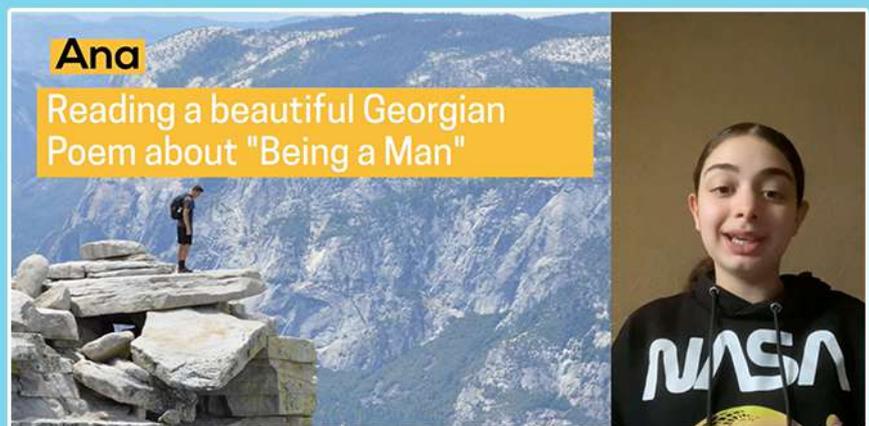
Project author and technical assistants:

Digital Transformation Advisor and Design Teacher - Nina Bitskinashvili, Robotics, and Computer Science Teacher - Shota Datashvili, Design and Robotics Teacher - Guranda Gogaladze.



International Mother Tongue Day

International Mother Tongue Day is a day celebrated worldwide to promote awareness of linguistic understanding, cultural diversity, and multilingualism. As an IB world school, ES supports students in maintaining their mother tongues through the Middle Years Program (MYP) and the ES language policy. ES has an extremely rich cultural diversity and 20 different mother tongues throughout the MYP.



On February 21, 2022, MYP held an assembly to help promote our students' mother tongues with a particular focus on how 'Language Connects'. At the beginning of February, we highlighted some of these connections between students, teachers, communities, and cultures while demonstrating several activities such as

- World Cloud Poster (based on words taken from MYP students' Mother Tongues);
- Yummy Food Recipes (from around the world);
- Cross-cultural Literature Sharing (including poetry, music, etc.);
- E-puzzle Competitions (amongst Georgian A students);
- Plurilingual News Reporting;
- Promoting Healthy Lifestyles (via contributions from our multilingual students);
- Invited Guest Speakers (in Question & Answer format);

During the assembly, students were able to speak more than one language allowing us to communicate a familiar message in a new way and giving us the means to develop relationships with others while preserving our individual and collective identities.

Assembly Organized and Led By:

SA Coordinator - Ms. Keti Guramishvili

Grade 6 LA (English) students

Feria de Abril

The Seville April Fair, also called Feria de Abril, is the most important cultural festival in the city. People come to the April Fair every year to celebrate, dance, laugh, eat, drink, and enjoy.

La Feria is normally held in April. Women are dressed in a beautiful variety of flamenco dresses. The men can be seen in blue Corto uniform suits and hats as they ride their horses through the streets. People enjoy typical Andalusian dishes, Flamenco music, and dance that surround them in every corner of Seville.

The European School Spanish teacher Tamar Gulashvili and Spanish speaking students organized the celebration of Feria de Abril on April 26th and hosted official guests: Jorge Lucini Serrano de Haro - Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of Spain to Georgia and Adrián Barriuso López - CEO Tu Empresa en Georgia/Your Business in Georgia.

Students created presentations about the April Fair, and performed Georgian and Spanish traditional dances. Young Spanish composer and singer Rodrigo Muñoz joined the event online and added a special flavor to the celebration.



Art Exhibition of IB DP Students

The European School arranged the exhibition of artworks created by DP students. The exposition of student works created during the two-year study of Visual Arts course reflected the concepts and ideas that inspired them. A wide range of themes included: discrimination, homophobia, sexism, xenophobia, loneliness, fears, environmental pollution, existential crisis, isolation, and etc.

The works presented at the exhibition, in addition to thematic diversity, were also characterized by the variety of used mediums. The exposition included: paintings, digital artworks, photography, video art, architectural models, collages, and sculptures.

The exhibition was a culmination of the visual arts course - a celebration of student creativity, demonstration of their critical thinking and artistic skills. The exhibition proved that the students are ready to start a new, significant stage in their lives and reach new heights.



CAS Meeting between CCAAIBWS Member School Students

CAS coordinators of CCAAIBWS member schools (European School, European Azerbaijan School, Nazarbayev Intellectual Schools) organized a meeting with DP students. Sharing experience and developing new skills is an essential part of personal development. Students from different cultural backgrounds shared challenges associated with balancing academic and social life and brainstormed on joint CAS projects.

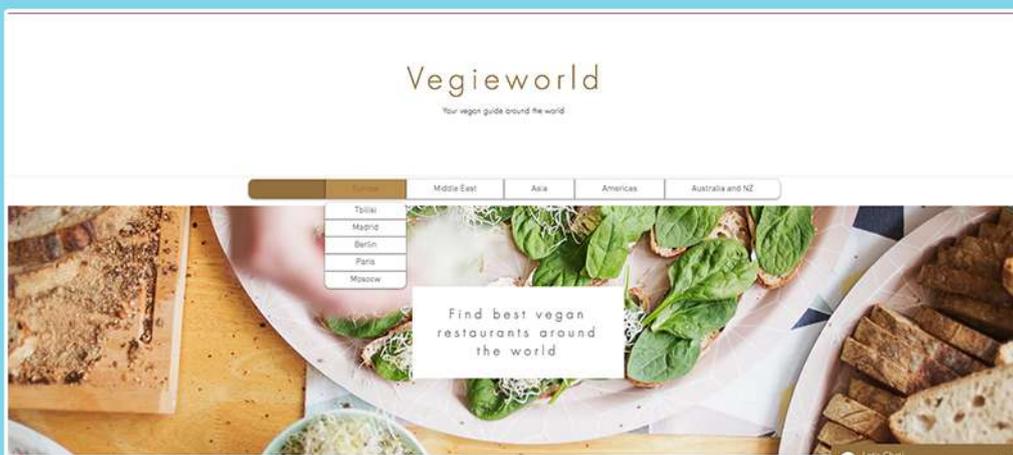
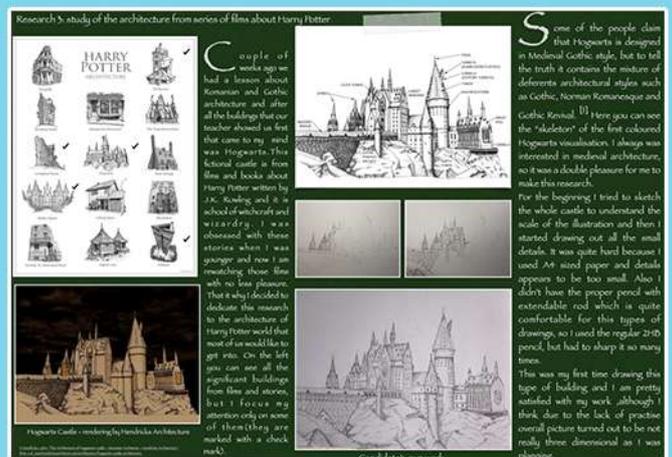


Developing and promoting social responsibility among students was a main topic of discussion. CAS coordinators of the association member schools agreed to organize such meetings annually.

Presentation of IB DP Students' CAS Projects

DP students completed the academic year by presenting CAS projects on the 25th of May. While developing projects, students demonstrated social responsibility, fostered a global mindset, and made a step forward in personal development. They managed to implement the projects despite a challenging academic program. Developing a website that contains information about vegetarian restaurants worldwide; Learning the sign language; Developing the Greenhouse;

Playing a leading role in theater; Creating an online shop for handmade products and using the income for charity; Creating labels for wine producer company; Tutoring; Environmental cleaning; Creating the book of receipts for Iraqi cuisine; Creating the interactive board game - represent a small list of implemented projects.



Achievements of AHS 12th Graders

By Megi Khurodze

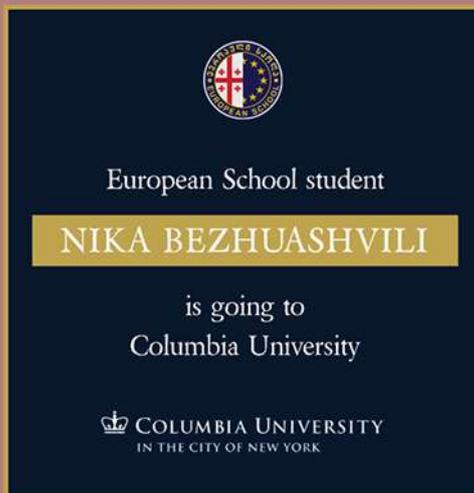
26 12th graders of American High School successfully graduated from European School on May 20, 2022. For them, the last bell of school turned out to be emotional moment. After all, they said farewell to the place where they studied for 12 years. In short, they moved from one important stage of life to another important one.

AHS graduates are enrolled in the world's leading universities, where they will continue their studies for a bright and successful future. For example, AHS graduates Mariam Natroshvili and Niki Bezhuashvili enrolled at the Universities of Pennsylvania and Columbia. Continuing to study in a new environment will be a quite challenging experience for them. Therefore, I interviewed Mariam Natroshvili to find out how she feels after graduation and what she advises for students who also want to continue their studies at the world's leading universities.

How does it feel when you complete this stage of life and move on to a new, more important one?

Mariam Natroshvili: These last few years have been my main goal to get to one of the best universities in America and I am very happy to have achieved this great goal. As soon as I enrolled, this goal turned into a big challenge for me. I have been in the same situation for twelve years under similar conditions. I am very used to school and going to such a new stage is full of many different emotions for me.

Niki Bezhuashvili: It is very important for me to successfully complete this stage. European School showed me that you can achieve many things in life through hard work. I'm proud that most of the wishes I had conceived came true. I'm starting a new phase of life and I am ready to overcome new difficulties successfully.



What do you think about the changes and opportunities that await you after graduation?

Mariam Natroshvili: In my opinion, the stage of graduating from school and starting university involves many changes. First, the environment changes, the person at this point is strongly added to the sense of responsibility and begins the main period of his growth in life which is full of

many adventures and opportunities. These changes and opportunities are important for every student.

Niki Bezhuashvili: I hope studying at Columbia will help me expand international connections and opportunities. I have already met Columbian students on media platforms. I will do my best to turn the changes into opportunities.

What opportunities has the European School given you that will benefit other youths in the future?

Mariam Natroshvili: The application process everyone who has experienced it will agree that is one of the most difficult processes. It requires a lot of endurance and a lot of energy, but for me, my school has made this process a lot easier. The school creates such an environment, provides such knowledge, and introduces new subjects that help you to choose a career.

In addition, the European School gives you a great opportunity to participate in many extracurricular activities and to complete this list, which is highly focused on the select groups of students at universities. International conferences are often held at the school, about which I can say from personal experience that such projects bring great benefits to students and help a lot in reviewing applications.

Niki Bezhuashvili: I have developed discipline, in the process of numerous tests and university preparations I have improved my time management skills, and the multicultural environment of the school has helped me to develop large-scale thinking. In European School, I got used to working independently and mobilizing attention. Each student is allowed not to be afraid of challenges, to work methodically, and to set goals for academic and extracurricular achievement.

What are your favorite memories of the European School?

Mariam Natroshvili: Each second in school is very important to me. Each memory embodies my growth and great joy. Out of the many memories, I cannot single out my favorite memories, but all my memories are loaded with great emotions.

Niki Bezhuashvili: The first thing I remember is communicating with teachers and students. I think I was lucky in both directions and it was directly proportional to the relationship and the quality of learning. I miss one simple feeling - I always went to school early and; Contact with teachers and classmates before the lesson. It was very interesting and important, which gave me motivation and energy throughout the day. When you go to school, sometimes you do not even realize how important the small details are, but all the memories of school become precious when you graduate.

What made you choose to enroll at your university?

Mariam Natroshvili: For me, the necessary step in choosing a university was to find out in what direction I wanted to continue my studies. In my case, the preferred profession is economics, in particular, I want to continue my studies in finance. Based on this profession, my goal was to find a school where I could get the best quality education in my chosen profession.



One such institution is the University of Pennsylvania.

Niki Bezhuashvili: The university rating, the integrated campus in the city (in New York), and my brother factor (who is also studying at Columbia University) outweighed all the other offers and I decided to continue my studies at Columbia University

What would you recommend to students younger than you who want to enroll in the world's leading universities?

Mariam Natroshvili: In my opinion, those students who have such big dreams already have a big step toward success. The more a person aspires to bigger goals, the further he progresses. Therefore, what I would advise my peers is to never give up and not give up on these dreams. Something is not coming out? No problem! You can always start over. The process of achieving a goal primarily increases a person. Whether he achieves this goal or not, he becomes more established and learns more at the end of it all. So do not save energy and time, do not lose faith in yourself, and most importantly do not give up.

Niki Bezhuashvili: Take care of your academic strengths - high GPA in school, taking challenging subjects, high scores on a standardized test (if you pass the test) - without all this the chances are quite slim. Also think in addition to learning what you show in your talents, inclinations, and what activity shows your strength; Develop writing skills and constantly search for information on university websites and social media. When you have an unanswered question, be sure to trust the opinion of a professional or experienced person. Work on what you do well and love to present your strengths naturally and confidently in the following essays and interviews

We thank Mariam Natroshvili and Niki Bezhuashvilifor sharing her tips, thoughts, and emotions, and we wish her great success in the future. We also wish good luck to other AHS graduates who continue their studies at the world's leading universities.

Classics Competition Victor Ekaterine Gorgadze

By Natalie Singletary and Kristina Bazerashvili

American High School's very own 11th grade student Ekaterine Gorgadze won Lytham St Annes Classical Association 2022 Classics Competition. Although there were participants from all over the world, Ekaterine's unique piece about Neoptolemus outshined the other contestants and as a result she made us all proud by placing first.

In a short interview, when asked why she chose to participate in this competition she responded by saying that she took part in this competition last year but didn't reach her goals, instead of letting failure frighten her from trying again, this set back inspired her to undertake this challenge with more drive and as she put it "vehemence". She emphasized how she didn't compare herself to others but instead she states "what matters the most is how much better you are today than you were yesterday". Then when asked what she believed made her work stand out Ekaterine simply claimed that she tried to present Neoptolemus from a different perspective and the fact that Neoptolemus was truly "unsung" stood out to the judges. The advice Ekaterine would give to others wanting to participate is to only do it if it's out of pure interest. She urges peers to "diverge from a linear perspective, and choose a topic that you're genuinely passionate about" as writing in a "one-dimensional and analytical" tone is not the correct approach to activities like this. When questioned about difficulties she faced she replied that meeting her own standards and pushing her abilities was the toughest part. Not only did she want to satisfy herself but she also wanted to represent our school in the best way possible. About our school she declares "This win is as much theirs as it is mine".

Ekaterine Gorgadze not only won the international Classics Competition but in the process displayed immense amounts of perseverance and honor. She participated not for superficial reasons but to build her own character and prove to herself that she could do anything she set her mind to. In the process she kept her school in mind and in part dedicated her efforts to American High School.



International Conference “Georgia and the World”

On May 26th, 2022, American High School – European School hosted a teacher-student international online conference - “Georgia and the World”. The conference aimed to bring together new research projects about the cultural, historical, and social exchange between Georgia and the rest of the world.

The conference was held in cooperation with Cognia (International Education Services, USA) and Tbilisi State University (Tbilisi, Georgia). This cooperation between the school and the university strengthened student research skills.

At the conference opening European School Director Sophio Bazadze and American High School Director Irma Barbakadze welcomed the audience. During the opening plenary session Dr. Annette Bohling (Chief Global Accreditation Officer, Cognia; USA), Dr. Kem Hussain (Senior Vice President Global Strategy and Development, Cognia, USA) and Dr. Ludwig von Broekhuizen (Global Ambassador, Cognia; USA) delivered a presentation on the topic “Using Quality Standards to drive continuous improvement”. At the same session Medea Abulashvili (Associate Professor, Tbilisi State University; Georgia) and Eka Tchkoidze (Associate Professor, Ilia State University; Georgia) discussed “Some episodes of Greek-Georgian relations”.

Three sessions were organized in the framework of the conference: Language, Literature and Mythology; History, Religion and Culture; Politics, Education and Science.

At the closing session Dr. Maria Ojeda (Senior Vice President International Education Services; Cognia; USA) and Dr. Teresa Atwa (Vice President International Education, Cognia; USA) presented the topic "Broadening world views: The importance of international education."

As mentioned by Natia Tevzadze (American High School-European School, Academic Dean; Georgia) in the conference closing remarks, organizing international conferences is one of the areas of AHS work.

This conference was an important event for the European School community. Students and representatives from various programs and departments were attending it.



Earth Day

April 22 is Earth Day. Our children celebrated this day in European Kindergarten. They talked about how important it is to take care of our environment, the earth. They made very interesting handmade crafts with great pleasure.



Educational toys

Using the digital design, robotics, and Fablab, the MYP project was initiated to create educational and eco-friendly toys for kindergarten students. The Europeans school students were happy to present their toys to the children of the European kindergarten and gave them as gifts.



Independence Day of Georgia

May 26, we celebrated Independence Day of Georgia at the European Kindergarten. The children made Georgian flags, colored the map of Georgia, and listened to the Georgian national anthem. We took some memorable photos in the kindergarten playground.



Graduation ceremony

A graduation ceremony is always a happy occasion for the little ones as they celebrate the end of their preschool years.

This year the European Kindergarten graduates dressed up in white attires performed different songs, dances, and rhymes.

Young Graduates were awarded Certificates of Graduation. It was indeed a joyous and memorable day for not only the little ones but also a proud moment for the parents and teachers as well.

