The European Young Innovators Festival in Graz - inclusive, purpose driven, secure also during Covid-19

Every November for the last 17 years, Graz has turned into a hub for social innovation, entrepreneurship and European youth exchange. The festival 2021 was planned in 2 phases - Online on November 24th and an in-person event in November in Graz, which in the end has to be moved to May 2022.

Together with the WSA community, we discuss the most challenging topics of our time - climate change, gender equality, youth employment, migration, education, democracy and fake news. Bold, multi-stakeholder and international experts, thoughtleaders, government representatives, academics and young entrepreneurs meet on a level playing field. But enough of Corona - and off to a festival where you will learn, connect and become a shaper!

Join the European Young Innovators Festival in Graz - May 3-4 2022

- **Be inspired by the Innovation Pitches** by the 15 European Young Innovators
  Digital solutions for the UN SDGs by young European social entrepreneurs
- **Gain new skills** in engaging workshops
- **Connect with the entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem in Graz and Styria**
- **Discuss** in a multi-stakeholder process, how you can contribute to a united Europe, showing solidarity and learning from each other
- **Act** on the world’s most pressing issues and learn how digital content can make a difference
- **Work with international students** from all across Europe
- **Celebrate** the European Young Innovators during the award ceremony with high level attendees and contributors

Welcome to the European Young Innovators Festival in Graz!
The past 1.5 years showed us how fragile our society, our comfort, our way of living are - Covid19 was not only a health crisis, but also a huge challenge for the economy, education, gender equality and employment.

This summer the climate reminded us again that we need to change our way of living, and that we must act.

The European Young Innovators Festival offers a platform for bold and honest discussions among all stakeholders but, most importantly, allows us to listen to and learn from young digital entrepreneurs across Europe, who don’t accept the status quo but are already coming up with innovative solutions for societal challenges.

I am very much looking forward to meeting you online and in Graz.

**Let’s Connect & Act for Impact.**
Peter A. Bruck, WSA Chairman, Austria
European Young Innovators Festival

Part 2 | Curation 4 Impact

Graz, May 3-4, Locally curated events

Curated meetings - by invitation

In this phase of the pandemic, WSA decided to curate a relatively small festival - providing the winning teams with facilitated meetings and discussions that will support their entrepreneurial journey.

WSA always aims to be as inclusive as possible - but this year, due to the pandemic, the events in Graz are "by invitation only". The first online part already happened Online on Nov 24th 2021. See the recording of all pitches here.

European. Purpose Driven. Youth - who will come to Graz?

- 15 European Young Innovators | Meet the young founders of the best digital solutions improving European societies
- International speakers, mentors, thought-leaders and ecosystem shakers from the European WSA community
- International students from the Youth for Innovation program

Green Tech Valley | Startup Mark - The Ecosystem in Graz - Connect 4 Impact

Graz as the city of design, city of human rights, a startup city, agreen tech and university city is the ideal location for the European Young Innovators Festival. The international delegates will meet and connect with the local ecosystem in diverse formats.

Objectives & Formats

- **Connect 4 Impact - Matchmaking** sessions between the international WSA community & the local ecosystem
- Supporting social entrepreneurs & young founders - **Mentoring sessions** for European Young Innovators & local startups
- **Digital solutions for the UN SDGs - multi-stakeholder curated mini-events**, bringing the right people together to discuss Europe’s most pressing issues
- **Entrepreneurship for students** - Youth for Innovation program, matchmaking and pitches - international student teams analyse the European Young Innovators
- **Skill set improvement** - diverse range of hands-on workshops
- **B2B Networking meetings**

MEET THE 15 EUROPEAN YOUNG INNOVATORS

www.wsa-global.org
Evolving Program Agenda

Monday, May 2nd

19:00 Get2Gether and Welcome reception for international guests (by invitation only)
Hotel Weitzer Breakfast Area

Tuesday, May 3rd

09:00-10:00 1:1 Mentoring Breakfast for European Young Innovators
(@Hotel Weitzer (Location 1))

PARALLEL PROGRAM

LOCATION UNICORN (5)

Meet the European Young Innovators
Inspiration Shot Talks by
- KPI of Vilnius City, Lithuania
- Akademi.al, Albania
- #14tooman(y), Impactors, Austria
- Userwill, Germany
- Snapstudi, Ireland
- GirlBot, Serbia

Ethical Entrepreneurship connecting people, ecology and economics
in partnership with Gründungsgarage & Social Business Hub Styria
moderation: Nelly Cornejo, President Taal Project, Mexico, Netherlands
Interactive Discussion with
- Uli Grabenwarter, Deputy Director of Equity Investments, European Investment Fund, Luxembourg
- Ana Alvarez Monge, Migrapreneur, Germany
- Clara Tripodi, SPEAK social, Portugal
- Connor Sattely, Social Entrepreneur and Consultant, USA
- Abdulrahman Alashraf, Founder Freecom, Germany/Syria

12:30-13:30 Networking Lunch on site

13:30-14:30 Workshop Impact Measurement for Entrepreneurs
Connor Sattely, USA

15:00-16:00 Roundtable & Sharing of Best Practices Fundraising & Entrepreneurial Success Stories
moderated by Ana Alvarez Monge

17:00-18:30 CITYTOUR - Explore Graz
City of Design | City of Human Rights | City of Culture | City of Students | Startup City |

PARALLEL PROGRAM

LOCATION LENDHAFEN (3)

Meet the European Young Innovators
Inspiration Shot Talks
- Colibri Charity, Hungary
- Sharemac, Germany
- We Solve, Better Together, Denmark
- Cycle AI, Portugal
- CircuitMess, Croatia

There is No Planet B. Green Tech for Climate
in partnership with Green Tech Cluster
moderation: Peter A. Bruck, WSA Chairman
Interactive Fishbowl Discussion with
- Christine Röhrer, EIT Climate KIC, AT
- Thomas Strohmaier, Biobringer, AT
- Jan Pannenbäcker, METALOOP, AT
- Matthias Di Felice, Compuritas, AT
- Prof. Dr. Ilona Otto, Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change, University of Graz, Austria
- Gorjan Jovanovski, Founder AirCare, North Macedonia
- Moses Acquah, Afrolynk, Ghana
- Mathias Haas, Supersocial, AT
- Ana Brigovic, ACT Group, Croatia
- Jonas Herzing, GIZ, Germany

19:30-22:00 Networking Lunch on site

Roundtable & Sharing of Best Practices Fundraising & Entrepreneurial Success Stories
moderated by Mathias Haas, Supersocial, AT

Innovation and Ecosystems 4 Impact Interactive Discussion Round
moderated by Moses Acquah and Ana Brigovic

PEER TO PEER NETWORKING

19:30-22:00 Impact & Ecosystem Movers & Shakers for local and international partners
Location: Murinsel
by invitation only - get in touch to attend

Founders Pizza Dates for European Young Innovators and local entrepreneurs
Location: Don Camillo, Neue Welt Gasse 3
by invitation only - get in touch to attend
### Wednesday, May 4th

**9:00-10:00**

**1:1 Mentoring Breakfast** for European Young Innovators  
@Hotel Weitzer (Location 1)

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| Creating Impact  
Stefanie Beßler, Social Impact Award  
for Gründungsgarage and Social Business Hub members |

**Youth for Innovation Breakfast**  
@Hotel Weitzer (Location 1)

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| Storytelling for Social Entrepreneurs  
Mathias Haas, Austria |

**10:30-12:30**

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| Think outside your box  
Adam Montandon, UK, Denmark |

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| Blockchain, Crypto & Web 3 for Social Impact  
Carolina Rossi, Chile |

**12:30-13:30**

**Networking Lunch** at Unicorn and Lendhafen

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| Modern Aging and Demographic Change  
Experts Roundtable 2  
moderated by: Bernhard Weber, Uni Graz  
with: Maria Fellner, CEO digitAAL Life GmbH, AT  
Eva-Maria Trinkaus, Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Aging and Care, AT  
Kerstin Löffler, Albert Schweitzer Institut für Geriatrie und Gerontologie, AT,  
Lorenz Inou Tchatchoua and Benjamin Naurath  
Fit für Immer, Germany  
**Ethics & Data | Data for Good**  
Experts Roundtable 3, in partnership with DIO, SFG  
moderated by: Nina Popanton, DIO, AT  
with: Maria Eichseder,  
assistant professor of Cryptography, TU Graz, AT  
Sarah Stryeck, Institute of Interactive Systems and Data Science, TU Graz, AT  
Harald Friedl, Ethics & Data Specialist, FH Joanneum, AT  
Hristina Veljanova, Karl Franzens University, AT  
Carolina Rossi, CMO dcSpark, Chile  
Robert Ginthör, CTO & Head of Data Innovation, Know-Center, AT |

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| Open Space Discussion | Connect 4 Impact  
facilitated by Connor Sattely  
after two days of inspiration, after meeting the European Young Innovators, gaining new skills and insights -  
What do we need to discuss?  
What’s our joint call to action?  
How can we learn from each other and support young digital social entrepreneurs?  
This session is created by its attendees |

**18:30-22:00**

**EUROPEAN YOUNG INNOVATORS AWARD CEREMONY**

hosted by the City of Graz at Kunsthaus, space01  
with MCs Julia Schadinger & Adam Montandon  
DJ Ivory Parker  
on invitation only  
representatives from the regional and city government:  
Daniela Schlüsselberger, member of the city council, City of Graz  
Dr. Günter Riegler, City Councillor City of Graz  
Martina Kaufmann, Member of the Austrian Parliament
Your Team

1. Hotel Weitzer
2. Kunsthart Graz
3. Lendhafen
4. Murinsel
5. UNIcorn, Graz University
6. Don Camillo

Explore & connect with Graz and its ecosystem

European Young Innovators Festival LOCATIONS

1. Hotel Weitzer
2. Kunsthart Graz
3. Lendhafen
4. Murinsel
5. UNIcorn, Graz University
6. Don Camillo

MEET THE TEAM

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