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Big data is one of the most important issues of the future but it cannot be easily accessed! In order to become actionable and useful knowledge, data has to be pre-processed via data analytics methods. This is what we do at Know-Center: we are experts in the field of Big Data Analytics and by this way we bring innovation to companies.

As a top training ground, Know-Center offers young talents practical 'hands-on' experience within an exciting and fast growing market. If you are interested in our work, just visit us.

WINNING PROJECTS
DIGITAL CREATIVITY IMPROVING SOCIETY

European Youth Award – EYA 2015
WINNING PROJECTS
DIGITAL CREATIVITY IMPROVING SOCIETY

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2015
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Europe faces a lot of challenges: youth unemployment is scandalously high in some countries and rising in most, climate change is disregarded as a problem for other parts of the world, while obesity is assuming alarming proportions or financial literacy remains staggeringly low. And this is just to name a few.

As the current refugee crisis shows, it is extremely hard to find solutions on the political level. This political syncope is a consuming phenomenon overall in Europe. Many people feel helpless and are anxious about the future.

The ambitious aim of the European Union to become a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy seems very far from being reached.

But there are also many (young) people accepting the challenge and standing up actively. Digital technologies give individuals often the chance and power to reach goals otherwise out of reach. The generation of digital natives — being able to use ICT effectively & creatively — has the potential to become the world’s real heroes: saving and improving society!

The European Youth Award (EYA) aims to motivate young people all over Europe to tackle the continent’s challenges by giving them an international stage and fruitful platform to honor their efforts and find inspirational cooperation. But this is far from being all: winning the European Youth Award means knowledge gain, legitimacy, prime contacts, mentorship and access to a vibrant highly committed network which is eager to support them.

2015 – EYA on the rise

2015 was a very eventful year for the European Youth Award. Apart from the yearly contest, EYA conducted a two-days-long Game Jam in Graz to support students in gaining e-skills and develop creative apps. Furthermore, EYA convened the jury for the second and also final rounds in the European Youth Capital Cluj-Napoca. Two very intense days of judging finally produced 13 outstanding EYA Winners 2015 in the EYA categories, which reflect the goals of the Council of Europe and EU strategy Europe 2020: Healthy Life | Smart Learning | Connecting Cultures | Go Green | Active Citizenship and Money Matters.

This booklet provides you with all information about these impressive initiatives. Each project is creative and unique in its implementation and goals — be it helping blind people to use smartphones, fostering green behavior in everyday life or supporting micro-finance lenders in South Africa.

EYA presents these young and socially committed start-up entrepreneurs. They are a huge source of hope and they prove that the youth of our content is creative and courageous. They stand up | start up | scale up to make our world a better place.
Ladies and Gentlemen, dear participants of the European Youth Award Festival 2015!
The entire historic city centre of Graz is a world cultural heritage and we are also proud of our bustling cultural scene including a number of arts and music festivals which made us the Cultural Capital of Europe in 2003. But the most important goal for us is to develop Graz to the city of universities and science in this area of Europe and to edit out the creative and innovative power of our inhabitants as a “City of Design”.
As Mayor of the City of Graz it is my special pleasure to welcome so many innovative and young minds who present their multimedia ideas for digital entrepreneurship and digital innovations. Who could promote new ideas and ways of thinking better than the generation under the age of 30 with its affinity to new media? I would thus like to extend many congratulations to the winners of the European Youth Award 2015. They show how people can take control of their lives and inspire others with their creative ideas!
Yours

Christopher Drexler
Regional Minister for Health, Care Systems and Science, Styria
The European Youth Award (EYA) brings together young people less than 30 years of age who can handle the latest technology, demonstrate excellence in creative design, and are socially committed in their goals. These young people have one thing in common: they take the lead in standing up and addressing the needs in their communities. They think European and transcend borders and financial obstacles to achieve real improvements of society with their entrepreneurship.

Using digital communication and IT, they are driven by curiosity and the willingness to improve their societies and tackle pressing challenges. This year’s EYA winning projects once more provide an impressive spectre of what is possible in terms of young entrepreneurship, proving that the Internet can be one of thoughts, and that virtual reality can turn into societal impact.

The 13 winning projects of 2015 do more than reflect the EU strategy Europe 2020 or the objectives of the European Union. They scale up change today. Selected from submissions from all over Europe, the projects demonstrate what can be achieved when young people stand up and act together for societal change.

I wish you to get inspired and enthralled by the EYA winning projects in this catalogue/on this website! You’ll find among others:

- A simple, intuitive and low-cost software application assisting visually impaired people in utilizing touchscreen smartphones
- A social platform that brings together young people aged eight to nineteen years from higher and lower socio-economic backgrounds
- A free-standing vertical plant display offering analogue information – text, picture or digital information – in an innovative combination of vertical greening and eco-advertising services

The EYA is grateful to the City of Graz and the province of Styria for their support of the Winners’ Festival since 2012. Graz is not only City of Human Rights & Design but also hotspot for young digital innovation and inspiration. Thank you for your interest and your support,

Best wishes,

Peter A. Bruck
Hon. President of ICNM | Initiator of EYA
Your stories and achievements are a reminder of the crucial role young people play in advancing human rights, the rule of law and democracy across Europe. This year’s award showed once again how young people can help tackle some of the most pressing problems facing our societies, from high unemployment, to distrust in political institutions, to the absence of social rights in too many communities. The nominations also demonstrate how innovation and the use of digital technologies can help us meet these challenges. I congratulate the winners and wish all participants the best for their future activities.

Jean-Claude Frécon
President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Young people must have their say in how society is run, their innovative ideas make valuable contributions to promote democracy and social cohesion. Young people participate differently in democratic life today, using technologies to effect change, bringing novel solutions to the challenges facing our communities. Social cohesion is threatened by austerity measures, there is a rise in extremism and intolerance, we need their innovative ideas to meet citizens’ needs. Young people are an asset to Europe, but the economic/financial crisis has hit them hard. Unemployment, socio-economic inequalities, poverty and exclusion have soared. However, this is also a human rights crisis, young people have difficulty accessing and exercising their human/economic rights: participation is undermined, faith and trust in democracy declining. Local/regional authorities must help youth to be creative and innovative, to realise their full potential, to find their place in society, supporting entrepreneurship via funding and access to business incubators, integrating entrepreneurship into school curricula and training programmes, co-operating with businesses. Young people can impact on society – their projects help citizens, contributing to community development, creating social capital and promoting social inclusion – and creating a stable future for themselves.

Jörg Wojahn
European Commission, Head of Representation in Austria

The European Youth Award succeeds in an impressive manner in mobilizing each year brilliant young people to put their talent at the service of social good – with innovative solutions for inclusion, smart living and sustainable growth. Social entrepreneurship is not only providing future-oriented social services but also creating quality employment opportunities. In the area of social services, in particular, digital solutions and technologies are not a synonym for substituting manpower but quite the opposite. New societal challenges require innovative solutions. The integration of refugees for instance will be a long-term challenge for many EU countries. Young social entrepreneurs like the winners of the EYA will certainly be instrumental in tackling this task. One of the main conditions for young entrepreneurs and start-ups in scaling up their projects is access to finance. The Investment Package, which is an essential element of the European Commission’s growth and jobs strategy, will mobilise at least additional 315 billion Euros in investment and can provide risk capital also for small social enterprises and start-ups. A real digital single market would provide great opportunities for digital products and services, but it does not yet exist. This is why the European Commission has put forward a proposal to set-up a single digital market which will allow young innovators to make their products and innovative solutions known and useable without restrictions throughout the EU.

My congratulations to this year’s awardees and best wishes for the further development of their projects!
Sonja Stessl  
Austrian State Secretary for Public Administration in the Federal Chancellery

The European Youth Award turns the spotlight on young people with ideas and talents. The creativity and phantasy of these young start-ups and social entrepreneurs with respect to the digital sphere is impressive and it shows the high potential they have! It is important that children and teenagers are supported according to their gifts and talents in school and afterwards, and that they have equal opportunities. The European Youth Award motivates young people to deal with digital technologies and its social consequences and to find creative solutions.

The internet changes our world with breathtaking speed; digital natives take it for granted. The Federal Chancellery welcomes the European Youth Award and promotes the special award “social impact” for the project with the most positive social impact.

I want to thank all the people involved in the organization of the project European Youth Award 2015 and congrats to all the winners!

Alois Stöger  
Austrian Federal Minister for Transport, Innovation and Technology

The young people from all over Europe assembling at this year’s EYA Festival already for the fourth time to network, discuss, and exchange know-how are the future of our continent. Austria and Europe need more young people in engineering and science as these research-centred areas provide the solutions for the challenges of our time. My Ministry runs specific programs to promote the young generation, e.g. through the „Focus on Talent“ approach offering 3000 annual internships for pupils in innovative companies. I cordially congratulate the winners of EYA 2015 and wish all attendants of the Festival inspiring days in Graz.

Sebastian Kurz  
Austrian Federal Minister for Europe, Foreign Affairs and Integration

The young creative minds of today are our wealth and prosperity of tomorrow. Digitalisation is a major trend changing the way we live, we work and we participate in society. It also changes the way individual businesses work on the small scale and the way the economy works in general. I am convinced that digitalisation presents huge opportunities for every single one of us and for society as a whole.

We have many young talented and ambitious as well as creative minds in Austria ready to take this opportunity. I want to further encourage our inventors, designers, entrepreneurs and researchers to continue to find new solutions benefitting our societies. The European Youth Award offers a glimpse into our future and into the young generations’ digital tool box. We can use this digital tool-box to adapt technologies to human needs and create a win-win situation for our societies based on participatory models. I want to thank all young people engaged in this endeavour and encourage you all to continue to pursue your visions of the future.

Franz Fischler  
President of the European Forum Alpbach

Young people are the most valuable asset for today’s and future society. They are creative, innovative and digital natives. I sincerely believe that it is on us to give them a chance to develop and enhance their ideas and projects. Therefore, the European Forum Alpbach and European Youth Award share the same goal: to give young people a unique opportunity for interdisciplinary encounter, networking, and civic participation.

I am amazed by this year’s winning projects and spirit of the teams. They truly show that European Youth does not only recognize problems but also accept the challenge to solve them in a very creative and outstanding way. I wish all winners a great time at the EYA Festival and stamina to continue their passionate work.
WINNING THE EUROPEAN YOUTH AWARD MEANS ...

WINNERS EVENT

INTERNATIONAL STAGE

LEGITIMACY

PROMOTION

KNOWLEDGE

VIBRANT NETWORK

TRIP TO GRAZ

PROJECT CHECKS

MENTORSHIP

PRIME CONTACTS

EYA FESTIVAL | GRAZ, AUSTRIA

October - November

November 18 – 21

EYA STUDENT ONLINE PROJECT
Wings to success: Mentorship Program

Called to life in 2014, the EYA Mentorship Program turned out to be one of the most valuable things the EYA winners have gained. Starting up with a brilliant idea is just the beginning of a long, stony path to build up sustainable and profitable business. EYA winners proof to have the drive: they are full of energy and motivated to change the world and tackle societal challenges. But sometimes it just needs a little bit more: business know-how, entrepreneurial expertise & experience are key-factors to take off and skyrocket.

13 committed, outstanding and impressive personalities have agreed this year to share their knowledge with the EYA Winners 2015. Each of them has selected one project and will guide and accompany the winning team until the EYA Festival. We thank all mentors for their commitment! Please find personal statements about their chosen projects on the following pages.
Ambassador network: joined forces for pan-European outreach!

Working together as EYA ambassadors, the former winners, jurors, speakers and participants support young creative minds from all over Europe to develop ideas and projects to apply for EYA!

Tirelessly on the lookout for the most innovative digital projects – be it websites, apps or other installations – from start-ups and entrepreneurs, they spread the word and EYA spirit among theirs networks. They are highly active and ambitious to change the world. We heartily thank the EYA ambassadors for their great engagement & support!
The first European Youth Award developers-marathon gathered 41 creative minds from 7 nations in Graz from May 29-31.

Servers instead of sun, coding games instead of swimming. 41 computer designers participated in the first European Youth Award (EYA) gaming session on a hot May weekend, and used their creativity to develop new apps for PC or smartphone. In a so called Game Jam, they evolved 8 new and creative game prototypes in less than 48 hours.

In co-organization with

with kind support

Chore Score
PRODUCERS: Nejc ANCLIN, Mac KREBERNIX, Stefan FUTTINGER, Conny RAUCH

Squash Berry
PRODUCERS: Nejc ANCLIN, Raphaela KLEIN, Matic LEVA, Gideon UNGER, Valerio ZANNINI

Granny, don’t die
Producers: Thomas KATTER, Susanna KATTER, Massimo ROSIN, Andreas STACHIX, Markus WEGER

Swim Green
PRODUCERS: Nick ACORNE, Sabrina AUER, Daniel RAITHOFER, Marco FRUHWIRTH, Stefanie HORVATH, David SZAMMER
The categories of the European Youth Award are tied directly to the priorities of the Council of Europe. They also reflect the goals of the strategy 2020 defined by the European Union (EU). The EYA thus contributes to progress toward these goals and motivates young digital natives to take action on Europe's most pressing issues such as employment, sustainable energy, education, social cohesion, cultural diversity and healthcare.

HEALTHY LIFE
- fitness
- nutrition
- healthcare

CONNECTING CULTURES
- arts
- games
- diversity

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP
- free journalism
- open government
- social cohesion

SMART LEARNING
- education
- e-skills
- open science

GO GREEN
- sustainable energy
- mobility
- urban development

MONEY MATTERS
- financial literacy
- employment
- smart consumerism
This category is about physical well-being and helping people with health conditions to lead happy, fulfilled lives. Fifty percent of Europeans are overweight, one in five is obese. Diseases such as diabetes, hepatitis and metabolic disorders are on the rise. Economic and social barriers frequently hinder access to medical treatment. Healthy Life initiatives promote and support a healthy lifestyle and balanced diet. They may, for example, employ smart health devices to treat medical conditions efficiently, raise awareness for neglected diseases and encourage sports and physical exercise among communities.

This category is about finding new, creative approaches to education and learning. Many high schools and universities report tremendous drop-out rates and a social education-gap remains reality in most countries. Smart Learning innovations may, for example, provide free-access training courses, foster ICT competence, create scientific understanding, support international knowledge exchange, or open up new capacities for scientific research. This also includes tools that boosting learners’ motivation to study, platforms for open-access education and other solutions for making scientific progress beneficial to all.
This category is for all the unusual, crazy, digital projects that manifest a creative approach to contemporary culture. United in diversity has to be more than just a motto! Projects submitted to Connecting Cultures may combine programming, artistic and musical skills, find ways to preserve customs and traditions, or create awareness for mutual understanding and intercultural communication. The category also comprises infotainment apps, valuable games, interactive exhibitions, performances, animations, e-music and digital art – everything is possible!

This category comprises environmentally friendly solutions as well as envisioning pathways to innovative development of our world. Vanishing natural resources, skyrocketing energy consumption, unresolved waste issues and accelerated climate change are among today’s most pressing challenges. Go Green innovations are ecologically beneficial, have a positive impact on our environment or make existent infrastructure more efficient. This can, for example, be achieved by showing new ways to increase energy efficiency, harness renewable resources, reduce CO2 emission through mobility innovations or finding solutions for smart cities, agriculture and sustainable travel.
This category is about exposing injustice and fighting social exclusion. While individual privacy seems on the decline, multinational deals tend to become more obscure. Many European countries still score high on the Corruption Perceptions Index. Also discrimination due to age, race, gender, ethnicity and sexuality is still an issue in most places. Active Citizenship projects may be honest examples of participatory journalism or fight for transparent policy making and the right to free speech. They may also encourage political participation, create awareness for human rights and support community building.

This category looks for solutions that enhance economic understanding, fight poverty and help people to make a decent living. Almost one in four European youths is unemployed. Also with growing income gaps, many working people struggle to make ends meet. Money Matters wants innovations that create opportunities for social commerce, reduce unemployment or illustrate how money works. This, for example, includes innovative career counselling, responsible spending, fair trade, taxation and banking, crowd funding and microcredits, as well as initiatives that create and support a start-up friendly economic environment.
It is part of our normal daily life to use “state of art” mobile phones for many of our communication activities and other useful tasks. However, many People cannot use these devices because they are visually impaired. To open this large group of people a simple, useful and affordable way to use smartphones is the goal of Blindshell – and they are making large steps reach this goal. Simple, useful and affordable, that is what impressed me and that is the key to the market. Therefore, it is really worth to give it a go and try to bring it to an entrepreneurial success.

Bernhard Weber
Startup Coaching and Business Development, Science Park Graz, Austria

Petr Svobodnik,
CEO, 27 years old, Czech Republic

Daniel Novak
Co-Founder, 39 years old, Czech Republic
BlindShell assists visually impaired people in utilizing touchscreen smart phones by providing a simple, intuitive and low-cost software application that can be installed on the majority of smart phones. BlindShell replaces the phone’s default interface with an easy-to-use interface controlled by touch gestures and voice commands, letting the visually impaired communicate and use an expanding set of tools. With 285 million visually impaired people worldwide, 39 million of whom are completely blind, technological developments in mobile phone telephony and its concentration on touchscreen smart phones have left out a large user group. The BlindShell software application replaces the normal interface with a minimalistic design, large white-on-black text and a large number pad. Commands are given through four simple finger movements, and feedback is provided to the user via text-to-voice announcements and vibrations. BlindShell fundamentally improves the daily life of visually impaired users, who must otherwise rely on outdated classic handsets or purchase expensive specialized hardware. Current functionality includes: call; SMS; contacts; alarm clock; notes; calendar; book reader; integration of the biggest online digital library Bookshare; colour recognition tool (via camera), banknote recognition tool (via camera); and a magnifying glass (via camera). An e-mail application, web browser and GPS navigation are in the works. BlindShell is currently available in eight world languages.

Czech Republic

www.blindshell.com

Czech, German, English, Spanish, Polish, Portuguese, French, Italian
Markus Hoefinger  
CEO and co-owner  
Wunderman PXP, Austria

Consumer-driven health is coming and health tech is blazing hot right now. That’s exactly where two young Swedes started when they had the idea to build a cloud and big-data based health tool. I was impressed how far they have already developed their idea, without any substantial funding (bootstrapping only) and having a bread-and-butter job to finance their start-up. Complex Disease Detector is more than a mobile app or a web-service, it has the ambition to build a data-driven and highly scalable digital health system. And it’s more than an idea: it has already been successfully tested with 500 patients and has been acknowledged within the health-care industry.
Complex Disease Detector is an accurate, non-invasive and inexpensive tool for screening & early diagnosis of coronary artery disease, the most common type of heart disease, which kills seven million people worldwide every year.

Using a patient’s standard medical data including a normal blood test, ECG & demographic data, Complex Disease Detector is a more precise decision support tool for doctors than current screening tools, and eliminates the need for unnecessary angiography operations. While medical data grows faster than the ability of healthcare systems to utilize it, technological advancements have made it possible to create different digital health solutions where healthcare and ICT meet.

With its data mining and machine learning approach, Complex Disease Detector also helps patients to discover whether they suffer from heart disease, even if they have no apparent symptoms. Complex Disease Detector is an award-winning invention successfully tested with more than 500 patients and based on machine learning, meaning it gets smarter and smarter over time: as more patients are tested, the more accurate it becomes.

Complex Disease Detector will save many lives and significant costs, impact positively on the health care system and bring value to individuals, research institutions, academia, the medical community and health care system as a whole.
The development of technology, for example connectivity, sensors or data analytics will offer amazing opportunities for the societies to work on and find solutions to major societal challenges. One obvious area of attention is wellness and health, where aging population poses increasing challenges in many countries around the world. UMRE is an example of an ambitious project combining complex technologies and expertise in diverse disciplines and therefore representing the evolving business landscape based on data and connectivity exceptionally well.
The primary objective of UMRE is to create an intuitive technology and human action vehicle to help injured people, those with disabilities, and older people with age-related musculoskeletal problems, by rehabilitating the damaged area and promoting movement. Wearing an exoskeleton put on in only two to five minutes and based on a personal diagnosis of the wearer’s actual movements, anyone can begin to move normally. Other applications include rehab after a heart attack or assistance with atrophied limbs due to a long bedridden recovery or even in the case of cerebral palsy. UMRE was developed by partners in neurology and cybernetics by gathering data derived from experimental equipment measuring pressure and muscle load on arms and legs. The computer program synthesizes results and optimizes movement. The prototype exoskeleton is a highly sophisticated integrated product combining hardware, sensors, servomotors, controllers and related software. While exoskeleton models to date have had military applications, UMRE offers an innovative and practical option for universal medical and civilian uses with an optimized software management system for human movement recording and playback, with improved ergonomics. Even with heavy use, UMRE can run for up to ten hours on a single battery charge, mobilizing people back into everyday activities.
The project “Aprendices Visuales – Visual Learning for children with autism” showcases in a great way how eLearning can empower young children with special needs. I’m really impressed about the 20 e-books and interactive apps, which have been developed to help children with autism to learn and communicate, all while enjoying the stories they hear. Aprendices Visuales offers interactive apps with sounds, interactive images and different reading formats in two collections to reach all different kinds of children. I believe that Aprendices Visuales has potential to enabling the skills development of children with autism worldwide - about 1 percent of the world population has autism spectrum disorder. People with autism have great skills as they are visual learners and highly valuable for the job market e.g. SAP SE hires since 2012 through its Autism at Work program and is aiming for 1 percent of its staff, currently at 74,500, by 2020.
Aprendices Visuales is a project developing technology solutions for children with autism. To date, 20 e-books and interactive apps have been developed to help children with autism learn and communicate, all the while enjoying the stories they hear. Scientific studies indicate that children with autism are visual learners needing visual tools. Pictograms are the obvious solution. Two collections of digital books with pictograms aim to reach all different kinds of children. The first one, named “Learn”, is designed for smaller children or those with more difficulties, and the second one, “Enjoy”, is for children with less difficulties. Interactive apps with sounds, interactive images and different reading formats allow children to use Enjoy and Learn on their own. With 200,000 children with autism in Spain, 650,000 in France and 700,000 in UK, Aprendices Visuales aims to reach them all, by translating their products into the languages of these countries and partnering with associations which work with children with autism. Aprendices Visuales has created free open source products allowing universal access and the possibility for families and professionals to personalize the content, while giving children with autism the chance to develop their potential.
Günther Wellenzohn
Innovation Manager, @ Infineon, Austria

I’m really impressed by this project. It’s really a pity that I’m no pupil, teacher or school principal – otherwise I’d registered at once myself or my school to participate in this community. It’s fun to share, to learn, to coach & to earn points with the talentometer :)

Veronica Berne
Community Manager, 27 years old, Austria
talentify.me is a social platform that brings together young people, aged eight to nineteen years, from higher and lower socio-economic backgrounds, and encourages them to help each other. The platform aims to break the vicious circle connecting level of education with socio-economic background.

By empowering students to give peer-to-peer tutoring and share knowledge, talentify.me lets students strengthen their social skills and sense of responsibility. Children from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds get access to affordable tutoring from peers and thereby manage to succeed in school. To motivate young people, a gamification system with online and offline components, is implemented at the core of the platform: good actions and interactions among peers are rewarded with bonus points to be spent on basic professional trainings and workshops provided by partners such as IBM and SAP.

Thus talentify.me reconnects schools with real life, by establishing a network of partners that enthusiastically engage with pupils and share their professional know-how. It’s a win-win situation as pupils benefit from the workshops, while companies and universities get access to promising talent right in school. The long-term goal is to establish peer-to-peer learning as an alternative to existing tutoring and create a bottom-up movement throughout the education system, while enabling companies to nurture the individual talents of young people. Working closely with charitable and social agencies ensures that talentify.me connects with the children who need support the most.
What’s most interesting about NOC’s approach to social media is that it is centred not on a user’s virtual life, but on his or her real one. It’s a staggeringly simple concept and I hope they succeed. In our increasingly mobile and peripatetic world, they certainly deserve to.

Stephen Collins
Vice President
Corporate Affairs,
Microsoft EMEA,
Belgium

MENTOR
NOC is a web platform that helps expats or any curious person to meet people and make new friends based on shared interests. A global average of 2.4 hours per day is spent using social media, amounting to about 50 days per year spent eating, sleeping, and breathing online. Paradoxically, by shifting socialisation to the net, social media isolate people in reality. Since more and more interactions are happening virtually, NOC aims to provide people with an easy and quick tool to help them socialise in real life. For people who want to have a coffee break with a real person and not their smartphone, NOC makes it as easy as selecting pegs like “coffee”, “music” or “movie”, plus a location, and a time. Participants can either join a meetup, organize one or NOC someone specific, and presto – make a new friend! Building on partnerships with Leiden University, the Centre for Innovation, Peace and Informatics Lab and The Venture Academy, NOC was specially launched during Orientation Week Leiden to help integrate new international and masters students arriving for the first time at Leiden University, adding up to a great community building strategy.

www.nocapp.co
In recognition of their remarkable contribution to 2015 EYA Award, I want to thank the project team of “Origin” for their excellent work.

This project shows in an excellent manner the combination of technology, art and creativity. The user is confronted in a very creative way with elements of gaming and enforcing imagination. It also gives the user ways to materialize answers on ethical and behavioral questions. I’m very excited to see how an academic discipline like evolution theory can be ported to a new level with innovation and technology. This will definitely help users to see evolution from a different angle by adding parts of their personal nature and behavior into an augmented world.

Andre Perchthaler
Global Alliances Manager
@ NXP, Austria
Origin is an augmented reality application for smartphones. You can create your own species and creatures, your own world, and help them survive in a modifiable environment. A creature can be made using predefined body parts, such as bone-, plant-, machine- and insect-parts. AR technology makes it come truly alive. A group of four creatures of the same species lives in an augmented biotope influenced by the user, who acts as a natural force upon the life of the species and interacts with the environment in order to fulfil the species’ needs. Creatures with unfulfilled needs may undergo an algorithmic adaptation, changing their body parts, their physiognomy and social behaviour. The user’s challenge is to influence the world through an analogue turning disc or by building digital obstacles, thus exerting change upon the environment and indirectly upon the species. This may lead to evolutionary changes. If a creature does not thrive, it may lose body parts or even vanish, as care from the user declines. If the user takes good care, however, creatures will evolve, adding body parts, habits and needs, in turn requiring more care. Origin teaches people to understand the interdependency between environment and evolution, confronting them with the choice between responsibility and careless naivety. As the playing field fits many different formats, the play situation can range from a quick interaction with a tiny pocket universe, to the look and feel of an illustrated book, assuring an aesthetic and curiosity-driven experience.
CityTree is a fascinating solution to transform CO2 and other pollutants into biomass in urban areas using high-tech mosses. Moreover its sensors, computing power and extension capabilities enables current and future use cases for the Smart City. It features newest technologies in the areas of clean energy generation and storage, plant irrigation, sensor technology, internet of things and telecommunications.
CityTree is a free-standing vertical plant display, 4 meters high, 3 meters wide and half a meter deep, which can target and reduce air pollution, especially fine dust or nitrous oxides. The display offers analogue information – text, picture or digital information – in an innovative combination of vertical greening and eco-advertising services. Further features include a plant database, parametric product design, and an algorithmic mapping system with particle flow simulation. Photovoltaic panels provide the energy required for control, monitoring and transmission technology. The data generated, for instance from water monitoring, can be sent to local sub-contractors for follow-up maintenance. CityTree can filter up to 250 g of particulate matter daily, contribute up to 15% reduction of NOx per year, and bind up to 240 t of CO2e involved in greenhouse warming. At this rate, five CityTrees placed in a street with high traffic can reduce the fine dust pollution by half.

A temperature reduction of 17 K in the vicinity is possible, thus preventing heat islands in inner cities. By combining several CityTrees, a climate infrastructure forms, which helps to reduce air pollution. CityTree serves as a platform for the reliable communication of sustainability measures, offering companies the possibility to actively improve cities with air cleaning measures, while providing street beautification. The first CityTree was installed in the city of Jena, to be followed by a network throughout Germany.
As family with two kids, we use social media recommendation websites a lot, but that often leads us back to the beaten fast-track on which many other tourists rush from one point-of-interest to the next one. That’s where I feel that Pretty Streets fills a gap: it shows you not only where to go, but also how to go there. And there is emphasis on “to go”, literally speaking. Exploring a city by walking is relaxing (there are exceptions, I know!) gives you time to inhale the spirit of the place you visit and is environmentally unsuspicious. That works also surprisingly well in my hometown Vienna. Thanks to Pretty Streets, I found an entertaining and relaxing way to explore my hometown with my kids – in an economical as well as ecological way. And it makes it easier to recommend things to see when people are on a very limited time budget. Thanks to the function within Pretty Streets where you state your time budget, I simply recommend to download the app.
Pretty Streets is for everyone who likes to walk about discovering new and beautiful places, whether new arrivals in an unknown city or curious people discovering their own town. For the first time, itineraries are not mapped to be short, but to be beautiful, and address both avid walkers and those with reduced mobility. Unequaled today, Pretty Streets offers a service to help both tourists and residents. A time and interest-based itinerary calculator makes it possible to get from point A to point B taking not necessarily the fastest, but the most interesting route or to create a loop itinerary, taking the user on a walk through must-see places nearby, depending on the time available. Itineraries can be adapted to wheelchair requirements, taking into account obstacles on sidewalks or slopes. A map of the loveliest places is generated from public domain POIs or geo-located photo APIs, topped up with user-generated content. It’s as if a good friend has highlighted a map showing where it’s worth going.

The first six cities are available; a new one is being added weekly. Pretty Streets aims to be for all leisure itineraries what google maps, apple plan, or citymapper are for traditional A to B utility transport, a world leader in leisure itineraries and cartography, with an aesthetic twist.

Pretty Streets

www.pretty-streets.com

France

English, French
Teaching only theoretically does not have any impact; youth and students have to be motivated to take action and DO something. And that’s exactly what Exempt from Theory does. This project also demonstrates that young Europeans really think about how to motivate their peers to make a change and improve society. A fact which is really comforting that Europe has a bright future ahead.

Manar AlHashash
eContent Alchemist & Activist
Board of Directors, World Summit Award (WSA), Kuwait

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Paula Aleksandra Bruszewska, CEO & Project Manager, 27 years old, Poland
Marcin Bruszewski, Vice President, 27 years old, Poland
Aleksandra Chudaś
Mentoring Programme Manager, Social Media Manager, 20 years old, Poland
Karolina Toczek, Event Manager, 22 years old, Poland
Jakub Potyrała, Talent Development Manager, 21 years old, Poland
Daria Nożyńska-Półka, Finance Manager, 22 years old, Poland
Rafał Flis, Vice President, 29 years old, Poland
Exempt from Theory was triggered by the observation that only 16% of youth ages 15-24 volunteer in Poland, a disturbing statistic, since civic attitudes are formed exactly at this age. This Olympiad is for high school and university students and teaches practical competences such as teamwork or time management, while simultaneously promoting positive civic attitudes. In contrast to all other – only theoretical – Olympiads in the Polish school system, Exempt from Theory is the first practical Olympiad giving young people opportunities to gain project management competences for free, without having to go to big cities for trainings. Participants access an IT tool – a tailor-made intuitive portal which guides the team step by step through the entire project life cycle. Participants learn to make professional project documents and score points for in fact achieving their aims. In the first year, the Olympiad drew seven thousand youth nationwide. 80% of them admitted that Exempt from Theory was the first real-life project in their lives, the first time they had ever worked in a team, made a schedule, a budget or had to find co-workers and partners. The first edition saw 339 social projects with 1443 finalists reaching half a million beneficiaries and engaging 2261 partner organizations. Exempt from Theory offers a spectacular tool for organizing grassroots movements based on voluntarism benefitting local communities, develops young people’s competences for the job market and creates social capital.
 Helperon has a chance of being a part of the greatest change there is – making the world a better place. This change requires new and easy ways to make a difference in your everyday life. An easy-to-use app is a great way to reach people in their daily life and to be a part of people’s lives. Also one of the interesting aspects of Helperon is that it gives opportunities to all of the stakeholders. Being beneficial to the users, the companies and the social causes is great way to approach the problem. But no idea will enjoy great success without great user experiences. Helperon’s greatest challenge is to make the experience a great one to all stakeholders. No great user experience is made out of pity, regret or obligation. And how I love a challenge.
Helperon is an app in which the business goals of for-profit companies intersect with the fundraising targets of non-profit organizations and the altruism of donors. The project builds on the fact that 45% of consumers in Italy are willing to pay more for products/services of socially responsible companies. Donations work as follows: a company inserts a commercial in the dedicated section of the app and establishes the ceiling of views it desires and the related donation budget. The user signs up for the app through Facebook or email and chooses a social cause close to their heart. The user then selects an advertising video according to their personal interests: at the end of the viewing lasting about 15 seconds, the time devoted to the ad is quantified in euros. Once the pre-set number of views is reached, the total amount is devolved to the charity. Users also benefit from prizes and discounts on products and services. In doing so, the Helperon app lets a company loyalize clients, while enhancing its image as a socially committed entity by associating its products and services with a charitable cause. Ultimately, charities can increase resources through an innovative system which transforms the time used to see commercials into the delight of doing good and redeploy funds that companies would otherwise spend on advertising. To increase transparency, charities give feedback on the projects funded. Helperon brings together charitable donors, commercial firms and non-profits in making common cause for a sustainable world.
Peter Olson, President, DIGITALEUROPE; Vice President, Ericsson, Belgium

Congratulations to the awamo team for an outstanding achievement in winning the European Youth Award 2015! As a mentor I am honored and excited to be able to give my feedback and input to the project. Awamo captures one of the core believes of the company I work for, in the Networked Society, anything that can benefit from being connected, will be connected. Modern technology and communication is changing the world we live in at an unprecedented speed. Awamo is bringing this change to those parts of the world where the impact and leverage will be the greatest. Out of own experience I know some of the challenges in addressing the African marketplace, but also the great rewards possible, not just from a financial perspective. awamo has gotten off to a great start and I am confident this is the beginning of a fantastic journey.
awamo offers a complete credit- and risk management solution for microfinance institutions (MFIs) in sub-Saharan Africa. It opens up the market for low-income borrowers by providing MFIs with affordable, comprehensive digital solutions that capture borrower data using fingerprints for identification, monitor MFI operations in real-time, and generate credit reports — all of which decrease interest rates and increase financial inclusion. Currently, MFIs offer financial services to those without access to banks, but due to high default rates, charge annual interest rates of over 60%, which small enterprises cannot afford. Using a tablet PC with awamo software and an attached fingerprint scanner, MFIs can record every client interaction via the Mobile Office, allowing MFIs and their clients to create accounts, check credit scores, handle loan disbursement and repayment, and make deposits and withdrawals. For the first time, data can be captured in-field and transmitted to a secure, cloud-hosted database via the mobile network. MFIs can instantly access the data via a web-based management, monitoring, and reporting system. The emerging database is the starting point for credit reporting. Enabling access to finance for small scale farmers & business owners in remote areas, catalyses local markets & benefits communities. In contrast to other MFI IT-systems which are confined to PC interfaces, awamo offers a mobile solution that digitizes every client interaction from the start.

http://awamo.com
Peter Bosek
Chief Retail Officer of Erste Group Bank AG, Austria

Feelix Finanz App is a fan of feelix’ approach to reducing complexity and bringing clarity into their clients’ financial lives. Feelix is an inspiring example of how fresh ideas can help tackle complex societal challenges – such as enhancing financial literacy – in a simple and convenient fashion. Bravo!
With the feelix financial app, consumers can manage all their finances in one app, including insurance policies, cash investments, loan contracts and real estate searches. The aim is to help consumers earn more and achieve financial goals simply and free of charge. Users simply photograph existing contracts or upload PDFs in the app, feelix does the rest. The user can then maintain contracts or add documents on their own. A support agreement simplifies the updating of contract data and documents, synchronizing dates with the respective provider. An annual contract check automatically compares prices, performance and development. Consumers interested in real estate, record their property searches in the feelix app and receive appropriate suggestions from partners automatically and without fees. In addition to the use of feelix on mobile phones, all data is synchronously available in a browser version. An integrated Business Intelligence System enables users to analyse financial contracts by cross-referencing data. The feelix financial app targets people who have difficulties with maintaining an overview of their financial affairs, such as unemployed youth, recent immigrants or young mothers, increasing financial literacy for all.
Jury Process

**FIRST ROUND:** August 1-23 ONLINE JURY (41 jurors)
**SECOND ROUND:** September 10-12 ONSITE JURY (17 jurors)
**EYA YOUNG DIGITAL CHAMPION (OVERALL WINNER):** November 18-21 FESTIVAL GRAND JURY

**7 CRITERIA**

- **DESIGN**
  - Usability, structure and aesthetic value of layout and graphics

- **INNOVATION**
  - Creativity, originality and novelty

- **CONTENT**
  - Idea, objective, quality and comprehensiveness

- **INITIATIVE**
  - Social entrepreneurial spirit and business potential

- **SOCIAL VALUE**
  - Efficiency and strategic relevance for goals of the Council of Europe and Europe 2020

- **IMPACT**
  - Maturity, extent and sustainability of impact

- **INTERACTIVITY**
  - Relevance for and engagement of target group
Online Grand Jury

I was very honored to be part of the EYA Jury this year. Nowadays, young people are one of the biggest assets we have in Europe. Their passion, commitment and dedication could "destroy" all the fences we face in our societies. As a EYA Jury I had the pleasure to see that there is a lot of young, motivated and talented people that put their innovative ideas into practice, all across Europe.

Christian Bauer
ICT specialist and pioneer
Austria

The EYA is a refreshing initiative promoting best young content in Europe and means learning from the best.

Marsida Bandilli
PhD Researcher @ University of Antwerp, Albania/Belgium

Martin Blaha
President of IAESTE Austria, Austria

Evaluating the Go Green Solutions showed me that young people in Europe are not only concerned about the future but very creative about tackling coming challenges. It was a pleasure to review these ideas and implementations about improving life quality, modern urbanism and sustainability in European cities. From my point of view the proposals sent in about learning about our environment, actively improving our air quality and getting to know our cities we live in better combined with creative use of mobile applications and reasonable proposals for unique selling points for companies will make this ideas become part of our daily life in the near future.

Sébastien Bourdu
Freelance web developer and UX designer for social justice, France

The quality of the projects shows that this generation can eradicate poverty and create a world of abundance for everyone.

Dušica Birovljević
Founder and owner of Nomcentar, Serbia

Congratulations to all winners of the European Youth Award. This is my second time as Grand Juror, and it is my favorite task. It was interesting to see all these projects from all around Europe. It is an honor to be a part of this innovative initiative and it is fantastic and inspiring.

Cristina Birsan
Campaign Coordinator, International Volunteer Day, United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Romania

It is such an honour to take part in this pan-European contest which recognizes and upgrades the skills of young people whose creative ideas contribute to our common future. They make change happen and build more inclusive and vibrant societies.

Graham Cooper
Senior Lecturer @ University of Lincoln, UK

The 2015 edition of the EYA comes as a beam of hope in a year of great challenges for Europe. The growing number of applicants proves that innovation, active citizenship, and hard work can become a useful alternative to social exclusion, inequality and the lack of prospects for the younger generation. The achievements of the winning projects set an example on how sustainability, empowerment and cultural connection can be encouraged when socially conscious ideas and technology are organized with purposeful creativity.

Jak Boumans
Managing director of Electronic Media Reporting, Netherlands

It has been a great honour to be part of the Grand Jury for this years award. I found the whole process enlightening and inspiring, as it’s only through such initiatives as this that we get to share and expose ourselves so such a diverse spectrum of fantastic work from all corners of the continent. It was a pleasure to collaborate with my fellow jurors to reach our final conclusions.

Ángel Chacón
Creative Thinker and Communications Manager at Lakoob
Spain / Netherlands

The 2015 edition of the EYA comes as a beam of hope in a year of great challenges for Europe. The growing number of applicants proves that innovation, active citizenship,
Online Grand Jury

Geert de Haan  Independent researcher/Lecturer at Wittenborg University, Netherlands

Being an EYA jury-member allows me to be inspired and to look far beyond the horizon of everyday teaching and research, in getting to know a wide variety of young people’s creative and innovative ICT projects that may really make a difference to our common future.

Mercedes M. Díaz Sánchez  IT Professional, Manager at Accenture, Belgium

Being part of the EYA jury I am always excited about how similar problems are perceived differently depending on the country, and most importantly, how solutions to the same issues vary depending on the environment and sociocultural context where they are developed and implemented. For me it’s a great reminder of how colorful Europe is!

Arnau Gifreu Castells  MIT Open Documentary Lab - Research Affiliate | ERAM (University of Girona) - Professor, Spain

Every year it is more difficult to be selected as a winner of the EYA contest. This shows that the quantity and quality of projects is increasing and, thanks to the excellent work of the Grand Jury, only the best ones will be able to get to the Final Round in Graz. EYA is connecting more and more interactive work and people each year, and that’s amazing!

Attila Horányi  Director (BA program Art and Design Theory) at Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design, Hungary

Being an EYA juror and having to review dozens of nominated projects was a most invigorating experience: it made me realize how much creativity combined with a willingness to do good is out there. I have been effusing about this sign of hope to my students ever since.

The digital sea is a vast landscape with millions of digital animals living in its environment. It has been a fascinating task to bring some of them ashore for best use for all of us.

Antoaneta Ivanova  Co-Founder Miadinfo, Macedonia

Being a jurv-member of the European Youth Award, present an immense pleasure for me, as well as a huge responsibility. For several years, I have the opportunity to follow and evaluate projects prepared by youngsters coming from the European continent. What I can conclude is that every year the quality of the applications increases, and the solutions offered are more and more creative, unique and applicable.

Willy Kempel  Director, Department for EU Single Market and COREPER I Coordination Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Austria

Being part of the jury is a rewarding experience by the exposure to a lot of enthusiasm, youth, energy and creativity. Seeing the sheer amount of work and dedication put into many of the projects makes one hopeful for the future.

Hartwin Kostron  Head of Communication Young Mountain Marketing GmbH | Brand Manager QParks, Austria

I found the this year’s projects to be especially sparkling. To witness how all these skilled brains put in all their efforts to create and design, using technology that aims at improving our lives in so many ways, makes me see our future in a brighter light! And yeah, it’s even better year after year! The health category was a really tough one to evaluate for me, since almost all projects are highly elaborate and have the potential to impact our future in a positive way. I’m stoked to be part of the jury and look forward to what is still to come!

Daniel Lar  Business Unit Director, Yonder, Total Specific Solutions, Romania

46  EYA 2015 | Online Grand Jury
It was fun studying and evaluating this year’s (money matters) projects, all of them were creative and quite ambitious. Though I (very!) sporadically missed a real social impact. My favourite applications are the ones I’ve been unknowingly waiting for to simplify my office work :) - looking forward to using them on a regular basis!

Being able to overview fresh projects made by Europe’s youngest content developers is both enlightening and humbling. For this young generation, creativity is natural and spontaneous; things are as they should be. It is a privilege to witness their growth and a responsibility to enable their emergence into the digital media market. This is what European Youth Award is all about.

The winners show that a digital social innovation is about tackling a social challenge in the first place, while digital technologies are rather a tool or an enabler that when used wisely can lead to very powerful solutions.

The European Youth Award is an excellent opportunity for young, creative minds to present innovative ideas on social issues. Their passion to change society by developing digital solutions is inspiring.

This was my first experience as a jury member for the EYA and I absolutely incredible. Having to evaluate young Europeans’ efforts to put their talent in the service of common good truly humbled and inspired me. The other jurors must have felt the same because the deliberations during the on-site jury session were impassioned and the final decision very difficult to make. The winning projects stand out through an unique blend of passion for technology, drive for innovation and commitment to social impact, befitting EYA’s mission and aspirations. I look forward to seeing them pitch live in Graz!

It’s so inspiring to see young people from all over Europe work hard to produce innovative new concepts that have the potential to make a big difference in the quality of people’s lives.
Online Grand Jury

Jonathan Murray
Director @ DIGITALEUROPE, Belgium

This is the first time I have been involved as a jury member. I was slightly hesitant at first to get involved due to the sheer number of estimated projects to review. I can honestly say though that is was a pleasure to read through so many innovative, creative, professional and fascinating project ideas. My belief in the European entrepreneurial spirit has been consolidated. Well done to all.

Ari Nährri
Senior lecturer @ TAMK, Finland

Being part of the evaluation process was both interesting and challenging because the projects were so different from each other. I was the best of luck to the people behind the projects - also those who did not make it to the final.

James Norwood
Senior Design Manager, Future Lab @ LEGO Group, Denmark

It was really interesting to participate in the Jury process this year as we had the chance to evaluate the winning projects face to face with other jurors. There was a lot of discussion about what makes certain project to stand out from the rest, what makes it socially aware and is it more important to have a beautiful project which is not so socially aware or the other way around. Summarising I could say that we found the most important issue to be the social impact, after that came the usability and craftsmanship of the product hand in hand with the innovation and design factors. Waiting to see the best ones in Graz!

Elisabeth Pergler
Faculty member & Research scientist at FH CAMPUS 02, Austria

I’m most delighted to learn about new ideas and projects from European youth. It’s great to see that the societal challenges of the future are tackled with inspiration and enthusiasm.

Sandra Pfleger
Communications & Project Manager @ the evolantis next level, Austria

Being part of the EYA jury and the event as a whole is one of my personal highlights through-out the year. Every time again, I am fascinated about the high degree in quality and creativity regarding the projects delivered by the young digital pioneers. Working in the “digital” field and especially when it comes to highly innovative technologies and applications you are quite often confronted with the question “Does society really need this”? - The EYA, and especially it’s participants, show clearly WHY digital innovation matters and how it can be used for social good.

Pihla Rostedt
Designer, Rostedt & Co, Finland

Being part of the EYA jury and the event as a whole is one of my personal highlights through-out the year. Every time again, I am fascinated about the high degree in quality and creativity regarding the projects delivered by the young digital pioneers. Working in the “digital” field and especially when it comes to highly innovative technologies and applications you are quite often confronted with the question “Does society really need this”? - The EYA, and especially it’s participants, show clearly WHY digital innovation matters and how it can be used for social good.

Pihla Rostedt
Designer, Rostedt & Co, Finland

Very eager to see young people’s passion for changing the world via technology, at the same time very tough to judge, given that every single idea is valuable for the world that we live in.

Connor Sattely
Chief Operating Officer GovFaces | Winner 2014, USA

I was thrilled to judge some of Europe’s most innovative and exciting projects in the Active Citizenship category. As both a juror and a former winner of the EYA, it is deeply inspiring to see how the quality of European youth projects continues to remain at a high level.
It was a great opportunity to participate in the evaluation of the European Youth Award. I was pleased to see the quality of the projects and learn a lot about new business ideas. Also, the evaluation process and discussions with other jurors were very inspiring and productive.

The participation in EYA2015 made me feel very pleased with the very well-organized evaluation process – online and on-site. I had the opportunity to get acquainted with the most innovative and socially significant projects produced by the European creative youth. I met many of the most prominent digital media, design and IT experts - not only among the producers of the competing projects, but also among my colleagues - the jurors in EYA2015.

It is really motivating to see that many young people are full of ideas and they are using technology to act upon these ideas. From the projects I have seen in this competition, there comes out a sense of “wow, I wish I could do that” and the feeling of pride and effort that these people put in their projects. The EYA competition provides an excellent picture of the potential of our young people today. It teaches us that technology should always serve people and not the other way around!

The EYA is definitely the most important contest for Social Digital Innovations in Europe. It is always an honour and a great pleasure to evaluate the initiatives and projects. Every year, the quality of the projects is very high and shows the motivation of young people to improve the society worldwide.”

The European Youth Award is a great opportunity for young digital innovators to be recognized for their creativity, enthusiasm and social entrepreneurship.
Europe, 2015 is the YOUth year in Cluj-Napoca
The city awaits to be discovered

Being the European Youth Capital in 2015, made the city of Cluj-Napoca more youth friendly, tourist welcoming, business wise, likely to be creative and innovative, multicultural minded, knowledge inclined and future ready.

So you see, come join the sights, art and culture performances and even the nightlife to experience its vibrant atmosphere.
In 2015 for the first time, the second round of the Grand Jury took place onsite: in the European Youth Capital Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

Grand Jury Meeting in Cluj-Napoca
Discovering and Selecting
Europe’s most innovative projects
improving Society

2 days – digital creativity
innovation
evaluation

17 jurors from 12 countries
Selecting 13 winners
in 6 categories

GRAND JURY MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, Sept 10
Welcome Reception & Networking:
SHARE Federation Youth Exchange

Friday, Sept 11
Morning:
Expert Forum:
Expert Keynotes & Innovation World Cafés
Afternoon:
EYA Grand Jury Meeting I
SHARE Federation Networking Dinner

Saturday, Sept 12
Morning:
EYA Grand Jury Meeting II
Afternoon:
Innovation City Tour
EYA Student Projects
A Unique Experience for Students to Apply their Knowledge

The European Youth Award is much more than a contest. It actively connects smart people from all over Europe and provides a platform for international knowledge exchange.

In cooperation with professors and academic partners from all over Europe and Graz, EYA conducts two different student projects — one international and one local — with the same goal: to provide each winning team with profound project checks and feedback.

Started as prototype-side-project in 2012, the EYA Student Projects have become part of EYA’s core and are growing each year. In 2015, eight academic partners get involved with their students.

Using Open Source software, students connect online, analyze and enhance the EYA winning projects from October until the EYA Festival. They exchange their ideas and knowledge in virtual conferences and apply learnt theories practically to the winning projects.
The local student project confronts students from Graz with a different challenge: they are asked to develop project analyses in a very limited period of time. Only on the basis of the winners’ presentations and a short Q & A session afterwards, they have to develop business models or feedback on technical issues within 12 hours. For the first time, three different courses participated in this project: “Innovation Management” and “Information Technologies and Business Informatics” from the University of Applied Science CAMPUS02 and “Business in Emerging Markets” from the University of Applied Science Joanneum.

All student groups, the international and the local ones, capture their results in big posters and hand-outs for the winning teams. In the course of the Festival, they have the chance to present their results in the frame of an interactive exhibition at the Austrian Chamber of Commerce Styria! They will be able to compare their results, exchange their experiences and talk to the winners whose projects they worked on. Be excited to experience the outcomes of these projects! The best work will be selected by the audience and honored at the Gala Ceremony!
Welcome to meet our dynamic and international team at EYA!

The students from the Degree Programme in Media and Arts, Tampere UAS come from 35 countries around the globe.

APPLICATION PERIOD
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Required pre-task available at the beginning of December
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Gerhard Rüsch, City Councillor for Economy and Tourism, Graz

As Creative City of Design, Graz is not only a part of the international UNESCO-network but sees creativity as an important factor to be an innovative business location. In 2013 we set an important milestone by establishing the Creative City management. From young startups to entrenched companies we promote the use of creativity and thus their success. The 2015 winners of the European Youth Award, and particularly the laureates of the special award for economics, earn my great respect and congratulations. Our future society and economy need people like you, who can change things for the better – with courage, creativity and innovation.

Ursula Lackner, Regional Minister for Youth, Styria

As regional Minister for Youth from Styria, I am delighted that the European Youth Award Festival takes place in Graz this year once again. Young people from all over the world are meeting here to exchange, develop ideas and celebrate together. Therefore, Graz becomes the symbol for a generation where political and natural borders no longer play a role in their actions and ideas. I wish all EYA projects lots of success and congratulate this year’s winners heartily. I hope they will enjoy their stay at the EYA Festival in our capital!
For the fourth time EYA brings young creative designers, digital innovators and start-ups to Graz. For the local community, this is a unique chance to learn and experience future trends in Europe. To view and have these outstanding digital initiatives in one place together, is a competitive advantage of priceless value for the local creative and start-up scene.

I truly admire and honor the young change-makers from all over Europe. Thank you for your commitment and please continue to inspire and motivate us with your brilliant ideas improving societies!

The Unit Consulting and IT of the Chamber of Commerce Styria is partner of the European Youth Award since its first edition. Why? Because we share and support the same values: youth is an essential driver for society and economic growth. Young people have enormous potential, they are creative, motivated and active. Each year, EYA brings the best and most engaged young minds from all over Europe to Graz. Their projects are outstanding and inspiring. I think the EYA Festival is a unique chance for our local start-ups and community to connect, learn and discuss. For me, its a highlight in the international digital creativity and networking event calendar. I am looking forward to welcoming this year’s winners personally during the official Opening Ceremony in the City Hall!

Going digital is one thing. The Kleine Zeitung took this step in 1999 and yes, it was a big one! Although back then it meant little more than making our print contents accessible to the World Wide Web. With some extra online features sometimes. But becoming digital is another story. And this is the great challenge that our newspaper is faced with today. To not only play it digital but to actually think, instinctively perform and effortlessly navigate in and between all various digital tools. We, the representatives of the pre-net generation, can only try. And we can only tip our hats to, learn from, or at least get inspired by the creative e-power of all those digital natives who we are proud to host during the European Youth Award Festival from November 18 to 21. Welcome to Graz. And let us welcome the future together.
Wednesday | November 18 2015

STAND UP: BUILDING NETWORKS IN EUROPE

From 14.00
Registration for Festival Participants
Pick up your welcome bag & conference badge
European Centre for Modern Languages, Nikolaiplatz 4

15.00
Welcome in Graz | First Get2Gether
(for winners only)
Hotel Weitzer, Atrium (1st floor), Grieskai 12-16

16.00 – 17.15
Warm-Up | Blind Dates: Meet & network!
European Centre for Modern Languages, Nikolaiplatz 4

18.00 – 21.00
INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE EYA FESTIVAL 2015
(by confirmed registration only)
Graz City Hall, Senate Chamber, 2nd floor, Hauptplatz 1

18.00 – 19.00
Young Entrepreneurship | Lightening Talks and Official Opening

19.00 – 19.40
Ten Meters of Thinking: How to think creatively about things which seem without solution
Special Keynote by Paul Hughes

19.40 – 21.00
Find Friends, Make Fans | Socialising at Graz City Hall
Network while enjoying Styrian food and beverages!

Thursday | November 19 2015

START UP: IMPROVE SOCIETY

9.00 – 13.30
Morning Session: Improving Society with Internet of Things
European Centre for Modern Languages, Nikolaiplatz 4

9.00
Digital Challenges NOW: Building Networks, Opportunities in IoT, Young Entrepreneurship
Peter A. Bruck, Honorary Chairman ICNM

9.15
Lift Off with Innovation Shot Talk: Internet of Things in 15 minutes
Presentation of IoT and best practice

9.30
World Café: Opportunities in IoT to improve Society
Brainstorming ideas for IoT for Healthy Life | Smart Learning | Connecting Cultures | Go Green | Active Citizenship | Money Matters

10.15 – 10.30
Vote for Five Top-Ideas

10.30 – 12.00
Working Groups: Five IoT Solutions improving Society
Working on the five top-ideas together

12.10 – 13.00
Digital Challenges NOW | Pitching of Solutions
Interactive session summarizing the results of the working groups in a nutshell

13.10
Bus to FH Joanneum

13.30 – 15.00
Recharge with food & friends at FH Joanneum, Mensa

15.00 – 19.00
Afternoon Session: The Best in Digital Creativity improving Society
Winning projects’ presentations
FH Joanneum, Audimax, Eggenberger Allee 11

19.00 – ...
Evening Session: Working Together | Selecting the Best
Different Venues

19.00 – 20.00
EYA Student Project: Q & A Workshop
FH Joanneum, Audimax, Eggenberger Allee 11
Workshop (for winning teams & students participating in the Studentenprojekt AT only)

19.00 ...
Styrian Socialising
(for Festival participants & winners after Q & A workshop)

19.30 – 22.00
The Final Choice: Jury Dinner and Decision Meeting
(for jurors only)
Hotel Weitzer, Galerie, Grieskai 12-16
**Program**

**Friday | November 20 2015**

**SCALE UP: MEET CHALLENGES NOW**

- **Morning Session: Improving Society with Young Entrepreneurship | Digital Biz**
  European Centre for Modern Languages, Nikolaiplatz 4

- **Keynotes: Stand Up | Start Up | Scale Up**
  Current and future trends of the digital industry - how will business be tomorrow?

- **Mind regeneration with coffee and friends**

- **Fishbowl: Start Up - Scaling Up!**
  Successful start-up entrepreneurs share their story

- **Comfort Break**

- **Digital Challenges NOW: Entrepreneurship - Listen, ask and get inspired!**
  Learning from entrepreneurs & mentors

- **Story Telling Workshop!**
  How to tell your story best

- **Bus to Chamber of Commerce Styria**

- **Recharge with food & friends at Chamber of Commerce Mensa**

- **Afternoon Session: International and National Student Exhibition**
  Exhibition of all student projects about the EYA winners from all over Europe and Graz
  Chamber of Commerce, Europasaal, Körbnergasse 111-113

- **Voting for the best Student Project**
  free time to get ready for…

- **Digital Creativity Gala | Honouring Excellence**
  Applauding young digital social innovation:
  Digital Creativity improving Society
  19.00 VIP Cocktail & Reception
  20.00 Opening / 23.00 After Party
  Dom im Berg, Schloßbergplatz 1

**Saturday | November 21 2015**

**TAKE THE SPIRIT HOME**

- **European Huddle: Share your experience!**
  Reviewing results and emotions: new knowledge, new friendship, new ideas!
  Hotel Weitzer, Atrium (1st floor), Grieskai 12-16

- **Walk the Town: Graz City Tour**
  Meetingpoint: Hauptplatz Fontain

- **Take the Fire with you: depart**
  Hotel Weitzer, Grieskai 12-16

**Vienna**

Vienna: 176 km
Ljubljana 150
Zagreb 190 km
Budapest 276 km
Trieste 280 km

**Graz**

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**Friday**

- 9.00 – 13.30
  **Morning Session: Improving Society with Young Entrepreneurship | Digital Biz**

- 9.00 – 10.00
  **Keynotes: Stand Up | Start Up | Scale Up**

- 10.15 – 11.00
  **Fishbowl: Start Up - Scaling Up!**

- 11.10 – 12.25
  **Digital Challenges NOW: Entrepreneurship - Listen, ask and get inspired!**

- 12.25 – 13.15
  **Story Telling Workshop!**

- 13.25
  **Bus to Chamber of Commerce Styria**

- 13.45 – 15.00
  **Recharge with food & friends at Chamber of Commerce Mensa**

- 15.00 – 16.30
  **Afternoon Session: International and National Student Exhibition**

**Saturday**

- 10.00 – 10.30
  **European Huddle: Share your experience!**

- 11.30 – 12.30
  **Walk the Town: Graz City Tour**

- 13.25
  **Bus to Chamber of Commerce Styria**

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Manar Al-Hashash eContent Alchemist & Activist | Board of Directors, World Summit Award, (WSA), Kuwait

Arman Atoyan Co-Founder and Product Manager CityBugs, Armenia

Cristina Birsan Campaign Coordinator, International Volunteer Day, United Nations Volunteers (UNV), Romania

Peter A. Bruck Honorary Chairman ICNM | CEO Research Studios Austria, Austria

Thierry Bouffioux Serial Entrepreneur and Business Angel, Belgium

Christina Maria Busch Operative Studio Director @Studio SAT of Research Studios Austria, Austria

Alexander Decker Innovation & Special Projects Manager @T-Systems, Austria

Marc Fähndrich European Commission, Representation in Vienna, Austria

Matthias Haas CEO Supersocial and Founder of Findia, Austria

Paul Hughes Director of Ten Meters of Thinking, Ireland/Netherlands

Willy Kempel Director, Department for EU Single Market and COREPER | Coordination Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Austria
Christian Kittl  CEO & Research Director, evolaris next level, Austria

Adam Montandon  Associate Professor in Concept Development, UK/Denmark

Andre Perchthaler  Global Alliances Manager @NXP, Austria

Arto Puikkonen  Lead Consultant, UX Services @Gofore Ltd., Finland

Rich Radka  Co-Founder and Partner at Claro Partners, US/Spain

Jaspar Roos  Chief Inspiration Officer, Netherlands

Timo Rostedt  Senior Designer, Nordkapp, Finland

Pihla Rostedt  Designer, Rostedt & Co, Finland

Jon Mark Walls  CEO GovFaces, US/Switzerland

Bernhard Weber  Startup Coaching and Business Development, Science Park Graz, Austria

Günther Wellenzohn  Innovation Manager @Infineon, Austria
Graz is the regional center of Styria and is known as one of the most dynamic creative locations in Europe. As "City of Design", the city of Graz enforces the permanent support of creative ideas and innovative projects. Artistic creativity is one of our most important trademarks. It has a major impact on our social and economical urban development.

In order to support this creativity on a long-term basis, it is essential that already people of a young age obtain an awareness for powerful ideas, social innovations and international collaborations. The eight university-level institutions, which are situated in Graz, set the cornerstone for this development. They offer a broad variety of study fields and thus are a place where creativity and European collaboration is lived on a daily basis. In Graz, all in all 7,500 employees and 2,000 enterprises work in the creative field.

This is reason enough for the city of Graz to support the EYA Festival this year again. An event that focuses on young, talented people and their ideas for a better world.
EYA at the EYE & YO!Fest
May 20–21, 2016

7000 young people from all over Europe will gather in Strasbourg for the EYE and YO!Fest in May to meet, exchange ideas and debate under the motto “Together we can make a change”. Combining politics, culture, education and fun in a multicultural festival atmosphere, the YO!Fest organised by the European Youth Forum aims at mobilising young people and youth organisations across Europe. It is held in partnership with the European Parliament’s European Youth Event (EYE).

Sharing its idea and spirit, the European Youth Award is officially partner of the YO!Fest at the EYE 2016. EYA will participate with selected young members of the EYA network and demonstrate Europe’s youth how to improve society with digital creativity!

Do you want to be part of this fantastic journey? Use this unique chance to connect with young participants from all over Europe, policy-makers, high-level speakers and many more!

Pitch your project, share your story: APPLY NOW!
eya@icnm.net
youLEAD Young Leaders Dialogue

DATE       April 20, 2016 | 2:00 to 6:00 pm
VENUE      Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKO)
           Wiedner Hauptstrasse 63, A-1045 Vienna
FORMAT     Keynote speech, Impulse Statements, followed by a World Café
KEY TOPIC  Innovative Entrepreneurship
PARTICIPANTS Young entrepreneurs, young leaders and high Potentials up to the age of 40 (first come first served principle)
LANGUAGE    EN

FURTHER INFORMATION:
www.icon-vienna.net/youlead-2016

REGISTER BY ONLINE APPLICATION FORM
www.icon-vienna.net/youlead-2016/application/

OR CONTACT yld@icon-vienna.net

12th European Business & Investment Forum 20 – 22 April

MAKE CONTACTS TO CONTRACTS
More than a Festival:
EYA Event Year – Delivering Value to Partners!

EYA CONNECTS YOU AS PARTNER WITH:
- start-ups and young social entrepreneurs
- digital technologies improving society
- EU strategy Europe 2020 & goals of Council of Europe
- innovation, creativity & design
- pan-European network in 49 countries

Discover and learn from best practices in Digital Creativity improving Society:
- HEALTHY LIFE
- SMART LEARNING
- CONNECTING CULTURES
- GO GREEN
- ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP
- MONEY MATTERS
- OPEN INNOVATION

SHAPE EYA EVENTS AND PRESENT YOUR COMPANY!
- Share your vision
- Discuss with tomorrow’s leaders in ICT and innovation
- Position your brand
- Benefit from pan-European visibility
EYA Event Year 2016

OCTOBER-JULY
SUBMISSION

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER
EVALUATION

SEPTEMBER
PROMOTION

NOVEMBER
EYA FESTIVAL

APRIL
APP CAMP

MAY
EYA @
EYE & YO!FEST

SEPTEMBER
ONLINE JURY

SEPTEMBER
ONSITE JURY

NOVEMBER
GRAZ 2016
Did you know...

... that data scientists will be among the most wanted people in the world? And why?

Because the global volume of data explodes – it doubles every two years. Therefore people who spot trends and bring changes to organizations are needed.

Big data is one of the most important issues of the future but it can not be easily accessed! In order to become actionable and useful knowledge, data has to be pre-processed via data analytics methods. This is what we do at Know-Center: we are experts in the field of Big Data Analytics and by this way we bring innovation to companies.

As a top training ground, Know-Center offers young talents the opportunity to improve their scientific skills and acquire practical ‘hands-on’ experience within an exciting and fast growing market. If you are interested in our work, just visit us at Know-Center!

www.know-center.at