THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SCHOOL AWARDS 2018

A recognition of schools championing entrepreneurship education

The Entrepreneurial School Awards is a JA Europe initiative supported by Siemens
Companies can’t move the world forward without their employees. That is why, we, at Siemens Austria, make sure to provide and help our employees to develop their professional and personal skills. When it comes to our apprentices, we support them right from the beginning. This means we offer them advice and information on each possible apprenticeship and after having applied successfully, we guide them through the following years in order to embark upon their new career. A proper education is the key for young people to get to know themselves, but also their strengths and interests. Therefore, we try to offer everyone the education, which suits everyone’s individual background.

It is important to exchange with other schools, institutions and organizations – not only in Austria – but also within Europe. If we start to share each other’s knowledge regarding education, we will be able to profit and learn from each other. For this very reason we are proud to be part of the Entrepreneurial School project this year, as it underlines our Vision at Siemens and to be able to host the TES Awards ceremony in the context of the European Vocational Skills Week taking place in Vienna this year.
The first TES Award was made in 2015 when 11 schools from 11 countries participated in a ceremony in the European Parliament in Brussels. The following year it was the turn of Latvia’s capital Riga during JA Europe’s event ‘Celebrating Entrepreneurship Education’ where 17 European schools presented their achievements and received Awards. Last year the TES Awards formed the culmination of a conference in Tallinn organized by the Innovation Cluster for Entrepreneurship Education (ICEE) sponsored by the Ministry of Education of the EU’s presidency-in-office, Estonia, when 15 schools received Awards.

What do schools have to do to win an Award?
To be eligible for a TES Award, schools must:

- Put on entrepreneurship education activities that include most of their teachers and students
- Have a vision and a plan
- Allocate specific resources
- Actively support teachers’ continuing professional development and training
- Include the local community and business sector.

How are schools nominated?
Nominations are submitted by national JA organisations working with their national education authorities.

The Entrepreneurial School Awards is an annual recognition of the outstanding primary and secondary schools championing entrepreneurship education.

17 schools from across Europe have been selected at national level and will gather in Vienna on 7-8 November in the context of the European Vocational Skills Week. They participate in a workshop, offering opportunities to network and exchange good practices. This year the TES Awards ceremony is hosted by Siemens.

One vocational school will also participate in the European Vocational Skills Week official programme and receive an additional recognition from Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility.
Hak has feldkirch is a vocational college in Vorarlberg in western Austria offering three-year school leaving exam courses and five-years for university entrance level. Both include an obligatory apprenticeship programme for students to gain practical skills with up to 300 hours in local companies and institutions.

Vorarlberg borders Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Germany and students from our school come from more than 25 nations. This international character heightens our awareness of the importance of cross-cultural cooperation and entrepreneurship education has a significant role to play in sustaining this.

Entrepreneurship education has been a vital part of our everyday school life for more than five years and partnerships with local entrepreneurs are already part of our tradition. Students are encouraged to participate in a variety of activities facilitated by our modern school building and infrastructure, which allows technology-based learning and skills training and development.

A significant majority of teachers and students invests time and effort in the realization of their own ideas and this is reflected in the impressive number of prizes and awards won by them and by our school.

www.hak-feldkirch.at
There are three basic pillars to our school education: language education, administrative skills training, and entrepreneurship education. Our school offers four fields of study: economics with advanced English language teaching, business, and social care and public administration.

At the core of entrepreneurship education is the teaching of the JA Company Programme in the third year as a compulsory subject. This connects with a number of events, especially the traditional pre-Christmas fair of JA companies with international participation. Our JA companies also participate in competitions run by JA Czech such as e-shop, annual report, and JA Titan.

Another important event is the organization of financial literacy days for pupils of elementary schools, who can learn about basic economic issues while taking part in a competition prepared by our students. Business and entrepreneurship is also taught using fictitious companies, for which the school organizes a fair. Our students participate in the international fair in Prague and at regional fairs. The school has been involved in an ERASMUS project focused on the exchange of experience between Czech and Slovak fictitious companies. Finally, our economics teachers are part of the independent group “Teachers from Mars”, who organize project days and conferences.

https://www.oahk.cz
At Niels Brock we organize several activities in which teachers and students participate together. Many of the subjects are designed to stimulate students’ ability to innovate. Students are encouraged to apply the theory they have learned to their entrepreneurship projects.

In our VET programmes, all students undergo seven weeks of mandatory lessons in entrepreneurship. Annually in the autumn, 300 students from our VET programme and college programmes (EUD and the Higher Commercial Examination) participate in our Innovation Academy programme. All our students enter external competitions including the JA Company Programme as offered by The Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship.

As stated in our vision, it is Niels Brocks’ ambition to become the most international and innovative business college in Denmark. We have multiple partnerships with successful entrepreneurs such as Johan Bülow (founder of Bülow Liquorice), Mads Peter Veiby (co-founder of several companies within the gaming sector), and Martin Bjergegaard, who has helped to launch over 20 companies.

Every year in December, we arrange the Innovation Academy final, the Innovation Cup, at the Danish Parliament in collaboration with one of the Danish political parties. We work politically and with stakeholders to influence and underline the importance of bringing more entrepreneurs into Danish society and the wider European community.

www.nielsbrock.dk
Kuressaare Ametikool is a vocational school located on Saaremaa, the biggest island of Estonia, and is well known for its international contacts and co-operation projects. Using real-life assignments, working with real customers and undertaking projects as a teaching method is part of many of the school’s courses.

Entrepreneurship has been included in each course for many years. Students take classes on preparing business plans and the fundamentals of economics. In addition, there is a long tradition of student companies set up through the initiative of students and teachers.

2015 marked a step change in developing entrepreneurial skills. The school decided to include practical hands-on entrepreneurial education in all courses. Since then all second or third year students, aged 18-19, take part in the student company programme. Students develop their own ideas, products and services. Sometimes this proves challenging. Certainly the school as a whole has had to innovate and find ways to accommodate this new kind of learning.

Being a vocational school adds a particular strength to the programme: business ideas are mostly related to the students’ specialties. Wooden toys to teach kids and shoe lacing by construction students, homemade syrup by cooks, and websites to sell art by designers: these are just a few examples. More important than the products is the self-confidence students acquire while participating in a year-long programme and taking part in the Student Company Wednesdays.

www.ametikool.ee
Kristinestads högstadieskola is an elementary school from grade 7 to 9 (age 13-16) with around 100 pupils and 19 teachers. Kristinestad has about 7,000 inhabitants with a 50/50 population of native Finnish and Swedish speakers.

The school’s teachers seek to keep an entrepreneurial approach to their teaching, providing students with ways to experience the subjects they study with all their senses. When students reach the 9th grade, they participate in the JA Company Programme. The municipality supports entrepreneurial school projects financially and allocates a certain amount for entrepreneurship education every year.

The local entrepreneurship community has been involved from a very early stage and is an important supporter of the school’s entrepreneurial activities. They help to find mentors, offer professional guidance and participate in the JA Companies. The school also arranges visits to local companies every year and entrepreneurs and representatives from different companies visit the school to talk about their businesses and their career choices. This way of working enhances the school’s entrepreneurial spirit, the vigour of which is demonstrated by the fact that the school has had at least one JA Company in the national final every year for 12 successive years.

Four years ago Kristinestads högstadieskola initiated a connection to a school in Skellefteå, Sweden. The students have video conferences, where they pitch ideas and products to each other, and they have also attended the other’s semifinals.

[www.kristinestad.fi](http://www.kristinestad.fi)
The Georgian-American school “Progress” was founded in 2002 by Ms Nino Chikvashvili in Kutaisi. It is accredited by Georgia’s Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport and has American High School accreditation from the US College Board. The school has branches in Batumi and Tbilisi.

Entrepreneurship education is taught from the 1st to the 12th grades. JA Elementary programs are used in grades 1 through 7. Every year 700 students participate.

The school has set up a separate department for entrepreneurship, which now has seven staff. Experienced economists and active entrepreneurs have been invited not only to share their knowledge about the theory of entrepreneurship but also to offer practical advice. Local business and society representatives are actively involved in the program.

The school’s entrepreneurship education programme has developed year by year. For the 2018-2019 academic year, regional, national, and international workshops, forums, championships, and winter and summer schools are planned.

[https://schoolprogress.ge/en/](https://schoolprogress.ge/en/)
Franziskus Gymnasium Nonnenwerth is a private secondary school which pioneered entrepreneurship education in Rhineland-Palatinate, the school is seen as a role model for the region. With an economics curriculum officially approved by the Ministry of Economics and Education, our school offers students the opportunity to take economics as an elective course instead of a third foreign language.

Economics as a subject in year 8 introduces general concepts of finance and economy. Students create business plans, undertake projects such as “Jugend testet” and brainstorm first ideas for their future young enterprise companies. At the end of the school term, a jury consisting of older and more experienced students nominates the most promising ideas.

During year 9, those ideas are brought to life and young enterprise companies are established by our students. The companies are managed for a year, offering a great hands-on educational experience. A cooperation project with the University of Applied Science in Remagen provides specialist economics input and is very successful for both school and university. We have implemented the JA Company Programme since 2002 under the patronage of the Ministry of Economics.

On top of that there are new projects every year to encourage an entrepreneurial spirit. Currently year 10-11 students are introduced to the topic of ‘ethical questions in economics’. This programme is run in cooperation with ‘Evangelische Akademie der Pfalz’ and is supported by the Ministry of Education.

www.nonnenwerth.de
The American College of Greece (ACG) is a non-profit three-unit educational institution consisting of Pierce (1,400 middle and secondary school students), Deree (3,500 university undergraduates and graduates), and Alba (700 graduate business school students).

Pierce, founded in 1875, is a Greek, selective, private, co-educational day school, accredited and regulated by the Ministry of Education, with a Gymnasium (grades 7-9) and Lyceum (grades 10-12) granted the equivalence status to Greek public schools.

The Pierce mission is to provide a holistic education to shape and support the growth of intellectually independent, morally responsible, socially engaged, bilingual and globally minded citizens. Pierce provides a diverse co-curricular program of clubs and activities for all students to further both their educational and leadership skills.

www.pierce.gr/en
According to results of standardized exams at the end of upper secondary school education, Riga State Gymnasium No.3 is one of the top schools in Latvia. It is located in the historic centre of the city and currently has 824 students with 558 in the upper secondary school. There are around 90 full and part-time teachers working at the school.

‘Business studies’ is strongly emphasized; indeed it is mandatory for all students, and in some modules it includes subjects such as entrepreneurship, marketing, accounting, office work, commercial law, and business etiquette.

The school is a partner of JA Latvia. In 2016/17, our student teams developed a total of 93 different student mini-companies involving 242 students and in 2017/18 more than 320 students worked on 88 mini-companies. Every year our school takes part in the international business strategy simulation game “Titan” attracting 48 teams made up of 154 students as participants in 2017/18. We are also active during the annual Shadow Day, an educational career guidance event where students have the opportunity to attend a variety of jobs and shadow employees for a day.

Finally, in 2017, three of our students were involved in the leader mentorship programme organized by JA Latvia. This aspires to create a new generation of leaders to increase Latvia’s competitiveness in the global business market.
Kaunas Versvu Gymnasium is the only school in Lithuania implementing innovative entrepreneurship education. It was indeed the first Gymnasium in the country to recognize that too little attention was being paid to financial literacy and entrepreneurship education and their indispensability to today’s young people.

Initiatives were taken by the school as a result of which the innovative entrepreneurship education course has now been running at the Gymnasium for three years. Within two years of the course starting, the school saw the need for dramatic change. The list of optional subjects has been expanded, teacher training in the field of entrepreneurship education intensified, the technological base of the gymnasium renewed, training companies created by students, and more and more social partners attracted.

The gymnasium has many goals and activities to stimulate entrepreneurship education for its students and we encourage them not only to engage actively in innovation but also create, develop and initiate their own initiatives.

www.versvugimnazija.lt
The concept of ‘entrepreneurial school’ was introduced into Luxembourg's national education system in November 2016. Since then four high schools have turned the concept into reality. Lycée Ermesinde (LEM) in Mersch focused on the sustainable management of resources, time, and health, which it calls ‘SEE’ (society; economy; environment). LEM, distinguished by a dynamic model allowing students to invest actively in companies and to develop their entrepreneurial skills from an early age, was recently selected to represent Luxembourg at the TES Award ceremony in Vienna.

LEM's commitment to entrepreneurship education can be found in its students' personal work and their companies. From the age of 12 onwards, LEM students work on either a written assignment or a practical project relating to a topic they choose. The work helps to define the student's interests and prepares them for university research papers.

LEM has created 11 companies that focus on the production of goods and services. Students benefit through learning by doing, developing entrepreneurial skills and gaining the opportunity to take on corporate responsibilities matching their interests and abilities.
The school is vocational, forward-thinking, and vibrant. For many years we have developed innovation and entrepreneurship as a regular ingredient in many subjects and they now serve as a methodological approach to several projects. To name a few of these, year 2 students’ Flower Design and Café Brukbar and year 3 students choosing entrepreneurship as an optional subject: all develop products and set up businesses. Teachers are also able to participate in university courses for upgrading their qualifications on entrepreneurship in schools.

We’ve recently set up new programmes in health and social care, service and transport, child care and youth work, and electricity and electronics. These programmes are unique in the way for our pupils to receive both a trade certificate and university or college admissions certification in less time than a regular programme. The first two new programmes mentioned are both part of an international project in which the pupils attend college and obtain work experience in London for three weeks.

Since 2014, the school has organized innovation camps that have involved 200 students and local businesses. Our students also compete in regional competitions. Our school works closely with a diverse group of local businesses and professionals. Additionally, we have a coordinator for contact with the wider community and its businesses, who is responsible for this important link to our local community. Based on our approach, we won the title Entrepreneurial School of the Year in Buskerud County Council in 2017.

www.lier.vgs.no
Marmația Technological High School is a high school from the historical area of Maramureș and the one with the most varied educational offer. We have joined the JA Romania project for promoting a modern economic education, recognizing the need to integrate learning in an entrepreneurial spirit in all sectors of education. Most of our students and teachers are involved in entrepreneurial education activities and these have a positive impact on the school.

By 2020, the Marmația Technological High School aims to become a strong centre for initial, continuous, and permanent professional training, an emblematic unit of the educational and socio-economic life of the area, with the purpose of training young people able to integrate into the labour market or start businesses.

Achieving a high quality educational offer requires accomplishing certain strategic objectives such as adapting the educational offer to the needs and requirements of the labour market and the business environment, integration into national and European project programmes and partnerships aimed at promoting entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship, and capitalizing on opportunities offered by the local, national and European economic environment.

http://ltmsighet.ucoz.ro/
Bolgar School No.2 was founded in 1987. Entrepreneurship education was started in 2007 and continues to be among the school's major priorities along with financial literacy and work-readiness skills.

The school has the status of a centre of online education and participates in the STEM programmes initiative led by Innopolis University in Tatarstan.

Bolgar School No.2 belongs to the JA Russia network and actively participates in JA programmes at middle and high school levels. The JA Company programme is the most popular among students and teachers.

The school's dedication and commitment to entrepreneurship education brings excellent outcomes in terms of the entrepreneurial competence and achievements of JA Company Program participants and the successful careers of its alumni.

https://edu.tatar.ru/spassk/bolgar/sch2
The history of the secondary grammar school of St. Thomas Aquinas in Košice in Eastern Slovakia goes back more than 25 years. Students at the school can study either in a 4-year general programme or an 8-year programme focusing on foreign languages. In both students are encouraged to think creatively and logically in order to solve challenging and difficult situations independently. The mission of the secondary grammar school is to help with the development of students’ personalities, respect their educational needs and enable them to choose their own path and not to try to teach everything to everyone.

The school’s vision for entrepreneurship is to stimulate the entrepreneurial skills of our students and to help young people develop their economic and entrepreneurial competence in order to succeed in the business world. We start entrepreneurship education at the age of 11-12 within the programme ‘Ja Základy podnikania.’ Entrepreneurial and financial education is introduced for students at a higher level of their secondary education as an optional subject called ‘aplikovaná ekonómia.’

www.gta.sk
The Kantonsschule Hottingen offers a four-year Gymnasium as well as a Handelsmittelschule and Informatikmittelschule in the heart of Zurich, the biggest city in Switzerland. Students with a major in economics and law are able to choose the four year the Entrepreneurship Programme. It involves four project weeks (one week each year) and eight project days (one day each semester) as well as the Company Programme during the third year of Gymnasium. Around 120 students have taken part since its launch in 2011.

The vision of the Kantonsschule Hottingen is to be a leading Gymnasium for economics and law in the region of Zurich. To strengthen its position, in 2011 the school introduced entrepreneurship education programmes to create an opportunity for motivated students to learn more about entrepreneurship and to put theory into practice by running their own start-ups in the JA Company Programme.
Hendon School is a large secondary school with over 1,200 students and 150 staff located in the London Borough of Barnet. The school is socially diverse with over 80 different languages spoken and a significant proportion of students live in areas that are in the top 10% most deprived in the UK. However these characteristics are not barriers to success. Our aim is to prepare young people for an ever-changing world that values those who are self-confident, well-educated, financially astute, and enterprising. This is supported by our vision: ‘Believe, Achieve, Lead, Belong.’ All students are able to undertake a range of opportunities in order to leave the school with skills necessary for adult life and able to make a positive contribution to the local and global community.

Enterprise is not taught as a discrete subject but, as a community, we provide opportunities “to do” enterprise education. All students are members of Student Voice and are encouraged to set up their own action groups to tackle issues that they care about. The action teams are student-led with staff support, allowing students to put their ideas into practice and developing their skills. Each year, over 300 students are involved in social enterprise events, including raising awareness, fundraising and organizing campaigns. Students are encouraged to identify issues that they are concerned about and find ways to tackle these. Our award-winning mental health team which annually organizes the only student-led conference in the UK and has gained over £25,000 to improve services for young people in the borough, are testament to this.

www.hendonschool.co.uk
THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SCHOOL AWARDS

Previous Winners

2017
- BELGIUM: Virgo+, Vilvoorde
- BULGARIA: Georgi Benkovski Secondary School, Pazardzhik
- DENMARK: Sct Hans Skole, Odense
- ESTONIA: Tallinn School 21, Tallinn
- FINLAND: Etu-Töölö Upper Secondary School, Helsinki
- GERMANY: Berufsbildende Schule (BBS), Bad Kreuznach
- ITALY: Liceo Statale “Quinto Orazio Flacco”, Portici
- LATVIA: PIKC Liepājas Valsts tehnikums, Liepāja
- LITHUANIA: Daugų Vlado Mirono gymnasium, Daugai
- PORTUGAL: Escola de Comércio de Lisboa, Lisbon
- ROMANIA: Colegiul Economic Ion Ghica, Targoviste
- RUSSIA: Lobachevsky Lyceum KFU, Kazan
- SLOVAKIA: Stredná odborná škola, Námestovo
- SWITZERLAND: Alte Kantonsschule, Aarau
- UNITED KINGDOM: North Chadderton School, Oldham

2016
- BELGIUM: Mater Salvatorisinstituut Kapellen
- CZECH REPUBLIC: Karlínská obchodní akademie a VOŠE, Prague
- DENMARK: Lyngby Gymnasium, Lyngby
- FINLAND: Ulvilan lukio, Ulvila
- GERMANY: Pauline-Thoma-Schule, Kolbermoor
- ITALY: IIS Pacinotti-Archimede school, Rome
- LATVIA: Jelgava Sp dola Gymnasium
- LITHUANIA: “Saules” gymnasium, Kaunas
- MALTA: Kirkop Secondary School
- PORTUGAL: Agrupamento de Escolas de Alvalade, Lisbon
- ROMANIA: Colegiul Economic Partenie Cosma, Oradea
- RUSSIA: Multidisciplinary Lyceum 1799, Moscow
- SLOVAKIA: Gymnázium, Poštová 9, Košice
- SPAIN: Bell-Iloc School, Girona
- TURKEY: Robert College, Istanbul
- UNITED KINGDOM: Highcrest Academy, High Wycombe

2015
- DENMARK: Engbjergskolen
- FINLAND: Jouppi school
- GERMANY: Internatsschule Schloss Hansenberg
- GREECE: 1st Arsakeio Lyceum in Psychico Athens
- ITALY: ITCG E. Fermi - Pontedera (PI)
- NORWAY: Rakkestad Ungdomsskole
- POLAND: Stanislaw Staszic Complex of Vocational Schools in Lidzbark Warmi ski
- PORTUGAL: Escola Profissional Magestil
- ROMANIA: The National College of Computer Science
- SLOVAKIA: Hotelová akadémia
- UNITED KINGDOM: Darwen Aldridge Community Academy (DACA)
About JA Europe
JA Europe is the largest non-profit in Europe dedicated to preparing young people for employment and entrepreneurship. JA Europe is a member of JA Worldwide which for 100 years has delivered hands on, experiential learning in entrepreneurship, work readiness and financial literacy. JA creates pathways for employability, job creation and financial success. Last school year, the JA network in Europe reached more than 4 million young people across 40 countries with the support of 140,000 business volunteers and 130,000 teachers/educators.

www.jaeurope.org

About Siemens Austria
Siemens Austria is one of the leading technology companies of the country. In total around 10,300 employees work for Siemens in Austria. Sales in the 2017 fiscal year amounted to 3.4 billion euros. The business activities focus on the areas electrification, automation and digitalization. In essence this includes systems and services for power generation, transmission and distribution as well as energy efficient products and solutions for production, transportation and building technologies and technologies for high-quality and integrated healthcare. With its publicly listed subsidiary Siemens Healthineers AG, the company is also a leading provider of medical imaging equipment – such as computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging systems – and a leader in laboratory diagnostics as well as clinical IT. Automation technologies, software and data analytics play a major role in these areas. With its six plants, globally active competence centers and regional expertise in every single Federal Province, Siemens Austria significantly contributes to the local value add. With around 11,000 suppliers – roughly 6,900 of these are based in Austria – the purchasing volume of the Siemens AG Österreich from outside suppliers itself amounted to more than 1 billion euros in the past fiscal year. Siemens Austria not only holds the business responsibility for the local market, but also for 18 additional countries in the region Central and Eastern Europe as well as for Israel.

Additional information: www.siemens.at

About the European Vocational Skills Week
The European Vocational Skills Week is a European Commission initiative aimed at making VET more attractive. It includes events and activities in participating countries all over Europe, locally, regionally and nationally. Stakeholders taking part in the Week have the chance to share examples of excellence in VET.

https://ec.europa.eu/social/vocational-skills-week

#DiscoverYourTalent
#EUVocationalSkills