

## **Young Development Academy Ideathon Event and Closing Ceremony Held; Ideas Transformed into the Future**

**The Young Development Academy, which inspires young people's dreams and enables them to unlock their potential, concluded its journey with a strong finale through the "Ideathon Event and Closing Ceremony." At the closing of the program—implemented in cooperation with the Governorship of Istanbul, the Provincial Directorate of National Education, and the T3 Foundation—young participants who enriched their academic success with holistic development came together around an entrepreneurial vision.**

Providing a platform for young people to shape their dreams and turn their potential into reality, the Young Development Academy delivered an inspiring closing with its "Ideathon Event and Closing Ceremony." The program was attended by Istanbul Governor Davut Gül, Istanbul Provincial Director of National Education Murat Mücahit Yentür, Ataşehir District Governor Bekir Dinkırcı, and Chair of the T3 Foundation Board Dr. Elvan Kuzucu Hıdır. During the event, students who strengthened their academic knowledge with multidimensional development brought their ideas together with an entrepreneurial mindset.

The Young Development Academy was designed for a select group of high school students in Istanbul who achieved outstanding results in the High School Entrance Exam (LGS) and aim to integrate academic excellence with personal development. Conducted over 11 weeks between October 2025 and January 2026, the program was delivered through a blended learning model comprising face-to-face seminars, live online sessions, and asynchronous content. In total, 33 trainings were offered—13 face-to-face, 3 online, and 17 asynchronous—covering a wide range of topics from 21st-century competencies and communication skills to personal awareness, career planning, entrepreneurship, and role model meetings.

### **From Idea to Project: Young Dreams Took the Stage**

Over months of self-discovery, collaborative creation, and boldly questioning the future, students reflected this accumulated experience in their ideas during the closing week. As part of the Young Development Academy Ideathon Event and Closing Ceremony held in Istanbul, the first part of the day featured an "Entrepreneurship Training," where participants once again experienced the power of turning dreams into tangible projects, producing innovative solutions to problems, and working as a team.

Students from Baykar Science High School, Istanbul Erkek High School, Kabataş Erkek High School, Sakıp Sabancı Anatolian High School, Robert College, VKV Koç Private High School, Istanbul Atatürk Science High School, Cağaloğlu High School, Beyoğlu Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, Haydarpaşa High School, TÜBİTAK Science High School, and Gönüllü Hizmet Vakfı Mustafa Saffet Science High School took part in the program.

### **A Day That Began with Inspiration, Crowned with Creation**

The program continued with closing remarks by Istanbul Governor Davut Gül and T3 Foundation Board Chair Dr. Elvan Kuzucu Hıdır. Following the speeches, a commemorative photo session was held with the students. As part of the “Ideathon Program,” students formed teams under the theme “Digital Solutions That Make Young People’s Lives Easier,” engaging in idea generation, solution development, and transforming these ideas into projects. Throughout hours of intensive work, participants showcased their creativity, collaboration skills, and project development capacities.

Within the scope of the program, a certificate ceremony was held to present Young Development Academy Participation Certificates to students who successfully completed the asynchronous trainings and actively participated in face-to-face events and the closing program.

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