

Highlights

August 2024 - Issue 84

Rock in the Forest: Oh What a Night!

This year, the annual Rock in the Forest event fundraised for YMCA Malta....and oh what a glorious night it was! On the last Saturday in August, among the gently swaying trees of il-Buskett Gardens, attendees of this rock concert extravaganza were serenaded by Malta's greatest rock acts.

We are so grateful to all those who came out and kicked up their heels or bopped along to the beat for our cause. Back when YMCA Malta was YMCA Valletta, rock festival fundraisers like these were a common sight. You could say this year's Rock in the Forest was a return to our roots of empowerment through music. We will keep rocking Malta for many years to come!





Huge thanks to the major sponsors of this event: HSBC, Festivals Malta, Cosecasa, Greens Supermarket, PCutajar & Co Ltd, Piercings by Vuk, Fort Fitness, Finductive Ltd, Lamb Brand, Drum Kit Store, Modern Tribe Tattoo Studio, Stephan Abela, Cottons - Malta, M Demajo Group, Heineken, CLA Malta, and Festivals Malta.

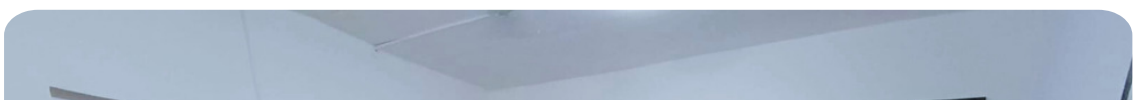
The button below will show you a glimpse of the event in action!



[Watch Event](#)

YMCA Europe Leadership Academy: Youth Impacts

This month saw YMCA Malta embark on a new initiative by YMCA Europe. The 'Leadership Academy: Youth Impacts' project promotes active youth participation in civil society, encourages young people to advocate for themselves and others, and underpins democratic values as the core of social change.

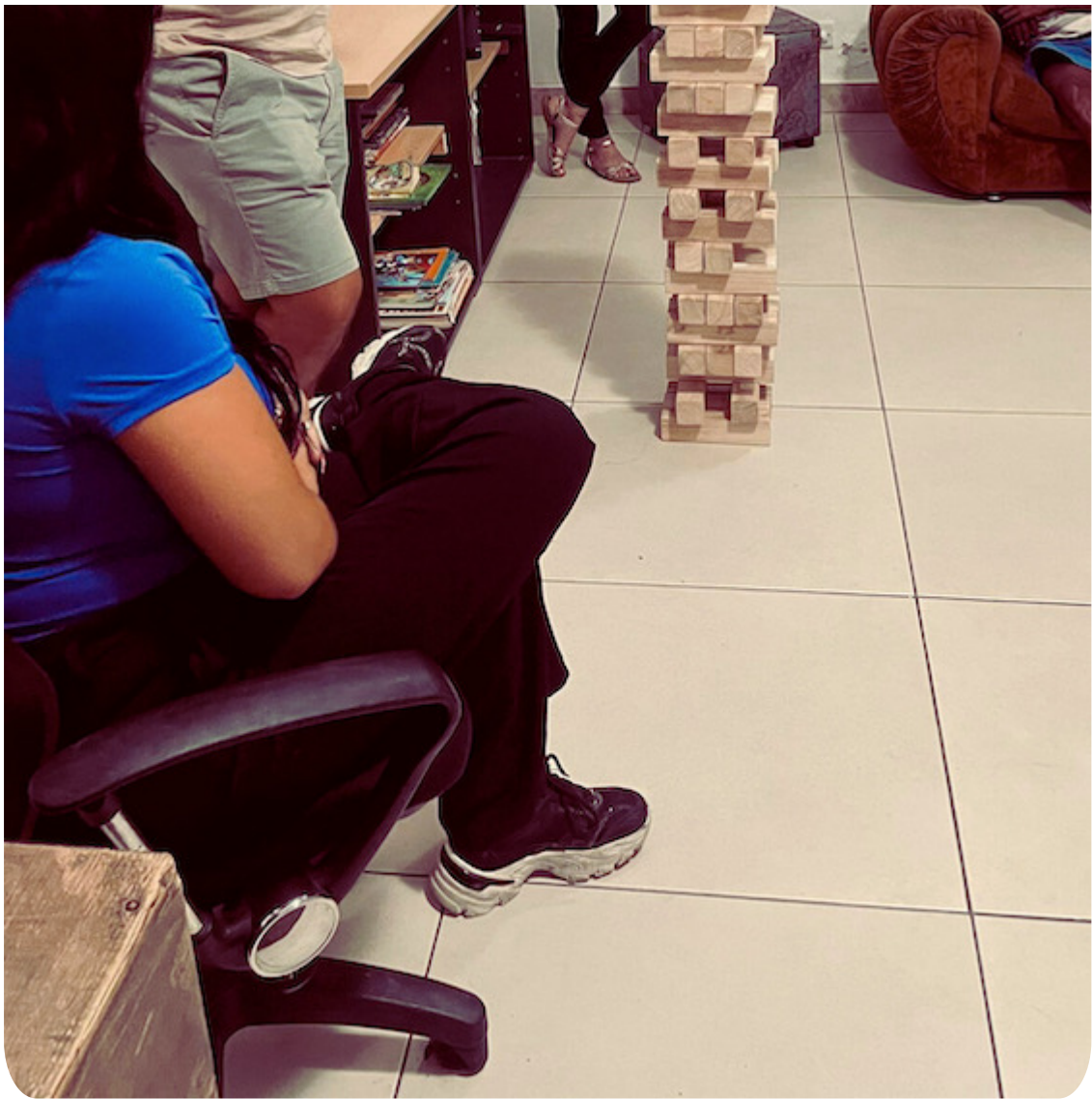




In collaboration with our wonderful partners at Sedqa and Caritas Malta, the first two workshops of this initiative worked directly with YMCA Malta service users and dived deep into understanding and preventing substance addiction.

Participants were guided in the risk factors and triggers that can cause addiction, as well as empowered to take control of their own destinies and be leaders in their own healthy, joyful and resilient communities.

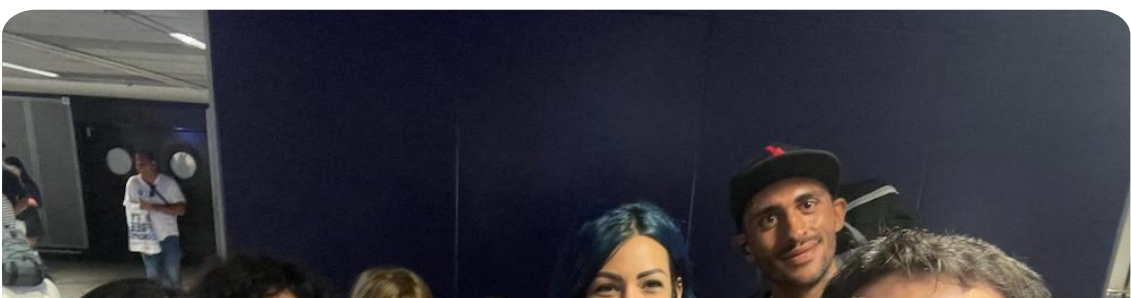


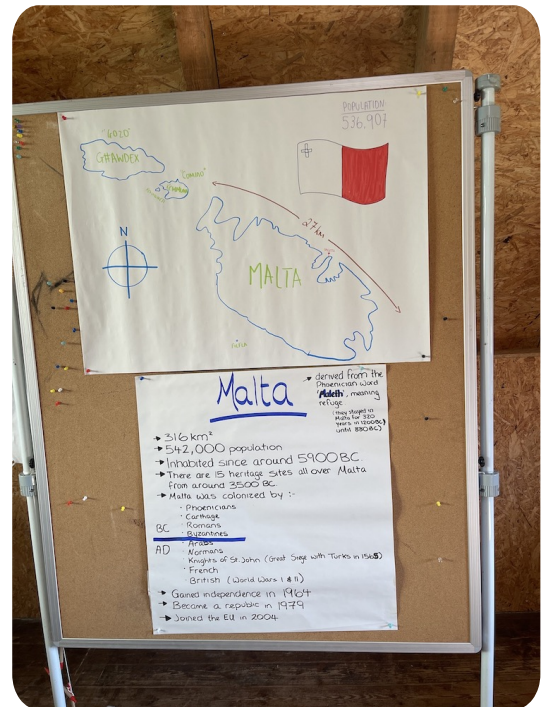


Young & Free: YMCA Malta at Summer Camp

From 2-10 August 2024, YMCA Europe hosted a week-long youth camp near Frankfurt am Main in Germany. Representing YMCA Malta were 2 youth leaders and 6 young participants. They were joined by over 100 young volunteers and leaders from 13 European YMCAs.

The theme 'Ignite Change: Young European Leaders Walking Together' explored how youth could create a utopian society, one where mental wellbeing coincides with sustainable living, and digital responsibility.





Several of our participants had the following to say about their experiences in Michelstadt:

Ilenia Debono

'It is a once in a lifetime experience that every youth should experience. The exposure I got to YMCA Europe and YMCA Malta's work was eye opening. I am very grateful that I went to this camp as I made lifelong friends and memories. As a result of this, I decided to apply as a volunteer with YMCA Malta

Sofiya Chuzhda

'My experience at the YMCA Youth Workers Camp was both incredibly fun and deeply enriching—one that I will cherish forever. I gained valuable new skills, like treehouse building, and forged wonderful new friendships, all while immersing myself in a different country. The camp not only broadened my

as well and am looking forward to this new, fruitful journey.'

horizons but also provided memories and lessons that will last a lifetime.'



Nathan Micallef

'There was a feeling of being in a big family, with a lot of love and care. We had great team work and fun activities. Made lots of new friends. I would do it all over again.'

Benjamin Borg

'I'm truly grateful to YMCA Malta for this learning experience. The camp not only helped me forge strong bonds with both local and international friends but also provided invaluable skills.'

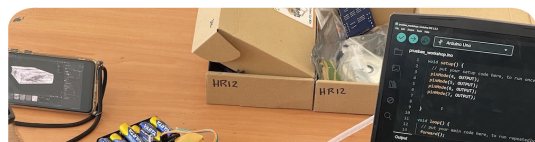
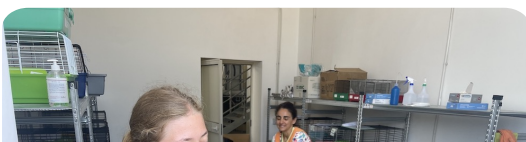
Nathan Micallef

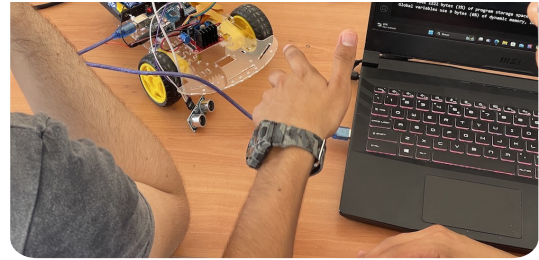
'The YMCA Youth Workers' Camp was a truly life-changing experience. It not only taught me practical things like leadership skills, but also made me reflect on my own behaviours, and of course, have a ton of fun with international friends.'

YMCA Malta loved being able to help enrich the lives of those young people who participated! We will continue to help bring opportunities like this to the youth of Malta.

This was a project funded by Erasmus+ and aej, with the support of Agenzija Żgħażaġh.

Y'EXPLORE '24: The Adventures Continue...





Y'EXPLORE brought more colour and new experiences to youth this August. We took young participants on excursions to Nature Trust Malta's Wildlife Rehab Centre in Marsaxlokk; to Mdina on Rock Adventure's signature Treasure Hunt; and to Bird Life Salina Nature Reserve.

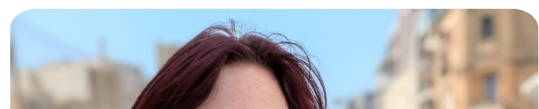
These excursions engage youth to see the beauty of the world around them; they draw young minds away from screens, and instead encourage them to step outside into the adventure of life!

Thank you APS Bank & Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ for your support!



All Aboard: New Interns Join the Y!

Huge welcome to our amazing new group of international interns! They will be joining us on the frontlines of homelessness, as well as empowering youth to take the helm of their own lives. We're so excited for you to join us: you are most welcome on our team!





Thank you/Grazzi ħafna

The Legal Clinic at the University of Malta

For your continuous support helping our service users gain independence.



Rock in the Forest Volunteers

For making Rock in the Forest a night to remember.

Our Outgoing Interns

For serving alongside us. Your love, enthusiasm and youthful energy has enriched many lives! Good luck on your future journeys and know that you always have a home at YMCA Malta.

Needs Support Programme

The support of the following organisations is ongoing in our [Needs Support Programme](#):

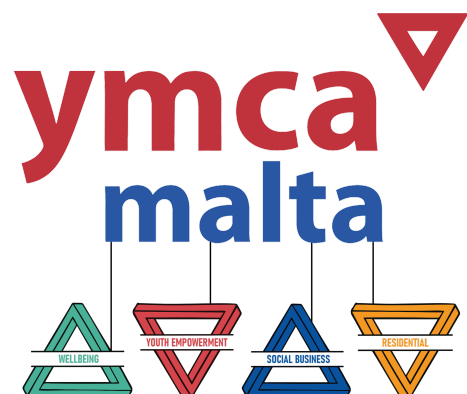
- Hartons
- Victory Kitchen
- Malta Food bank
- The Alfred Mizzi Foundation
- TTBL Limited
- Panku Streetfood
- ST Media Company Limited
- Maypole

An enormous thank you to these organisations. Your philanthropy is much appreciated.

If you or an organisation you work for would like to contribute to the Needs Support Programme and help us gather food and other essentials for our programmes, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you

If you would like to support us further, click [here](#)



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