

Project Update:

Project has been completed successfully. We have completed 7 cohorts. We are planning to Provide IPAD to all kids on Award ceremony celebration on April 27th. We began the "Learn to Lead" project last year, with the first cohort starting on September 8th. Our mission is to empower children with leadership skill in underprivileged communities in Jamaica.

So far, we have completed 7 successful sessions including fund raising events.

kids have participated enthusiastically in all the events. Most recently, we held an art session focused on International Mothers Language Day where children showcased their creativity by drawing the first letters of ten different countries.

It was an immensely creative experience. Later, Shilpangan organized a rally and displayed all the participants artwork on February 16th.

I also want to thank all the donors. Without your contributions, we could not have bought 10 iPads. this will not only encourage the kids but will also inspire them to dream big and achieve success later in their life.

Project Summary: The "Learn to Lead" project was a literacy initiative designed to empower children aged 5 to 12 in Jamaica, Queens, NY, particularly those from minority neighborhoods facing educational disparities. This program specifically targeted children who required additional support in reading, writing, and creative thinking skills—areas where local schools often lagged behind those in more affluent districts like Manhattan and Long Island. In Jamaica, Queens, there was a significant population of newly immigrant families, particularly from Bangladesh, whose children often struggled with English literacy. The project provided tailored assistance to these children, helping them improve their reading and writing abilities while fostering creative thinking. The initiative recognized that many of these families faced economic challenges, making it difficult for them to access necessary educational resources. To address these needs, the "Learn to Lead" project donated 10 iPads and arts materials to children, which they used to enhance their learning experience. The project was spearheaded by Nadia Saeedi and Shamim Begum, who implemented a structured program in which children engaged in various activities. These included completing reading and writing assignments, culminating in the creation of essays and business plans that reflected their interests and aspirations. This practical approach not only built literacy skills but also encouraged entrepreneurial thinking. At the end of the program, all participants who successfully completed their assignments were rewarded with iPads, providing them with valuable tools for further learning and development. Through this initiative, disadvantaged children and their families were

empowered, enabling them to overcome educational barriers and fostering a brighter future. We have completed 7 cohort of kids event in different days first event Sept8th telling stories with art first learn to lead cohort starts, sept 15th flood fund raising, sep21 fundraiser in Sonia and salon place where children art displayed, oct20th kula art victory day, nov17th victory day presentation , December 22nd art activities victory day theme , kids short presentation, January 26th future dream what they want to become and art theme was mother's language day 10 different countries first letter, kids art was showcased in shilpangan program on 16th February where chairperson Nazrul Islam showcased all kids art displayed in the event.

Impact of "Learn to Lead"

- Empowered children through literacy and creativity.
- Fostered leadership, cultural awareness, and entrepreneurial thinking.
- Addressed educational disparities in underprivileged communities.

Title: Learn to Lead Subtitle: Empowering Children Through Literacy and Creativity in Jamaica, Queens, NY Image Suggestion: A vibrant group photo of children participating in an art or literacy event.

Project Summary

- Literacy initiative for children aged 5-12 from minority neighborhoods in Jamaica, Queens.
- Focused on reading, writing, and creative thinking for children from newly immigrant families, especially from Bangladesh.
- Addressed economic challenges by providing iPads and art materials.

Image Suggestion: A symbolic image of children using iPads or engaged in a group activity like reading or painting.

September 8 - Storytelling with Art

Heading: Launch Event

- Date: September 8, 2024
- Event: Telling Stories with Art
- Children used creative art to narrate personal stories.
- This was the start of the first "Learn to Lead" cohort.

A photo or artwork from the event showcasing children painting or their completed art pieces.

September 15 - Flood Fundraising Event

Fundraising for Bangladesh Flood Victims

- Date: September 15, 2024
- Children created art and presentations for the fundraiser.
- Proceeds supported flood victims in Bangladesh.

A snapshot of the fundraising event, featuring kids' artwork and engaged participants.

September 21 - Fundraising and Art Display

Heading: Art Fundraiser at Sonia and Ghalib Azim's Residence

- Date: September 21, 2024
- Event featured art displays by children.
- Raised \$300 for "Learn to Lead," supporting educational opportunities.

Displayed children's artwork or a photo of the event venue with participants.

October 20 - Kula Art Victory Day Celebration

Heading: Art Victory Day

- Date: October 20, 2024
- Children participated in art projects celebrating Victory Day.
- Focused on creative expressions linked to the theme of freedom.

Artwork by children themed on Victory Day or kids actively creating their pieces.

November 17 - Victory Day Presentation

Educational Presentations

- Date: November 17, 2024
- Children presented their creative work related to Victory Day.

Photos of children presenting or holding their completed projects.

December 22 - Victory Day Art Activities

Art and Presentations

- Date: December 22, 2024
- Activities with a Victory Day theme.
- Children delivered short presentations, showcasing their creativity.

Children presenting or creating Victory Day-themed art projects.

January 26 - Dreams and Mother Language Day

Future Dreams and Cultural Awareness

- Date: January 26, 2025
- Children gave speeches about their future dreams (e.g., becoming doctors, artists, or educators).
- Celebrated Mother Language Day with art representing the first letters of ten different countries.

Image Suggestion: Photos of children speaking or their artwork representing the countries' symbols.

February 16 - Shilpangan Art Showcase

Art Showcase Event

- Date: February 16, 2025
- Children's artwork from the program was displayed at the Shilpangan event.
- Chairperson Nazrul Islam showcased and celebrated the kids' achievements.

Image Suggestion: Photos of the art exhibition or children standing proudly by their displayed work.

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- Addressed educational disparities in underprivileged communities.