

TUES Alumni Association – TUES Idea Hub: Empowering Youth Through Innovation

Project Overview:

At the **TUES Alumni Association**, we are dedicated to empowering young people between the ages of **13 to 29** — the demographic defined by the **European Union** as youth. With a strong commitment to fostering creativity, leadership, and innovation, our mission is to create spaces where young minds can connect, collaborate, and grow. The **TUES Idea Hub** is a dynamic youth-led space where students and alumni can come together to work on projects, develop both **technical skills** and **soft skills**, and prepare for a successful future.

The **TUES Idea Hub** will be established in an existing office space within TUES, transforming it into a vibrant and multifunctional space for learning, collaboration, and innovation, complete with a **library** and **creative collaboration labs**.

Why This Project Is Important:

According to the "**Bulgarian Youth 2018/2019**" report, only **one-third** of young people are involved in youth centers or interest clubs, and a staggering **71% are not engaged in any form of volunteering**. This reflects a significant gap in opportunities for youth to develop their leadership and innovation skills.

At **TUES**, we currently have **over 500 active students** and an expanding alumni network. Yet, there are limited spaces where students and alumni can collaborate, develop critical skills, or engage with each other to further their academic and professional goals. The **TUES Idea Hub** will fill this gap by providing a dedicated space for young people to work on projects, participate in **mentorship programs**, attend **career workshops**, and develop both **hard and soft skills** that are vital for success in the 21st century.

The project aims to address the **disconnect** between students and the professional world by providing a space where students and alumni can come together to innovate and grow.

The Problem:

The lack of a dedicated space where students and alumni can engage in **collaborative innovation** and **career development** is a significant challenge. Despite the growing number of talented students at **TUES**, there is currently no space where they can fully

engage with their peers and mentors, work on real-world projects, and gain both **technical** and **soft skills** in a dynamic environment.

Although **TUES** has a student population of **500 active students**, the school lacks a multifunctional space for students to collaborate, build projects, and access resources outside of the classroom. Additionally, **TUES alumni**, especially those who are early in their careers or transitioning between jobs, have limited opportunities to engage with their alma mater in a meaningful way, missing out on a chance to mentor and connect with current students.

The absence of such a space stifles creativity and hampers the development of essential skills such as **leadership**, **problem-solving**, and **teamwork**.

How Will This Project Solve the Problem?

The **TUES Idea Hub** will directly address these issues by providing a **youth-led, multifunctional space** designed to empower both **students** and **alumni**:

- **Collaboration Labs:** These labs will be equipped with the latest **technology** and **creative tools**, allowing students and alumni to **collaborate** on projects, conduct research, and develop practical solutions to real-world challenges.
- **Interest and Club Zones:** These zones will be designed for student-led clubs, workshops, and extracurricular activities. They will provide students with the opportunity to develop **leadership skills**, work on **team projects**, and explore new ideas with their peers.
- **The Dream Library:** A comfortable, quiet retreat offering both **digital** and **print resources**, this space will provide students with the materials they need for both academic study and personal growth, as well as a place for independent learning and exploration.
- **Workshops and Career Development:** Regular **workshops**, **networking events**, and **mentorship programs** will allow students to engage with alumni, gain **career insights**, and **network** with industry professionals. This will help students bridge the gap between their academic education and their career aspirations.

Through these offerings, the **TUES Idea Hub** will provide a structured environment where students can build the **skills**, **connections**, and **knowledge** necessary for success in their professional careers.

Potential Long-Term Impact:

The **TUES Idea Hub** will have a long-lasting impact on the **TUES community**, **businesses**, and **local society** as a whole:

- **On Students:** The Idea Hub will empower students to be **innovators** and **leaders** within their community, offering them the tools and environment to create, collaborate, and learn. Students will gain the skills they need to succeed in their future careers, while developing their leadership and problem-solving abilities.
 - **On Alumni:** Alumni will continue to play an active role in the TUES community through **mentorship**, **career development**, and **collaboration** with current students. By staying engaged with TUES through the Idea Hub, alumni will strengthen their professional network, gain opportunities to share their knowledge, and give back to the community that shaped their careers.
 - **On Teachers:** Faculty will have opportunities to collaborate with students on projects, gain new perspectives from their peers, and develop new ways to integrate **real-world applications** into their teaching methods.
 - **On Businesses:** The Idea Hub will act as a **talent incubator**, providing local businesses with access to highly skilled students who are prepared to enter the workforce. It will also allow businesses to **collaborate** with the school on **innovative projects** and give **sponsorship opportunities** that demonstrate their commitment to supporting youth education and leadership development.
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Budget Overview:

The total requested funding for the **TUES Idea Hub** project is **\$50,000 USD**. The funds will be used for:

1. **Renovation and Construction:** \$15,000
2. **Furniture and Equipment:** \$12,000
3. **Workshops and Events:** \$6,000
4. **Library Resources:** \$4,000
5. **Operational Costs:** \$7,000
6. **Marketing and Communication:** \$3,500
7. **Contingency Fund:** \$2,500

Donation Options:

- **\$10:** Provide books for the **Dream Library**.
- **\$50:** Sponsor one **student workshop** or **career development session**.
- **\$100:** Equip a **collaboration lab** with desks and computers.
- **\$500:** Fully support a **mentorship session** with industry professionals.
- **\$1,000:** Fund the **renovation of an interest club zone**.
- **\$2,500:** Help **renovate and furnish** the **Dream Library**.

Conclusion:

The **TUES Idea Hub** will provide a **dynamic, collaborative space** where students and alumni can **innovate, collaborate, and lead**. By supporting this project, you are investing in the future of **Bulgaria's youth**, providing them with the resources they need to thrive academically, professionally, and personally.

Together, we can create a space where young minds can **think big, lead boldly, and grow together**. Your support will help us build the **TUES Idea Hub** into a place where **youth creativity and innovation** can flourish.

Project Details:

- **Donation Deadline:** September 15, 2025
- **Project Location:** 2 Vladimir Pashov Str., Sofia, Bulgaria
- **Website:** [Visit Our Donation Campaign Page](#)