



# AUTHORISE



*AuthoRise: A Magazine by RISE  
Students. Celebrating the Life and  
Experience of Our Vibrant Community.*



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## Meet the team



Lawand -Boys' President



Nas - Girls' President



Naime Beyza - Editor in charge



Bakr - Interview Reviewer



Nilufer - Minister of Organization



Didar Nur -Artist



Ghazal - Literature Reviewer



Kevser - Photographer



Halef - Photographer



Akif - Literature Reviewer



Payvin - Interviewer



Shahda - Interviewer



Ali - Interviewer



Esra - Book Reviewer



Safa - Humor & Entertainment

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## ACTIVITIES

RISE offers a wide variety of activities and extracurriculars to engage and inspire students.



Subject Weeks

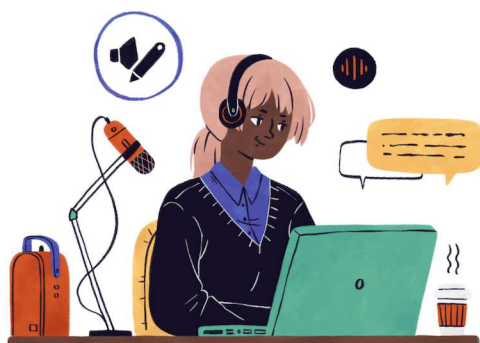


Sports



Competitions

# EDITORIAL



## A new beginning

Rise International School Erbil extends warm greetings to all the readers of our 1st issue of AUTHORISE, our magazine!

AUTHORISE strives to be the mural for showing the monumental strides our community takes on a monthly basis, highlighting the beautiful mosaic of student activities and their myriad of achievements; the hub for knowledge that a RISE student can read to stay updated; as well as the logbook for the unforgettable and precious moments we will experience.

Working towards keeping the goals of this magazine achieved brings me a great deal of pleasure, and what keeps this magazine going is the combined effort of the magazine crew board, whom I would like to thank as the source for the interest that every reader may happily find.

Naime Beyza -  
Editor in charge



Naime Beyza, a senior at our school, is an outstanding student with remarkable leadership skills. She has a keen interest in mathematics and science and is well on her way to becoming a future medical professional.

Naime is currently the "editor in charge" of our school magazine, Authorise, and runs the AMC (American Math Challenge) Contest Preparation Club and First Aid Club Leader. She excels academically in her AP Calculus, AP Biology, and AP Chemistry studies. Naime's passion for math is evident in her success in various math competitions, including the AMC 10 and 12 and International Mathematics Olympiad (IMO) and her AMC Contest Preparation Club leadership. Her commitment to excellence and dedication to helping her peers achieve their goals is evident in her work with the club.



# Embracing change

**Harman Qarani,**  
**Sociology & AP Psychology Teacher**

Hello World,

Greeting to our dear readers, whom I assume are mostly RISE students and/or staff. The school magazine board has asked me to write a column for the newly minted and hopefully periodical RISE magazine. When I asked what should it be about the almost unanimous answer was motivation.

I have noticed that this has become a theme with the younger generation, who require more motivation and encouragement to go about their daily business. If you see the news which they are exposed to on daily bases you wouldn't blame them, all the doom and gloom about all the change that is going to happen in the future whether be it politics, economy or climate. I am here to tell you that this fear is mostly unjustified. Things will change and life will be different, this by no means is a negative thing. It only seems negative to the older generations who are set in their ways.

But for you and your generation it's an opportunity, because yes, many things are changing at the same time and the instability can be scary, but all of you get the chance to reshape the world and the future to your image. So anytime you see or hear something about things changing, internally shout yes "another opportunity for me to paint the future according to my colors".

I hope this motivates you and scares the older generation. Until next if there is a next time.



## Chess Tournament



Boys' Chess Tournament was a huge success, providing a platform for the students to showcase their skills and compete against one another.

Congratulations to all the participants for their hard work and sportsmanship, and a special congratulations to Ahmet Tosun, Grade 10 for his impressive victory.

We look forward to seeing more exciting tournaments like this in the future!

# The Picture of Dorian Gray

A book review by Ghazal (12G)



Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde (1854-1900) was an Irish playwright, poet, and author of numerous short stories and novels, and is one of the most successful playwrights of the late Victorian era in London. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is a classic piece of gothic literature and is perhaps from where Wilde's popularity is derived the most.

It tells the story of Dorian Gray, a charming young man in late-19th-century England, who becomes increasingly hedonistic in his desire to preserve his beauty, so much so that he agrees on selling his soul in exchange that a portrait of his would age—instead of himself—keeping his beauty intact. Dorian eventually plummets into a vain life of crime and amorality, ultimately leading to his demise.

*The Picture of Dorian Gray* is without a doubt a must-read. It is one of the best introductions to exploring gothic literature. It follows a theme that many can appreciate a simulation of—in the form of a man who completely neglects said theme's lesson—engaging a common curiosity among people: what does a complete lack of restraint truly entail?

**The Book Worms Club**, led by Ghazal in Grade 12, is a student-led club that aims to promote a love of reading and improve literary skills among students. The club regularly organizes book discussion sessions, hosts author talks, and participates in literary events and competitions. With a focus on creating a community of passionate readers, the club has been successful in fostering a culture of reading and encouraging students to explore new genres and authors.

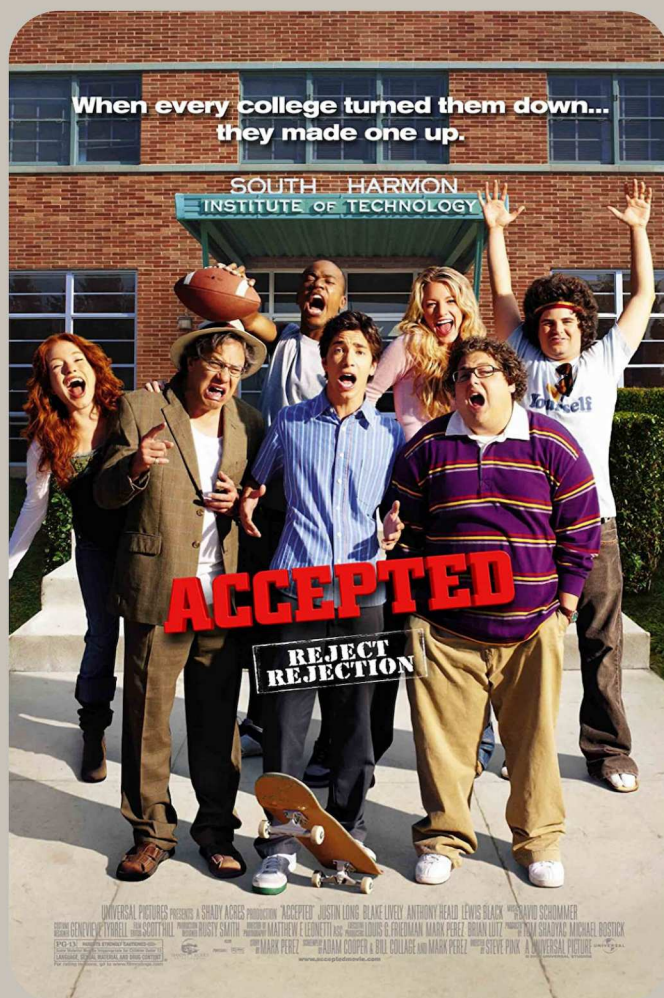


# "Accepted"

## A movie review by Esra (12G)

Oscar After receiving letters of rejection from all the colleges he applied to, and facing scrutiny from his parents and others around him for his failure, senior Bartleby Gains forms an elaborate plan with his peers: completely fabricate their own college! To appear legitimate, they form the South Harmon Institute of Technology, a “wing” of the more prestigious and genuine university of Harmon Institute of Technology. The group renovated an abandoned building to serve as the campus; employed a friend’s uncle as the dean; and set up a bogus website, thus creating a façade of a real educational institute.

“Accepted” is an American comedy film (see if you can spot the comedy within the name “South Harmon Institute of Technology”!) Its humor, though some may find it rather outdated given its release in 2006, still holds value and can be a great watch with friends for some laughs.



RISE utilizes top-quality educational materials that are viable and adaptable to the local environment.

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YOUR WORLD, YOUR TURN

# Kurdish Flag Day

"A nation's flag is more than just a piece of cloth, it is a symbol of its people, its values, and its aspirations, a beacon of hope that unites us all."

Kurdish Flag Day is a special occasion celebrated annually by Kurds all around the world on December 17th. The day holds great importance for the Kurdish community as it marks the day the Kurdish flag was first hoisted in 1945. This year, our school celebrated the day with great enthusiasm, and it was heartening to see almost all the students participate in the festivities.

The day began with the hoisting of the Kurdish flag, followed by a procession in which students carried flags and marched to the rhythm of traditional Kurdish music. The atmosphere was festive, and everyone was filled with joy and pride.

The program then moved on to the main event, where students sang songs, recited poems, gave speeches, and danced to celebrate the day. The performances were a beautiful display of the rich culture and history of the Kurdish people. The songs were particularly inspiring, with lyrics that spoke of unity, freedom, and the struggle for justice.

The speeches delivered by the students were also noteworthy, as they highlighted the importance of the Kurdish flag as a symbol of identity and pride. The poems recited were touching, and they evoked strong emotions among the audience.



The celebration of Kurdish Flag Day at our school was a resounding success. It was a day filled with love, respect, and admiration for the Kurdish people and their rich cultural heritage. It was heartening to see so many students actively participate and show their support for the Kurdish cause. We hope to continue celebrating this special day for many years to come, and to keep the spirit of Kurdish culture alive.



The Kurdish flag is a national symbol of the Kurdish people and represents the Kurdish culture, identity, and history. It consists of three horizontal stripes of red, white, and green, and a sun with 21 rays in the center of the white stripe. The red stripe represents the blood of the Kurdish martyrs, the white stripe represents peace and freedom, and the green stripe represents the beauty of nature in Kurdistan. The sun in the center represents the dawn of a new day and a brighter future for the Kurdish people.



# Sports

Lawand (male students' school president) formed the football team after a discussion with the PE teacher on picking a select few members he found to represent a school team the best.

"Representing the school is a very important mission to us, and we went to other schools and requested friendly matches, challenging each other in football."

Lawand also goes through his role as an encouragement model. He heavily emphasizes that the aggression a team feels during a match should always be directed toward the ball, and never toward the opposing players.

"The most important thing was our motivation, which was to never give up and always work hard to achieve our goal."



The Girls' basketball tournament intensifies as it nears its final match!



The first match held was between the 10th graders and the 11th graders, in which grade 11 emerged victorious with skillful plays by Beyza Nur, Nahide Akbayır, and Nas Balli. It was 30 minutes of friendly competition for the both classes.

After a grade 8 victory in their match against grade 7, the third match pit grade 8 against grade 9. It remained in an intense equal play between one another, until the 8th graders eventually tipped the balance, winning the match, with Nalin nominated as the MVP of the match.

Lawand Navrooz



Lawand Nawrooz is a driven and dedicated individual who serves as the School President for the boys' section at Rise International School-Erbil (RISE). He is an accomplished student and a natural leader, always striving to make a positive impact on his school and community.

Lawand is passionate about promoting academic excellence and has taken on various initiatives to enhance the student experience at RISE. He is well-respected by his peers and is known for his charisma, energy, and inspiring leadership style. Lawand's commitment to his role as School President has been invaluable in fostering a positive school culture and helping to drive student success.



# English Language Week

"Let's celebrate the beauty of the English language and its culture during our exciting English week!"

The events of English Week have concluded. The events were greatly entertaining, as students expressed their diligence in the English language through multiple, joyful activities, many of which also emphasized the power of thinking and self-expression.

Mini-games: Speed-reading competitions; karaoke; crossword; tongue twisters, and many other mini games were done all at once in the main school hall, forming a chaotic, exciting, and lively environment.

Spelling Bee Competition: One of the two major events of English week, in which grades 7 and 8 competed in their ability to spell English words. The top 3 were:

- 1st Place: Abdullah Abood
- 2nd Place: Muhammad Amjed
- 3rd Place: Honia Tharwat



"It's cute to see them try their best, and they are doing very well" – Miss Zina, English Language Arts teacher



English Week is a yearly event at RISE that celebrates the importance of the English language and its role in global communication. The event includes various activities such as a Spelling Bee competition, RISEx Talks where students give short speeches on various topics in English, and a Mini Games Exhibition featuring English language games such as Scrabble and Boggle. The event aims to promote English language proficiency among students and to encourage them to engage in fun and educational activities related to the language.



# RISEx Talks

RISEx Talks is an initiative that empowers students to express their opinions and share their experiences in a structured, supportive environment.



“As the English department, we assigned tasks to the students weeks ago, as we realized the preparation was not simple and easy. Nevertheless, it went very well, the students were motivated, and seemed to be enjoying the event” – Mr. Ali Yavuz, English Language Arts Teacher



“Invest in yourself to become a better thinker for a brighter future”



“The most significant (and almost paradoxical) thing I learned is that, as we acknowledge and work towards accepting our vulnerabilities and weak points, we become one step closer towards seeing ourselves in a better, fairer light”

32 students have participated in Rise X Talks, an English Week event in which one discusses a topic they hold great interest in and perform a presentation on said topic. Participants not only need to attempt to create intrigue for their topic, but to manage a somewhat frightening position in which they must hold a powerful, confident stance and demeanor, and thus appeal to the audience as best as possible. Out of the 32 participants, 14 have made it through the eliminations round, the top 3 competitors being:



“The most significant (and almost paradoxical) thing I learned is that, as we acknowledge and work towards accepting our vulnerabilities and weak points, we become one step closer towards seeing ourselves in a better, fairer light” – Bakr Amjed, “What I learned as an Olympiad Student”



# Preparing Generation Z for the Future: Understanding Their Characteristics and Expectations

**Fatih Elibol**

As we prepare our learners for the future, we must understand the unique characteristics of the generation we serve. Our students are part of Generation Z, born between the mid-1990s and the early 2010s. As educators, it is essential to recognize the unique qualities of this generation and adjust our teaching strategies accordingly.

Generation Z is known for their tech-savviness and global awareness. Growing up in a world of rapid technological advancements and social media, they are adept at multitasking and communicating through various platforms. Their exposure to different cultural and social experiences has made them more open-minded and accepting of diversity.

Regarding their views on education, Generation Z highly values education as a means to achieve personal and professional success. They are also highly motivated by social justice and environmental issues and seek to impact the world positively. They are more likely to be self-directed learners who prefer to learn at their own pace and style.

The current state of the world highly influences generation Z's future expectations. They are concerned about the economy, political stability, climate change, and social justice issues. They desire job security and seek meaningful work that aligns with their values. They also want to pursue further education or training to enhance their skills and employability.

As educators, it is essential to consider the characteristics and views of Generation Z in our teaching practices. We must adapt our teaching methods to incorporate technology and provide opportunities for self-directed learning. We also need to address their concerns about the world by engaging in discussions about current events and promoting global citizenship.

In conclusion, understanding Generation Z's characteristics, views, and future expectations are crucial in providing our learners with relevant and practical education. Let us continue to adapt our teaching practices and create a learning environment that prepares our students for success in the ever-changing world.

# Book Mind

## Nas Balli

When we are asked why we should read a book, there is no one who cannot answer. A friend who does not cause problems, a kind of therapy, the power of comparison when it is made of quality ... When can we write pages, why don't we read a book? What are the answers we can give? If we know so many good reasons, what else could it be?



Yes, close your eyes and think for a minute, why book? Because we don't care. We do not realize that we need ourselves, our inner world, a search for meaning. We don't worry because we don't care about ourselves. There are secrets in the depths of the universe that Call us. For example, we never wonder about those walls. Because it is the secret of what our friends, whom we consider ourselves worthy, talk to another friend. It's not our turn to understand the life that the universe is infused with.

They asked the wise; If we remove meaning from life, what is left? Smiling, the information said, "He's left for a while after his heart is taken out of his body." Any time you don't have access to information is just a waste. According to Machiavelli, there are three types of human intelligence. Those who spontaneously understand what is revealed to them, neither by themselves nor by someone else.

Unfortunately, people who do not read books, avoid access to knowledge, do not wonder about the meaning of life, unfortunately fall into the third type of intelligence category. And Bulgakou sums it up perfectly..."When God punishes someone, he first takes away his logic." The greatest evil we can do to our mind is to satisfy its need to progress in its own time. Spinoza says something wonderful in his ethics masterpiece; "Whatever does not have a cause for its own existence does not exist."

You will not be able to love until we discover ourselves without knowing and caring about ourselves. Worry about accessing information! May your troubles be of good quality and let the light enlighten you.

Nas Balli, a Grade 11 student, is the president of the Girls Section at our school. She is a remarkable young leader who is passionate about empowering girls and helping them achieve their potential. Nas is also the founder of the Beauty and Self Care Club, a club that focuses on promoting healthy self-care habits among young women. Under Nas's leadership, the Girls Section has organized several events and initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality and empowering young women. She has led the section with grace, empathy, and a deep understanding of the challenges facing girls in our society. Through the Beauty and Self Care Club, Nas has created a space where young women can learn about healthy self-care practices, including skincare, haircare, and mental health.

# What I learned as an Olympiad Student?

## Bakr Amjed

For the past couple of years, I have been actively involved in the International Biology Olympiad, a global-level competition where students across 70 countries or so contend in tests that assess their skills in theoretical and practical abilities concerned with the field of biology. This has been an extremely fruitful experience that went beyond the challenge at hand.

Participating in an international competition drastically changed my perspective on how to tackle student life, as well as the struggles we experience in our journey of learning how to deal with the obstacles and interactions we face in our world.



Doing something that far exceeds the burdens of normal academics helped me approach simpler responsibilities, and responsibilities similarly difficult, much more effectively. Often, what we define as difficult is what we acclimated ourselves to define as difficult, that is, by having our standards at the school level, we will always feel caught in the web of class assignments, tests, and projects. It is only when we bombard ourselves with challenges that we begin to see the ways in which we know how to tackle what we previously thought to be difficult. This is especially true when we transiently try to be more independent and learn to do things by ourselves (though, of course, getting support every now and then is very essential). Moreover, when we tackle things that seem practically impossible at first and keep going at them, we get a better grasp on learning things in general. Getting older was not the only reason you now see addition as easy; it is also because you now learned much more complex operations like multiplication or division! Thus, the Olympiad experience enabled me to not only learn things easier but know how to learn things easier.

The majority of the competitors in the IBO were exponentially more competent than me, and it was certainly jarring at first. A school environment, or any environment for that matter, rarely helps promote competition in a way that does not feel as though you are being pitted against each other, where everyone is at least moderately resentful of each other. To be fair, though, part of that sense is simply human nature.

It realized that there is an opportunity to be taken in such an upsetting experience. Paradoxically, the harsh competition helps you come to terms with accepting yourself, not in a defeatist manner, but in a stoic realization that teaching yourself to accept the magnitude of your capabilities and others' helps to wear down the negativity bias you activate by instinct, and that only your growth is what truly matters, not having to concern yourself with how well others are doing.

Students who engage in competition fear or resent their fellow competitors because they do not know them. From what I learned, simply engaging in a conversation with someone else helps you settle your stress, even if from your talk, you deduced the other person is more competent than you. Sometimes, knowing your supposed enemy makes you realize they are also humans who try to try their best, and in those terms, you are no different from them

Finally, the best thing I learned is that you will find joy in working towards something that initially, and perhaps throughout the better part of it, requires painful effort. That is, to have fun to learn.

## Chess Tournament



The recent Girls' Chess Tournament at our school saw talented girls from different backgrounds compete against each other. The tournament was won by Reyhan Sena Yucedal, who scored an impressive 4 points out of 5.

The tournament showcased the immense potential of our female students and provided a platform for them to develop their skills and learn from each other. We hope to see more such tournaments in the future.

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# Entertainment and humor

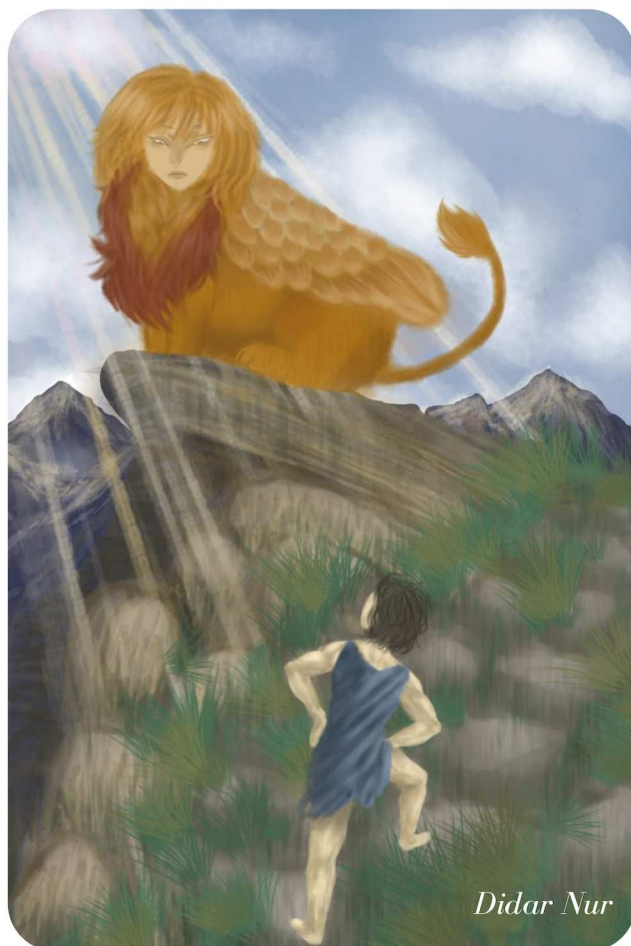
## King Oedipus and the Sphinx

When King Oedipus began a journey to find answers for the plague that fell on his city, on his way Thebes, he encountered the Sphinx, who asked him 3 riddles, with death upon him if he does not answer correctly. You must help Oedipus defeat the Sphinx.

1. There is a house. One enters it blind and comes out seeing. What is it?

2. It cannot be seen, cannot be felt, cannot be heard, cannot be smelt. It lies behind stars and under hills, and empty holes it fills. It comes first and follows after, ends life, kills laughter.

3. This thing all things devours: birds, beasts, trees, flowers; gnaws iron, bites steel; grinds hard stones to meal; slays king, ruins town, and beats high mountain down.



Didar Nur is grade 12 student who runs the Art Club. She is a creative and organized person who is passionate about art and enjoys sharing that passion with others. She has leadership skills and enjoys taking on responsibilities to help enhance her school community.

## Art Club

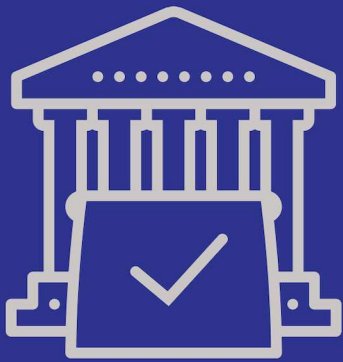


Warin Yasin

"From blank canvas to vibrant masterpiece - being a part of the Art Club has allowed me to unleash my imagination and create art that truly represents who I am."



Art club is a student-led organization focused on promoting and encouraging creativity and artistic expression within the school. The club offers a variety of opportunities for students to engage with different types of art, such as drawing, painting, sculpture, and more. Art club also organizes events that allow members to showcase their work, collaborate with peers, and learn new skills.



**Class of 2022**

## COLLEGE ADMISSION RATES

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