TEENOVATOR TEENAGE START-UPS IN ACTION

Teenovator in action - (video)

About us:

Proznanie Foundation is devoted to make education more efficient, easy and accessible to everyone. Our not-for-profit social activities are based on the belief that education can make profound changes in the society. We provide top-quality educational services to various disadvantages communities, such as children with special educational needs; minorities; refugees; children without parental care and others.

About the program:

Teenovator is part of the international network, adapted for Bulgarian schools, in which mentors from start-up and developed companies in Bulgaria and with experience in various fields help students in grades 10 and 11 find their passion and turn it into a winning startup project. The program is free of charge and the format is based on the practical application of successful practices from Stanford University. Design thinking, 'lean development', 'rapid prototyping', 'business canvas model' etc., combined with personal development and 'soft' skills, educational games have been implemented as well. Visits to offices of realized companies are also organized. The focus of the program is to stimulate creative thinking and self-confidence in personal capabilities. The meetings between the mentors and the students in the Teenovator clubs are held once a week for a period of one school year in the school premises. At the end of the school year, all teams from the Bulgarian schools attend a national competition and present their business ideas to a jury of investors. The best team from Bulgaria participates in an international competition. The Program has started in Bulgaria at the beginning of 2018-2019 school year in 4 schools in Sofia. In 2019-2020 school year it is running in 17 schools in three cities – Sofia, Varna and Vratsa. This school year 34 mentors have been included. Teenovator's The Program is running in 9 countries on 3 continents.

Teenovator Success Stories for 2019/2020:

1. EduBots which is already successfully running educational program – it offers sets for assembling robots and training videos in Robotics and has been created by students from Sofia High School of Mathematics, the German Language High School and the National High School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

2. HappyTree, created by students from 119 SU in Sofia. Their idea is everybody to have the opportunity to give a tree as a present to a special person – the company plants the tree and sends a video and a certificate to the receiver of the present.

3. Woof Ball, created by students from 19 SU in Sofia– a light up dog ball made from recycled material which solves a widespread problem of dog owners.

This year the first-place winners will take part in Digital Innovation Hackaton in Berlin, organized by the European Commission in November 2020. The grand prize is participation in pre-accelerator program Innovation Capital's XL Bootcamp in Sofia which provides the opportunity of winning funding of 25 000 euros.

Our students share: video

Teenovator in pictures