Leadership Summer Academy Report, 2018

Bucharest, Academy of Economics, June 30th - July 20th

Buzău, Secondary Schools of Mihăilești & Costești, July 23rd - August 12th
Where did we start from?

The Romanian education system does not meet the needs and potential of each child

- School dropout
- Functional illiteracy
- Rural-urban gap
- Low socio-emotional skills
- Low employability

Transformational teacher
Transformational leader
Systemic impact

**STUDENTS**
- Literacy (functional, digital literacy/numeracy)
- Emotional intelligence (values, self-esteem)
- Leadership
- Active presence

**TEACHERS**
- impact vision
- Education centered around the student’s needs, based on values and on the development of skills

**ALUMNI**
Initiatives:
- Teacher’s role/formation
- Educational management
- Investment in education
- National policies
What did we have in mind?

1. A replicable model of initial training for teachers working with students from vulnerable backgrounds

2. A program that develops leadership skills through an unique learning experience:
   - about one’s self
   - about education
   - about the power of a community
How did the Leadership Summer Academy look like this year?

- **3 weeks of theoretical training**
  Trainings and workshops in Bucharest, July 2-20

- **2 days of getting to know the community and the students**
  Costești and Mihăilești (Buzău), July 23rd-24th

- **10 days of teaching practice**
  July 26th – August 8th
What are the training directions?

- Self-knowledge and personal development
- Strategic approach to teaching
- Build the learning and practice community

What we assessed

- Strategic thinking: basic teaching concepts (planning, execution, assessment)
- Build relationships: empathy, collaboration
- Level of self-knowledge: ability for reflection and personal development
What were the numbers?

- 6 weeks of Bootcamp
- 200 hours of training/workshop
- 46 future teachers
- 30 trainers and coaches
- 30 hours of reflection and sharing
- 5 coordinating tutors
- 20 mentors
- 30 hours of community
- 300 hours of teaching/learning
- 40 hours of mentoring
- 20 classes in parallel
- 400 children
- 2 schools: Mihăilești, Costești (Buzău county)
Trainers and contributors

Both team specialists, as well as some of the most valuable Romanian trainers participated in the participants’ learning experience.
Our team specialists

Sinziana Spistyak
Cătălina Leuca
Nicoleta Topoleanu
Aura Stan
Ioana Terente
Vasile Brașovanu
Georgiana Curea
Corina Puia
Alina Andronescu
Sinziana Badea
Costin Corbeanu
Mirela Ștefco
Cristina Constantin
Mădălina Ursu
What is new in 2018?

An innovative training program based on the development of transferable skills, able to respond to the real learning needs of children from vulnerable communities.

3 directions of learning:
- Leading self – how to become professor-leader
- Leading change – how they bring transformational learning into the students’ life
- Leading others – how to build healthy relationships with parents, colleagues, local authorities to support child raising

5 skills:
- Strategic thinking
- Critical thinking
- self-leadership
- resilience
- social efficiency

Common values:
- passion: initiative, perseverance, care
- action: excellence, continuous learning, collaboration
- reflection: integrity, authenticity, balance
What is new in 2018?

Create a learning and practice community able to support the progress of teachers and, implicitly, of students.
What is new in 2018?

Mentoring course for Teach for Romania alumni who supported the development of teaching and leadership skills of peers from the 5th generation
What is new in 2018?

Team coaching sessions for participants

Video testimonial: Noela Zaharia
What is new in 2018?

Coaching for parents in the two communities
How do participants evaluate the Academy?

The participants evaluated the experience of the Academy on a scale from 1 to 5.

- We exceeded the proposed objectives compared to previous years: **4.48** compared to 4.08 and 4.42 in the previous years.
- Also, the satisfaction in the formation of teaching skills has increased to **4.56**.
- This year's participants greatly appreciated the quality of the internal training - **4.12**, which is very close to the external one - **4.13**.

Overall experience:
- **4.22 Bucharest**
- **4.48 Buzău**
How do participants evaluate the Academy’s experience?

“I’ve learned during these weeks of LSA more than I’ve learned in years about myself, those around me and what impact my words, reactions and behaviours have. I realized on this occasion that I am in a continuous process of knowledge and development and that there is no perfection. LSA has given me the opportunity to ‘steal’ information from special people I consider models and I am immensely grateful for that.”

“Thanks for the great work, attention, authenticity, openness, warmth and great experience.”
A transformational experience for participants

“The Leadership Summer Academy is a process with an extraordinary result, a transformational process. In addition to getting to know yourself well, you also achieve a dream - to really make a change in education.” – Valentin Negoi

“The Leadership Summer Academy means a lot to me - a rollercoaster of emotions, I made many friends, I rediscovered myself, and I grew a lot. It was a brilliant, unforgettable experience and I know I'm leaving here more confident, full of resources and ready to head on the road! – Patricia Danciu
A transformational experience for participants

“The Leadership Summer Academy was an intense experience, especially from an emotional point of view. Together with the trainers, I continued on a journey that I had begun for some time, that of self-knowledge, self-discovery, understanding of the people around me, all in order to expand my perspective on the world. As far as the practical period is concerned, it was extremely useful to have mentors close, the feedback received helped me a lot after each day of teaching, I saw what I can improve and how I can evolve each day to create a pleasant experience both for the children and myself.” – Alexandru Rosu
A transformational experience for mentors

“The experience as a mentor in the Leadership and Pedagogics Academy 2018 gave me confirmations, and I grew as a teacher and a person. As a teacher because the perspective behind the class is unique, I truly realized by mirroring the actions of the teacher in the interest, attitude, behavior and emotional state of the students and vice versa. As a person, I had the opportunity to meet and work with special people motivated to overcome their fears and limitations to carry on their values and to become the teachers children in Romania need.” - Adela Beca, Teach for Romania teacher, IVth generation
A transformational experience for children

“Thank you for helping us become a team!”

“Thank you for teaching us so many nice things!”

“It was an A+ Summer School, thank you!”
A transformational experience for schools and the community

The experience I had as Teacher for Teach for Romania, the 4th Generation and the joy of children when proposed to have more Teach teachers during the summer helped me a lot in deciding to accept the Leadership and Pedagogics Academy 2018 in our community.

I couldn’t wait for the breaks, I wanted to see how the kids felt and what reactions they had after leaving the classes of the 5th Generation peers. They seem different, as if they have found new friends, even though they’ve known each other for ages, they found themselves, they were more open to each other, they had more confidence in themselves, even the activities during the breaks were different”

Mircea Baciu, Principal of Secondary School no. 1 Mihăilești, Buzău
A transformational experience for schools and the community

The 3 weeks were very beneficial to our students - from the discussions I had with them they seemed very excited about what happened here and even asked me to try to organize this Summer School within the community. At the time this project was proposed I was a little reserved at the thought that students would not participate in such a large number or they’d give up quickly.

Contrary to my expectations, 70% of our school’s students come to school every day, they are very happy, they have friends and want to participate again at such a future event.”

Mihaela Sava, Principal of Secondary School no. 1 Costești, Buzău
Media coverage
Romania Pozitivă, Opinia Buzău, Buzău.net, Focus TV
What do trainers say?

Youtube testimonials:

- Olimpia Meșa
- Oana Dănilă
- Constantin Lomaca
- Ana-Maria Brezniceanu
- Paul Olteanu
- Noela Zaharia
Stories about the participants’ experience

Visit the blog and find out more about the teachers’ journey during the 6 weeks of Academy: http://teachforromania.org/blog/
Online interactions

415 new fans of the Teach for Romania page during the period of the Academy

Maximum reach/post: 9,6K

4,400 persons/week we reached by social media communication.
Partners of the Academy

Strategic partners

Educational partners

Partners

Leadership Academy

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Partners and supporters of Teach for Romania

Main partners

Financial supporters

Supporters

Parteneri recrutare

Educational partners and trainers