



Spring 2023

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

BIENVENIDO 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As I look back on the school year, I feel immense pride to be leading our school. Every day our halls are filled with the richness of cultures of our student body, faculty, and staff. Our strong connection with the United Nations exposes our community to experiences and opportunities that can only occur at the United Nations International School.

Where else can a student-led conference like UNIS-UN be held in the General Assembly Hall with distinguished presenters that include Ambassadors from the State of Qatar, Mexico, Portugal, and Canada?

Where else can secondary school students in a Global Politics course witness firsthand a UN Security Council meeting?

Where else can students celebrate World Francophonie Day by having a deep conversation with the Consul General of Luxembourg?

Where else can junior school students live stream with Kenyan students and share their collective experiences?

There is so much more to celebrate at UNIS that the list of unique learning opportunities could go on endlessly. In this magazine, we have attempted to give you a window into what has happened just since January!

Finally, as Spring Break approaches I would like to thank everyone for their continued support. The love for our school as demonstrated by our Board of Trustees, our students, parents, faculty, and staff is critical to making UNIS so special.

I hope you enjoy the magazine and I wish everyone a restful two week break.

Best,
Dan



The 2023 UNIS-UN conference, *Turning the Page: A New Chapter in Education*, addressed the education-related situation the world is in today. The conference featured captivating presenters who spoke on the future of education addressing such topics as tackling the intricacies of mental health and special education, the role of opinion in the classroom, the rights of educators, and the development of education in various countries.

Approximately 250 visiting school students from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Chile, Germany, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Morocco, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, and Vietnam joined UNIS T3 and T4 students. Altogether, over 60 countries were represented among the 500 attendees.

Congratulations to the UNIS UN Co-Chairs Sophie Chen and Antonio Athias as well as the entire UNIS UN team for putting together such an amazing event!



All photographs taken by UNIS students Ethan Li, Oliver Rocha, Andreas Nicolau

UNIS UN 2023

Christopher de Bono. Deputy Director responsible for Communications at UNICEF, started off the conference by exciting and empowering students to open their minds to learning.

H.E. Sheikh Manssour Bin Mussallam attended UNIS-UN as a visiting student. He is currently the Secretary-General of the Organisation of Educational Cooperation and he returned to share his knowledge and challenged students to pursue their true passion.

A panel was composed of Ambassador Ana Paula Zakarias of Portugal, Ambassador Juan Ramón de la Fuente of México, Ambassador Robert Keith Rae of Canada, and Ambassador Sheikha Alya Ahmed Bin Saif Al-Thani of the State of Qatar where they answered important questions from students about access to education in their respective countries.

UNIS Board of Trustees member Roser Salavert shared with students her experience in both private and public schools and her vision of the future for both entities.



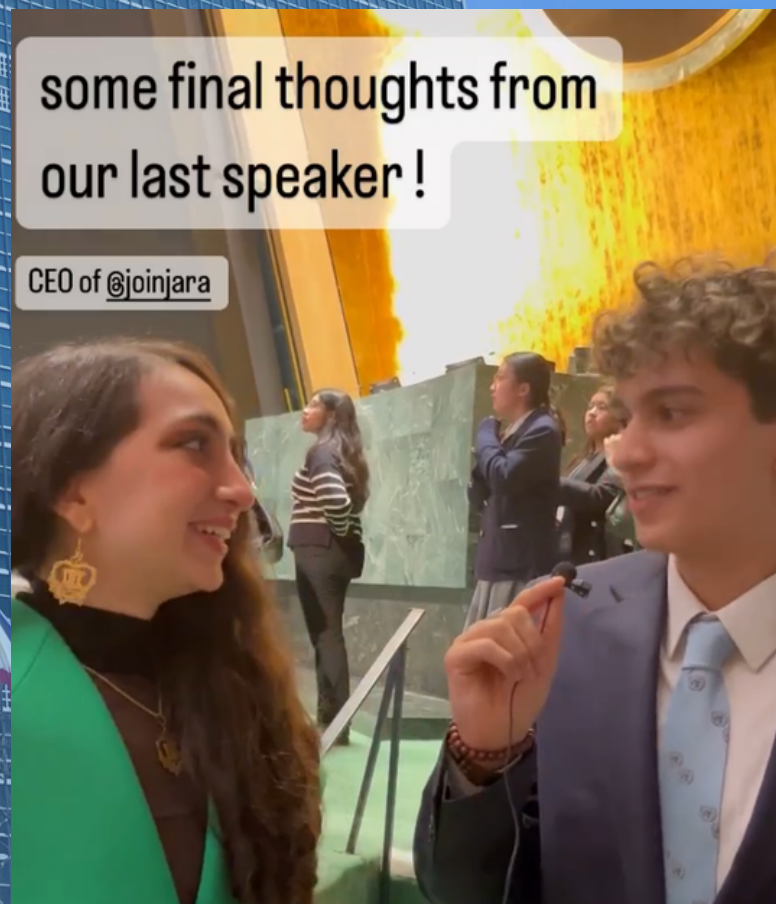
UNIS UN 2023

UNIS parent Lauren Rumble, Ph.D., Associate Director, Gender Equality, Programme Group at UNICEF, spoke to students about the importance of education for women and girls especially in relation to public health.

Soraya Fouladi's speech struck a chord with our students who heard about her journey as an entrepreneur which was inspired by a speaker she heard while she attended a UNIS-UN conference in her T4 year.

She has become the founder and CEO of her own company, Jara. Jara seeks to empower children in under-resourced and low-internet / low-electricity communities to receive a quality education anytime, anywhere through the Jara Unit.

Both speakers conveyed the importance of and need for female innovators in education around the world. These priceless experiences unique to our close relationship with the United Nations propel our students forward to make an impact in their local and global communities.





M3 PIZZAIOLI FOR A DAY

Our Italian students had an opportunity to become *pizzaioli* (pizza makers) for a day! Our students jumped right in and learned step-by-step how to make Neapolitan pizza from a pizza master. They rolled their own dough into different shapes and dressed their pizzas with their own creativity. *Grazie mille* to the MLD, our Italian teachers, and KESTÈ Pizzeria for providing this fun, interactive, authentic experience.



IB VISUAL ART SHOW

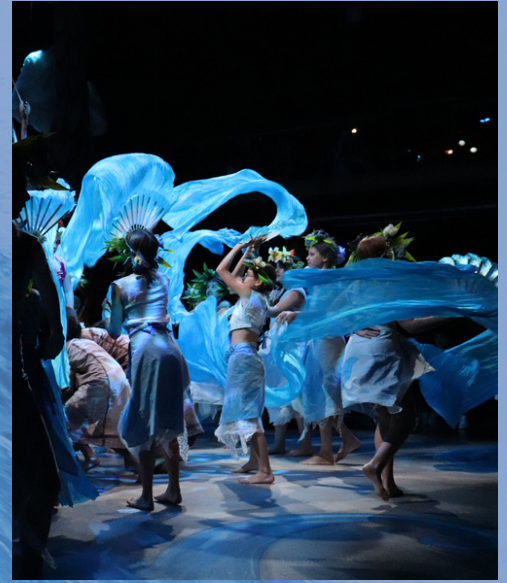
Congratulations to our T4s on an amazing IB Art Exhibit! Your hard work was evident on the walls of the gallery exhibit. Thank you to the members of our community who came out to support our artists and the UNIS Art Department for hosting and for allowing us to enjoy the students' brilliant work!

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MS MOANA PRODUCTION

Our MS students performed several sold out showings of Moana Jr. that brought the house down! We are so proud of them for all of their hard work on the show. Special thank you to the UNIS Art Department and Director Tim Hall for bringing the amazing show to life.



FRANCOPHONIE DAY

At UNIS we celebrated the *Journée internationale de la Francophonie*, also known as International Francophonie Day. This day is dedicated to celebrating the French language and Francophone culture around the world.

The day was full of festivities and kicked off with a sweet French breakfast!

Our Junior School students presented their *Parapluies poétiques* or poetic umbrellas. The tradition is if you go underneath it they will recite a poem to you in French.

Students also had a musical experience with Mr. Sory Koite, an American-Senegalese artist and griot. A griot is a West African historian, storyteller, poet, musician, and oral tradition keeper who passes down their people's history and cultural heritage through songs, stories, and other forms of verbal expression.

Our Tut House students talked with Ambassador Steinmetz, Consul General of Luxembourg in NY, about multilingualism and the world of diplomacy and international relations.



GLOBAL POLITICS CLASS VISIT TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL



The UN Security Council welcomed students enrolled in "Global Politics" to listen in on a live discussion about the threat posed by terrorism. The students enjoyed witnessing concepts they are learning in class, such as peacemaking and counterterrorism efforts, being discussed in real situations. The experience sparked debate and dialogue among them, enhancing their classroom learning.



The visit was made possible by Vanessa Frazier, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malta to the United Nations and President of the UN Security Council. H.E. Frazier is also a UNIS parent and a UNIS honorary trustee.



RED CARD CAMPAIGN LAUNCH AT THE UN

Our UNIS athletes were invited to attend the Global Launch of Red Card Campaign, jointly organized by the African Renaissance and Diaspora Network and the United Nations Population Fund. The campaign celebrates and showcases the power, promise, and potential of women and girls. Our students heard from inspiring speakers who encouraged them to become strong allies for gender equality, and the empowerment of women and girls. Thank you to Djibril Diallo, President & CEO of the African Renaissance and Diaspora Network, for the invitation.

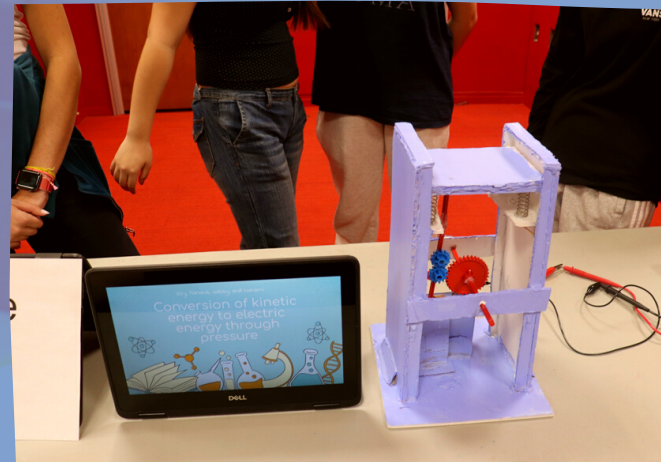


M4 CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE

Our M4's took on the M4 Climate Change Challenge head-on! Students were given real-world problems that they had to solve which included flooding, finding alternative energy sources, and finding new means for water filtration.

Their experiments didn't stop there. Each group performed live demonstrations with the models that they built. They presented to the Junior School and shared their findings with other members of our UNIS community as well.

Congrats to all who participated!



UNIS TEACHER FEATURE TRUIKE BOEKHOLT

JS MUSIC SPECIALIST
DEI COORDINATOR



Not only is Truike a fantastic JS Music Teacher here at UNIS, but she has made a huge difference abroad as well! She founded Children of the Ganges, a non-profit organization that focuses on providing FREE education for children regardless of religion, caste, gender, or social status and promoting the qualities of kindness, compassion, ethical behavior, and a sense of universal responsibility.

Since 2010 they have been offering free education to a mixture of street and underprivileged children, ages 5-16, six days a week. The school teaches reading and writing in Hindi and English, computer skills, social skills, art, music, meditation, and traditional Indian dance.

She is hoping to build a school made out of "eco-bricks" which are bottles filled with inorganic material (like plastic garbage) and she hopes to involve UNIS students through a service learning project that would inform students about the school and get them to help to build the school for a week.

Truike won numerous awards for her work through the UN and a documentary "Journey to the Children of the Ganges" was just released.

[Learn More about
Children of the Ganges](#)



T1 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE DISCUSSION

While T3 and T4 students were attending the UNIS-UN conference at the United Nations General Assembly, our T1 students engaged in some interesting presentations and conversations around artificial intelligence.

T1 students started the day watching "The Social Dilemma" which explores the inner workings of social media and search engines and their influence on our lives.

Mr. Rogers offered a workshop entitled "How computers count!" that introduced students to the fundamentals of electrical engineering.

Mr. Abu Houran had a discussion with students about Artificial Intelligence.

Mr. Vallet, JS Principal, shared how AI can expand our understanding of the universe. He also discussed ChatGPT and pointed out that 1/3 of T1 students have an account!

Mr. Autio asked T1s to discuss whether technology makes them happier or not.?

How does social media influence us?



How do computers count?



What is AI?



How can AI help us?



Does technology make you happier?



JAPANESE NEW YEAR

Our Japanese department students celebrated the new year by making mochi and practicing Japanese calligraphy!

While calligraphy is a relaxing solo activity, the group also experienced community while they cheered each other on when forming the mochi.

This is yet another cool experience that makes a UNIS education so unique.

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UNIS PA LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

The UNIS PA really outdid themselves in the Lunar New Year Celebration! Our community came together to celebrate the year of the rabbit with plenty of authentic performances and hands-on experiences.

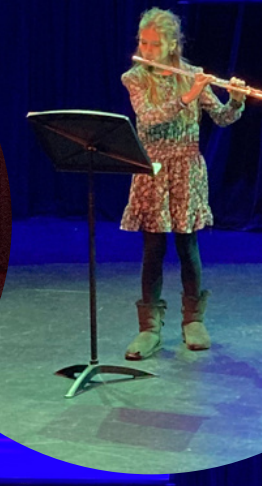
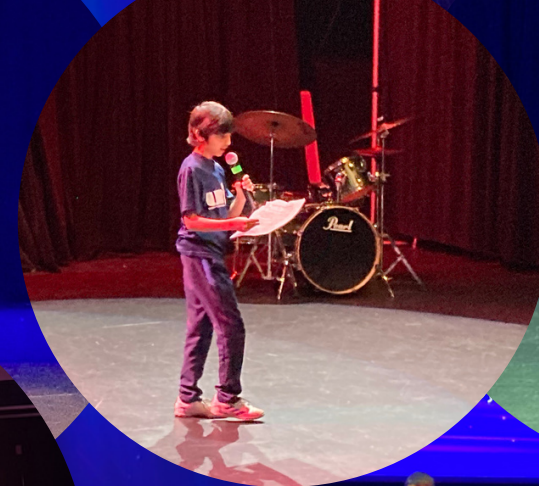


DÍA DE REYES

Our Spanish Section celebrated *el Día de Reyes* with a *Roscón de Reyes*, a sweet bread that is eaten to celebrate the arrival of the Three Kings. Traditionally, a figurine of a baby is baked into the bread. It is believed that whoever gets the slice with the figurine will have good luck during the year.

The students listened to Spanish music while they ate their cake and found out who was the lucky one who got the baby!





M1/M2 Talent Show

Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

Congratulations to all the talented M1 & M2 students who participated in the Talent Show!



Watch the show

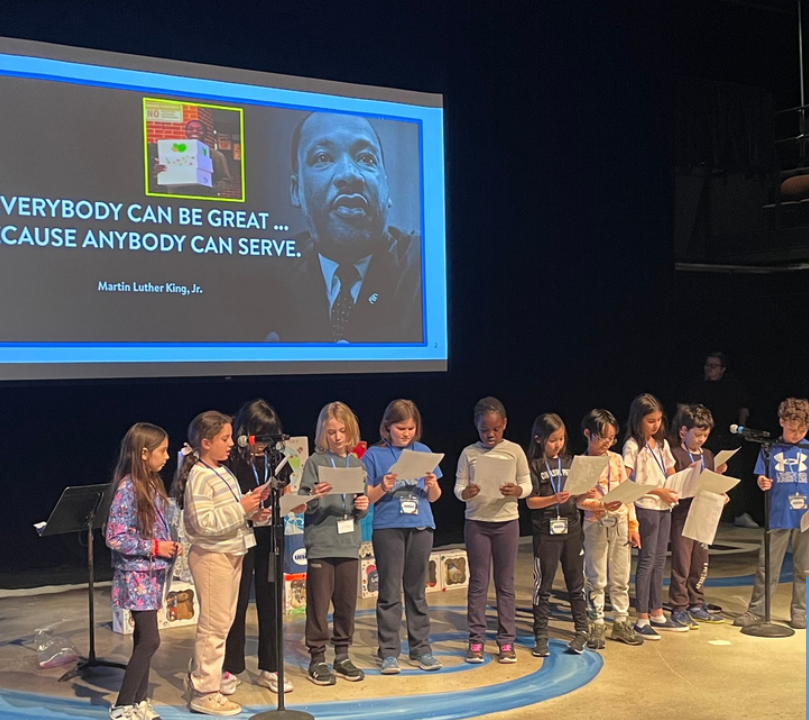
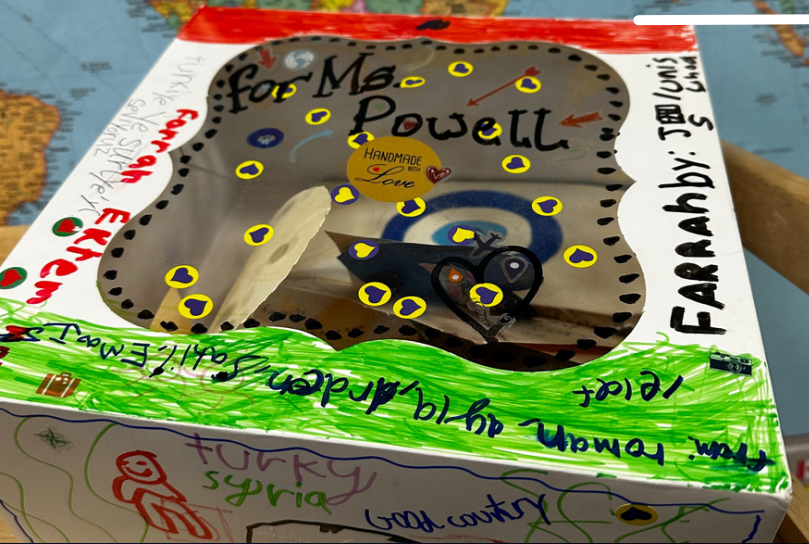


THE NEW ROOFTOP



Our student are loving the new rooftop space! Since its opening it has been full of soccer matches, volleyball games and students just looking to catch some sunshine.

BIRTHDAY BOXES PROJECT



Joe Barnes, Chief of Monitoring for UNICEF and JS Parent, came to the JS for a special assembly. The assembly was presented by the newly formed JS EIB.

The Birthday box volunteer project results were revealed and a connection was made between our birthday boxes project and the "school in box" projects of UNICEF.

Over 100 boxes were created by students for families in need!

A box of "hope and compassion" was offered to Gulay Powell, it was filled with "hearts with Arabic and Turkish messages of support" for loved ones in Turkey.



T3 STUDENT PARTICIPATES ON MODEL UNITED NATIONS PANEL IN THE UN

UNIS T3 student Elea Demetriou, who is a MUN club member and a fluent French speaker, was invited to be on a panel focusing on Model UN (Modèle Onu). The UN is launching a guide on Model UN in French as part of its celebration of *la Journée de la langue française*.

The event took place at the United Nations in the UN Bookshop on 21 March. As a member of the panel, Elea shared insights about UNIS students' experiences participating in Model UN, how it has impacted them, and why it is important. She answered questions from the audience receiving many rounds of applause.

TABLE RONDE

#UNBookshop

Guide des Nations Unies pour les conférences Simul'ONU



Maheer Nasser



Patricia Herdt



Mohamed Siad Doualeh



William Yotive



Eléa Demetriou

Mots d'ouverture de **M. Maheer Nasser**, Directeur, Division de la sensibilisation du public, Département de la Communication globale

Modéré par **Mme Patricia Herdt**, Analyste politique principale à la Représentation permanente de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) auprès des Nations Unies

Panéliste: **Ambassadeur Mohamed Siad Doualeh**, Représentant permanent de Djibouti auprès des Nations Unies et Ambassadeur de Djibouti aux États-Unis, Président du Groupe des Ambassadeurs francophones de New York

Panéliste: **M. William Yotive**: Coordinateur de Simul'ONU pour la WFUNA

Panéliste: **Eléa Demetriou** est une étudiante au Baccalauréat International à l'École Internationale des Nations Unies (UNIS) à New York

Avertissement - Les avis exprimés par les participants aux manifestations de la librairie de l'ONU sont les leurs, et ne reflètent pas nécessairement ceux de l'ONU, de ses représentants ou de ses États Membres.

UNITED NATIONS
BOOKSHOP

FÉLICITATIONS À NOS M1 ÉLÈVES

Congratulations to the M1 students in the Francophone Program! The group brought home a win from a Theatre Contest that UNIS has been participating in at Lycée Français de New York for almost two decades.

This school year, Amalia, Nathan, Hippolyte, Sophie, Karla, John, Elina, Sophie, and Nohlan participated with the play *Blanche Niece et les quatre Nains* (Snow White and the four Dwarfs). Their play won the award for Best Play, Amalia received the award for Promising Best Actress and Hippolyte won the award for Best Actor.



LUSOPHONE MUSIC AND MOVES



our community
joined in!



learning something new!



welcome to unis!

The Consulate of Brazil and the Mission of Portugal to the UN-sponsored LUSOPHONE MUSIC AND MOVES at UNIS! The afternoon was filled with the sounds of the Portuguese guitar and was followed by a Brazilian capoeira performance. Members of our community joined in on the performance as well and enjoyed some *brigadeiros* and *pastéis de nata*.

UNIS has partnered with the Missions of Portugal and Brazil for the past 4 years to offer Portuguese After School classes for students in the three divisions.





STREAMING WITH STUDENTS IN KENYA

Our students had the incredible opportunity to connect with students across the world in Kenya! Thanks to the Kenya Education Fund, our students joined a zoom with students in Nairobi, Kenya.



The KEF's mission is quality education for all, as UNIS students are also taught by UN SDG #4. This unique connection to the world is just one of the things that makes a UNIS education so unique.

As they say in Swahili, *Jambo!*



MLD PODCAST

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HABLEMOS

لنتكلم

PARLONS

PARLIAMO

話しましょう

让我们谈谈。

ДАВАЙ
ПОГОВОРИМ

LASS UNS
REDEN

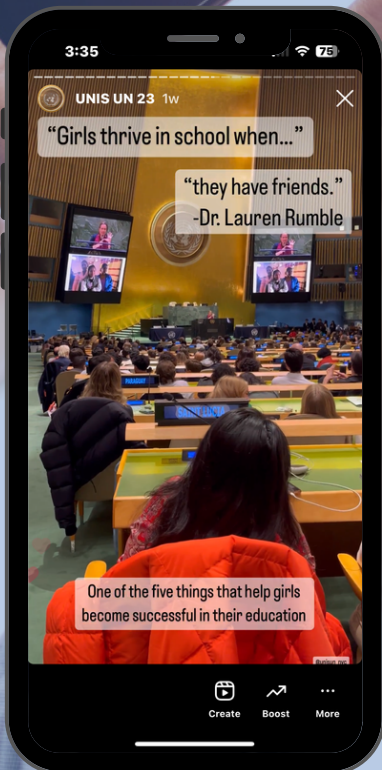
THE 3RD EPISODE IS HERE!!!



FOLLOW US!



Catch #uniquelyunis moments every day on our stories.





**SENIOR
COLLEGE
SIGNING DAY**

APRIL 14TH 4PM IN THE GYM



UPCOMING EVENTS

April 10: Classes resume

April 14: College Signing Day

April 17: Spring Choral and String Concert

April 24: T3 UNIS Spring College Fair

April 25: J1 Concert

April 26: J2 Concert

April 27: J3 Concert

April 28: J4 Concert

May 6: UNIS INTERNATIONAL FOOD AND FUN FAIR 2023
11AM TO 3PM

NEED TO CONTACT A PRINCIPAL?

Junior School: Pascal Vallet
pvallet@unis.org | (212)584-3061

Middle School: Elaine Kelly
ekelly@unis.org | (212)584-3014

Tutorial House: Antoine Delaitre
adelaitre@unis.org | (212) 584-3148







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