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جامعة الأعمال و التكنولوجيا
UNIVERSITY OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

APCG 2026

19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness (APCG2026)

Final Conference Report

7 - 11 February 2026

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia



Under the patronage of His Excellency
the Minister of Education

Mr Yousef Al-Benyan

the 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness (APCG) 2026 was held at the University of Business and Technology (UBT)

February 7–11, 2026.


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APCG2026 Executive Summary





Theme: “Fast Forward: Building a Better Future for Gifted Education 2050”

The 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness (APCG2026), hosted for the first time in Saudi Arabia, was one of the largest and most influential gatherings in gifted education across the region. Bringing together 2,000+ participants from 40+ countries, the five-day conference featured 100+ speakers, 13 keynotes, 25 symposiums, 11 pre-conference workshops, 250+ paper presentations, 400+ authors, and 50+ parallel sessions; demonstrating strong global commitment to advancing gifted education toward 2050.

A major milestone was the launch of the first Global Giftedness Index (GGI), a pioneering framework to benchmark and strengthen national gifted education systems. A strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MAWHIBA further reinforced long-term collaboration in research, scholarships, and institutional development.

Youth and innovation were central highlights, including the GenAI Youth Summit, with over 150+ participants from all over the globe and the Gifthone Educational Innovation Hackathon with 70+ participants. The conference also featured 15+ exhibitors and curated cultural experiences, including a Gala Dinner, Al-Balad visit, Desert Safari, and an art exhibition showcasing 200+ Saudi artworks.

Introduction: A Global Milestone for Gifted Education

From the 7 to 11 February 2026, the University of Business and Technology hosted the 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness, marking the first time this prestigious international gathering was convened in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The event stood as a testament to the Kingdom's growing leadership in human capability development and its commitment to shaping the future of education through innovation, collaboration, and cultural dialogue.

Under the theme "Fast Forward: Building a Better Future for Gifted Education 2050," APCG 2026 brought together global scholars, educators, policymakers, innovators, and young leaders to explore how giftedness can be nurtured in an era defined by artificial intelligence, rapid transformation, and increasing interconnectedness. The conference embodied a forward-looking vision, positioning talent development as a cornerstone of national progress and global engagement.

Hosting APCG 2026 was both an institutional achievement for UBT and a national milestone, reflecting the Kingdom's evolution into a hub for international dialogue on education and innovation.





APCG2026: Accelerating Vision 2030 Through Gifted Education



APCG 2026 directly supported the goals of Saudi Vision 2030 by strengthening human capability, global engagement, and cultural exchange. The conference facilitated the transfer of international expertise by bringing leading global voices in gifted education to the Kingdom, enriching local knowledge and advancing national talent development. It also supported Vision 2030's ambition to host world-class international conferences, further reinforcing Saudi Arabia's position as a global hub for knowledge and innovation.

In addition, APCG 2026 promoted tourism and showcased the Kingdom's rich cultural and artistic heritage, offering international visitors a meaningful experience of Saudi Arabia's identity and traditions.

The conference also underscored the vital role of the private education sector in achieving Vision 2030 and strengthened the Kingdom's growing reputation as a global destination for nurturing and attracting talented individuals.

The Vision Behind APCG2026





The conceptual framework guiding APCG 2026 emerged from a recognition that gifted education must evolve beyond traditional paradigms. Rather than focusing solely on identification and acceleration, the conference explored how talent ecosystems can foster creativity, ethical leadership, interdisciplinary collaboration, and sustainable societal impact.

The theme, "Fast Forward: Building a Better Future for Gifted Education 2050", invited participants to envision education systems capable of preparing learners for a future characterized by technological complexity and cultural diversity. Discussions extended across disciplines, reflecting the belief that giftedness encompasses not only intellectual ability but also creativity, resilience, and the capacity to contribute meaningfully to global challenges.

The conference focused on four critical themes:

- **Increased Diversity in Gifted Education:** Adapting to the growing diversity in the gifted population.
- **Support for Twice-Exceptional (2e) Learners:** Enhancing support for gifted students with unique challenges.
- **Personalized Learning Pathways:** Creating tailored educational experiences for every gifted learner.
- **21st Century-Workforce:** Preparing gifted students to thrive in a dynamic global economy

A Historic Gathering in Jeddah

Over the course of five days, delegations from more than forty countries attended the conference, bringing diverse perspectives shaped by different educational systems and cultural contexts.

The University of Business and Technology's Corniche campus transformed into a dynamic environment where research presentations, youth programs, innovation challenges, and cultural exhibitions unfolded simultaneously. The scale and diversity of the program reflected a deliberate effort to move beyond the traditional conference format, creating an integrated ecosystem that bridged academia, industry, and community engagement.

Participants described the atmosphere as one of intellectual curiosity and collaborative spirit, where conversations extended beyond formal sessions into informal exchanges that fostered new partnerships and research initiatives.



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APCG2026 Key Highlights

Scientific Conference



2000+
Attendees

40+
Countries

70+ Gifthone Hackathon Participants



Launch of the 1st Global Giftedness Index (GGI)



150+ GenAI Youth Summit



30+ MAWHIBA Showcase



200+ Art Exhibitions



15+ Exhibitors




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UNIVERSITY OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY
موهبة
Mawhiba
مؤسسة سالم بن محفوظ الأهلية
Salem Bin Mahfouz Foundation
APCG

APFG Executive Committee



Professor Kyungbin Park
President
Professor Gachon University, South Korea



Professor Manabu Sumida
Executive Committee Member
Professor at Ehime University, Japan



Professor Jae Yup Jung
Vice President Professor at the School of Education University of New South Wales, Australia



Professor Ching-Chih Kuo
Immediate Past President
Professor at National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan



Dr Letchmi Ponnusamy
Secretary National Institute of Education, Singapore



Dr Vararom Pachimsawat
Treasurer
President of Friends of Arts Foundation, Thailand



Dr Paromita Roy
Executive Committee Member,
Director of Jagadis Bose National Science Talent Search, India

Saudi Executive Committee



H.H. Dr. Khaled AlMishari AlSaud
Executive Committee Member, Former Member of Shura Council & Former Deputy Minister of Education



Dr. Abdullah Sadiq Dahlan
Conference Chairman, Chairman of University of Business & Technology



Dr. Khalid Ibrahim Alawwad
Vice Conference Chairman, Former Member of Shura Council & Former Deputy Minister of Education



Dr. Abdullah Mohammed Aljughaiman
Chair of Scientific Committee, Former Member of Shura Counci



Dr. Ziyad Abdullah Aldrees
Chief International Cooperation Officer, Former Saudi Ambassador to UNESCO



Eng. Sami Omar AlHussayen
Chief Technology Officer, Managing Director of Thakaat Company



Dr. Weam Husni Tunsi
Executive Committee Member, President of University of Business and Technology



Dr. Liela Ahmed Jamjoom
General Conference Coordinator, Dean of Deanship of Social Responsibility, University of Business and Technology


كيف نتواصل
مع الآخرين
بذكاء؟
Discover
UBT

APCG2026 Partnerships

Strategic Partners

موهبة
Mawhiba

مؤسسة سالم بن محفوظ الأهلية
Salem Bin Mahfouz Foundation

beyond

Knowledge Partners

وزارة التعليم
Ministry of Education

وزارة الثقافة
Ministry of Culture

APFG

WCGTC
World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

European Talent Support Network

ECHA
EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR HIGH ABILITY

OECD

unesco RCQE

هيئة تقويم التعليم والتدريب
Education & Training Evaluation Commission

JOHNS HOPKINS
CENTER for TALENTED YOUTH

مؤسسة حمدان بن راشد آل مكتوم للعلوم الطبية والتربوية
Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences

WORLD GIFTEDNESS CENTER

جمعية الإحسان للخدمات الاجتماعية

جمعية الإرادة
Aleradah Organization

Arabian Gulf University

King Faisal
PRIZE

DAR AL-HEKMA UNIVERSITY

ADL ACADEMY
ADVANCEMENT • DEVELOPMENT • LEADERSHIP

UR
Universität Regensburg

صناعيو المستقبل
Future Industrialists

جامعة عفت
EFFAT UNIVERSITY

جامعة جدة
University of Jeddah

Elmbridge University
Formerly BRIDGES GRADUATE SCHOOL

Appreciation to Our Partners of Success

Awarding our Partners of Success in Recognition; MAWHIBA, Salem bin Mahfouz Foundation, Fitaihi Holding and Beyond Academy of their Role in Supporting and Advancing our Shared Vision in Gifted Education.










KING FAISAL PRIZE LAUREATES
INTERVIEWING BRILLIANCE: LESSONS FROM KING FAISAL PRIZE LAUREATES
DR. RENA SUBOTNIK
NADER MASMOUDI
APCG 2026
APCG 2026
APCG 2026

Advancing Global Dialogue Through the Scientific Conference





Keynote addresses and symposia examined emerging trends in gifted education such as the use of artificial intelligence within the field, personalized and inclusive identification practices, interdisciplinary STEAM innovation, social-emotional well-being, future workforce competencies, ethical leadership, and policy reform to advance equitable talent development.

Researchers presented their studies addressing a wide spectrum of topics, from social-emotional development and educational policy to interdisciplinary innovation and future workforce skills.

Sessions frequently explored how theoretical frameworks can translate into practical strategies for educators, institutions, and policymakers. This focus on implementation reinforced APCG 2026's role as a platform for shaping not only academic discourse but also real-world educational transformation.

Thakaat ذكاءات

APCG 2026

UBT جامعة الأعمال و التكنولوجيا UNIVERSITY OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness 2026

+80 Speakers

250+ Paper Research Presentations



H.H. Dr. Faisal Mashary Al Saud
Consultant at King Abdulaziz and his companions Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity (Mawhiba)



Zuhair Hussain Ghunaim
Secretary General of the International Union of Muslim Scouts



Abdullah Dahlan
Chairman of the Board of Trustees University of Business and Technology, KSA



Abdullah Aljughaiman
Professor of Gifted Education and Thinking Development, King Faisal University, KSA



Kyungbin Park
Asia-Pacific Federation for Giftedness President & Honorary Professor of Gachon University, South Korea



Paromita Roy
Deputy Director of Jagadis Bose National Science Talent Search, Kolkata, India



Jae Yup Jung
Professor, School of Education and Director of GERRIC, University of New South Wales, Australia



Letchmi Devi Ponnusamy
Senior Lecturer in Child Psychology & Human Development, National Institute of Education, Singapore



Jiyoung Ryu
Director, Gifted Education Policy Center, Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST)



Albert Ziegler
Chair of Educational Psychology & Research on Excellence, Friedrich-Alexander-Universitat Erlangen-Nurberg



Janchai Yingprayoon
Prince of Songkla University, Faculty of Science and Industrial Technology, Consultant for Teaching and Research, Thailand



Abdullah Ali AlQataee
Chief Executive Officer, National Center for Assessment (Qiyas), Education & Training Evaluation Commission



Abdullah Al-Saadawi
Deputy CEO for Testing, National Center for Assessment (Qiyas), Education & Training Evaluation Commission



Manabu Sumida
Professor, Faculty of Education, Ehime University, Japan



Said Al-Shaikh
Director General of Studies and Consultations, University of Business and Technology



Frank C. Worrell
Distinguished Professor University of California, Berkeley, USA



Ali Odat
Associate Professor Qatar University, Qatar



Csilla Fuszek
Director, Association of Hugarian Talent Support Organisation



Mojca Jurisevic
Professor, University of Lubjana, Slovenia



Robert Kelemen
Director, European Talent Centre Croatia



János Setényi
Director, Mathias Corvinus Collegium, Hungary



Colm O'Reilly
President of European Council for High Ability ECHA, Director of, Center for Talented Youth, Ireland & Professor at Dublin City University



Fayez Al-Saudi
Vice President of the Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented, Tafila Technical University, Jordan



Ching-Chih Kuo
Professor at National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan



Jackie Yi-Ru Ying
Chief Innovation & Research Officer at King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre; King Faisal Prize Laureate in Science, 2023



Nader Masmoudi
Professor of Mathematics, New York University & King Faisal Prize Laureate in Science 2022



Sung-Il Kim
Professor of Education & Director of Brain & Motivation Research Institute (bMRI), Korea University



Szilvia Fodor
Vice President European Council for High Ability & Professor Psychology Eotvos Lorand University



Yussra Jamjoom
Consultant to President, University of Business and Technology



Fahad Ali Almualli
Specialist in Gifted Education King Faisal University, KSA



Atef Kanaan
President, Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented Jordan



Anies Al-Hroub
President of The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children & Professor at American University of Beirut, Lebanon/UK



Muawiyah bin Hamdan
Head of Tests and Measurements, Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented, Jordan



Ahmed Morsy
Expert in Talent Identification, Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences



Mariam Alghawi
Director, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences



Sadiq Abdulwahid
Senior Researcher, Hamdan Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences



Ansary Ahmed
Founding President of Asia e University and Member of the Advisory Committee of the UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education



Jin Li
Director, The UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education



Edward Byrne
President of King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), KSA



Mustafa Al-Heilat
Professor of Educational Psychology, Al-Balqa Applied University, Jordan

Todd Lubart
Full Professor of Psychology, University Paris Cité, France

Ahmed Alabbasi
Vice Dean, College of Education, Administrative and Technical Sciences, Arabian Gulf University

Susan Baum
Chancellor, Bridges Graduate School of Cognitive Diversity

Abdullah Al-Omari
PhD student in Gifted Education, King Faisal University, KSA

Hamed Al-Shehri
Educator and Researcher in Gifted Education, King Faisal University, KSA

Abdul Rahman Almedaires
Director General, The UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education

Najoua Fezzaa Ghriss
Director, The UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education

Fatimah Roais
Deputy Director, The UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education

Tai Kai Ng
Chair Professor, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Guangzhou

Heidrun Stoeger
Chair of School Research, School Development and Evaluation, University of Regensburg, Germany

Sami AlHussayen
Managing Partner, Thakaat

Abdulhameed Al Abduljabar
Professor of Mechanical Engineering, King Saud University

Kimberley L. Chandler
Director of Academics and Student Life, Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth

Maisaa Taleb Al-Ahmadi
General Manager of Institutional Testing, National Center for Assessment (Qiyas), Education & Training Evaluation Commission

Ioannis Tsorbatzoglou
Vice President Cross Divisional Programs & Professor at Anatolia College

Hoda Husseini Bibi
Professor of Education, Lebanese Association for Rehabilitation and Development (TAAHEEL), Lebanon

Mohanad AlShaikh
Chief Executive Officer, Johnson Controls Arabia

Norah Fareed Almulhim
Assistant Professor, King Faisal University, KSA

Rena Subotnik
Research Associate, Academic Talent Development Program, University of California Berkeley

Selcuk Acar
Professor of Educational Psychology, University of North Texas

Rose Blucher
Director, Educational Services for Boundless Potential, Bridges Graduate School

Kim Vargas
Director of Admissions, Recruitment and Retention, Bridges Graduate School

Marie Mellett
Chief Strategy Officer, Center for Talented Youth, Ireland & Professor at Dublin City University

Hisham Al-Dabbagh
Chairman, ADL Academy

Elena Grigorenko
Professor of Psychology at the University of Houston, USA

Tricia Schellenbach
Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives, Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth

Alaa Eldin Ayoub
Professor at Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain

Bandar Al-Otaibi
Professor & Moderator, Arabian Gulf University

Amy Lynne Shelton
Executive Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth

Basma El-Zein
Director General of Techno-Valley, University of Business and Technology

Lucie Cerna
Senior Analyst Equity, Inclusion & Transitions Directorate of Education & Skills, OECD

Marcy Dann
Faculty, Bridges Graduate School

Natalie Foster
Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Lukas Ketscher
PhD Candidate, Friedrich -Alexander-Universitat Erlangern-Nunberg

C. Matthew Fugate
Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Bridges Graduate School

2000+
Attendees

15
Keynote Sessions

40+
Countries

25
Symposiums

250+
Paper Presentations

11
Pre-conference Workshops

50+
Parallel Sessions

400+
Authors

100+
Speakers

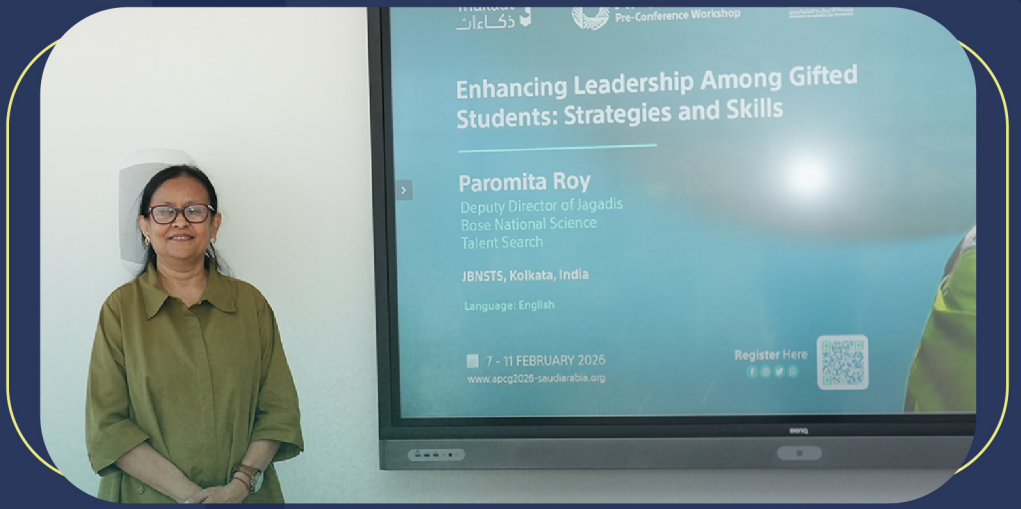



APCG 2026
Pre-Conference Workshop
By Janchai Yingprayoon, Thailand
UBT

11 Pre-Conference Workshops

Strengthening Practice and Innovation in Gifted Education





As part of APCG2026, 11 pre-conference workshops offered an engaging start to the conference, led by global experts from the United States, Saudi Arabia, India, and Thailand. These hands-on sessions provided practical, research-informed strategies in gifted education.

Focusing on key themes such as differentiated instruction, social-emotional development, talent identification, leadership, creativity, and emerging technologies, the workshops enabled participants to deepen their expertise, connect with international experts, and enhance their overall conference experience.



Designing Gifted Programs: Principles and Modern Models (Arabic)

Dr. Malak Abdulaziz Alabdultif

Doctoral Researcher in Gifted Education, King Faisal University



Developing Assessment Tools to Evaluate Gifted Programs (Arabic)

Prof. Alaa Eldin Ayoub

Full Professor of Measurement, Evaluation, and Statistics Aswan University, Egypt & Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain



Enhancing Leadership Among Gifted Students: Strategies and Skills (English)

Dr. Paromita Roy

Deputy Director of Jagadis Bose National Science Talent Search JBNSTS, Kolkata, India



Harnessing AI in Gifted Education: Enhancing Research and Program Design (Arabic)

Eng. Sami Al Hussayen

Managing Partner at Thakaat
Saudi Arabia



Parental Care for Diverse Populations of Gifted Students (Arabic)

Hamed Aziz Hamed Al-Shehri

Educator and Researcher in Gifted Education King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia



Methods of Identifying and Supporting Twice -Exceptional Students (Arabic)

Dr. Fahad Ali Almuaili

Specialist in Gifted Education, King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia



Enhancing Creativity in Science Curricula in an Enjoyable Way (English)

Prof. Janchai Yingprayoon

Professor, Prince of Songkla University, Suratthani Campus, Suratthani, Thailand



Curriculum Development in Gifted Education: Supporting the Needs of Advanced Learners (English)

Dr. Kimberley L. Chandler

Director of Academics and Student Life, Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth



The Hidden Code of Creativity: Co-Creation between Gifted Learners and Generative AI (Arabic)

Abdullah Al-Omari

PhD student in Gifted Education, King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia



Indicators for Enhancing Innovation in General Education Schools (Arabic)

Meshal Saad Al-Sleemi

Academic Researcher and Educational Leader King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia

School Enrichment Model (SEM) Professional Development Workshop (Arabic & English)



Prof. Hoda Husseini Bibi

Professor of Education, Lebanese Association for Rehabilitation and Development



Hasan Tahsin Hajar

KPI Training Director, Lebanese Association for Rehabilitation and Development



Dr. Riyam Badih Chaar

Professor in Educational Leadership, Arkansas State University – Qatar


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The 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness
Shaping the Future of Gifted Education, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
University of Business and Technology
APCG 2026
The 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness
Shaping the Future of Gifted Education, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
University of Business and Technology
APCG 2026

13 Keynote Sessions

Visionary Keynote Sessions: Shaping the Future of Gifted Education





APCG2026 featured 13 distinguished keynote speakers who delivered powerful and forward-looking addresses aligned with the conference theme, “Fast Forward: Vision 2050 of Gifted Education.” The sessions explored global trends, policy directions, innovative models, creativity, leadership development, inclusion, and the future of talent cultivation.

Together, the keynotes offered research-based insights and international perspectives, inspiring participants to reimagine gifted education and strengthen systems that nurture excellence for the decades ahead.

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APCG2026 Keynote Sessions



H.H. Dr. Faisal Mashary Al Saud

Consultant at King Abdulaziz and his companions Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity (MAWHIBA)

Towards Sustainable Development: Highlights on Current and Future "Mawhiba" Initiatives and Programs



Prof. Albert Ziegler

Chair Professor of Educational Psychology at Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlagen-Nurnberg, Germany

Megatopes and Identifying Talent on a Country Level



Prof. Heidrun Stoeger

Chair of School Research, School Development, and Evaluation University of Regensburg, Germany

The Role of Motivation, Skill Acquisition, and Creativity in Developing Talent Towards Excellence and Innovation: A Resource-Oriented Model Based on Empirical Evidence



Prof. Ching-Chih Kuo

Professor Emeritus
Department of Special Education, National Taiwan Normal University

Beyond IQ: Adapted Education for Gifted Students with Unique Emotional and Learning Needs



Prof. Elena L. Grigorenko

Professor of Psychology
Baylor College of Medicine, University of Houston, and Yale University, USA

Unmasking Hidden Potential: Future Directions in Twice-Exceptional Education



Prof. Janchai Yingprayoon

Professor
Prince of Songkla University, Suratthani Campus, Suratthani, Thailand

Thinking Like Einstein: Strategies for Developing Gifted Learners in Science and Beyond

APCG2026 Keynote Sessions



Prof.
Jae Yup Jung

Professor and Director
School of Education and GERRIC, The University of New South Wales, Australia

Elite Mathematicians: How They Are Identified and Developed



Dr.
Rena Subotnik

Research Associate
Academic Talent Development Program, University of California, Berkeley

Outlier Talents: Contributions of Non-traditional, or Culturally or Regionally Unique Domains to Our Understanding of Talent Development



Prof.
Sung-il Kim

Professor of Educational Psychology
Korea University

Redesigning Learning for Agentic Minds



Dr.
Lucie Cerna

Senior Analyst in Equity, Inclusion & Transitions and Project Leader Directorate for Education and Skills, OECD, Paris

Supporting Gifted Learners in Diverse Contexts: OECD Findings and Country Policies



Prof.
Todd Lubart

Full Professor of Psychology
University Paris Cité, France

Fostering Creativity: The Key to Future-Ready Gifted Education



Sir
Edward Byrne

President of King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)
KSA

From Campus to Global Impact: The Strategic Role of Research Universities in Talent Development


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Shaping the Future of Gifted Education, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
University of Business and Technology

Symposium Partners

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وزارة التعليم
Ministry of Education

وزارة الثقافة
Ministry of Culture

APFG

WCGTC
World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

European Talent Support Network

ECHA
EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR HIGH ABILITY

ARAB COUNCIL FOR THE GIFTED & TALENTED

UNESCO

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Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences

WORLD GIFTEDNESS CENTER

موهبة
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Education & Training Evaluation Commission

King Faisal
PRIZE

Thakaat
ذكاءات

UR
Universität Regensburg

Elmbridge University
Formerly BRIDGES GRADUATE SCHOOL

DAR AL-HEKMA UNIVERSITY

صناعيو المستقبل
Future Industrialists

جامعة عفت
EFFAT UNIVERSITY

جامعة جدة
University of Jeddah

Arabian Gulf University

25 Symposiums

Collaborative Dialogues Shaping the Future of Gifted Education





As a key feature of APCG2026, the symposiums brought together thought leaders, researchers, and practitioners in collaborative, topic-focused dialogues addressing critical issues, innovations, and emerging research in gifted education. These sessions fostered meaningful exchange, challenged perspectives, and generated actionable insights applicable across diverse educational contexts.

In partnership with leading institutions and organizations, each symposium delivered depth, relevance, and real-world impact—strengthening global collaboration and advancing conversations that shape the future of gifted education

APCG2026 Symposium Sessions

Symposium: Elmbridge University

Gifted, Twice Exceptionality and the Theory of Green



Dr. Susan Baum
Chancellor, Elmbridge University



Dr. C. Matthew Fugate
Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Elmbridge University



Dr. Marcy Dann
Faculty, Elmbridge University



Dr. Kim Vargas
Director of Admissions, Recruitment, and Retention, Elmbridge University



Rose Blucher
Director, Educational Services for Boundless Potential

Symposium: European Talent Support Network (ETSN)

Connecting Talent Support Activities in Europe: Insights from ETSN's Development and Regional Strategies



Robert Kelemen
Director, European Talent Centre Croatia



Prof. Mojca Jurisevic
Professor, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia



Prof. Csilla Fuszek
Director, Association of Hungarian Talent Support Organisation



Prof. Colm O'Reilly
President of ECHA, Director of CTY Ireland & Professor at Dublin City University



Dr. Agata Hofman
Managing Director at Creo Gedania

Symposium: The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children (WCGTC)

Giftedness in Displacement: Global Insights on Supporting Gifted Migrant and Refugee Learners



Dr. Anies Al-Hroub
President, The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children (WCGTC)



Prof. Albert Ziegler
Chair Professor, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany



Dr. Ali-Odat
Associate Professor, Qatar University



Dr. Frank C. Worrell
Distinguished Professor, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Symposium: King Faisal Prize Laureates

Interviewing Brilliance: Lessons from King Faisal Prize Laureates



Dr. Rena Subotnik
Research Associate, Academic Talent Development Program, University of California, Berkeley



Prof. Jackie Yi-Ru Ying
Chief Innovation and Research Officer at King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre; King Faisal Prize Laureate in Science 2023



Prof. Nader Masmoudi
Professor of Mathematics, New York University; King Faisal Prize Laureate in Science 2022

APCG2026 Symposium Sessions

Symposium: Salem Bin Mahfouz Foundation

مؤسسة سالم بن محفوظ الأهلية
Salem Bin Mahfouz Foundation

Non-profit in Education: How SBMF Contributes to Enhance Teachers' Role and Students' Skills



Eng. Mamdouh H. Alharbi
CEO, Salem Bin Mahfouz Foundation



Prof. Saad Almasawdi
Director General of Education in Jeddah (2019-2022) Zawaya



Dr. Abdulrahman Hamed Alsulami
Director, Waref



Nader Al-Saggaf (Moderator)
Director of Institutional Communication, Salem Bin Mahfouz Foundation

Symposium: The UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education (UNESCO RCQE)

unesco RCQE

From Models to Impact: Quality and Excellence Frameworks to Empower Gifted Education 2050



Dr. Abdul Rahman Almedaires
Director General, UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education (UNESCO RCQE)



Dr. Fatimah Roais
Deputy Director, UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education (UNESCO RCQE)



Prof. Dato' Ansary Ahmed
Founding President, Asia e-University (AeU)



Prof. Chokri BN Mahmoud Barhoumi
UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education (UNESCO RCQE) Knowledge Management Specialist

A Panel Discussion: Education and Training Evaluation Commission (ETEC)

هيئة تقويم التعليم والتدريب
Education & Training Evaluation Commission

Academic Acceleration Tests and Their Impact on Supporting Gifted Students: A Comprehensive National Perspective



H.H. Dr. Faisal Mashary Al Saud
Consultant at the King Abdulaziz & His Companions Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity (Mawhiba), KSA



Dr. Abdullah Al-Saadawi
Deputy CEO for Testing, National Center for Assessment (Qiyas), Education & Training Evaluation Commission



Dr. Norah Abdulrahman Alyabs
Assistant Professor, Saudi Electronic University



Dr. Fayez Sulaiman Maajeeny
Vice Dean of Admission and Registration, University of Jeddah



Dr. Nada Al-Saleh
Vice-Dean for Admission Affairs, Deanship of Admission and Registration at Princess Nourah University

Symposium: International STEM Education Centers



Dr. Janchai Yingprayoon
Professor Prince of Songkla University, Suratthani Campus, Suratthani, Thailand



Dr. Nathaphon Boonnam
Deputy Dean for Administration and Strategy, Prince of Songkla University Faisal Prize Laureate in Science 2023



Prof. Dr. Bulent Cavas
Head of Science Education Department, Dokuz Eylül University, İzmir

APCG2026 Symposium Sessions

Symposium: Saudi Universities and Giftedness:

Empowering Gifted Students in Higher Education – A Case Study



Dr. Monagi Hassan Alkinani
Vice President for Academic Affairs & Development, University of Jeddah



Prof. Fouad Abolaban
Dean of Student Affairs, King Abdulaziz University



Dr. Farida Larry
Dean of Students and Alumna Relations at Dar Al-Hekma University



Dr. Akila Sarirete
Provost, Effat University



Dr. Ramzia Albakri
Vice President of Student Affairs, University of Business and Technology

Symposium: Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented

The Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented: Experience in Measuring Mental Abilities in Identifying Gifted Individuals



Dr. Atef Kanaan
President, Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented, Jordan



Dr. Faiz Al-Saud
Vice President of the Council, Tafila Technical University, Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented, Jordan



Zuhair Hussain Ghunaim
Secretary General of the International Union of Muslim Scouts



Dr. Muawiyah Bani Hamdan
Head of Tests and Measurements, Arab Council for the Gifted and Talented, Jordan



Dr. Mustafa Al-Heilat
Professor of Educational Psychology, Al-Balqa Applied University, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Symposium: Education & Training Evaluation Commission (ETEC) – National Center for Assessment (Qiyas)

هيئة تقويم التعليم والتدريب
Education & Training Evaluation Commission

Qiyas' Journey in Identifying and Supporting Gifted Students: An Ongoing Success Story



Dr. Abdullah AlQataee
Chief Executive Officer, National Center for Assessment (Qiyas), Education & Training Evaluation Commission



Dr. Abdullah Al-Saadawi
Deputy CEO for Testing, National Center for Assessment (Qiyas), Education & Training Evaluation Commission



Dr. Maisaa Al-Ahmadi
General Manager of Institutional Testing, National Center for Assessment (Qiyas), Education & Training Evaluation Commission



Prof. Elena Grigorenko
Professor of Psychology, University of Houston, USA

Symposium: University of Business and Technology Launching the Global Giftedness Index (GGI):

A Systemic Framework for Identifying, Supporting, and Developing Giftedness Globally



Dr. Said Al-Shaikh
Director, Research and Consultation Center, University of Business and Technology



Dr. Basma El-Zein
Director General of UBT-Tech Valley, University of Business and Technology



Dr. Yussra Jamjoom
Consultant to President, University of Business and Technology



Prof. Heidrun Stoeger
(Moderator) Chair Professor for School Research, School Development and Evaluation, University of Regensburg, Germany

APCG2026 Symposium Sessions

Symposium: Asia-Pacific Federation on Giftedness

Diverse Minds, Diverse Contexts: Equity and Excellence in Asia-Pacific Gifted Education



Prof. Kyungbin Park
President, Asia-Pacific Federation for Giftedness; Professor at Gachon University



Prof. Jae Yup Jung
Vice-President, Asia-Pacific Federation for Giftedness; Professor, School of Education and Director of GERRIC, The University of New South Wales



Dr. Letchmi Devi Ponnusamy
Senior Lecturer in Child Psychology & Human Development, National Institute of Education, Singapore



Dr. Paromita Roy
Deputy Director of Jagadis Bose National Science Talent Search, Kolkata, India



Prof. Manabu Sumida
Professor, Faculty of Education, Ehime University, Japan



Dr. Jiyoung Ryu
Director, Gifted Education Policy Center at the Global Institute for Talented Education (GIFTED), Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)

Symposium: MAWHIBA

From Nurturing to Excellence: The Impact of Mawhiba Programs on Cognitive and Practical Development of Gifted Individuals



Dr. Hanaa Almoaibed
Founder and CEO, Wonder Inc; Vice President of Research at the Arab Institute for Women's Leadership



Dr. Mohammed Albawardi
Physician B2B Dallah Health, Strategic Healthcare Partnerships Leader, Mawhiba Alumni



Dr. Yousef Algoos
Forbes 30 under 30, Award-Winning Semiconductor Researcher, Mawhiba Alumni



Dr. Zahra Nasser Almisbaa
Senior Scientist at Saudi Aramco R&D, Misk Fellow, Mawhiba Alumni



Amal Abdulrahman Ahmed
Product Manager & Digital Experience Leader, Mawhiba Alumni



Dr. Khalid Alawwad
(Moderator) APCG2026 Vice Conference Chairman, Former Member of the Shura Council, Former Deputy Minister of Education

Symposium: Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY)

Cultivating Advanced Learners for the Global Community of Tomorrow: The CTY Approach



Dr. Kimberley L. Chandler
Director of Academics and Student Life, John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY)



Dr. Amy Lynne Shelton
Executive Director, John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY)

Special Session

AI in Education: SMART Learning Framework



Dr. Badrul Huda Khan
Founder of Modern E-Learning

APCG2026 Symposium Sessions

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Symposium: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Creativity assessed by PISA: Insights from the PISA test and PISA Rescoring project



Natalie Foster
Analyst, OECD



Prof. Todd Lubart
University Paris Cité, France



Prof. Mojca Juriševič
Professor of Educational Psychology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia



Qatnah Alshammari
PhD Researcher, King Faisal University

Symposium: Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences

Advancing Gifted Education through Innovation: The Hamdan Model



Dr. Mariam Alghawi
Director, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences



Dr. Sadiq Ismail
Senior Researcher, Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences



Dr. Ahmad Morsy
Giftedness Identification Senior Specialist, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences

Symposium: European Council for High Ability (ECHA)

The European Council for High Ability (ECHA): Working Across Europe to Create Unity in Gifted Education



Prof. Colm O'Reilly
President of ECHA, Director of CTY Ireland & Professor at Dublin City University



Dr. Szilvia Fodor
Vice President ECHA & Professor Psychology Eotvos Lorand University, Hungary



Ioannis Tsorbatzoglou
Vice President Cross Divisional Programs & Professor at Anatolia College, Greece



Marie Mellet
Chief Strategy Officer CTY Ireland & Professor at Dublin City University

Symposium: Project for Establishing a Regional Center for Giftedness and Creativity

Investing in Giftedness: Upskilling to Meet Market Needs



Dr. Jawaher Hamad Binyousef
Project Manager for Establishing a Regional Center for Giftedness and Creativity, Ministry of Education



Dr. Adil Alshoaibi
Director of National Research Center for Giftedness and Creativity, King Faisal University



Dr. Haya Alhomayani
Supervisor, Administration of Attracting and Nurturing Talent, University of Jeddah



Dr. Abdullah Albelaihy
Supervisor Member of the Project for Establishing a Regional Center for Giftedness and Creativity, Ministry of Education

APCG2026 Symposium Sessions

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Symposium: World Giftedness Center

World Giftedness Center (WGC): Mentoring Across the Stages of Talent Development: From Attraction to Eminence



Dr. Mariam Alghawi
Director, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences



Prof. Albert Ziegler
Chair Professor, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany



Dr. Tai Kai Ng
Chair Professor, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou)



Prof. Heidrun Stoeger
Chair Professor for School Research, School Development and Evaluation, University of Regensburg, Germany

Symposium: University of Regensburg

Exploring Talent Development: The Role of Educational and Learning Resources



Prof. Heidrun Stoeger
Chair Professor for School Research, School Development and Evaluation, University of Regensburg, Germany



Prof. Albert Ziegler
Chair Professor of Educational Psychology at Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlagen-Nurnberg, Germany



Dr. Norah Fareed Almulhim
Assistant Professor, King Faisal University



Lukas Ketscher
Research Fellow & PhD Candidate, Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlagen-Nurnberg, Germany

Symposium: Arabian Gulf University (AGU)

Creative Thinking Tests and the Environment: What Really Affects Divergent Thinking Scores?



Dr. Ahmed Alabbasi
Vice Dean, College of Education, Administrative and Technical Sciences, Arabian Gulf University



Prof. Selcuk Acar
Professor of Educational Psychology, University of North Texas



Dr. Bander Alotaibi
(Moderator)
Professor, Arabian Gulf University

Symposium: Thakaat

Harnessing and Developing Scientists' Ecosystems: Talents as a Competitive Advantage



Eng. Sami Al Hussayen
Managing Partner, Thakaat



Dr. Abdulhameed Al Abduljabar
Professor of Mechanical Engineering, King Saud University



Dr. Ziyad Aldrees
(Moderator) APCG2026 Chief International Cooperation Officer, Former Saudi Ambassador to UNESCO

APCG2026 Symposium Sessions

Symposium: Nurturing Gifts in Children with Special Needs



Prof. Elena Grigorenko
Professor, University of Houston



Irina Sokovnina-Mikhelson
Co-Founder and CEO, INAU AI



Alex Reznik
Founder and President, Complete Playground


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APCG 2026
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Shaping the Future of Gifted


APCG2026 Scientific
Paper Presentations
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Insights to Research in Giftedness: Paper Presentation Sessions

1000+
Attendees

250+
Paper Presentations

400+
Authors

50+
Parallel Sessions

Key Themes of Paper Presentations

- Twice-Exceptionality & Neurodiverse Excellence
- AI & Future-Driven Talent Development
- Differentiated & Personalized Learning Models
- Creativity, Critical Thinking & Cognitive Development
- Social-Emotional Well-Being & Psychological Resilience
- Institutional Models & Policy Frameworks
- STEM, STEAM & Interdisciplinary Futures
- Equity, Access & Global Inclusion
- Leadership, Innovation & Workforce Readiness
- Global Collaboration & Ecosystem Development

Recommendations from APCG 2026

Based on the research presented and the extensive professional dialogue held during the conference, APCG 2026 puts forward the following key recommendations:

1. the need to develop adaptive, evidence-based national policies that respond to future societal and economic needs and position gifted education as a long-term investment in human capability.

2. Integrate artificial intelligence and digital technologies as core components of gifted education systems, in ways that accelerate educational advancement while guarding against digital dependency and forms of intelligence colonization.

3. Strengthen targeted programs and services for twice-exceptional learners.

4. Invest in sustained professional development for educators, leaders, and policymakers in gifted education.

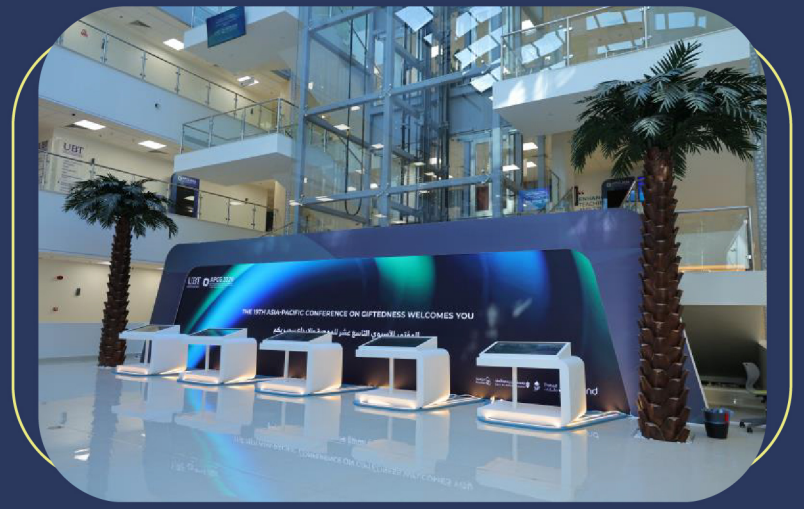
5. Expand international partnerships and knowledge exchange among gifted education institutions and networks.

6. Refine quality indicators and measurement tools to assess the impact and effectiveness of gifted education systems worldwide.

7. Recognize gifted education as not only an academic or technological endeavor, but a deeply social one—shaped by families, schools, communities, and cultures, and grounded in wellbeing, belonging, ethical engagement, and meaningful contribution.


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APCG 2026

APCG2026 Key Recommendations





Adaptive National Policy
Develop future-focused, evidence-based policies for gifted education as a long-term investment.

Global Collaboration
Expand international partnerships and knowledge exchange

Responsible AI Integration
Embed AI and digital tools while safe-guarding
against dependency and misuse.

Support for Twice-Exceptional Learners
Strengthen targeted identification and specialized services.

Professional Development
Provide sustained training for educators and leaders.

Holistic Approach
Ground gifted education in wellbeing, belonging, and ethical contribution.

Quality & Impact Measurement
Refine standards and evaluation tools.


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GLOBAL
GIFTEDNESS
INDEX

Launching a Global Framework: The Global Giftedness Index (GGI)



Among the conference's most significant milestones was the unveiling of the Global Giftedness Index, an initiative designed to provide a comparative framework for evaluating gifted education ecosystems worldwide. The index represents a step toward data-driven policy development, offering insights into how different countries nurture talent across educational and cultural contexts.

The launch signaled APCG 2026's ambition to extend its influence beyond the duration of the conference itself, contributing to long-term global dialogue and collaboration.

Global Giftedness Index (GGI) Strategic Objectives

Defining measurable pathways to advance gifted education worldwide

GLOBAL GIFTEDNESS INDEX

The Global Giftedness Index (GGI) is a multidimensional, development-based framework designed to assess how effectively countries identify, nurture and sustain gifted individuals across the full system lifecycle, with a strong focus on equity, inclusion and long-term impact.

GGI is designed as a policy and system intelligence tool, not a prestige ranking.

Promote Policy Reform
Inform evidence-based strategies for inclusive gifted education.

Benchmark Global Progress
Compare how nations identify and support gifted learners.

Empower Youth
Position giftedness as a driver for SDGs and future-of-work readi-

Drive Equity & Opportunity
Highlight underserved regions & demographic gaps.

Conceptual Framework: Global Giftedness Index

A Development-Based Giftedness System Model



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This framework reflects system maturity and avoids outcome-only bias.


The Global Giftedness Index (GGI) Symposium

The Global Giftedness Index (GGI) Media Presence



The Global Giftedness Index (GGI) was featured on MBC, highlighting the Kingdom's leadership in gifted education.

Dr. Basma El Zein, Director of Techno-Valley at the University of Business and Technology, and lead of the GGI development, shared key insights into the Index's vision and global benchmarking framework.

The coverage reflected the Kingdom's growing prominence and commitment to advancing gifted education on the international stage.

Consultative Dialogues and Global Collaboration



APCG 2026 hosted the first consultative meetings with international giftedness councils and organizations. These dialogues created opportunities for strategic alignment, enabling participants to explore collaborative initiatives that can shape the future of research, policy, and practice.

Central to these dialogues was the evolving concept of the “Internet of Minds” — a vision that recognizes giftedness not as an isolated attribute within individuals or institutions, but as a dynamic network of collective intelligence. The idea underscored the conference’s aspiration to move toward a more interconnected global ecosystem, where knowledge flows across borders, disciplines, and federations.

The consultative format encouraged open exchange, fostering a sense of shared responsibility for advancing gifted education globally.


APCG 2026
The 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness
Shaping the Future of Gifted Education, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
University of Business and Technology
قاعة
الدكتور شهاب محمد بكي تجوم


Celebrating Creativity:
Art Exhibition
APCG 2025
Scan the QR
To Download the Information of the Featured Art Piece
APCG 2025
Scan the QR
To Download the Information of the Featured Art Piece

Celebrating Creativity: Art Exhibition

APCG 2026 incorporated a curated art exhibition that positioned creative expression as a central dimension of talent development. The exhibition featured more than two hundred art pieces contributed by artists from different regions of the Kingdom, reflecting a rich diversity of perspectives shaped by local heritage, contemporary innovation, and evolving cultural narratives. Through this collection, participants encountered a visual dialogue that connected education, creativity, and identity, offering an immersive glimpse into Saudi Arabia's dynamic artistic landscape.

The exhibition served as an integral extension of the conference's vision — affirming that creativity is inseparable from intellectual growth and innovation. Visitors moved between research sessions and artistic installations, experiencing firsthand how artistic practice can deepen understanding of giftedness as a multidimensional human experience.



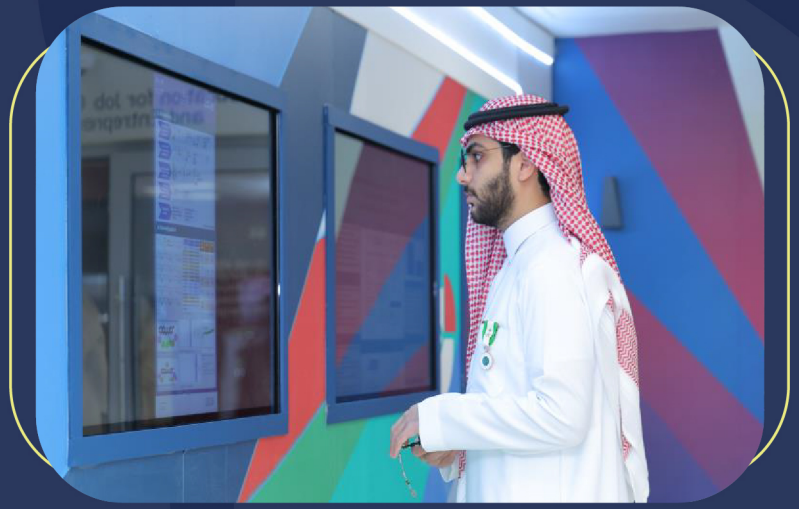

APEC 2026
Scan the QR
To Download the Information
of the Featured Art Piece

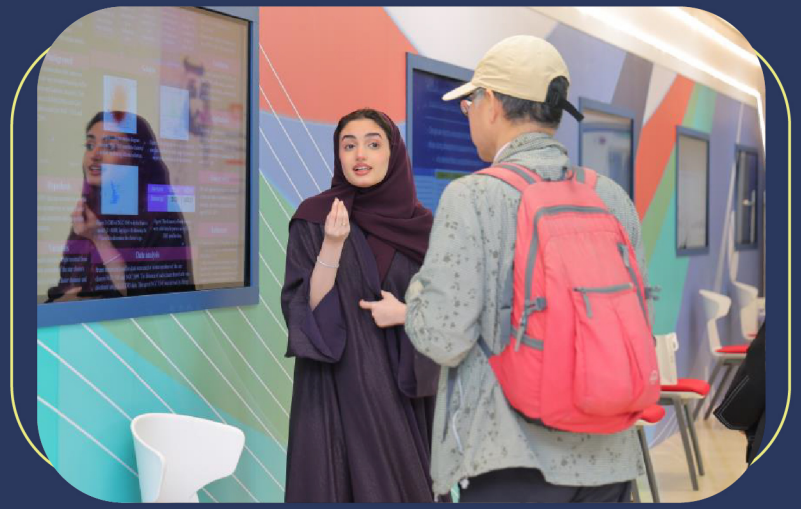

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موهبة
Mawhiba

MAWHIBA Student Showcase







MAWHIBA Student Showcase



A dedicated Mawhiba showcase formed a central component of APCG 2026, offering national and international attendees a compelling window into Saudi Arabia's national ecosystem for gifted education and scientific excellence. The exhibition featured more than thirty research projects developed by Mawhiba students whose work has received international recognition, including achievements at global competitions such as the Intel International Science and Engineering platforms. Through these presentations, visitors encountered the depth of research culture being cultivated among young innovators across the Kingdom.

The showcase highlighted diverse fields of study, from engineering and environmental sciences to artificial intelligence and medical innovation, illustrating the breadth of Saudi Arabia's emerging research talent. For many international participants, the experience provided a powerful example of how national programs can nurture students capable of contributing meaningfully to global knowledge production.

In positioning student research at the heart of the conference, APCG 2026 affirmed a broader message: that gifted education is not only about potential, but about enabling young minds to translate curiosity into discovery and discovery into global contribution.

Youth at the Center: The GenAI Youth Summit







Youth at the Center: The GenAI Youth Summit





One of the defining pillars of APCG 2026 was the Generation AI Youth Summit, a five-day immersive experience that placed young innovators at the heart of the conference's vision for the future of gifted education. More than one hundred students, aged twelve to fifteen, representing nine nationalities — Poland, Egypt, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Thailand, South Korea, India, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates — gathered in Jeddah to engage in a collaborative journey that transcended borders, cultures, and educational systems.

Throughout the summit, participants explored artificial intelligence not merely as a technological tool, but as a medium for creativity, ethical reflection, and global dialogue. Through interdisciplinary projects combining storytelling, design thinking, and problem-solving, students were encouraged to imagine how emerging technologies can be shaped by human values and cultural understanding. The diversity of the cohort enriched the experience, transforming the summit into a living example of international collaboration among gifted youth.

The presence of these young delegates reshaped the conference environment itself. Their curiosity, creativity, and cross-cultural exchange served as a powerful reminder that conversations about gifted education ultimately revolve around those who will inherit and shape the future. By integrating youth voices into the broader conference ecosystem, APCG 2026 demonstrated a forward-looking commitment to empowering young innovators — not as passive recipients of knowledge, but as active contributors to global dialogue and co-creators of future solutions.

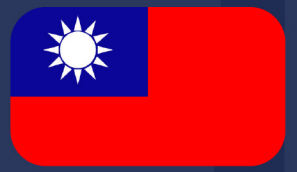
The GenAI Youth Summit in Numbers



100+
Students

10+
Countries

15+
Teacher Chaperones



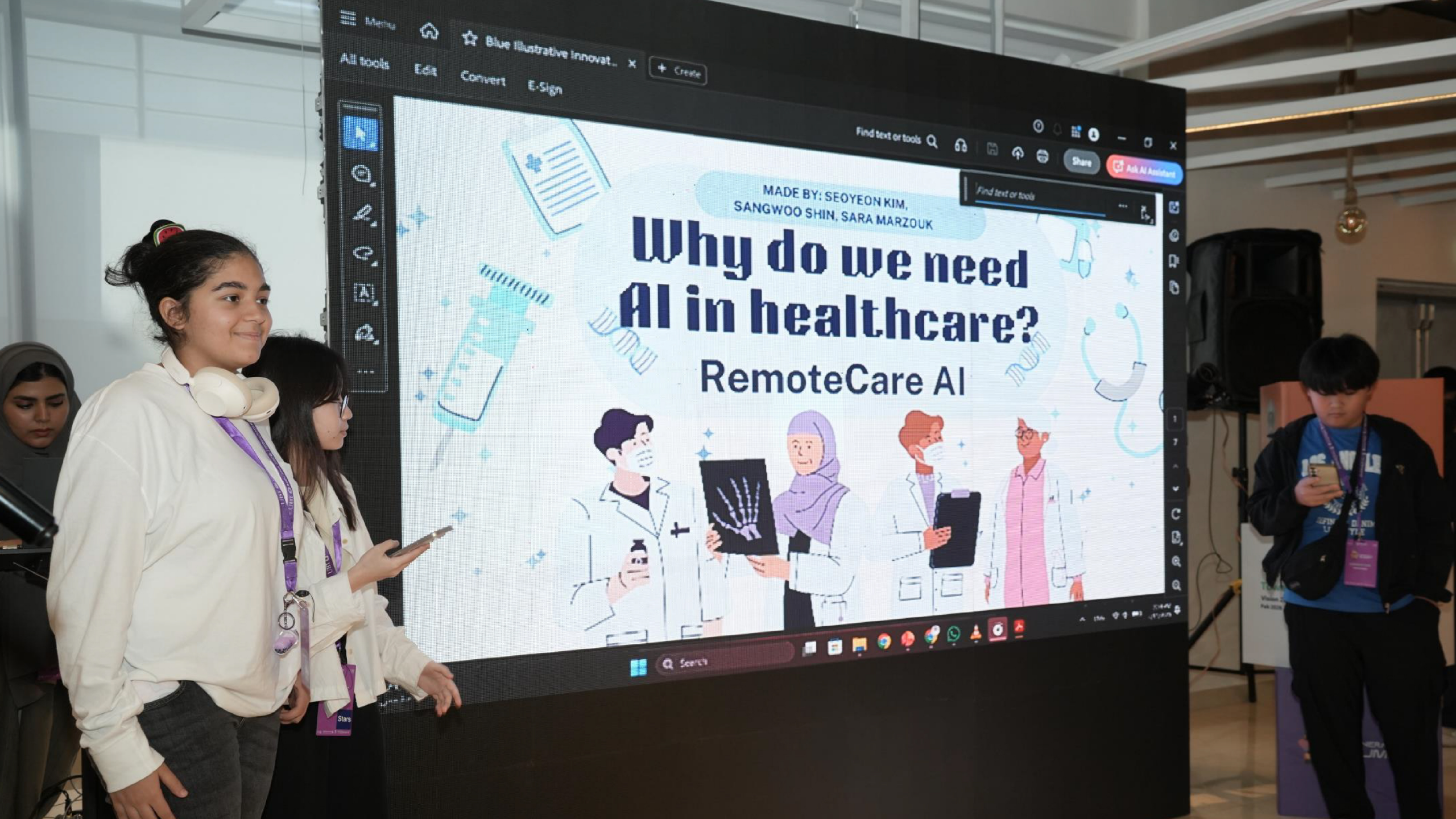







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Mizuno


MADE BY: SEOYEON KIM,
SANGWOO SHIN, SARA MARZOUK
Why do we need AI in healthcare?
RemoteCare AI


مؤسسة الملك عبدالعزيز ورجاله للموهبة والإبداع
King Abdulaziz and his Companions Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity
الأطفال الموهوبون المصابون بـ ADHD
QS



Gifthone: Hackathon on Education Innovation

Gifthone: Hackathon on Educational Innovation

200+
Teams Applied

45+
Shortlisted Teams

10+
Countries

10+
Gifthone Capacity Building Workshops

70+
Institutions

20+
Mentors

100+
Innovative Educational Ideas

Gifthone Finale

16
Finalist Teams & 64 Participants

3
Winning Teams

Running parallel to the scientific program was the Gifthone Educational Innovation Hackathon, which brought together students, researchers, and professionals to co-create solutions addressing contemporary challenges in education. Participants collaborated across disciplines to develop prototypes that combined technological innovation with pedagogical insight.

The Gifthone focused on the following four main themes:

- Student & Faculty – The Human Core
- Pedagogy – The Quality of Education
- Infrastructure – The Enabling Environment
- Resources and Materials – The Content Ecosystem

The hackathon reflected a broader shift toward experiential learning and innovation-driven collaboration. Teams engaged in intensive design processes, guided by mentors who supported the transformation of ideas into actionable concepts.

Gifthone Final Pitching Day

Gifthone: from Idea to Impact - showcasing innovation



Eng. Sami Alhosayn
Managing Partner of Madar ventures



Prof. Ismail Al sayyad
Chief Operating Officer | AI Strategist | |Technology & Innovation Leader | Global Industry Collaborator



Mr. Abdeljawad shodari
Co-Founder & Chairman of Athir



Dr. Lama Hakem
Entrepreneurship Programs Manager National Transformation Institute (NTI) King Abdullah University of Science & Technology (KAUST)



Shatha Al Saeed
General Manager of Entrepreneurship Planning at Monshaat









Gifthone Winning Teams

1st Place: Team Petals
SAR 25,000



2nd Place: Team Palm
SAR 15,000



3rd Place: Team Hamdan
SAR 10,000



The top three teams of Gifthone were awarded seed funding to support the launch of their start-ups. In addition to the cash prizes, they will receive continued post-hackathon incubation support, including technical mentorship and access to investment opportunities, to further develop and scale their educational innovation solutions.

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Cultural and Field Experiences: Extending Learning Beyond the Conference



Cultural and Field Experiences: Extending Learning Beyond the Conference



Cultural and Field Experiences: Extending Learning Beyond the Conference



Cultural and Field Experiences: Extending Learning Beyond the Conference

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APCG 2026 offered a series of curated cultural and field experiences designed to deepen international delegates' understanding of Saudi Arabia's educational landscape and rich cultural heritage. Five main field visits formed an integral part of the conference journey, creating spaces for dialogue, reflection, and cross-cultural exchange beyond the formal sessions.

The conference Gala Dinner brought participants together in a celebratory setting that blended traditional Saudi elements with contemporary global influences, featuring a carefully curated musical program that fused traditional and modern sounds, reflecting the conference's theme of bridging heritage with innovation.

Educational engagement was enriched through two dedicated school visits to The Cultural Arts Academy and Waad Academy, where international guests were introduced to innovative learning environments within the Kingdom. These visits provided opportunities for delegates to observe classroom practices, explore student-centered pedagogies, and engage directly with educators and learners, offering a tangible connection between the conference's global dialogue and local educational practice. The presence of arts-focused and forward-looking academic models within these institutions highlighted Saudi Arabia's evolving approach to holistic and future-ready education.





Cultural and Field Experiences: Extending Learning Beyond the Conference





Participants also experienced the Deeratna Desert Safari, which offered an immersive introduction to the Kingdom's natural landscape and cultural traditions, creating moments of informal exchange among delegates from diverse backgrounds.

A guided visit to Historic Albalad, a UNESCO World Heritage district in Jeddah, allowed participants to explore the architectural and cultural narratives that shape the city's identity, strengthening the cultural dimension of the conference experience.

In recognition of the diverse backgrounds of attendees, APCG 2026 also facilitated opportunities for Muslim delegates to perform Umrah, reflecting the conference's inclusive and culturally responsive approach to hosting an international community.


QS
King Faisal

Impact in Numbers: A of Global Scale Conference



Impact in Numbers: A Conference of Global Scale

The scale and reach of APCG 2026 underscored its significance as a global milestone. 2000+ conference attendees, representing 40+ countries and a wide spectrum of disciplines. The scientific program featured hundreds of scholarly contributions, reflecting a vibrant exchange of ideas across cultures and academic traditions.




APCG 2026
Prof. Ching-Chih Kuo
Talent development is a marathon, not a sprint.
We mu
allows a
internal motivation that
become
when the work finally


APCG 2026
The 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness
Shaping the Future of Gifted Education, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
University of Business and Technology

Media Presence and Global Visibility

APCG 2026 attracted strong regional and international media attention, reflecting growing global interest in the advancement of gifted education in Saudi Arabia. Coverage spanned national news agencies, broadcast media, digital platforms, and international English language outlets, amplifying the conference's impact across diverse audiences.

National outlets including the Saudi Press Agency (SPA), Al-Ekhbariya, Sabq, Al-Riyadh, and Al-Hadath; highlighted the conference's strategic significance and the Kingdom's leadership in talent development. International coverage, notably by Arab News, positioned APCG 2026 as a forward-looking global platform. The conference was also featured by leading gifted education bodies, including the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children and the Asia-Pacific Federation on Giftedness.

Digital engagement further expanded visibility, with #APCG2026 generating sustained online reach through daily highlights, speaker insights, and youth innovation stories.

Using a blended Earned Media Value (EMV) and Advertising Value Equivalency (AVE) framework, total media exposure is conservatively estimated at SAR 8.5–11.2 million in equivalent advertising value.



APCG2026 in the News



وكالة الأنباء السعودية SAUDI PRESS AGENCY SPA

الخميس ٢ رمضان ١٤٤٧ - ١٩ فبراير ٢٠٢٦

عربي

أخباري | أخبار ملكية | الأقسام | الوسائط | حساباتنا | المزيد

البوابة العلمية | أم القرى 100

علوم وتقنيات / انطلاق المؤتمر الآسيوي التاسع عشر للموهبة والإبداع بجدة غدًا بمشاركة 1200 خبير من 40 دولة

مكة المكرمة

السبت 1447/08/19

القراءة الصوتية

جدة 19 شعبان 1447 هـ الموافق 07 فبراير 2026 م واس

تشهد محافظة جدة، غدًا انطلاق فعاليات المؤتمر الآسيوي التاسع عشر للموهبة والإبداع 2026، تحت شعار "نحو المستقبل: رؤية لتعليم الموهوبين 2050"، الذي يُعد أكبر حدثٍ علميٍّ عالميٍّ متخصص في الموهبة والإبداع، برعاية معالي وزير التعليم الأستاذ يوسف بن عبدالله البنيان، وباستضافة جامعة الأعمال والتكنولوجيا؛ بمشاركة 1200 خبير من 40 دولة، وأكثر من 100 باحث حول العالم.

ويُمثِّل المؤتمر، الذي تستمر فعالياته خمسة أيام، منصةً عالميةً لرسم ملامح مستقبل تعليم الموهوبين، وتبادل الخبرات الدولية، وبناء شراكات معرفية، حيث يتضمن برنامجه العلمي عرض ومناقشة 350 ورقة عملٍ وبحثًا علميًا، إضافةً إلى 50 ورشة عملٍ وجلسة تخصصية، و30 ندوة مصاحبة؛ مما يجعله أحد أضخم المؤتمرات المتخصصة في هذا المجال على مستوى العالم.

وتُناقش جلسات المؤتمر التحديات والفرص المرتبطة بتعليم الموهوبين في ظل التحولات



أخبار 24

الرئيسية / محليات

إطلاق أول مؤشر عالمي لرعاية الموهوبين في جدة

دحلان: المملكة تقدم اليوم نموذجًا عالميًا في تمكين الموهبة والابتكار

شهد الحفل عرض فيلم وثائقي عن ريادة المملكة في تمكين الموهوبين

رعى وزير التعليم يوسف البنيان، اليوم (الأحد)، إطلاق فعاليات المؤتمر الآسيوي التاسع عشر للموهبة والإبداع 2026م، في جامعة الأعمال والتكنولوجيا بكورنيش جدة، والكشف عن أول مؤشر عالمي لتقييم رعاية الموهوبين.

وأوضح رئيس مجلس أمناء جامعة الأعمال والتكنولوجيا بجدة د. عبدالله بن صادق دحلان، أن استضافة هذا الحدث العلمي والمعرفي تؤكد الاستثمار في الإنسان هو الاستثمار الأسمى في مستقبل الأوطان، مشيرًا إلى أن المملكة تقدم اليوم نموذجًا عالميًا ملهمًا في تمكين الموهبة والابتكار.

وأكد أن المؤتمر يمثل منصة حيوية للحوار وتبادل الخبرات، واستعراض أفضل الممارسات العالمية في مجال اكتشاف الموهوبين وتمكينهم، وصولًا إلى تحويل قدراتهم إلى قيمة مضافة للاقتصاد والمجتمع، معلنًا في هذا السياق عن أحد أبرز مخرجات المؤتمر، والمتمثل في إطلاق أول مؤشر عالمي لقياس وتقييم رعاية الموهبة.

من جانبها، ألقت المنسق العام للمؤتمر الآسيوي التاسع عشر للموهبة والإبداع الدكتورة ليلى بنت أحمد جمجوم، كلمة بينت فيها أن المؤتمر يجمع مجتمعًا عالميًا من التربويين والخبراء، من خلفيات ورؤى متعددة، يوحدهم التزام مشترك بالارتقاء بتعليم الموهوبين، مؤكدة على أن مفهوم الموهبة لا يعني التخبوية أو الإقصاء، بل الاعتراف بتنوع القدرات، ودعم ذوي الاستثناء المزدوج، وتخصيص المسارات التعليمية بما يلبي الإمكانات الفردية لكل متعلم.



الأخبار | التصنيفات | مقالات | مُقترب | لحظة بلحظة

محليات

جدة تحتضن مؤتمر الموهبة الآسيوي وإطلاق أول مؤشر عالمي لرعاية الموهوبين

صحيفة سبق | منذ أسبوع | 4 د قراءة

جدة تحتضن مؤتمر الموهبة الآسيوي وإطلاق أول مؤشر عالمي لرعاية الموهوبين

الموجز الذكي | المزيد

انطلقت اليوم في جدة أعمال المؤتمر الآسيوي التاسع عشر للموهبة والإبداع، الذي تستضيفه جامعة الأعمال والتكنولوجيا برعاية وزير التعليم يوسف البنيان، بمشاركة ممثلين من أكثر من 40 دولة، وإطلاق أول مؤشر عالمي لقياس وتقييم رعاية الموهوبين، وسط حضور يتجاوز ألف مشارك من الخبراء وصنّاع القرار والمبدعين.

APCG2026 Official Website





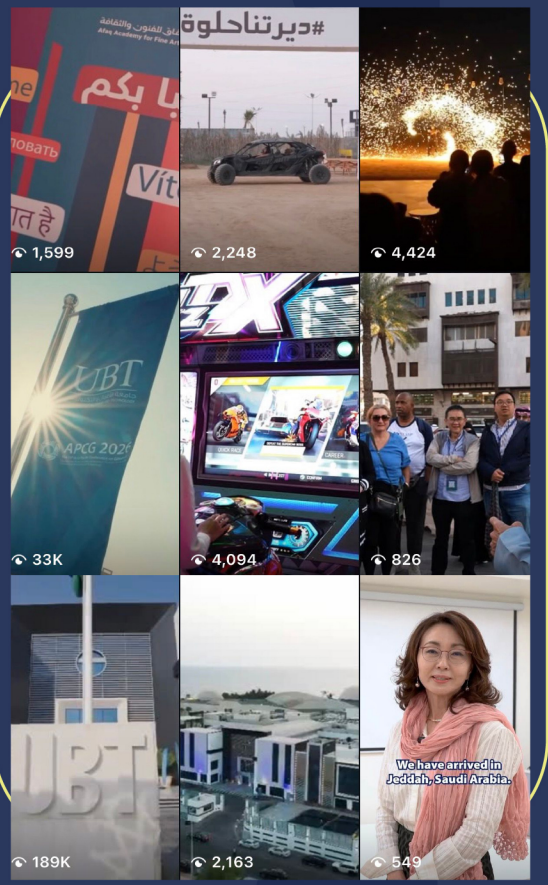
400k+ Visitors World Wide

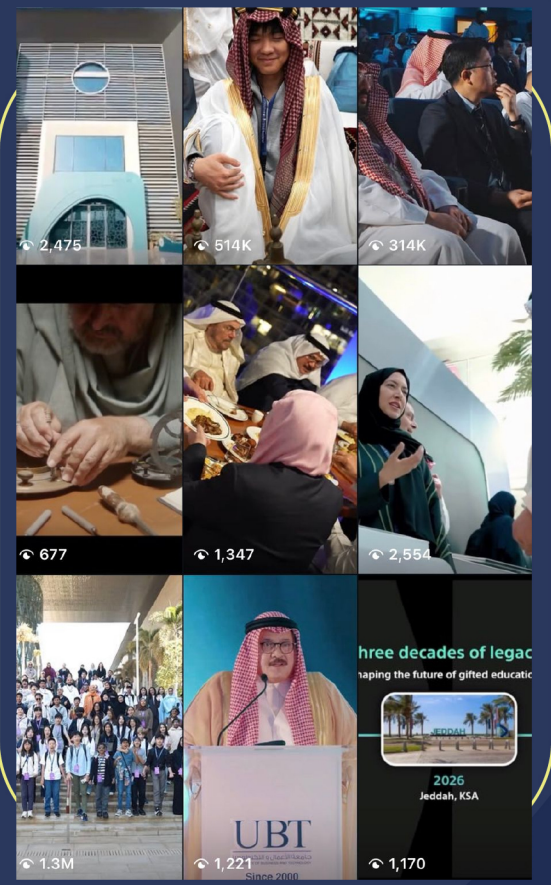
Social Media Reach

85,479,548 Impressions

906,550 Clicks

452,583 Website Traffic





5.1+ Million Video Views during the Conference Week


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Legacy and Long-Term Impact



Beyond its immediate outcomes, APCG 2026 established a strong foundation for long-term collaboration and systemic impact in gifted education. Key milestones include the signing of the MAWHIBA–UBT Memorandum of Understanding, the continued development of the Global Giftedness Index (GGI), and the establishment of the Giftedness and Creativity Center at UBT.

On 8 February 2026, the MoU was formally signed between His Excellency Mr. Abdulaziz bin Saleh Al-Kuraidis, Secretary-General of MAWHIBA, and His Excellency Dr. Abdullah Sadiq Dahlan, Chairman of UBT. The agreement includes the establishment of a Center of Giftedness, five scholarships for gifted students, joint research supervision, and early university-entry pathways—creating sustained institutional support for high-potential learners.

The Global Giftedness Index (GGI) has been developed as a multidimensional framework to assess and strengthen national gifted education systems. Moving forward, it will continue to be refined and expanded as a policy and system-intelligence tool.

The Giftedness and Creativity Center at UBT will serve as a dedicated hub for gifted student support, research advancement, and innovation across the field.

Together, these initiatives reflect the enduring legacy of APCG 2026, extending its influence on research, practice, and policy well beyond the conference itself.



Conclusion

The 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness stands as a historic milestone in the journey toward a more inclusive, innovative, and future-ready approach to education. By bringing together diverse voices from across the world, APCG 2026 demonstrated the power of collaboration in shaping the future of giftedness.

As participants departed Jeddah, they carried with them not only new ideas and partnerships, but also a shared sense of purpose — a collective commitment to building a better future for gifted education by 2050 and beyond.

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