

**BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY: STUDENT SUMMIT 2024: SUARA ANAK
MALAYSIA HIGHLIGHTS TRANSFORMATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP**

KUALA LUMPUR – The Teach For Malaysia Student Summit 2024: Suara Anak Malaysia is a transformative platform dedicated to amplifying student voices and fostering student-adult partnerships to inspire quality education for all students in Malaysia. Held on 23rd November 2024 at The British International School of Kuala Lumpur, which graciously hosted the summit, and supported by the U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur, this year's Teach For Malaysia Student Summit brought together 360 participants, including student leaders, educators, and community members, from across the country. The collaboration between government bodies, NGOs, and educational institutions like BSKL exemplifies the collective effort required to empower students and drive systemic educational change.



The Student Summit culminated Teach For Malaysia's student leadership programmes, where 174 students, selected for their leadership potential, participated in workshops, training, and mentorship. These programmes focused on developing critical social-emotional skills, effective communication, resilience, and entrepreneurial problem-solving. Through these experiences, students were empowered to be agents of change in their communities.

Chan Soon Seng, CEO of Teach For Malaysia, remarked, "The Student Summit showcases the immense potential of our young leaders to drive meaningful change. By amplifying their voices, we not only empower them to take ownership of their future but also foster a culture of sharing and collaboration that benefits our entire education system. At Teach For Malaysia, we are committed to championing initiatives that place students at the heart of the conversation."

What Sets the Student Summit Apart?

The Student Summit is unique in being organised and planned by student leaders, with guidance from dedicated mentors. This year's summit continued that tradition, embodying the spirit of this year's theme, *Suara Anak Malaysia*. This student-led initiative not only empowers participants to take ownership of the event but also provides them with a practical learning experience in project management, event planning, and stakeholder engagement.

Participants showcased their innovation initiatives that had positively impacted their communities during the Exhibition Sessions. These exhibitions facilitated knowledge-sharing and the dissemination of best practices among students and educators.



The summit also featured engaging workshops on Leadership, Voice, Action, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL), where students and adults collaboratively explored education-related topics through interactive activities and discussions. These sessions fostered mutual understanding and cultivated partnerships, prioritising student perspectives in driving meaningful educational reform.

An Inspire Session by Zero Ong highlighted the leadership journeys of both students and adults, inspiring participants to continue striving for positive changes in their communities.

A highlight of the summit was the Student-Adult Dialogue, a panel discussion where students and adults shared their perspectives and discussed strategies for enhancing education equity. This dialogue provided a rare opportunity for students to voice their thoughts directly to educators and community leaders, fostering a more inclusive and collaborative approach to problem-solving in education.

Grace Choi, Cultural Attaché at the U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur, noted:

"I'm amazed to see how this project has empowered young minds, instilling in them the awareness of issues and the leadership skills to find solutions. The 23 student community leaders

who crafted and organised this summit are a testament to the incredible potential of our youth to create meaningful change. You are shaping a brighter future, and for that, we are immensely proud and grateful.”

Alana, a student leader and a former summit’s organising committee member, reflected on the impact of her role, saying:

“What I truly value about being a student leader is the opportunity to share my thoughts and ideas. I feel that my voice is truly heard by others. Now, I have the power to create a learning space, and I’m inspired by the possibility of welcoming more students into it. My goal is to ensure that every student has the same opportunities that I’ve had, and together, we can create a more inclusive and supportive environment for everyone.”

Reflecting Today, Reimagining Tomorrow



The Student Summit has grown in size and impact since its inception. In 2023, the summit brought together 99 student participants from 7 states and federal territories and featured prominent activities such as keynote speeches, workshops on student voice enablers, and dialogues on establishing a National Student Council. Building on this success, the 2024 summit deepened its impact by expanding participation, featuring participants from 8 states in Malaysia and 7 countries (Cambodia, Philippines, India, Japan, Armenia, New Zealand, and Peru), and focusing on building a sustainable community of student leaders who will continue to champion student voice and advocacy beyond the event itself.

Join Us in Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders

The Student Summit is not just an event—it is a movement that underscores the importance of listening to and empowering young voices. We invite you to join us on this journey of nurturing student leadership and building a future where students take charge of their own, their community's, and their country's future.



About Teach For Malaysia

Teach For Malaysia (TFM) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation on a mission to give all children the opportunity to realise their potential through quality education. We partner with various entities in the education ecosystem to drive immediate and long-term education transformation by developing and mobilising a diverse movement of leaders who are committed to addressing educational inequity. Founded in 2010, Teach For Malaysia (TFM) is a member of the Global Education Network Teach For All.

Since 2012, we have been building a transformational movement in our education system by placing the country's most promising graduates and young professionals in some of Malaysia's most high-need schools to combat education inequity through our flagship leadership development Fellowship programme. In 2020, we started expanding our programmes to reach existing teachers and leaders in the public education sector, supporting them to drive system transformation. Through our student leadership programmes, we empower young students to be agents of transformation in their own communities.

Since 2012, our programmes have reached more than 1090 schools and communities across all states in Malaysia, impacting over 503,000 students. Teach For Malaysia is also a 2022 Merdeka Award Recipient under the Education & Community Category.

To be part of the movement mobilising towards ending education inequity, join as a Volunteer [here](#).

For more information about the Student Summit, click [here](#).

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