INTRODUCTION

The Yale Young African Scholars Program (YYAS, https://africanscholars.yale.edu/) is the premier academic enrichment and leadership development program of its kind for African high school students planning to pursue university education and who wish to make a meaningful impact on the continent. YYAS is administered by the Yale Young Global Scholars Program (https://globalscholars.yale.edu/) in collaboration with the Yale Africa Initiative (https://africa.yale.edu/) and the HigherLife Foundation (https://www.higherlifefoundation.com/), its primary funder and knowledge partner.

For 2018-2019, YYAS will offer three sessions in Ghana, Kenya, and Zimbabwe, enrolling at least 300 high school students from across Africa through a highly competitive application process. Senior Yale faculty members lecture in the program while dedicated undergraduate, graduate, and professional school student instructors lead small-group discussions and supervise project work. YYAS participants receive post-program mentorship and guidance throughout the college application process, both virtually and in-person through local access organizations.

What follows is additional background on YYAS’s history, structure, content, and options for future expansion in the coming years.
Yale Young African Scholars Program
Overview

- YYAS: a unique collaboration within Yale University
- Transformational partnership with Higher Life Foundation (HLF)
- **YYAS 2016 - 2018**: Rwanda, Ghana, Zimbabwe
- Building capacity across Africa
- Yale as a convening power
- Reflections from YYAS Student Team
- 2019 and beyond
- A bit about Yale Young Global Scholars (YYGS)
YYAS: A Unique Collaboration within Yale

• African students at Yale proposed program in 2014
• Early support for program came from several Yale entities:
  • Yale Young Global Scholars program
  • Macmillan Center for International and Area Studies
  • Yale Undergraduate Admissions

• Guidance and support from Office of International Affairs and Yale Africa Initiative

• 2014 pilot program held in Ghana and Ethiopia, 2015 program held in Rwanda and Zimbabwe
• Zimbabwean philanthropists committed to empowering African youth through education

• Foundation has supported over 100,000 children in Zimbabwe, Southern Africa and abroad, from primary through tertiary education

• 3-yr Gift for YYAS 2016 – 2018
Partnership with the Higher Life Foundation

• YYAS admitted 300 students each year, from over 30 countries and 250+ high schools, between 2016 - 2018

• YYAS and local partner organizations collaborate to provide online and in-person post-program mentorship to alumni

• Local partners build capacity for application support among educators and access organizations through annual conferences

• YYAS prioritizes admitting and supporting high-achieving, low-income (HALI) students

• YYAS convenes and fosters a network for achieving meaningful impactful across Africa among its young leaders
Introduction to a Liberal Arts Curriculum
Interactive Learning
University Guidance Workshops
A Typical Day at YYAS

7:30 – 8:30 am Breakfast
8:30 am – 10:00 am Lecture
10:00 am – 10:45 am Discussion Sections
10:45 am – 12 pm SAT prep
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Seminars
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Uni Guidance Lecture
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Enrichment Activity
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Free time
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Dinner
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Workshop/Family Time
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm Free time
11.30 pm Lights out
Building capacity across Africa: Post-program Mentorship

Each student receives personal mentorship from current or recently graduated university students

• Host country students supported through local partner organizations

• Online mentorship for non-host country students, spanning 35 African countries
Building capacity across Africa: Local Partner organizations

• Three partner orgs 2016 – 2018, more to be added in 2019 - 2020

• Organize Educators’ Conferences in their home cities

• Design mentorship program for students based in host countries

• Provide valued “on the ground” perspective and feedback
Building capacity across Africa: Educators’ Conferences

30+ educators from each host country and region convene for two-day events on how best to support students applying abroad for admission and financial aid.

Sessions include expert advice from YYAS plus admissions officers and context specific discussions.
Yale as a Convener: University Representatives 2016-18
HALI Indaba

YYAS is a member of the HALI Access Network, an association of organizations supporting HALI African students who apply to university abroad.

In 2018-19 YYAS is Secretariat.
### YYAS 2016 - 2018

**By the numbers**

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016 Participants</th>
<th>2017 Participants</th>
<th>2018 Participants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>292</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Girls</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total HAlI</td>
<td>~ 35%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Countries</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Schools</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance Rate</td>
<td>29.40%</td>
<td>15.50%</td>
<td>15.64%</td>
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[Map of Africa showing countries represented by participants]
YYAS 2019 and onward

• Extended funding from HLF
• Kenya: new host country in 2019
• Additional mentorship partners
• Continued support of HALI
  Access Network, annual Indaba
• Expanded support for YYAS Alumni Network
Extending the partnership with HLF

• March 2018 visit by Yale President Dr. Peter Salovey to Ghana and Kenya
• Strive Masiyiwa joined Pres. Salovey in Ghana to **co-announce renewed partnership** for five additional years of funding for YYAS
• Expansion to include more participants, more mentorship partners, and significantly more financial support for students (test fee registration, etc.)
More about YYGS
YYGS Milestones:
Exponential Growth in Participants, Content & Locations

2001-2011: Ivy Scholars run by International Security Studies
   • ~60 participants per year focused on grand strategy & debate

2012: Rebranded as YYGS & administered by Office of International Affairs
   • ~150 participants across sessions focused on grand strategy & US politics

2013: Grand Strategy (GS) / Politics, Law & Economics (PLE)
   • ~300 participants across 2 sessions

2014: New Science, Policy & Innovation session (SPI); Yale Young African Scholars (YYAS) pilot
   • ~600 YYGS + 100 YYAS participants

2016: 3 new STEM sessions; YYAS expansion; YYGS-Beijing & YYGS-Singapore pilots
   • ~1400 YYGS + 300 YYAS + 100 Beijing + 200 Singapore participants
YYAS Milestones: Exponential Growth in Participants, Content & Locations

2014 & 2015: Yale African students pilot YYAS with support from MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies
  • ~100 participants across two locations in 2014 (Ghana & Ethiopia) and in 2015 (Rwanda & Zimbabwe)

2016: Transformational Masiyiwa gift sponsors YYAS for 2016-2018
  • ~300 participants each year, for 3 years, at sessions in Ghana, Rwanda & Zimbabwe
  • University guidance training for African secondary school teachers

2018: Merged programming & gift renewal discussions
  • ~300 participants in two sessions (Ghana & Rwanda)
  • Expanded participation by university representatives
  • Pursuing five-year gift renewal options with Higherlife Foundation
Where We Are Today

<table>
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<th>YYGS in New Haven</th>
<th>YYGS in Beijing</th>
<th>YYAS</th>
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<tr>
<td>6 sessions in New Haven</td>
<td>1 session in China at Yale Center Beijing</td>
<td>3 sessions in Ghana, Rwanda &amp; Zimbabwe</td>
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<tr>
<td>~1,400 participants</td>
<td>~100 participants</td>
<td>~300 participants</td>
</tr>
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15 Leadership staff

~20 Summer residential life staff

~55 Faculty lecturers

~120 Undergraduate and graduate student instructional staff
YYGS Org Chart: Who We Serve

Executive Director
Ted Wittenstein

Director
Vacant (Amy Shah Acting)

Asst. Dir. Administration
Tina Saller
- Program Administrator (Bailey Steffen)

Major budget
250+ hires

Asst. Dir. Admissions
Zeva Levine

100 app. readers
7,000+ apps. Steep growth targets

Assoc. Dir. External Affairs
Amy Shah
- Communications Officer (Melissa Dwelley)

6,500 alumni
100k+ network Major donor targets

Assoc. Dir. Academic Affairs
Michelle Hutchings
- Asia Program Manager (Tim Liu)
- STEM Program Manager (Vacant)
- Social Science Program Manager (Anneliese Abney)
- Humanities Program Manager (John Whalen)
- Global Scholars Fellow (Shams Islam)

YYAS Assoc. Director
Vacant
- African Scholars Fellow (Dagan Rossini)
- African Scholars Fellow (Roy Randen)

2,040 participants
150 instructors
30 participants
30 res. life staff

Major donor
targets

2,040 participants
150 instructors
15 app. readers
15 instructors

300 participants
1,100 alumni
20 app. readers
15 instructors
Major new gift pending

Major new gift pending
A Look to the Future

Expand YYGS on campus from 1,450 participants in 2018 to ~3,000 participants in 2020
  • Retain social science & STEM sessions
  • Expand to humanities (2019) & other sessions (2020)
  • Develop & implement detailed budget & staffing plan

Increase number of high-quality, full-pay applicants to YYGS
  • Expand promotion & outreach
  • Identify target schools based on market research, in consultation with Undergraduate Admissions

Further establish the model for YYGS Asia sessions
  • Evaluate Yale Center Beijing session from summer 2018
  • Consider expansion opportunities based on participant demand & donor interest in China & elsewhere

Ensure the continuation & possible growth of YYAS
  • Renew Masiyiwa / Higherlife Foundation gift to YYAS and identify additional partners
  • Exceed 1,000 YYAS alumni from ~35 African nations & ~250 secondary schools
YYAS videos
DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES & SKILLS

The Associate Director serves as the chief operating officer of YYAS, a fast-growing program that is a central component of the Yale Africa Initiative. The Associate Director will oversee all facets of the program, to include: managing a team of two full-time staff and fifteen summer instructors; marketing, admissions, and curriculum design; overseeing a budget of approximately $1 million; partner and donor relations; and administering post-program online mentorship for African high school students from over 30 countries.

Required Experience and Education:
- Bachelor’s Degree in related field and five years of experience or an equivalent combination of education and related experience.

Required Skills and Abilities:
- Demonstrated ability with developing and managing programs or education organizations geared towards high-achieving, low-income young adults, especially with respect to African or other international students.
- Strong interpersonal skills, with a demonstrated ability to interact with a range of individuals including high school and university-age students, faculty members, foundation partners, and staff on a wide variety of academic and administrative issues.
- Demonstrated flexibility to adapt to changing work demands, manage teams, and maintain effective partnerships in a high-pressure environment. Excellent organization, accuracy, attention to detail, oral and written communication skills, and financial acumen.
- Strong familiarity with the university admissions and financial aid process, especially with respect to African or other international students.
- Experience with international travel and willingness to spend at least one month in Africa to administer the YYAS program each year, from late July to late August.

Preferred Education, Experience, and Skills:
- Advanced degree in a field relevant to the academic content of YYAS.
- Experience managing financial and administrative operations in a university setting.
- Fluency in French, Arabic, or another major language spoken on the African continent.
- Familiarity with Slate or other customer relationship management (CRM) software that is used to manage large online admissions processes.

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