



BAU BAHÇEŞEHİR
UNIVERSITY

SDG 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



2023–2024

BAU AT A GLANCE

Since its foundation in 1998, the vision of BAU has been to be a global university known for its contribution to scientific, technological, and cultural knowledge through innovative education models and research approaches that reflect international standards as well as service to society. Currently, BAU Global Network comprises of 6 universities (Istanbul, Washington D.C., Berlin, Cyprus, Batumi, Plymouth), 5 liaison offices (BAU Global Azerbaijan Jordan, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, Pakistan) and 5 language schools.

As one of the leading universities in Türkiye, BAU aims primarily to improve the living standards of the local and global society by integrating the sustainable development goals into its corporate processes and culture, educational programs, academic research practices and stakeholder collaborations. BAU with its staff members, students and alumni is a big academic community who are raised as good global citizens committed to each x and the world around them and always act with the utmost sense of ethics and social responsibility.

BAU WITH NUMBERS

- 7 campuses in Istanbul
- 10 faculties, 1 conservatory, 2 vocational schools
- 54 BA programs, 187 MA programs, 30 PhD. programs
- 28 research and application centers
- 149 labs, workshops/studios, incubation centers
- 229 Erasmus partner universities, 96 world exchange partners
- 854 full-time faculty members, 449 administrative staff members
- 19.287 undergraduate students, 3.500 graduate students, 478 doctora degree
- students
- 81 student clubs
- 238 externally funded projects between 2023-2024
- 410 industry partnerships & projects between 2023-2024

BAU IN THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION

BAU participates in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings since 2019. According to the current rankings, BAU belongs to the 801-1000 band in the World University Rankings, 59th in the Impact Rankings and the 173th in the Young University Rankings 2024. Also, BAU is ranked among the top 5 universities in Türkiye.

The university continuously increases its standing in categories related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. As of 2025, BAU holds the following standings in the THE Impact Rankings;

- 7 th in Quality Education
- 50 th in Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 2nd in Gender Equality
- Ranks between 101-200 in Reducing Inequalities
- Ranks between 201-300 in Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Ranks between 401-600 in Sustainable Cities and Communities

The University takes the above-mentioned rankings as evaluation criteria for progress regarding its adherence and contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and will continue to report its advancement in the rankings on a yearly basis.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Sustainable Urban Development and Community Resilience at Bahçeşehir University

Bahçeşehir University (BAU), guided by its commitment to sustainable development and urban resilience, integrates the principles of Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11) across education, research, and institutional operations. The university's multidisciplinary approach—spanning architecture, design, governance, technology, and the arts—ensures that sustainability is not only an environmental objective but also a cultural, social, and civic responsibility.

BAU's Faculty of Architecture and Design plays a central role in advancing this vision by focusing on disaster-resilient, environmentally conscious, and inclusive urban systems. Through its academic programs and international collaborations, the Faculty develops innovative approaches to sustainable city planning, post-disaster reconstruction, and the integration of green technologies into architectural design. Projects such as the Urban Reconstruction of the Old Town of Antakya, carried out in collaboration with Mukogawa Women's University and supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs of Japan, exemplify this commitment. These initiatives contribute to preserving cultural and historical heritage while developing adaptive strategies that reduce the adverse effects of natural disasters and enhance community resilience.

Within the same framework, the Local Governance Academy and the Local Advocacy School, organized by the Government Leadership School (HLO) and the Center for Migration and Urban Studies (BAUMUS), provide capacity-building programs for local administrators, policymakers, and municipal leaders. These initiatives strengthen participatory governance, improve strategic planning, and encourage data-driven policy development. By fostering cooperation between academia, public institutions, and civil society, they create inclusive platforms that empower local authorities to build sustainable, equitable, and resilient cities across Türkiye.

Institutionally, Bahçeşehir University reinforces its sustainability commitment through tangible practices such as the successful implementation of the Zero Waste Management System across all campuses, resulting in the university's certification at the Basic Level of Zero Waste by the Turkish Environment Agency. This achievement reflects the collective effort of BAU's administrative and academic units to reduce environmental impact, promote responsible consumption, and cultivate sustainable campus operations that model environmentally conscious behavior for the broader community.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

In the field of technological innovation and sustainable agriculture, BAU also contributes to national dialogues on integrating artificial intelligence into rural development through platforms such as the National Policy Forum on Artificial Intelligence and Technology in Hazelnut Farming, held in cooperation with public and regional stakeholders. These collaborations demonstrate how digital transformation can enhance both urban and rural resilience, bridging the gap between smart technologies and sustainable production systems.

Complementing these efforts, the BAU Conservatory supports SDG 11 through its commitment to protecting and promoting cultural heritage. By fostering dialogue between traditional and contemporary music practices, the Conservatory serves as a bridge between local identity and global creativity, preserving intangible cultural assets for future generations.

Through its diverse academic, research, and institutional initiatives, Bahçeşehir University continues to contribute to the development of inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable communities. By uniting urban innovation, governance, education, and cultural preservation, BAU not only strengthens the foundations of sustainable city life but also reaffirms its role as a leading higher education institution shaping the future of sustainable urban transformation.

BAU 7th Local Advocacy School – “Inclusive and Sustainable Cities”



On 24–25 May 2024, Bahçeşehir University’s Center for Urban Studies (BAUMUS), in collaboration with the Marmara Municipalities Union (MMU) and the Association for Local Monitoring, Research and Implementation (YERELİZ), and with the support of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Turkey Office, organized the 7th Local Advocacy School.

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The two-day training program was designed to build the capacity of local government professionals and policymakers from across the Istanbul metropolitan region, equipping them with the skills and knowledge required for participatory and sustainable strategic planning.

Held on the first day at the Marmara Municipalities Union headquarters and on the second day at Bahçeşehir University's Beşiktaş Campus, the program focused on strengthening municipal teams during Türkiye's post-election strategic planning period. Participants explored how to develop inclusive, data-driven, and SDG-aligned local strategies that respond to urban challenges such as climate adaptation, social policy, and equitable resource allocation.

The training covered the structure of municipal systems, roles of local actors, and the functions and methodologies of strategic planning. Modules included sessions on participatory governance, local advocacy, and integration of Sustainable Development Goals into local policy frameworks. The program concluded with a hands-on strategic planning exercise, where municipal representatives collaborated to design sample strategic plans reflecting both global indicators and local priorities.

Now in its seventh iteration, the Local Advocacy School has become a model for capacity-building and outreach education among local governments in Türkiye. By fostering cooperation between universities, municipalities, and civil society organizations, the initiative serves as a neutral and inclusive platform that empowers local policymakers to design sustainable urban policies.

Through this program, Bahçeşehir University contributes directly to Sustainable Development Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening local governance, promoting transparency, and advancing collaborative, evidence-based policymaking.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

National Policy Forum on Artificial Intelligence and Technology in Hazelnut Farming (December 2024)



Held in Giresun under the coordination of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Giresun Governorship, the National Policy Forum on Artificial Intelligence and Technology in Hazelnut Farming brought together a wide network of stakeholders, including Bahçeşehir University (BAU), Giresun University, the Eastern Black Sea Development Agency (DOKA), and multiple public, academic, and private institutions. The forum focused on developing a national roadmap for integrating artificial intelligence and digital technologies into Türkiye's agricultural production systems, particularly in the hazelnut sector, which holds strategic importance for the national economy. With its expertise in AI applications, sustainable food systems, and policy research, Bahçeşehir University contributed to shaping data-driven, innovative, and resilient strategies that support sustainable rural development and strengthen local agricultural communities, aligning with efforts to build more inclusive and sustainable cities and regions.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Bahçeşehir University Local Governance Academy 2024



For more than two decades, Bahçeşehir University's International Leadership Practice and Research Center (ULMER) has played a leading role in cultivating future policymakers and public leaders through its Government Leadership School. Established as one of Türkiye's pioneering university-based leadership development institutions, the School has consistently provided comprehensive education programs, seminars, and projects designed to strengthen the capacity of individuals engaged in governance and public policy.

Building upon this long-standing tradition of excellence, the Local Governance Academy was launched under the Government Leadership School to extend ULMER's mission to the local level. Recognizing the critical role that municipalities and local authorities play in achieving sustainable development, the Academy focuses on empowering local administrators and policymakers through specialized certification programs.

In the 2023-2024 academic year, the Local Governance Academy offered structured capacity-building training for municipal personnel, policy practitioners, and individuals aspiring to work in local governance. Its curriculum addresses a wide range of pressing issues, including urbanization and smart cities, digital transformation in public administration, migration and refugee management, environmental sustainability, and climate-resilient urban planning.

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The program also aims to enhance the analytical and decision-making skills of participants, helping them adapt to the complex realities of modern urban governance. Through interactive sessions, case-based discussions, and applied learning modules, the Academy fosters a culture of participatory, inclusive, and data-driven policymaking. The Academy represents an important example of education and capacity-building for policymakers, empowering local government representatives with knowledge and skills in sustainable urban management, social participation, disaster recovery, and environmental resilience.

Participants included nine mayors from different municipalities across Türkiye, representing both metropolitan and regional administrations: Beşiktaş, Üsküdar, Avcılar, Beylikdüzü, Bağcılar, Fatih, Altınordu, Payas, and Onikişubat. In addition, senior public officials, such as Refik Tuzcuoğlu, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, participated alongside academics from Bahçeşehir University and other institutions, including Prof. Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu, Prof. Dr. Esra Albayrakioğlu, and Prof. Dr. Ebru Canan-Sokullu.

Bringing together leaders from different political parties and diverse professional backgrounds, the Local Governance Academy exemplified Bahçeşehir University's commitment to serving as a neutral, inclusive platform for constructive dialogue. Through its academic expertise and nonpartisan engagement, BAU facilitates knowledge-sharing and cooperation between academia, local governments, and national institutions, contributing to evidence-based policymaking and good governance practices.

Through this initiative, Bahçeşehir University continues to advance SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by linking research, training, and practical policy development for inclusive and sustainable local governance.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Revitalization of the Historical and Cultural Texture of Cities Damaged by Disasters Project (March 2024)



Within the scope of the project "Revitalization of the Historical and Cultural Texture of Cities Damaged by Disasters", launched in collaboration between Bahçeşehir University and Mukogawa University of Japan, Japanese experts conducted field studies in Antakya. The project aimed to identify effective methods to restore the city's historical fabric and cultural essence after the devastating February 6 earthquake, contributing to the reduction of the adverse effects of natural disasters.

Byzantine Architecture in Outline: Examples from Istanbul and Anatolia (18.04.2024)



within the scope of the ARC1028 History and Theory of Architecture I course, Prof. Dr. Turgut Saner gave a seminar titled "Byzantine Architecture in Outline: Examples from Istanbul to Anatolia." Open to all students, the seminar offered a detailed exploration of Byzantine architectural heritage, examining significant examples across the regions of Istanbul and Anatolia. Through this session, participants deepened their understanding of architectural continuity, cultural exchange, and the preservation of historical structures, fostering an appreciation for the enduring influence of Byzantine design in shaping the built environment.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

The Second Stage of the “Urban Reconstruction of the Old Town of Antakya” Research Project



As part of the second stage of the research project “Urban Reconstruction of the Old Town of Antakya” (financially supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs of Japan), Asst. Prof. Dr. Sinem Kültür and Res. Asst. Ayşe Eda Adıgüzel joined Mukogawa University’s research team in Japan. They contributed to discussions with Japanese professors and graduate students, sharing local perspectives, and participated in the research and data analysis phases.

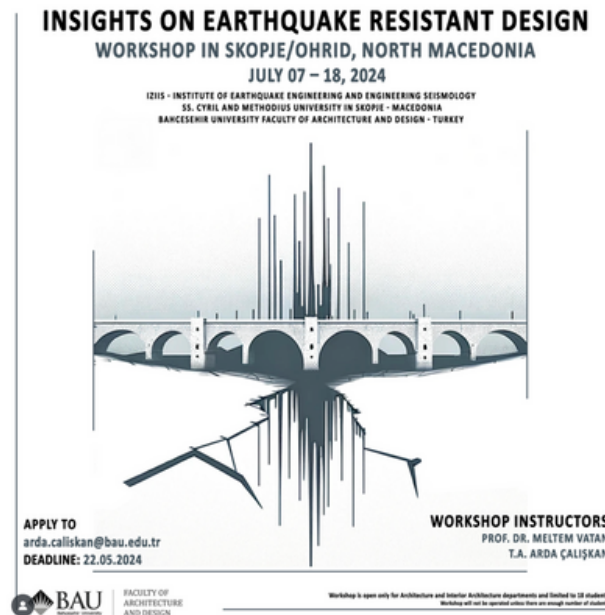
During their stay, several technical visits were conducted to institutions such as E-Defense, E-Isolation, and the Disaster Prevention Research Institute at Kyoto University, along with the Port of Kobe Earthquake Memorial Park and Gran Green Osaka urban park—sites that exemplify Japan’s advanced disaster prevention and resilience strategies. The researchers also examined reconstructed heritage architecture in Kobe to observe the integration of seismic isolation systems in historic structures.

Throughout the two-week program, Kültür and Adıgüzel actively participated in studio work, model-making, and design critiques, fostering international academic exchange on post-disaster reconstruction and urban resilience. The Japanese stage of the project concluded with master’s student presentations, while the Turkish stage will culminate in a closing symposium at Bahçeşehir University on November 7.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Insights on Earthquake Resistant Design: Workshop in North Macedonia (07-18.06.2024)



The workshop "Insights on Earthquake Resistant Design" held in North Macedonia brought together students and professionals to explore structural resilience and design strategies that enhance safety in earthquake-prone regions. Participants engaged in lectures, simulations, and hands-on design exercises, focusing on integrating seismic considerations into contemporary architectural and urban planning practices. The workshop encouraged knowledge exchange on sustainable construction methods and engineering innovations that mitigate disaster risks while promoting safer, more resilient urban environments.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

BAUPRO Course: Sustainable Smart Cities



The “Sustainable Smart Cities” course offered by the BAU School of Professional Studies (BAUPRO) explored how urban design, technology, and governance can be harmonized to create cities that truly serve people rather than systems. Drawing inspiration from global examples such as Barcelona’s low-carbon strategies, Copenhagen’s carbon-neutral goals, and Vienna’s human-centered urban model, the course examined best practices in building resilient, inclusive, and livable cities. Participants discussed the importance of adapting international smart city principles to local contexts—emphasizing solutions that enhance human well-being, accessibility, and environmental responsibility. By focusing on sustainable urban planning and citizen-oriented innovation, this program contributed to developing the capacity needed for more adaptive and future-ready communities.

<https://bausem.bau.edu.tr/egitim/surdurulebilir-akilli-sehirler.html>

Bahçeşehir University Achieves Zero Waste Certification Across All Campuses



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Bahçeşehir University successfully obtained the Zero Waste Basic Level Certificate for all its campuses and buildings, marking a significant achievement in its institutional sustainability journey. Coordinated by the Zero Waste Executive Board, the process involved the meticulous preparation and submission of required reports to the Turkish Environment Agency, completion of entries for all educational and administrative buildings in the EÇBS system, and authorization of administrative supervisors. Prior to the inspections, all necessary materials and infrastructural adjustments were completed, while post-evaluation improvements were swiftly addressed. The university also conducted comprehensive Zero Waste training sessions for academic and administrative staff, produced educational materials, and ensured the integration of sustainable practices into daily operations. Through this systematic and collaborative effort, Bahçeşehir University demonstrated its dedication to minimizing environmental impact, promoting responsible waste management, and fostering a sustainable campus model that contributes to more resilient and environmentally conscious urban communities.

https://aday.bau.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Sifir_atik_belgeleri.pdf

BAU Radio Fest: Seminar on Animal Welfare in the Context of Sustainable Development Goals (14.10.2024)



At the BAU Radio Fest, CIFAL Istanbul Deputy Director Dr. Yasemin Ülker gave her insights in a session on Animal Welfare in the Context of the SDGs. The discussion addressed how animal welfare intersects with sustainability efforts and the university's contributions in this field, particularly in shaping healthier and more livable urban environments and protecting stray animals' rights. Following the session, CIFAL Istanbul team met with Haçiko Foundation to explore future collaborations and joint projects that can strengthen partnerships for broader impact.



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“Eco-Campus for A High School” Design Project (Fall Semester 2024)



In the fall semester, students of ARC3001 design studio focused on the “Eco-Campus for a High School” project, exploring how architecture can actively promote environmental sustainability and ecological awareness within educational settings. Through this project, students examined the intersection of design, community, and sustainability—developing creative solutions that integrate green infrastructure, renewable energy systems, and adaptable learning environments. The studio encouraged future architects to envision schools as living laboratories that not only serve educational purposes but also inspire environmental consciousness and sustainable behavior among users.

“Reviving the Historical Urban Fabric of Antakya” International Symposium (07.11.2024)



The symposium “Reviving the Historical Urban Fabric of Antakya”, jointly organized by the BAU Faculty of Architecture and Design and Mukogawa University in Japan, with the support of the Agency for Cultural Affairs of Japan, was held at Bahçeşehir University’s Fazıl Say Conference Hall. The event presented the research outcomes and design proposals developed under the international project aimed at preserving and revitalizing Antakya’s historic city texture.

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During the symposium, Turkish and Japanese academics shared their findings and strategies for the sustainable restoration of Antakya's unique cultural identity, focusing on ways to safeguard its architectural heritage while enhancing its resilience against natural disasters. With simultaneous translation in Turkish and Japanese, the symposium fostered cross-cultural academic dialogue and contributed to the global effort of protecting and sustaining historic urban environments.



Sympoietic Thinking the Dialogues of Urban Life Workshop (07.12.2024)



This workshop, inspired by Bruno Latour and Donna Haraway, questioned the boundaries between nature and culture while promoting co-production between human and non-human actors. Using Yıldız Park as a living lab, students observed diverse life practices and documented them through creative methods to propose a shared model of coexistence. The activity encouraged collaboration and awareness of urban ecology, exploring how design can foster more symbiotic relationships within cities.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Part-Time Children's Conservatory at Ordu-Giresun Enver Yücel Campus (17.01.2024)



Under the guidance of BAU Conservatory, the Part-Time Children's Conservatory event at the Ordu-Giresun Enver Yücel Campus highlighted the importance of integrating arts education at an early age. Aslıhan Umar, Founding Director of BAU Conservatory and Cultural Arts Advisor to the BAU Board of Trustees, emphasized how an interdisciplinary approach enhances cultural creativity. During the two-day program, Prof. Dr. Hyun Sook Tekin led a music masterclass, while Assoc. Prof. Dr. Senem Cevher conducted the "Play-ing Workshop," encouraging students to express themselves through art and performance. By fostering children's access to the arts and nurturing creativity, the event contributed to preserving local culture and ensuring its continuity for future generations, reinforcing the cultural and social fabric of the community.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

ERASMUS+ Program with Prof. Andrea Cavuoto (13-16.02.2024)



As part of the Erasmus+ program, BAU Conservatory hosted renowned cellist Prof. Andrea Cavuoto from the Conservatory of Cuneo, Italy, for an intensive training program between February 13–16. Throughout the program, Prof. Cavuoto led a historical seminar on Johann Sebastian Bach, held a public masterclass for Turkey’s talented cello students, and conducted chamber music workshops with BAU Conservatory students. The program culminated in a concert featuring the workshop participants, followed by a performance of Baroque period pieces presented by Prof. Dr. Hyun Sook Tekin, Lecturer Şafak Erişkin, and Prof. Cavuoto. Through this collaboration, students not only refined their artistic skills but also contributed to preserving and sharing Europe’s classical music heritage—an integral part of sustaining cultural identity and continuity across generations.

Shakespeare's Memory in Türkiye (19.02.2024)



In this talk, Prof. Dr. Cevat Çapan shared the adaptation journey of Peter Stein’s play Shakespeare’s Memory, originally staged by one of Germany’s leading theatres, Schaubühne, into its Turkish version Karanlıktan Aydınlığa, created at the request of Muhsin Ertuğrul. The session explored how Shakespeare’s legacy has evolved within Turkish theatre and how cultural reinterpretations bridge artistic traditions between nations. By revisiting and contextualizing global literary heritage through local creativity, the event underscored the importance of preserving and revitalizing cultural memory as a cornerstone of resilient and inclusive communities.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

BAU Women's Folk Music Ensemble "International Women's Day Special Concert" (07.03.2024)



The BAU Women's Folk Music Ensemble presented a special concert for International Women's Day, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Anatolia and its surrounding regions through polyphonic interpretations of folk songs in various languages. Formed at the end of 2023 under BAU Conservatory, the ensemble aims not only to preserve and reinterpret traditional musical expressions but also to empower women performers by highlighting and nurturing their individual artistic talents. By uniting diverse cultural voices in harmony, this initiative contributes to sustaining intangible cultural heritage and fostering communities that value inclusivity, creativity, and cultural continuity.

Spring Concert: The Folk Songs of Our Land (02.05.2024)



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

The "Songs of Our Land Choir," composed of Bahçeşehir Uğur Educational Institutions' employees and students, has come together under the motto "Come, let's sing together." Conducted by esteemed musician and TRT Choir Conductor Zafer Gündoğdu, the choir performed on May 2 at Bahçeşehir University's Beşiktaş South Campus. Through folk songs that revive the melodies of different regions of Turkey, the concert celebrated the nation's cultural richness and collective memory. This initiative not only strengthened the bond between generations and communities but also emphasized the importance of safeguarding and passing on musical traditions as living expressions of shared heritage.

Electroacoustic Improvisation Concert (10.05.2024)



İpek Eğinli, an experimental musician based in the U.S., presented her creative work in electroacoustic improvisation at BAU Pera Stage on May 10. During the session, she shared her experiences with free improvisation, extended techniques, graphic scores, and the use of noise on piano and modular synthesizers, offering students a unique opportunity to explore innovative approaches in sound and contemporary music. This event highlighted the importance of nurturing experimental artistic practices as a way to preserve and expand cultural expression.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Artistic Performance for The Presentation of Contemporary Plays from Slovak Theatre (06.06.2024)



Students from Bahçeşehir University Conservatory in Istanbul delivered a distinguished artistic performance for the presentation of Contemporary Plays from Slovak Theatre. Realized through collaboration between Theatre IST and the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Ankara, the project emphasized cross-cultural exchange and showcased how performing arts contribute to preserving and transmitting cultural heritage.

2nd International UTAD Theatre Research Conference: Existence, Tradition and Future (5-7.09.2024)



The 2nd International UTAD Theatre Studies Conference, supported by TUBITAK as Turkey's first and most comprehensive academic theatre conference, was hosted by Bahçeşehir University Conservatory from September 5-7, 2024. Under the theme "Existence, Tradition, and Future," the conference brought together over 120 scholars and artists from Turkey and around the world, including participants from 10 countries. The program featured academic paper presentations, acting and performing arts workshops, panel discussions, and live performances, fostering both scholarly exchange and artistic expression.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Distinguished speakers included Prof. Dr. Helen Gilbert, from Royal Holloway University of London, on “Microdrama, Climate Activism, and Epic Dramaturgy”, Jaroslav Fret, director of the globally renowned Grotowski Institute, on “Intercultural Theatre”, Prof. Richard J. Kemp, from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, with a youth-focused workshop on “Neuroscience and Acting”, and Prof. Dr. Dikmen Gür n, from Kadir Has University, on the journey of “Turkish Theatre from Past to Present”. The conference highlighted the crucial role of theatre in preserving cultural memory, nurturing artistic heritage, and fostering intergenerational knowledge, while also promoting cross-cultural dialogue, encouraging collaboration among diverse creative communities, and inspiring innovative approaches that ensure the vitality and continuity of performing arts traditions for future generations.



Children’s Conservatory Certificate Program (2024)



Başvuru Tarihi:
15 Ekim - 26 Ekim 2024

Se meler:
26 Ekim 2024 Cumartesi Saat: 11.00

The BAU Conservatory & Part-Time Children’s Conservatory Music Education Certificate Program opens its selection process to bring together its academic foundation with emerging young talents. Students currently in the 5th grade who wish to begin their music education under the guidance of our professional faculty have the opportunity to join a structured program designed to cultivate musical skills, foster creativity, and nurture a lifelong appreciation for the arts, while ensuring that cultural traditions and musical heritage are actively passed on to the next generation.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Jazz Certificate Program (05.10-01.06.2024)



The Jazz Certificate Program at BAU Conservatory provided comprehensive training for aspiring jazz musicians, combining both theoretical knowledge and practical skills. The curriculum included jazz history, stylistic analysis, ear training, jazz theory, and rhythmic analysis, alongside ensemble work for instruments and vocals. Students also received individual lessons for all instruments, including specialized vocal workshops, ensuring a well-rounded development in jazz performance and musicianship while fostering a vibrant and collaborative learning environment.

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Epic Theatre in Türkiye (24.09.2024)

BAU Konservatuvar
Akademik Yıl İlk Dersi
Rutkay Aziz
Türkiye'de Epik Tiyatro Geleneği



24 Eylül 2024 | 11.00
BAU Pera Sahne

The new academic year at BAU Conservatory began with a masterclass by esteemed artist Rutkay Aziz, who presented his inaugural lecture on “Epic Theatre in Türkiye,” offering students an in-depth exploration of the historical development, techniques, and cultural significance of epic theatre in the Turkish context.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

34. Annual Akbank Jazz Festival: JAmZZ Masterclass



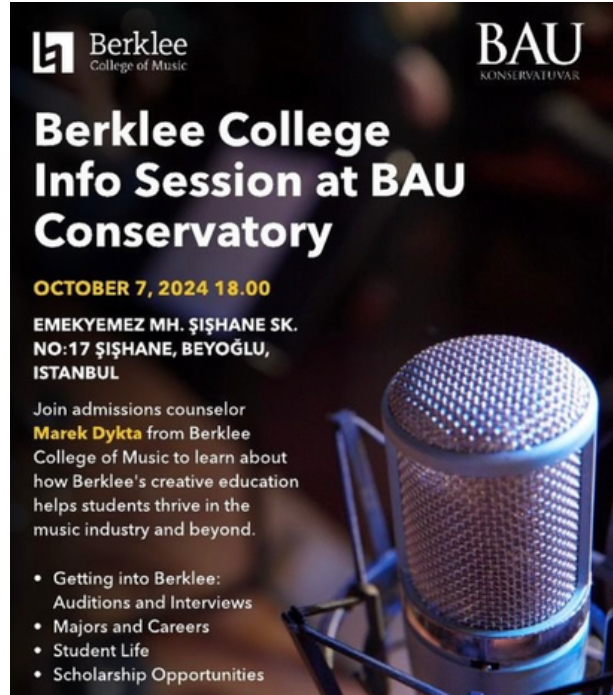
As part of the 34th Akbank Jazz Festival, the JAmZZ Masterclass was held at BAU Pera Stage on September 21-22, organized by BAU Conservatory in collaboration with Zuhall Music. The program aimed to provide opportunities for emerging talents and support young musicians, with guidance from BAU Conservatory and BAUJAZZ Academy faculty members Baki Duyarlar, Yeşim Pekiner, Berke Özgümüş, Şevket Akıncı, Şenova Ülker, and Kağan Yıldız, one of the founding instructors of the Jazz Academy.

During the masterclass, attended by exceptionally talented jazz musicians, the jury unanimously selected Göksu Köse (Guitar) and Kaşif Şahin Düşko (Saxophone) to participate in the 2025 Berklee at Umbria Jazz Clinics with the support of the Akbank Jazz Festival, while Berkay Sümbül (Drums) earned the opportunity to perform at the 35th Akbank Jazz Festival.

https://www.akbanksanat.com/en/event/34-akbank-caz-festivali-jamzz-masterclass-programi-21-22_10_24

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Berklee College Info Session at BAU Conservatory (07.10.2024)



Marek Dykta, Assistant Director of the Berklee College of Music International Office responsible for Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, as well as a distinguished jazz guitarist and educator, gave a seminar at BAU Conservatory Pera. During the session, participants received detailed information about Berklee College's local and international academic programs, institutional partnerships, interview processes, scholarship opportunities, and career prospects in the global music industry.

World Music from Kansas City to Anatolia (08.10.2024)



Cellist Dr. Ezgi Karakuş, who completed her graduate studies in Kansas City, and guitarist Beau Bledsoe, her fellow musician from Ensemble Ibérica, visited BAU Conservatory during their trip to Türkiye. The Ibérica Duo presented a musical talk featuring performances that reflected a rich repertoire of world music from different geographies, offering the audience a unique cross-cultural experience.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Masterclass by Gülsin Onay (09.10.2024)



The world-renowned pianist Gülsin Onay met with BAU Conservatory students for a masterclass. In this special session, Onay shared her artistic experiences, interpretative approaches, and performance techniques that have shaped her distinguished career. The masterclass offered young musicians the opportunity to gain insight into expressive depth, stage presence, and the intricate nuances of piano interpretation through the perspective of one of Türkiye's most celebrated artists.

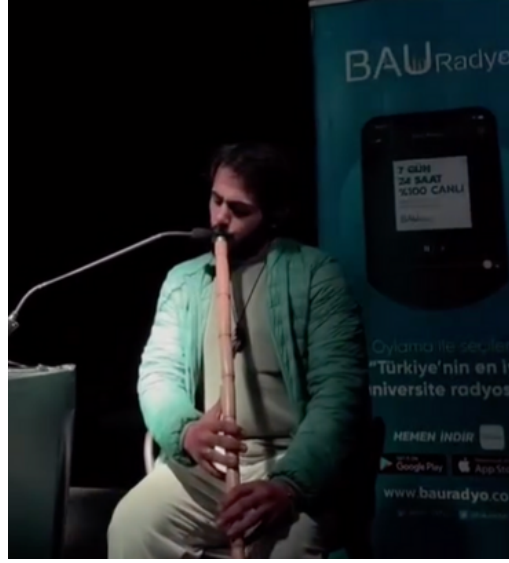
Beyond Borders: A Musical Odyssey



Prof. Dr. Hyun Sook Tekin, renowned pianist and Head of the BAU Music Department, performed a remarkable piano recital in the United States as part of the Boston Turkish Cultural and Art Festival. In this concert, she presented a rich repertoire spanning centuries and continents, including Ahmet Adnan Saygun's "From Anatolia" (Op.25), which reflects the cultural essence of Türkiye. The program also featured works ranging from the romantic depth of Schubert's Sonata D664 to the passionate tones of Granados' Poetic Waltzes, offering the audience a captivating musical journey. Prof. Dr. Tekin further enriched the recital with her interpretations of Bach and Chopin, demonstrating her refined artistry and technical mastery.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Concert With Istanbul DJ Academy



BAU Conservatory graduate and accomplished musician Neyzen Mahmut Ergin performed a unique set in collaboration with Istanbul DJ Academy, blending the rich tones of traditional Turkish music with the dynamic rhythms of electronic music. This performance reflected the creative fusion of cultural heritage and contemporary sound, showcasing the innovative spirit and artistic versatility nurtured at BAU Conservatory.

BAU Conservatory Music Department Seminars: "The Business, Practical, Creative and Analytical View of Orchestration" (01.11.2024)



At BAU Conservatory, Dr. Norman Ludwin, renowned bassist and orchestration expert, led an immersive session on "The Business, Practical, Creative and Analytical View of Orchestration." Drawing on his experience with iconic films such as The Matrix, Star Trek, Lost, Fringe, and Beauty and the Beast, DGr. Ludwin offered students a comprehensive exploration of musical textures, orchestration techniques, score preparation, analytical approaches, and film music case studies. The session also featured performances of his own compositions and an interactive Q&A, providing students with direct insight into professional orchestration practices and fostering a deeper appreciation for the artistry and technical mastery behind cinematic music.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Celebrating The 100th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations Between Japan and Türkiye:
“Turkish-Japanese Friendship Rakugo and Comedy” (03.11.2024)



The “Turkish-Japanese Friendship Rakugo and Comedy” event, celebrating the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Türkiye, took place on the Atlas 1948 stage. Organized in collaboration with The Japan Foundation, The Consulate General of Japan in Istanbul and Komedi Kulüp, the event offered an insightful exploration of the 400-year-old Rakugo storytelling tradition and its enduring role in connecting humor with modern society. Moderated by actor Sarp Apak, a founding member of Komedi Kulüp, and featuring Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bülent Sezgin from BAU Conservatory’s Performing Arts Department, the program highlighted the intersection of intercultural exchange, theater history, and comedic performance. Attendees experienced live performances by prominent Rakugo artists from Japan, accompanied by Japanese subtitles, providing a vivid encounter with cultural heritage and the global significance of humor in the performing arts.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

BAU Conservatory Music Department Seminars: "The Legend of Beethoven and the Conquest of the Symphonic Genre by Nineteenth Century Women Composers" (07.11.2024)



Musicologist Dr. Mariacarla De Giorgi held a seminar at BAU Conservatory titled "The Legend of Beethoven and the Conquest of the Symphonic Genre by Nineteenth-Century Women Composers." The session examined the pioneering contributions of female composers including Louise Farrenc, Emilie Mayer, Louise Adolpha Le Beau, and Alice Mary Smith, emphasizing how their work shaped the symphonic tradition and contributed to the preservation and appreciation of cultural heritage.

Repertoire and Interpretation in Turkish Folk Music: Masterclass with Cengiz Özkan (18.11.2024 +14 weeks)



Renowned performer of Traditional Turkish Folk Music, Cengiz Özkan, led an intensive masterclass at BAU Conservatory, where he shared his extensive knowledge on style, interpretation, and performance techniques with aspiring musicians. The sessions highlighted the historical and cultural significance of Turkish folk music, emphasizing its role in preserving national identity and intergenerational knowledge. By engaging students in both practical exercises and discussions on musical tradition, the masterclass contributed to nurturing a deep appreciation for Turkey's rich folk heritage and ensured that these cultural expressions continue to inspire and resonate with future generations.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Turkish Music Concert: Songs Loved by Atatürk (11.11.2024)



The "Turkish Music Concert: Songs Loved by Atatürk" at BAU Conservatory celebrated the rich heritage of Turkish music while paying tribute to the personal musical tastes of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Featuring selections of traditional and classical Turkish compositions, the concert highlighted the cultural and historical significance of these works, emphasizing their enduring influence on Turkey's musical identity. Through skilled performances by conservatory students and faculty, the event offered audiences an immersive experience in the melodies and styles that shaped early Republican Turkey, fostering appreciation for the preservation and transmission of the nation's musical heritage.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

World Music Series: "Introduction to Hindustani Music: Tabla and Sitar Workshop" (22.11.2024)



The World Music Workshop Series at BAU Conservatory brought together distinguished artists from diverse musical traditions with music enthusiasts. As part of the series, renowned Indian musicians Shrikant Rao and Shipra Dhawan led an "Introduction to Hindustani Music: Tabla and Sitar Workshop," offering participants an immersive experience in Indian music culture, exploring intricate rhythms, melodic structures, and traditional ragas. This program fostered cross-cultural musical understanding while celebrating the preservation and transmission of global musical heritage.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Rumi Meets Bulleshah – Indo-Turkish Production: İsmet Aydın with Kachara Khan and Group (08.12.2024)



BAU Conservatory Director Dr. İsmet Aydın returned to Indian stages following an invitation after attending a concert in India as part of the G20 Summit. A special program was designed celebrating Mevlânâ Celâleddîn-i Rûmî and Bulleh Shah, two influential poets and philosophers whose works are treasured contributions from the Anatolian and Indian regions to global cultural heritage. On December 8, Dr. Aydın performed at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Museum in Mumbai, a venue chronicling India's history from prehistoric to modern times, serving as a bridge between diverse facets of Eastern culture through his voice and saz.

BAU Conservatory: Musicology Seminar Series: "Writing Music in Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Istanbul: Hamparsum and the Invention of Tradition" (13.12.2024)

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MÜZİKOLOJİ SEMİNERLERİ

**On Dokuzuncu Yüzyıl Osmanlı
İstanbul'unda Müziği Yazmak:
Hamparsum ve Geleneğin İcadı**

13 Aralık 2024 | Saat: 15.00

BAU Pera Sahne

Moderatör: **Dr. İsmet Aydın**

Dr. Tülin Değirmenci
Harvard University
CMES

Zoom linki: 

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SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

This seminar hosted Dr. Tülin Değirmenci from Harvard University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES), who presented "Writing Music in Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Istanbul: Hamparsum and the Invention of Tradition," offering an in-depth analysis of historical turning points in notation traditions and their transmission from Istanbul Music to the present day. Neyzen Mahmut Ergin, one of BAU Conservatory's first graduates, performed works transcribed from old manuscripts by Dr. Değirmenci, providing live examples that highlighted the rich sound history of Istanbul.



Rothoschool on Tour – Türkiye (19.01.2024)



The Rothoschool on Tour – Türkiye event, hosted by Bahçeşehir University's Faculty of Architecture and Design, brought together architects, engineers, and construction professionals to explore the growing field of timber construction. Featuring experts from Türkiye, Italy, and the UK, the program provided comprehensive insights into the technical, environmental, and aesthetic aspects of wooden structures, from earthquake resilience to passive house sustainability principles. Through lectures, case studies, and networking opportunities, participants developed the skills necessary to succeed in the expanding timber construction market while promoting the use of eco-friendly materials and low-carbon design strategies. The event also encouraged collaboration between academia and industry to foster innovation in sustainable building technologies.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Women in Architectural Education and Professional Practice: Barriers and Openings (29.04.2024)



Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Architecture and Design hosted the panel “Women in Architectural Education and Professional Practice: Barriers and Openings,” moderated by Prof. Dr. Nilay Ünsal Gülmez, with the participation of Prof. Dr. Neslihan Türkün Dostoğlu, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Işıl Çokuğraş, Architect Hayriye Sözen, Architect Alev Akın, and Architect Tuba Şehitoğlu. The discussion focused on the visibility of women in architecture across past, present, and future contexts, exploring challenges, opportunities, and strategies to promote inclusion and equality in both education and professional practice.

Galata Waterfront – Heritage and Renewal: City of Production or Entertainment (17.04–25.04.2024)



The workshop titled “Galata Waterfront – Heritage and Renewal: City of Production or Entertainment,” organized in collaboration with Özyeğin University and UNC Charlotte Design, focused on exploring the transformation of the Galata waterfront through the lens of urban heritage, adaptive reuse, and cultural regeneration. Participants examined the tension between preserving the area’s historical identity and its evolving role as a space for tourism, commerce, and recreation.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Integrating Sustainable Supply Chain, Industrial Symbiosis, and Waste Management (12.09.2024)



The Deputy Director of CIFAL Istanbul, Yasemin Ülker PhD., participated as a visiting scholar at Nova School of Science and Technology from 9–15 September, presenting her work on Integrating Sustainable Supply Chains, Industrial Symbolism, and Waste Management. Her presentation highlighted sustainable supply chains, industrial symbolism, and waste management, emphasizing the need to rethink processes and product features to reduce environmental impacts, support responsible production and consumption, and contribute to more sustainable urban development while addressing climate challenges.

CIFAL Istanbul Team's Visit to the Earthquake Zone in Malatya (13–15.12.2024)



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

On December 13, the CIFAL Istanbul team organized an educational event in Battalgazi, Malatya, titled "Heroes of Nature: Raising Awareness on Sustainability," bringing together children and their parents affected by the February 6 earthquakes. Through interactive presentations, participants learned about the mission of the United Nations and how individuals can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals. The discussions covered clean water, renewable energy, sustainable cities, and climate action, while emphasizing waste reduction and eco-friendly living practices. By supporting environmental awareness and community resilience, this initiative helped empower the people of Malatya as they rebuilt their lives after the devastating earthquakes, fostering both education and local engagement toward a more sustainable future.



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

TÜBİTAK Project: Ministry of Culture and Tourism – Directorate General for Copyright



Bah e ehir University continues to strengthen its contribution to cultural sustainability and creative industries through innovative research and production projects. Supported by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism – Directorate General for Copyright, the project titled “T rk D nyası Belgesel Yapımları” (Documentary Productions of the Turkic World), led by M. Agah Karadoğ an, received funding of 500,000 TL for a 9-month implementation period.

This initiative aims to document, preserve, and promote the shared cultural and artistic heritage of the Turkic world through contemporary visual storytelling techniques. By supporting creative expression and intercultural dialogue, the project contributes to the protection and transmission of intangible cultural heritage, fostering a deeper understanding of collective identity and diversity. Through such initiatives, Bah e ehir University plays a vital role in sustaining cultural continuity and advancing inclusive, resilient communities in line with SDG 11.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

TÜBİTAK Project: Analysis of Post-Invasion Migration from Ukraine to Türkiye and the Integration Processes of Migrants

Proje Yürütücüsü:
Dr. Ahmet Ceylan

Proje İsmi:
İşgal Sonrası Ukrayna'dan Türkiye'ye
Göç Hareketleri ve Göçmenlerin Uyum Süreçleri
Üzerine Analiz

Proje Bütçesi: 90.000,00 TL

Proje Süresi: 15 Ay

Proje Danışmanı:
Prof. Dr. Ulaş Sunata
BAU İktisadi, İdari ve Sosyal
Bilimler Fakültesi

Tebrik Ederiz

TTB BAU BAU 25

Bahçeşehir University advances its research in the field of migration and social inclusion through projects that address contemporary global challenges. Supported by TÜBİTAK, the project titled “İşgal Sonrası Ukrayna’dan Türkiye’ye Göç Hareketleri ve Göçmenlerin Uyum Süreçleri Üzerine Analiz” (Analysis of Post-Invasion Migration from Ukraine to Türkiye and the Integration Processes of Migrants) is led by Dr. Ahmet Ceylan with Prof. Dr. Ulaş Sunata from the BAU Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences serving as the project advisor. The project has received a budget of 90,000 TL for a 15-month research period.

Focusing on migration dynamics and social adaptation, the research explores the multidimensional impacts of displacement on both migrants and host communities. By generating evidence-based insights into integration processes, the project contributes to developing inclusive and sustainable urban strategies that support social cohesion and resilience. In this regard, the initiative aligns closely with SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, highlighting Bahçeşehir University’s commitment to creating equitable and inclusive urban environments.



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