





Foreword

Welcome to a special edition of the *Fulbright ETA Monthly Highlights* where we compile the best articles from September 2016-April 2017 editions.

This special edition starts with an article about orientation sessions that ETAs attended both in Washington DC and Bandung prior to their assignments in the 16 cities throughout the Indonesian archipelago and continues to the main section which showcase the best articles that are grouped into four categories as follows: in-classroom activities, after-school activities,

WORDS National Competition event, and cultural exchange activities.

AMINEF American Program
and Communications Teams

PS - The *Fulbright ETA Monthly Highlights* regular edition with articles from the new ETAs 2017/2018 cohort will be available on October in digital format. Be sure to read the wonderful stories and photos.

About the Fulbright ETA Program

The ETA Program, one of US State Department-funded Fulbright programs carried out in many countries throughout the world, places recent college graduates and young professionals as English teaching assistants in primary and secondary schools or universities overseas. The program helps improve foreign students' English-language abilities and knowledge of the United States while increasing the US student's own language skills and knowledge of the many host countries around the world.

In Indonesia, the Fulbright ETAs are placed in high schools (both SMA and madrasah) where they assist local English teachers. The program has now been going for 12 years and has affected many thousands of Indonesian students and their communities across the archipelago over that period. AMINEF, in charge of the Fulbright program in Indonesia since 1992, works closely with the Indonesian ministries of Education and Culture and Religious Affairs to administer the ETA program in Indonesia.

About the *Fulbright ETA Monthly Highlights*

The Highlights recount in an informal way the stories and experiences of the ETAs, their co-teachers and students, and the people in the communities where they are placed. We hope they

are informative and capture the special value of this program. We'd love to hear your feedback. Email us at: socmed@aminef.or.id

Greetings from Jakarta: An Introduction



Twenty nine Fulbright English Teaching Assistants (ETAs) have recently begun their assignments assisting English teachers across Indonesia. This year, ETAs will be assigned to 16 different cities throughout the archipelago: Pangkal Pinang, Bandar Lampung, Semarang, Kudus, Salatiga, Magelang, Malang, Sidoarjo, Surabaya, Kendari, Makassar, Gorontalo, Manado, Kupang and Labuan Bajo. They will live, assist English teachers, and learn at their sites for nine months.

ETAs first gathered for a Pre-Departure Orientation (PDO) in Washington D.C. June 9-13, alongside Fulbright Student Researchers and Scholars going to Indonesia and several other Southeast Asian and East Asian countries. All grantees participated in informational sessions regarding living and working in their host countries, and ETAs remained in D.C. for an additional two days to engage in sessions specifically catered to their role in the classroom.

After arriving in Indonesia, ETAs gathered again in Bandung September 1-18 to participate in an orientation held by the American Indonesian Exchange Foundation (AMINEF). During the orientation, AMINEF equipped the ETAs with various skills, such as intensive Indonesian language training, historical and cultural understanding, as well as teaching techniques, so that upon arriving at their sites they are better prepared for their role as an ETA; during the later portion of orientation ETAs were joined by their co-teachers for training and practicum teaching, to better prepare for their nine months together. Guest speakers at the orientation included several Indonesian experts such as Ibu Itje Chodidjah and Ibu Irid Agoes, a selection of former English Language Fellows, and the current Charge de Affairs, Brian McFeeters. **(First published on Edition September 2016)**

In-Classroom Activities

MAN 1 Kendari, Southeast Sulawesi

One of the first topics of the year in the 10th grade is to learn how to give and receive compliments. **ETA Mackenzie Findlay** decided to teach about compliments at MAN 1 Kendari by letting the students compliment one another. After learning related phrases and vocabulary, Mackenzie gave each student one sticky note. The students wrote their name at the top and then passed the sticky note to the person beside them. This person wrote a compliment to the person whose name was at the top and passed it on. Once every sticky note was full of compliments, the students pasted them to a poster board and hung it in the classrooms. The students were so proud to have something lasting to keep in their classroom and Mackenzie was thrilled by all the practice the



students had giving compliments. A great first lesson! **(First published on Edition September 2016)**



SMAN 2 Model Makassar, South Sulawesi

The week of January 23, **ETA Ayat Abourashed** did some spring cleaning and found sheet protectors in one of her binders. She decided to make these sheet protectors into “whiteboards” and create a lesson plan using her new tool. The students were learning about present perfect tense. Ayat put the students in pairs and each pair received a “whiteboard” and a marker. Ayat would write a sentence on the board with a blank where the verbs would go. The students had to come up with verbs in the present perfect tense and write them on their boards. The whole lesson was a success. The students in Grade 10 IKA loved the homemade boards so much they started dabbling in class! **(First published on Edition January 2017)**



**SMK Stella Maris
Labuan Bajo,
East Nusa Tenggara**

Bajo are focusing on the marine ecosystems in Komodo National Park. **ETA Sam Geary** is working together with fellow teachers, Pak Stefan (Maritime English teacher) and Pak Iren (NKPI Program

This semester, 10th and 11th grade NKPI (Nautical Program) students at SMK Stella Maris in Labuan

teacher), to create engaging English lessons and English Club activities related to maritime ecosystems and sustainability using English. Here, students participate in an activity designed by Pak Stefan in which they are learning fish anatomy terms in English, and practice actively identifying and locating the body parts. **(First published on Edition January 2017)**

In-Classroom Activities



ETA Kelly Fitzgerald has greatly enjoyed teaching at two different high schools in Indonesia over the course of two years. From all of the lessons she

**SMA Wachid Hasyim 2
Taman Sidoarjo
Sidoarjo, East Java**

has taught during this time, one of her all-time favorites was a final project she assigned to her students during the month of April. The students were put into groups of 4-6 and instructed to write a short story in English as part of the Narrative Text unit. Then the students were given a choice in how they would present the story to the class. Students could make

a storybook, comic book, play, or film. Students chose a project based on their talents and interests and Kelly was amazed at the results. No matter what project students chose to do, Kelly was impressed by the outcome. Some of the highlights from this project were some truly spectacular drawings, some very creative stories, some cinema-quality films, and some well-rehearsed plays which even included a *wayang kulit* [traditional shadow puppet] performance in English. Kelly is so proud of all of her students' hard work and is sad to be saying goodbye to them next month. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**

SMKN 2 Bandar Lampung, Lampung

On April 3rd, **ETA Matt Poissant** tried an activity that he learned at the MidYear Fulbright ETA

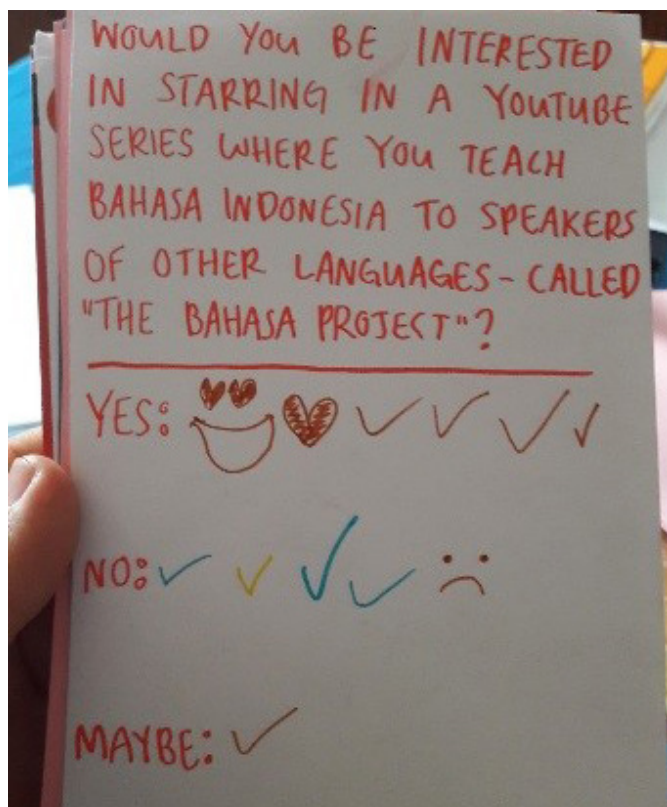
Conference, which he called speed reading. At MidYear it was demonstrated to the ETAs by Ibu Harumi from the University of Indonesia who had the ETAs pair up with a co-teacher and work together to answer a set of questions about a reading posted on the wall. The answering of the questions was framed as a race between the sets of pairs: only one person from each pair is allowed to go up and read the text while the other person can see the questions; this means one person must read the question to their partner and then the partner must go up to the text, find the answer, and relay to their partner the answer, who will then write it down.

Matt fell in love with this activity but was waiting for the right time to use it. Luckily the subject of Factual Reports came up in the curriculum, which Matt thought was perfect for this activity because he wanted to emphasize that when reading factual reports students don't have to understand every word or phrase in the text: they instead need to focus on picking out important information. Matt still had to be sure to modify the activity to account for the large number of students in his classes (35-40) because having them work in pairs would mean 18-20 students would be running back and forth which would be too difficult to supervise. Instead Matt made it into a group competition where each group had 4-5 students. There was one reading posted up front and each group would rotate the person they sent up as their "reading runner". Also the class was given one question at a time instead of an entire list to allow for better monitoring. When the reading runner found the answer (or what they thought was the answer) they had to return to their groups and relay the information. Matt told the students that the runner had to make sure everyone in their group knew the answer but the runner couldn't write the answer, only speak it (the other folks in the group



were allowed to write the answer for themselves when they heard it). Everyone in the group had to have their hand raised before Matt came over to randomly select one student to give the answer. The first group to get the correct answer earned 2 points and the second and third group earned 1 point. The reading was a news article about the improvement of fake arms for those who have lost an arm and it was from the website NEWSELA.com. Matt really enjoys this resource because it has a news article available at multiple reading levels. Regarding classroom management, Matt realized early on he had to pay close attention to the "reading runners" as he would often catch them trying to write the answer or he would see multiple students from the same group trying to be "reading runners" at the same time. It was a lot of work to supervise but Matt saw the "cheating" as a sign of engagement. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**

After-School Activities



SMAN 3 Kupang, East Nusa Tenggara

Julianne O'Connell. Julianne had met with the previous year's officers of English Club to discuss goals for the year and ideas for the first meeting. Though Julianne was told to expect around 200 students at the first English club only 1/10th of that amount showed up. At the last minute Julianne had to edit some of her activities to better suit the small group but it was not a big issue as these students still had a blast getting to know each

Students of SMAN 3 Kupang had their first English Club meeting of the year with **ETA**



other and Julianne better. They played several rounds of "I Like My Neighbor If..." and also two tournaments of Intense Rock, Paper, Scissors. Then the students illustrated some "About Me Cards." In the last quarter of the meeting the student officers discussed the process for the elections for the 2016-2017 school year and Julianne gave out surveys to gauge students' interest in various topics and projects. She also passed out American pennies as "oleh-oleh," or souvenirs. It was all a huge success and several students came up to thank the ETA and express excitement for the upcoming year. **(First published on Edition September 2016)**



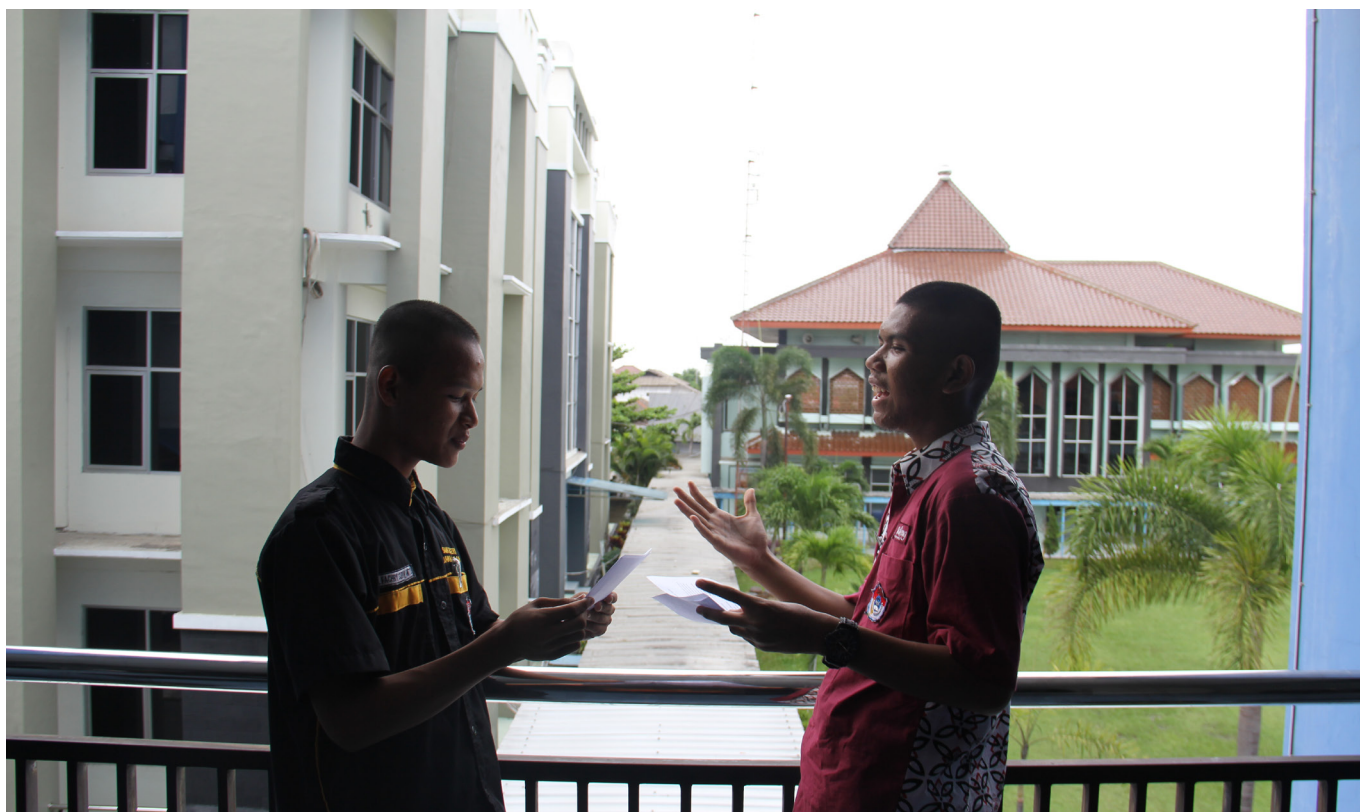
**SMKN 1 and
SMK Stella Maris,
Labuan Bajo,
East Nusa Tenggara**

Anna Katomski and **Sam Geary** coordinated with members of the local Education Department as well as with English teachers from their respective schools (SMKN 1 Labuan Bajo and SMK Stella Maris) in order to facilitate the establishment of the club, through which teachers meet monthly to do the

On October 13th, 2016, the Labuan Bajo English Teachers Club held its first meeting at SMAK Loyola in Labuan Bajo, NTT. **ETAs**

following: discuss successes and challenges in the classroom, receive professional development, and improve their English proficiency. At the first meeting, teachers representing around 5 different local high schools gathered together to collaborate, and discussed topics from recent teacher workshops, brainstormed goals for the club, and reflected upon English teaching in the region. Hopefully even more teachers will attend the second meeting in mid-November! **(First published on Edition October 2016)**

After-School Activities



SMK Negeri Jawa Tengah, Semarang

The Newspaper Club at SMKN Jawa Tengah was quite busy during the month of November. With the help of Pak Aziz and

ETA Kayla Stewart, the school's first newspaper club released its first newsletter of the year at the end of November. Students received the paper during their exams, and the hardworking writers of Newspaper Club got to see their work come to light in print form. The Newspaper Club also began their first venture into the Unity in Diversity community engagement project. Students boosted their photojournalism skills by talking with one another, asking thought-provoking questions in English and gaining photography skills while practicing with a DSLR camera. **(First published on Edition November 2016)**



After-School Activities

MAN1 Semarang, Central Java

As the end of the first semester came to a close, **ETA Edmund Pacleb**

worked with the students of MAN1 Semarang English club on a fun project that utilized the students' English and creative abilities. Using music and song as a way to practice English listening and pronunciation, Edmund tasked the English club to

learn an American song and create a music video where they were able to show off their awesome dance moves. The students chose The Lazy Song by Bruno Mars. With just a bit of editing left, MAN 1 Semarang English club is excited to share their project with the rest of Fulbright Indonesia. **(First Published on Edition November 2016)**

SMKN Jawa Tengah, Semarang

While December included a number of exams for students at SMK Negeri

Jawa Tengah, **ETA Kayla Stewart** helped coordinate a grade-wide English camp before wrapping up the semester.

On December 10, Kayla and **ETA Edmund Pacleb** helped give students a camp day to remember. Using school supplies, movies, and lots of candy, the ETAs tried to give the seniors the most authentic American camp experience possible. Students completed a campus-wide scavenger hunt, played board games, listened to American music, and even tried S'mores! After taking a quick break for dinner (Edmund, Kayla, and Pak Aziz enjoyed Semarang's



best satay at a warung down the street), students returned for a movie night. While enjoying leftover candy and traditional Indonesian snacks, students were inspired by the classic film, "The Bucket List." The first English camp at SMK was a true success, and will likely be followed by many more. **(First published on Edition December 2016)**

After-School Activities

SMK Negeri 1 Labuan Bajo, East Nusa Tenggara

The students of the 10th grade English Club at SMK Negeri 1 Labuan Bajo began an exciting new project on January 23, 2016. "Unity in Diversity" is a Community Engagement Project being conducted by some of this year's ETA cohort. The project aims to highlight differences and similarities across Indonesia, unify communities, and help students practice English. "Unity in Diversity" is based off of the famous photojournalism project, "Humans of New York."



Students are responsible for interviewing classmates and communities members using English.

During the January meeting, the English Club members of SMK Negeri 1 Labuan Bajo, with the help of **ETA Anna-Sophia Katomski**, interviewed each other using questions such as: "Why is education so important?," "Why should other parts of the world learn about Indonesian culture?," and "What makes you happy?" Their answers were recorded and their photos were taken, later to be published on the project's Facebook page titled, "Unity in Diversity: Collected Stories" and on the project's Instagram @unityindiversitystories. Students really enjoyed learning more about their classmates while also practicing their English. Interviews will continue with community members later on in the semester. Stay tuned! **(First published on Edition January 2017)**

After-School Activities



SMKN 1 Magelang & MAN 1 Magelang, Central Java

SMKN 1 and MAN 1 Magelang were fortunate enough to be selected as schools to participate in the Indonesia Youth Leadership Program On Demand 2017 (IYLP), run by the United States Embassy. Held in Bloomington, Indiana, IYLP is a fully funded month-long summer leadership and community service workshop for Indonesian high school students. **ETAs Julius Tsai** and **Siham Abdi** worked with students of SMKN 1 and MAN 1 through the application process which included a preliminary interview, a packet of essay questions, and multiple editing workshops. Of the sixty-plus students who applied, twelve made it to the final round of interviews which were held with staff from the U.S. Embassy. Despite their nervousness, students rose to the occasion to showcase their immense talents



and bold ambitions, making their teachers and ETA's very proud. **(First published on Edition January 2017)**

After-School Activities



**SMKN 2
Pangkalpinang,
Bangka-Belitung**

ETA Kiana Ward re-started a neighborhood English Club began by the pervious ETAs at her site, and this

neighborhood English Club has evolved from a sporadic tutoring session for a few neighborhood kids to weekly lesson for often more than twenty children, ranging from 4-18 years old. The children gather each week on the front porch of Kiana's house. Lessons cover basic English (body parts, colors, adjectives), and give neighborhood children a chance to learn fun English songs and games.

(First published on Edition March 2017)

**MAN 1 Gorontalo,
Gorontalo Province**

Seven university students from the English Department at *Universitas*

Negeri Gorontalo (Gorontalo State University / UNG) have been working with **ETA JoAnn Doll** and co-teacher Pak Mustain to lead the new debate club at MAN 1 Gorontalo. First, they taught the 10th grade students the fundamentals of the Australasian debate system, including the roles of each member of the government and opposition teams, the structure of a formal debate competition, and how they should prepare before the debate. In the next meeting, the students competed in their first formal



practice debate following the Australasian system, on the motion titled "This house would ban smoking in school areas," while the UNG leaders acted as team coaches. In the final meeting of February, the UNG leaders guided the students in forming logical arguments to express their personal opinions on the motion titled "This house would legalize abortion." The students received feedback on their performances, and all of them have been showing steady improvement in expressing their ideas and opinions in English with confidence and conviction.

(First published on Edition February 2017)





SMKN 1 Labuan Bajo & SMK Stella Maris, Labuan Bajo, East Nusa Tenggara

On April 27th and 28th, Labuan Bajo **ETAs Anna Katomski** and **Samantha Geary** collaborated with the local West Manggarai

English Teacher's Association (*MGMP Bahasa Inggris*) and RELO ELFs Moriah Kent (Surabaya) and Heather Phillips (Makassar) to hold a two-day English Teaching Workshop. The workshop was held at SMK Negeri 1 Labuan Bajo, and had 27 attendees hailing from over 10 different SMAs, SMKs and SMPs

in the Manggarai Barat region. Participants learned exciting ways to engage their students, with one workshop day focused on reading activities, and the next on writing activities. We're excited to see how the teachers incorporate these new tactics into their lessons, and hope the workshop will result in more fun in the classroom- particularly when it comes to the sometimes daunting task of teaching English reading and writing skills. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**

After-School Activities



MAN 1 Kota Gorontalo, Gorontalo

On Wednesday, April 26th, with help from **ETA JoAnn Doll**, MAN 1 Kota Gorontalo held its first local English Debate Competition. Two teams of three 10th grade students each participated in the competition, as well as another student who acted as the Speaker of the House. All of these students had been learning about and practicing debating in English using the Australasian high school debate system for about four months under the guidance of student teachers from *Universitas Negeri Gorontalo* (UNG).

The competition was composed of a first round with a prepared motion titled "This house would criminalize littering," and a second round with an impromptu motion titled "This house would ban uniforms in school areas." Many 10th grade students who had elective English classes on that afternoon were able to attend and see the incredible progress of the debate club students. The guest judges, who were senior students from UNG, awarded Best Team and Best Speaker and gave constructive feedback to all of the students. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**

WORDS Competition 2017

From April 5th through April 8th, 29 high school students and their English Teaching Assistants (ETAs) gathered in Jakarta for the annual WORDS Competition. A highly-anticipated event each year, this year marked the tenth anniversary of the WORDS Competition.

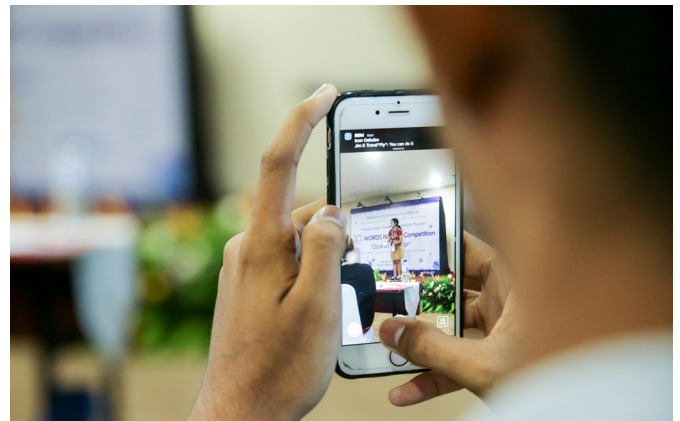


WORDS is a speech and talent competition, with performances centered on a given theme; this year's theme was "Cicak on the Wall," and participants were asked to respond to the question, "If you could be a *cicak* on the wall of any room in the past, present, or future, where would you choose to be, and why?" Leading up to the national competition, each ETA held a local competition at their school, and the winning participant from the local competition was then invited to represent their school at the national competition in Jakarta.



Reflecting on the preparation for coming to Jakarta, ETA Shreya Kundur, who is placed in Malang this year, said, "I think the WORDS Competition has been one of the best experiences with the AMINEF/ Fulbright Program so far, because all of the ETAs get to work on one thing all together, and we had so much anticipation for this one weekend."

Each of the students represented their school fantastically. The speeches varied widely in their topics and styles, and the students demonstrated an array of impressive talents alongside their speeches. The audience was captivated.



Said Jerry Chamberland, a member of AMINEF's Board of Management, "This is the second WORDS Competition that I've attended. ... It's an opportunity for ETAs and students from all over Indonesia to meet, and for us, the audience, to see what an incredible job the ETAs do, and what an incredible job the students do." The judges—who included two past WORDS winners of Best Use of English, Ditacut Aisyah and Nanda Dima Tasha, as well as Triwik Kurniasari, Fulbright alumna and author, Dr. Rebekka Moore, Fulbright alumna and senior manager of @america, and Douglas Ramage, Fulbright alumnus and a member of AMINEF's Board of Management—certainly had a tough job in selecting the winning participants from such talent.



Five participants were recognized at the national competition for notable performances. Kezia Natalia Wattie from SMA Eben Haezer Manado was awarded

Best Use of English, Artyo Rizqi Syabhantara from Wachid Hasim 2 Sidoarjo was awarded Best Use of Theme, Chalvyn Rahmat D. from SMKN 4 Malang was awarded Best Talent, and Muhamad Hilmi Ainun Fikri from MAN Insan Cendikia Gorontalo was awarded Best Costume. The Overall Winner for the 2017 Competition was Muhammas Bobby Primadiansyah from SMAN 2 Malang, with his speech "Dream Away to the Milky Way." Though all five were honored to be selected as winners, they all felt, as Kezia emphasized, the best part of WORDS was that they, "got to meet so many talented, amazing people from all over Indonesia."



To commemorate the 10th anniversary of the WORDS Competition, an additional event was added to the experience. English Fun Day, held at @america, included the WORDS Participants and their ETAs, as well as forty-two participants from two Jakarta-based organizations that serve disadvantaged children: Ticket to Life and Sahabat Anak.

Several groups of ETAs developed storytelling, song, and game activities in which everyone could participate, for an afternoon of fun and English

language learning for all. Jesika Welan, a member of the Sahabat Anak group who performed an impromptu Korean dance number at the end of the event, said, "I really loved the Sing-a-song activity, because I can learn more in a relaxed style of studying."



During their time in Jakarta, WORDS Participants were also able to explore the capital city with a visit to MONAS, and all students and their ETAs were also kindly invited to a farewell dinner at the residence of the US Deputy Chief of Mission Brian McFeeters. It was a very special few days for all involved, and as Sutriyaningsih from Magelang said: "This is my unforgettable experience."





**SMA Eben Haezar
Manado,
North Sulawesi**

Haezar this week. During her classes on October 31st she gave fun quizzes to the students where they would have to choose the correct Halloween-based answers to questions such as: A hollowed out pumpkin with a face cut in one side and a candle put inside is called a) Jack-o-lantern; b) Tom-o-lantern; c) Miss Pumpkin.

Later, Mei Lin sat in front of the classroom and told the students to imagine that the whiteboard behind

ETA Mei Lin Pratt

celebrated the American holiday, Halloween, with her students at SMA Eben

her was her house. She then had them come up individually or in small groups to simulate trick-or-treating. Each student had to say, "trick-or-treat" and then tell Mei Lin what (imaginary) costumes they were wearing in order to then receive their treats. Many students came as Spiderman, other superheroes, witches, dogs, cats and characters from Halloween movies.

Overall, the day was full of happy students who enjoyed the festivities and learned more about the American holiday by actively participating in some of its traditions. **(First published on Edition October 2016)**

Celebrating Cultural Exchange

SMAN 4 Kendari, Southeast Sulawesi

To celebrate
Thanksgiving students at
SMAN 4 Kendari created

hand turkeys on colorful paper and hung them up in the English teachers' room. They all learned about why Americans celebrate Thanksgiving and why it's **ETA Katerina Barton's** favorite holiday. She explained that it's a time to reflect on what you're thankful for, and she was thankful for all of them! Each student then wrote what they were thankful for and creatively decorated their turkeys.



Katerina also celebrated Thanksgiving with her fellow English teachers by inviting them to her house for a Thanksgiving meal on November 27, 2016. Katerina cooked traditional American holiday food like stuffing, mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie together with her site mates, Mackenzie Findlay and Shelby Lawson. About twenty people arrived to share the pot-luck style meal and they also went around and shared what they were each thankful for. It was a uniquely Indonesian Thanksgiving! **(First published on Edition November 2016)**



MAN 2 Kudus, Central Java

On November 10th, **ETA Vinny Owen** celebrated Hero's Day in Indonesia at his school, MAN 2 Kudus. This holiday commemorates the battle for national Indonesian independence against colonization from the British and Dutch forces. On Hero's Day, Indonesians also honor the country's national heroes and remember those who have faithfully served their country. At MAN 2 Kudus, the day started with a flag ceremony in the school's field, followed by a number of events, including speeches, performances, and even game



competitions. Vinny had the opportunity to sit in as a special guest judge at the poetry recitations and also some of the reenactments and drama skits. These performances commemorated the Indonesian National Revolution and were performed with great strength and emotion. Vinny enjoyed being able to participate in this special day with his students and teachers, as he also learned about the history and great national love Indonesians hold for their diverse country. **(First published on Edition November 2016)**

Celebrating Cultural Exchange

**SMAN 2 Balige,
North Sumatra**

*Selamat Hari Guru!
Happy Teacher's Day!*

On November 22nd 2016, the teachers and students of SMAN 2 Balige gathered to celebrate in the school's assembly area. **ETA Daniel Gerardi** stood among them while a small group of teachers performed the flag ceremony. The students then gave each teacher a handmade flower pin and a gift of beautiful Batak fabric to show their appreciation. Singing ensued as all the teachers gathered excitedly around a massive cake, and of course there were plenty of photos, laughter, and teachers feeding each other cake.

After the ceremony, a bazaar was held at the school. In preparation, the students had made food and handicrafts to sell. The food theme for this year was cassava, so students made dishes like cassava pudding, cake, pizza, *lapet*, and ice cream. They also made ornaments, decorations, lamps, vases, and furniture--all from recycled materials such as egg shells, newspaper, plastic bottles, playing cards, string, rope, and old tires. Parents and community members were invited to the bazaar to buy the crafts and food in order to support the students and talk with the school faculty. There were several student



performances, including short, funny dramas and traditional dancing.

A week later, on November 29th, a second community celebration for Teacher's Day was held at Lapangan Sisingamangaraja, a large field named after a local Batak hero. Many schools from around the region set up booths to introduce themselves and display their students' crafts. Daniel was able to visit many of the booths, meet students and teachers from all over the region, take photos, laugh, and even sing with some of the students. Teacher's Day offered great opportunities to connect with people both in and outside of his school community! **(First published on Edition November 2016)**



SMKN 4 Malang, East Java

Over the course of the past few months, **ETA Shreya Kundur** has been learning the process of batik making and even creating her own custom batik piece. One of Shreya's co-teachers, Bu Wiwik, along with her daughter Mbak Ima own "Batik Blimbing Malang" which is dedicated to preserving the art and culture of batik. Groups from all over Indonesia come to Batik Blimbing to learn about the history and process of batik making. Shreya has learned about the meaning of the patterns and colors that contribute to the unique



beauty of batik. For example, blue can symbolize the sea or sky and can represent honesty, love and truth. Shreya has also tried her own hand at making batik through multiple series of steps involving melted wax and dyes. The process is slow and labor intensive, but the results are awe-inspiring. Shreya is so grateful to have the chance to learn such a unique craft and gain knowledge about the rich meaning and history of the clothes that people in Malang wear every day. **(First published on Edition January 2017)**

Celebrating Cultural Exchange



SMKN Jawa Tengah, Semarang

Alongside **ETA Kayla Stewart**, the students at SMKN Jawa Tengah took part in a special Black History Month lesson. 10th grade students were introduced to American

history by learning about slavery, the Civil Rights Movement, and famous African American leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Toni Morrison.
(First published on Edition February 2017)

Celebrating Cultural Exchange



SMAN 7 Kendari, Southeast Sulawesi

Love of friendship was in the air at SMAN 7 Kendari this February. **ETA Shelby Lawson** and Counterpart Ibu Ani decided to make this Valentine's Day celebration extra special for their students. Each student designed a postcard and wrote a message to Miss Shelby's friends and



family back home. Then, the postcards were sent to America to greet people. At SMAN 7, students are eagerly awaiting responses and replies. Not only did students get to learn and share about a special American holiday, but also interact with others from around the world. Happy Valentine's Day, friends! **(First published on Edition February 2017)**

Celebrating Cultural Exchange



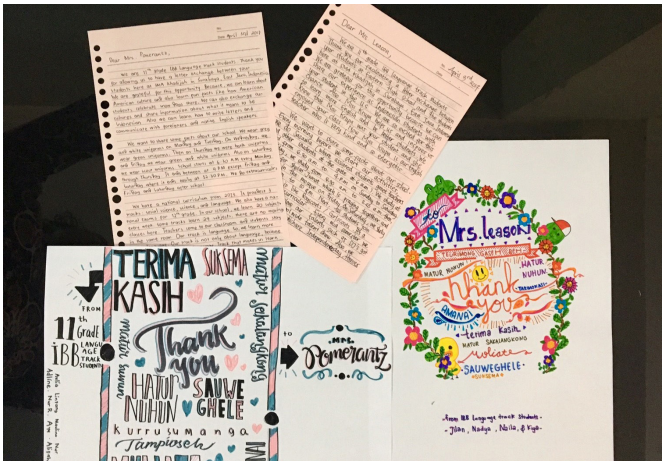
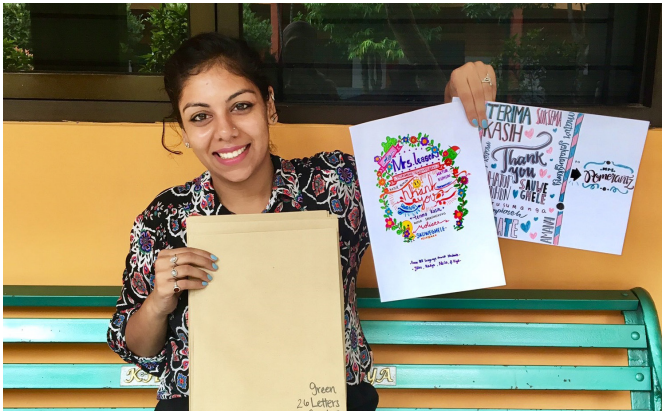
**SMAN 3 and SMKN 2
Pangkalpinang,
Bangka Belitung**

On February 25, **ETAs
Lizzy Hardison and
Kiana Ward** got to be
students for a change

when they learned how to cook one of their favorite Indonesian foods: *martabak telur*. Over the course of an afternoon in their friend RaRa's house, they chopped vegetables, poured pancake batter, and fried up delicious pastries under the tutelage of RaRa's mother. The *martabak* they learned to make is different from what you might buy from street vendors - instead of rolling out yeasted dough to make the crispy exterior, they made thin pancakes (similar to French crepes) that they filled and then folded around the beaten egg mixture. The result was a crispy, delicious pastry that could be replicated in most any kitchen in the world. They served the *martabak* with a curried potato and beef stew prepared by RaRa's aunt, and made enough pastries for RaRa's family and a few visitors. Getting a cooking lesson was a new and fun way to engage in cultural exchange, and it will help both ETAs share a bit of Indonesian cuisine with their friends and family when they return to the States. **(First published on Edition February 2017)**



Celebrating Cultural Exchange



**SMA Khadijah,
Surabaya,
East Java**

After working on this project for months with her co-teachers and students, **ETA Krupa**

Patel at SMA Khadijah in Surabaya, East Java finally mailed handwritten letters from approximately 400+ Indonesian students to American students at her former high school in Voorhees, NJ, USA. Her high school English teachers, Mrs. Pomerantz and Mrs. Leason, were extremely helpful and facilitated this exchange. At first, SMA Khadijah students were nervous when Miss Krupa gave them the assignment. However, they rose to the challenge and succeeded. Through this project, Indonesian students practiced their letter-writing and critical thinking skills. They put their thoughts onto paper and received 1-on-1 feedback from Miss Krupa for 2-3 letter drafts. She feels lucky that she was able to

work closely with almost every student.

Then, the teachers from Eastern High School sent letters back to Indonesia from their students! ETA Krupa was shocked at how excited the American students were. This project led to greater cultural exchange between American and Indonesian students. It was extremely important for Miss Krupa to open dialogue between these two sets of teenagers to show them that regardless of their religion, nationality, etc., they are all just students and teenagers. The differences are beautiful and worth celebrating but at the end of the day, everyone involved in this exchange is simply human. "This was one of the most complicated things I've ever orchestrated but it is by far the coolest," said ETA Krupa Patel. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**

Celebrating Cultural Exchange



Throughout April, students at MAN 2 Model Makassar studied narrative texts. After a week of learning about a classic European legend, Hansel and Gretel, **ETA Ayat Abourashed** put her students to the test, and had students perform storytelling skits of classic Indonesian legends. For two weeks, students created scripts and made properties for stories they grew up hearing. Ayat



and her co-teachers watched the talented students perform legends like "Malin Kundang" and "Candi Prambanan," as well as many more. Ayat really enjoyed getting to learn more about the history of Indonesia and seeing her students show their creative side. The students did such a wonderful job acting and really showcased a variety of legends from all over Indonesia. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**



SMAN 2 Malang and SMKN 4 Malang, East Java

In April, **ETAs Caroline Rose** and **Shreya Kundur** hosted a discussion at their local American Corner at Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang (UMM). As part of the larger ETA project "Beautiful Juga", which will include other ETAs from East Java, the discussion focused on beauty and beauty standards in the United States and Indonesia. The ETAs served as the discussion leaders, preparing questions beforehand and guiding the conversation. However, the conversation flowed naturally, and as a true exchange, Caroline and Shreya were able to learn as much about Indonesian beauty standards as they shared about American beauty standards and culture. The discussion concluded on a high note



as the participants agreed it is inner beauty that matters most. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**

Celebrating Cultural Exchange



SMAN 1 Salatiga Central Java

Kartini Day was a day spent in the glorious sun, making flower arrangements and hearing encouraging speeches on women's rights and equality. On April 21, 2017, Salatiga **ETA Michaela Chinn** participated in all the Kartini Day events and even dressed to impress, wearing traditional kebaya that she borrowed from a SMAN 1 Salatiga Bahasa Inggris teacher. She thought it

was really spectacular to see her students dressed in Javanese, Balinese, and other traditional clothes from their roots. She loved watching all of their performances for this national holiday. Michaela had fun taking pictures with students, who were pleasantly surprised that she had dressed in traditional clothing, and also learning more about Kartini from the teachers. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**



SMKN 4 Malang East Java

SMKN 4 Malang celebrated its birthday this month with a day filled with parades and performances. To kick off the day, **ETA Shreya Kundur** and 10th grader Inge performed a traditional Javanese dance called *Tari Beskalan*. Shreya and Inge practiced together for about a month leading up to the performance. Shreya has studied Indian classical dance since she was a child, but learning the new Javanese dance style was a



challenge. Thankfully, Inge was a patient teacher and did a great job. On the day of the event, Shreya and Inge started getting ready at 4 a.m. due to the complexity of the costume, hair and makeup. They were on stage by 7:30 a.m., cheered on by the entire student body, teachers, and staff. Shreya felt nervous before the performance but so thankful for the opportunity to learn and experience new aspects of Javanese culture. **(First published on Edition April 2017)**



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