

Arab Digital Expression Foundation (ADEF) is a non-profit foundation that builds spaces, fosters environments for expression and learning, enhances skills and develops knowledge tools to support and empower teenagers and youth, groups or individuals, working on the ground to strengthen their practices and engagement with society.

ADEF's vision is to have independent teenagers and youth, individuals and groups, who are active and aware and express themselves and produce knowledge for the benefit of their society. The foundation's mission is promoting creative uses of information technology, and the dissemination of the concepts and practices of free culture, and supporting initiatives which aim to produce free Arabic knowledge using free tools.

The Arab Digital Expression Camp (ADEC) is a two-week summer camp that is successfully taking place for 10 years in a row, gathering more than 60 youngsters from the Arab countries on a journey of learning and self-expression.

ADEC is a free space for expression and debate; difference and agreement; self-exploration and skills development; support self-confidence and critical thinking among Arab youths aged between 12 and 15 coming from different social and economic backgrounds. It offers the participants a chance to explore their capacity and self-expression through the provision and exchange of technical knowledge as well as ethical human values .

Historical background

ADEC camps did not start from scratch, yet it is built based on the "Arab Computer Camps" model that was launched from 1984 to 1994, through which **42** Arab computer camps were organized for the Arab youth aged between 8 - 18 years, to be trained on computer programming, in order to introduce and promote computer literacy and eliminate the fear from that "new machine" newly introduced in the region during the period of the eighties, with the aim to contribute in the increase of professionals in the field of information technology.

More than 10,000 arab youth benefited from the "Arab Computer Camp" where 70% of them were enrolled in the information technology sector in the region. These camps were organized in several Arab countries as well as African and European cities including: Tangier in Morocco; Cairo, Alexandria and Sinai in Egypt; Hammamat in Tunisia and even Accra in Ghana; Harare in Zimbabwe and York in the UK.

It is worth mentioning that many of those previous campers took part and were involved in the revival and development of ADEC camp in its new design in the beginning of 2005 to organize the first ADEC camp in 2007.

ADEC 10th Round

This year, ADEC's **10th round** will take place in the summer from **July 21 to August 4** in "El Morgan Hotel" in Fayed, Egypt. 10 years of fun, creativity, knowledge production, development and learning to leadership.

During the camp , male and female youngsters are exposed - in a free and constructive environment - to a broad spectrum of artistic incentives, exploring creative self-expression tools, developing their skills within the context of a balanced and rich program that includes both digital (video-making, sound and music production, voice effects and DJ skills, as well as creative applications on the web, blogging, programming, graphics and game design) and physical activities (arts and crafts workshops, dancing, theater, writing a story, storytelling, acting and sports) liberating a sense of mental and physical

expression. The camp ends with a celebration where participants' final products are presented and selective ones are displayed on the Web and other different communications channels.

ADEC 2016 is introducing "**Computer Games Design**" as its newest curriculum to be added to the current various programs which the campers will learn during the camp.

The camp secures a computer for each participant and also audio and video equipments are available in the camp to give all participants full opportunity and time for experimentation and learning. The camp provides various and inspiring training materials as well.

The camp is managed by a team of 30 members which include trainers, supervisors, an administration team and a nurse.

The Impact

1. After 10 years of ADEF youth empowerment experience, ADEC's 10th round, is led and managed by its first and second generation campers; meaning ADEC ex-campers who participated in the camps between 2007 and 2011, and who grew and developed and are now capable of handling the running of the camp. We believe that it is a major indicator of success and one of the most important objectives of ADEC camps.
2. **More than 500** youngsters aged between 12 - 15 and **220** trainers between 20 - 35 years old coming from 11 Arab countries have benefited from ADEC camps since its launch in 2007.
3. ADEF shared ADEC success experience with one of the institutions working with youth in Tunisia, where ADEC 6th round in 2016 was held camp in "Gergis" town in southeastern Tunisia.

Checkout a selection of previous camps videos

2014 and 2015 camps' samples of workshops:

- [Robot and a turbine and 3D printer](#)
- [Filming, editing, dancing and diving](#)
- [About Campers' journey](#)

Participants Production - ADEC 2015

- [Uptown camp](#)
- [Goodbye Camp](#)

Participants Production - ADEC 2014

- [ADEF Camp projects](#)
- [Fun at the camp](#)

How to support us?

For the tenth year in a row, ADEF camps have been sustainable through alternative and creative models of funding based on collaborations between funders, company sponsorships and individual contributions.

ADEF main goal is to cover the participation of **40 underprivileged Arab youngsters** (=60% from Campers total number) who will be selected with the help of our partner NGOs in the region whose mandate focuses on youth development, ICT, arts, and expression.

The cost to fund one camper is **\$1,200** which covers: full board accommodation, education fees, computer lab facilities, video & sound equipment, scheduled trips, all sports, cultural activities and local transportation, **excluding the plane tickets fees for participants from outside Egypt**).

With this campaign, we are aiming to collect **\$ 20,000** which covers approx. 25% of our total cost of running the camp. Moreover, any extra contribution we get, means a better chance to reach our main goal.

We hope to share our dream together in order to further continue ADEC's mission and to celebrate together ADEC's 10 anniversary promoting for better, more creative , talented and productive Arab generation in the future.

Part of the camps becoming a meaningful experience is community participation in making it unfold and successfully happen, in belief of the critical value of youth engagement. Therefore, we cannot do this without the ongoing support of people like you who believe in building a foundation within our youth for a brighter future.

Every person can make a difference. Even if you cannot help us to reach our goal through a cash donation, please help us spread the word :)