

Community Resources and Cultural Events

The Open University hosts a variety of cultural events every year, including symposia, conferences, cultural evenings, and science, art, music, and academic happenings. The events are open to the public, and participants are able to enjoy lectures by the best lecturers and researchers in a range of subjects.

The Alumni Association holds cultural events, performances and tours for alumni and the wider community. Among its programs is the flagship series, "Cinema Academia" which combines movies and discussion led by OUI faculty members.

The OUI founded the Entrepreneurs and Business Club to encourage entrepreneurial spirit and the establishment of technological and business ventures among alumni and students. Every month, the club hosts leading members of Israel's business world in forums open to alumni, students, and the public.

OUI programming for the wider community includes MOOCs, and *Pe'er*, which offer access to academic study in digital format free of charge.

Lamda – The Open University Bookstore

This year, 29,464 OUI books were sold by the Lamda Bookstore: 13,814 to individual customers, 3,155 to stores and distributors, and 12,495 to institutions and universities.

Academia Online

Academia Online Ltd., a subsidiary of the OUI, was established in 2014-2015 in order to create a national service center for the production of online learning resources geared towards Israel's higher education system.

Established against a backdrop of growing local and global interest in innovative learning technologies, Academia Online aims to address an increasing awareness of the role of digital technologies in improving teaching in higher education.

The commitment to support distance learning in the Israeli higher education system is an inseparable part of the OUI mandate. Academia Online seeks to respond to the diverse needs of the higher education stakeholders, including universities, colleges, students, and faculty members, and to improve the digital literacy of graduates, both individually and collectively.

The company's first project has been the production of online academic English courses which enable institutions to provide students with online study materials to support their learning. This project is the initiative of the Planning and Budget Committee (PBC).

Academia Online will publish RFPs and will reach out to college and university administrators and faculty members. The judicial committee will evaluate the quality of proposals, the number of students impacted by the proposed improvements, and other variables and influencing factors.

The online resources developed with the funding of Academia Online will be made available to Israeli institutions of higher education, while maintaining the intellectual property rights of all partners.

In addition to development of the learning resources described above, Academia Online will provide, for a fee, consultation services, development, and production services for institutions of higher education.

Selected Symposia

- Traditional Society in Transition: The Yemeni Jewish Experience
- Theories of Social Justice
- International Conference on the Study of the Shoah and Genocide
- Stalking and Security in the Information Age
- Arabs in the Media: Between Circles of Identity
- Non-Jewish Victims of the Shoah: God's Witnesses
- Technologies and Their Impact on Daily Life
- Corporate Responsibility in Israeli Industry
- Nobel Prizes 2014 - What For and Why?
- Corporate Responsibility in Israeli Industry
- Israeli Involvement in International Conflicts
- Russian Jews in the 20th Century

- Economy and Culture: The Encounter between Jews, Christians, and Muslims
- The New Memory of the Shoah in Popular Israeli Culture
- Employment of the Ultra-Orthodox – Policy and Reality
- Israeli Society: Historical and Biographical Contemplation
- Is God Right-wing? The Relationship between Religion and Political Positions
- An Alternative Historiography of Israeli Film
- Multiculturalism in Israel
- Shoah and Heroism Remembrance Day – The Holocaust of Libyan Jews
- Yoram Kaniuk – Two Years Since his Passing
- Big Data – The Internet's Newly Quarried Source?
- Israeli Childhood in the 1950s
- Talking About the Weather
- Children in the Digital Sandbox: Research Aspects of Use of Technologies for Toddlers
- Lecture by Chico Menashe: From Nuclear Talks to the Absorption Center (Jerusalem Campus)
- Movie and film, (Alumni Association's Cinema Academia series at Givat Haviva)
- Jazz concert – A Tribute to Saxophone Players (Haifa Campus)
- Lecture and film – *Jews and Muslims, Dialog of Memories* (Haifa Campus)
- Morning Concert: "Romantics in a Trio" and The Tel Aviv Saxophone Quartet
- Morning Concert – "So Sweet is the Pain" (Beit Daniel in Zichron Yaakov)
- Jazz Concerts: A Tribute to Jazz Singers – Louie Armstrong, Nat King Cole, and Frank Sinatra; Tribute to Flutists and Tribute to Guitarists (Raanana Campus)
- Summer Concert Under the Stars: The Latin Spirit, with Chen Zimbalista and the Raanana Symphonette, "Longing for Naomi Shemer" with the members of *Hakol Over Habibi* and the Netanya Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra
- New Year's Concert: In Celebration of the OUI's 40th anniversary

Selected Cultural Events

- Lecture by Almog Boker: Under Fire: A Reporter, a Resident, and a Father (Beersheva Campus)



"Longing for Naomi Shemer"

Exhibitions

- **Beyond Likeness: Portraits from the Collection of Uzi Agassi** (from the series, "From the Private to the Public Space")
- **Honzo and the Bubatron:** Items from the Ben Shalom family collection
- **Out of Proportion:** Group exhibit with a variety of artists in an unusual exhibition space



David Ben Shalom, *Choir*, from the exhibition "Honzo and the Bubatron"