



# GLOBAL TALENT MENTORING

by the World Giftedness Center

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## CYCLE SIX LAUNCHES: GLOBAL NOMINATIONS AND EMERGING TALENT

Global Talent Mentoring launched its sixth cycle in November 2025, beginning a new chapter for the program and its global community. The application phase has now successfully concluded, bringing together a strong pool of nominees from around the world.

This cycle, we received over 150 nominations from partner institutions worldwide, reflecting the continued strength of our global network and a shared commitment across the community to identifying and supporting talented youth in STEMM fields. The applications submitted demonstrate strong potential, genuine curiosity, and a clear dedication to growth.

We would like to sincerely thank our partners for their continued efforts in identifying and nominating talented youth, as well as supporting them throughout the application process. These contributions remain essential in enabling talented youth to access meaningful opportunities in STEMM fields.

We would also like to express our appreciation to our mentors and mentees, whose ongoing engagement continues to shape a community built on knowledge sharing, guidance, and meaningful connections.

As we move into the next stage, we are excited to continue this journey together and to welcome a new group of mentees into the program.

## GLOBAL TALENT MENTORING PRESENTED AT APCG 2026



The Global Talent Mentoring (GTM) program was featured during the 19th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness and Creativity, held in February 2026 in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, bringing together participants from across the region to exchange knowledge and best practices in gifted education and talent development.

The presentation was delivered by Ms. Huda Al Hammadi, Giftedness Initiatives Specialist at the Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences.

The session highlighted the Global Talent Mentoring program as a leading international initiative designed to support talented youth in STEMM fields through long-term, goal-oriented mentoring relationships with world-class experts.

During the presentation, key elements of the program were introduced, including personalized one-on-one mentoring, opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration, and international networking that enable talented students to develop research competencies, innovation skills, and global connections.

The session also emphasized the importance of sustained mentorship in nurturing exceptional talent and preparing the next generation of innovators, researchers, and leaders capable of addressing future global challenges.



In addition to the main presentation, the Global Talent Mentoring program was also featured in a dedicated symposium titled "Mentoring Across the Stages of Talent Development: From Attraction to Eminence."

The symposium brought together leading experts in the field, including Dr. Mariam Alghawi, Prof. Albert Ziegler, Prof. Tai Kai Ng, and Prof. Heidrun Stoeger to explore mentoring as a structured and systemic approach to talent development.

The session further positioned the Global Talent Mentoring program as an international ecosystem supporting advanced talents in later stages of development, with a focus on fostering innovation, research excellence, and sustained growth within a global context.

These contributions reflect the program's continued engagement in global dialogue on talent development, reinforcing its role in shaping future innovators and advancing excellence in mentoring practices worldwide.

## A MEMORABLE VISIT FROM ONE OF OUR DISTINGUISHED STEMM EXPERTS



In January 2026, we welcomed another of our esteemed STEMM experts to the United Arab Emirates, providing a valuable opportunity for inperson engagement. These visits help us showcase the mission of the Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences and its achievements in nurturing and celebrating excellence, talent, and creativity across the educational and medical domains, as well as giving us the chance to connect with distinguished experts who volunteer their time and expertise to guide advanced talents and help shape them into future leaders in STEMM.

Dr. Al Tariq Sheik's arrival was particularly special, as he joined the Global Talent Mentoring program as a mentor in the 5th mentoring cohort in November 2025. His visit offered the perfect chance to get to know him better and to celebrate the fresh energy and expertise he brings to our mentoring community.

By happy coincidence, his trip aligned with the 2025 Medical Awards Ceremony, where we honoured this year's outstanding winners. We were thrilled when he graciously accepted our invitation to attend, adding an extra touch of distinction to an already inspiring evening. During this event, Dr. Sheik met with Dr. Salama Almheiri, Director of the Medical Excellence Department, and enjoyed a rich and engaging exchange with her and her team.

Throughout Dr. Sheik's visit, we enjoyed learning more about our young and exceptionally talented mentor, whose scientific ventures continue to take him across the globe. His enthusiasm for discovery and his commitment to nurturing emerging talent were evident in every conversation. Of particular significance, he was also received by Dr. Mariam Alghawi, the program's director, and their meeting quickly evolved into a lively exchange of ideas.

Together, they explored new approaches to talent development, discussed potential program enhancements, and reflected on the future of STEMM mentorship within the Foundation. A highlight of the visit was a tour of the Foundation's premises, including an introduction to FabLab UAE, our digital fabrication centre and innovation incubator launched in 2015.

As we look ahead, Dr. Sheik's involvement promises to bring fresh perspectives and renewed momentum to our mentoring efforts. His visit not only strengthened our shared commitments to nurturing STEMM talent but also set the stage for exciting collaborations in the months to come.