

YOUNG DETECTIVES CLUB END-OF-YEAR EVENT 2007/8

The evidence may be packed away for now, but the case is certainly not closed... After another intriguing and successful year of forensic science studies and activities, the Young Detectives Club held its end-of-year event on June 18th, 2008 at the Alliance High School in Tel Aviv.

When an Excellence 2000 school excels, and its students prove themselves to be highly motivated and curious – that school is a candidate for the Young Detectives Club. The Young Detectives Club was created by the Society for Excellence through Education as a pilot program two years ago; to allow talented students to step out of the classroom, and gain the practical skills and knowledge needed to solve crimes. The program is run in cooperation with the Israel Police Force, allowing students to study the latest in finger-printing, encryption, ballistics, DNA analysis, etc. Young Detectives Club participants have the opportunity to work alongside the Israel Police on real-life cases.



The end-of-year event included lectures by two fascinating members of Israel's crime-fighting family. Police sketch artist, Mr. Gil Gibly, spoke about his work. The talk was titled, "Composite Portraits: Old and New Trends in Police Sketching". Accompanied by many examples of his sketches, Mr. Gibly described a number of specific examples in which composite portraits were successfully used to identify criminals or to locate missing persons and Holocaust survivors.

Dr. Meir Carmon is a professor of criminology and the director of a college for training private investigators. After many years of experience in the field, as well as in education, Dr. Carmon is an excellent candidate to answer the question: "Does Forensic Science Dull Detectives' Senses?" Technology and innovation have allowed huge strides in the various fields of forensic science and criminology. Though the tools available to crime labs have changed, Dr. Carmon assured the students that the "detective" will never be taken out of the Young Detectives Club. He proved his point by citing many specific cases in which the human factor made the deciding difference in solving crimes.



After a day of fun-filled learning, which left the students eager for next year's Excellence 2000 activities to begin, certificates for completion of participation in the 2007/8 Young Detectives Club Program were distributed.

