50 YOUNG TALENTS

Let's introduce you to some outstanding talents...



Viktor Huszár

"The 50 Young Talents program gave me a fantastic sportsman as a companion who has approved of the way I am going."

INVENTING THE FUTURE OF SPORT

He is the one to have bent the plane, thus making new three-dimensional contingencies available. The final outcome is what we now call Teqball. As genuine sports fanatic and engineering graduate, Mr. Viktor Huszár, who is also the head of the football club of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics has renewed, or, better, re-invented a ball game.

After three years of value-adding planning and creative development process Teqball was born: along with his loyal friend, ex-footballer Gábor Borsányi, Viktor Huszár created a new sport, a kind of "table foot tennis" designed to train to-be football aces.

"We have condensed the most beautiful parts of football into this game", says Viktor and to illustrate his points, he shows us video excerpts on his mobile phone. "What you need for a successful gameplay is quick response and technique. This should have been invented 50 years ago." Then, at one go, he goes on to explain why their version of foot tennis, Teqball is to be played on a curved surface. To cut it short, this is how the ball bounces off in the best possible way. This ideal curve of the Teqball table was designed by strictly observing the rules of physics and mathematics. Since its launch in June 2014, Teqball has gained international reputation.

"It is primarily a new sport", explains Viktor proudly. "This is proven by the sheer fact of there being over 300 companies willing to take part in trading our invention. Furthermore, as a multi-purpose sports product, holiday resorts also see it as a great recreational activity. Our aim is to make Teqball a global trendsetter moving crowds around the world." Viktor was about to enlarge his social capital when he joined La femme's 50 Young Talents program. He wished to be mentored by experts who by giving useful tips and ideas could help him expand his business and ensure future growth. This is how he met Dániel Zwickl, once a table tennis player, now sports manager. "It was his impulse, his creativity, his knowledge and experience which fascinated me from the first time we met. He is perfectly aware of his goal and not only this: he is the rare example of the one who knows the way to this goal", says mentor about his mentee.

How far they have come since then? Viktor, keeping up momentum and maintaining his enthusiasm, insists that the greatest benefit of the program was the mentor himself. Mr. Zwickl's personality, knowledge and social capital, along with his experience as world champion and participant in the Olympic Games have meant a lot to him. "Synergy has been there since the very first moment we met", Viktor tells us with great enthusiasm. Mr Zwickl has been given tremendous support with both networking and marketing. Thanks to their cooperation they introduced Teqball in Lausanne (S) at SportAccord 2016 and also at FIFA. What is more, they decided to establish a sports association of their own based in Switzerland. Naturally, the Executive Department is going to be Budapest-operated.



Gergely Tóth-Vajna

"The 50 Young Talents program has enabled us to make our name well-known. Our mentors have given us a brand new attitude, a chance to change."

SWITCHING ROLES

A pediatrician and musician at the same time. However, these are parallels do not meet in the infinite but in one life. This is how we introduced Gergely Vajna-Tóth one year ago.

While participating successfully in biology contests, he completed an organ playing course. He was one of the most talented students at Semmelweis University of Medical Sciences, thus no wonder he was admitted to the Kerpel-Fronius Talent Management Program. He was an active member of the students' association besides organizing excellent cultural activities along with his twin brother. His brother is also deeply involved in baroque music and bringing audiences and music closer to each other. As a conductor, he likes to combine his concerts with making music more accessible, and as a way of introduction he is ready to speak a few words about what style and age that music was born.

"A conductor must have a good overview, standing in front of the orchestra. This is what makes it similar to medicine: a physician sees the functioning of the body as a whole when treating the patient", says Gergely. No matter how busy he is doing his residency at a pediatric hospital in Budapest, he is working on his thesis on how music and medicine are intertwined, or, more precisely, he studies the connection between famous composers suffering from mental disorders, bi-polar depression and creativity.

His plans, however, show that his clear focus is on medicine. Semmelweis University would be glad to see him join the academic staff, and besides doing his PhD degree, Gergely would like to work as a guest researcher or shadowing physician at foreign universities as well as. It was the above mentioned systematic thinking which attracted him to join La femme's 50 Young Talents program. "My mentor, Professor Fekete opened up the possibilities for me to become a doctor. He offered me his support in case I wanted to do further research after passing my exam in Pediatrics. As he himself is a geneticist, it was this field he encouraged me to specialize in." Gergely's publications also reveal this sort of interest, he wrote two chapters in a book on Pediatrics and has published several other articles.

Quite evidently he still has his musical ambitions. Based on the advice given by his brother Zsombor's mentor, they took a sharp turn. Following Mr. György Lőrinczy's recommendations (a musical producer himself), they give their orchestra a face-lift. It is now known as Harmonia Caelestis, which is an allusion to baroque composer Pál Esterházy and also to novelist Péter Esterházy's book. During the first six months, they invited several guest musicians, gave eight concerts and were invited to play abroad on many occasions. "Following the producers' advice, we put greater emphasis on marketing. Our website has been operating since April and our concert promotion and planning have become more professional".



Bertalan Meskó, MD, PhD

" Thanks to the 50 Young Talents program I had chances no other talent program offers."

A 21ST CENTURY EVANGELIST

Last year he became member of the Future Studies Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences admitted as medical futurist. Thus the existence of a new discipline has been acknowledged by the renowned scientists, and its founding father is only 31 years old.

Dr Meskó is one of the most well-known opinion-leaders in medicine, having delivered over 500 lectures and presentations all over the world, including universities like Yale, Stanford and Harvard and the World Health Organization. He holds two postgraduate courses at Semmelweis University of Medical Sciences. He always keeps his courses up-to-date as he is aware of the fact that the world is changing very fast. He lectures on what future doctors can do with ever-faster updated digital technologies in medicine, robotics, VR or even Artificial Intelligence. Previously he familiarised medical students with the digital world and how to treat e-patients.

He posts three articles a week on his website medicalfuturist.com dedicated to the future of medicine. The analyses and recommendations are written to help people see digital technology as their partner and not as their foe. Dr Meskó is now leading a group of seven, and the "geek" doctor also co-operates with an international team to acquaint organizations, doctors and hospitals with the benefits of digital medicine. "What I do is not work to me. I live for my passion day by day", he explains. What he has always been interested is how it is possible to make sci-fi a reality in healthcare. He has utilized smart tools for years in order to check his own health status.

The Medical Futurist, as he calls his self-established profession, has also become a brand. The first time they met his mentor Ms. Éva Somorjai was truly impressed as he already knew where he was going professionally. "The Medical Futurist brand as well as my bolder project ideas could both develop and improve thanks to Éva Somorjai's advice", Dr Mesko emphasizes.

The Medical Futurist is an independent, objective channel through which anybody from anywhere around the world can acquire information about the most recent developments and achievements in medical science and healthcare, as well as about the use of technology in a healthy way of life. "The methods I have been evangelizing for years will sooner or later become everyday practice. It will be proven that if we approach it with rational thinking and a cool head, the technological tsunami of the years to come will be able to help mankind in amazing ways", he adds. He also insists that this use of technology will not harm or replace the personal doctor-patient relationship.

As his ambition is to change healthcare globally by adopting new technologies, he uses English online. However, as his mother does not speak English, it was her who suggested to start a blog in Hungarian called mediQ.blog.hu, which he launched in 2007. A part of his philanthropic work is the English-language webicina.com site because he believes that this way he can make "e-patients" out of simple "googling" ones whilst providing physicians with new information. Over the last two years he has published three books in Hungarian, English and Chinese with a total circulation of over 20,000, out of which the one titled The Guide of the Future of Medicine got in the Amazon Top 100. Dr Meskó is a devoted sportsman, he is a fan of running, playing football, squash since the age of five. Being a member of Mensa HungarIQa, a society of people with exceptionally high intelligence quotient, he is only satisfied if he gets his daily dose of science-fiction books or films.



Veronika Magyarné Fekete

"The 50 Young Talents program has opened up gates for me which I would have been unable to unlock all by myself."

A DAY-DREAMING REALIST

The once amateur confectioner-cum- police officer has become owner and editor-in-chief of Cake Decorating Magazine and a trained pastry cook. She has won a selection of medals in international competitions. She finds it an honour to be have been invited to be a judge in such contests.

Since summer she has been preparing full-time for the Culinary Olympics to be held in Erfurt, Germany. Like the Olympics in sports, the Culinary Olympics is held every four years where chefs and confectioners compete. Veronika is nominated in the category of artistic confectionery: she makes sugar-based decoration.

When the second round of La femme's 50 Young Talents program was running, she was already a columnist for Cake Decorating Magazine. Then in, in August 2015 the German-based publishing company offered her to buy the ownership rights as they were sure Veronika would be given adequate help in the talent programme. She accepted vithout hesitation, and by October she was maid-of-all-work at the magazine.

She had innumerable tasks, still it took her very little time to get acquainted with all of them and acquire the necessary skills. "Not for one second did I think that printed media is out", she says. Sales of the magazine are on the up month by month as is the number of subscribers. What she thinks the secret of their success is the unique market position of the publication: there is simply no similar magazine available. A print magazine, unlike the much-protected laptop, can easily be placed on the kitchen table, thus anyone can bake their dream-cake with the help of illustrations. "Soon we will launch our website which will be of great help to Hungarians living abroad", Veronika tells about the way of future development.

Since her succesful exam as confectioner she has collected 8 medals in different competitions. As for cake decorating, she has collected 16 medals since when she started confectionery. Last November she was asked to deliver a motivational lecture at the Talentn forum. She owes the success of her presentation to her mentor, Erika Kósa who helped her a great deal.

Veronika has more than one dream. One of these is to visit the confectionery of her idol, Christine in England. Choccywoccydoodah is a favourite as it represents the same style Veronika calls her own. "The variety of colours and shapes fascinates me", she says. Hungarian consumers are simply not ready for such ornamented cakes, they consider them kitsch and over-decorated but Veronika thinks they are mistaken. "It takes good sense and creativity not to make an ornamented cake too kitschy but rather a wonderful work of art", she claims. For years, she has been dreaming about launching a design confectionery of her own. The magazine, however, was a chance which cannot have been missed - but as it takes loads of "loveable" work, the shop has to wait - though no doubt it will open one day. Due to the mentoring program, she has grown up to be an adult. She became mature enough to run a company by the age of 32. "The magazine itself is entirely the result of the mentoring program", she adds. She is also very grateful to Erika Kósa for invaluable business tips she has given her and which have been imprinted in her mind to give her the power to continue whenever she is in doubt.



Zoltán Kutasi

"Without the 50 Young Talents program I wouldn't have formed so many new connections."

FROM AUSTRALIA TO SOUTH AFRICA IN A SOLAR POWERED CAR

As a technical college student he took part in constructing an Otto-engine car which came second in the energy-saving vehicles' race. Students today construct solar cars under his technical supervision. The once-mentee has gone through a lot of change since he participated in La femme's 50 Young Talents program three years ago. Most importantly, he got married and is a father of a baby girl. He graduated in mechanical engineering at the College of Kecskemét. As an engineer he works at the department of vehicle technology at the same college. The 29-year-old man is the leader of an excellent team of engineers developing the potential car of the future. Their prototypes are a great success at many international competitions. Their latest development is a solar powered car.

During his college years, under the supervision of Dr. Mihály Bagány he and a team of students constructed the Megameter, a special vehicle which does not look like any other traditional car. It is equipped with a four-stroke Otto engine which can do 3082 kilometres on 1 litre of petrol, which is 0.032 litres for 100 kilometres of distance. Megameter came second in the Eco-marathon in Rotterdam in 2015.

After Megameter a new development followed. Under Zoltán's supervision the students constructed a car operating on solar cells and batteries. In 2015's Bridgestone World Solar Challenge, a major race for solar powered cars they came seventh out of 46 contestants. Their construction crossed the Australian continent without any technical failure. Since then they have been preparing for another challenge: a further developed version of the car is

going to represent the team in South Africa in autumn 2016. Although building prototypes does not mean everyone will use solar-only vehicles one day, he still thinks their work, their experments and research may move the world forward significantly. "Of course, you don't see Formula 1 cars running on public roads. Still if you take a look at a passenger car of the present, you can notice many improvements, for example in its brake system or engine which have been adopted from the F1 car of 20 years ago", he explains in an expressive way. "One of our most important objectives is to make participating college students gain considerable technical experience and enable them to have a totally different vision of the world after completing such a project. Another goal is to represent Hungarian higher education in significant international competitions." Besides his job at the college Zoltán launched his own enterprise focusing on composite plastic technologies.

Looking back at the mentorship program he is happy to have taken part. He met his mentor banker Roland Nátrán many times. Mr Nátrán introduced him to his colleagues and gave him plenty of advice which he otherwise might never have received. He is particularly glad to be in touch with his mentor even after the end of the mentorship program.



Lilla Garay

" The 50 Young Talents program is an opportunity not-to-be-missed for every talented young person."

WORLD-CONQUERING AMBITIONS

There are no borders for Lilla Garay and there are no distances which could separate her from others. This is why she is determined no language should hold her back. She speaks many languages, her thirst for knowledge is unquenchable... and none of these has changed over the last year.

A speaker of nine languages, regular contributor to specialist magazines in five of languages, Lilla is hoping to acquire even more. Hungarian being her most beloved tongue, she finds it impossible to confine herself and her abilities to any types of barrier. "This was the reason why La femme's 50 Young Talents program instantly caught my attention. This is a program which crosses boundaries between countries and generations, one which can only benefit everyone. I was hoping for some inspiration, to be given a brand new aspect, with which I will be able to combine the rigid world of legal science with the flexibility of languages and the ideas I believe in." She wanted to make use of the program in finding a kind of medium to wider audiences, in an area she finds to be of extraordinary importance. "For me, the increased protection of human rights, the right to education, women's equality as well as suppressing violence are essential."

This is what Lilla said last year but she had much to add this time, too: "There have been many changes in my life since then. I have completed my PhD studies in international criminal law. My doctoral thesis focuses on whether torture shall be justified in the war on terror". She has done research in several projects around the world, e.g. in Great Britain, the U.S. and Russia. She lectured at conferences in Berlin, Paris and Moscow. "I was honoured to have been invited to hold the opening lecture at a panel of a world conference in Honolulu, Hawaii this autumn." At present, she is staying in Hong Kong with research scholarship to study East Asian legal systems in depth. "Chinese culture has affected me a lot. I learnt Japanese and Korean, now, with my stay in Hong Kong I am thrilled to carry on with Chinese."

She keeps on working in the diplomatic field, focusing on East Asia. She has published in seven languages and is co-author of a book on sexual crimes which was published in the Czech Republic. She was a guest lecturer at Washington University, which opened up an entirely new dimension in education for her.

"I have gained many life-long friendships and valuable relationships owing to this mentoring program. My mentor, constitutional court judge Dr Ágnes Czine is a really inspiring person. I am utterly grateful to have met her, and I cannot express how much help she has been to me. I appreciate our time spent together as well as each and every piece of advice she gave me." Not only did her mentor assist her in reaching her goals, but she also pointed out some new ones. So far, Lilla has considered diplomacy the only means to reach her objectives, but dr. Czine's career has inspired her so much that now she is considering a career as a judge. "Come rain or shine, I am sure to continue my academic career. I find it of utmost importance to make sure that legal education also represents the current state of legal science, with particular emphasis on serving the greater good of the community, open to every act of virtue."



Júlia Gyulai

"The 50 Young Talents program has given me enormous social and professional support without which I would be less confident today."

A DREAM COME TRUE

It is due to the mentoring program that the young dancer can carry on leading a pro dance group from September 2016 on.

"I consider myself a lucky person: so far, only good things have happened to me, particularly since I joined La femme's 50 Young Talents program. My dream has come true", says Júlia Anna Gyulai with a smile. She mixed Irish step dancing with contemporary dance thus creating an unique style and imagery in eurhytmics. "I think the time has come now for the company to become entirely professional", she said a year ago. She has been preparing for the change for months and now, in September 2016 it is going to take place. Indeed, she found a sponsor for her group, Coincidance thus, from now on they can employ 20 professional dancers in professional circumstances. She attributes much of this achievement to La femme's 50 Young Talents program and particularly her mentor, Teodóra Bán, CEO of Szabad Tér Színház – Open Air Theatre Nonprofit Organization, and her experience and extended social capital. "We discussed extensively how the troupe can meet the challenging expectations of this new task, and she has given me loads of good advice."

It was in Dublin where Júlia elaborated her dancing skills in her secondary school years. A family friend put her up many times so she had the chance to join the rehearsals of the local step dance group. Later, she joined Madách Musical Dance School, learnt ballet dancing and got acquainted with modern dances. Leaving secondary school she was admitted to the Hungarian Dance Academy, majoring in modern dance. A year later she started at the University of Theatre and Film Arts Budapest, where she majored in stage directing and choreography. Two years later she changed to dance choreography headed by Yvette Bozsik. Meanwhile, in 2014 she graduated from the Academy in Modern Dance, and then finished university in 2016 as a choreographer.

She launched the Coincidence group with two of her colleagues. They merge contemporary dance and Irish step dancing. "Irish step dance with its upfront rhythm and modern contamporary styles with their smooth passion complement each other very well", she explains. Their four performances, each choreographed by Júlia herself, are a great success.

Last time they performed A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Budapest Summer Festival on the Városmajor Stage in August. It was her mentor who invited Júlia and her troupe which shows that their co-operation did not end with the official ending of the program. The young troupe manager is hoping that this will stay the same in the long run: "We have been talking about performances we may carry out together".

She successfully participated in a competition with her synopsis of her play, and Teodóra Bán introduced her to Péter Ertl, Director of the National Dance Theatre, who gave her the chance to perform it on their stage.



István Lám

"Without the 50 Young Talents program it would have been much more difficult to avoid all the failures related to setting up my enterprise."

MARKET LEADER IN ENCRYPTION

He started a new research project in 2009, dealing with shared file systems' cryptographic rights management. First he did an award-winning Scientific Students Association's dissertation, then he copyrighted his findings, nationally in 2011 and internationally in 2012. When we first met István Lám three years ago in La femme's 50 Young Talents program, he had just graduated ScL BSc as computer science engineer, doing his MSc studies in the same field. He believes it was mentoring that meant the most for the participants in the program. "It's the personality of my mentors that meant much to me in my career", he says, "and I find it important for the young to meet real-life examples and hear real-life experiences beyond great achievements. We need to hear about risks and failures, too. In La femme's 50 Young Talents program my mentor, dr Katalin Ránky gave me several hints with the help of which I succeeded in avoiding making embarrassing mistakes. We discussed mainly business matters, as that was the time I was considering setting up and running my enterprise. Katalin gave me some really custom-made pieces of advice, and told me about her own business career and experiences." The company Tresorit is involved in cryptography, that is, the science of encryption. The latter guarantees that banking, public administration and military secrets are kept, and the only person to decrypt the information is the one who holds the encryption/decryption key. "Already as students we thought long and hard about a file sharing service which is only accessible to those who are entitled. We wanted to have our data safe and we wanted to develop this into a sort of cloud-based platform." For a while they sponsored the copyright process of their cryptographic developments themselves, but after little

time they realized this was not going to work. It was then that they started to look for investors. They found ten international companies who funded further development. "Actually, a small group of students was given an investment of 380 million HUF", he said, quite straightforward, three years ago. They wanted nothing less but to become market leaders in encryption. "We saw the market gap but we were also aware that our time was limited", he recalls.

"In 2013, at the beginning of the first La femme's 50 Young Talents program, Tresorit was a start-up company. The first version of our encrypted file-sharing service was made available to the public in that year, and not much later we got the second round of investment. The three years since then saw development and growth both for me and the company." Today they employ more than 50 people and have tens of thousands of users from the U.S. and Europe.

Three years ago all three founders were university students but they are still a very young team, the average age being 27 years. As István Lám recollects, "The most important change in my life is that earlier I used to take part in coding and product development on a daily basis, but nowadays I tend to focus more on management affairs and developing the long-term business strategy, including finding new directions." Their goal is to make file handling and sharing more secure due to encryption, thus facilitating people's work. They wish to make it available for an ever-widening range of people, "even in exciting sectors like healthcare data or financial services which are getting more and more important as time goes by".