

YOUTH CENTERS IN IZMIR

‘Young Izmir’ is one of the units of the municipality which was established based on the theme of ‘Youth-Friendly City’ of Izmir Metropolitan Municipality, aims to unite, socialize and strengthen the youth of Izmir between the ages of 15-30.

Since the Youth-friendly City Izmir attaches great importance to young people's access to social, economic and cultural services, *Young Izmir Mobile* application is also, one of the municipality’s projects that aims to reach young people in distant districts. Thus, the *Digital Young Izmir* hosts Personal Development Seminars, Workshops and various events that all young people from Turkey. In this context, within the scope of the Village-Trace Project, local workshops are held where the youth in the village and the youth living in the city will be together.

Young Izmir operates the activities such as Language Courses, Personal Development Seminars, Rights Based Workshops, Social Responsibility Projects that will contribute to the personal development of young people in in three different locations, ‘*Historical Gas Factory Youth Campus*’, ‘*Balçova Youth Center*’ and ‘*Young Izmir Ornekkoy*’.

Izmir Metropolitan Municipality’s Youth Centers

Historical Gas Factory Youth Campus

‘Historical Gas Factory Campus’ is located in a historical green area that allows young people to internalize the culture of living together and solidarity and to contribute to the city they live in through voluntary activities. It is a place where the young people can freely produce projects in large areas and they can carry out prototypes of their projects in workshops. It is also possible to research both digitally and in the library.

The campus has an area of 23,250 square meters in the Historical Gas Factory, which was reshaped according to the results of the "*Izmir Youth Workshop*" held on November 30, 2019 with the participation of NGOs and Student Organisations. Existing buildings in this wide area provide services for our young people as ‘the Research Library’, ‘Young İzmir’, ‘Performance

Hall', 'Idea and FactoryLab' Izmir. In addition, open-air cinema activities and grass concerts activities continue on the green area during the year.

Genc Izmir Ornekkoy

Genc Izmir Ornekkoy located in *Ornekkoy Social Projects Campus* is a center where all young people can have free Psycho-Social Support Services, apart from attending workshops that contribute to their personal development. This youth center consists of 'Elcim Barkay Library', 'Young Izmir Activity Hall', Training Hall, Performance Hall and Psycho-Social Support Unit.

Balçova Youth Center and Adventure Park

With the scope of Adventure Park and Balçova Youth Center, services will be provided and works are accomplished toward the needs of disadvantaged areas that those two centers located, then the whole youth profile through the city. The aim of the centers including services of free internet, library, studying room, open spaces, technology room and psycho-social support is to increase supportive relationship between NGOs and young people with its feature of being a meeting area for NGOs having agreement with the institution before.

Because of its location, the Adventure Park Center which will run works toward students from high school and alike, has services much like Balçova Youth Center. The center including workshops and meetings aimed to gather NGOs and young people in their early ages, has courses on zipline, and climbing; therefore young people can find a chance to know about extreme sports.

Youth Theater

Located next to the Kulturpark Tennis Club, the Youth Theater affiliated to the 'Izmir Metropolitan Municipality Culture and Art Department' hosts various events such as conferences, seminars, panels, theaters and concerts free of charge.

Izmir Swimming Triathlon Youth and Sports Club

Izmir Metropolitan Municipality Youth and Sports Club is Turkey's biggest sports club with 3,500 licensed athletes, nearly 300 trainers, and 40 branches. The basic philosophy of Izmir

Metropolitan Metropolitan Municipality Sport Club is to ensure every Izmir resident sport and to create the sportive identity and culture of the city.

Apart from the youth centers affiliating to the IMM (Izmir Metropolitan Municipality), there are also 12 Public Youth Centers in the center and districts of Izmir, which are operating under the “Izmir Youth and Provincial Sports Directorate”. They operate in order to contribute to the socio-cultural development of the youth between the ages of 7-29. They are institutions that enable young people to take part in society as active citizens by giving them the opportunity to use their free time in line with their interests, desires and abilities within the framework of social, cultural, artistic and sportive activities, and carry out studies aimed at protecting young people from harmful habits. The centers, consisting of a library, amphitheater, meeting hall and indoor and outdoor exhibition areas, host many events every year. Trainings are given in many courses such as music, drama, mind games workshops, Robotic coding etc. The name of these centers are as follows: *Izmir Alsancak Youth Center, Izmir Ataturk Youth Center, Izmir Ayrancilar Youth Center, Izmir Bayindir Youth Center, Izmir Bornova Youth Center, Izmir Buca Youth Center, Izmir Karabaglar Youth Center, Izmir Youth Center, Izmir Kinik Youth Center, Izmir Menderes Youth Center, Izmir Odemis Youth Center, Izmir Tire Youth Center, Mercek Youth Center, Izmir Yasin Boru Youth Center,*

Youth Centers in other District Municipalities :

Karsiyaka Municipality, Ismail Hakki Tonguc Youth Center

There are tennis courts, basketball and carpet fields in the center. Within these sports complexes, young people have the opportunity to organize tournaments in the tennis courts, basketball and football fields, and take tennis, basketball and football lessons with the trainers of the Municipality and the trainers of the Provincial Directorate of Youth and Sports.

KARGEM, which works with the principle of equal opportunity in education, is affiliated to Karsiyaka Municipality. It provides free education support to children and young people in the grade range. The center's success rate in high school and university entrance exams has increased to 90%. In KARGEM, where more than a thousand students attend throughout the education period, courses, excursions and various activities are organized in order to prepare the children for life in the best way possible and to contribute to their social lives.

Konak Municipality, Izmir Bulut Oncu Youth Center

Izmir Bulut Oncu Youth Center, which runs with the financial support of the Japanese Government in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Community Volunteers Foundation and Young Approaches in Health Association. Within the scope of the project, services such as youth-friendly health information and counseling, psychosocial support, personal development workshops, vocational, artistic, cultural and sports activities in different fields for the needs of young people, living together and social support are provided.

Buca Municipality, Tarik Akan Youth Center

In the center, there is a painting, music and ceramics room, exhibition area and cafeteria, fitness, bowling cinema and theater halls, as well as a computer room equipped with the equipment for technical courses of architecture and engineering students. The library with hundreds of books, which will eliminate the resource problem in the lessons and research of young people, is among the important services of the center.

Buca Municipality, Isilay Saygin Youth Center

İşilay Saygın Youth Center, which is organized to meet all the needs of young people from laundry to library, from rest areas to chess units, serves all student youth.

Izmir Swimming Triathlon Youth and Sports Club

Izmir Metropolitan Municipality Youth and Sports Club is Turkey's biggest sports club with 3,500 licensed athletes, nearly 300 trainers in 40 branches. The basic philosophy of Izmir Metropolitan Municipality Sports Club is to make every Izmir person do sports and to create the sportive identity and culture of the city.

