

# THE NEW STAR

independent student newspaper

ISSUE 5

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## Goodbye 2024, Hello 2025!



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SHULGIN  
AND AUCA**



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The New Year is truly a magical time. Everyone feels the magic in the air and looks forward to the holidays. Now, I want to share some advice that will help make your New Year celebration more interesting and memorable.

- The first and most important thing for making your holidays more enjoyable is to stop stressing over studies. The exams are behind us, and the new semester hasn't begun. This is the perfect time to recharge and gain strength for the year ahead.
- Rest the right way. Before your holidays begin, decide how you want to spend your time: read a book, learn new skills, or spend more time with family and friends. Planning your holidays will make them more productive and enjoyable.
- Start the new year with a clean slate. The end of the year is the perfect time for reflection. Think about what happened last year—what changed you and your life. Set goals for the upcoming year. There are many ways to do this. Use the opportunity—it will help you stay focused on your goals and achievements.

The New Year is always the beginning of something new. I hope you find your own beginning and make it happen. I wish for the New Year to bring happiness to each of us.

**Margarita Lulakova**  
**ICP-124**



*Making the  
Most of Your  
New Year: Tips  
for a Fresh  
Start*



*"When you write a literary work, you are not limited by anything." Nikolai Shulgin is just a person or a special, difficult part of AUCA...*

Nikolai Grigoryevich Shulgin is one of the first people who was at the stage of the origin and formation of the American University of Central Asia (AUCA).

It is very difficult to list everything that has arisen in our university thanks to his ideas and his work... It is difficult to walk through AUCA and not stumble over what NG touched (as students call him)... It is difficult to determine who NG is by profession, what is important in his AUCA life and what is secondary... And is there a secondary one?...

Nikolai Shulgin joined AUCA in 1997 and even had the honor to attend the ceremony of renaming the university, at which the ribbon was cut by Hillary Clinton herself. Hillary Clinton's clothes are very modest. She was like all our Bishkek women. Even the stockings, at first glance, were bought on the Dordoi. Very democratic...

In the 2000s, when there was no active student activity at the university, Shulgin began publishing a sports newspaper. This initiative inspired the students of the Department of Journalism, and thus they created their own newspaper, Star. However, the newspaper did not last long and was soon abandoned. Nikolai Grigoryevich could not leave this case, so he took up the restoration of the newspaper and, after a while, renamed the newspaper NewStar. Today, NewStar is an internal project of AUCA, which does not go beyond the university, according to the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. But it doesn't bother us much. We are proud that in 2008, the Union of Journalists of the Kyrgyz Republic Newstar was recognized as the best student newspaper in Kyrgyzstan.

One of the notable achievements of Nikolai Shulgin is the creation of an academic calendar. Having visited and gained experience from universities abroad, Shulgin implemented a system that allowed students to comfortably plan their learning process. This system used color coding to indicate the importance of events. "We decided to make our calendar colorful to make it easier to perceive information," he explains. As a result, the AUCA calendar was divided into several colors, each of which symbolizes a certain category of events: red – the most important events attended by the administration, green – sports events, blue – events where the participation of the administration is not required, and gray – academic periods when students have exams. This color code allows all participants in the educational process to quickly navigate the events and tasks for the academic year.

The Orientation Week occupies a separate place in the AUCA Calendar. This is a unique phenomenon. I will quote the words of David Huvaler, the former President of AUCA. "I was the President of 4 American universities after AUCA in different countries, and in none of them did I manage to create such a unique spirit as you have created."

Nikolai Shulgin's contribution to the development of the university does not end only in the academic field. He is also the founder of the Mirrors Theater, which is one of the most beloved parts of students' lives since the theater is a place of self-realization for students. As Shulgin himself says, "theater is not just a stage and rehearsals; it is a discipline that helps students focus on learning and plan their lives at the university for the whole day and not for 2-3 hours, as in some Bishkek universities..." In other words, students actively participating in theatrical productions receive irreplaceable organizational experience, the experience of communicating with a huge number of people, and the ability to be the center of attention in any situation. By the way, many students stay in the theater even after graduation...

The Mirrors Theater is not just creativity; it is a place where love reigns in all its unique manifestations...

NG has written more than ten books of short stories and novellas and is a member of the Writers' Union of Kyrgyzstan. "I consider myself a professional writer, maybe even more than a director. Because when you write, you are not limited by anything. You are free like a bird in the clouds," he concludes in the words of one of his colleagues.







# Experience at TSI-AUCA as a Freshman

Hello everyone! I am a first-year student. Just recently, my first semester at the Technical School of Innovation ended. It wasn't always easy, but it was incredibly exciting. During this time, I realized that college is not just about studying; it's about preparing for adulthood. Here you face difficulties; learn to overcome them and find something special of your own. This semester has been a real adventure for me, full of events, new acquaintances, and experiences.

One of the highlights for me was the Initiation day. It was a day that will be remembered for a long time. Everyone was so beautiful and prepared, and our performances were just fire. All the rehearsals where we gave our best were not in vain. I am proud to have been a part of this celebration.

I especially want to highlight the show program and the performance of our music club, Music Band. It was something incredible. Live music, the voices of our students that made my skin crawl, and the energy in the hall that words cannot convey.

It was also an important day for me because it was my first time speaking to such a large audience as a senator. It was exciting, but the emotions I received made this moment special. College has become for me not just a place where I study but also a place where I found my family, where every day brings joy, support, and inspiration. I'm looking forward to what the second semester will bring.

**Amanbekova Kanyshai**  
TSI

# Being a Member of a Student Senate

I am a second-year student at TSI AUCA College in the New Age Entrepreneurship and Human Intelligence program. This is the second year I have been a member of the Student Senate, and in 2024 I became its chairman. For me, this position is an opportunity to help, to make the place where I come every day to receive invaluable knowledge even more comfortable for every student.

As senators, our task is not just to be responsive but to be purposeful, passionate about their work, willing to leave their mark on people who listen to every voice of the students. The annual tradition of choosing the new composition of the student senate has existed since the very foundation of the college. It is a symbol of a new beginning, which establishes an understanding of a proper society where the rights of each member are respected, which demonstrates the basic principle of democracy. Which is supported in our college. Every year, we take on challenges, taking responsibility, and leading others.

The Senate team is unique every year. Everyone is very talented. The skills of the guys can't be identical. We are all different, but we all have a common goal—to make the world around us a little better.

**Kleshchukova Sofia**  
TSI







# Open Day at AUCA Makerspace

On December 14, the AUCA Makerspace hosted an Open Day, which became a real celebration of creativity and inspiration. The event included New Year-themed master classes, where participants could try their hand at different types of handicrafts and create unique souvenirs with their own hands.


The master classes included:

 **Wood embroidery** – participants created unique New Year toys that are ideal for decorating a Christmas tree or as a gift.

 **Paper soldering** – master class guests made unusual postcards that will definitely surprise their recipients.

 **Folk-style products** – under the guidance of masters, participants mastered traditional crafts and assembled miniature yurts.

 **Working with a vinyl cutter** – everyone created stylish New Year stickers of their own design.

 **3D printing** – children and adults drew patterns for bracelets, which were then turned into a full-fledged design and printed on a 3D printer.

Participants happily took home souvenirs created during the master classes, which was a pleasant end to the day. The festive atmosphere was complemented by our colleagues who came from Russia especially for this event. They supervised the master classes, shared their experience and inspired guests to be creative. The Open Day showed how technology and creativity can unite people, creating a festive mood and leaving pleasant memories of the time spent in the AUCA Makerspace.





# What strange and amazing thing do you want to do in 2025?



**Shakhzoda, JMC-121**

I want to improve my mental health.



**Elvina, ECO**

I'd love to embark on a journey to a truly remote and unique destination, seeking out hidden wonders.



**Sana, ANTH-124**

I want to go to the mountain at night.



**Meerim, IBL**

I want to be part of an art photoshoot or a mini-film in a Kyrgyz culture aesthetic.



**Muska, BA-124**

I want to learn how to hunt animals using archery skill.



**Sabina, LAS-124**

I want to learn how to dance lezginka, because it's one of the best dances I've ever seen.

Позиция авторов статей не всегда совпадает с позицией ред. коллегии в целом.

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