

Theatre Art for Education, Personal Development and European Citizenship

Growing up in today's multicultural society, youth must learn to deal with ethnic and cultural differences in a positive way. First they must know and understand their own group's values and ethical norms, then they can be taught to know, understand and accept the others' values and to be aware that together they can build a better world.

This project is designed to contribute to the education of young generation in order to become open-minded, to understand and to accept the differences as expressions of our common humanity and further to their better social integration in a multicultural environment.

In this respect, the specific objectives of the project are:

- Create and consolidate relationships between different organizations in Europe with the aim of creating synergies to educate the young generation in the spirit of flexibility of thought, to correctly relate to situations and partners, in the view of a better social integration
- Improving teenagers' ethical values and self-esteem through discover the own roots and awareness of the own culture and values, by interpretations and historical evocations
- Learning to appreciate and understand differences, similarities and other people's point of view and to consider inter-ethnic relations as European gain by common activities
- Improving self-confidence and communication skills of teenagers for a better interaction with others through understanding and practicing the non-verbal communication; identifying and control the emotions for conflict management using theatrical techniques
- Developing artistic skills, creativity, spontaneity, highlight native intelligence and positive thinking of youth by facing with different relationship between characters in exercises of "putting in another's shoes" and of improvisation and concentration
- Improving personal abilities of interacting and building bridges of trust by working in a team with people of different culture and traditions, through theatrical games and storytelling
- Strengthening relationships between participants, discover that, beyond our differences, we share a common humanity; create a positive attitude towards European values.

Target group of the project are teenagers at the age of shaping their personality, a period that requires improved attention from the educators which must find proper ways to attract the students, blending the formal and non-formal education. In the project will be included students with low possibilities, from socio-economic disadvantaged families.

Participant organisations are highschoools and NGOs dealing with different aspects of young people's education and social integration and together, bringing their expertise, they will create a European synergy for educate students using innovative and attractive methods in the view of avoid early school leaving and to support student's better social integration.

The main way of learning within the project is Theater Art - or Actor's Art - having as representative institution the Theatre and as artistic access ways: performance, play, improvisation, the relationship between characters/partners, situational awareness and transmitting the message to the public-parties.

During the project will be created opportunities for exchanges, interaction, experiment and understanding. By promoting critical thinking and an open mind towards the others, this project makes it possible for teenagers to be aware their own culture and values, and also to discover of others' culture and values. The interaction with other teenagers from other European countries thus creates possibilities for mutual enrichment in a continued 'giving and receiving' and building positive relationships.

Participants will have the opportunity to work together in mixed teams, to learn more about others, to discover similarities and to appreciate diversity as a source of cultural enrichment, without recourse to prejudice. They will see themselves from other's perspectives and will learn to accept others with empathy, to understand and respect their feelings, convictions and ways of leaving.

These will make them aware about the common European values and will help them to acknowledge the need to understand and respect other people and other cultures.

Working and spending time together will create bridges of communication between participants and will lead to improving their communication and linguistic competencies. perspectives and will learn to accept others with empathy, to understand and respect their feelings, convictions and ways of leaving.

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