



TOBE - The first Drums for Peace exchange in Romania

Salve Romania organization brought to life the first Drums for Peace youth exchange in Romania. Young people from Finland, Estonia, Wales and Romania spent one week together south-eastern Romania, in Oltenita, a medium-size city next to the Danube.

There were three workshops in which the young people were involved from 20 to 27 of July: Music, dance and theatre. The workshop leaders were well-known artists in DfP network: **Andy Penny (UK)**, **Stephen Johnson (UK)** and

Eugenia Barbu (RO). The youth exchange ended with a show in front of the local community where people could see the results of the three working groups.

TOBE project ("tobe" is Romanian word for "drums") can also be seen as the English words "to be". The young people used drums to be heard and be noticed, to fulfill their need of affirmation and recognition. – **Daniel Iulian Stan**, project leader

The organizers involved also many local volunteers



in preparing for the youth exchange. They had the chance to grow their entrepreneurial spirit by making a fundraising. They made jewelry from recycled ma-

terials, origami, home baked cookies and they tried to also involve the community by offering face painting, games and music.

Each of us had a certain role, we collaborated and worked together in harmony, completing each other – the singers, the people who played instruments (like guitar, drums, tambourines, go-go bells, barrels or that thing Leenu played which sounded really cool, yet I have no idea what's called) and the beat box king. I confess that at first I was a bit afraid of the instruments (yes, I know they don't bite) because I was feeling kind of confused, not being sure what was expected of me but Andy enlightened me: all I had to do was have fun!

Emily, participant

Charlotte, in Memoriam



It is hard to understand, but Charlotte is no longer among us. Charlotte died of cancer Thursday 18th July after being ill almost since our annual meeting in Sweden last year.

Charlotte was among the founders of Drums for Peace in year 2000, and with the dance-group from youth-centre "Subway-Club" in Grenaa she took, among many other

projects, part in the remarkable Drums for Peace Performance Tour from France to Portugal in March 2002, and since 2003 she also hosted an annual exchange "Action Street Art" in Grenaa (pictures are from 2004).

Charlotte was a professional youth-worker, but her solidarity and her warm and enthusiastic personality made her work being much more than a job. This led her to the func-

tion as development-officer for youth-work in the new structure of Grenaa & Norddjurs after the Danish municipality reform in 2007 - and this made Norddjurs being the new Drums for Peace partner due to Charlotte's great interest and belief in art, creativity and international cooperation.

Missing Charlotte is a enormous loss for Nord-

djurs and for Drums for Peace, but first of all, of course, for her family: the new man in Charlotte's life, whom she told us about at the meeting in Sweden, Charlotte's daughter Svea, her man and their child.

Blessed be her soul and long live the memory of all the great time, we have had together with Charlotte.

Bo Otterstrom
President of Drums for Peace





KulturKlash festival, meeting point for youth exchanges

Three youth exchanges took place in Guldborgsund municipality, Denmark, during the annual KulturKlash festival. As part of the Grundtvig-project "New Life to Traditional Stories", it was decided that all three exchanges should take as an inspiration the old, Northern, pagan story of Thor and his hammer. This way, the festival transformed into an International Festival for User Involvement. The festival also hosted meeting and artistic work related to "New Life to Traditional Stories" and several artists and project-managers were in Nykoebing and Guldborgsund due to this.

Multilateral youth exchange in Nykoebing (DK) hosted by Nyxys with partners from Estonia, Italy, Iceland, Poland and Denmark

Marta Rudnicka, project leader:

First time being a project leader is always hard and no matter how big preparations you are undertaking – you will make many mistakes, which are in fact not a failure, but a learning process. Your ambition got hurt once you realized how many things you did wrong and what is worse- that others were able to notice that, however, it is more important to see and understand own mistakes and do not to let them happen again. I am extremely thankful for the support from other leaders, but especially critics.



Multilateral youth-exchange in Stubbekøbing (DK) hosted in cooperation with CultHus & Artrain with partners from Romania, Finland and Latvia



Once I arrived there, I found myself surrounded by strangers. In the next couple of days I was surprised to find out how energetic and passionate can a man be and how many qualities can be discovered in a stranger in less than a week.

The most beautiful part of the project consisted –from my point of view-, in the emotions and the adrenaline before each show. After two days of workshops, every one of us had its role well-known, ready for the show. I will never forget our way to Nykoebing, where we took our first performance. We were all nervous and yet full of energy for what was about to happen. - **Alice**, participant

Vibes 2013 youth exchange in Guldborgsund (DK) with partners from Portugal and Poland

