



Board meeting in Helsinki; new projects

Our "Drums for Peace" partner, Helsinki Pioneers, hosted the 2017 DfP board meeting during which members discussed latest activity and future plans in our network.

Between 17-18th of August 2017 the board members Luisa Magalhaes, Andy Penny, Eugenia Barbu and Chairman Antti Nordin met in Helsinki to check on the DfP activities so far. However, board team was not complete as Ida Wärme Otterstrøm was not able to make it to the meeting. Also, further decisions as a result of the meeting will be made at the next annual DfP meeting.

Amongst the discussed topics, there were DfP budget, fee changing, new artists and organizations to become part of DfP, office related tasks, ongoing projects and plans to re-submit the KA2 (strategic partnership) application that was rejected at the April deadline.

Speaking of the KA2 application, unfortunately we missed 1 point to have the project approved by the National Agency in Finland. However, at the October deadline the application got improved and re-submitted under a slightly different name, which is "Art Empowering Youth Work". It will be coordinated by Helsinki Pioneers in cooperation with Arci La Quercia (IT), ARTTRAIN (DK), GAIAC (PT), ACTOR (RO) and EXPERIENCE (UK) and it mainly aims to export our DfP art-based methodology to other interested organizations working with youth through non formal education internationally.

The project will last for one year and it features two staff meetings in UK and Denmark, and two international learning mobilities in Italy and Finland. More about the application approval will be known in the beginning of this winter when we will update on this in our DfP website calendar.

In line with the board meeting agenda and needs of our network, our KA2 application foresees also training for a new generation of youth workers (project leaders, group leaders) and new artists to take over in DfP. Moreover, the project secures time for partner building activity and we will seek to enlarge our network by inviting over new members interested in doing non-formal education through arts.

Other approved projects

So far in DfP our partners have two EVS projects approved. One will be coordinated by GAIAC, between 2017- 2018, which will receive in Portugal volunteers from ACTOR (RO), Municipality of Cinisello Balsamo (IT) and LCYC (LV), and also from two external partners from Greece and Austria. The second one called "International City 8" will be coordinated by CultHus who will welcome to Denmark volunteers from Municipality of Cinisello Balsamo (IT) and GAIAC

(PT). They will do their internship for 9 months each, between 2018-2019.

"Cultures on the Road" is yet another approved youth exchange project which will be hosted end of November beginning of December this year by Municipality of Cinisello Balsamo, in Chiavenna (IT), and it will be bring together participants from LCYC (LV), ACTOR (RO), SLIPERIET (SE) and Helsinki Pioneers (FI). The project aims at improving participants' skills such as initiative and creativeness through participatory arts.

Further planning

As for future projects, at the October deadline our partners submitted two youth exchange project applications: ACTOR (RO) proposed "Re+creART", a project about responsible consumption and creative use of recycled materials, while "Welcome, Willkommen, Bienvenue" (WWB) would be a two phased exchange hosted by ART-TRAIN (DK) in Poland and in Finland, which also includes work on aspects related to DfP future activities.