



Erasmus+ Youth Exchange
Behind the Curtain
4-14th September 2019
Osterholz-Scharmbeck – Germany

Dear Participant,

Welcome to the “**Behind the Curtain**”, multinational Erasmus+ youth exchange of more than 40 young people, 18-30 years old that come from 7 different European countries: Croatia, Italy, Serbia, Spain, Cyprus, Greece and Germany. During this youth exchange **theater methods** are used as ways of informal learning, boosting imagination and creativity.

This project was inspired by several other theatre projects of **NaturKultur**, as well as by cooperation with our partners on this project, some of which have rich experience when it comes to theatre as great tool in informal education.

Play is sometimes associated with wasting of time and laziness, and many forget creativity as its fundament. We encourage play as a powerful tool for positive personal change that leads to change on the level of society. We strongly believe that play can change us, our communities, our states and Europe for better! That is why **YOU** are here!

This short Info Pack deals with the most important aspects and details of this project and we hope you will get inspired to decide to apply and join us!



Project in short: aims and activities

One of the strategic goals of NaturKultur is to increase awareness among youth about **human rights, non-discrimination, tolerance and inclusion**. We encourage young people to take proactive role in the processes in their local communities. We want young people to be informed, and what is more important – to get inspired to be actively involved in our European future! We are in particular moved by recent happenings and debates in Europe: migrant crisis, borders issues, Brexit, enlargement, rise of right-wing political parties and endangered human rights. We do not want to solely watch what is going on, but instead to say loudly what we think and whenever possible – to act!

Our objectives with this project are to stimulate reflection over the topic of inclusions and exclusion through storytelling. Through storytelling and exchange of

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ideas, participants will also reflect on how they perceive others and how they may be perceived themselves.

The objectives of this project are:

- To encourage critical thinking, inclusive attitudes and intercultural competences of participants, so they can **act as leaders** in their society and **open for constructive dialogue** with and among young people;
- To equip youth participants with relevant puppet theatre and general **storytelling tools and methodologies** to stimulate youth and understanding of fundamental values of inclusion, tolerance, respect and freedom;
- To increase understanding among youth participants, in regards to the issue of exclusion and inequality and how they can play role in **preventing this problem**.



The activities planned to be implemented cover workshops which include discussion and debate over the topic of inclusion and exclusion, workshops in which participants learn the components of storytelling, constructing their story into a script for a play and learning how to situate a moral and message into a story. Participants will also exercise what they learn throughout the puppet theatre workshops, creating their

own puppet theatre play which will be performed to the local community in northern Germany as well as distributed by a web video platform such as YouTube.

Profile of Participants

Participants of this youth exchange are people that are interested in theatre and EU-topics, who would like to share experiences with their peers from other countries over the topics of non-discrimination, inclusion, refugees, migrants, human rights, tolerance, peace, friendship, etc. Participants should speak good English, since it is the main working language of the project.

The participants are expected to take active role in the program, to respect others regardless of the social status, nationality or sexual orientation, to create friendly atmosphere, to work harmonically in team and to give their best to spread around the messages we create.

Number of participants per country: 6 (5 + 1 group leader)

Age of participants: 18-30 (group leaders can be older than 30)

Costs and travel info

All costs of this project are covered by Erasmus+, and they include food, accommodation and travel.

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Be aware that Erasmus + is a co-financing program, so if you exceed the limit on your travel costs, each participant has to cover the difference themselves. Only 2nd class, economy class can be reimbursed. Here is the list of maximal reimbursement for travel per country:

Croatia = €275
Cyprus = €360
Italy = €275
Greece = €360

Serbia = €275
Spain = €275
Germany = €180

Insurance: Every participant should have valid health insurance for Germany during your stay on the project. This means that when you don't have your own insurance, the organizer doesn't bear any responsibilities towards the participants. That is why every participant should timely purchase their own insurance.

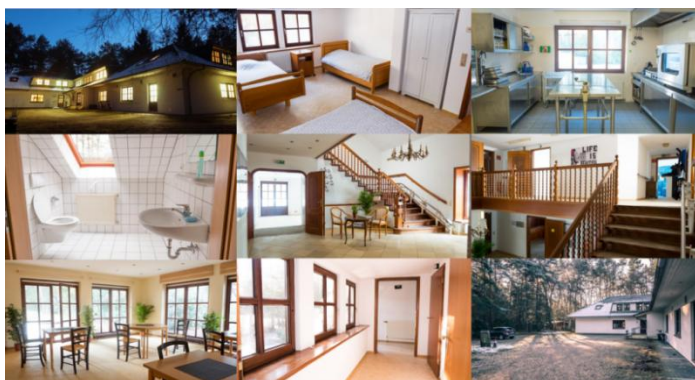
Venue: KulturHaus, Osterholz-Scharmbeck (near Bremen)

We are going to stay in a very simple accommodation something like youth hostel, which is situated in a beautiful natural surroundings.

The rooms are going to be 2-5 beds per room. We are going to be from mixed nationalities, but from the same gender. We will be the only group in the house, one big family. We would do workshops, make party, make national evenings, cook and eat together, load the dishwasher, etc. There are showers in 7 of the rooms, for some rooms there are group showers and there are 4 more separate shower rooms.

We hire our own cooking and logistics team, who prepares nice and healthy meals for us and we can tell them to follow our food preferences (e.g. if we are vegetarians, if we do not eat pork, etc.).

<https://www.facebook.com/KulturGruppenHaus/>
<https://kulturgruppenhaus.de>



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