



Five new members in Drums for Peace network

Five proposals for membership were approved during Drums for Peace last annual meeting in Nykøbing Falster (DK)

After the approval of the new members, Drums for Peace network has a number of 14 organizations from eight different countries. During this year's annual meeting Pako and Boris were elected as the deputies of the network, while Andy and Graca were proposed to continue as board members. Eugenia and Massimo, the other two board members of DfP were elected last year and are en-

titled to keep their position for two years from then on. It was also decided that the artists that do not work so often with DfP network will still be included on the DfP artist list and have the right to nominate the artists' representative for the annual meeting. The condition is that they have to have been leading at least two workshops at youth-exchanges related to the network in the last three years.



The new DfP members:

- Youth centre "51'eren" Skellefteå, SE
- Association "MTÜ Foorumteater, EE
- Association "Ung Kultur i Stubbekøbing" (UKS), DK
- "CultHus" the public culture-houses in Nykøbing F, DK
- Liepaja Children & Youth Centre, LV

Our organization is happy to be a part of DfP because of the opportunities for education, exchanges and for the values within the DfP network. Through international projects and small happenings for our members we will hopefully in a high degree contribute to the development of the European and international dimension of our community.

Jonna Tarp and Nicoline Kjerulff, UKS



Bridges 2014

Schools workshops are a way of experiential learning present in Drums for Peace network since 2010. The workshops, no matter if one day (hit and run) or full day, rose always to the expectations of the participants.

DfP was in this way able to help students find new inspiration and explore other

School workshops - helping students find the fun in learning

competencies than the ones usually used in schools. And, of course, the network brought a lot of fun for the young people, by offering them challenging workshops, such as music, dance, songwriting or painting.

Right: Performance following school workshop in Stege, Denmark



It's great. We enjoy it a lot. Your spirit lightens up because you move and dance and you challenge yourself. It requires a bit of courage, but that's a good thing.

Mille, student

I had fun. I found out that I understand more English than I thought, and I think it's great to be taught English in a different way than we are used to.

Tim, student

I'm amazed what you can do with these youngsters in only a few hours. It's a pleasure to see how they develop. From being shy and nervous about speaking English, to being able to express themselves and show to other people what they have learned. It's a major difference. Surely it boosts their self-confidence a lot. I think all students should be allowed to experience your workshops. You bring so much joy and good memories!

Lea Buur, teacher



Getting to know new members of Drums for Peace network

Interview with Egita Zelve from Liepaja Children & Youth Centre, Latvia



Can you tell me about one successful project in your organization and why do you think it was a successful project?

One example of a successful project is one we had last year, "Open, enter". There were workshops for young people, who made short movies. There were six movies in really good quality and a lot of people that came to see them. One of the movies got, actually, a prize in the Ministry of Science and Education, to encourage young people to have creative activities in their free time. They got also a free journey to Sweden. But the thing that also the Ministry agreed it was a good movie, it means it was a really good movie. And a successful project.

What is important in planning a successful project?

I think what is really important is to get to know about the youngsters and what they really need. To know their needs and expectations, also. And if we can manage to reflect them in the activities, then I think a project is successful. It's very important when you apply for a grant to think like the youngsters. Because young people are very important, you have to involve them from the beginning.

What's the best way to find out what they want?

The best way is to just talk to them, in an informal way. Having a coffee together or playing a game, for example. This is how we do it. Because they are not so open at formal meetings. It would be other answers to the same questions. If we are friends with them, then we get the real answers. Also, every year there is a survey about

the young people in the city and that's also helpful.

Do you have young people that were participants in some projects and are now helping with other ones?

Yes. There is, for example, a young man that was a group leader in one of the projects and afterwards he came and asks if we need help with anything. We involve him now in different activities and he wants to write his own youth exchange soon. And from each projects there are two-three persons that would come and offer to help us.

What do you think are the difficulties during projects?

It's always about the papers and how to manage the bureaucratic and financial things. Then, the international projects. And the time management is also one of the difficulties. For me, sometimes is difficult when young people are losing their motivation. But usually, the youngsters just need a little push, and then it's ok again.

What do you think about EVS volunteers in your organization?

We have the first volunteer from Austria and we are expecting the second one, from Ukraine. There are a lot of young people interested to go to some other country and we help them with the information and how to

find a project. And we are also able to host volunteers, of course. The first volunteer has been just one month here, but she's already involved in a lot of activities and made her own. I think it's helpful for us, because sometimes we talk to her and we get different ideas about how to do something. And this is very important, when you want to work internationally. And we have an international team; it's not just local persons.

What do you think about the collaboration with Drums for Peace? How it will be helpful?

We will have partners that we can trust. It's always better to know the partners in a project. It's much safer for the young participants. And you can share good and bad experiences with the other members of the network. As we are new, this is very helpful for us. And it's good not only for us, but also for other partners, because together we could think about bigger ideas and bigger projects in the future. For example, after this meeting in Denmark we have already some ideas. And the communication in a project is much easier with people you know. It's important to actually know the persons you are e-mailing with. It's difficult to explain, but I would call it an inner-feeling.

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