

NEWSLETTER

2018

december



FONDACIJA
HASTOR

15 REASONS TO BE PROUD

December is a magical month. It is the month when you exchange presents and share the joy and magic of holidays with your loved ones. It is also the month when we look back on all that we have achieved and are to achieve still, and when we forget all the difficulties and obstacles that we had to sacrifice our energy to – all that energy now is transformed, and we are full of love and hope for a new, better beginning.

However, the real magic of the holiday season was really felt by all of us at the Hastor Foundation as soon as the news from all across Bosnia and Herzegovina about the successes of our scholarship holders started coming in. In a matter of just a few days, we've heard from no less than 15 of our

scholarship holders whose outstanding achievements were recognized and awarded with Golden and Silver Badges, the Dean's Award or the Golden Plaque. They've earned these because they are the best students at their respective universities and faculties.

These fifteen extraordinary young people fill us with hope that "a better tomorrow" that all of us think about from time to time is not as far as it sometimes seems. These magnificent fifteen are a true example of the new type of leader that our society desperately needs, and if we follow their example and consider them people we can look up to, we'll realize that "a better tomorrow" is just around the corner.

1. LEJLA RAMIĆ (SARAJEVO) FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO

- Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the first cycle of studies, GPA 9.5
- Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the second cycle of studies, GPA 9.87

Lejla was the scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for three years. She is currently a teaching assistant at the Faculty of Law, University of Sarajevo, at the Chair of Economic Sciences to be more precise.

"Talking about the support of the Hastor Foundation is difficult if you're limited to only a couple of sentences. Although I'm no longer formally its scholarship holder, I still feel this great connection with the Foundation because it had this immeasurable and multifaceted significance throughout my studies. The Hastor Foundation is so much more than mere financial support because there, at its core, are young and talented people who have confirmed over and over again that the "Education is the Choice of Winners", as our motto proudly states. I am trying very hard to find the right words to talk about the

Foundation. It was hard before, but now it's even harder because only now that I'm looking back on my time as its scholarship holder I can truly understand its significance and the opportunity I was given when I became a part of it. Numerous reasons make up my conviction and enable me to say that central the Hastor Foundation represents a pillar of true, universal values. Whenever I talk about the Foundation in the future, I will express my gratitude to these wonderful people – teacher Ramo, director Seid and the members of the Administrative team – because they put their trust in me. Your support made by path towards success easier!

Finally, I would like to thank you for always thinking about us too, the former scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation!"



2. JASMINA KAVGIĆ (SREBRENİK) FACULTY OF ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF TUZLA

- The best student of the Faculty of Economics, awarded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Science on the 11th of December, 2018, in Mostar.
- Golden Plaque, presented to the Student of the Year of the Faculty of Economics (on 18th of December, 2018) with the GPA of 10.00 for the first cycle of studies, the highest GPA at the Faculty and the University both.

Jasmina has been the scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for three years, and she has continued the second cycle of studies at the Faculty of Economics in Tuzla, Department of Accounting and Finance Revision.

"The support of the Hastor Foundation has meant a great deal to me. It was not easy combating various distractions on the road towards completing my education, but knowing that there was this constant wind in my sails, this financial and moral support

both, made it much easier to keep on walking forward, towards new victories. The Hastor Foundation is a proof that putting in effort and work hard are appreciated and always worth it. Being a part of this family is wonderful."



3. ANISA RUHOTINA (SARAJEVO) FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO

- Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the first cycle of studies, GPA 9.83
- Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the second cycle of studies, GPA 9.85

Anisa was the Foundation's scholarship holder for three years. She is currently in her third cycle of studies at the Faculty of Law, University of Sarajevo. At the same time, she is a teaching assistant at the aforementioned faculty, Chair of Civil Law.

"I consider my employment at the Faculty of Law to be the final confirmation of everything that the Foundation has taught me. In my case, the fact that the education is the winning formula for success and something that constantly drives us forward truly was proven, and it was proven immediately upon finishing the second cycle of studies. Knowledge truly is power.

Talking about the help and support I received as a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation is truly hard. The Hastor Foundation was never just financial support, but a fountain of much more important values, those that make up the essence of life. Numerous new friendships, the wisdom of teacher Ramo, the volunteer hours spent with the children in learning and merriment... That is what truly counts. I would be immensely happy if my contribution to the Foundation is anywhere near the support, the knowledge, and the skills I gained during my time there."



4. BELMANA GERIN (STOLAC)
 AGRO-MEDITERRANEAN FACULTY, DŽEMAL BIJEDIĆ
 UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAR, ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL
 MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

- Dean's Award, received for finishing the third year of the first cycle of studies with the GPA of 9.56
- Golden Plaque, awarded by the Student Union of the Džemal Bijedić University in Mostar for completing the first year of the second cycle of studies with the GPA of 9.99

Belmana has been the scholarship holder of our Foundation for 12 years, and she continued with her studies at the same Faculty where she completed the first cycle of her studies.

"The support of the Hastor Foundation doesn't mean that it is only financial, it is also a moral support. I am proud and happy to be a part of this family for so many years, and whenever I introduce myself, in

whichever occasion, I have to mention my status as a scholarship holder and a volunteer of the Hastor Foundation. I believe that I have my parents to thank for each one of my accomplishments, but also the Foundation. I know that you are proud of your scholarship holders who are successful students, but who will also, in the future, be successful professionals."



5. MAIDA HUSNIĆ (MOSTAR)
 FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES,
 DŽEMAL BIJEDIĆ UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAR, DEPARTMENT
 OF BOSNIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

- Golden Plaque, awarded by the Student Union of the Džemal Bijedić University in Mostar for completing her studies with the GPA of 9.71
- The Best Student of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences with the GPA of 9.71 awarded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Science

Maida has been the scholarship holder of our Foundation for three years already. She is currently in her fourth year of studies at the Department of Bosnian Language and Literature..

"From the moment I signed my first scholarship contract with the Hastor Foundation, many wonderful things started happening in my life and

I would like to use this opportunity to express my sincerest gratitude to the Foundation for having influenced me in such a way and contributing to my growth and advancement. I would also like to point out that this award belongs to the Foundation as much as it belongs to me, and I hope that we'll walk this path of success together in the future."



6. IRENA KARAMEHMEDOVIĆ (SARAJEVO)
 SARAJEVO MUSIC ACADEMY

- Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the first cycle of studies, GPA 9.4

Irena has been the Foundation's scholarship holder for three years already. She continued her Master studies at the Sarajevo Music Academy, Department of Musical Theory and Pedagogy.

"The Hastor Foundation helped me greatly on my path towards success. I had some health-related problems this year, but their support and understanding proved itself to be a great driving force. I hope that with this recognition I'll be able to say how thankful I am, since the Foundation played a great role in this success of mine."



7. MARIJA PIŠKOVIĆ (POSUŠJE)
 SARAJEVO MUSIC ACADEMY

- Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the first cycle of studies, GPA 9.33

Marija has been the scholarship holder of our Foundation for four years. She continued her Master studies at the Sarajevo Music Academy where she also finished her first cycle of studies.

"Throughout the years, the Hastor Foundation played a great role in my path towards success. The financial support made it easier for me to gain education, and its program helped me acquire new skills and knowledge, but also improve existing

ones. However, the thing you'll really remember for as long as you're alive is the fact that the Foundation was a home for its scholarship holders, a shelter regardless of where the life's circumstances lead us. The enormous support given to me by the Foundation helped me grow as a person in every aspect, and helped me feel secure and motivated, so that I could continue walking forward."



8. AMINA VATREŠ (SARAJEVO)
 FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO,
 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICOLOGY

- Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo – the best student of the first cycle of studies at the Department of Communicology, GPA 9.31

Amina has been the scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for 12 years already, and she will continue her studies at the same faculty where she completed the first cycle of studies.

“The selfless support and the sense of stability I gained when I became a part of the Hastor Foundation 12 years ago had a considerable impact on my personal development and encouraged me to always try and be the best possible version of myself. It also made me unwilling to impose any limits on my dreams and what I strive to achieve. For that reason, my ambition, self-criticism, and consistency, and finally my accomplishments, should be seen, in part, as the Foundation’s accomplishment.”



9. AMIN SEJFIĆ (ČAPLJINA)
 FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF
 SARAJEVO, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

- Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the first cycle of studies, GPA 9.30

Amin has been the scholarship holder of our Foundation for eight years already. He continued his education at the Faculty of Economics and Business in Sarajevo, Department of Marketing Management.

“For me, being a part of the Hastor Foundation has to do with the very important feeling of belonging. In these last eight years, while I was a part of this large family, I worked hard and I was diligent, and

every success was acknowledged and awarded. I’ll carry wonderful memories from my time here, as well as the enormous gratitude for all the support I received from the Foundation – without this support I wouldn’t have had these accomplishments.”



10. AMMAR BISER (BUSOVAČA)
 SARAJEVO MUSIC ACADEMY

- Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the first cycle of studies, GPA 9.15

Ammar has been the scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for eleven years already. He continued his Master studies at the Sarajevo Music Academy.

“The Hastor Foundation selflessly provides help and awards the amount of money that, in these difficult times, proves to be of great help to both students and parents alike. In addition to the financial support, I have, like many others, had the opportunity to meet many wonderful people I’ll keep in touch with even after I leave the Foundation.”



11. ALMEDINA SMAJLOVIĆ (ILIJAŠ, SARAJEVO)
 FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF
 SARAJEVO, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE
 AND LITERATURE – LINGUISTIC STUDIES

- Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo – one of the Best Students of the Faculty of Philosophy for the first cycle of studies, GPA 9.14

Almedina became a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation in 2016. She is currently in her first year of Master studies at the Faculty of Philosophy

“The support of the Hastor Foundation truly means a great deal to me. When I say support, I mean the financial support that makes it easier for me to dedicate myself fully to my studies, but I am also

thinking of the moral support that motivates me to always give it my all, since I know there are people who will be proud of my success and celebrate with me as if it were their own. I am beyond grateful to the Hastor Foundation for giving me this opportunity and for supporting me, and I hope that with this accolade I managed to show that the trust and the expectations were worthwhile.”

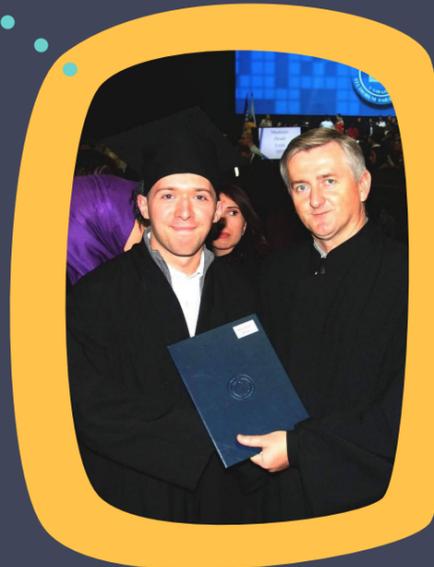


12. AMAR HALILOVIĆ (VOGOŠĆA, SARAJEVO)
FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, SARAJEVO

- Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the first cycle of studies, GPA 9.13

Amar has been the scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for two years, and after finishing the first cycle of studies he decided to continue with the second cycle of studies at the same faculty.

“Being a member, a scholarship holder and a volunteer of the Hastor Foundation is a great honor and pleasure for me. Through volunteering, I’ve gained valuable experience that greatly contributed my informal education. The scholarship and the support of the Hastor Foundation was very valuable to me on my way towards getting a degree.”



13. AZRA MAHINIĆ (MOSTAR)
FACULTY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, DŽEMAL BIJEĐIĆ
UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAR

- Dean’s Award for the first and second year of the second cycle of studies, with GPA of 9.1 and 9.3 respectively

Azra Mahinić was our Foundation’s scholarship holder for two years. After finishing the second cycle of studies she was offered an opportunity for full-time employment.

“Although I’ve been the Foundation’s scholarship holder for only two years, I felt and still feel that there is this great connection with the Foundation and its other scholarship holders. The Hastor Foundation’s support, Teacher Ramo’s words of wisdom, all the pieces of advice and uplifting messages that left

an imprint on me during the monthly meetings in the ASA Group’s Assembly Hall – all of that will stay with me for as long as I’m alive. I truly feel that the Foundation is my other family, and that feeling that these people recognized that I had all of the makings of a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder and reached out to me when I needed it is truly indescribable. I will certainly stay with the Foundation in some capacity in the future also, because I still feel that I’m a part of it although I’m no longer its scholarship holder.”



14. TARIK MURATSPAHIĆ (BUGOJNO)
FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO

- Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo, awarded for the first cycle of studies and the GPA of 9.0

Tarik has been the scholarship holder of the Foundation for three years already. He continued his Master Studies at the Faculty of Law in Sarajevo.

“The Hastor Foundation’s support is of paramount importance to students who, through their effort and diligence, wish to change the world around them. I am able to stay inspired and motivated while on that path thanks to everyone who is a part of the Foundation – these people make me want to be even better than I am now.”



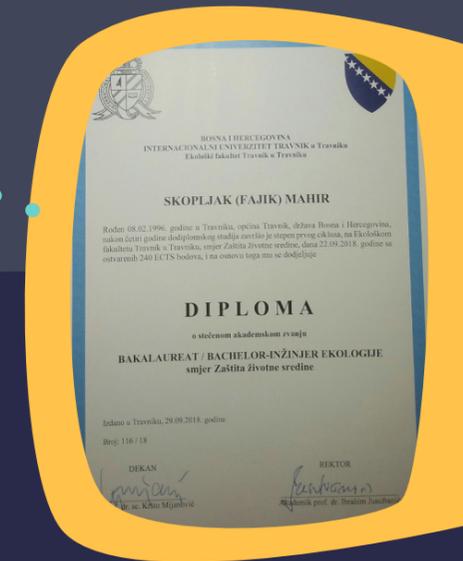
15. MAHIR SKOPLJAK (NOVI TRAVNIK)
FACULTY OF ECOLOGY, INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
TRAVNIK

- Golden Plaque, awarded for being the Best Student of the first cycle of studies, GPA 8.56

Mahir has been the scholarship holder of our Foundation for twelve years already. Upon finishing his studies, Mahir applied to the Call for Attending Job Skills Training issued by the Government of the Central Bosnia Canton.

“Something that I’d like to point out is that every atom of our strength sacrificed for education is worth it, but something that I really need to stress is that I’m not the only one who made this success

a reality. In fact, it was this trusty guardian that is my biggest support, right after my family. I’m talking about the Hastor Foundation of course. For that reason, I’d like to express my sincerest thanks for the continuous support I received throughout my university education.”



These fifteen exquisite young people more than ever force us to “have a better tomorrow” that we are so eager to expect and not as far as it seems to us. These fifteen students are truly an example of new leaders that our society really needs, and only if we take our own examples and allow these young people to be our models, we’ll find the “better tomorrow” behind the corner.



HASTOR FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS AT THE WAD CONFERENCE IN WIEN

On the 4th and 5th of December, the scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation had an opportunity to take part in the “We Are Developers” Conference that was held in Wien. The conference revolved around the theme of artificial intelligence and all the participants had a chance to learn about the latest news in the IT world presented by people from leading companies around the world. Eight of our scholarship holders also found themselves being addressed by the Microsoft’s employees, and quickly entered the world of virtual reality thanks to all the technology made available to them.

Being able to check out and use apps that are still in their earliest versions was truly an intriguing experience for our scholarship holders. Among other apps, the scholarship holders tested the Microsoft Translator that was made available to all the participants of the conference. Anything written or spoken was immediately translated for each user separately, depending on the selected language.

In addition to the questions of translation, the speakers at the conference discussed the use of AI for determining what is on a photograph, with a description being generated automatically. Same technology can be applied for video footage, and the finished app should be available soon. Another interesting technological solution concerns MS Excel and the automatically generated analyses.

A great number of workshops, the general easygoing mood, excellent organization and plenty of gifts are the things our scholarship holders will definitely remember about this event. However, the time they spent together was even more important than the conference’s formalities. The scholarship holders spent three days driving together, being roommates, and wandering the streets of Wien – what an opportunity to become closer and exchange life stories and experiences!

The mild disappointment should also be mentioned. Our scholarship holders did not win the tickets for the following conference in Berlin, and to make matters worse, the number that one of our scholarship holders had was almost the winning number that would have lead her to Berlin. “A smile of great expectations, and then the disappointment,” Nadira will be saying that for some time.

This story once again shows how happy we are to be a part of the Hastor Foundation, and we use this opportunity to express our gratitude for the chance we were given. The experience and the friendships we’ve made are the greatest riches to be made on this and any other trip.





HACKATON 2018: ALDIN BERIŠA WINS THIRD PLACE IN PROGRAMMING COMPETITION

Programming competition “EPBiH Hackaton 2018”, organized by the JP Elektroprivreda BiH, a public power company, was held on the 7th of December. It lasted for 24 hours and 24 students from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Sarajevo, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology, the International University of Sarajevo, and the International Burch University took part in this competition. They were divided into seven teams and our scholarship holder Aldin Beriša represented the International Burch University, together with his colleagues Haris Jašarević, Ida Bajrami, and Mehmed Tulkulić.

The participants competed in software development and their focus was one of the following: customer-relationship management, namely the improvement of it via mobile app, energy efficiency management app, smart home apps, and development of an educational game for children based on the motto “Upoznaj Strujića”. Aldin’s team was tasked with smart home app development. Aldin told us that the competition was exhausting, particularly in the early morning hours when the fatigue was getting the best of them, but they managed to come up with an app in the 24 hour time limit and successfully presented it in front of the judges panel. However, winning third place and being praised as having the best presentation and a very well thought out work plan was only possible because of

Aldin’s knowledge of Internet of Things technology, knowledge that he gained while working on his startup, Ida’s presentation skills, Haris’s knowledge of java applications and Mehmed’s assistance.

“It was truly an honor to take part in a competition such as this one, and make not only my university proud, but also the Hastor Foundation. If it weren’t for the Foundation, I wouldn’t have enrolled at this university and let alone competed at software development. Because of that, I am eternally grateful to the Foundation,” said Aldin.

The Hastor Foundation is proud of Aldin’s success and we hope that we will have an opportunity to write about his other accomplishments in the future.



PROUD OF OUR RESULTS, WE GREET NEW CHALLENGES

On Saturday, the 8th of December, the last monthly meeting of the Hastor Foundation’s college student scholarship holders in 2018 was held at the premises of ASA Prevent Group. These meetings are held throughout the entire year and they present an opportunity for the scholarship holders to talk about their personal volunteering experiences and potential difficulties they come across, and they also often have the opportunity to partake in specifically designed thematic workshops, organized with the aim of solving problems in local communities. This is when we work together on their personal improvement and offer advice on how they can be better mentors who foster the improvement of the primary and secondary school pupils, the scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation, as well as their own. The December meeting was marked by the emphasis placed on the values that the Hastor Foundation cherishes.

At the very beginning of the meeting, the college student scholarship holders were greeted by teacher Ramo and the Foundation’s Managing Director, Seid Fijuljanin. The greater part of the meeting was then spent remembering and emphasizing what the Hastor Foundation is and what it strives to be in the future. The students had the opportunity to talk about the Foundation, praising what it has achieved so far, as well as its importance for every single scholarship holder.

The Director said that the Foundation’s initial team, right after the establishment of the Foundation, travelled across Bosnia and Herzegovina in search of potential scholarship holders, but that throughout the following years the scholarship holders selection process has changed and what was established is a reliable system which makes things easier and ensures undeniable transparency, which was, and still is, one of the key characteristics of our work. The Hastor Foundation is not devoted only to talented children and young people, but it primarily provides help to the children of poor socio-economic status. Since its establishment, the Foundation has encouraged and supported primary and secondary school pupils and college students from across Bosnia and Herzegovina. Director Fijuljanin said that the Foundation receives more than 2.500 scholarship applications a year, after which the selection process takes place and the pupils and students who will sign a scholarship contract are selected in accordance with the defined list of points.

The Hastor Foundation is one large family which continues to grow one year after another, and we hope that in the following school and academic year we will reach the number of 2.000 scholarship holders, which will makes us unique among all the other existing foundations and organizations of this type in our country, but in the region as well. “That means nearly 2.000 families, which is the lowest number of people we, and you as our scholarship holders, can make an impact on. That means nearly 2.000 people with whom you can share everything you’re experiencing within the Foundation”, said the Foundation’s Managing Director.

The Hastor Foundation puts maximum effort into preparing its scholarship holders, whose formal education is coming to its end, for the challenges of the business environment and the labor market. The experience that the students gain during the volunteer activities is of extreme significance for their future success businesswise. The Foundation’s scholarship holders managed to reach the number of 300.000 volunteer hours during the previous year, which means, as teacher Ramo pointed out, 300.000 hours spent far from all the negative things, and all those hours are spent trying to help those who are in need of it, and trying to do something valuable.

That the students are the moving force of the Hastor Foundation and its carriers throughout all these years was once again emphasized by Director Fijuljanin, who spoke of three main points in the work of the Hastor Foundation, and those are scholarship holders, activities they organize, and benefactors, who help the work of our Foundation, and hence, the formal education of many young, ambitious and talented people.

During the meeting, it was also emphasized that in the future the Foundation will continue to work on developing the entrepreneurial spirit among young people, with the aim of activating their creative potentials, and we all sincerely hope and believe that the Foundation will succeed in getting the new generations of young and educated people, academic citizens who are the true force of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on the right path.

Maida Husnić



Dear students! In this month's edition of the HF classroom section, we will solve a few doubts concerning language and spelling and provide a detailed explanation for them.

MI BI URADILI, VI BI DOŠLI...

- *Mi bi uradili, vi ne bi, mi bi došli and similar conditional forms can be heard on a daily basis in conversations, but also in various programs on radio and television, especially lately, since the number of the media has increased and the job of lectors has been neglected.*

Conditional is used to denote a possibility, a desire or an agreement that an action is conducted or performed. This form is made up of the auxiliary verb 'to be' in the aorist tense (in English, aorist can be likened to past simple tense) and participle of the active verb which is changing.

The errors in the use of this verb form come with the aorist of the auxiliary verb 'to be'. The auxiliary verb 'to be' aorist forms are:

<i>(ja) bih</i>	<i>(mi) bismo</i>
<i>(ti) bi</i>	<i>(vi) biste</i>
<i>(on) bi</i>	<i>(oni) bi/biše.</i>

In these forms, with the exception of the third-person plural form, where instead of 'biše' we use only the form 'bi', the participle of the active verb is added. Thus, the following forms are obtained:

*(ja) bih uradio / uradio bih
(ti) bi uradio / uradio bi
(on) bi uradio / uradio bi
(mi) bismo uradili / uradili bismo
(vi) biste uradili / uradili biste
(oni) bi uradili / uradili bi*

Therefore, it is not correct to say or write:

*Mi bi uradili / uradili bi mi,
Vi ne bi uradili,
Mi bi došli / došli bi mi i sl.,*

but:

*Mi bismo uradili / uradili bismo mi,
Vi ne biste uradili,
Mi bismo došli / došli bismo mi i sl.*

The negation word 'ne' is written separately from these verb forms as well.

U VEZI TOGA ILI U VEZI S TIM

- The noun 'veza' may have different meanings in Bosnian language. Its misinterpretation is common in examples:

*u vezi toga,
u vezi tog problema,
u vezi prve tačke dnevnog reda,
u vezi ispita,
u vezi problema koji se javio i sl.*

- Such constructions express the connectedness of thought with something, some type of society, or the togetherness of the noun 'veza' with some other term. Therefore, the meaning is conditioned by the use of preposition 's(a)', so the following would be correct:

*u vezi s tim,
u vezi s tim problemom,
u vezi s prvom tačkom dnevnog reda,
u vezi s ispitom,
u vezi s problemom koji se javio i sl.*

The noun 'veza' can also be used without the preposition 's(a)', but then there is no meaning of society or togetherness:

*U vezi čovjeka i žene ljubav je ta nit spajanja.
Njih spaja veza ljubavi i veza prijateljstva i sl.*

HVALA VAM NA PAŽNJI ILI HVALA VAM ZA PAŽNJU

- Nearly always, at the end of a radio or television show we will hear gratitude: Hvala na pažnji. Or Hvala za pažnju. It seems to us that this second sentence today is more common in use, as if the show hosts avoid the first one.

With the verb 'zahvaliti' we can have an addition in the accusative form with the preposition 'za' and locative with the preposition 'na'. We can therefore say Hvala vam za pažnju i Hvala vam na pažnji.

This, of course, also applies to other similar examples some thanks:

*Hvala vam na kahvi i Hvala vam za kahvu,
Hvala na usluzi i Hvala za uslugu,
Zahvaljujem ti na pomoći i
Zahvaljujem ti za pomoć i sl.*

Razim Medinić



CALL FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The majority of November and early December of 2018 has passed in the selection of new students – scholarship holders who applied to the issued Call for the Scholarship Applications of Hastor Foundation.

Komisija za dodjelu stipendija Fondacije Hastor objavila The Hastor Foundation Commission for awarding scholarships had issued a Call for Scholarship Applications. Over three hundred students who met the criteria had applied for the competition. From this mass of very diligent students, it was necessary to choose twenty who would become scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation. The difficult task of making that decision was given to a four-member commission that comprised of: Seid Fijuljanin, Marizela Avdić, Lajla Hastor and myself. The Managing Director of the Hastor Foundation, Seid Fijuljanin, and a member of the Administrative team, Marizela Avdić, interviewed applicants by telephone in order to select sixty five students who would be shortlisted. After that, the appointed commission read the motivational letters and had a conversation with each candidate in order to select the twenty top priority students who would become scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation.

Naturally, this was done in accordance with the criteria of the Hastor Foundation. Commission members asked questions and carefully listened to the answers in order to see if the applicants' actions really reflected their words.

We sought people who possess knowledge, love to communicate and who are ready to help others who want to know more, or anyone else who needs help for that matter. We followed the previous achievements of candidates who will present a pledge to further education and social engagement for the common good. We chose those candidates who focused on the community and positive values and who were committed to give themselves fully to create a better environment together with other young people, an environment that will nurture new generations. We selected people with visions of education, training and progress. We have selected twenty two such students who are responsible, persistent, resourceful and communicative and whom nothing will keep from achieving and pursuing their every goal and objective.

Ramo Hastor



FONDACIJA
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Almedina Smajlović

The fact that volunteering is an entirely positive phenomenon, a phenomenon that should not pose any difficulty to a young person, is reflected in the continuous effort and devotion of our scholarship holder Almedina Smajlović. Hence, she is the scholarship holder of this month. The title couldn't have gone to anyone else considering how Almedina is at the Foundation's disposal whenever her help is needed and how she always has more volunteer hours than is required.

Almedina was born on the 11th of April, 1997, in Sarajevo, where she completed her primary education and then graduated from the First Gymnasium as an honorary pupil. In July 2018, she graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo, at the Department of English Language and Literature, thereby earning the title Bachelor of English Language and Literature. Due to her perseverance and devotion to her studies, Almedina received the Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo, as one of the best students of the first cycle of studies. She decided to continue with her formal education at the same faculty, opting for Language and Linguistics Studies in the master's programme at the aforementioned department.

She has been the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder since the end of 2016, but her first encounter with the Foundation happened much earlier, namely in 2007 when she spent 21 days of the summer holiday in the Netherlands, as part of the Foundation's longstanding project. Her volunteering within the Foundation during her first year as its member included working with children in the field, and Almedina said that this experience helped her understand some of the essential values that the Foundation cherishes and promotes, and those are effort, work, education, and helping others. Afterwards, the Translating Team of the Hastor Foundation was established, which provided her with the opportunity to contribute to the Foundation by doing something she is actually studying for. Almedina is currently a member of this team for which she continuously and actively translates the Editorial Board's texts for foreign speakers who are interested in the activities of the Foundation and its scholarship holders. She said that she met many wonderful, ambitious and hardworking people in the Foundation, and that some of them became her true friends. During the monthly meetings, as she said, she gained many new skills and expanded her knowledge, and that will, she believes, help her in many ways in her

further development and progress, both professionally and personally. In this way she also became more communicative and ready to seize any opportunities that come her way, which directly affected her will to find some ways to contribute to the society and the changes needed for a better future. This year, Almedina is a volunteer for the European Olympic Youth Festival, which will be held this winter in Sarajevo and East Sarajevo, and this is her way of helping our city and country in general be presented in the best light possible.

Almedina described the support and significance of the Foundation for her personal and professional path as follows:

I think that it really is necessary to mention the financial support that the Foundation provides, considering that it was much easier for me to devote my time and effort to studying and my education once I was certain that I will be able to cover all my expenses and that it will be easier for my parents as well. There is also, of course, the moral support which we always have to mention, because it is definitely easier to walk bravely towards the future when you know that there is someone who is always ready to provide help, a friendly advice or constructive criticism, and that they will always rejoice in my success as much as I will myself.

Almedina's aspirations for the future are directed primarily towards making a contribution to the importance of linguistics as her future area of expertise and her formal education. I would like to somehow contribute to the development of linguistics in our region and to arousing greater interest for this discipline among people in general, thereby showing that the complexity of linguistics shouldn't be seen only as something complicated but as something wonderful.

Her other interests include football and books, the love for both of these existing since early childhood, and this is something she enjoys and uses when she wants to relax completely. She also likes to spend her leisure time with her friends and family, who are also her great support in all her plans and aspirations for the future.

Amina Vatreš



Once the last Call for the Scholarship Applications for college students was issued, three hundred applications arrived at the Hastor Foundation's address. The Commission for Awarding Scholarships had a truly difficult and ungrateful task – choosing the best. After the exhaustive selection and interviews, we can finally announce that our Foundation is richer for 22 scholarship holders!

Therefore, we will devote several following editions of our newsletter to presenting them, our new scholarship holders to which we wish a hearty welcome into the Hastor Foundation family

2. ENA BEŠO



She is 20 years old and is a second-year student of electrical engineering at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Computing at the University of Mostar. She comes from Stolac, a small town in the south of our country, where she went to primary and secondary school, graduating from the latter as the honorary pupil of her generation with the GPA of 5.0. She won multiple awards at competitions in various school subjects, such as Physics, Bosnian Language, Democracy and human rights, History, etc. She was actively involved in various extra-curricular activities, such as seminars and workshops, and participated in pupils exchange programs, which she considers a great and invaluable experience.

She successfully completed her first year of studies with the maximum GPA (5.0), so she became one of the three students at her faculty who were given the Rector's Award.

As a secondary school pupil she was active in her community through various secondary school organizations, and the Youth group of the Majles of the Islamic Community in Stolac. She considers such experiences a true fortune of her life: "Through volunteering we help our local community, but also ourselves by developing the readiness to interact with others, as well as the sense for the society and the general good."

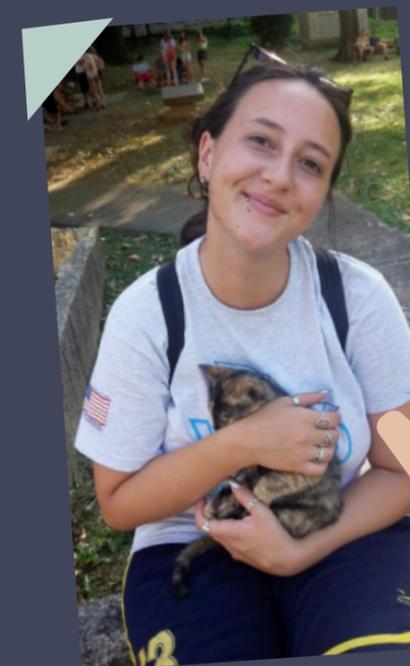
Her neighbors told her many great things about what the Hastor Foundation does for young people so she wanted to become part of that story, and so it happened. "It is truly an honor to become a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation, and this is for me a special motive for my future education and social involvement."

1. NIKOLINA GAGIĆ



One of the new scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation, who applied to the Call for the academic year 2018/19, is Nikolina Gagić from Srebrenica. She is a student at the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Tuzla, currently in her third year at the Department of Acting. Acting is something she has always wanted to do, but she managed to enroll into the Academy only on her third try. Prior to that, she completed the first year at the Department of Philosophy at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo. Besides acting, Nikolina usually spends her leisure time volunteering since this is precisely what she loves to do, when she has the time for it.

I am glad that the Foundation which cherishes the same values as I do recognized my effort and will. I can see that it will give me support, and that is something all of us need in order to become good people, said Nikolina. Indeed, the Foundation recognized in Nikolina the example of a young, persistent person who never gave up on her aspirations and ambitions, despite certain obstacles on her path of success, until she finally realized them.



3. LEJLA KORMAN

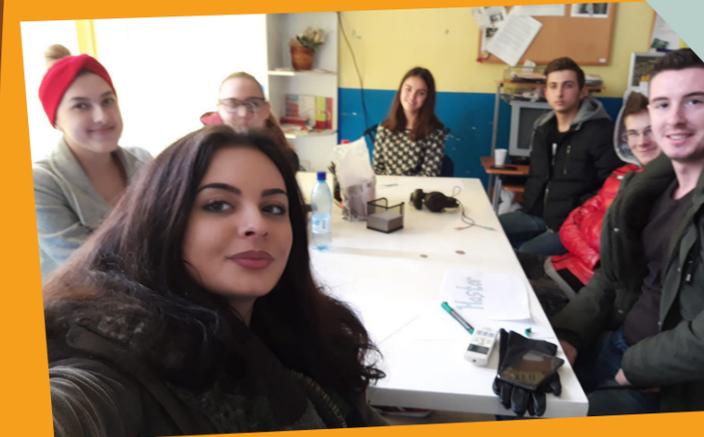


Lejla is a fourth-year student at the Sarajevo School of Science and Technology. She went to "Avdo Smajlović" Primary School, after which she enrolled at Sarajevo College. Although she is a student at the Department of Economics at the aforementioned University, she said that one of her favorite hobbies is studying foreign languages, to which she devotes great attention, considering that foreign languages are necessary in all spheres of business and private life.

This enthusiastic, friendly and above all hard-working girl became the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder in December 2018, having satisfied all the requirements given in the last Call for the Scholarship Applications for college students. She said that entering such a family, as is our Foundation, will surely bring her many positive outcomes.



Photos from volunteer meetings



“Stories from Volunteer Meetings” is the new section that will be included in the following editions of our newsletter and realized with the help of our scholarship holders. Namely, in this section you will be able to read about the scholarship holders’ impressions of their volunteer meetings. In this issue find out how are volunteer meetings look like from the point of view of our scholarship holder Lejla Kadrić.

“Every volunteer meeting is a new experience for me. In these meetings I met many new people and gained many friends. A certain topic was planned for every meeting so we always talked and in that way spent time together. We always had the opportunity and some time to present our own opinions or to tell stories from our private life.

In one of our meetings, my colleague and now your former scholarship holder, Selmir Selimović, told us a wonderful story. Namely, he and his uncle came to the idea of helping a family in need. Unfortunately, this is only one of many families which have financial problems and which need help. He told us that they had barely any money for food, but that they rather unwillingly accepted any form of help because they were prepared to earn their own money. The family has six members. The mother, the only female in the family, did need help. Namely, she had problems with her eyesight and needed glasses, but due to certain specifications and the high diopter count, and also due to the family situation, she wasn’t able to afford them. Colleague Semir and his uncle decided to help her. They got ready, sat in their car and went to the nearest health institutions which could provide the services that this mother needed. After the checkup and once the precise diopter count was determined, they bought her the glasses. He told us that her joy in that moment cannot be described in words. She admitted to them that she was so happy and that she feels as if she can see for the first time ever, and who knows how and in what way, and with what quality, could she see up until that moment and what would happen with her eyesight if she hadn’t been given the glasses.

We were very glad to hear this story because our happiness is surely created by what we are and not by what we have. The story was very didactic and it was easy to realize that helping others means helping yourself. I hope that there are many more examples such as this one and that there are many good people out there. I tend to be as good as I can and I try to use any opportunity to help those who are in need of the help I can provide.”

The database showed that the scholarship holders and volunteers of the Hastor Foundation reached the number of 20.218 volunteer hours during the previous month. As usual, most of these hours were spent in our scholarship holders' volunteering meetings – students, primary and secondary school pupils in 273 volunteering meetings in 62 municipalities across Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our students who volunteer with the Administration team and Editorial Board of the Hastor Foundation contributed greatly to this number, as well as students who work on developing the Hastor Foundation app and are in charge of web page maintenance. The compulsory theme that our scholarship holders discussed in volunteering meetings during the previous month was “Methods and techniques of making studying easier and improving memory (Study smart, not hard!)”.

Besides the compulsory theme, the scholarship holders discussed other interesting topics as well, and our students also spent some volunteering hours helping our younger scholarship holders in understanding the school material better.



Some of the most interesting themes:

“ Altruism in the Hastor Foundation ”

Do it yourself – Izrada novogodišnjih čestitki od recikliranog materijala

“ Let's respect the differences among us ”

Non-violence begins with met ”

“ We are the ambassadors of the Hastor Foundation ”

I see my best friend in the mirror ”

Winter Olympics 1984

“ Personal and group identity ”

Be the change you want to see in the world

Sign language ”

The municipalities in which the volunteering workshops were held:



My dear Hastor Foundation,

I've been thinking for a while now about what I should write to you, and how to make it worthwhile, how to express in the best possible way everything I feel for all of you who are my other family.

I signed my first scholarship contract on September 1, 2008 in Velagići (Ključ). Back then, I did not even realize that by signing that contract I gained a new family, people who presented a pillar of strength and stood by my side through each one of my battles. When teacher Ramo stood in front of me that day, I recognized pride, defiance, honesty, and a great deal of assurance in him. Teacher Ramo is also the bravest person I know, a person who defies everything, our mentality, not focusing on the bad, but only on the good, extracting a bit of goodness from each person.

In the beginning, I did not even understand what the contract I had read thousands of times actually meant, and each time, as I was clutching it in my hands, the paper gave me confidence, like it was saying that this wasn't an ordinary contract – this was something that was going to mark your life. And it was really like that, and now, after ten years have passed, I understand every word and sentence in that contract.

What I have realized through our monthly meetings is that life is actually like a seesaw. A lighter load keeps you at the bottom, while a heavier one helps you soar high. However, achieving great success and having fun requires both of them. When all is said and done, sometimes you're up, sometimes you're down. You laugh, have fun, learn, fall, get back up, because all of this is actually a game in which there is no winner, or rather, there is not a single winner. We are all winners, which is good, because can one talk about gain, if another one has lost?

In addition to teacher Ramo, I would also like to thank the Foundation's Managing Director Seid, and finally express my gratitude to all the other members of the administration. All of you have done something beautiful, you united young people, and in addition to everything we've learned during our meetings, you made it possible for us to get to know each other.

Furthermore, I have learned from you an important life lesson that you should never stop fighting, because regardless of whether I was in a good place or bad, you stood by my side supporting me when I needed it and showing appreciation when I was good. Although I am no longer an active member, I talk about you with pride. Once you become a member of this foundation, you surrender your heart and your soul forever.

The scholarship holders I met and spent time with at the monthly meetings are

in fact a guarantee that wherever I go in our beautiful Bosnia and Herzegovina, I know that I will have someone to talk to and I know that in every city I have people who will love to spend the day with me, because every single one of them has passed the interview with the members of the Commission. This assures me that it is worth spending my valuable time with these people, and I know that I will learn something, given that our precious family consists of engineers, professors, teachers, psychologists... We really are something special, something beautiful, a way towards a better Bosnia and Herzegovina.

After I received my degree, I did not want to immediately leave BiH like everyone else, because I think that the good inside of us can defeat all the evil in the world. I'm staying in BiH because you are my role model. You invested money in us, and I can freely say, created an army that can and must repair the situation in our country. Because we are a diverse family, we can look up to you and clean the most beautiful country in the world from anything that makes it less beautiful.

Now that I am an academic citizen of Bosnia and Herzegovina, I want to and I must return at least a part of what was invested in me, and I hope that the majority of young people feel the same way. The easiest thing is to give up and say that something is not possible, but pure courage is to stay and fight just like you taught us. I will look for a job, and if I cannot find one, I will look further because I think life is a struggle, and if I have learned anything from you, then it is that whatever you want you can have. If you yourself are in a dark shroud, it will be dark, but if you shine, everything will shine with you. It's our choice.

We need to sign a contract with a better BiH, as you signed a contract with us, we need to be with her, give her our best and fight until the end, because life is actually a great fight, but the pleasure is not just in the end, but in the whole path. My dear ones, thank you for every second invested in me, thank you for choosing me to be a scholarship holder. I could say thank you for the rest of my life, and it still wouldn't be enough.

*"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."
Martin Luther King.*

I don't see the whole staircase of my life either, but I boldly step forward because I know how much I have learned from you and I know that you always stand firm above me. Once again, thank you for everything.

*A proud scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation,
Bachelor of Agronomy Emina Bilajac*

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