

NEWSLETTER

march
2019



FONDACIJA
HASTOR



**THE CONCEPT OF „TEAM BUILDING“:
GREAT THINGS ARE NEVER DONE BY ONE
PERSON, THEY'RE DONE BY A TEAM OF PEOPLE.**

On Saturday, March 16, another monthly gathering of students – scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation was held in the large hall of ASA Prevent Group. The imprint which the Hastor Foundation leaves on the young, nowadays successful people, is also shown by the fact that some of the former scholarship holders expressed the desire to, in a way, recall the days when they were in the position of students, and to attend this meeting. This time, Armina Đugum, PhD, and Semir Hajdar, a fifth-year student of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Sarajevo and current ASA Bank employee, were the ones present. In their address to the students, they emphasized how much, from today's perspective, they are aware of what an opportunity they were presented with, but also of the impact that the Hastor Foundation had on the development of their personalities – it helped them pave their life paths, as well as their paths in business. They advised the students to make use of their privilege in the best way possible, and to appreciate everything that they acquire through volunteerism within the Foundation, since they will certainly use it in the future, regardless of what they will be doing.

As it has been a common practice within the Foundation for many years, the meeting is regularly attended by students from different parts of BiH, and the very concept of the March meeting was designed precisely so that the students were divided into groups in such way that they are not familiar with one another. The focus of the meeting was on the activities integrated within the larger “team building” framework, and the aim of this concept was oriented towards the understanding of how students deal with hypothetical situations in which they are “forced” to work together with a team of people they do not know. The goal was for scholarship holders from different parts of BiH, but also from different fields of formal education, and therefore different chosen business paths, to get acquainted with one another.

The final aim was for the students to, through the specific tasks they received for their groups, come to a certain comprehension that the synergy of different specific knowledge, abilities, affinities, and even character traits, can effectively solve every problem that lies ahead of them. It is necessary to look at every diversity as a source of immense fortune, and if we think and dig just a little deeper below the surface, we will very soon come to the conclusion that one of the foundations of the activity and the continuous growth of the number of the members of the Hastor Foundation are precisely the result of the integration of people with different knowledge, personalities and skills. Great and meaningful things are never a product of just one individual. Behind them, there are always dedicated groups of people who work together, learn from each other and therefore succeed in prospering, gathered around a common idea. It is of utmost importance that the students themselves become aware of this, and that they value each other's differences, but also gain knowledge from direct interaction with their colleagues.

The activities assigned to each group of students were predominantly fun, and the scholarship holders had the opportunity to laugh and be creative, but also learn a lot about each other, try to read body language, recall important dates from their lives, conduct a potential job interview, while some of them found themselves in the role of marketing managers. In the end, the meeting was a complete success, and some students took the opportunity to stand out with their own particular creativity, communication skills, resourcefulness, and powers of persuasion.

Amina Vatreš

THE SIXTH CYCLE OF TAKT ACADEMY SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED



With the awarding of the certificates of completion, the sixth cycle of the TAKT Academy program was officially brought to a close on the 28th of February. In the following period, the participants who received the certificates will be given a chance to find employment in Prevent Group.

The TAKT Academy offers knowledge and skills that are necessary in order to work in the fashion, textile, furniture, and automotive industries. The program offers a systematic approach to tailoring the educational system in accordance with the needs

of the labor market and involves learning about manufacturing and process management.

In addressing those present, the Hastor Foundation's Managing Director, Seid Fijuljanin, emphasized that some of the participants were given jobs immediately upon completing the practical training, due to having shown remarkable knowledge and abilities. The participants' mentors awarded them with certificates and wished them success in their education or further work.





DOBRO FOR PHILANTHROPY 2019:

TEACHER RAMO RECEIVES MOZAIK'S AWARD FOR INDIVIDUAL PHILANTHROPY

On the 22nd of March, the Mozaik Foundation held a gala event at the Hotel Europe, in Sarajevo, at which select individuals and companies were awarded for their contribution to the development of the society, at the same time acknowledging all those who consciously do good or dobro, in Bosnian language. This year's DOBRO for Philanthropy award ceremony was organized as a part of the Sign up For Impact project and in cooperation with SIGN network, while the European Union and Balkan Trust for Democracy provided financial backing.

The 2019 DOBRO for Philanthropy was awarded in three main categories: for corporative philanthropy, corporative volunteering and individual philanthropy.

In the 35+ age category for the individual philanthropy award, our teacher Ramo, nominated due to numerous citizens' votes, ultimately won.

There are many reasons why this award found its way to teacher Ramo, and his many years of active work,

mainly through the sphere of education, certainly earned him the recognition of being one of the greatest philanthropists of our society.

For thirteen years already this man has been our Foundation's volunteer, making up its very core. He had helped set the first stone of this Foundation and gave it life and purpose, and today, thirteen years later, teacher Ramo is still actively involved in our activities, tirelessly crossing many miles in search of new scholarship holders. On one occasion, teacher Ramo had told the scholarship holders that "everything one gives away will surely find one once more". They listened to him then, like they always do, with curiosity and eagerness, letting each word, never carelessly uttered, sink in. Everything that teacher Ramo says reflects his teaching experience of many years, but at the same time the richness of a common man who wishes and does good unto others. Every lecture or speech he gives fits the auditorium listening to him, and each word is carefully chosen, making it impossible to stay indifferent after either hearing or speaking to him.

It is unnecessary to go into details regarding everything that this man had done for the Foundation, but it bears mentioning that it is through his character and life's work that many scholarship holders see the Foundation. Maybe it would suffice to say that a large number of our scholarship holders became a part of the Hastor Foundation thanks to the efforts of teacher Ramo, but maybe we should simply look at the world through his eyes, at least for a moment, and find out why he has dedicated his life to doing good:

"As a teacher, I strove to teach children on their path to becoming grown people, and as a volunteer of the Hastor Foundation, I decided to take on the task of showing youths how to become people in the true sense of that word. Some of these lessons are: that they do not hate those who are different from them, and that they, eventually, learn to love them instead; that they, to the best of their abilities, help all those in need of help; that they acquire new knowledge, gain education and become academic citizens. These are the reasons why I have traveled and still travel hundreds of miles a day to be present at the meetings of the Foundation's scholarship holders – I want to show them the right path and steer them towards becoming people in the truest sense."

The public sees teacher Ramo as a person who brings light and joy in each household he visits, and there have been many households over the years. He is the sort of person who speaks modestly of his deeds, but his deeds speak for themselves. And even if they didn't, many of those who have witnessed these good deeds are always ready to talk of the person behind them. He changed the lives of thousands of youths who in turn, prompted by their teacher's example, better their community and help people. Among the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holders, he is regarded as a role model and an inspiration, the embodiment of good and philanthropy.

Teacher Ramo sees this award as additional opportunity to promote volunteering and doing good in general, and wishes that as many people as possible know that there are still those who dedicate a majority of their time to make others smile.

Džulisa Otuzbir

NEW GENERATION'S BRIGHT EXAMPLE: AMINA MADŽAK'S "DEPRESIJAPP" BEST AT START ME UP COMPETITION

Another proof that creativity and dedication, together with one's wish for positive change and progress, inevitably lead to success is a recent accomplishment of the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder, Amina Madžak. Our nineteen year old scholarship holder is currently in her senior year at Konjic Gymnasium. Her excellent grades made her stand out throughout her formal education, but what earned her even greater attention is her success at the Start Me Up competition, jointly organized by Burch University and Association of Secondary School Students in BiH. Amina and her team won first place for the best business idea, called DepresijApp. This project was envisioned as a unique app that would connect an expert with a (potential) patient who is suffering from depression, thereby offering an opportunity for prevention, education, but also treatment. The conversation between an expert and person in need of counseling would be kept entirely private and discrete.

The app is conceived in the following way, consisting of four key sections. The first section of DepresijApp is entirely educational, with all the necessary information on depression as a mental disorder, while the second contains a questionnaire in which the user inputs demographic data, and, more importantly, his or her current subjective experience. The third section is filled with different types of disorders linked with depression and presented through animated sequences. The fourth and most significant section allows the user to get in touch with an expert who will provide them with free and anonymous counseling. This allows for the issue to be examined, and users are given relevant advice and a referral for further counseling.

Amina points out how her team is very specific because her fellow students working on this project (Sejo Ivković, Kenan Suljić, Muamer Galešić i Semira Jablič) come from four different cities of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Konjic, Srebrenik, Bugojno and Jablanica. It is therefore possible to characterize this win being due to a successful synergy of differences of youths who devoted themselves to one basic idea. In preparing for this competition, Amina and

her colleagues worked with their respective mentors who also prepare them for future business opportunities. By winning the Start Me Up competition, our scholarship holder won a 50% scholarship for Burch University, but also an opportunity to increase her scholarship by taking entrance exams and to take part in Get in the Ring Start-up competition. Amina sees this success as a crowning moment that validates all the work and effort she put in over the years.

Even in her primary school days, Amina enjoyed becoming immersed in everything that has to do with the stage, namely acting and singing. In 2010, she joined amateur theater group "Neretva", and her developed vocabulary, together with narratorial and other drama-related skills landed her roles in different cultural and artistic events organized in her hometown of Konjic. Amina is the president of the Red Cross Youth Conference and a member of the Youth Council of Konjic Municipality. She attended a language course while she was in the first and second grade of secondary school, learning Turkish language at the Yunus Emre Institute and eventually reaching B1 level. She is also the person who initiated the establishment of local office of the Association of Secondary School Students in BiH. In just a few months, more than 50 members had joined the association. Amina's engagement did not falter in 2019 either; she joined the Youth Bank and became a Junior PR of hocu.ba for Konjic Municipality. In addition to acting, Amina loves to sing and she dedicates a lot of her free time to perfecting it. This led to her winning several awards at contests where she would perform songs that fall under the Bosnian folk genre sevdalinka, but also those that can be characterized as pop-rock. She participated in many seminars and camps with focus on peace-building and achieving greater tolerance in BiH.

Since they got to know her very well at the volunteering meetings, Amina's mentors, Almedin Hebibović and Lamija Mezit had only words of praise for her. They consider her to be a very intelligent person who is always cheerful and full of positive energy. In addition to that, they point out her orderliness and good manners.

Most of all, however, they appreciate her sense of team work and wish to succeed, that is her competitiveness. Her mentor, Lamija Mezit, is in the first year of studies at the Faculty of Information Technology in Mostar and she was full of pride when she talked about Amina: "It is a real pleasure knowing someone like her. She is exemplary young person who will help make our country better. She is a diligent and noble girl who often takes part in activities aimed at helping those who are most vulnerable and also those which help change our living environment for the better. In my opinion, Amina's dedication and hard work so far make it evident that she is a bright example of a new generation of youths and a person that would benefit every organization and institution."

Amina points out that her becoming a member of the Hastor Foundation eight years ago plays a great role and has contributed significantly to her accomplishments: "The Hastor Foundation's influence was truly of greatest



importance, and not only for my education. It has influenced the direction of my life. I met new people and learned much in the course of volunteering meetings, and ultimately, being a part of the Foundation made it easier for me to gain education. My plans for the future are right here, in Bosnia and Herzegovina. And, naturally, I plan to continue working with the Hastor Foundation in the years dedicated to my college education."



SEVEN BOOKS EVERYONE SHOULD READ AT LEAST ONCE IN THEIR LIFETIME

There are books I always return to, as well as those which I think should be read by everyone at least once in their lifetime. This list comprises some of the best must-read-classics, which are particularly dear to me, but also some of those books which are on the path of becoming the classics of the new generations. What all these books have in common is that they combine a great literary value, marvelous narrative techniques, interesting themes and the style which simply takes your breath away. Choosing the best seven is difficult, indeed, so we will say that this is just a small group of those works I consider magnificent.



1. GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ: „ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SOLITUDE “

The most famous novel by the Nobel Prize-winning author Gabriel García Márquez was published in 1967 and so far it has been translated into almost 30 world languages, sold in millions of copies around the world and it has become one of the most important works of world literature. It is a work belonging to Colombian literature which follows several generations of the Buendía family in the fictional city of Macondo, established by Jose Arcadio Buendía and his wife Ursula Iguarán in search of a better life. Ursula's character is what connects numerous generations of the family. Namely, she dies quite old (between the age of 114 and 122) and thus witnesses all the ups and downs of her family. What makes this work different from similar family sagas is the magical realism, one of the literary phenomena I particularly like and which the South American authors brilliantly incorporated into their works. This technique intertwines dream and reality, the real and unreal, with no clear boundary between them. The idea behind this story is to criticize Colombian history through the story of one hapless family, with metaphors present on several levels.

2. LEO TOLSTOJ: „ANA KARENINA“

“Anna Karenina” is one of my favorite literary works of all times. In this book, the great Tolstoy describes the Russian society of the 1870s through the story of love as the fundamental trigger in human lives, with the story following three different marriages and one extramarital relationship. This work provides a detailed discussion of religion, the position of the Russian villager in the society and the search for the purpose of life, through the character of Levin, as a foil to Anna. The complexity of this piece is confirmed by the fact that it is difficult to define it in terms of genres as belonging to one particular type of novel, since it intertwines elements of philosophical, psychological, love and social novels, and of a character-based novel. Through this interlacing of genres, Tolstoy managed to create characters which have both good and bad sides, which was completely contrary to the characters from previous literary periods. This was truly refreshing after all the idealized characters because, truth be told, ideal persons don't exist.

3. ANTOINE DE SAINT EXUPERY: „THE LITTLE PRINCE“

I don't know a single person who likes to read, and yet does not like “The Little Prince”. This is a book which perfectly connects children and adults, a book which erases the line between children's literature and the literature aimed at adult readers. This piece belongs to the genre of fantasy literature which creates an imaginary world using the elements of the real one through the story of a pilot and a golden-haired boy who meet in the vastness of a desert. The book was published in 1943 and is still quite popular due to its criticism of the society and emphasis on the true values in life, which is precisely what makes the adults read this timeless piece. Nearly every sentence spoken by the prince in this book has become memorable, and his messages about childhood, relationships with people and all the little things that truly matter could not be truer.

4. FYODOR DOSTOEVSKY: „CRIME AND PUNISHMENT“

Dostoevsky was highly esteemed as an author even during his lifetime, with his wife Anna contributing to this in many ways, but after his death his pieces became some of the best classics of all times. His realist and modernist novel “Crime and Punishment” is best known and favorite to many, in which the author introduces the character of Raskolnikov to discuss the problems of crime and punishment, sin and search for justice, the sufferings of the poor, the impoverished nobility and the dark reality of Petrograd of those times. The novel begins with Raskolnikov killing an old usurer, intending to use her money to help all those who do not have it – the Marmeladovs, his family and himself – and the rest of the novel shows elements of the novel of ideas, mostly in the characters and the plot, whereas the use of interior monologues shows that Dostoevsky was close to the epoch of modernism as well.

5. ALBERT CAMUS: „THE STRANGER“

A mysterious young man who shows no emotions, not even at his mother's funeral, and who does not care for love or for career and becomes a murderer by accident and without a motive, simply because he maintains that he cannot affect his life anyway, provides the basis for one of the most important novels of the 20th century, “The Stranger” by Camus. The protagonist, Mersault, gives a chronological description of the events in his life, and the narrator is led by the concept of the absurd, which was precisely what provided the basis for the philosophy of the Absurd, later denied by Camus. Since the main character maintains that investing in relationships with other people has no purpose, because a human being eventually dies alone anyway, he is a complete stranger to those around him, though the people in his surroundings always try to reach him, but he is mostly a stranger to himself. He comes into conflict with the entire world, rejects love, religion, career, even freedom itself, which is in line with the great changes that occurred in the 20th century. Although the character of Mersault is confusing even nowadays, both to literary theoreticians and to psychologists, I believe that it provides us with new perspectives and makes us think thoroughly about how we are going to live the years that are ahead of us.



6. GEORGE ORWELL: „ANIMAL FARM“

Orwell's "Animal Farm" was forbidden in many parts of the world, particularly the former Soviet Union, Germany before the fall of the Berlin Wall, and even years later, and today it is still forbidden in Cuba, North Korea and some Muslim countries. These facts already show that many people were bothered by this book due to the themes it discusses.

It all begins when several animals at Mr. Jones's farm decide to start a revolution, led by Major the Pig. His words make them realize that they lead a difficult life, one similar to slavery, and that this has to end. This is how their proper little revolution begins in which they overthrow Mr. Jones from the farm. In order to maintain the order at the farm, the animals enact seven laws under the label animalism; however, all the laws, one by one, are eventually broken.

Orwell himself categorized this work as a fable, which is quite understandable, given that the animals are main characters, but this is actually a rather complex satire which makes fun of totalitarianism, communism and the revolution in general. One can find characteristics of Stalin, Lenin, Napoleon and many other historical, not at all positive figures, in the characters of animals. Although it discusses difficult themes, this piece is characterized by some lightness, even humor, which is not typical of Orwell's work. This is why this work is close to teenagers as well, who first come across it in secondary school, parallel with the study of politics and economy.



7. HARPER LEE: „TO KILL A MOKINGBIRD“

American author Harper Lee is a proof that it is never too late to create one of the best books of all times. This piece won the Pulitzer Prize and in a rather short time this novel-drama became a compulsory literary piece for millions of readers across the world.

The story of this Bildungsroman (a coming-of-age novel) follows the lives of the lawyer Finch's family and his children Scout and Jem, and how the relatively peaceful lives of this family and their friends are disrupted by a court case assigned to the father. He is to defend an African American man in court, who has been accused of raping a white woman, and this event marks the beginning of a difficult period for the entire family.

Using simple sentences in terms of style, retrospection and a distinct sense for narration, Lee depicts themes which were quite popular in her homeland in the 19th and 20th centuries, and those are racial discrimination, the position of women in the society, difficult southern life, as well as the fight for justice and respect for all people. All of this is given to us through the voice of a girl named Scout and her recollection of her childhood, but what impressed me particularly was the character of Atticus Finch, a single father with an incredible amount of patience and love for his two children, who never misses out on the opportunity to teach them about the important values in life.

It is also interesting that in 2008 British authors declared this book more important than the Bible and emphasized the fact that no one should miss out on reading it.

Whenever I was going downtown or returning home, I would see Avdaga at Mušan's cafe. On the table in front of him, there was either a juice or a coffee, and sometimes only a glass of water. A few days ago, on my way home, I realized that I have some time to spare and so also found myself heading towards Mušan's place. Since Avdaga was sitting alone, I asked him: "May I join you?"

He looked up at me, and with a small smile said: "I'm not expecting company, do sit!" He said this in a very quiet, yet clear voice.

The first part of his sentence made him sound like he was complaining, while the second sounded more like an order. As I lowered myself to sit at the chair he indicated, I asked him: "How have you been, Avdaga?" He did not hasten to answer me, but in the end he replied: "Good, I'm good! And what about you, how are you? Feeling tired this noon?"

"I have been working, my dear Avdaga, and when one works one grows tired," I said, a bit more loudly. "No need to speak so loudly, I hear you, thank God, still. Hearing is good, although I'll be entering the ninth decade of my life in a couple of months."

"And your sight, Avdaga?" I inquired, this time in much softer tone. "Good, it's good. I'm still able to read a newspaper without relying on glasses, and..."

The owner had approached us to ask me what I would like to order, so Avdaga stopped mid-sentence. I ordered coffee and told the owner to bring Avdaga whatever he would like to drink. Avdaga began to protest immediately.

"Please don't, I already had coffee and a juice, and I didn't get to drink all the water yet." I shrugged and said: "Alright".

The owner left to make coffee. "How is your health?", I asked, and again he looked at me with those large eyes



MODERATION

of his and smiled softly before saying: "When I think how old I am, I'm alright, thank God. There have been pains and illnesses, but all as it should be. My spine hurts a little, my legs seem to be giving out a bit, but I'm alright."

"I see you here often," I said, mostly to make conversation.

"Yes, I come here in the morning and in the afternoon, when I feel like drinking coffee, so that the owner makes some money too."

"But when I see you, the way you walk, that walk is straight and resolute, one would think you are a lot younger man. What is your secret?", I asked him, in a serious tone.

"Secret, there is no secret. It is better to call it a lifelong therapy, and that is to be moderate in everything: when it comes to drinking, eating and working, when it comes to fun and sleep and really anything else that marks one's childhood and youth. In everything a man does in that period, moderation is necessary if he wishes to greet his eighties upright and with his sight, hearing and reasoning intact", concluded Avdaga this, for him, unusually long sentence.

We talked some more until I drank my coffee. I stood up, bid goodbye to Avdaga, and started heading home feeling enriched with the knowledge of moderation. For a long while, Avdaga's words echoed in my mind and even afterwards they kept resurfacing from time to time, these words on moderation and preparing oneself for old age.

Ramo Hastor



Senada Podžić

Due to her exceptional work and effort in performing administrative duties, but also due to her responsibility and commitment to volunteer activities in the field, the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder Senada Podžić is the scholarship holder of the month of March.

Senada Podžić is a scholarship holder who comes from Žepa, where she went to primary school. However, given that there are only five grades in the school in Žepa, Senada was forced to leave her home quite early on and to move to Sarajevo to continue with her education. She said that in the beginning she needed some time to get used to the new surroundings, adjust to the new curricula, teachers, etc. However, this did not prevent this hard-working student and scholarship holder to continue on the path she has been on since the first grade of primary school – the path to success. She completed her primary education with excellent success, and then enrolled into the Gazi Husrev-bey Madrasah, graduating from it with excellent success as well, and with many awards. Namely, during her secondary education, Senada won five awards as a result of her great success, proper conduct and regular attendance.

Once she graduated from secondary school, being only 17, she enrolled into the faculty she desired – the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, opting for the Department of Biology – Teaching studies. Once she completed her studies, she earned the title of a Bachelor of Biology – Teaching studies, and she is currently enrolled into the master program at the Department of Biology at the same faculty. Besides Biology, which she intends to continue exploring in her future work, she says that one of her hobbies is reading.

Senada has been our scholarship holder since the very establishment and first steps of the Hastor Foundation. Besides the moral support she received from the Hastor Foundation, she says that the Foundation prepared her for life, making her a stronger, persistent, patient and independent person. "During these thirteen years that I've spent in the Foundation, I've gained unforgettable experiences

through volunteering, especially volunteer meetings with younger scholarship holders, which enables me to learn how to adequately approach the pupils, given that volunteering is a good basis for my future profession, that of a biology professor. The best proof that volunteering with children has helped me can be seen in the comment made by my mentor at the faculty, who noticed that I have gained some experience in working with children."

Senada's desire for the future is to devote her time and attention to what she is studying at the faculty and to work as a biology professor. For the end of our conversation she had one message:

"I honestly hope that the Foundation will continue to put smiles on faces of her future members, who will achieve even greater success in different fields and make the Foundation even more successful, because it really deserves that!"

Maida Husnić



1. SELMA PAŠIĆ

She is a first-year student of the second cycle at the Department of Energetics, at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Sarajevo, where she finished the first cycle and received the degree of Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering.

During her studies, but also as a secondary school student, Selma dedicated a large portion of her time to participation in various seminars and trainings, and especially volunteerism. She was a part of the Info House club "Volunteer – Credit", as well as the interethnic and interreligious seminar "Youth – the Builders of Coexistence", organized by the Archdiocesan Pastoral Youth Center "John Paul II".

She particularly highlights the work of the Tignum team (youth club in the Nahla organisation), which primarily deals with women's activism, and through which she was a part of the organizing team of many projects. In addition to the above mentioned activities, she has been an active member of the choir of spiritual music Derman for several years.



2. ANA MILIJEVIĆ

"Having opened the door of the Hastor Foundation for the first time, I have encountered positive energy and smiling faces. It made me want to become a part of a team that helps and spreads love and humanity, and on a cold December day, my wish came true. Ever since the first meeting I've attended, it has been my pleasure getting acquainted with new faces that have the same goal of ennobling the world with love, virtue and a will for helping and bestowing knowledge. It is not easy to meet all the members in just a few meetings. That's why I want to thank you for allowing those who will read these lines, in which we infuse a part of ourselves, to meet new members and find new, honest friends.

My childhood was a constant race from elementary to music school. Ballet was my biggest passion until the day I enrolled in high school. Unfortunately, the department at which I wanted to enrol did not exist then. I wiped away my tears and tried to find myself in something else. Painting became my new love. I enrolled into the High School of Applied Arts and I completely surrendered to art - painting, photography, and I even made few short films that were awarded at many festivals. My personal favourite, a film about my grandmother, was screened at the Sarajevo Film Festival within Teen Arena.

I took part in the "Draw not War" volunteer project in Italy, within which I worked on an animated film, and for the first time I saw what war and hatred meant. Students from Israel and Palestine had to work on a project together, and it was difficult to reconcile them, similarly to those from Belfast and Derry. All the opposing sides were able to make films about peace, because, no matter what, love is the ultimate winner. Art has, indeed, been my path from the very beginning, and I continued to pursue it by joining the Academy of Fine Arts, where I am now a third year student. I'm improving my Italian and English by working as a tour guide in the City Hall. In doing so, I hope to impart my love of art and museums on other people. Today, when many things and people who have once been in my life are no longer there, I've learned that all things happen for a reason and that, no matter how successful we are, we all have to cherish kindness, small things, humanity and friendship that we might gain from a simple text such as this one."

3. ALEKSA PILJAK

Aleksa is twenty years old and comes from Sarajevo. After graduating from Second Gymnasium, he enrolled in the Faculty of Law of the University of Sarajevo.

"I first heard about the Foundation and its scholarship program from my sister, and I've learned about the call for scholarship applications through a website which deals with scholarship advertisement. I entered the competition by completing the form on the Foundation's website, and after I made the shortlist for the scholarship, I was invited to attend the interview. Shortly after summing up all the results and impressions, I was informed that I became a scholarship holder. Since then, I have been a part of this Foundation", Aleksa said.

Currently, he is attending the second year of undergraduate studies. He is a member of the European Law Students' Association (ELSA) Sarajevo, where he participates in numerous activities and projects aimed

at improving the standards, knowledge, experience and skills of students of the Faculty of Law in Sarajevo and beyond. In his free time, he recreationally plays futsal.



5. ANIDA ARNAUT

She was born in 1997 in Zenica. She is a student of Chemical Engineering Department at the Faculty of Metallurgy and Technology, University of Zenica.

"I have decided to enrol at this department because chemistry was one of my favourite subjects in high school. I've always been curious and creative, ready for teamwork, and this department is what fulfils me and interests me the most.

I heard about the Hastor Foundation through an acquaintance, and then I visited the Foundation's website and decided to give it a shot. It is truly my honour to become a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder, and it is a special motivation for my further education. The trust the Foundation has shown means a lot to me and I will try my best to meet their expectations.

In leisure time I like reading books, playing sports and spending time with my family and friends, and until recently I was a member of one culture and arts organization."



4. NEJLA KOMAR

I actively give concert performances. I presented my department on the Musical Academy tour through ten Bosnia and Herzegovina cities in February and March 2019. I participated in many important projects such as the opening of the restored Sarajevo City Hall, Sarajevo Winter Festival, the domestic and international competitions in which I won nine prizes, and I even did a full-length humanitarian concert in Mostar.

Being a member of the Hastor Foundation is a special honour. To be associated with so many good, well-mannered and smart young people is a source of positive energy and faith in our future. Ultimately, being in such an environment will help us to try and invest more of ourselves. I feel like a part of a big, safe and strong family. I believe that the work of the Foundation is extremely humane and that it contributes to the progress and an overall better tomorrow for all of us in BiH, and I am grateful for the trust shown by the Foundation and I am sure I will show that it was well placed."

She was born in Sarajevo and is currently in her second year of studies at the Sarajevo Music Academy, studying cello. In her leisure time, besides music, she likes to learn about other cultures as much as possible by travelling.

"I am happy that, through my studies at the Academy, I often have the opportunity to travel throughout the country and sometimes even internationally. Getting acquainted with new people, customs, and places inspires me and makes me happy. I try not only to show my love towards what I do, but also to bring others closer to the beauty, power and importance of art in life.

6. TAMARA ŠPEGAR

Tamara comes from Banja Luka and is a third-year student of the Psychology Department at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Banja Luka.

"I found out about the Hastor Foundation when I accidentally came into contact with high school students who were scholarships holders. Once they explained to me what the Foundation was all about, I was pleasantly surprised and immediately interested in the scholarship, since I am a volunteer and I like working with children and adolescents. I completed an online application and after a few weeks I received a call in which I was informed that I had made the shortlist and that I needed to come to Sarajevo for an interview. I was very excited and happy, and when I was told I got the scholarship, I felt fulfilled and proud, because I had the feeling that someone really appreciated my work and effort.

I spend most of my free time in foster homes, where I help the children with their homework and studying, but of course we always talk about their lives and their problems as well, since we are no longer in a formal relationship, but have become close friends. In addition to volunteering and my obligations at the university, I like reading, spending time in nature and with friends, and I regularly attend Krav Maga classes.



Photos from volunteer meetings



BRČKO



FOJNICA



OLOVO



SARAJEVO



GORNJI VAKUF



JAJCE



SARAJEVO



TUZLA



MAGLAJ



KALESIJA



KONJIC



ZENICA



TRAVNIK

Selma Imamović, Bugojno

Faculty of Health Sciences, Sarajevo

In my first year as a mentor I had a group of four girls from a primary school in Bugojno. One of the girls, Samira, who lived in a village far away and used to walk for hours with her mother to the closest school, transferred into a school in the city, and could not find a way to fit in. Her looks and the way she talked were the main barrier to her peers spending time with her. She started achieving poor results in school because she had no one to work with outside the school. The other three girls were straight-A pupils, who grew up in the city and partook in many extra-curricular activities.

During our volunteer meetings, we constantly learned and talked about how important it is to pay attention to the feelings and needs of the people around us, and not to marginalize those who are different from us, because we can never know how much our smile and affection will mean to someone.

One of my duties as a mentor was to help them understand the school material better. After some time, I could see them in the city, drinking coffee together, and they started coming to the meetings together, and before I knew it I was no longer the one who was helping Samira with her English and Bosnian and Math, but they did it together and succeeded in Samira improving her grades, from D to B.

I would be really happy if one day the list of my good deeds includes this one too, that I contributed at least partially. It is not because I would like to be praised by someone, but to know that I did something well when someone trusted me to do it.

Children are incredible and they only need to be encouraged in order to do good; that is what the Foundation has been doing for years. Indeed, it is lovely to be part of beautiful stories!

The database showed that the scholarship holders and volunteers of the Hastor Foundation reached the number of 20.724 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 286 volunteer 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 the students who work on developing the Hastor Foundation app and are in charge of web page maintenance.

The compulsory topic that our scholarship holders discussed in volunteering meetings during the previous month was Great Artists, Science and Sports of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

20 724

volunteer
hoursvolunteers
workshops

286

62

municipality

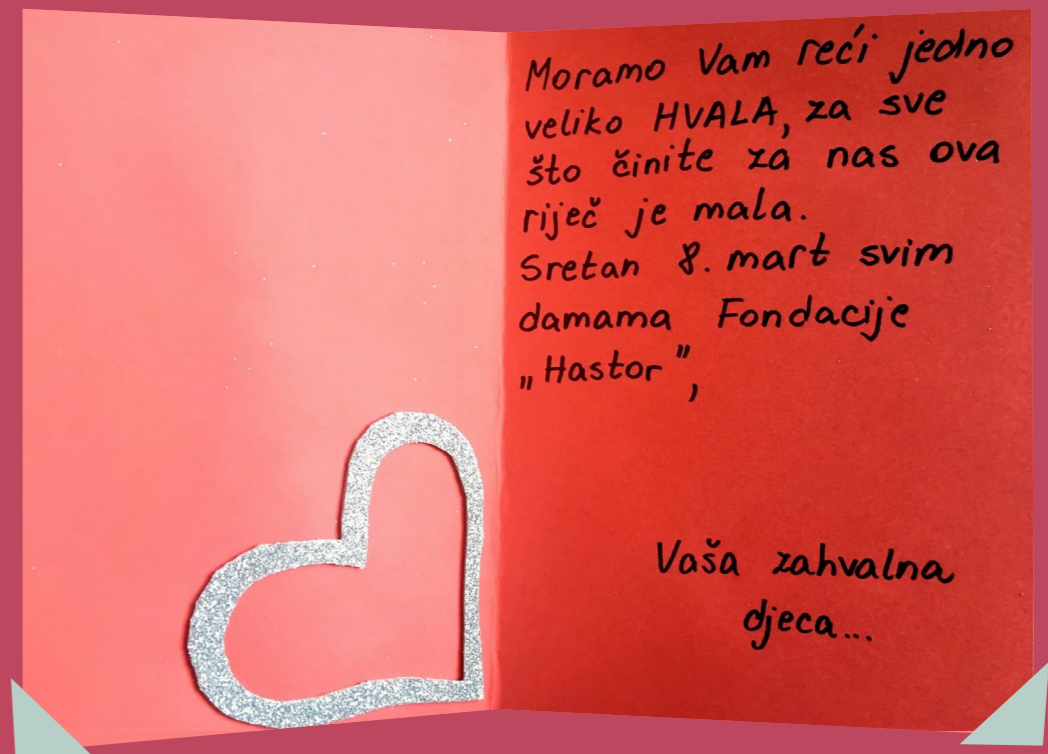
Some of the most interesting topics:

- **Bosnian Independence Day**
- **Pollution of the environment**
- **The path to success**
- **The position of women in the world - in the past and today**
- **Art and the role of artistic creativity in personal life**
- **My role models**
- **Phobias**
- **Etiquette**
- **The importance and power of education**
- **The importance of choosing a university and the influence of that choice on each individual's life**
- **The importance of positive thinking**

The municipalities in which the volunteer workshops were held:



A card for the **8. march** sent to us by mentors and pupils at the Secondary Medical School in Zenica



FONDACIJA HASTOR

Bulevar Meše Selimovića 16, Sarajevo
033 774 789
033 774 823
fondacija@hastor.ba

EDITORIAL BOARD

Džulisa Otuzbir
Razim Medinić
Amila Porča
Amina Vatreš
Maida Husnić

Lejla Donlagić
Nirvana Žiško
Zehra Šarić
Ana Milijević

TRANSLATORS

Mia Babić
Almedina Smajlović
Ajša Đuherić