

NEWSLETTER

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FONDACIJA
HASTOR

BOUNDLESS CREATIVE POTENTIAL LIES WITHIN EACH OF US: ONLY THING LEFT IS UNLEASHING IT

On Saturday, 10th of February, a second meeting of college student scholarship holders in 2018 was held. Scholarship holders gathered in the Main Assembly Hall of the ASA Group on a dreary, foggy February morning, but a ray of sunshine, in the form of this month's motivational speaker and the lecture he delivered, soon broke through the leaden clouds. Positive atmosphere and messages of success and progress marked this meeting which those present will certainly remember fondly.

This month's guest speaker was Jasmin Porobic, CEO of Exclusive d.o.o., who is an expert in the field of management, but also a motivational speaker and a great friend of the Hastor Foundation. His extensive experience and years of working for numerous international organizations, including UN and OSCE Missions, Jasmin assimilated those essential values a young person needs to thread a winding path, as well as learned the best possible ways of using one's potential and resources to the fullest. Considering his high opinion of the Foundation and its efforts, he decided to share his knowledge and experience with the scholarship holders who are now at the crossroads and thus faced with a difficult task of choosing the right path, the path leading towards success.

The two primary questions Jasmin covered with his lecture were the following: which strategies do the young ambitious people need to employ in order to lead a structured life, and how to make right firm decisions that would enable them to reach their goal. Our guest started the lecture with a simple, yet engaging exercise and used it to show our scholarship holders how even the most mundane ways of taking action can help us reach profound conclusions about ourselves, our creativity, skill at using resources, and ability to improvise. At the end of the exercise, nearly every scholarship holder created a distinct object; an important point that Jasmin highlighted by drawing attention to the fact that "a boundless creative potential lies within each of us" and whether and to

what extent will it be unleashed depends solely on us and the way we combine our qualities and strong sides in order to reach unprecedented heights.

Scholarship holders learned that it is crucial to know oneself, all the strengths and weaknesses, as well as all the resources at one's disposal. Finally, it is equally important to be able to manage one's time and control the sphere of one's influence. During the course of his lecture, Jasmin emphasized that it is crucial to invest energy into building up one's strengths and adequately using them, rather than focus on weaknesses. If we spend our time trying to eliminate our weakness and reach a greater balance, we will be left with rudimentary, rather than expert knowledge, thus staying average and forsaking the opportunity to become relevant in one's own field. By focusing on the improvement of our strengths we become unrivalled at what we do, and gradually emerge as a complete and fulfilled person who stands out from the crowd.

Conclusions which the scholarship holders reached through this interactive lecture will certainly be useful to them in the course of their education, but also life in general. In the process of developing one's personality each one of us needs to focus on our own strengths and interests because this is the only way to become an individual who does not merge into the faceless crowd. Nevertheless, we need to be aware of our weaknesses and accept that we cannot be equally good in everything.

Amina Vatres

Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid. (Albert Einstein)



ALMA MUJANOVIC:

activism personified



Listing all the activities and projects Alma Mujanovic takes part in and carries out seemed an impossible mission for our Editorial Board. Virtually no field of human activity and interest is unknown to this scholarship holder: from music, sports, photography to involvement in the work of local communities and the international one. Hearing impairment which has followed Alma since she was born could not prevent her from becoming as successful as she is today.

Her being a member of various NGOs and international organizations is particularly noteworthy. Alma is a great human rights fighter, especially when it comes to inclusion of disabled people, although she does not neglect other marginalized groups.

Alma told us that she is a new member of Youth Advisory Group, whose activities are carried out as a part of OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, starting February this year. Her position requires raising awareness about issues which Bosnian and Herzegovinian people with hearing impairments face daily and finding solutions for adequate inclusion of marginalized groups, with focus on people with disabilities.

In addition, this January, as a participant of the Erasmus+ program, Alma was the team leader of BH participants in "Drama Camp – Sounds Become Visual". This group of

young people had an opportunity to learn about theater and the involvement of hearing impaired people in the work of theaters, but even more significantly produced a play, an adaptation of Dante's famous "The Divine Comedy: Inferno". The play premiered in an Oslo theatre, and will be staged in Paris in March. The goal of this project is to encourage people with hearing impairment to work hard and develop their talents, thus finding their place in the sun.

Despite all these activities, Alma does not neglect her studies and managed to complete all her exams, scoring high grades, and attends a course in graphic design and multimedia at IT Academy.

Alma notes that the Foundation motivates her greatly, because it supports and encourages these and similar activities.

Dzulisa Otuzbir



In the following issues of our Newsletter we will be introducing the new scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundations, those who joined by meeting the criteria of the Call for the Scholarship Applications for the academic year 2017/2018.



Amela
Vatres

AMELA VATRES

The scholarship holder introduced in this issue is Amela Vatres. She was born in Sarajevo where she also currently lives and studies. Already in secondary school she began to express interest in technology and eventually enrolled at the International Burch University, Department of Information Technologies.

Now in her second year, Amela spends most of her free time honing her programming skills, learning software design principles as well as other related skills. She enjoys painting, poetry, and time spent in the circle of her family and friends.

She became a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation in February 2018, having met all the criteria of the Call for Scholarship Applications. She points out that becoming a member of the Hastor Foundation is a great honor for her, and she intends to justify the trust put in her through her future efforts.

Razim Medicin

3 EDUCATIONAL AND INSPIRATIONAL WEBSITES

Learning new skills and acquiring knowledge always pays off because by doing so you can improve both your professional and personal self. The following paragraphs will give you a brief overview of quality websites that enable you to learn about topics of your interest on your own.

1. Biography (www.biography.com)

All of us can recall our time spent sitting behind school desks and learning about history's most influential people, jotting down their names, their field of research or interest and contributions they made e.g. Isaac Newton and physics. As time passed, we sought inspiration in those persons whose lives resonated with ours. Biography (www.biography.com) offers a plethora of videos on people who made and shaped history. Get acquainted with former presidents, actors, musicians, scientists and all they have achieved – perhaps their lives and the obstacles they overcame to become a source of inspiration will inspire you as well. You will certainly find persons with whom you can relate and learn something new from.

2. Book TV (<https://www.c-span.org/series/?bookTv>)

Website Book TV (<https://www.c-span.org/series/?bookTv>) offers numerous interviews with noteworthy and upcoming authors from all around the world. Spend an hour or two learning about authors' motivations for writing and their messages which may prove relatable. Browse through the page's content at least once a month because firsthand author experience can make the joy of reading even greater.

3. NOVA (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/>)

If you like learning something new and peculiar in a matter of minutes, e.g. how gravity changes colors, check out NOVA (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/>). Select one of 273 short clips and the topic that interests you, be it space and technology, planet Earth or military and espionage.

The hard-working are deserving of praise

During the month of January 2018, I visited nine groups of the Hastor Foundation college student scholarship holders, 17 students who volunteer with 104 primary and secondary school pupils in 6 cities. That journey was 860 kilometers long. The students used their knowledge and their role in the community they live or volunteer in and so most of them held their workshops in warm school classrooms or on the premises of various organizations.

Zuhra Jablic and Jasmina Hebibovic were on the premises of the organization "Zena za zenu" in Konjic. In Olovo, Adem Dedic and Amar Vrabac took advantage of a beautiful day and went outside, although they could use the facilities of the primary school in Olovo. Elma Halilovic was in the kindergarten in Kladanj. Dzenita Ibric, Tijana Popovic and Samra Mustafic were given the permission by the principal of the Gymnasium "Ismet Mujezinovic" to spend

time in the warm classrooms there during these winter days. Muamer Duratbegovic and Jasmina Lugonja have a lot of space in the Youth Center "Galerija" in Novi Travnik, but they decided to be in a small room there which was easier to warm up by using a heater. Selma Imamovic used a classroom in the Third primary school in Bugojno, being permitted to do so by the principal of the school.

I have to praise all the students who managed to obtain the space suitable for giving and acquiring knowledge. And on behalf of the Hastor Foundation, the pupils and students, and myself, I would like to thank everyone in charge of the facilities made available to us.

Ramo Hastor





Anisa
Ruhotina

ANISA RUHOTINA

“During this relatively short period, I had the luck of being able to volunteer on the field and with the administration team. I am proud of the volunteering hours spent on the field, particularly so because I think that, whether individually or with other mentors, I ensured that younger scholarship holders spent quality time with me. That meant visiting museums, a book fair, city sights and taking trips to the nearby mountains. I often boast that every scholarship holder I had the opportunity to volunteer with visited at least one museum, because I think that it is necessary if one wishes to consider oneself as a person of culture, but it is nowadays often neglected”, says Anisa.

Frequent calls by our pupils who inform the administration team about the interesting and quality time spent during the volunteering hours confirm that she is an excellent mentor.

When it comes to volunteering with the administration team, she says that it was an experience that contributed to her personal development, as well as to improving communication and organizational skills.

What makes the Foundation special, in her opinion, are friendship and education.

“Friendship, because the Foundation made it possible for us to meet wonderful people from all parts of B&H and it taught us that we should first and foremost be friends to each other; education because it is of highest importance to the Foundation, which always teaches us that education is our primary drive. Because, knowledge truly is power”, concludes Anisa.

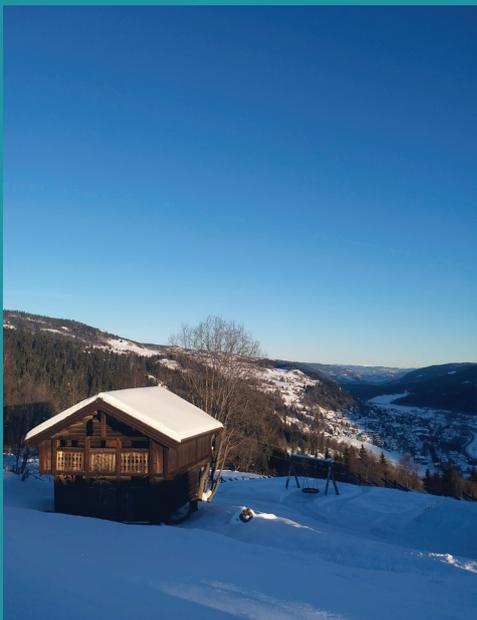
Due to her involvement and devotion to the work of the Hastor Foundation, as well as due to her personal success, Anisa Ruhotina is the scholarship holder of the second month of the current year. Anisa completed her secondary education in the First Gymnasium in Sarajevo, and then completed the first cycle of studies at the Faculty of Law, University of Sarajevo with a GPA of 9.83. She was awarded the Golden Badge, a special recognition by the University of Sarajevo, which testifies to her effort and work. Anisa would not stop at this.

A praiseworthy girl, she is currently a student of the second cycle of studies at the Faculty of Law, University of Sarajevo, at the Juvenile Delinquency department, and for a certain period of time she was the student demonstrator for the subject Law of obligations.

Anisa joined the Foundation in 2015, and despite being here for only a short period of time, she had the experience of volunteering both on the field and with the administration team.

Belma Zukic

A L M A M U J A N O V I C



The database showed that the scholarship holders and volunteers of the Hastor Foundation reached the number of 14.806 volunteering hours during the previous month. As per usual, most of these hours were spent on our scholarship holders' volunteering meetings – students, primary and secondary school pupils in 267 volunteering meeting in 60 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 web page maintenance. The compulsory theme that our scholarship holders discussed in volunteering meetings during the previous month was “How to spend your leisure time in a quality manner”. 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:

- “ How to develop your own business ”
- “ The growing industries – profitable professions ”
- “ The importance of fodder crop ”
- “ Do you want to be average?! ”
- “ GMO food ”
- “ Social justice and activism ”
- “ Feminism ”
- “ Visual arts legacy preservation ”
- “ How to overcome the fear of public speaking ”
- “ THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE INTERNET ”
- “ Should drug and cosmetics testing on animals be allowed? ”
- “ ADHD – Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder in children ”
- “ Should there be special rules for young drivers? ”
- “ Communication – then and now ”
- “ Book – a person's best friend ”

Municipalities in which volunteering workshops were held during the previous month:





EDINA DURMISEVIC
Secondary-school center Jovan Ducic, Teslic

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