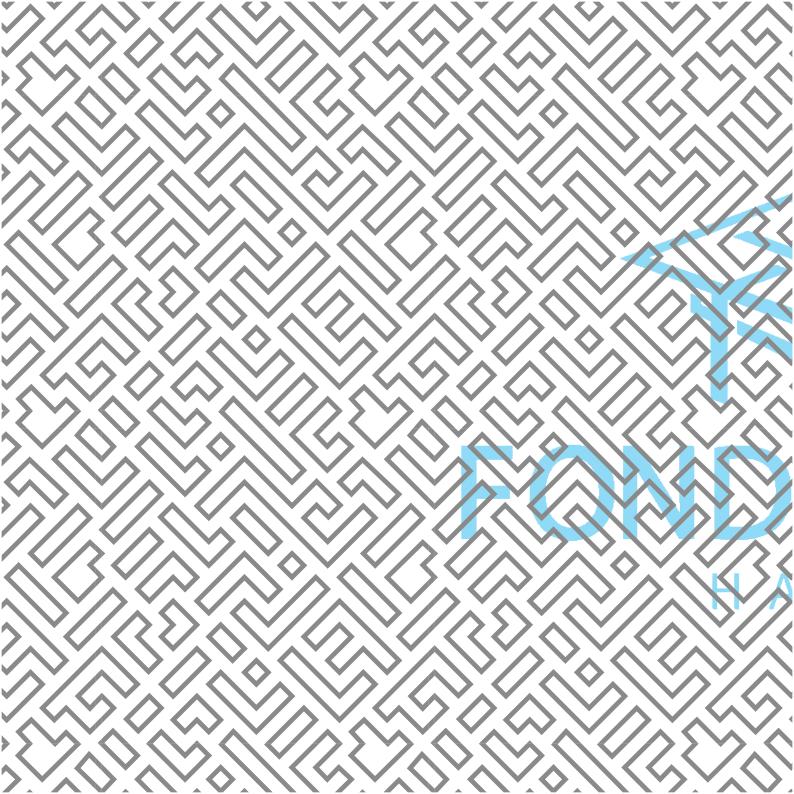


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After eleven years of existence, the Hastor Foundation sees the thousandth former scholarship holder off into new challenges, new successes and a new life. If we take into account the current scholarship holders as well, we can say that there are nearly 3,000 young people who were growing, developing, and succeeding with the Hastor Foundation. Why is it that I've begun with the former scholarship holders?

With this document we want to look back at the year that is behind us, at that due to which we stand proudly as the greatest investor in knowledge and in young people to whose families that investment is of key importance. On the following pages you will be able to read wonderful stories, stories about wonderful people, but also, so we hope, be able to understand how much effort was needed to no longer talk about numbers, days, hours, number of medals and diplomas, but instead to conclude with a single word – SUCCESS!

I've begun this page with the information about former scholarship holders. They are part of the Hastor Foundation just as much as the current ones. They studied hard, passionately committed themselves to acquiring their knowledge and always kept their professionalism in mind. As they became older, they taught the younger ones together with us, and were a true example of where one should be in life. They are the proof that during the past eleven years our work was intensive and valuable, and more intensive and more valuable than ever, and they are the proof that after every challenging beginning, in which a lot of effort and love is invested, the unattainable can be attained, the mission can be accomplished and one can become a winner!

Our friends nowadays, the former scholarship holders who completed their education by our side are our argument based on which we can with certainty say that we will grow in every sense of the word, that the number of our scholarship holders will be greater, that their grades will be better, their badges brighter, and their ideas the ones that change the world. This is why we are courageously starting the twelfth year of our active and successful work, and harder than ever trying to bring about change and be the strongest bastion of defense of science, ideas, enterprise, education and success of young people, with a sentence that has been guiding us on our path from the beginning, even during the toughest times: EDUCATION truly IS THE **CHOICE OF WINNERS!** 

Mr. Seid Fijuljanin Managing director of Hastor Foundation



The Hastor Foundation is a non-profit organization whose efforts focus on all of Bosnia and The Foundation's mission is to Herzegovina. support and empower children and youth in order for them to become people who will inspire change in their local communities. The Foundation relies on education as a singular tool for achieving ones aims, and is a long-term solution for the problems of the Bosnian and Herzegovinian society, such as poverty, unemployment, as well as the ever more frequent exodus of the youth and the educated, skillful population from Bosnia and Herzegovina. The primary goal and aim of the Hastor Foundation is to provide an opportunity for the youth to participate, by successfully completing their formal education and volunteer hours, in the development of local communities and their own faculties. Through their constant volunteering, the scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation contribute the growth and improvement of their Foundation.

The Hastor Foundation is a unique foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since its establishment, it has encouraged and supported the students of primary schools, secondary schools and colleges who work hard, show great determination to succeed, have a need for financial support and are prepared to improve the quality of their lives and the lives of others through education. Besides providing support for the talented children/youth, the Hastor Foundation is particularly attentive towards the needs of the youth who live on the margins of the Bosnian and Herzegovinian society, yet possess an enormous potential which remains untapped because of their difficult socio-economic situation.

Eleven years of our efforts have given us a record number of scholarship holders – 1714 promising young people receive our scholarship in the school year 2016/2017. As the number of our scholarship holders increases year by year, we firmly believe that an evergrowing support of the friends of the Hastor Foundation will enable us to greet a new school year with an even greater number of scholarship holders.

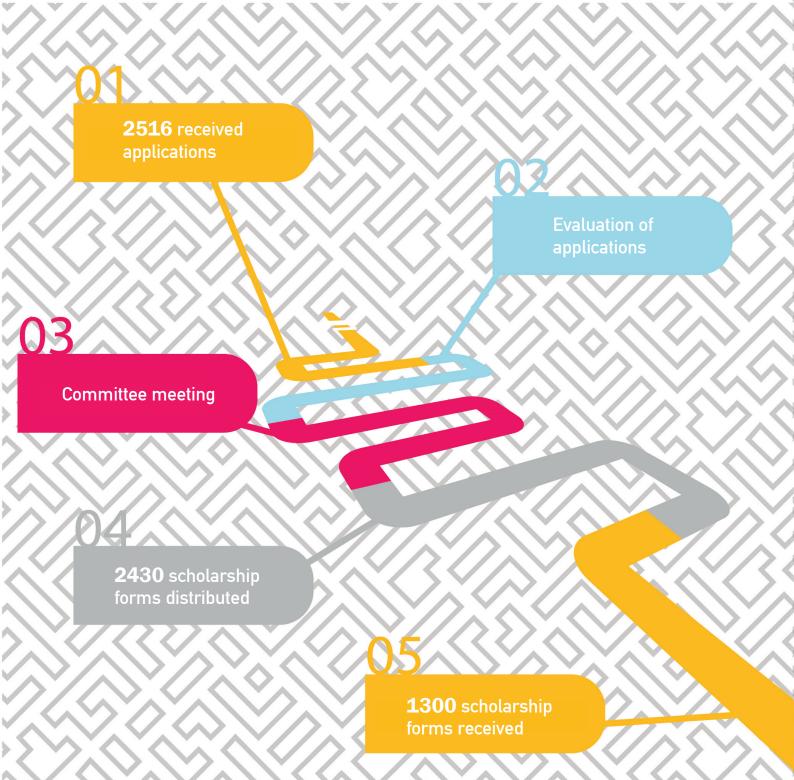


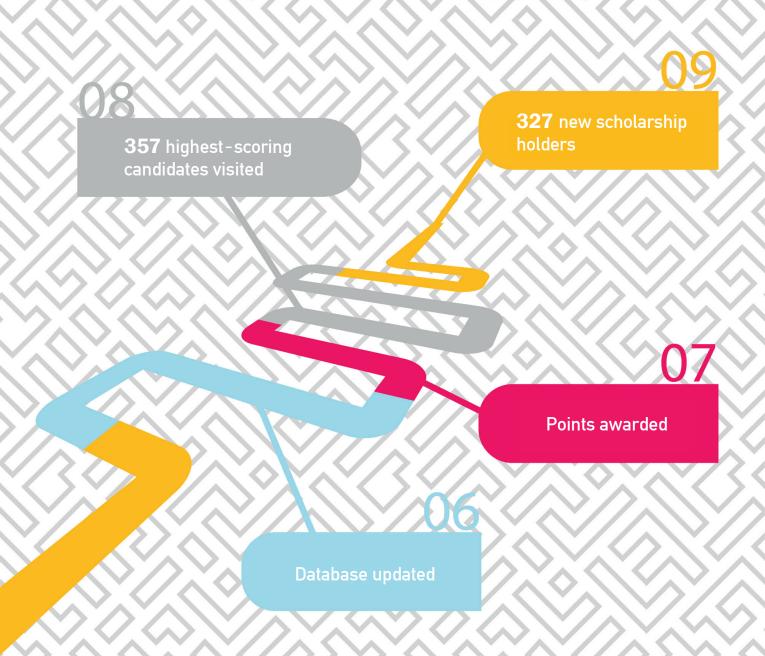


Throughout the year, the Hastor Foundation receives scholarship applications, via letters and an online form (found on the Hastor Foundation's website), from students of primary and secondary schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The applications comprise of the applicants' contact information, short description of the applicants' socio-economic situation, as well as the information about the applicants' grades and GPA. The evaluation of the applications is conducted once a year in the period from February until March, and upon its completion a request form is sent to the applicants.

The request form needs to be filled out and returned together with the additional documents that can demonstrate the validity of applicants' claims about their socio-economic situation and GPA. The accumulated data is entered into computer software that automatically generates the ranking list of the candidates. Afterwards, the Hastor Foundation's team visits the candidates with the highest number of points. Once they evaluate the situation, scholarships are awarded to a certain number of candidates, in accordance with the budget approved for that academic year.

College students can become scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation if the Foundation issues the Call for the Scholarship Applications for college students. The Call is issued in the period from October until November of the current year. Applications are submitted exclusively via online form, and no additional documents are required. Computer software automatically generates a ranking list based on the applicants' academic success, as well as the economic situation in their families. The candidates who are awarded the highest number of points are called for an interview with the members of the Commission for awarding scholarships. During the household visits, the evaluation team of the Foundation encounters numerous situations that later become amusing anecdotes.





## ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2016/2017

#### **SEPTEMBER**

The Gala Academy held in honor of the 10th anniversary of the Hastor Foundation

Signing scholarship contracts for the school year 2016/2017 with the primary school and secondary school students

#### OCTOBER

Signing scholarship contracts with the college students

TEDx StariGrad, in whose organization the Hastor Foundation and IASTE LC Sarajevo participated together with partners.

#### NOVEMBER

21 new college student scholarship holder, who have applied to the issued Call, are selected

Selection of students from Zivinice area for the "Summer Holidays in the Netherlands" project

#### MARCH

The second cycle of the TAKT Academy successfully completed – employment opportunity for 51 participant

Scholarship forms forwarded

APRIL

Forms evaluated and ranked, visits to the candidates' households

MAY

#### DECEMBER

Assigning the students to local communities

Students' volunteering activities in local communities

#### JANUARY

TAKT Academy organized

Selection of the TAKT Academy participants

#### FEBRUARY

The second cycle of the TAKT Academy begins

The biannual meeting of the college student scholarship holders is held

End of the school year

Summer Holidays in the Netherlands" project

JUNE

End of the academic year

The Hastor Foundation partner of Mersad Berber's Exhibition

JULY

Scholarship contracts drawn up

AUGUST

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The uniqueness of the Hastor Foundation and its greatest value is reflected in the number of volunteer hours completed by the scholarship holders. In the school year 2016/2017, the scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation have completed a record number of 250.000 volunteer hours. 250.000 hours spent studying, learning about each other and volunteering. It seems incredible.

But these volunteer hours are not merely results of volunteering in local communities. The college student scholarship holders who study in Sarajevo volunteer on the Foundation's premises and offices as well. The students who are members of the Foundation's administrative team volunteer in the office daily. The members of the administrative team of the Hastor Foundation communicate with the scholarship holders via telephone and e-mail, mark their reports and volunteering announcements, as well as enter the completed volunteer hours in a database created specifically for these purposes. The administrative team also communicates with third parties, replies to inquires and requests, and also provides information about the Foundation, the selection process, request submission process etc.

Besides the administrative team, all the college student scholarship holders studying at the University of Sarajevo are obligated to volunteer in the Foundation's office. Each month, these students are required to spend a minimum of two hours at the office, and their volunteering duties include tasks which are typical for the administrative and office context, thus they are given an opportunity to gain certain experience and learn what it means to be working in this field.

The administrative team is not the only active team of students in the Foundation, the Foundation's editorial board makes up another key part of it. The editorial board is made up of a group of students tasked with writing, editing and designing the Hastor Foundation's Newsletter, published on a monthly basis. The editorial board uses the newsletter, website and Facebook fan page to inform the public about the latest news about the Foundation, as well as promote the successes of its scholarship holders.

The primary purpose of the meetings of the administrative team and the editorial board is to assign tasks, plan the subject matter of the monthly meetings of the college student scholarship holders and the way of conducting them. Renowned experts from various fields used to deliver lectures, but a couple of months ago the scholarship holders have taken on that role and the quality of the meetings has not dropped in the slightest.

Another team that deserves mention is the Foundation's IT technical support. These scholarship holders do the website maintenance and take care of the Facebook fan page, but also work tirelessly on developing new, innovative projects that will make the Foundation excel and stand out from the rest.



However, most of these are the result of the monthly on-field volunteering meetings that are organized and held by the college student scholarship holders with their younger colleagues, the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holders from primary and secondary school. Every meeting is a special opportunity for our younger scholarship holders to learn something new. These volunteering meetings are on average held twice a month. Besides the compulsory themes that are put in the annual Plan and program for volunteering meetings, student mentors are allowed to include some other themes that they find interesting, upon reaching an agreement with the pupils. This way the pupils take part in organizing how the volunteer hours will be spent together with their mentors, and at the same time learn something new in a creative and interesting way. It is not uncommon that during these volunteering meetings various humanitarian events, clean-up events, fieldtrips, creative workshops, plays and competitions are organized, as well as many other similar activities.

Hastor Foundation's scholarship holders Lejla Ramic and Dina Turulja volunteer in Sarajevo with a group of pupils. They decided to spend the volunteer hours of the last school year in an educational and fun way, so they visited all the local museums in Sarajevo with their group.

"Working together, we have managed to visit all the local museums in Sarajevo in the past eleven months: Svrzo's House, The Despic House, Sarajevo Museum 1878-1918, Brusa Bezistan, The Jewish Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ashkenazi Synagogue, as well as Vrelo Bosne, Trebevic, Center for Education, Sport and Recreation Safet Zajko, The Sarajevo Zoo – Pionirska Dolina, Cinema City...", Lejla wrote with elation.

Scholarship holders Delila Veispahic and Sakib Bitic volunteer in Kakanj with primary and secondary school pupils. They devoted one of their volunteering meetings to culture and tradition of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Together with the pupils they organized a small workshop that included making old jewelry from the medieval period and traditional Bosnian doors with knockers from the Ottoman period. The materials they used were: bituminous sheets, acrylic paints, eye shadows, brushes, stencils, wire, and pearls.



## Foundation's IT technical support.

"At the end pupils had various colors on their fingers, but were also satisfied with what they've made", Dalila remembers with satisfaction.

Scholarship holders Arif Bukvic and Josipa Bagaric volunteer in Tomislavgrad with the Professional secondary school pupils. In August they decided to spend their volunteer hours in nature so they organized an excursion to Mali Vran.

"Although we were already a rather good group, this trip brought us closer together, more so than all the hours we spent together in the classroom in the past months. I've never seen our pupils in such good mood, no one was by themselves, the older ones helped the younger ones, and the boys bravely led the team forward under the watchful eye of our guides. Mr. Anto's words come to mind; he said that the best friendships are made while hiking and in nature, because such friendships are made without any hidden interests. The guides made everything more interesting with various stories and at the same time taught us many things', says Josipa.

Volunteer hours that our scholarship holders spend together on the field, socializing, learning and having fun, give the Hastor Foundation its uniqueness, and the examples mentioned above are a proof that these volunteer hours mean more than just volunteering to our scholarship holders.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016/2017

## SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS OF THE HASTOR FOUNDATION AMONG THE BEST STUDENTS IN FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



On 13th of December, 2016, in Mostar, The Federal Ministry of Education and Science awarded prize money and gifts to 73 best students in Federation of B&H, for the 2015/2016 school year. Amongst awarded students are four scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation: Nejra Subara, Berina Barakovic, Alem Merdic i Sakib Bitic. Their achievements in the previous school year placed them among the 20 best students in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On that occasion, the ceremony was also attended by the representatives of the Hastor Foundation, who congratulated the winners and expressed their contentment about continued accomplishments and remarkable result of their scholarship holders. The scholarship holders who received this accolade also show exceptional dedication and devotion through their volunteering efforts in the Hastor Foundation and are diligent and suitable mentors to their younger colleagues. Before awarding the students, the minister addressed the audience. She thanked all those who contributed to such exceptional success of the students and particularly the awarded students from whom she expects to show initiative in bettering the economy, but also the political situation in this country. Every year the Federal Ministry of Education and Science awards the best students in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, who are nominated by their faculties. Each state university from Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in the nomination of students.



# ELEVEN YEARS SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HASTOR FOUNDATION

April is a particularly significant month for every member of our Hastor family. Today's date, 18th of April, marks exactly eleven years since the Foundation was established in 2006. With the first scholarship awarded as early as September, the Foundation boldly stepped on the winding road leading towards change and the creation of a better society. Perhaps not even realizing how large it will become, in the last 11 years the Foundation slowly grew to be the largest in Bosnia and Herzegovina, providing scholarships to the greatest number of students of all generations and levels of education - from primary school to college level. Its unique mission made the Foundation recognizable across all of Bosnia and Herzegovina, because it provided the opportunity for the talented, gifted young people to educate themselves, develop their talents and reach their full potential. By cultivating the power of education, our motto "Education - the Choice of Winners" managed to bring together over 3000 young people. Starting with just 300 students, after 11 years we are proud to emphasize that right now, the number of scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation has reached 1714. This practice of expansion has been successfully followed for 11 years, and the fact that the ideals of the Hastor Foundation continue to live on, is best confirmed by its scholarship holders whose

accomplishments in various branches of human sciences justify its raison d'être day after day.

In the midst of the growing trend of unemployment and the mass exodus of the youth to other, more developed countries, the program of the Hastor Foundation offers a perspective for the youth staying in our country. It also gives them an opportunity to participate in the process of developing local communities, thus simultaneously shaping them to become future leaders and strengthening Bosnia and Herzegovina. A need for a change is evident in all aspects of our society, and the Hastor Foundation recognizes knowledge and education as values to be nurtured throughout our lives and as universal catalysts to bring about that change. Our mission wouldn't be as successful if not for the support of a great number of donors who have joined the Club of Friends of the Hastor Foundation. We continue to follow our path steadily, and we believe that, with the support of all those who believe in our mission, our family will keep growing and that we will realize many more successful projects with the goal of strengthening Bosnian and Herzegovinian society and creating a better perspective for its youth to live in.

## THE HASTOR FOUNDATION RECIPIENT OF THE SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD

Ever since it was founded in 2006, the Hastor Foundation has had a clear vision – to stimulate positive changes in the society of Bosnia and Herzegovina through education and with the help of young people. This foundation is one of the few to that have recognized the power that young, educated and ambitious people possess. Those people will be the most powerful force on the path of change that the Foundation boldly follows. Led by the Foundation's mission and using only knowledge and education as their weapons, these young people have already stimulated change and we believe that the true change is yet to come.

The future is in the hands of these young people, and by helping them we have commenced a mission of shaping new leaders who will promote positive change and who as such are those who will bring about a better future for us all. Eleven years have passed and we are still here, with the same mission and the same zeal to improve our society, but with a much greater number of young people in the Foundation and with many friends who have recognized our mission.

Our mission has finally been recognized at this year's Sarajevo Business Forum and the Hastor Foundation received the Social Impact Award. "This award shows that all our endeavors up until now have been acknowledged and we would wish for it to reveal the potential of everything that can still be done in Bosnia Herzegovina. It is necessary that young people, and their families, are supported while acquiring knowledge so they could reach the desired level of knowledge in the field that they selected. We will continue our efforts to introduce initiatives and to act, and we would also like to invite all those who want to support our work to do so. That way, we can create a positive influence on our communities and Bosnia and Herzegovina in its entirety", said Seid Fijuljanin, the CEO of the Hastor Foundation.

We are pleased to see that the Foundation's efforts are being acknowledged by a growing number of people, institutions and organizations and this award is nothing less than the wind in our sails on this path of change we are creating. It is important to note that during the eleven years of its existence, the Hastor Foundation has supported the education of thousands of pupils and students, the majority of whom are nowadays employed. We are currently financing and supporting 1,714 scholarship holders from more than 110 municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.









#### IDEAS WORTH SHARING ON THE TEDX STAGE IN SARAJEVO



The TEDx conference – Tedx StariGrad was held in Sarajevo near the end of October 2016, and the Hastor Foundation and IASTE LC Sarajevo, along with partners, participated in the organization of this event.

Having started as a four-day conference in California 30 years ago, TED has grown to be a support to people around the world who exchange ideas with more initiatives. TED is an abbreviation which stands for Technology, Entertainment and Design – three wide topics that collectively shape our future, but the event itself is more than that, since ideas from various fields are presented on TED. The slogan of TED is "ideas worth sharing" which implies TED's commitment to give millions of knowledge-seekers access to the greatest thinkers and lecturers. In the spirit of ideas worth sharing, TED has created a program called TEDx, which is a program of local, independently organized events that bring people together so they can share their experiences TED-style. On TEDx stage spoke individuals with different life stories who persisted in making their goals and dreams come true, despite the obstacles in life and the society's disapproval, people who changed and improved the areas they live and work in.

The conference was held in the Meeting Point cinema, and during this multi-hour program the visitors had

the opportunity to hear truly inspirational stories and great ideas that this year's speakers decided to share with the audience. Interesting topics and even more interesting speakers attracted the attention of many citizens which is why the tickets for this event were sold out in a very short period of time. The speakers on the TEDxStariGrad conference were: Senad Alibegovic, Almir Mukaca, our scholarship holder Adisa Bolic, Edin Mehic, Almir Badnjevic, Denis Agovic, Vedran Persic, Samir Beharic, Ismir Omeragic, Tomislav Cvitanusic, Emir Salkic, Damir Marjanovic and the young World Scholar's Cup Debate team, a group of primary and secondary school pupils who participated in the Tournament of the Champions World Scholar's Cup the following month, having been invited by Yale University. One thing is certain - on October 29 the Meeting Point cinema witnessed the meeting of extremely successful people who shared the recipe of their success and their ideas as well with the present knowledge-seekers, and a unique message was sent from here - Bosnia and Herzegovina is full of promising people and quality ideas that we can valiantly propel into the world.

## PROJECTS

### TAKT ACADEMY PROGRAM

TAKT Academy program – a unique project, organized for the second year in a row by the Hastor Foundation in cooperation with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Embassy of Switzerland in Bosnia and Herzegovina. TAKT Academy offers its participants knowledge and skills needed for them to work in fashion, textile, furniture and automotive industries. The program is characterized by its systematic approach to adjusting the educational system in accordance with the needs of the labor market and includes programs for manufacturing and process management. The target group is comprised of graduates of technical secondary schools and college graduates specializing in social sciences and technical studies.





In 2015, due to the absence of adequate resources on the labor market, the ASA Prevent Group started an internal training for young graduates and undergraduates. At that time, this was a giant leap for one company. In time, that project gathered other partners as well, and today it has evolved into TAKT Academy, a clearly recognizable program that ensures that the young people are given an opportunity for their first employment.

The second cycle of the TAKT Academy commenced in February this year. After the selection process which was headed by the expert committee, 65 participants were chosen from more than 300 potential participants that have applied and the theoretical training could commence, followed by the practical training as well. Young graduates and undergraduates had an opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge they acquired through their studies in the practical training that took place on several locations of companies that are a part of the ASA Prevent Group. In addition, the participants could become better acquainted with the production processes of some of the leading Bosnian and Herzegovinian companies. The practical training which lasted for 4 or 5 weeks, depending on the vocation, was held in Visoko, Zenica, Ilijas and Sarajevo, in the companies Prevent Leather, Prevent Interior and Prevent Fabrics, Ironworks, as well as other companies under the umbrella of the ASA Prevent Group. Each group of participants was assigned a mentor from the company where the practical training was organized and with whom they closely cooperated and also had an opportunity to learn much from.

A majority of the participants pointed out that this was their best experience yet, considering that previously they have not been given an opportunity to experience firsthand the production processes and could not attempt to try and tackle the problems that are encountered in the operations processes of production companies. The second cycle of the TAKT Academy program was brought to a close with the award ceremony during which 51 participants who have successfully completed the training and the final examinations were given certificates. It is important to note that more than 20 of them found employment in certain members of the ASA Prevent Group.

Among the people attending the award ceremony was also the vice-president of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Milan Dunovic, who used this opportunity to emphasize the importance of tailoring the educational system in accordance with the needs of the job market.

"A lot of recent discussions revolved around the negative influences of attempting to adjust the educational policies with the needs of the economy, in a way that this adjustment would create better opportunities for the new job openings. Even though this is the ultimate goal, in the future time, I maintain that we are currently in the situation where the needs of the economy must be regarded as more important, so that in the future the educational system truly increases the chances of finding employment and creating new job openings in various branches of the economy. TAKT Academy shows that the NGO sector is also capable of keeping us one step ahead in order to shape the workforce that has not yet acquired technical expertise in a way which suits our needs. The number of employed in Bosnia and Herzegovina has thus increased, and I think that this is a truly pro-active approach to employment policies. I have recognized the efforts of Hastor Foundation and gave a financial stimulant in order to show that the cooperation between the government and NGO sectors must result in new job openings."

## PROJECTS

#### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Making new friends and partnerships in order to improve the society of Bosnia and Herzegovina has always been one of distinguishable characteristics of the Hastor Foundation. We are proud to have people and organizations among us that have been working devotedly on improving the living conditions in Bosnia and Herzegovina for many years.

We present to you one cooperation that we are truly proud of and which has after more than 10 years of working together evolved into a great friendship between not only two organizations, but also two countries.

Stichting Kinderhulp Bosnië is the name of an organization that is active in the Netherlands, and which distributes its resources to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Their work began in 1992, when the organization carried the name Pax Kinderhulp and their initial projects included organizing holidays in the Netherlands for children from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Peter van Laar, the director of Stichting Kinderhulp Bosnië, told us that in that period which marked the beginning of the war they wanted to give the children a holiday during which they would forget all the problems in their country and for at least those few weeks be what they actually are – children. Upon returning home, the children would be happier and they achieved better results in school, which was more than enough to motivate them to continue working hard.



Stichting Kinderhulp Bosnië was founded in 2007 and the cooperation with the Hastor Foundation began the same year. Peter told us that he established a strong connection with Ramo Hastor, who worked as a teacher at the time and helped with the process of choosing those children that would spend the holiday in the Netherlands, and also accompanied them on that journey.

"When we founded the Stichting Kinderhulp Bosnië, the Hastor Foundation had just begun with its work. Without even thinking about it we decided to start cooperating with them. If it wasn't for the cooperation with Ramo Hastor and the Hastor Foundation it would have been really difficult to achieve the success and the results that we have today."

As a result of this cooperation more than a thousand children had the opportunity to spend their holiday in the land of flowers, and among the families that accepted them as their guests, trying to give them a holiday they would remember forever. A great number of children are still in touch with those families and are in this way making the friendship between the two countries last. The Hastor Foundation has participated in the realization of these projects from the very beginning, by giving its selfless support and helping organize the entire process of choosing the children and preparing them for the trip, as well as choosing the leaders and the translators that are in charge of the children and their safety during the journey.

Along with the project of helping children and after realizing that the unemployment and bad living standards are a huge problem in the rural areas, another project was started, with the goal of helping the lowincome families that are willing to change and improve their life. The help that the chosen families receive is in the form of livestock donations, such as cows, sheep or goats, as well as reconstruction and restoration of barns or donations such as greenhouses, plants etc. The families have to fulfill certain conditions, and the donations they receive are supposed to be motivation for further work and progress. This way they do not get finished products or money, but have to contribute to the entire process which makes them useful members of the society.

Peter tells us that his greatest pleasure and motivation are the smiles on the faces of the people that receive the help, as well as their gratitude, because he is aware that apart from the Hastor Foundation no one else helps these families or shows any interest in them.

"I am proud of the achieved results and my plans for the future are the same as during the last 25 years – to make children happy and live through these experiences together with them. They will never forget their holidays in the Netherlands and the families will have long-term benefits from our donations", says Peter.

The person that shares this opinion is Ramo Hastor, who is wholeheartedly devoted to the project and is on the field almost every day, searching for new families that need help, and also visiting those that have already received it and motivate him currently, also giving incentive for his future work.

There are many more reasons why we are proud of this cooperation that is first and foremost based on a great friendship and we doubt not that it will bring even more success in the future!



#### THE HASTOR FOUNDATION MARKED EARTH DAY

Marking of Earth Day was one more project in the wide range of the Hastor Foundation's projects. For the third year in a row, and thanks to the Foundation's scholarship holders, we could once more see how important our presence on this planet is and how we should be eco-conscious and share our knowledge with others. This year our initiative was recognized by the State Lottery of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which joined our project as a partner.





In order to appropriately mark the Earth Day, the Hastor Foundation together with its scholarship holders organized several events in April. The first of these events was a lecture held during the April monthly meeting whose primary goal was raising awareness of current ecological problems, particularly those of global proportions. Belmana Gerin and Amina Satara, both students of the Dzemal Bijedic University in Mostar, more precisely Department of Ecology and Environment Managing in Agriculture were the ones to deliver this lecture.

However, this lecture was only an introduction into the events that followed soon after the meeting. In the spirit of marking Earth Day, the Hastor Foundation scholarship holders organized cleaning of the river beds of the Miljacka and the Drina River. On Earth Day over sixty scholarship holders worked together to clean the Ambassadors Alley near the Miljacka River in Sarajevo and one area of the Drina River bed near the "Plavi Cvijet" park in Gorazde.

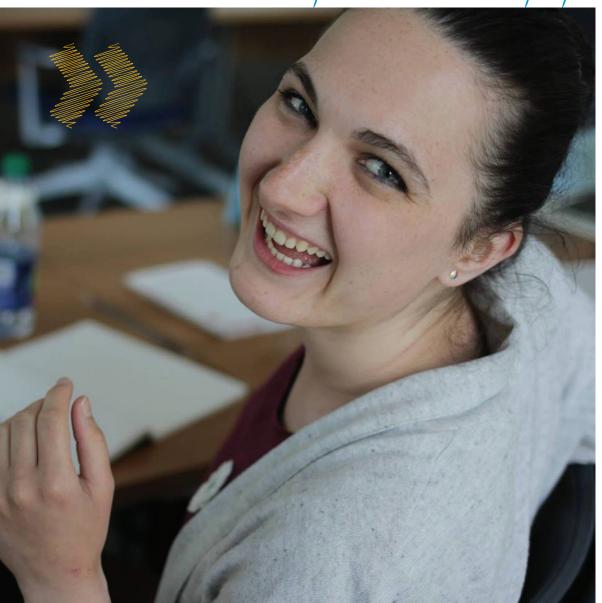
Besides spending over twenty hours of purposeful work together, the scholarship holders also had fun

and showed that a lot can be done with joint effort and some help and support. As members of the Hastor Foundation, we are grateful to be given an opportunity to become useful members of the society, independent leaders, and finally true and genuine people as well. That is precisely the Foundation's goal and the path to it is chosen carefully yet confidently. When 1,714 people from more than 110 municipalities and socially responsible companies and organizations work together and have the same goal – for us all to become winners who will invest in knowledge on the path to success in life – the gold medal is the prize that awaits. The Hastor Foundation's scholarship holders have once more shown their initiative and social responsibility.

This project is a unique initiative recognized in 2016 first by the BH Posta postal service and then the State Lottery of Bosnia and Herzegovina and similar projects will be organized in the following years.

## OUR SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS' SUCCESS STORIES

ALMA MUJANOVIC: / never allowed deafness to separate me from people



Alma Mujanovic is a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation since December last year. She is an example of a young, determined person who has, despite her hearing impairment, managed to do something miraculous. Her hard work and all the effort she put in earned her a place in the sun.

Alma was born in Montenegro and moved to Sarajevo when she was ten years old in order to attend a school for the hearing impaired. Today she is a third year student at the Faculty of Health Sciences in Sarajevo, Department of Radiologic Technology. Alma is passionate about human rights and is a member of numerous non-governmental organizations, and also plays two instruments.

Alma's path to success wasn't an easy one however. For her, hearing sounds for the first time was nothing short of a miraculous discovery.

I was young when I first noticed that I was different from my peers, as well as realized that my "defect" was actuate my hearing. Hellen Keller, an American writer who was both blind and deaf once said: "Blindness separates people from things; deafness separates people from people." During my childhood, I felt this on numerous occasions; deafness separating me from people. I felt it most deeply when we played 'broken telephone'. The game would most often start spontaneously in first, fifth or seventh row, seemingly wherever I was sitting. Then I realized that I was a minority and that I will have to work hard and put in a lot of effort to fit in and be accepted in this group," Alma confessed.

Thanks to the persistence of her mother who constantly worked with her, Alma managed to overcome her speech difficulties and learned lip reading. Her comprehension and conversing with others drastically improved when she got a hearing aid at six years old. Her first hearing aid enabled Alma to enter the world of noise, the expression she most often uses.

Besides her fondness for the world of music, in secondary school Alma also played table tennis, basketball and volleyball, as well as learned scuba diving for which she completed an instructor course. She was an honorary graduate in both primary and secondary school, and her professors and teaching assistants at the faculty greatly support her as well.

Alma's education was not restricted to compulsory classes of the formal education; she is also a very active member of many NGOs.

"I was in Norway as a part of the student exchange program, participated in seminars in Albania, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Austria, Greece, France . Last year, I received a scholarship of the highly renowned European Forum Alpbach. It was held in Austria and gathered around 5000 participants, speakers and influential people from all around the world," said Alma.

One of the most significant programs she participated in was this year's Humanity in Action program, held in Atlanta, USA. By receiving the fellowship, Alma was given a wonderful opportunity to spend a month in the U.S. and meet new people who have encouraged her to continue following her dreams.

"For a person such as myself who is versatile and actively engaged in all the fields of knowledge. education and volunteering, the Hastor Foundation became another chance and opportunity for my new successes and plans in life. It motivated me to continue fighting for my place in the sun and never give up. As a person who has a hearing impairment, I am given an opportunity to show the society that my impairment need not be weakness and an obstacle to achieving my goals in life, but rather my source of strength. Similarly, this network of contacts gives me an opportunity to use all the knowledge I gained to teach young people all over Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is an understatement to say that I am ecstatic to be a part of such a large family that is helping me to become a member of the society without prejudices."

## OUR SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS' SUCCESS STORIES

### JOSIP REZIC: DEAN'S AWARD RECIPIENT

Josip Rezic is the scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation since December last year. He is from Mostar and is a second year student of the Faculty of Information Technology in Mostar, Department of Software Engineering.

Josip is an active member of several student organizations. He is a volunteer and a team coordinator of "DUGA" organization in Mostar. In primary and secondary school he played table tennis and practice karate. Besides table tennis, he spends his free time playing basketball, programming, reading and playing guitar. He craves adventure and traveling, and is increasingly interested in extreme sports such as rafting and paragliding.

An achievement that has a special place in his heart is the Dean's award awarded to him this year. Other notable achievements include competitions in the field of mathematics and Croatian language where he demonstrated exceptional knowledge. Josip also won several medals in table tennis competitions.



"The Hastor Foundation is the wind in my sails, my launching pad. It provides me with enormous support in every conceivable way. It encourages me to work continuously, to study, to volunteer and improve and motivates me enormously which is a key to success. In addition, volunteering with the students and the monthly meeting are for me, in a way, a school of life. The topics we deal with and the lectures we attend are never without a message, they are interesting and motivating. We make new friendships and we gain experience. No school can offer us such experience like the one offered by our Hastor Foundation, and that is why I am enormously proud to be its member."

## TWO BRONZE MEDALS FOR MERIMA OSMANOVIC AT AUSTRIA SPECIAL OLYMPIC GAMES



Merima Osmanovic, a student of second grade of Secondary School of Mechanical Engineering in Kalesija, represented Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Special Olympic World Winter Games in Austria where she won two bronze medals in slalom and giant slalom disciplines. The Winter Games began on the 14th of March, 2017 and ended on the 25th.

She points out that for her this competition was a truly lovely experience that enabled her to meet plenty of new friends and coaches from all over the world and experience the richness of different cultures and languages.

She ascribes her success to her coach, parents, friends, professors, the Hastor Foundation and all the others who have given her their support and thus enabled her to reach the podium and succeed in such a way as she did. Merima's success and the success of her team were particularly recognized upon her return to Bosnia and Herzegovina where numerous special receptions were held in their honor.

"It was a great honor for me that, upon returning from Austria, my friends and I were guests of honor at the game of our national team of Bosnia and Herzegovina. During our honorary run we've also received a great applause from the audience. It was a lovely and a delightful experience, I have seen so much and met new friends, learned so much too and it is something you remember your whole life."

## ADISA BOLIC'S ACCOMPLISMENTS OF GLOBAL PROPORTIONS



Our scholarship holder Adisa Bolic who is already well-known for her extraordinary accomplishments in the field of mathematics, represented Bosnia and Herzegovina at the European Girls' Mathematical Olympiad held at Zürich and just three months later, in July, at the International Mathematical Olympiad in Brazil.

For the European Mathematical Olympiad, each participating country sends its best team which is comprised of four secondary school students, and our Adisa, as well as three other girls, qualified after a competition held at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Afterwards, all four of them headed for Zürich and the competition as the representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Olympiad was held on the 7th of April and among 168 mathletes from 44 different countries Adisa won a silver medal. The competition ended and as soon as July, Adisa already travelled to the next one. International Mathematical Olympiad at Rio de Janeiro, held from 13th to 23rd of July, is a competition that brought together 615 participants from 115 countries around the world.

Representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina performed exceptionally, and our Adisa returned home with a bronze medal.

## INELA KAVAZ, THE WINNER OF A BRONZE MEDAL AT THE BALKAN KARATE CHAMPIONSHIP



The 22nd Balkan Children Karate Championships was held in Istanbul, from 19th to 21st of May. In the team of Bosnia and Herzegovina, young karate masters from the Karate club "Energija" performed brilliantly and the team won 45 medals: eight gold, ten silver and twenty-seven bronze medals. Among the winners was our young scholarship holder Inela Kavaz who won a bronze medal. Inela had previously won the first place at the National Karate Championship held at Pale at the end of last month and that way secured her place at this championship.

## NINETEEN MEDALS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS OF THE HASTOR FOUNDATION

Our scholarship holders Anisa, Dina and Amina won nineteen medals altogether (gold and silver) which ensured that they automatically qualify for the "Tournament of Champions" competition which is held every November at the Yale University, United States of America.

Upon returning from Greece, Amina, Dina and Anisa are still full of impressions. Although the competition required a lot of effort and demanded sacrifices, the girls confess that this is one of the most wonderful summer holidays that they ever had. Our three girls found the opportunity to compete, debate and also meet and spend time with their peers from all the corners of the world absolutely invaluable. Anisa Karic's joy was palpable as she was conveying her impressions to our Editorial Board.

"Ever since we returned to Sarajevo, we have been trying to process everything that happened and also rest, but despite everything that we've experienced, despite all the wonderful things that happened, it is impossible to find words to describe WSC or all the emotions we felt and which we still feel. To put it briefly, we are overjoyed that we managed to qualify for the "Tournament of Champions". Although the event still seems rather far away, it will definitely be another wonderful, unforgettable experience. Finally, I speak for all three of us when I say that we are grateful to the Hastor Foundation for the opportunity that we were given. Heartfelt thanks to you!"

The dreams of our scholarship holders came true because of their efforts and all the time that they selflessly dedicated to acquiring new knowledge, and thus this accomplishment simply represents the fruits of their hard work and gained knowledge. To win nineteen medals is a truly impressive feat, but it is not unattainable if one is willing to embark on an adventure of learning. World Scholar's Cup is a competition which demands that the participants possess both formal and informal knowledge, and that curiosity and general knowledge be characteristics of each and every participant.

If you have thirst for knowledge and a curious mind, if you are fond of history and social sciences and like to read or write, and finally, if you are skilled debaters or quiz takers, the World Scholar's Cup is an ideal opportunity for you. The Hastor Foundation enables all of its scholarship holders who are interested in taking part in this renowned competition, to become a member of the winning team.



Global Round, the finale of the international World Scholar's Cup competition, took place from 18th to 23rd of July. World Scholar's Cup is a unique competition that gathers the students of primary and secondary schools from all around the world and who, in accordance with their age group, take part in competitions which focus on various branches of social sciences. The concept of the competition ensures that the participants require the use of logic and that they need to combine all their previously gained knowledge. This year's Global Round was held at the Greek capital, the city of Athens, and more than 2000 students from 52 different countries have participated. Our scholarship holders Anisa Karic, Dina Karic and Amina Visca, who were under the guidance of the CEO of the Hastor Foundation, Seid Fijuljanin, also took part in this prestigious competition.



## THE GENERATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES

Abaza Suana Ahmetovic Merima Ahmetspahic Selmin Alic Havka Alisic Serif **Bajric Elma** Barucija Nizama Becirovic Aida **Bektic Amir Belegic Ajla** Berisa Aldin **Bolic Adisa Bosnjakovic Haris** Bukvic Medina Cero Nermina Cajic Ilma Causevic Amina Cekro Muhamed Cizmic Adna Comor Armin Dedic Nermin Dedic Adem Delic Ahmed Dervisic Maida Drakovac Ajla Drljo Fadil Durakovic Ahmed Duranovic Selma Dzevlan Faris Elezovic Ajla Fejzic Rijad Ferizagic Nusreta

Fusko Murisa Gerin Fdin Gorancic Flma Gutlic Belma Hadziavdic Lamiia Hadzic Aldina Hajdarevic Nermana Hasanovic Adelisa Haznadarevic Adnan Hero Sara Hodzic Mehmed Hodzic Flma Hota Amar Hrniic Dzenita Hrustic Melisa Huseinbasic Hasija Huskanovic Seila Imamović Selma Jablic Zuhra Jakupovic Omer Jusic Aila Kadric Ismet Kadunic Azer Kafedzic Emma Karaman Anesa Karasin Hamzo Keranovic Elvin Kerkez Alen Kesten Amina **Kismetovic Murisa** Klonic Emina Klovo Vedin

Kovacevic Irena Kudic Enver Landeka Anamarija Lendo Amina Lugonja Azema Mackic Elma Mahmutovic Leila Malagic Salima Mandzic Ahmed Masic Amina Medar Anela Mehmedovic Alija Mekic Mirza Meraiic Melisa **Muharemovic Ajdin** Mujkic Lejla Mulalic Nihada Muratovic Armina Musa Belma Music Nizama Mustafic Samra Nasic Aida **Obradovic Stefan** Omanovic Anela **Omanovic Almedina Pajic Anes** Paradzik Aldijana Pasic Hasan Pasic Ahmedina Pasic Aiisa Pestalic Aldina Pobrklic Amra

#### IV GRADE

Polic Adin Puljarga Adelisa Purdic Said Purdic Alem Purdic Muhamed Rahmanovic Amelina Ramic Hamdija Ramic Leila Rizvic Bilal Sadikovic Ajla Salkanovic Aila Salkic Harisa Sijamija Alija Sinanovic Ermin Sirco Adelisa Skulic Ilija **Smajlovic Fatima** Subasic Emina Sultic Flvir Sultic Hasan Sahbegovic Vahida Sisic Nerma Sumic Emina Tahic Medina Terzic Amel **Tesic Tatjana** Tucakovic Azemina Velic Mirza Vrabac Amir Vrazalica Aila **Zecevic Amina 7**oric Branislav

# aldin berisa

#### ALDIN BERISA (HIGHSCHOOL CENTRE HADZICI)

Aldin Berisa graduated from the Highschool Centre Hadzici this year and has enrolled into the Department of Information Technologies at International Burch University in Sarajevo because he is very fond of programming and web development. The enrollment into Burch University was possible due to the third place he won with his Antigame project on the Bosnian Science Olympics. Apart from this, he participated in various other projects and organized some as well. Aldin has been the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder for nearly a year and says that without the Hastor Foundation's scholarship he could not have been able to enroll into the wanted University because he used the money to pay for his tuition and is therefore forever grateful to the Hastor Foundation

## THE GENERATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES

III GRADE

Besic Adelisa Gracic Ajla Grizic Alma Hadzic Dino Ibrahimovic Sanela Jasarevic Kenan Mehic Nermin Mujak Ensar Preljevic Elma Rizvic Adin Sirco Dzenita Terovic Saban Tiro Ervin

## ding hadzic

## DINO HADZIC

Dino lives in Vogosca and has been the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder since 2014. He finished the three-year education for a mechanic and managed to get a job right after. He is still not certain whether some day he will complete another year and then enroll into a university. "The scholarship has always been enough for me and thanks to the Hastor Foundation I could always buy books and have pocket money, and I also wasn't a problem or a burden that my parents had to think about. I will always be grateful for this experience which is truly incredible."

## HONOUR STUDENTS 2016/2017

#### PRIMARY SCHOOL

Merfid Alihodzic Semir Spahalic Nedim Dzajic



merfid alihadric

semir spahalic

nedim drajic

## MERFID ALIHODZIC (Tinja Primary School, Srebrenik)

Merfid Alihodzic joined many of our graduates who have completed secondary school as honorary graduates. He finished the Tinja Primary School in Srebrenik and enrolled in Behram-bey's madrasah in Tuzla. Merfid is a part of our Hastor family for already a year.

"The Hastor Foundation is my unconditional support, great motivation, as well as a strong foothold for my future education. I hope that I will prove that your belief in me was wellfounded. The Foundation managed to change my bleak view of our country. With your help and my continued efforts, success is the only option. Thank you for everything from the bottom of my heart."

#### SEMIR SPAHALIC (Seventh Primary School, Brcko)

Spahalic Semir is one of our honour students. He comes from Gornji Rahic where he has finished the Seventh primary school "Gornji Rahic". He has been the Hastor Foundation scholarship holder for a year now. He will continue his education in Secondary Agricultural and Medical school in Brcko. "The Hastor Foundation means everything to me. They are not there only for talented children, but also for those children who are in a difficult financial situation. In this way they are giving us an opportunity to make our dreams come true and to improve our lives."

#### NEDIM DZAJIC (First Primary School, Konjic)

"Being a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation is a great honor and a privilege. The Foundation's financial support significantly helps my education and relieves my parents from great financial burdens and I personally am proud to be a member of the largest foundation aiding students in Bosnia and Herzegovina." Nedim Dzajic is the scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation whose flawless grades and conduct ensured his finishing the First Primary School in Konjic as an honorary graduate. He will continue his education in Konjic General Gymnasium. We wish our Nedim plenty of success and happiness in the years to follow.

- 1. Amra Pobrkalic
- 2. Nermana Hajdarevic
- 3. Ajdin Muharemovic
- 4. Almedina Osmanovic
- 5. Dzenita Hrnjic
- 6. Ajla Sadikovic

## HONOUR STUDENTS 2016/2017

## SECONDARY SCHOOL



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sac ovic

## AMRA POBRKLIC (SSS Janja)

Amra Pobrklic lives with her parents and a younger brother in Janja where she graduated from the Secondary School of Economics, law and trade and earned the title of economist. She also leaves this school with the title of an honour student. She decided to continue her further education at the Faculty of Business Economics in Bijeljina. Her role models are her parents who have taught her to be a good person. She is the Hastor Foundation scholarship holder since the third grade of secondary school. In her free time she rests from school responsibilities by helping her parents and hanging out with her friends. The Hastor Foundation's scholarship represents for her a support for her further education as well as the possibility to improve her life and life of her family.

## NERMANA HAJDAREVIC (SMS "Zijah Dizdarevic", Fojnica)

Nermana Hajdarević lives in Busovaca, and this year she has finished the Medical School in Fojnica as an honour student. She directed her further ambitions towards the Medical Faculty in Zenica. During her growing up she has been seeing as her role models people who were more successful and who were always willing to help others, and enchanted by their humanity she chose this noblest call. During her free time she is watching movies, reading books, and socializing with loved ones. She is the Hastor Foundation scholarship holder for 6 years already. The Foundation represents for her a great motivation and a step for success. In her opinion the way to thank the Foundation will be with her diploma, which will not only belong to her, but also to the Hastor Foundation.

## AJDIN MUHAREMOVIC (International school, Zenica)

"For me, the Hastor Foundation represents the idea that everybody should have a possibility of education, no matter where and in what kind of circumstances they were born in. The Foundation and its help mean a lot to me because through volunteering I have met a lot of new young people and friends, and the financial help of the Foundation helps me in my education because I'm sure that without it I would not have been able to attend the faculty I want." Ajdin Muharemovic is The Hastor Foundation scholarship holder who upon finishing The International School in Zenica got his honour student title. Ajdin comes from Zenica and has been our scholarship holder for a year now. At the end of his high school education, Ajdin bravely continued on and entered Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics to study Theoretical Computer Science.

## DZENITA HRNJIC (MSS Travnik)

She was born in Travnik where she lives with her parents and her grandmother. After becoming an honour student in secondary school, she enrolled at The Faculty of Medicine in Sarajevo. She points out how it is an incredible feeling to become a part of something like this. She is looking forward to new challanges and hopes to justify the longterm scholarship with her accomplishments. She also points out that the Hastor Foundation schoolarship is dear to her heart because it has taught her the true values in life.

#### ALMEDINA OSMANOVIC (MSS Busovaca)

Almedina is our scholarship holder from Kiseljak. After finishing Secondary school of Economics in Busovaca she decided to enroll into Turkish Military Academy in Turkey. By making an effort and being persistent, she hopes to reach her childhood goals and dreams. She has been a scholarship holder since last year and ever since has been trying to achieve even better results in everything she does. She points out how the scholarship has helped her greatly and is particularly fond of the monthly meetings where, besides having many friends, she gets to rest and truly interact with others.

#### AJLA SADIKOVIC (Grammar school, Bugojno)

Ajla has been our scholarship holder for six years now. She has completed her education at Grammar School Bugojno and achieved the honour student title. Her biggest wish is to become a lawyer, accordingly she entered Faculty of Law at the University of Sarajevo. In her free time she reads books, and this is her favourite hobby. "I only have words of praise for the Hastor Foundation. I have been their scholarship holder through out my education, which was a great relief for me and my parents. The best part would be the monthly volounteer meetings where I have met many friends, quite a few of them were from my hometown. Adilovic Emina Andelic Anamarija Avdic Marizela Babic Mia **Bitic Sakib** Burko Nejla Colic Sanela Dzananovic Lejla Dzeko Nejra Dzindo Melisa Gerin Belmana **Gromilic Zehra** Hajdar Semir Hebibovic Almedin Hodzic Besida Horozovic Imrana Ibric Adnan Imamovic Amra Karaula Muamera Karkelja Adna Kosovac Sadzida

Kovacevic Seudin Kulo Emra Macic Leila Mrda Marija **Mujacic Zerina** Murga Mirza **Muminovic Rijad** Okic Mirza Otuzbir Dzulisa Prguda Indira Ramic Lejla Ruhotina Anisa Sitnic Rabija Stranjak Lejla Sabanovic Muharema Sekelja Ana Spago Ilhana Satara Amina **Terzic Senad** Velic Vahida

## invana horozovic



## **IMRANA HOROZOVIC**

Irmana Horozovic had been the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder for five years, of which she was an active member of the administration team for two years, working on the managing of the website and designing the Hastor Foundation Newsletter. She graduated from the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics in Sarajevo and she earned a bachelor's degree in mathematical software engineering. She's currently living in Sarajevo and working for a software company, and she plans to start her graduate studies in the near future. "The Hastor Foundation's support was a pillar of unconditional support during my entire education, and not only in the financial sense. The true and priceless value of the Hastor Foundation is the friendships and acquaintances made across Bosnia and Herzegovina. Through volunteering I have improved my knowledge and skills. Although I am no longer a scholarship holder, I will forever be a volunteer and a true friend of the Hastor Foundation," says Imrana.



#### MARIJA MRDA

"The Hastor Foundation was very important for my education, primarily because of the financial help to me and my family; on the other hand, I always had support, encouragement and wind in my sails."

Marija Mrđa was born in Bosanski Petrovac, and she spent her childhood in Derventa, where she still lives. After graduating from the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation in Tuzla, she began with her apprenticeship at the Center for Social Work in Derventa. She had been the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder for almost ten years, and she got the scholarship when she was in primary school. Her plans for the future are to attend various seminars after she finishes her apprenticeship in order to improve her knowledge and skills, thus developing her personality as well.



#### **ZEHRA GROMILIC**

Zehra comes from Kljuc, and she had been the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder for eleven years. She studied at the International Burch University, Department of Genetics and Bioengineering and earned a bachelor's degree of the same name. She continued with her graduate studies at the TU Graz University (Technische Universität Graz), Master's Degree Programme: Faculty of Technical Chemistry, Chemical and Process Engineering & Biotechnology.

"The influence of the Hastor Foundation can be felt in all aspects of my life, from the experience I gained while volunteering with children, helping the administration team, to the financial support and new acquaintances from various regions of our country."



Emina comes from Gorazde. After finishing her secondary education, she enrolled into the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo, Department of English language and Literature, and she graduated from it in 2015, earning a bachelor's degree of the same name. She continued with her graduate studies at the same faculty, deciding on Translation and Interpreting studies and she will soon earn a master's degree. She's currently working as a communication and social media consultant in UNICEF, and tells us that this makes her very happy because she can directly participate in the social changes that are to improve the position of children in our society and that way also contribute to the protection of their rights. She also works in the War Childhood Museum where she is surrounded by a group of people who give her extraordinary support and motivation, and she holds English classes in a private language school where she works with

seven- and eight-year-old children.

"I can write about the Foundation for days, but most importantly I have to thank the Foundation for everything I have achieved so far. Through long-standing volunteering work I've learned so much and gained a wealth of experience. While working for the Foundation, I learned what responsibility and discipline are, as well as mutual respect, which is something rather valuable in the labor market, regardless of all the other competences and gualifications. I've been the Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder for 10 years and their support during all these years is something that I will never forget and I honestly look forward to future encounters and meetings because for me the ending of the contract is definitely not an end, but a new, different beginning."



## **MIRZA MURGA**

"The Hastor Foundation represents an outstretched hand and a source of support in my life which taught me many things and values and thanks to which I've made invaluable friendships."

Mirza comes from Livno, and he had been the Foundation's scholarship holder for nine years. During all those years Mirza proved himself to be a hard-working scholarship holder and volunteer of the Hastor Foundation. He volunteered in all positions – from the administration team to working as a mentor to the pupils. He hosted the Gala Academy of the Hastor Foundation, and also took part in the Vijecnica Opening Ceremony, when the Foundation's scholarship holders greeted the present guests in seven different languages. On that occasion Mirza welcomed the guests by greeting them in German. He graduated from the Faculty of Dental Medicine and became a Doctor of Dental Medicine. He's currently focused on finding a job.

# FORMER SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS AND THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT OF THE HASTOR FOUNDATON

The Hastor Foundation gives great attention and is particularly proud of their former scholarship holders. Most of them stay with the Foundation as volunteers or even new benefactors. One of the positive examples are our former scholarship holders Nermina Imamovic and Samra Becic.



"Respect and connection with the Hastor Foundation does not end with the last scholarship. That is something that stays within us, following us through life."

Samra Becic and Nermina Imamovic are former scholarship holders of the Foundation. They are from Kalesija where they still reside. The fact that almost three years ago, when they ended their education, they stopped being our scholarship holders has not prevented them from being an important part of the Foundation. Namely, they have decided to stay as volunteers and by that contribute to its work. They continued to work as volunteers with the Hastor Foundation scholarship holders in Kalesija.

Currently, they spend most of their time on the faculty internship, while at same time preparing for new life

paths. Nermina graduated from Technology, and Samra at the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation. They say that through volunteering with scholarship holders they revive themselves and gain strength for the future. They adapt volunteer meetings to the students as much as they can. They practice active team work with all topics, both required and free ones, encouraging students to write their own opinions as well as putting a great emphasis on improving the grades of students by joint learning, practicing and reviewing.

"I have remained a volunteer primarily because of the Foundation, every scholarship holder knows that in this way we have a lifelong support. In one hand, this is the least I can do to thank for the constant Foundation's support and to be an example for the newer generations." concluded Samra.



## SUCCESSFUL STORIES OF OUR FORMER SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS



#### **AIDA RIBIC**

Aida comes from Konjic where she currently lives and works. She graduated from the Faculty of Medicine in Sarajevo and she is currently employed at the Health Center in Konjic. She was the Hastor Foundation scholarship holder for six years.

"The support of the Hastor Foundation has always been present and visible since my first contact with the members of the Foundation. I very much appreciate the friendships I have acquired in that time. During the time when I was a scholarship holder, we had monthly meetings, common excursions and social gatherings that were always good as a support, entertainment, and lesson. "

## SUCCESSFUL STORIES OF OUR FORMER SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS



#### SELMA SKOPLJAKOVIC

Selma Skopljakovic was the Hastor Foundation scholarship holder for four years. She was born in Zvornik, and raised in Tuzla. She graduated from the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics in Sarajevo at the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Theoretical Computer Science. She is currently employed in QSS firm in Sarajevo where she works as a software engineer.

In the Hastor Foundation I have gained a lot of experience while working with students, working in the administration, solving certain tasks; and work on two applications of the Foundation enriched her resume.

As a student without work experience, these two applications have proven to be a great experience.

"The Hastor Foundation was my given opportunity that I used. I am grateful for being a scholarship holder and also for the experience I gained through the work with people in the course of those four years. I met a lot of people from all over the country. We shared our experiences, worries, desires, successes and achievements. We have also volunteered and through this work and effort we managed to complete our commitments in the best possible way, in this way we learned what is a team work, what is the strength of a good leader, what proactive action means, what it means to help someone or to be supported, and how to deal with delays in performing some obligations. Education is much more than education itself, and the Foundation has made it possible. "

# raise neither a judge nor a soldier, but a man!

For those who do not know: learn! For those who know: learn to know more! There is never too much of knowledge. We should learn from nature, from conversations with people, but also from books. Having knowledge is so much better than having material goods. When a person gains more material goods he feels more and more burdened, but when a person gains more knowledge his life is more beautiful, easier, more interesting. We do need material goods as well, but in a limited amount. This made me think, and I remembered an old Latin saying - "A man is a wolf to another man", then I remembered a quote of a writer Maxim Gorky -"A man - how proud that sounds." Then I remembered that famous sentence of a great pedagogue Jean Jacques Rousseau - "Raise neither a judge nor a soldier, but a man!"

As a teacher I taught children how to become good people, and as the Hastor Foundation volunteer I decided to continue helping young generations how to become good people in every sense of that word. First of all not to hate others and those who are different from them, and then to love others and those who are different from them.; to help, and to keep helping, according to their possibilities, all those who need a helping hand; to gain knowledge, to educate themselves and to become academic citizens. Since this was also the goal of the Hastor Foundation founder, it made it easier for me to approach the realization of my decision.

During the volunteer meetings of the Hastor Foundation scholarship holders I was telling them, and I am still telling them, to help others no matter who are those others who need a help, and also to keep learning and gaining knowledge. I am convinced that only educated young individuals, who are selfless, noble and benevolent, can move this country forward. This is the reason that I have been passing hundreds of kilometres per day in order to join the volunteer meetings of scholarship holders, and teach them how to become a good man.

I saw in nature that a tree leans on another tree, birds helping each other, other animals too, but people were also showing how they were helping one another. They were telling me how someone helped someone else. I read books from which I learned how much joy brings the feeling of satisfaction of a person you helped.

I have always tried, and I keep trying to impart all of my conclusions to Hastor Foundation scholarship holders, and now I enjoy in the fruits of my work because I see every year more and more young individuals behaving as good people in every sense of that word – they are finishing their faculties, finding jobs and also deciding to stay with the Hastor Foundation, but this time not as scholarship holders, but as benefactors.

And this was the wish and the goal of the Hastor Foundation founder. I want to teach our scholarship holder tolerance and to enable them to meet one another. I want them to become self-conscious leaders in their communities, because only those individuals who go through certain educations and who show interest for the establishment of a better life for people here can be the right persons to whom we can entrust leadership, and they will make changes within the frameworks of their society that will solve problems we have today - unemployment and poverty. My wish is to provide a chance for young people to participate with their successful education and volunteer work in the development of their local communities and personal resources. For me, the time I devote, as well as all preparations for lectures I give to scholarship holders, are immeasurable comparing to a smile on faces of young people, and sense of their satisfaction.



In a course of one year, more than 2000 scholarship applications arrive on the Hastor Foundation's doorstep. While we are aware of the difficult socio-economic situation in the Bosnian and Herzegovinian society, we are also aware that we cannot fulfill the dreams of every pupil and so with a heavy heart we are forced to respond negatively to a great number of applications. Our mission remains the same every year: securing the means to stipend as many pupils as possible, thus increasing the number of our scholarship holders, but also to provide an opportunity for youth to get quality education and become the leaders of their communities. This path requires the aid of numerous friends and supporters and thus we hereby invite all the individuals and organizations willing to help the education of children and youth in Bosnia and Herzegovina to join our efforts.

Aganspahic Sead Agovic Denis Agovic Jasmin Ahmetovic Edin **Bajgoric Muamer** Becic Samra Becar Enisa Calas Ajla Delic Sanel Dzanko Nermin Gagula Refija Hadzic Hasan Hadzic Mehmedalija Hadziselimovic Eldin Hasagic Emina Hastor Fadila Hastor Ramo Hodzic Merima Imamovic Nermina Jazvin Almir Karic-Huseinovic Sanela Karovic Esada Kucuk Adisa Lazovic Edina Lazovic Nejla Mehmedovic Maja Merdic Alem Mukaca Almir Palic Safet Persic Vedran Planincevic Nermina Porobic Jasmin Pulic Mirza **Redzepovic Aida** Redzepovic Samir Rifelj Åida Salkic Aida Sarajlic Haris Savic Darko Serna Irena **Smajic Nermina** Suljic Inas ... i mnogi drugi.

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how to become a benefactor?

If you want to support the work of the Hastor Foundation, you can donate to one of these bank accounts:

- ASA Banka dd Sarajevo: 1346101000825159
- Unicredit Bank dd Sarajevo: 3389002201775656
- Raiffeisen bank BIH dd Sarajevo: 1610000055230065



During the last eleven years, work methodology, system and model of work have been improved constantly. Because of its unique mission, this foundation was soon very well-known all across Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the number of its scholarship holders grew steadily. Its organization, transparency and most of all dedication ensured that the Hastor Foundation be recognized by both local and foreign individuals and groups whose sense of social responsibility was steered towards education and its role of being the instrument of social change. The mission and motto of the Foundation soon attracted a great number of benefactors who have joined our Club of Friends whose increase in members mirrored the one of the Foundation's scholarship holders. All the results and accomplishments of which we are proud of today would not have been possible without the constant support of our Club of Friends, support for which we are truly grateful.



