

NEWSLETTER



FONDACIJA
HASTOR



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After 10 long months, on January 15, Hastor Foundation scholarship students gathered for a monthly meeting, which was held via the online platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The director of the Foundation, Seid Fijuljanin, as always, welcomed the students with a smile, some of whom were attending this meeting for the first time, and talked to them about the history, ideology and goals of the Hastor Foundation. We remembered 2006, when the first volunteers of the Foundation set out on a journey of searching for students who, due to their poor socio-economic status, were marginalized in society and thus deprived of the possibility of quality schooling and education.

In an effort to take small but effective steps to lay a solid foundation for the progress of young generations, and thus consequently BiH society as a whole, 2207 scholarship holders from all parts of BiH have the support of the Hastor Foundation today. The fact that we have reached this impressive number from the initial 304 scholarship holders and the first year of signing the contract today really makes us proud. There was no drop in those numbers or stagnation; in each school year the number of scholarship holders at the Hastor Foundation grew progressively.

AN ONLINE MONTHLY STUDENT MEETING WAS HELD

However, what makes the Foundation specific is that all of them, by signing the contract, commit to benefit their community with pleasure, volunteering in it, so the director paid special attention to volunteerism and its importance. The director's words encouraged the scholarship holders to think about how important monthly meetings with younger members of the Foundation are in forming their personalities. Mentors are their role models, and they really benefit from it, because in addition to trying to change someone's life for the better, volunteering also changes theirs. We are aware that the situation that has befallen us has not eased the obligations of mentors and junior fellows. Moreover, they are faced with new challenges, but we believe and hope that we will all come out of this stronger, more experienced and when one day we go back to the "old way", we'll be more aware and appreciate the true values in life, but also every moment in which we are given the opportunity to influence someone, whether through education, advice and some form of help, or even just a nice, friendly word.



Prepared by: Nejla Komar



THIRD PLACE FOR NEJLA KOMAR AT THE SAMNIUM COMPETITION

The scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation face many challenges on a daily basis, which are offering them the opportunity to express their own abilities and capabilities. Challenges arise in the form of faculty obligations, extracurricular activities, volunteer activities with younger scholars, as well as volunteer engagements in local communities. Often it is our scholarship holders who initiate change by pushing their own boundaries and always taking a step further. The activities of our scholarship holders are best illustrated by their successes from various competitions. Below we are proud to present our scholarship holder Nejla Komar, a fourth-year student at the Music Academy in Sarajevo, and her well-deserved third place in the Samnium competition.

During the summer, our scholarship holder applied for an audition to participate in the Samnium Symphony Orchestra, which operates within the Samnium University of Vienna. This orchestra is one of the world's most important centers of art music. Samnium International University of Music is an integral part of the International Orchestra Auditions Awards art and education program, and Samnium wants to prepare artists, without age restrictions, who come from all over the world to become musicians.

“ It was an exciting experience and definitely a wind in the back for re-entering this and similar competitions in the future.





Due to the overall situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's international competition was held online. A jury made up of experts and talented internationally renowned masters had the opportunity to select the best musicians from around the world to be part of the Samnium Orchestra, following a specific education program involving other universities and art / music associations around the world. An important part of the project is the opportunity to express artistic work through performances in the most important European theaters, including the Musikverein Theater in Vienna.

Our scholarship holder recognized her opportunity in this competition, which resulted in a high third place:

"I decided to audition and in early September I found out that I had passed the first round of the competition. But only after that came the real excitement and preparations for the final round. We were provided with material that we had to process and prepare ourselves and send to the commission within the given deadline. It was unusual and harder to do it all online rather than live, because the music lives on in the moment. Still, it was just one reminder of how we might have taken art for granted in living space and time at times. Although only the first and second place imply going to Vienna and collaborating with Samnium University and their orchestra, I am proud that in the first contact with such a significant competition, where there were over 60 participating countries, I managed to place third. It was an exciting experience and definitely a wind in the back for re-entering this and similar competitions in the future."

Nejla is our long-term scholarship holder from Sarajevo, where she acquired primary and secondary music education:

"Although no one in my family played music professionally, the artistic gift was passed on for a long time, and I was lucky enough to go right down the path of music. I have to admit that I have always felt a connection within myself, both towards music and towards the medical sciences. When I was a child, my mom often took me with her to work at the hospital and I guess that's where my love for medicine developed, which I have always viewed as one truly sublime and heroic calling. Still, my path of choosing a profession and career has always flowed spontaneously and naturally towards the world of art music. As in Sarajevo, the Primary and Secondary Music School, but also the Music Academy are in one building (only on separate floors), special feelings bind me for it. I am still here, a fourth-year student at the Music Academy in Sarajevo, at the Department of String Instruments - Cello."

So far, Nejla has had the opportunity to participate in many domestic and international concerts and projects, such as the opening of the renovated Sarajevo City Hall, Sarajevo Winter, book promotions, exhibitions, and has had the honor of organizing several humanitarian evening concerts in Mostar and Sarajevo:





“As I have always been open to international cooperation, the door was open to me for various projects abroad. After each of them, I would return to BiH richer for the experience, knowledge and acquaintances that I used to organize projects and festivals in our country. Finally, in my third year of study, I decided to go for two semesters to the Conservatory of Music in Vigo, Spain. There I had the opportunity to be part of the Philharmonic and orchestras through which I gained the experience needed for further training. In parallel, I became part of the Hastor Foundation editorial board. I am grateful for that, because I discovered a completely new love in me (towards writing), but I also gained a lot of new skills. In our editorial office, the girls really stand for each other, and wonderful friendships were born there.”

She is a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for the third year, where she stands out with her constant readiness for work, creativity and resourcefulness in all the tasks that lie ahead of her:

Ever since I became part of the Foundation, my life experiences have been built on a completely secure and solid foundations. When you know that someone is always behind you in the ways that the Foundation is, you have no fear of stepping in and taking risks, stepping out of your comfort zone and thus stringing together successes. We are all bound by a common ideology, moral principles and beliefs, work and discipline that build us and make us worthy and socially responsible members of our communities. I am grateful for the values they instilled in us, but also for every moment spent in the context of the Foundation - volunteer meetings, monthly meetings, and gatherings that arose from them. Being part of this family is truly a special responsibility and honor!

Prepared by: Maida Husnić



A CLOAK TAILORED FROM VICTORIES



Since a long time, in the frames of this rubric, we bring stories of young authors, musicians, painters, and athletes who courageously and self-confidently walk towards their set goals. That which links them all together is love towards that which they do, but also the fact that they are the members of the Hastor Foundation which brings, inherits and for almost fifteen years, jealously keeps the stories about them. This time, these pages will be filled with an inspirational story of our stipend holder Medina Baraković, the ninth-grade pupil of Elementary school "Miričina" which has in two years, for the time she has been a member of the Hastor Foundation, shown how determined she is to fulfill her dream and her fearlessness in front of great ambitions. Medina is now, as she says, dreaming about graduating from the electrotechnic high school and continue her academic education in the same fashion. This time we speak about her as a successful athlete who, while training karate for almost ten years, achieves envious results with numerous competitions that stand behind her, some less influential and some more influential on her current success. Medina points out that her story of karate began in her early childhood and that the love that was born then towards that sport never ceased till this day.

"The beginning of my journey in sport was very interesting. My mom brought me to my first karate training meetup when I was six years old. It was a long time ago, in January, 2012. That was a great memory that I will always remember. That was the time my love for sport was born. My first competition took place in Srebrenik where I won first place and that pushed my motivation and desire for karate and success even further. From then till today I never gave up. There were many ups and downs, a lot of difficult practice, spilled sweat and negation, but all of that makes me a man and athlete that I am now. Karate is a beautiful sport that fullfils me in every form, it taught me discipline, self-control and respect. Furthermore, in that sport I love teamwork.

I am especially happy for the reason that I train karate in the Karate club "Sensei" Turija, a club in which all members are like family, we celebrate the successes of others, we always train giving our best and we support each other."

As she points it out herself, even in her childhood, she found a way which she wants to walk on and today she walks on that path very persistently and with great self-confidence. Behind her she leaves successes which, as she says, when she turns towards them, bring back memories on early childhood for which she is happy because it is linked in every possible way with her great love - karate. Feelings are there because they awaken nostalgia within ourselves and make us recall some of our distant memories, but their goal is to remind us that we should walk towards our future more ambitiously so that we can create feelings to which we can later turn to with pride. Behind Medina there are, without a doubt, many such feelings and memories which, as she points out, wants to build more of them in the future. One of her most successful competitions happened recently.

*"My latest competition took place in Tuzla
27th December 2020.*

Everything was in accordance with the rules of caution against the spread of COVID-19. There, I won first place in my own category, cadet +54kg, but also my teammates and I won first place in the cadet team category. My club was announced as the most successful club on the competition and that was the reason for which I was very happy, but also proud."

Before this event, there were also other competitions which, as Medina points out, left a special impression on her. Among them were numerous successes which are really worth highlighting. In those successes, the effort of a young girl growing day by day, maturing and becoming a great athlete is reflected. Medina has pointed out some of them :

- 2018. - Federal competition for children 1st place; State competition for children 3rd place
- 2019. - Federal competition for children 2nd place; State competition for children 3rd place
- 2020. - Federal competition for children 3rd place

Medina also participated in the Balkan competition for children, 2018. which was held in Belgrade and 2019. which was held in Banja Luka.

**...and we always
support
each other!**





The success which she achieves was also recognised by her local community which represents one of her more special awards and acclamations, and Medina was only with 12 years chosen as a perspective athlete of the Municipality Lukavica. Her success is also affirmed by her technical black belt on which, as she comments, very proud. Sport is an important segment in the lives of young people, that is noticed on Medinas, but also on a number of other stipend holders whose stories we told earlier on these pages.

"In my opinion, sport is an important link in the lives of young people, because it teaches us how to live healthier lives and also how to be a better version of ourselves. It strengthens the virtues of young people, some of which are courage and responsibility, also, young people learn how to be disciplined by practicing sport. Sport removes the young people from the streets and tailors for them a way towards success."

As our Foundation is accustomed to being a part of only good and beautiful stories Medina also affirms with the cloak of success which she wears with pride. Naturally, as she says herself, the Foundation has a special place in her life and education.

"I am very happy and grateful to be a part of this large family. I especially love volunteering hours which I spend with my mentoring group. That means a lot to me. Mentors are interesting, full of advice, they manage to creatively process every topic on the schedule. On our volunteer meetings I've learned a lot, met other stipend holders and secured valuable friendships. My message to other stipend holders is that they never give up when the times hit hard, because if you give up, you will never know what would happen if you were more diligent and patient in your goals."

My club was announced as the most successful club on the competition and that was the reason for which I was very happy, but also proud.





A STORY OF DETERMINATION, LOVE AND SUCCESS

Once upon a time, a wise sage said that people become truly amazing when they start thinking they can achieve things. "Believing in oneself is the first secret of success." A magical world arises in the minds of those who passionately want to realize their desires and achieve success by doing what they love. Love, as the strongest force, stimulates a kind of power that we often don't even realize exists. Love for judo is precisely what encouraged our scholarship holder, Hana Banda, to awaken the forces that exist inside of her and bravely and go down her path with confidence. Hana attends the 7th grade of the Elementary School Annex in Sarajevo, and she is an excellent student. She started her adventure within the Hastor Foundation recently and points out that she can't wait to gain new knowledge and experiences that are offered to her. Hana plans to continue her education at the Medical High School, saying that it has always been her wish, because she tries to help people and give them a hand whenever they need it most.

Although she loves school a lot, sport has obviously taken over Hana's heart long ago. She is actively involved in it, and it has brought her many titles, such as the title of federal champion. She is therefore a clear example of how success requires love, determination, a little effort and a lot of sacrifice, which she herself admits. Given that her path is already so bright in elementary school, Hana is sure to have a place in the world of big star athletes in the future.

"I made my first judo steps in January 2018, in the judo club Nippon, under the guidance of coach Sabina Haračić. Initially, I started doing this sport recreationally, but very quickly it grew into love and a huge desire to succeed in this discipline. Since the coach recognized the potential in me, I quickly went to many competitions where I was very successful and won many medals."

Hana, among other things, says that she had to go through numerous sacrifices to achieve the success she has achieved in such a short time, but points out that she does not regret it and that whatever she may have missed cannot be compared to the pride she feels. The thought we pointed out at the very beginning of this wonderful and inspiring story may perhaps best explain the short time in which Hannah achieved enviable results.





She points out that the compass she followed took her on the path she had always dreamed of, and that from an early age, watching others train, she herself dreamed of one day being a part of that world. At that time, she says, she could not even imagine that she would go to trainings and dedicate herself to this sport with so much love.

"All these medals were preceded by numerous trainings and long-term preparations, which, in addition to judo training, included daily running in the fitness centre and swimming at the Otoka Olympic Swimming Pool under the guidance of my coach. I think that it is very important for young people to do sports, because, in addition to being important for their health, playing sports has a very important educational role in their lives."

The path to success is bitter, but its fruits are sweet. Hana says that it was not always easy and that sometimes she wanted to be like most of her peers, but she points out that in those moments she tries to remember why she chose this path. Her desire to be different and to spend her free time and teenage years doing what she truly enjoys is strong enough that all her tiredness, when she thinks of the results, becomes rest and pleasure.

As the most important of her competitions, Hana singles out Federal Championships in 2019 and 2020, where she won first place both times. Last year, she participated in the state championship where she achieved extremely significant success, winning second place.

She is also proud of her results at the Lika Open competition held in 2019, where she also won second place, and the Borsa Open in 2018, where she was again among the top three best athletes, winning third place. Hannah also showed her talent and will at international competitions, where she won a total of 14 gold, 10 silver and 10 bronze medals, which can undoubtedly be considered great progress that leads to, as we have already said, we believe, an incredible future.

"I am especially proud of the cup I've won at the Champion Cup in 2019 for the most successful young pioneer. In the future, I plan to become a national champion. I want to win trophies, first in the Balkans, then in Europe and the entire world. I volunteer with my mentoring group and the Foundation is a support and motivation for further work and success. My message to other scholarship-holders is to be persistent in their goals and that the results will surely come if they work hard."

Hana can certainly be a role model for young people and encourage them to believe in their dreams because nothing is impossible if we spice up our actions with love, determination, and work; this recipe certainly always succeeds. Through our stories about scholarship holders, we have shown this countless times.

Prepared by: Almina Šabanović

Džana Vrabac

We regularly fill the pages of our newsletter with stories about the successes and positive endeavors of our scholarship holders. In addition to their obligations as part of their school or academic education, Hastor Foundation scholarship holders are active in various humanitarian associations, non-governmental organizations, and youth associations, where they proactively work to improve the Bosnian community. Consistent work and the efforts of scholarship holders always result in successfully implemented actions, projects and numerous workshops. This month, Džana Vrabac stood out among them and deservedly holds the title of Scholar of the Month.

Džana was born in Sarajevo, where she finished primary and secondary school with great success. She is a third year student at the Faculty of Political Sciences, Department of Social Work. She is a representative of BA studies in the Scientific-Teaching Council and a member of the Board of Directors of the Student Association of the Faculty of Political Sciences SPONA. In this academic year, she enrolled in another faculty - the Faculty of Law of the University of Sarajevo.

"I gained my first motives for working and helping others in mastering school materials or in helping to perform daily activities. This occurred even before enrolling in high school, which certainly influenced the commitment when it comes to the way forward."

High school education encouraged Džana to work even harder and she participated in many competitions and achieved remarkable results. At the beginning of high school, she actively participated in the non-governmental sector and points out that her engagement and volunteering in various organizations marked the path she is on today.

Through volunteering, she also encountered various comments that were not always positive. However, her biggest motives are the smiling faces of the children she hangs out with while volunteering. This prompted her to enroll at the Faculty of Political Sciences. She believes that it was the desire and will to help others that motivated and profiled her enough when choosing her studies.

For her success at the faculty, she was awarded the Plaque for Excellence in Knowledge and the Golden Coin of the City of Sarajevo, awarded by Mayor Abdulah Skaka. However, Džana considers her greatest success to be helping others.

During the studies, great attention was paid to the areas of human rights, protection and work with children, and analysis of the social position of persons with disabilities. This prompted her to write a research paper on "The position of migrant women during the migrant crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina" within the project "Training for Women's Human Rights and EU Integration".

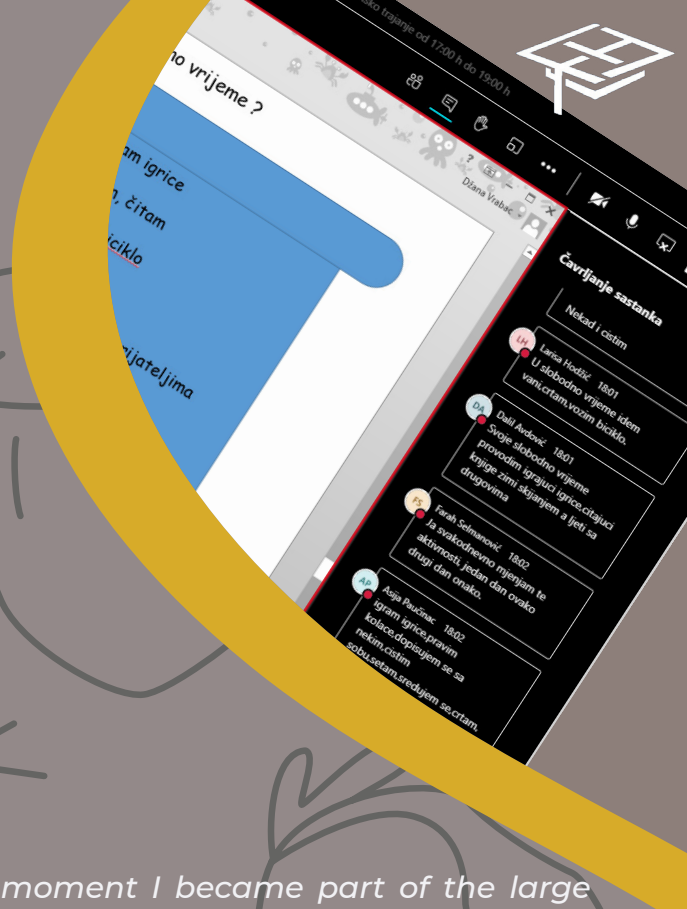


Herzegovina” within the project “Training for Women’s Human Rights and EU Integration”. The project was organized by the Helsinki Citizens’ Parliament. Her work has already been published and has met with encouraging and motivating criticism from teaching staff and other interested readers who have had the opportunity to read the work online. As part of Global Analytics, a center for social research, Džana published another paper, on the topic of the social position of students with disabilities. She points out that she sympathizes with the endangered layers of society, so she was one of the initiators to collect aid for migrants, which she organized at the Faculty of Political Sciences in December 2019. Most of her activities and engagements in the field of volunteering come down to working with people at risk in many aspects of life. One of the turning points in her life was receiving a Hastor Foundation scholarship:

“The biggest success for me is when one of the children I volunteer with makes me happy by showing that he has learned to write, read, choose a good, not a bad habit and stuff.”

“The moment I became part of the large family of the Hastor Foundation represents an important turning point in this part of my life. First of all, I say that because I have met many people there, and they are all so positive and pleasant and prove that humanity and warmth of heart are not something that disappears and will disappear. The foundation also enabled me to realize another of my wishes, and that is to enroll in another faculty.”

But this is not the end of the Foundation’s greatness, humanity and mission towards scholarship holders and society. Thanks to the Foundation, Džana was a mentor at educational workshops held as part of the project “Peer support as a model of education and prevention of vices of the modern world”, and the topic of educational workshops was “Prevention of vices of the modern world”. Due to the serious approach to this topic, its significance and essence, the workshops were held through three gatherings lasting two hours each. Given the experience she has had so far, she can say that this is really the first serious and comprehensive approach to this topic, which ultimately fulfilled the goal of holding workshops.





Through the first workshop, a really satisfactory level of interaction and group work was achieved, and in this part of the workshop she concluded what is the initial level of knowledge of students about vices and addiction. Through the second workshop, the focus was more on the vices of the modern world, their prevention and consequences. During the second and third workshops, an indispensable part was dedicated to highlighting peer support. Through various stories, games and joint activities, the participants concluded that they are the peers who will be the support and helping hand to their friends when they need it. What is especially true is the fact that a key goal has been achieved, and that is to make them as a small group aware of the importance of peers and their support. She considers the greatest success of this workshop to be the interaction that was achieved between her and the students, but also themselves and the knowledge that the students adopted and brought with them from these workshops.

Prepared by: Nedžma Latić



Thanks to the opportunities provided by the Hastor Foundation, I can really achieve all my goals, even those that I thought I would not be able to. Thanks to them, I am where I am and I will surely continue with their selfless help and support!



FOURTEEN PRIDES OF HASTOR FOUNDATION

The most beautiful moments for our Foundation are when we realize that it is the end of one and the beginning of the new year. Then we summarize the successes of our students, who with their effort, work and selfless commitment during schooling collected the most important awards. This year we are proud to present as many as fourteen students with outstanding success. Some of them were decorated with a Gold or Silver badge, others with the Dean's or some other award.

Maida completed a master's degree at the Faculty of Humanities, Department of Bosnian Language and Literature at the "Džemal Bijedić" University in Mostar, and thus obtained a master's degree in Bosnian language and literature. The average grade was 10.00, which crowned her study with the Golden Plaque of the Union of Students of the University "Džemal Bijedić" in Mostar. Maida was named the best student of the Faculty of Humanities. Our Maida is also a valuable member of the editorial which team.

"Recognizing student success is always an extremely significant motivation and incentive for future steps. One of the crucial factors on the road to success is a good environment. I was lucky to have been part of the staff of the Hastor Foundation for several years, which provided me with all the cordial support and help. I celebrate all my successes together with the Foundation, trying to repay it for the transferred knowledge, support, courage and love. Thanks to volunteering with students and monthly student meetings, I had the opportunity to meet many colleagues from the BiH, socialize with them, exchange ideas, develop their own skills and abilities through working with children.

On the other hand, membership in the editorial team gave me an unforgettable experience, given my profession, but also an unforgettable socializing with my colleagues."



Maida Husnić



Adisa Bolic

Scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation Adisa Foundation, from Bosanski Petrovac, she marked her arrival in Sarajevo at its best way. She graduated in Natural Sciences and Mathematics faculty, majoring in Theoretical Computer Science, achieving an overall average grade of 10.00. Thanks to that, Adisa is the winner of the Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo.

“The Hastor Foundation has helped me a lot through schooling and life in general, because I have been receiving a scholarship since the 5th grade of primary school, especially financially. The foundation enabled me to go to school in Sarajevo, where I had better conditions for preparation for mathematical competitions, but also various school and other needs. Through the activities of the Foundation. I knew people with whom I still have good relations today, which I consider very important.”

Ena is our scholarship holder who comes from Stolac, and graduated from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Computing and Electrical Engineering at the University of Mostar. The average grade she achieved in the Study of Electrical Engineering, majoring in Electrical Engineering, is 5.00. With this, Ena decorated her studies with the Dean's Award and the Golden Charter of the University of Mostar.

“Being part of a family like the Hastor Foundation for me it is a great honor. The fact that there are members of the community who know and truly appreciate the effort invested through the educational process brings additional motivation- for me as a student. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Foundation, as it has been successfully contributing to the creation of a prosperous society for many years.”

Ena Bežo





Igor Petković

Igor graduated from the Faculty of Law in Sarajevo, the city where he lives. The average grade during his studies was 9.88. Such a high average grade is awarded the Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo, which our Igor won.

"I am grateful to the Hastor Foundation for the opportunity to be a member of the family and to focus on volunteering and helping the community.

Working at the Foundation is my first serious volunteer engagement.

I will follow the principles I have learned for the rest of my life."



The golden badge of the University of Sarajevo also went to our scholarship holder Ajdin, who comes from Zenica. His academic title acquired at the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics cult of the University of Sarajevo. Average assessment during studies at the Mathematics, Department of Theoretical Computer science was 9.71.

"Apart from the financial help in the form of a scholarship, the significance of the Foundation for me is also in the friendships and the network of acquaintances that I gain through volunteer engagement." I believe that this type of acquaintance can help me in the future, not only in social endeavors, but also in my professional life."

Ajdin Muharemovic



Ana Milijeric

Ana is our scholarship holder who successfully graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, majoring in Painting. Ana is the proud owner of the Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo. The average grade with which she completed her studies is 9.56.

"I believe that everything we create grows from the roots of the everyday life we live, so, apart from years of effort, there is much more behind my Golden Badge. Two years ago, I became a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation, which, in addition to the importance of education, taught me something much more important, and that is love and sacrifice that we nurtured through new friendships, monthly meetings and volunteer hours. The word 'virus' is popular these days. I will take this opportunity to give this word for change a much nicer meaning, saying that in the Hastor Foundation, because of all the above, we got the 'charity virus'. I sincerely hope that this is the only virus that we will carry with us all our lives and from which we will never be cured."

Kemil Bekteši, a scholarship holder from Sarajevo, graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, Department of Painting. During his studies, his average was 9.54 and thus his studies were crowned with the Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo.

"As I have mentioned many times so far, the Hastor Foundation is a really great place for young and ambitious people. I think it is extremely important for us young people to be surrounded by people who are always full of support. The Hastor Foundation, as well as its volunteers, have always selflessly provided the motivation that we all need, especially in such a strange period we are currently in. When it comes to important lessons, the Foundation has taught me that work, effort and commitment always pay off!"



Kemil Bekteši



Alek Isakovic

Alek was born in Sarajevo and graduated from the Music Academy of the University of Sarajevo, at the for conducting, majoring in Orchestral Conducting. His studies were crowned with the Golden Badge of the University of Sarajevo, because Alek achieved an average grade of 9.53 during his studies.

"I think that our Foundation encourages people who need to oppose the negative aspects of today's society and try to make their voice heard and worth something, so that they can change something with that voice. I have to say this way that it was really a great honor for me to become part of one big family of the Hastor Foundation in January last year, because it really provides options and possibilities of any kind of progress, so I think the least about financial support, although they must be given one great recognition, but mostly on how he teaches his fellows how to become better people in their environment and towards themselves through their socializing (unfortunately interrupted live for months due to the epidemic)."



Our Amina comes from Sarajevo and graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences, Department of Communication. Amina is the winner of the double Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo, for the first and second cycle of studies. The cumulative average for the first and second cycle of studies was 9.79. With this average, Amina was named the best master of the Department of Communication. She has been a member of the Foundation for 13 years. She expressed her skills in the Foundation through the editorial board of the editorial team.

"Having the Hastor Foundation as one of the fundamental pillars in the complex process of education, growing up and consequently building the personality itself was truly a great honor and privilege, as well as a huge responsibility. From the very beginning, I perceived the status of a scholarship holder as the status of a kind of ambassador of all crucial values that she promotes, nurtures, but also transmits to younger people as part of her long-term progressive activities. I would describe the strong connection with the Foundation as follows: The Foundation and I have, over the past thirteen years as part of it, grown and progressed together. Following all my achievements in the field of formal education, from primary school to college, the Foundation was one of the most important factors of my great ambition and self-criticism, and in connection with that, the final success in the field of higher education."



Amina Vatreš



Almedina Numic

Almedina comes from Ilijaš, and she graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo, Department of English. The average after the second cycle of studies was 9.76, and our Almedina was decorated with that double Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo.

"I think that the Hastor Foundation is one of the few organizations that, even after so many years of operation, has remained faithful to its original mission, vision and goals, and that this is exactly what makes it special. It was a great honor for me to be called a fellow of our Foundation and to walk with her on the path of changing our society for the better. It is really difficult to express my gratitude for everything I have learned and gained in the Foundation in a few sentences, so I have no choice but to express my gratitude with my deeds and thus contribute to the Foundation's work and the impact it has on our society. This success I have achieved is the first step towards that. I sincerely wish the Hastor Foundation many more years of successful, humane work and action!"

Amar is a scholarship holder who comes from Sarajevo, where he graduated from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, majoring in Automation and Electronics. The average grade during the studies for the first and second cycle was 9.38. Amar is the winner of the Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo for the first and second cycle of studies.

"In addition to financial support, the Hastor Foundation provides a great opportunity for young people for personal progress and education. Through work and activities in the Hastor Foundation, an environment has been created for opening new paths of perspective that scholarship holders use to work positively on their local environment, and thus on their Bosnia and Herzegovina, through volunteer work together with Hastor Foundation employees. In the 4 academic years I have been a Hastor Foundation Fellow, I have improved my social, volunteer and organizational skills, gained friends and acquaintances, as well as valuable experience that will surely benefit me in the future. I am very grateful to the Hastor Foundation for that."



Amar Halilovic

Adnan Hatibović

The recognition of the Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo deservedly went to our scholarship.

Adnan, who comes from Sarajevo and graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Sarajevo, majoring in Sociology. The total average he achieved during the entire study (I and II cycle) is 9.35.

“The support and importance of the Hastor Foundation was first noticed in the financial aspect. In that way, everyday activities and schooling were greatly facilitated, and that contributed to relieving the family budget. However, to reduce contributions to the above means to reduce the elapsed time to only one aspect; focusing solely on monetary contribution means ignoring the multidimensionality of personal development that I have experienced at the Foundation.

Working with students has helped me develop my pedagogical skills, and volunteering in administration has provided me with and upgraded my knowledge and skills when it comes to organizational aspects of work.

Additional activities in which I participated enabled me to check my own competencies and potentials, raise my self-confidence, gain additional acquaintances and various positive experiences. Ultimately, I was provided with the development of interpersonal relationships, enabled quality socializing and the development of my own sociability. In one sentence, it could be said that the Hastor Foundation has opened the way to additional (self) upgrading, noticing its own shortcomings, overcoming existing limitations and further complementing the personality.”



Lamija Vrnjak



Lamija comes from Sarajevo. She graduated from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of Sarajevo, majoring in Computer Science and Informatics. The average grade during the studies was 9.16, and thus our Lamia became the winner of the Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo.

"I have been a scholarship holder of the Hasdor Foundation since the first year of college. Through these three years the Foundation has been a great support to me because I knew I always had someone I could turn to. In addition, the Foundation rejoiced in my successes and motivated me to improve. It really is a special feeling when someone next to my loved ones stands up for me so much. Volontyranny was a cure for my soul and a way to ground myself and contribute to my community. I am proud to say that I am a member of the Foundation and that it was a great help to me on the path to success."

Prepared by: Fatima Gazić

Lajla is a scholarship holder of the Foundation who comes from Travnik, and graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences University of Sarajevo, Department of Political Science, International Relations and Diplomacy. The average grade during her studies was 9.00, so Lajla won the Silver Badge of the University of Sarajevo.

"The foundation has been an exceptional support in my life so far, especially through my schooling, bearing in mind that I am still studying. I am often reminded of how happy I am to be a part of the Foundation, that I was chosen to be one of the many members of this family. Also, the fact that the members of the Foundation are excellent students, pupils, people, gives me the wind in my back and a smile on my face. I met a lot of good people through the Foundation, opened a new door for myself that I might not have been able to open otherwise. I will always be grateful to the Foundation for being there for me and I hope I can justify the trust."

Lajla Leko





SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER AMRA DEDIĆ WAS AWARDED THE DEAN'S CHARTER



"Many life values are learned through volunteer work at the Foundation. With everyone surely learns how important it is to contribute to our community, how important it is to help others, how much we are really capable of doing great things with small deeds. What is very important for me is that I learned how to learn, and something from everyone. Through working with young people, I tried to bring the most beautiful things from everyone, but also to convey to them what I think is important to carry with them. I learned how to listen, and when I learned how to listen, then I was able to recognize the idea, the value and the talent that each of these young people carries."

Amra, in addition to her great gratitude to the Foundation for the opportunity and experience gained, points out:


"After finishing my undergraduate studies, I started working and at the same time enrolled in a master's program at the Faculty of Economics in Zenica, which is the best for me. I realized how important knowledge of the language is, so I dedicated myself to improving English, and I would recommend it to all young people, because only now do I understand how necessary it is. Every day I try to learn something new and useful. However, we should not forget what we learned by volunteering at the Foundation: knowledge is not valuable if you do not share it with others!"

The Hastor Foundation proudly congratulates Amra on her successes and wishes her good luck and even greater achievements in the future.

Every year, the Hastor Foundation pays special attention to scholarship students who, through their efforts, commitment and involvement in various activities, have achieved outstanding results and thus ended their work with the highest awards. Our scholarship holder Amra Dedić is the winner of the Dean's Charter at the Faculty of Economics in Zenica for an average of 10.00 in the last year of the first cycle of studies. The total average she achieved during the entire study is 9.70. Amra especially emphasizes the value of volunteering at the Foundation, saying:



RAM is, by definition, the random access memory of a computer. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the “working memory” are precisely the proactive and diligent young people who, through their actions, exemplify the society that our country needs. Through this article, we will present active young scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation who, in addition to volunteering, do phenomenal things and thus represent the Foundation in the best light!



DŽEJLA ALIBAŠIĆ

Džejla Alibašić from Sarajevo is a second-year student at the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Sarajevo, and she has been a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation since she was in second grade of high school. She states that she is very proud of the fact that through five years of volunteer work in the Foundation, she gained the opportunity to help those who need it the most. After graduating from the High School of Economics, she decided to

continue to improve and expand her knowledge in the field of economics, and therefore enrolled at the Faculty of Economics and Business. Džejla defines her humanitarian work as a volunteer activity that determined her path to doing good. She has participated in many humanitarian actions and says that helping others is what fulfills her and makes her happy. She loves to feel like a part of her community and to actively contribute to it.



Through her high school education, she participated in socializing with the elderly at the gerontology centre in Sarajevo as well as at the “Vladimir Nazor Centre for Education and Rehabilitation”, where she did her best to show these children that they are not less valuable and that they have the same rights and abilities as all the other children of the world.

“I usually stand out with my ambitions and hard work, as well as my ability to successfully do every task that has been set for me. Sometimes it takes little effort to do good, and that’s something we all strive for. As an individual, I can’t do anything, and at the same time, I can do a lot by encouraging others to be compassionate and not get lost in our own goals, which of course we should strive for, but never forget that we are first and foremost human.”

The activity she is most proud of is the recently realized humanitarian action she helped organize. As part of this action, funds were raised, and 70 New Year’s packages were made and distributed to children from socially disadvantaged families.

“I am proud that in addition to participating, I managed to realize a similar activity and I think that this is just the beginning of my work.”

In addition to the above activities, she singles out the humanitarian bazaar, where, in just one day, over 11,000 KM was collected by selling low-priced items and by selling carnations in the city. She also directed her affinity for painting towards humanitarian work and painted many paintings for another humanitarian action, where all proceeds from the sale were forwarded to the said action.

She emphasizes the importance of activating young people in society very concretely, again pointing out how little of ours is needed to do a lot for someone. Someone’s smile on their face, especially children’s, always means a lot to her. She believes that it is very important for young people to start believing in themselves and their abilities so that they can make their small contribution towards changing our society, the country, and the world together.

“Believe in yourself and your abilities, fulfil your goals, but don’t forget that we are all - first and foremost - human.”

Volunteering at the Foundation helped her to build herself as a person, but also to gain self-confidence and faith in herself. Since her first year of college, she went from mentoring to the administration team and then to the monitoring team, so in a year she changed three roles, gained different experiences, and only with her work and effort got to where she is. To all the young people, she points out that no one can take away their knowledge, effort, and work that will always be visible regardless of any potential obstacles that may meet us in the process.

“Thanks to the Foundation for allowing me to meet new acquaintances, even gain new friendships. In addition to the many values it teaches us, the Foundation gave us the most valuable things - faith in ourselves and faith in others.”

Prepared by: Alek Isaković



"FAKE NEWS"

This month we will write to you about a very important concept that you must be aware of and know how to recognize - Fake news. Fake news are news, stories, or hoax (mass deception), created to intentionally desinform or deceive readers. Usually, fake news are created to manipulate the opinions of readers, push a particular political agenda or to create confusion, which is usually done for some sort of profit (financial, political gain or similar). Fake news will deceive people, because they are placed on portals that look legitimate and use similar names and domains like legitimate news-portals. They can contain some facts, but their base purpose is not transmission of truth. Creators of fake news fog the boundaries between truth and falsehood and make stories from real context to disrupt social discourse based in facts.

In a record period, this term grew from the description of this phenomenon on social media to a journalist cliché and political buzzword, but how was did the term "fake news" came to be?

In the middle of 2016, journalist Craig Silverman from BuzzFeed noticed a current of completely made-up news which originated from a small town in Eastern Europe. All those portals with fake news were registered in the same town in Macedonia - Veles. Journalists started investigating and shortly after the elections in USA, they found around 140 portals with fake news that were very popular on Facebook. Even though these people from Veles were probably not really interested in American politics, they made a sizeable amount of money on Facebook. Presidential elections in America (especially Donald Trump) are still a very popular topic on social media.



TYPES OF FAKE NEWS:





CLICKBAIT

Clickbait represents publications made to attract as many visitors as possible and to maximize ad revenue for certain websites. It's also the most common form of fake news. Clickbait publications use sensationalistic titles to draw readers' attention and generate plenty of online clicks, usually while paying less attention to the veracity and the truth. You can usually recognize clickbait the moment it's become clear that you've been deceived. However, you can discover this much sooner. Many signs point to the fact that a title is clickbait before it tricks you.

Clickbait titles are based on psychological tricks created to spark the readers' curiosity and draw them to click on such links. One of the most commonly used techniques is speaking directly to readers, e.g. writing titles using a second-person point of view to create the impression that someone is talking directly to you as you're reading it. It often consists of direct invitations with the purpose of you opening the linked content, like "Check out why this video is taking over the Internet", "Find out how to...", "You won't believe what happened next", "What happened next will leave you breathless", and similar. Clickbait's repertoire would be incomplete without "screaming" titles with adjectives like "Shocking", "Terrible", "Horrible", "Unbelievable", "Scandalous"... One thing is certain when opening such links: you, almost certainly, won't find out anything shocking or even interesting.

PROPAGANDA

Propaganda is a deliberate, systematic attempt to shape the perception and manipulate the comprehension and direct behavior of people to achieve the result that encourages the intentions of the propagandist. For example, we often encounter videos of people's statements that were cut and removed from the original context, giving them a completely new meaning.

SATIRE/PARODY

A substantial number of social media pages and profiles publish fake news to entertain their readers and make them laugh.

SLOPPY

JOURNALISM

Sometimes, journalists publish stories without previous fact-checking, which can end up deceiving their readers.

BIASED NEWS

Many people are attracted to the news that confirms their own beliefs, and journalists who create fake news lurk for such people. Social media platforms will show you such news and articles because they show you content based on your personalized searches (known as Filter Bubble, which we discussed in previous editions of our newsletter).

We will mention two interesting documentaries that will make you think and realize that the Internet and social media is biased, but also that everything you read should be taken with a grain of salt:

X THE SOCIAL DILEMMA
X AFTER TRUTH: DISINFORMATION
AND THE COST OF FAKE NEWS

LET'S BE (MORE) COMPETITIVE!



In the 21st century, success in the educational field is not enough to make a person attractive on an international scale, or for studies and employment opportunities. It can often be heard or seen that recent Bachelor or Master's degree graduates are unemployed, despite sending their CV (Curriculum Vitae) to apply to many published job postings. Fewer young people can properly use the available online resources, such as correct email etiquette. The purpose of this section is to educate young folks about applying to various educational courses, seminars, exchange programs, but also to demonstrate how students around the globe work on self-improvement.

This month, we'll show you how to write a quality Curriculum Vitae, aka resume. Further in this section, you can read some advice that will make your resumes stand out from other applicants, as well as some useful instructions that will help you say plenty about yourself in a correct and concise manner.

GET TO KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE!

The person who will read your CV is usually quite busy, and your resume is just another paper on the pile. That person, depending on the job posting, is an academic, a professional, or a commercial expert. In any case, that person will go through many resumes that day. Your goal is to stand out from the crowd with originality that will result in an invitation to interview.

The reader wants to be able to extract information about you at a glance, and they will usually focus on things relevant to the company's criteria. Making an impression only takes about 10-30 seconds of looking at your CV!

I WANT TO WRITE A GOOD CV! (PART 1)

It's important to remember that this person is your friend - both of you want you to be hired! The company wants to give the job to the best candidate, and each applicant wants to be that candidate. So, give them a reason to pick you!

DON'T SEND THE SAME CV TO EACH EMPLOYER!

Despite the general opinion that you only write the CV "once", you shouldn't take it literally and send the same CV to each employer. What is correct is that you should have a comprehensive CV containing all of your information, but this is not the CV you send to everyone. Your resume should be adjusted for each job posting in a way that it answers the question, "What is it that we need, and you have to offer?"

LET'S BE (MORE) COMPETITIVE!



We've already mentioned who reads these resumes. Because they're experts, they can quickly notice that you haven't taken the time to answer their questions, but you rather sent the so-called "universal CV". Why would an employer believe you'll be dedicated to your job if you haven't taken the time to create a CV that suits their company?

LESS IS MORE!

You must have heard this saying at least once before, and it can easily apply to writing CVs. Don't write long CVs with plenty of text that doesn't really say much.

To apply to the first job posting, your CV shouldn't be longer than two pages, nor it should be shorter than one page. If you already have work experience, everything between 2 and 4 pages is acceptable.

Pay attention to what your CV says about you and whether you feel that, at a glance, you appear to yourself as a promising candidate. If the answer is no, seek help and ask someone for an honest opinion about your CV. Maybe your resume is of quality, but it doesn't leave quite the impression you want to make on the employer.

THE FORMAT IS IMPORTANT!

Don't trick yourself into thinking your CV's format doesn't matter. If you're delivering print-outs of your CV, make sure they're printed on quality white paper. Still, even if you're applying online, make sure not to use strange shades and color contrasts to avoid an inconvenient situation. Each time you create a CV, imagine how it would look like in grayscale. Why? It's because the expert reading the CV will print it out in grayscale most of the time, not in color!

A photo can be a benefit, but also a con, depending on the company where you're applying for a job. The positive aspect of having a photo in your CV is that, if you made a great interview impression, your CV (after holding all those interviews) will be easy to find. However, a photo leaves room for discrimination, where someone could make a ruinous decision for you based on whatnot. That's why it's important to choose a decent and, if possible, professional photo that will present you in the best light. You should steer clear of filtered photos you can find on social media platforms.

READ WHAT YOU'VE WRITTEN!

It's crucial to read your CV after writing it to see if you've made a grammar or spelling mistake. It's often the case that employers will reject your applications simply because you didn't bother to proofread what you've written.

Also, this can produce an even worse counter-effect if you have, for instance, mentioned that some of your qualities include punctuality, responsibility, etc, where facts will point out you obviously don't possess these characteristics. Such mistakes can be really dangerous and it's preferable to ask someone who's seeing your resume for the first time to read it and point out possible mistakes.

This concludes some general advice to remember while writing a CV. In the next edition of our newsletter, you will be able to read more on how to structure your CV properly.



ALEN MERAJIĆ



BERUN AGIĆ



AMINA
SKOMORAC

AZRA SULEJTMANAGIĆ



ADISA
BAJRAMOVIĆ



THROUGH THE LENS



MAHIR SALKANOVIĆ



ELMA KARIĆ



LAMIJA ČIČAK



HARIS MEŠINOVIĆ

ELMA ČOMOR





Samira Kurjaković



A Morning's Dream

*The night shines in the full moon,
In his splendor the stars build an orchestra
He rushes the night to see his crest
To come, to illuminate the thin threads
of the valley*

*All the stars twinkle with happiness
A pure paradise in a sky of darkness
Each picks its own beauty
Each shows its own glimmer*

*Running to connect the threads
To gift the scent to dawn
To tire the admiring morning
And let the whole universe chant*

*The morning remembers this meeting
It wakes up from that dream
The night then flees briskly
Because the moon craves sleep*

Fatima Gazić

HASTOR FOUNDATION

REDACTION

GRAPHIC DESIGN

COVER

TRANSLATORS

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

Maida Husnić
Almina Šabanović
Una Karabeg
Nejla Komar
Emra Kulo
Nedžma Latić
Aleks Isaković
Fatima Gazić

Ana Miljević
Kemil Bekteši
Belma Gutlić

Belma Gutlić,
"Labud",
ulje na platnu

Semra Islamović
Ajša Đuherić
Vedin Klovo
Ešref Mehanović



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