

NEWSLETTER

March 2021



First place for Sendin Pašović at the “Willkommen” competition

The successes of our scholarship holders are the joys worth talking about. There has never been a shortage of positive stories, and we hope that their number will grow along with our Foundation. One such story comes from Ilijaš.

Sendin Pašović is a second-grade high school student in the field of IT at the High School Center “Nedžad Ibrišimović”. He has been a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder for two years. He graduated as the best student of his generation in primary school and continued achieving great results as a high school student.

What's great about all our scholarship holders is their versatility. Sendin is an athlete and a prose writer who loves languages. When it comes to sports, he singles out basketball as a special love, but he also plays karate and has a brown belt. His connection between sports and art is clear only to those who experience it. He clearly does, as he also writes prose in addition to his sports activities. He is a participant and winner of many literary competitions, including the competition organized by Radio Ilijaš. Having won first place with his literary work “Here, where I was born”, his prose was given a space on the first page of the collection that the radio published. He is especially proud of the first place won in the regional World Vision competition:

I've been reading books ever since I was little; I was reading them back when my generation did not yet know how to read or write. Writing guided me through imaginary events and spaces in which I was at that moment. I write only when I feel strongly inspired and I convey my emotional state on paper the way I see and feel it.

At the international competition “Willkommen” organized in Serbia, he won a gold medal in the competition for the second grade. Since his field of studies is not focused on languages, this huge success makes him especially proud. The organizer of the competition was the German-Austrian cultural and educational centre Willkommen from Serbia, but due to the current circumstances, the competition was held online on the principle of quick answers and essays.



Example and **motivation**

In addition to all the above, Sendin is very passionate about IT and math. He's also won awards in this field, and this love motivates him to choose a university and a life occupation. He plans to enrol at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Sarajevo.

School obligations and the listed activities are not enough for such an ambitious boy. Sendin spends most of his free time in the boy scout troop "Mladost" Ilijaš, where he performs the function of the deputy chief. His journey with the boy scouts began in the third grade of elementary school. The first thing that attracted him was spending time with other children, and with that also came learning:

Going camping helped me learn how to rely on myself because I had the opportunity to be separated from my parents in my early childhood. This had a good effect on developing my personality and independence from my parents.

He is grateful to his professors who guide him and give him support that is extremely important at his age. He believes that parents and teachers must instil a sense of responsibility in each child individually in order for those same children to later grow into great people.

Being a member of the Hastor Foundation for me means being a member of an elite society in terms of education, progress and developing my personality because the Hastor Foundation does not only give us material support but also positively influences us through socializing and volunteering.



Sendin Pašović is an exemplary student and a motivation for others, and this is the piece of advice he wants to leave as a

Don't let time overtake you without leaving a trail valuable for both you and society. Justify the trust of those who believe in you.





"Success has always been a child of courage."

- Voltaire

Courageous young people dream big from an early age, and one of those bold students is our scholarship holder Omar Zubović. Omar attends the eighth grade of the First Primary School in Stolac and has been an excellent student since the beginning of his studies. We want to take a chance and write about a great passion of his - football. He dedicates almost all of his free time to participating (and winning!) numerous competitions. Omar has been playing football since he was five and dreams of one day becoming a famous football player and playing in large stadiums all over the world. He points out that he does not play this sport for money or fame, but for love and the fact that the sport has taken a special place in his heart, which is also a precursor to his current and future successes:

That is just what I love. When I grow up, I would like young people to look up to my skills and personality, because whoever loves sports and spends time training is less likely to spend his life on useless things such as alcohol or drugs. In addition, people like to listen to celebrities, so I kind of hope that I could correct some irregularities in our society, primarily related to children, education, and their path to a better future.

In February this year, Omar won second place with his FC "Gošk" at the Winter Talent Cup held in Mostar, adding another in a series of his numerous trophies and successes. He points out that it was a special experience and a great atmosphere that gave him an opportunity to make new friendships that can only be gained at sports competitions. Omar also shared an important lesson, something that guides him in the world of football, as well as in life and school:

Regardless of victories or defeats, my friends, coaches, and I go through it all together. Sport is something that teaches us teamwork. We cannot achieve much as individuals, in fact, everything in life is much easier to achieve if we act as a team and not individually.



A positive example

This success is certainly not the only success in Omar's life, since numerous competitions and tournaments with his current team and previous teams are behind him. Football is certainly Omar's great love, but not the only love. This is proved by his earlier successes at various competitions and contests in his school, where he achieved excellent results and thus became a promoter of his school in the area of knowledge. Two years ago, he won a notable first place in math and German language competitions but points out that he never studied for grades but for true knowledge, and excellent grades and good results came of their own accord.

It is extremely important that young people are educated and aware of the importance of the preservation of the natural resources in our country. Omar belongs to the group of positive examples who have already, in their early youth, developed this awareness and actively contribute in various ways to preserving the natural resources of their local community, but also the whole country. He achieved that by participating in numerous competitions and contests organized by the Red Cross, BZK "Preporod" Stolac, and other similar organizations. At the competition held by the Red Cross of the Federation of BiH, he won third place and points out that this is one of the accomplishments he is most proud of. Another achievement "Every drop of water is important" where he received a letter of thanks for the excellent design of his work:

I think young people such as myself need to be more involved in caring for our planet. I can point out that the Hastor Foundation has also broadened my views of community and society in general. Volunteering stimulates our awareness of how we all need to work together to change some things in our society for the better, including the issue of water consumption. We have enough of it, so we do not feel the consequences of losing that wealth.

It is volunteering that teaches us that we should take care of water conservation in our area, that we should not be selfish, that we should think of others. Even if we can't help someone financially, we can save water because that's also a way to contribute. That was my guide in the mentioned competition.



We could fill these pages forever listing Omar's successes, ambitions, and engagements, but those we have highlighted so far are enough to show the personality and character of our scholarship holder. We engrave his story on these pages to offer inspiration to other young people. His story proves that with love, effort, and healthy perspective there are no insurmountable obstacles. We are pleased to say that we have Omar in our ranks, and we hope that in the future he will conquer the world's football stadiums and make all his dreams come true. Omar states that being a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder is an honour, but also a responsibility. He tries to justify the trust given to scholarship holders, but also advises other young people to follow their dreams and believe in their achievements.



About the new travellers on the roads of the Hastor Foundation

Adna Salković, a new scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation, won third place on the Atlantbh Virtual Devday workshop.

The greatest reward for every one of us is the good result, which was worked on for hours, days and commonly, even for years spent in maximum commitment and effort to make that result a better one. Sometimes you meet obstacles on the path, and it is expected from us to give more effort from ourselves, but sometimes, like a reward for us, we find an enjoyable, easy and calm path. All in all, it is unquestionable that both paths exist, and it is our duty to learn how to walk on both with the same courage and dignity. Only then, when we accept the existence of the two roads and we learn how to walk on them, we will find the formula which will encourage us to go forward towards our goals.

We bring you the story of our scholarship holder Adna Salković, the sophomore at SSST (Sarajevo School of Science and Technology) currently studying computer science. In February of this year, Adna participated in the prestigious Atlantbh Virtual DevDay workshop along with three of her colleagues and won third place. Atlantbh Virtual DevDay is an online workshop foreseen for the development of web-applications which gives the participants a chance to feel the atmosphere of teamwork, working on real life problems with instructions from the clients. For Adna, as she points out, this was her first workshop of this type, but that did not stop her at achieving her pre-imagined goal and produce a significant result in this field. The workshop was held on the 22nd and 23rd of February. With the prepared texts and an additional presentation, along with the already completed tasks for the application, Adna and her team won third place:

In projects like these, it is of utmost importance that we turn ourselves towards teamwork and use our common power to fulfil our given goals. It is exactly because of reasons like these that I love to work in groups, we help and encourage each other, and before all else, we believe and trust each other in such a way and with such a communication we achieve great goals and results.



Striving towards success

Adna especially emphasises that she learned many new skills that she desired by paying attention and participating in this workshop. She favours the new skills and experience she received more than the results that came as an encouragement to continue working diligently. The mission and vision which the Hastor Foundation wishes to achieve since the day of its emergence is justified by scholarship holders such as Adna, who uses her free time to develop her personal potential, but also the development of local communities and the Hastor Foundation as well. Even though she is a scholarship holder for only a month, undoubtedly Adna manages to justify her membership in this great community of brave, intelligent and bold young people which are ready for action and change. Other than that, Adna is another positive example that the Hastor Foundation always has space for those that are ready to start their journey towards success and progress, as well as those who want to spend large amounts of time and effort on that path.

Since the very beginning of the universe, knowledge was primarily preserved by means of transferring the existing knowledge on the younger generations, and the new generations that expanded that knowledge, left it for the generations that are about to come next. This statement hides a powerful message that the scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation understand and implement in their activities. When Adna's volunteer work with younger scholarship holders is concerned, she manages to prove the aforementioned statement with her expectations and endeavours:

I loved working with those younger than me, so I always rigorously prepare myself for workshops and volunteering sessions and I hope that I will manage to give them at least a piece of my motivation and enthusiasm. Even though it is only a piece, that will be a great success, because I know that I successfully transferred some of my knowledge and motivation on someone else.



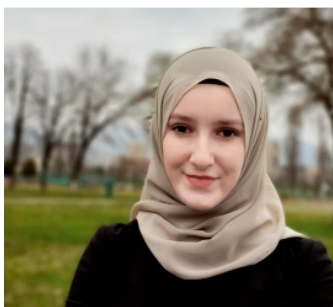
In the end, we leave her message to other young people:

It is very important to recognise and use every opportunity that is given to us, regardless on how impossible that opportunity may seem to us. A lot of important things in life are learned through extracurricular activities and activities which we dedicate ourselves from our heart with love and desire for success and new knowledge. Those who desire knowledge and success, usually bring themselves much further than the rest.



PRESENTING new scholarship holders

In the recent period, the family of the Hastor Foundation became larger with forty-six new members in the ranks of scholarship holder university students. In the continuing text, you will have the chance to meet some of them!



Lamija Horić

**Faculty of Philosophy
University of Zenica**

Lamija Horić comes from Vranduk, a place close to Zenica, and she is a second-year student at the Faculty of Philosophy of The University of Zenica on the section for German language and literature.

In her free time, she loves to take pictures of nature and spend her time there while reading books and talking to her family and friends. She found out about the Hastor Foundation from her friend who is a scholarship holder for many years. Lamija recognized the Foundation as an organization supportive of its scholars, and she wanted to be a part of it and participate in the creation of positive narratives.

With respect to the fact that she studies German language and literature, she currently fulfils her volunteering duties in the translation team for the German language, where she believes that she can give her maximum and show her knowledge in the best light. However, she hopes that she will be able to assist the Foundation in other ways as well.

To be a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation is an excellent chance to be useful to our environment and the whole society. I think that this is a beginning of a period in my life which will help me to become the best version of myself and which will bring many benefits, friends and other things which will make life easier and more beautiful.



Aida Kauković

**Faculty of Criminalistics, Criminology, and Security Studies
University of Sarajevo**

Aida Kauković comes from Bosanska Krupa. She is a second-year student at the Faculty of Criminalistics, Criminology, and Security Studies at the University of Sarajevo.

Besides studying at the faculty, Aida also films documentaries. She points to the fact that she did not need to search for too long before finding information about the Hastor Foundation, for a foundation like this sticks out in numerous social and activist domains:

The Foundation provided me with a chance that I had been waiting for a long time. They invited me to take part in their journey which was intended to help other young people in terms of their own journeys. It is highly important to create possibilities for the youth to talk about important questions of our age, to recognize what their purpose in life is and for them to receive the same type of support that I received from the Foundation.



PRESENTING new scholarship holders



Nermina Ibrahimović
Pedagogical faculty
University of Sarajevo

Nermina Ibrahimović is a senior on the Pedagogical faculty of the University of Sarajevo on the section for education and rehabilitation.

She spends her free time reading and researching about new findings from the area of educational-rehabilitative sciences and she enjoys traveling and getting to know new people.

For her, the fact that she found out about the Foundation through social media is the proof that social media can bring us good. She realised that the Foundation is much more than that which she read before when she heard the sentence: Welcome to the Hastor Foundation!

The Hastor Foundation is, in the right sense, a place that gathers around only the best – a place that gives a chance to the youth to progress and actively participate in the change of our country's society. The volunteering involvement, as the most important component of the Foundation, is an ideal opportunity to exchange our knowledge, skills and experience. It is my pleasure for being a part of the Hastor family and I hope that I will contribute to the Foundation through my energy and skill.



Antonela Franjić
Economic faculty
University of Tuzla

Antonela Franjić comes from Tuzla and she is a senior on the Economic faculty on the University of Tuzla in the Finance, banking and security department.

Next to her academic duties, she often participates in various conferences, seminars and educational workshops which are concerned with topics such as entrepreneurship, leadership, innovation, informatics and similar. She is very interested in foreign languages and art. She speaks three foreign languages (English, German and Spanish), and currently she is studying Italian. In her free time, she studies about graphic design and after her university studies, she plans to perfect her skills on that field as well. She sees her greatest contribution to the Foundation as volunteering:

I believe that in that way, I selflessly contribute to the quality and change of our community and I also think that in that way we help others and widen our personal experience and horizon.



PRESENTING new scholarship holders



Omer Muminović
Economics and Business
Department at the SSST

Omer Muminović comes from Teočak, and he's a student of the Economics and Business Department at the SSST.

He became an active member of the social community during his highschool days with volunteering, seminar attendances, and educations, and he loves being helpful to others. During his free time, he reads, does research, and tries his best to take maximal advantage of each new day in front of him. That is how he found out about the Hastor Foundation.

Even though I've only recently become a Foundation scholar, I sense the connection and warmth of a happy, family surrounding. That's what keeps me motivated to become another link in the chain that drives changes and positive stories in the Bosnian society. I'm certain I'll have many such opportunities in the Foundation, and I look forward to each one.



Alma Ćosić
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
Džemal Bijedić University
of Mostar

Alma Ćosić is the Hastor Foundation's scholarship recipient who comes from Jablanica. She is in the second year of her college studies. She is studying computer engineering at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineer which is a part of Džemal Bijedić University of Mostar.

EversinceAlmawasinhighschool,shehas spent her leisure time volunteering and being engaged in various activities and workshops as a member of the Youth Club "Under the same Sun". Her efforts and engagement in the non-governmental sector were recognized by the Youth Assembly of the Municipality of Jablanica, thus Alma became the president of the Assembly in 2020. Volunteering activities is what she considers to be her greatest contribution to the Foundation:

What made me apply for the scholarship of the Hastor Foundation is the fact that this is one of the only few foundations which appreciate volunteering activities and engagement. It is a great honor to be a part of a positive story like this and to be able to make my own contribution in terms of the further writing of the story in the future.



PRESENTING new scholarship holders



Asja Hadžić

**Faculty of Electrical Engineering
University of Tuzla**

Asja Hadžić is a second-year student at the University of Tuzla, where she is studying automation and robotics at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering. She has an entire array of hobbies that she enjoys doing.

Asja likes learning new things and is in constant search of new courses that she can attend, which could help her in the future process of education. Spending time with her friends and family, travelling and meeting new cultures and customs are all the ways in which Asja spends her leisure time. One of the hobbies she is the most passionate about is photography:

The moment I take the camera is the moment when I forget about all the hardships and let myself completely to the imagination. Taking pictures of people's portraits is what I like the most about photography, for I believe that each face tells a story.

Besides her love for science and photography, Asja has always been engaged in other extracurricular activities – actually she found out about the Hastor Foundation through her engagement in the activities of another organization she is a member of. After researching into the Foundation's work and mission, she was enthralled by the fact that the emphasis is put on the volunteering activities, as well as on the segment of helping others which enables the youth to make contribution to their local community:

We do not make our knowledge smaller by sharing it, but we rather make it twice as big as it was. The feeling I get when I help someone or make them smile is what fulfils me and motivates me for my future work. I am very happy, for there is a foundation of this sort in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Additionally, I feel extremely honored to be a part of it. Even though I have not been a scholarship recipient for a long time, I already feel like I am a part of this big family, and I hope that I will make my contribution in regards to the Foundation's accomplishing its mission.



Majra Šišić

**Faculty of Natural Sciences and
Mathematics
University of Sarajevo**

Majra Šišić is from Kakanj. She is a student at the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at the University of Sarajevo. There, she is studying theoretical physics at the Department of physics.

Majra spends her leisure time by teaching at various camps and schools of physics, where she prepares the gifted children from elementary and high schools for local and international physics competitions. Too, Majra enjoys hiking and fieldtrips very much:

I can contribute to the way the Foundation works by volunteering and helping pupils, and, also, by providing assistance to all those who need it at the level of my local community, as well as beyond it.



PRESENTING new scholarship holders



Amina Ahmetagić
Academy of Arts
University of Sarajevo

Amina Ahmetagić, born in Gračanica where she graduated from both regular primary school and musical primary school on the piano section. She also graduated from the "Dr. Mustafa Kamarić" Gymnasium. Currently, she is a senior on the Academy of Arts at the University of Sarajevo in the Graphics department.

Next to her academic duties, she allocates her time for social activism in the non-governmental sector where she led and participated in numerous projects and presentations. Also, taking photos is one of her hobbies where her success in that field is proved by her membership in the collective of twelve young artists who are publishing their first online magazine under the name "W.H.E.Y.W." Magazine.

She found out about the Foundation through the words of her friends from university who are scholarship holders, and she hopes that she will follow their steps:

I believe in the importance of informal education as well as work with children, even now when everything is done through means of online platforms, like Zoom for example. As a child, I found my artistic side in creative workshops and I would love to help at least one young person with her development and horizon-widening through volunteering in the Hastor Foundation.



Ajla Prnjavorac
Academy of Music
University of Sarajevo

Ajla Prnjavorac is a fourth-year student at the Academy of Music, which is a part of the University of Sarajevo. She is studying at the Department of Wind Instruments and Accordion, where she specializes in playing the clarinet.

In her leisure time, Ajla volunteers at the Academy of Music, but besides that, she also devotes the leisure time to expanding her knowledge about languages, reading books and papers from the domain of psychology, human relations and communication, as well as reading everything which she finds important in terms of working with children and people in general. She points out that it was via the internet that she found out about the Foundation:

A thing my attention was drawn to is the fact that the Hastor Foundation is not just an ordinary foundation, but rather a community which was built on the solid pillars of cooperation among people. My attention was also drawn to the way in which the Foundation raises our awareness and develops the sense of care for the world around us and the people living in it. I am grateful for becoming a part of this community, for the Hastor Foundation is not only a way to gain financial aid for us students, but also a moral compass.



PRESENTING new scholarship holders



Merima Rahmanović

**Faculty of Medicine
University of Tuzla**

Merima Rahmanović comes from Poljice, which is a place near Lukavac. It was in Poljice where Merima had graduated from the elementary school, after which she continued her process of education by enrolling in The Medical High School in Tuzla.



Amina Zorlak

**Faculty of Medicine
University of Sarajevo**

Amina Zorlak was born in Sarajevo, which is also the city where she has been studying ever since the elementary school.

Her exceptional performance, which was reflected in her being an excellent student, followed her during and after graduating from the elementary school, the Primary Music School, as well as the First Bosniak High School.

Merima's leisure time is spent by playing the piano. She heard about the Foundation from her friends and colleagues who are, themselves, some of the Foundation's scholarship recipients. Presenting herself, and the Foundation, as well, in the best possible way all the time is what Merima hopes for. Besides that, she wants to use her education and engagement in volunteering activities as a way to actively participate in the community development, and also to contribute to the changes in the world that all of us expect so much:

Education is the most powerful weapon for changing the world around us, and that is precisely the tool used by the Hastor Foundation so that its goals can be achieved. I hope that I will, as a member of the Foundation, succeed in accomplishing its mission, which is, at the same time, my personal mission, as well.

Upon her graduation from the high school, Amina received "The Pride of the Generation Award" which is given to the students who maintained an exceptional performance and success throughout the period of high school education. She is currently studying at the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sarajevo. In spite of many obligations which tie her to the faculty, Amina has not neglected numerous talents that she possesses, thus, she spends her leisure time by playing the violin, the piano, the guitar, and the accordion. In addition to this, she reads a lot and learns Spanish, as well. She has taken part in medical congresses all over the country and the region.

Amina had heard about the Foundation via her best friend, so she decided to apply for its scholarship. She wants to put the maximum effort into gaining knowledge and skills which she will need in the future career:

I believe in the importance of informal education as well as work with children, even now when everything is done through means of online platforms, like Zoom for example. As a child, I found my artistic side in creative workshops and I would love to help at least one young person with her development and horizon-widening through volunteering in the Hastor Foundation.



PRESENTING new scholarship holders



Amina Kahrman

**Faculty of Business and Administration
International University of Sarajevo**

Amina Kahrman is a second-year student of the Faculty of Business and Administration at the International University of Sarajevo, at the International Relations Department.

Besides her college obligations, she works on projects in the area of children's rights through the non-governmental sector, she's a newsreader at Radio BIR, and she singles out her debating skills that opened up many life paths for her. She doesn't have hobbies because she thinks that time is the most precious asset at her age and that it should be used for personal progress and education.

From the very start, I've seen the membership at the Hastor Foundation as a chance to share my knowledge and abilities with younger members, but also to work on myself and upgrade my own skills at the same time through acting in a productive environment like the Hastor Foundation. My ambitions to benefit the Foundation grow daily, and it makes me so happy because the experience of each new meeting and volunteering activity expands my horizons additionally, and I'm still at the very start. I hope my activity in this area during the next months and years will pave the way for future life success.



Sevleta Halilović

**Law Faculty
University of Sarajevo**

Sevleta Halilović, born in Sarajevo, is a third-year student of the Law Faculty at the University of Sarajevo.

She's been a vice president of the European Law Students Association (ELSA) for two years already, and she's in her fourth year of working as a Junior Researcher for international organizations, mostly on the topics of violent extremism and fighters on foreign battlefields. She spends her free time with her family, reading books, or writing poetry. She found out about the scholarship application and the work of the Foundation on the Internet.

My goal is, as with my work with other non-governmental organizations, to benefit my community, primarily groups and structures on a local level, and, if the opportunity arises, at a higher scale as well. No matter what, it's an honor to be a part of the Foundation and have a chance to spend time with awesome people through volunteering.



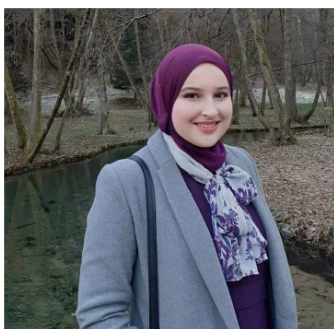
PRESENTING new scholarship holders



Lejla Ajanović

**Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
University of Sarajevo**

Lejla Ajanović comes from Sarajevo, where she is studying in the first year of the second cycle of the college studies (Master's degree program). The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering is where she is studying for the Master's degree, more precisely, at the Department of Machinery.



Jasmina Ejubović

**Faculty of Business and Administration
International University of Sarajevo**

Jasmina Ejubović comes from Lukavac and is in the second year of her college studies. She is studying international relations at the Faculty of Business and Administration.

Lejla had completed the first cycle of the college studies at the same faculty, but upon graduating from the first cycle, she had also received "The Silver Badge Award" of the University of Sarajevo as a sign of appreciation for all the result that she had achieved prior to the graduation. She devotes her leisure time to formal and informal learning with the aim of improving her skills. Lejla is also a member of the Arger Racing Formula Student Team – the first student formula team at the University of Sarajevo.

The team works on developing and preparing the vehicles which will compete at the Formula Student Racing Championship which takes place in Great Britain – university teams all over the world take part in this championship. Besides being a member of the formula team, she is also trying to master 3D-printing, the importance of which could be seen during the pandemic when professors and teaching assistants at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering started producing face shields of their own design. Lejla's leisure time is reserved for reading academic and research papers, and belles-lettres.

I can contribute to the way the Foundation works by helping others and transmitting my knowledge, i.e., by being engaged in volunteering activities. Our practicing volunteering activities contributes to the development of the local community, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well. I believe that my effort thus far has borne fruit. In addition, I am very much honored to have become a member of this big family. I received a new motivation and a reason to put even more effort into my endeavors and become even more successful in the future.

Jasmina is fond of literature and, besides that, she is learning French. Writing poetry and prose is what she does in her leisure time. She found out about the Foundation via her friends who are also scholarship recipients themselves:

I believe that the Hastor Foundation truly is an organization the main goal of which is the development of successful and educated people, and, also, building a better and brighter future of the society, along with it.



Anisa
Karić



Anisa Karić was born on November 18, 1998, in Sarajevo. She lives in Hrasnica where she went to the "Četvrta osnovna škola" primary school. She graduated high school at the "Četvrta gimnazija Ilidža". She's currently a third-year student of the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Sarajevo, and she's been a Hastor Foundation scholar for ten years already. Besides spending time with her family, she spends her free time drawing and riding a bicycle.

She points out that her first volunteering activities started during her primary school days. She then fell in love with the Foundation and felt the warmth it offers to all scholarship holders. Anisa was mentored throughout this long period as a proud member, and she's now, during her college days, a mentor to a group of primary school students herself. She singles out that, when it comes to volunteering activities, it's crucial to show the beauty, but also the responsibility behind this process.

She says that her friends describe her in the best way as highly communicative, ambitious, and perseverant. She does not acknowledge the fear of failure. Anisa is known for her activism and volunteering. When we asked her how she organizes her volunteering, she told us with great enthusiasm:

Volunteering was always dynamic and interesting, and it was always spent doing workshops, quizzes, or visits to more significant locations nearby. Whenever I saw the smile on the faces of primary school students, rolled-up sleeves as they paint and make clay figurines, or the interest in their eyes as we play quizzes and collect points, I'd knew I did the right thing.

It's crucial to point out the fact that volunteering activities in the Hastor Foundation are still unwinding in full capacity during the pandemic, thanks to the commitment of our collective made up of creative, responsible, and ready-to-act scholarship holders. Our student mentors hold volunteering meetings each month with the same quality as before and committing to each student equally using various platforms like Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Duo, BigBlueButton, and similar.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was necessary to adjust all activities according to the new circumstances, and volunteering was no exception. Anisa tells us that her approach also had to change and adjust, but she didn't give up. Due to the circumstances, volunteering in the Hastor Foundation went on via various online platforms. Because of that, the number of tasks for the team in charge of the Foundation's social media networks increased, and Anisa was assigned to this new task where she made new friends.



Volunteering **engagement**



From volunteering, each scholar gains experience through some of the teams, and Anisa was lucky to gain experience in two different teams:

Thanks to volunteering on the field and in the social media network team, I understood and felt the benefits brought by both types of volunteering because both of them are responsible for the person I am today. Through volunteering with primary school students, I myself became more creative, more communicative, and more patient. Through volunteering in the social network tea, I learned many new things related to various areas of business, and life in general, which means you learn and get to know something new each day. I got the know the importance of teamwork, as well.

Members of the Foundation, besides volunteering, have a chance of gaining various experiences in the form of various competitions. Anisa has participated in one such competition, and she says that the "World Scholar's Cup" competition meant a step forward for her or an exit out of her comfort zone. By qualifying to the final of the competition, Anisa and her team have shown that all obstacles on the path to success can be overcome if you work hard on accomplishing your goals. Foundation is an indispensable part of Anisa's life, and she says that, through volunteering, she learned to offer a helping hand to anyone in trouble.

She thinks that the Foundation became immeasurable support in her life. In the end, she sent a message to all scholars:



Never give up on your dreams and goals. Do what you love bravely and with affection, and don't allow the obstacles on the path to success to discourage you. My message is to always keep together and accept each other the way we are because we are all different and special. In that manner, we can all progress together. Let's be what the Hastor Foundation teaches us to be - the initiators of positive changes in our society.



RAM - Una Karabeg

RAM is, by definition, the working memory of a computer. In Bosnia and Herzegovina "the working memory" are the proactive and diligent young people whose actions make them an example of society that our country needs. Through this column we will introduce our young activists, scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation, who, in addition to volunteering, also do phenomenal things and in that way represent the Foundation in the best light!

Una Karabeg, a girl with Bugojno roots and a bright spirit, is a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for just over a year. That period was more than enough for Una's qualities and ambition to be recognized. She is a sophomore student of the Economics and Business Department at the SSST (Sarajevo School of Science and Technology) in collaboration with the University of Buckingham from the United Kingdom. She is the student representative for sophomore students at the Economics Department and a member of the "ENTER" club which is responsible for the organization and implementation of events at her university. Besides that, she is an active volunteer at the university library and a person who is always available to the staff and students of her university.

That Una is a student worthy of attention is proven by the fact that the SSST already recognized her work during freshman year, when she received the opportunity to hold a speech at the Winter Academy as the representative of the economics students. Besides this, she was a participant in many other events and a member of the external audit panel of the PSIR Department together with SSST and Buckingham University staff members.

In her hometown of Bugojno she is a volunteer of a local volunteering service (LVS) within the NGO "Sunce". In addition to active volunteering in the Hastor Foundation, she is a member of the Incubation Program in the BH Futures Foundation and a long-term freelancer. Una seeks to make positive changes in society and that is exactly why she is a philanthropist, activist and proactive member of our society.

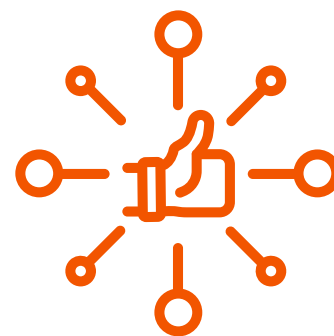
Even as a high school student she was part of different organizations, from a local to an international level. As the president of the Student Council, she tried to improve the status of high school students in the Bugojno Gimnazija. She was also a member of the Junior PR team of the "Hoću.ba" platform, and she performed the role of the PR manager for the SBK as a member of the Network of advice/Student Council in Bosnia and Herzegovina (mreSVUBiH). She was also a member of the Steering Committee of the Association of Secondary School Students in Bosnia and Herzegovina (ASuBiH) in the role of coordinator of two national initiatives: the Civic initiative "Naša škola", launched by the high school students in Jajce to fight against segregation in education and the initiative "A Copy is Worth Too!" whose purpose is



I am proud of the fact that I am an active member of the civilian society since primary school, more precisely since 2014, when my volunteering story began. Volunteering and the NGO sector have played a significant, if not crucial role during my personal and professional development, keeping in mind that my love for economics, entrepreneurship, working with people in general and for international relations was born from proactive social action.

My volunteering and activist engagement was recognized on many levels and I was nominated for the TOP 20 best high school students in Bosnia and Herzegovina two times by the Network of advice/Student Council in Bosnia and Herzegovina. To be recognized as the best is always an honor, but also a great responsibility considering that such an accolade is a stimulus for more active and responsible social-active action.

allowing future students to apply for more than one university with a certified copy of documents received after completing high school. While she was working as part of this organisation, she coordinated projects at a local and national level, which was a good way to represent the organization. Directly and indirectly, she participated in the activities of various international organizations such as the Mission of the OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, IOM (International Organization for Migration), SHL (Scüler Helfen Leben), SAME (Solidarity Action Movement day in Europe) and many others.



She is the project coordinator of numerous local and national projects and the activity she especially points out is her first local project in Bugojno in the role of organizer under the name of "BalkaKult". "BalkaKult" is the first two-day event in Bugojno whose goal is to introduce and promote young people from Bugojno who are engaged in some kind of culture or art but don't have the chance to present it usually. Through the workshop "Odlijepimo etikete" the participants had the opportunity to talk about the prejudice that they are frequently in contact with on their road to the arts and the central event encompassed a fashion show of traditional wear, a fashion show of artistic costumes, a concert by local performers and exhibitions of artworks and photographs by local artists and photographers. The project was supported by the SHL Foundation and was nominated by that foundation as one of the best projects that they supported in 2017/2018. This nomination is a definitive confirmation that even a first project can be found in nomination if it is well implemented and that Una's choice to focus on social sciences, more precisely on economics, after finishing high school is more than correct.

Una thinks that the active participation of young people in society is crucial for its development and that we're witnessing the fact that young folks in Bosnian society are very passive. Still, she says she feels encouraged by the increasing number of up-and-coming young people who leverage their non-governmental and political activism to create and implement measures of public politics that drive positive changes.



The Hastor Foundation currently represents an important part of her volunteering story, considering that she decided to direct all available resources into volunteering on a more advanced and professional level after finishing high school, which the Foundation gave her the opportunity to do. To be part of this family represents satisfaction for her, but she is aware of the responsibility which is not in any way a big challenge for her, keeping in mind that every scholarship holder and every hour of volunteering in the Hastor Foundation are valued very much, which is not the case in many organizations today. The Foundation has, as she points out, stimulated her personal growth with various professional challenges since the very first day, while at the same time unconditionally providing her with support. The message that Una sends to all of her colleagues from the Foundation is:

To be active in your society as a philanthropist and volunteer is an incredible feeling because you know that you have made at least a little part of our world a better place with your knowledge and hard work. Because of that, as a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation, I am proud of the fact that we, as volunteers, managed to fulfill 320 000 hours of volunteering and in that way created significant long-term social changes.

Do the things that fulfill you and be the best at those. Boundaries don't exist anywhere except for in yourself so use every chance that you have to become a better and more successful version of yourself every day. If you think that you don't have opportunities – create some! Challenges on the road to success are only one constant – accept them as such, learn your lessons and bravely continue going forward towards your goal!



CURIOSITIES: Cryptocurrency

This month we are writing about a term that we come into contact with quite often on online portals and which refers to the field of economics.

Key terms:

- **cryptocurrency** – digital money,
- **blockchain** – a digital book of transactions that is duplicated and distributed throughout the entire network of computer systems on the blockchain,
- **Bitcoin** – a type of cryptocurrency invented in 2008,
- **Ethereum** – a type of cryptocurrency (different from Bitcoin) invented in 2015.

Cryptocurrencies are digital records about certain values stored in digital bases. It is money created in digital form as a means of digital transaction. This money exists only on the internet and is not issued or supervised by a central bank or country. Because it is not supervised by a central bank, it is formally not money. Cryptocurrencies are actually software. They are like applications on a mobile phone or any other device. But what is so special about them?

The rule of cryptocurrency is that it can't be duplicated nor forged. The very name crypto informs us of that.

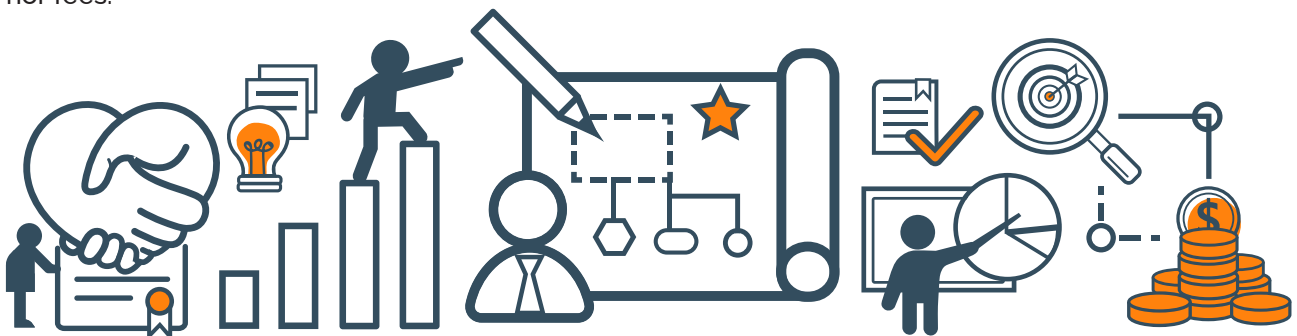
Just like you have your money in a bank account, you have your cryptocurrencies in your "digital wallet" on one of the internet pages that provide that service. A cryptocurrency wallet looks like an e-mail address. Every blockchain has its own special kind of wallet and you can't transfer from one to another (for example send Bitcoin to an Ethereum address).

What are **keys**?

"Keys" are codes that are more complex than those we use every day to enter our online accounts such as e-mail or other applications. Every transaction is signed by the sender with their very own private key, and at the end the transaction is approved and noted down in the network. This key can't be seen by anyone, but the transaction is visible. In this way, the key, which is actually a signature, can't be compromised by anyone, but it is very important to keep them offline.

The differences between **a cryptocurrency transaction and a credit/debit**

When you give your credit/debit card to a cashier, you give them access to the whole credit line, even if the transaction is done for a small amount of money. This way the store puts the payment into action and removes a certain amount from your account. Cryptocurrencies allow you to send the exact amount of money to the seller or recipient without any additional information. They don't require names. They just require a digital mark of the wallet, aka the key. There are no third parties, delays of payments nor fees.





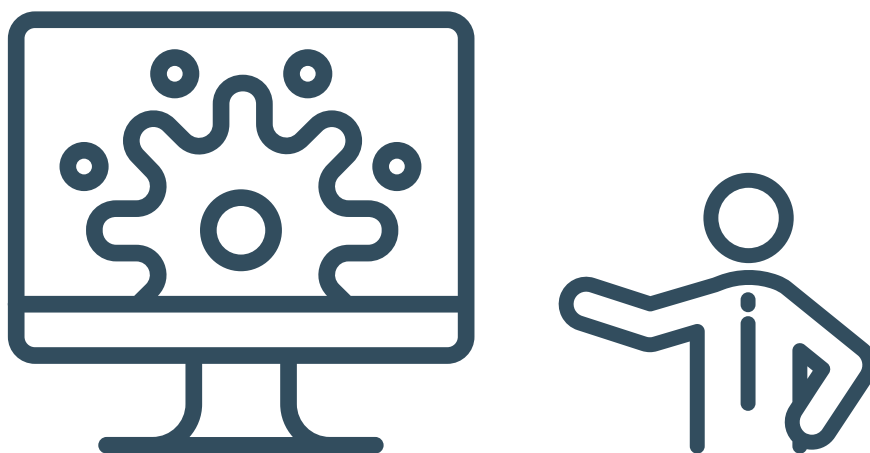
Let's be **Competitive!**

In the 21st century, it is not enough to have great success in the educational process to make a person attractive at the international level, at the level of studies or employment. It is not uncommon to see and hear that young people who have recently graduated or obtained a master's degree are unemployed, and that they have sent their biographies (Curriculum Vitae) to several published competitions. This section aims to educate young people about the application process for various educations, seminars, exchange programs, but also to show how students at the international level work on their own improvement.

How to get rid of fear and discomfort during a video call?

Many young people feel nervous, anxious or uncomfortable when they are in front of various technological aids such as the camera during public appearances, either because of recording a statement or simply during a video call during online classes, where pupils or students communicate with professors and colleagues on this way.

The COVID-19 virus pandemic has put the focus on **videocommunication** and has become inevitable for people of different ages to adapt to the new trend and overcome the technological barriers that hold them back from making a positive impression. That is why in this section we bring you tips that can help you get rid of the fear and discomfort that can be caused by communication via video call.



Video calls have become an integral part of everyday communication, so we hope that these tips are useful to you and that you will (if you haven't already) relax in classes and meetings!



Let's be **Competitive!**

1

Practice in front of a mirror!

If you practice your speeches in front of a mirror, looking at your expression, it will give you a realistic picture of yourself because the camera you have on your laptop or computer usually works the same way. Just as you can see your own reflection in the mirror so you can see your face, body language and gestures on numerous platforms such as Zoom, MS Teams, Google Meet etc. If you are uncomfortable talking in front of a mirror, this can be a reason for discomfort when making a video call and therefore it is extremely important that you start to feel comfortable watching your own reflection to make it easier for you to do it online as well.

Speak clearly and loudly, try to explain to yourself what you are talking about until you feel quite comfortable talking on a video call as well. Try to close your eyes and imagine how you want to look, you are absolutely alone, and then gradually get used to your own reflection. Understand which way you feel more comfortable - is it easier for you if you look yourself in the eye or if you look at your gesticulation. Find out what works for you and use it on a video call. If you feel more comfortable while, for example, looking at yourself in the mirror, it will help you to relax on a call if you watch your video instead of the camera directly or another participant in the conversation.

2

Focus on what you are talking about!

When both exercising and making video calls, you tend to focus solely and exclusively on what you are saying. Video calls can often be stressful, especially in the circumstances of working from home when neighbours suddenly make noise, cars trumpet or maybe someone is ringing. Try to distance yourself from these sounds. Extra tip: For starters, you can do this by lowering the microphone volume and speaking louder to overpower the background sounds until you get used to them.

3

Dress professionally as if the call is a live meeting!

While this may sound unnecessary in the comfort of your own home, it is psychologically important to set aside time for yourself in the morning, wear ironed clothes, put on makeup, style your hair ... Whatever you do when meeting live, do it now despite that the meeting / class is online. This way you will feel confident and you will like what you see more yourself and this will further ease your nervousness as you will be able to relax without thinking about how you look to someone on the other side.

4

Breathe deeply as you speak and listen carefully to your interlocutors!

Active listening is just as important as your presentation. If you actively listen and focus on other participants in the video call, you will gradually think little or nothing about your own performance, so your answer will sound more relaxed and natural as if you were talking and discussing the topic live. Don't forget to breathe! It's okay to get confused sometimes and run out of breath (remember that this can also happen live), so it's very important to practice breathing while talking and to follow your natural rhythm. Deep breathing during active listening will reduce the heart rate, and thus the trembling of the voice will first be partially reduced, and then completely stopped. Video calls have become an integral part of everyday communication, so we hope that these tips are useful to you and that you will (if you haven't already) relax in classes and meetings!



Through
the Lens



Ajna Čančar



Amina Bašić

Nedžma Galkić



Šerifa Pašić



Lejla Eminović



Literary work of the month

Losing your homeland is paid in slavery and humiliation

I once tried to count the steps walking down the old cobbles, as other people do. However, something so insignificant for others and colossal for me prevented someone else's idea from becoming mine. Those roads possessed a special charm that visitors addressed with various names of significant meaning. The smell of grass exuded in the call of nature, where my look wandered to all the time. The giant sky was bluer here, and the Sun, I think, shone brighter. The wind was one of the special companions that caressed me with its whisper and announced the proximity of people with hearts full of kindness. They had special smiles, especially visible when they welcomed you with their arms stretched. The kindness here was recognized in the eyes, reaching from deep within, from the heart. Here, I addressed everything with words of admiration towards the existing spells.

Wherever I went, everything I owned waited for me, because I had a home to come back to... I once heard the words that spoke about the light whose followers were the ones who no longer heard the calling of the grass nor the whisper of the wind, the ones who were too blinded to see or feel the kindness of others. The wind tried to turn me away from the voice of dark words, telling me that the heart gets tainted fast. The sheer desire for new and unseen bought my attention, not knowing that I already sold myself out and became one of them. One tiny spark of light, which they made prettier to trick me, blinded me... I felt there were no people of mine close to me, the calling of the grass didn't exist here, and no one even heard about the whisper of the wind and its caressing. The words of kindness didn't exist here, and the warmth was a metaphor for coldness because all passers-by were just like figures that serve a greater purpose that took away the very thing that defined them and made them human at all. No one was welcome here, there were no cobblestones nor the life I was used to; there was nothing here you could call life. The road everyone gilded was only similar in colour. What it had in store was unfamiliar to me, here I lost the sense of myself, and this was just the road for the wounds of the longing.

The gold that influenced the blind was the thorns and the glint of the blood of its followers, like me. I thought that time doesn't pass here and that I can just hurry up to retrieve what I lost. Each step was weaved from pain and fresh wounds, and the hands I counted on to treat them didn't exist here. The moment I embraced foreign words, I let the hands go. The pain became another dark guest, too big to keep my heart clean and scar-free. This gesture exhausted it each day and blinded it in the end. My reason began to leave me the moment my heart became blind and dark. I guess that it's only then, after so many years, that they found a compromise as if something so dark put them together for a mutual parting. I lost myself, completely... I lost the game of life the same moment that I realized there were no words to define me, that there was no piece of land to accept me no matter what, and that the one who loved me and carried me under her heart without even knowing me, was missing.

I paid the slavery of longing for the past with each step. I became the slave of the path they built for sufferers. I was just like the people who are susceptible to being manipulated by others. A man - a figure weaved from the colours of pain and that everyone hacks until it wears out... Until the moment I disappear.



Poetry corner

Message

Release the idea from the prison of the mind
Give her wings to fly high
If it reaches the blue of the sky
You will walk upright, son of the earth

Everyone can have a memory
To remember a nice smell, an accident
But not everyone can have
Hearts, minds, fairy-tale ornaments

Watch out, be a man of your word
If you say do it with pride
Because, it's a small word to describe
But beware, it still builds bridges

Don't be like the sages say
Just like a tabula rasa
But don't even be the part where the steps
Just empty desires of the masses are.

Fatima Gazić



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Front Page

Belma Gutlić, "Tools",
watercolour on paper