# NEWSLETTER



December 2022



# SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER OF THE MONTH

## NEDŽMA LATIĆ

The Hastor Foundation can brag about the hard-working, ambitious and successful scholarship holders who achieve notable results in the field of education and science. The Foundation's team consists of young volunteers who contribute to its work by improving it with their knowledge and skills. It is precisely such values and commitment to volunteer engagement within the Hastor Foundation that earn the scholarship holders the title of Scholarship holder of the Month. Below you can read about Nedžma Latić, the scholarship holder who took the title this month.

Reading and writing are like getting intensively acquainted with life, but are also a special kind of love. This is also revealed to us by our Nedžma, who expresses her love for the written form of words by writing prose and poetry.

Nedžma Latić is a fourth-year student at the Faculty of Management and Public Administration at the International University of Sarajevo, Department of International Relations. She was born in Gornji Vakuf, but spent most of her life in Gračanica, not far from Bugojno. She is 21 years old and this is the eighth year since she became a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation. Even before university, Nedžma was a diligent and hardworking student, and the fact that she was the best student of her generation of Elci Ibrahim Pasha's madrasa in Travnik speaks for this. Also, as a student of international relations, she is very interested in the situation on the international political scene, which is why, as she says, she spends most of her free time reading foreign newspapers.

Nedžma is also a member of the editorial team of the Hastor Foundation, and she fulfills her tasks responsibly

and with dedication, so her texts very often brighten up the pages of our Newsletter. She states that her activities in the editorial team of the Hastor Foundation greatly contribute to the development of her talent for writing. Throughout her high school education, she was also the winner of many awards at literary competitions. She very often writes poetry for the Hastor Foundation Newsletter, so if you haven't already, we highly recommend you take a look at the pages at the end of the Newsletter and discover the magical world of Nedžma's poetry.

Active volunteer work within the editorial team brought Nedžma the title of Scholarship Holder of the Month. This is the result of her commitment and effort when it comes to writing texts for the website of the Hastor Foundation, the Newsletter, but also, when necessary, many other texts for different purposes. It is often necessary to take on several tasks during one month, which, as she points out, suits her because she uses it to sharpen her creative spirit more and more in a unique way, but also to meet other valuable members of the Hastor Foundation.

We asked Nedžma about her experience volunteering within our Foundation, and she said the following:

Since I have been volunteering within the Hastor Foundation for a long time, I must admit that I have felt a change in myself when it comes to my personal approach to volunteer activities, considering that in addition to the editorial team, I also volunteered in the field with younger scholarship holders, but also in the office of the Hastor Foundation. Over the years, my awareness has increased that, for all the good things the Foundation has given me, I should give back in the best way I can - by volunteering, which will help me and others. I still think that I am not contributing enough, but I hope that this last year of my undergraduate studies will be marked by many articles for the Foundation's Newsletter and website, as well as other types of volunteer work. I believe that the administration of the Hastor Foundation noticed this and this title is a testimony that none of our activities and nothing that we give to the Foundation goes unreciprocated and unnoticed.

As we have already stated, throughout her high school and university education she was awarded multiple times. Nedžma particularly emphasizes the award she received a few years ago, more precisely after completing her high school education. Namely, the European Union, in cooperation with the Riyaset of the Islamic Community in Bosnia and Herzegovina, organized a competition in which creators of various arts could participate, and the theme was "My place in the EU". Thanks to her poetry, Nedžma won the category of written works and traveled to Brussels, where she and her colleagues had the opportunity to present their works.



This November, our Nedžma won first place in the competition organized by the "Bosniaks" Fund on the topic "Homeland is where freedom is felt". Since love for the homeland is the greatest inspiration for a person like Nedžma, she felt that she could present this theme through a beautiful prose text. In addition to thirty or more due papers, Nedžma's work won first place, which makes us very proud.

In addition to these two awards, which are the most significant for Nedžma from her current perspective, many awards were woven through all her previous years of writing. She especially likes writing because she enjoys listening to various perceptions of what is said through poetry. It often happens that due to someone else's analysis, she herself finds a new approach to her poems, which, as she points out, are waiting for us to grow up together and, God willing, one day leave a trace that we existed through a collection of poetry.

In the last elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Nedžma had the opportunity to work for the first time in her future profession, more precisely, she was an "interpreter" for observers from Europe in front of the OSCE. She

said that she had the opportunity to see the election process from a closer angle and gain experience in something that is of great importance for the future of our country.

Nedžma says that the development of her personality and maturation was greatly influenced by the exchange of students, more precisely the Erasmus+ program. In her third year of university, she had the opportunity to stay in the city of Isparta, which is located in Turkey. She studied at Suleyman Demirel University. The five months she spent in another country taught her independence and readiness for different challenges. This experience also helped her improve her knowledge of the Turkish language.

Meeting people from different regions gave me knowledge about other cultures and helped me get to know the story of the people whose representatives were on the exchange, says Nedžma.



When it comes to the Hastor Foundation's support in her education, Nedžma states:

The Hastor Foundation was with me on the exchange. Since then, as well as today, I volunteered as a member of the editorial team, I was able to carry out mv volunteer duties unhindered. It's nice to know that the Hastor Foundation supports our desire to learn something new and foreign. I had to grow up to understand the role of the Hastor Foundation in my education and life. It is the path in the middle that we need when we don't know whether to go right or left. It is the hand that holds us through storms and hard times when we are surviving, sometimes tough student days, separated from our own home. It is the refuge we all found in Sarajevo and the friend who never turned its back. I'm sending a message to all scholarship holders to think carefully about how much good the Hastor Foundation gives us. We must all work together to build awareness of the importance of the Hastor Foundation's role in our lives. Foundation, thank you for making growing up much easier and that I feel your love present in every segment of my life.

We wish that Nedžma, in the continuation of her development, will carry on to weave her life's path bravely and confidently.



# RAM - RUBRIC OF ACTIVE YOUTH

AMINA BUKVAREVIĆ

The rubric of active youth is the space through which we present the most valuable scholarship holders of our Foundation every month. These are those who, day after day, strive to invest their time and energy in higher goals and thus improve themselves and their society. Just as RAM (working memory) is a part of a computer without which its work cannot even be imagined, so are our scholarship holders, who, in addition to volunteer activism within the Foundation, work extremely diligently in their local communities and thus represent the Hastor Foundation and its mission, a part without which our work would certainly not be the same, in the best possible way. RAM is a column dedicated to those who actively work every day to improve their society and improve themselves, therefore it is our pleasure to talk about one of them every month, and this time that honor went to **Amina Bukvarević**.

Amina Bukvarević is from Kalesija and is a student of the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Health Studies, Institute of Medical Laboratory Diagnostics at the University of Tuzla. She is currently in her second year of studies. She has been a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation since 2012. She tries to be active and help within the limits of her abilities wherever she can. In addition to the Hastor Foundation, Amina also volunteers in the Association "Woman, Mother, Sister" and the Association "Smile of Hope".

As a person who loves children very much and looks forward to spending time with them, our Amina enjoys volunteering with younger scholarship holders and children with developmental disabilities. Every sincere smile of a child cheers her up and makes her happy.

She believes that they are the most sincere beings in the world who give pure love without asking for anything in return. They don't need much for happiness, they look for it in simple and small things. Furthermore, the most important lessons in life can be learned from children. Children are the best proof for us adults that we don't always have to be ready to move forward. Fearlessness towards the unknown, enjoying every moment of life, endless imagination, free spirit and love for everything the eye can see are just some of the lessons we all have to learn from children.



In addition to volunteering, reading books whose subject matter is based on psychology fulfills her a lot. She believes that psychology has a lot of useful things to offer.

Amina very successfully balances all of the above with regular walks with her childhood friends and points out that she sees enormous importance in socializing and communicating with dear people and believes that social networks cannot replace the charm of live conversations.

Every change starts and ends with us. It is certainly young people who initiate changes in society, and it is very important to have expanded views on the events around us. Having various skills will help us change what we consider wrong.

The Hastor Foundation made me aware that I have one life given to me. In that life, I have many opportunities to help, do good and influence useful and positive changes in society. I must not miss those opportunities because each of us can contribute to creating a better future. The Hastor Foundation taught me that life is not valuable if we do not share, give away, help and give, and so I thank it for that.

My message to scholarship holders is that they should invest in their knowledge and education, be productive, help others around them, build new skills and thus be of use to themselves, the local community and society as a whole.

When Amina became a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation, she was happy because she received financial aid for her education, not realizing how emotionally attached she would be to everything the Foundation is. She received moral support, wind in her sails and motivation for everything she does in life. She became more confident in herself and more determined in achieving her goals. She started building new skills, and she started actively volunteering and helping others.

Scholarship holders like Amina regularly remind us of the beauty of volunteering. It is easier for each of us to take that first step towards activity in the local community after seeing the positive examples, of which there are many within the community of hardworking people of the Hastor Foundation.



# **ALUMNI OF THE MONTH**

## SALMIR ĆORALIĆ

Scholarship holders remain connected to the Hastor Foundation even after they graduate from school, much like the roots of a tree. Such roots are hard to tear up because of the relationship which can quite often be tremendously strong, unbreakable, and filled with connection, which is abundant with positive emotions and beautiful memories from their school days which are now behind them. In that way, former scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation keep a connection with the Foundation, which was the main support in their lives. Time goes by, and people face all kinds of changes and many memories fade when replaced with new and more interesting events. There is only one thing that remains unchanged in every scholarship holder's life regardless of age, and that is their attachment to the Hastor Foundation. This month, we bring you the story of Salmir Coralic, a former scholarship holder who continued his success story as a forest engineer in Germany where he currently works and lives with his wife and son.



Salmir Ćoralić comes from Bosanska Krupa where he finished elementary and high school, after which he enrolled in the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Sarajevo in 2005. He applied for his Master's degree at the same faculty, for which the Hastor Foundation whose scholarship holder he became at that time is largely responsible.

Salmir volunteered in an elementary school in Ključ and says that many wonderful memories which will always be written in the pages of the book of his life tie him to that period of time.

People sometimes have a certain fear of volunteer work because they think that they will lose their precious time, but in reality, that is not the case. I have fond memories of volunteering at the Foundation which I will remember for the rest of my life. With the scholarship holders, I learned, socialized, went on field trips, and even met a few parents of the children I volunteered with. To this day, even though many years have passed, I often hear from former scholarship holders who have grown up to be successful people and started their own families, says Salmir.

Salmir returned to Bosanska Krupa, after completing his master's degree in December of 2010, and started working professionally in the forestry company "Unsko-sanske šume", where he stayed for eight years.

He wanted to show off his ambition in Germany, where he eventually moved to, and started working as a tree controller "Baumkontrolleur" the company, where he is successfully working to this day. Andrej Bitov says that a tree does not consist of only branches and leaves, but it also consists of the shade under the tree and the sky above it, which the Hastor Foundation's former scholarship holder Salmir confirms with his love towards nature and the forests without which we would not even exist. In his free time, Salmir tries to spend as much time in nature as possible, especially fishing which fulfill him emotionally. Besides fishing, he also plays football as an amateur. Being a part of the Hastor Foundation is something he considers a great honor and says that only great memories remain from that period.

A distinct memory that will always be engraved in his mind is the interview for the scholarship grant where, in a conversation with the Hastor Foundation's team, he was supposed to present some of the ideas that the children who would be working with him would find interesting.

Given the fact that I used to go fishing at the time, I had a vision of presenting the rivers of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the students, and I would regularly introduce them to new rivers and fun facts related to them, which I did later on as a scholarship holder, says Salmir.

Salmir emphasizes the importance of the monthly volunteer meetings and notes that it was those which showed him that some friendships can be born right at those meetings, which have to have a certain amount of love and attachment to helping, which connects them all.

I am really proud of the fact that I was a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder because the Foundation had a great significance in my life, and it was thanks to the Foundation that I was able to continue my undergraduate studies and enrolled in my master's studies. It would probably not have been possible financially if I had not become Hastor Foundation's scholarship holder, because the Foundation truly came at the right moment, says Salmir.



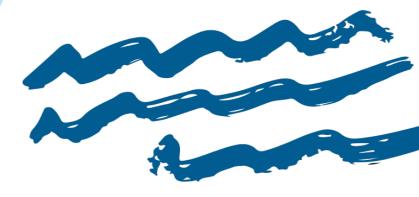
Another story of the Foundations is that besides being a financial support, we meet new people and develop friendships for life. I am still in contact with some of the scholarship holders and we often hear from each other because we are all connected by the Hastor Foundation and the time we spent together socializing and doing volunteer work. The Hastor Foundation is the best thing that any young individual can have throughout their education because it is the volunteer work that enables us to profile ourselves in the direction we want to go in the future, Salmir believes.

Salmir has a message for the Hastor Foundation scholarship holders and that is to never give up on their goals.

If you are going to study at university, try to make the most of the time you have for good things. You have to be brave, and seize every opportunity you have because that period of being a student is one big opportunity for all of you. You will have a lot of falls in life, but what is most important is to get up afterward, concludes Salmir.

Alumnus Salmir Ćoralić shows that we can achieve our ambitions, wishes, and goals in other countries as well, but we must always remember all of those people who were a support system on that path.





## **FUN FACTS**



### LET'S FIND OUT SOME FUN FACTS ABOUT HORSES

Until now, we are used to presenting unusual and lesser-known topics in our "Fun Facts" column or revealing special features of common phenomena that we encounter every day. This time we are bringing a few fun facts about horses and their world. Speaking in the broader sense, horses belong to the family of mammals where, today, you can only find one species – Equus. Subspecies known to us such as donkeys and zebras belong to them.

When it comes to this noble animal, it should also be mentioned that since the earliest times, the horse was used as an animal for working in the field due to its physique. In the 21st century, despite increasing modernization and developed technology, horses have a physical role in the economy, especially in rural areas such as in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Many families obtain their main sources of income from agricultural activities in which they actively include draft horses, but also through tourism, organizing horse riding tours, establishing equestrian clubs and the like.

#### HORSES IN SPORTS

Given that we live in modern times, the horse has also acquired another role - sports. Horse riding itself as a sport is a luxury for many of us, it requires a lot of time, attention, financial investments, and other types of sacrifices.

Also, there are many riding schools that organize individual and group training. Horse riding is an ideal recreation for the mind and body. It has been scientifically proven that human-animal contact has many benefits for human health.

Horse racing is absolutely one of the examples of prestige and power. To enter such a circle of activities, it is necessary to be a member of a noble family or to have substantial sums of money. It is interesting to note that only specially trained horses are used for racing. Many animal lovers consider such activities to be torture. It is a common occurrence that, from a large number of horses, only a few of the best are selected and completely "worn out" for the purposes of the race.

#### HORSE NUTRITION

Horses' favorite foods are carrots, apples, oats, barley, and rye. Also, they are big fans of sugar, which affects their health in the same way it affects people's health.

Also, we would like to introduce you to a few more interesting facts about this species! Did you know that horses can sleep both lying down and standing up, and that they are able to distinguish emotions in the human voice?

- As a species, horses are the most represented in the USA, and the general figure is between 65 and 75 million.
- n the Middle Ages, the horse, as a riding animal, was only available to noble families.
- When talking about lifespan, ponies can reach an age above 50 years of age.
- We are sure you are familiar with the phrase "horsepower", which originated in Scotland. The engineer James Scott, used this phrase for the first time when determining engine power.

- When we mention biological characteristics, it is worth pointing out that their brain is the size of a medium potato and is twice as light as a human's.
- It is interesting to say that horses demonstrate their mood with the help of their tails, just like dogs, and their tails get tied up and, until it is untangled, they cannot achieve complete rest.
- At the very end, it is worth adding that some horses are born black, but can turn white with age.



# **LENS**





**Ajdina Kadušić** Created a shelter for abandoned animals











### IN MEMORIAM

It is with immense regret and sadness that we recall in this edition of the Newsletter to our scholar Senada Mujić, who passed away in December in 2022. She will be remembered as a hard-working student and scholar who in The Hastor Foundation will never forget her.

## Senada Mujić

2003-2022

When we hear the name Senada, it always reminds us of something beautiful, honest and calmly. The girl who was always at our volunteer meetings ready for conversation and cooperation. She was a diligent student and scholar. She was always there whenever we needed help and we are grateful for that we had such a person in our lives. Although she is no longer with us, in ours hearts will live forever.

Her mentors

The collective of the Hastor Foundation hereby to our family, friends and colleagues dear Senade expresses his deep regret.







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