

NEWSLETTER

January 2023



FONDACIJA
HASTOR

SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER OF THE MONTH

Kerim Sirovica

The Hastor Foundation can boast off with diligent, ambitious and successful scholarship holders who achieve remarkable success in the field of education and science. The Hastor Foundation is comprised of young volunteers who contribute to its mission with their knowledge and skills. Exactly these values and this dedication to volunteer work is what we reward month after month with the title of the Scholarship Holder of the Month to our scholarship holders. Continue reading to learn more about the scholarship holder of this month—**Kerim Sirovica**.

Just as we already mentioned, under the rubric "Scholarship Holder of the Month" we bring you inspiring stories about our scholarship holders who have been especially dedicated to volunteerism in the Foundation, but quite often in other non-profit organizations as well.

This month we bring you the story of Kerim Sirovica—a scholarship holder who noticed and cherished his gift for languages from a young age.

I already knew in high school that learning languages will be my calling in life and dealing with languages my future profession, and that's why I decided to go for the languages department in Edhem Mulabdić Grammar School of Maglaj. The fact that I felt I had a gift for languages—especially for English and German—pushed me to continue my education in the Department for German Language and Literature at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Zenica. My goal is to perfect my knowledge of German and become a court interpreter for the German language.

Kerim also highlights the fact that regular exercise is important to him and briefly explains the positive influence physical activity has on his mental health.





Kerim is one of the volunteers who gained their first experience in translation through volunteering in the Hastor Foundation's Translation Team, making, in that way, the stories of success and numerous achievements of our scholarship holders accessible to the German-speaking readership. Kerim emphasizes the fact that volunteer work in the Translation Team means a lot to him because he has the opportunity to apply his knowledge and gain experience in translation while still being a student, which will greatly aid him in the future.

I like to play sports in my free time. I've been training football from a young age, and for me it's been a way of relaxing myself. In my opinion, every type of physical activity is great for our physical and mental health because we clear negative energy from our body and mind in that way.

Before I became a scholarship holder, I heard from my friends about the work and goals of the virtuous organization that the Hastor Foundation is. I recognized this organization as an environment where I can and want to grow and where I can work on quality self- development. After I became a scholarship holder, I quickly fit into the organization. I try to use every minute in the Translation Team to the best of my abilities, and I can say that I have acquired new knowledge through my translations of the Newsletter and other types of texts. Because I learned so much, I strive to use my free time to practice my translation skills. I feel that in that way I grow myself, and, through working on my skills, I also feel that I'm contributing to the growth of the Hastor Foundation itself, which makes me especially happy and content.

Close friends have an extremely important role in the lives of all of us. It's great to know that you have their support in good and bad moments. Many scholarship holders feel that support in the Hastor Foundation itself, and they strive to contribute to the Foundation's mission and expand the scope of its reach.

All of us like daydreaming about the future, however, it's more satisfying to work on making our dreams come true. One of the steps that leads Kerim to realizing his dream are exactly his volunteer activities in the Translation Team, and his goal, besides becoming a court interpreter, is to become a professor as well.

At the end, Kerim has a message for all the Hastor Foundation scholarship holders:

I would advise the younger scholarship holders to use their volunteer hours as best as they can because the ones who benefit the most from volunteer work are us, the scholarship holders. I have been a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder for nine years now, and I can proudly say that I have learned many things during volunteer work, especially the last two years since I have joined the Translation Team.

We wish you good luck, Kerim, on your path to make your dreams come true! The Hastor Foundation will always stand with you, just like with every other scholarship holder, as a strong supporter to make your dreams come true and to live your dreams, too.



RAM - RUBRIC OF ACTIVE YOUTH

Anela Mušanović

The rubric of active youth is a space where we present the most hard-working scholarship holders of our Foundation. They are the ones who continually tend to invest their energy and time in higher goals and in that way improve themselves as well as their society. RAM (working memory) is a part of the computer without which one cannot imagine it functioning. Our scholarship holders are just the same, who, in addition to volunteer activism at the Foundation, work very hard in their communities as well, a part without which our work would definitely not be the same. RAM is a rubric dedicated to those who actively work daily to improve their society and themselves, therefore it is our pleasure to talk about some of them each month, and this month the honor goes to **Anela Mušanović**.

Anela Mušanović is a girl from Sarajevo who knows no boundaries when it comes to development and personal growth. Although life was holding her back in many ways, she came out of every tribulation stronger and with a more positive spirit. When she was one year old, she got diagnosed with diabetes with which she still lives today, but that did not prevent her from bettering herself and achieving outstanding results. In the meantime, she also became part of the Hastor Foundation family. She is currently in her fourth year of studying at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Sarajevo, and she says that her childhood dream came true.

Her next goal after finishing her studies is to get a job in the field of veterinary inspection. She is a big perfectionist, and in her free time, she loves reading books, especially from the field of psychology where she makes notes of her thoughts at that moment.



Anela starts her volunteer work path by volunteering at the Hastor Foundation, and she fits her free time and love of animals and volunteering into one perfect whole which is now fulfilling her life. In her third year of studies at the faculty, she started volunteering at the veterinary station to acquire practical knowledge in addition to studying. Every month, she has around 40 hours of volunteer work, and with the Foundation and volunteering with the younger students, that number can get even higher.

As a student in her final year of university, and soon to be a doctor of veterinary medicine, I can proudly say that the Hastor Foundation is to be credited for this amount of my hard work, giving up some things, acquiring knowledge, and discovering new sides of myself which I did not even know existed.

Anela simply lives for her volunteer work and the Hastor Foundation. Volunteering with children and acquiring new work habits are part of her everyday life. The motivation to prepare good quality content before volunteering with kids each month and to make the most of the time with them is exactly what we are taught at the Hastor Foundation, which is that the young scholarship holders we volunteer with become precisely what we present to them and what they see in us. Those words, she says, inspire her to be responsible and dedicated to each child individually. Anela, as she says, tries to have the kids remember each topic based on something specific. She tries to interact with the students from her volunteer group and, primarily, be their friend and then a mentor. This is just what the Hastor Foundation teaches us every month, again and again.

Our families, each one individually, are mostly based on different postulates, and the Hastor Foundation is for each of us based on the same ones – selflessly helping, empathy, and positive examples. This is where we learn to walk again, speak and spread our wings only when we are fully ready to fly. There are a lot of us there, and yet, we are one.

Anela is proud because, in the meantime, she has acquired good communication with the parents of the children from her volunteer group, and she also earned their trust and, in that way, once again, justified the reputation and the role of the mentors.



The Hastor Foundation has taught me how to communicate with young people and their parents and have equal respect for all of them. The Foundation taught me another important life lesson – every thought is better as a realized goal and not just as a mere wish that longs for better days. The better days were already yesterday, I will remember this tomorrow as well, and so forth.

With each new day, Anela justifies her role as a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation, and as previously mentioned, she lives for it. She thinks that we present our Foundation by presenting ourselves in the best way possible in the street, while we take walks, while preserving the environment, while we help others, while we celebrate others' success as if it were our own, while we become better versions of ourselves each day and compete with the person we were yesterday.

Anela's message for everyone is:

My message to the scholarship holders would be to learn how to control their minds, for the mind is truly the source of everything that happens in our life. I took my illness as another opportunity, each new day is risky but I want to live.

Before you utter anything out loud while communicating with someone, remember that that person may be fighting a battle of their own. A kind word saved many, be a good person before you become a good employer. Treat others how you want to be treated, work hard, invest in things you want to grow, set some realistic goals for yourself, and be guided by them. Sometimes wishes do not come true and they remain just wishes, a goal is much more realistic, write down a list of goals and not wishes. And finally, from the quotes rubric which I, too, am guided by, I am telling the scholarship holders this:

"Because of everything you can do, because of the words, looks, thoughts, and so: be smart!"

Meša Selimović, The Fortress

ALUMNI OF THE MONTH

Đenan Macić

After completing their studies, Hastor Foundation scholarship holders remain tied to the Foundation as a root to its tree. Such roots are difficult to break because of the bond that can be extremely strong, unbreakable and full of connection, which is filled with positive emotions and wonderful memories of the period of schooling that was left behind. Thus, former scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation cherish their connection with the Foundation, which was often their mainstay and support in life. Time passes and people face various changes and many memories fade when they are replaced by new and more interesting events. Only one thing remains the same in the life of every scholarship holder, no matter what age they are in - their commitment to the Hastor Foundation. This month, we bring you the story of former scholarship holder **Đenan Macić**.

Đenan Macić was born in March 1987 in, according to him, the most beautiful city in the world - Mostar. He graduated from the Secondary School of Construction in Mostar, majoring as an Architectural Technician. Being the first generation of the mentioned department in a city that was destroyed by war meant dreaming about the rebirth of all that was destroyed. Đenan devised the idea of the reconstruction of many buildings in the then- destroyed Mostar.

Unfortunately, at that time, architecture could only be studied in Sarajevo, and Đenan had to change his department in order to stay in his hometown. He decided to study economy at the Faculty of Economics in Mostar.

When Đenan turned 18, his father retired early and tried to start a private business that did not bear fruit.



This moment was crucial for Denan's growing up, maturing and facing the reality in which you have to provide for yourself everything that your parents used to provide for you. The first step in this was applying for various scholarships. The Hastor Foundation was the only one to recognize his talent and desire for progress and continued to support him years later. The best proof of this is the fact that at the defense of his graduation thesis, Denan's guests were representatives of the Hastor Foundation headed by teacher Ramo. During four years of study, he was a scholarship holder and volunteer of the Hastor Foundation. Speaking about the lessons he learned while volunteering at the Foundation, our alumni highlights the following:

Throughout the four years of volunteering at the Hastor Foundation, I met a large number of friends and learned what it means to fulfill obligations and respect agreed deadlines. Years later, I still feel the benefits of everything acquired. In my opinion, the thing which is the most important feature of the entire story of the Hastor Foundation is that it influences our way of thinking, influences the personality profile of a person and encourages them to always fight and progress. Wondering how? Through the times in which a person fights for survival, they meet and get to know various personality profiles, try to define their life path, understands everyone's struggle and tomorrow, when they grow up to be an independent person, they try to help some new generations who pass their former paths. There are many occasions when a person has several options in life, and the essence of everything is to choose the right path and not make a mistake.

In order to illustrate the role of the Hastor Foundation in his life, Denan compares periods in his maturation and life to the floors of a building. For many students, the beginning of their studies represents the underground, so foundations like ours take them up to the ground floor, from which they will climb further with their successes. The desire of our alumni is to get to the top floor, and that means the possibility of giving someone else a scholarship and starting to build a house of success for a young person. He sees the Hastor Foundation as someone who taught him to recognize the quality that deserves to be recognized.

Today, Denan works in a bank just like his wife, with whom he has two little girls. They live in Sarajevo. He says that his beloved Mostar failed to provide him with the opportunity to advance in business, but he forgives it for that.

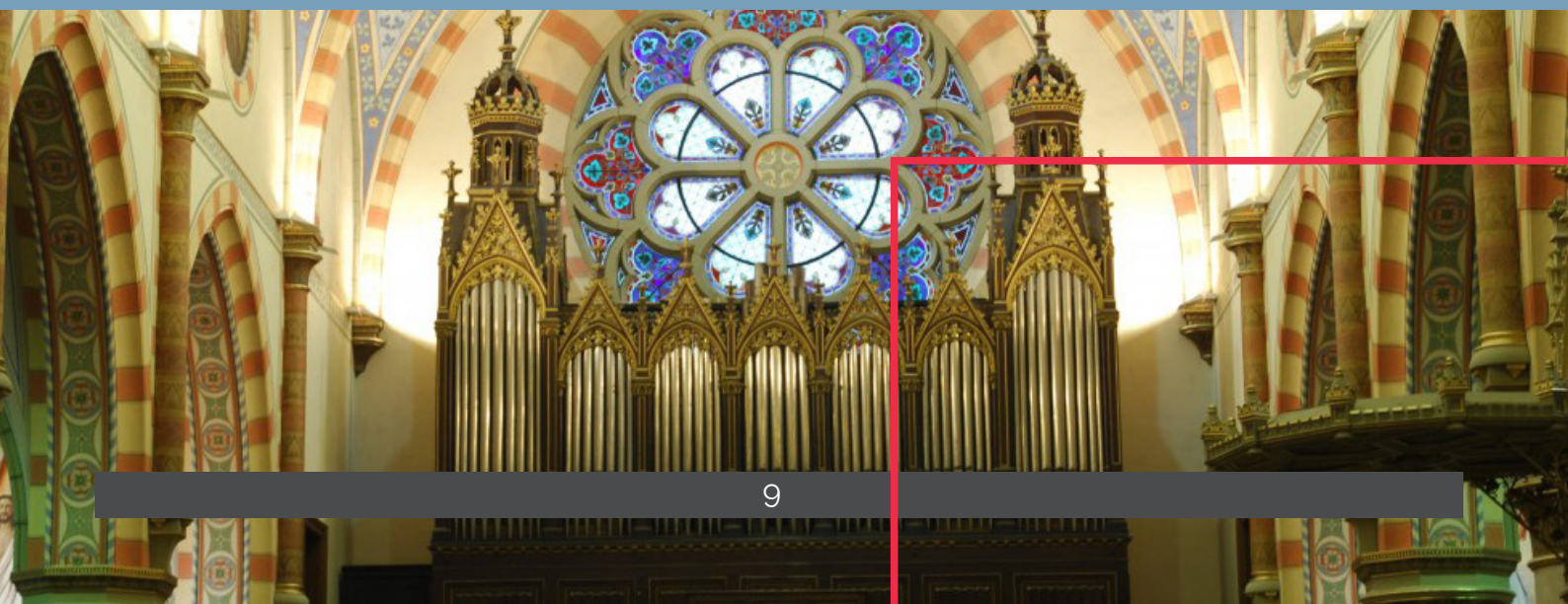
The scholarship of the Hastor Foundation is of great help to families whose children want to get an education and become valuable members of society. Scholarship holders learn about the beauty of sharing, so that tomorrow they can set aside part of the money for a scholarship for a child who awaits a secure and happy future. Their desire to grant someone a scholarship is a true sign of the successful transmission of the mission of the Hastor Foundation.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

In the heart of Sarajevo, the architectural feat of Josip Vancaš - the Cathedral of the Heart of Jesus

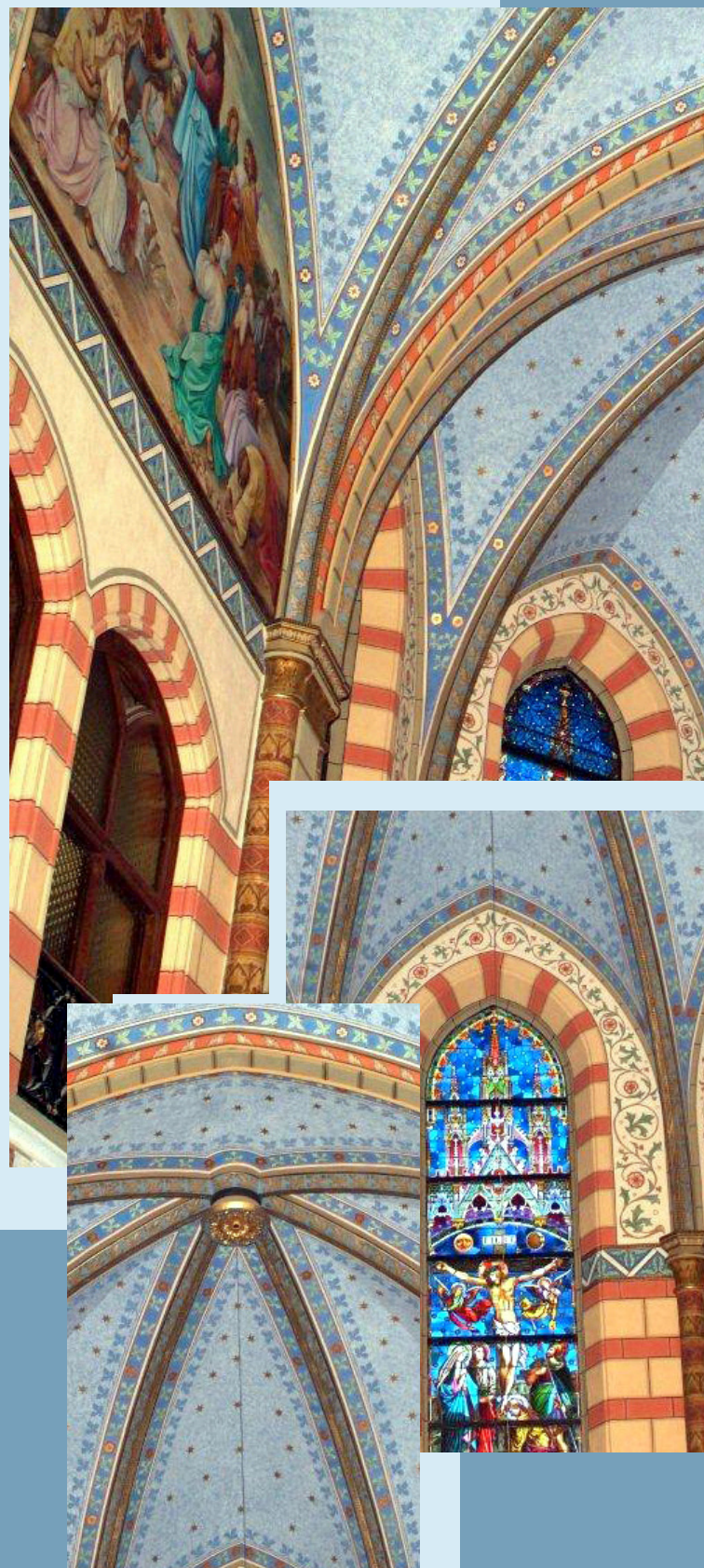
The rule of Austria-Hungary on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, although lasting only four decades, left a big mark on Bosnia's cultural heritage. Along with the change of government at that time, historicism and eclecticism achieved full supremacy throughout the country, especially in Sarajevo. Architects educated at foreign academies built in styles according to the wishes of investors. Certainly the most significant among the architects of that time was Josip Vancaš, who lived in the period from 1859 to 1932, and designed over 200 buildings in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Based on the fact that over two hundred buildings bear his signature, Josip Vancaš ranks among some of the most significant architects in terms of creative range, certainly alongside Karl Paržik who also contributed to the urban development of both Sarajevo and Bosnia and Herzegovina as a whole.

Architect Josip Vancaš's extremely large contribution to the urban image of Sarajevo is certainly the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which is one of the most representative buildings built in Bosnia and Herzegovina during the Austro-Hungarian administration. The original church was built in the period from 1884 to 1889. Stained glass windows, stone decorations on the altars and the pulpit, and all the wooden furniture were made according to Vancaš's designs. For his first and most important order, Vancaš made a project in the spirit of the early Gothic, which, as he himself said, was suitable for a cathedral building built for higher intentions, because, by the end of the 19th century, it had become the preferred style form for Catholic churches.



The Cathedral is a classic example of the influence of historicism on Vancaš's design, which can be seen through various architectural models such as the design of the facade, i.e. the tympanum and bell tower. The stained glass windows that are located along the walls of the side naves, two in each aisle and along the apse where there is one on each side, are especially important for the appearance of the Cathedral, and they were made according to Vancaš' designs. It is important to emphasize that the commissioner for the construction of the Cathedral was Josip Štadler, Archbishop of Vrhbosna, and that the grave and portrait of Archbishop Štadler can be found in the Cathedral itself. According to the urban plan of the then Austro-Hungarian government, Štrosmajerova Street, i.e. the area between the Cathedral and the „Central“ hotel, was conceived as the urban nucleus of the city

One of the interesting things related to this architectural building is its connection with the coat of arms of the Canton of Sarajevo. On the coat of arms of the Sarajevo Canton, there is a detail from the white rosette above the Cathedral door, which is combined with the door frame of Svrzo's House. The stars on the coat of arms symbolize the municipalities of the Sarajevo Canton. In this way, it was shown that Sarajevo is a symbol of the meeting and synthesis of the great civilizations of the East and the West.



LENS



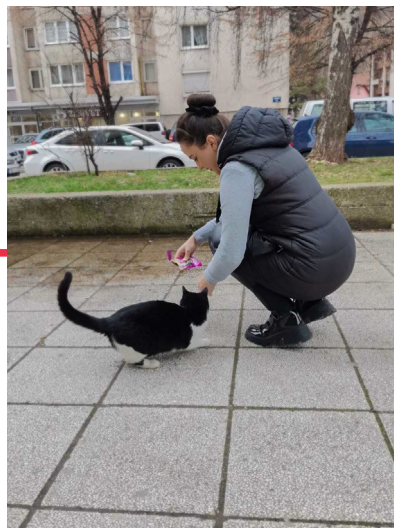
Berun Agić – volunteered at the Center for Education and Socialization of Young People in Jajce



Emina Nukić – volunteered at the City Library of Živinice



Amar Imamović – cleared the street of snow and ice



Ajla Arnaut – she fed abandoned animals



Lejla H. Muhamedović – cleaned the yard and stacked wood for an elderly neighbor

POETRY CORNER

Saturday Thoughts

What the winds caress
On the back of the water,
Where do the fairies of the dawn
Walk barefoot.
They caress theirs
White faces,
With the feathers of the north
Wounded birds.

They caress the branches,
Frozen bodies,
Bushes from the east
Mountain springs.
They caress the bud
Sprouted, early,
And the dawn that will die
To let new days dawn.

Sevleta Halilović



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