

# NEWSLETTER

*february 2023*



FONDACIJA  
HASTOR

# SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER OF THE MONTH

Semra Nešust

The Hastor Foundation can boast about 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. Read below about **Semra Nešust**, the scholarship holder who won the title this month.

Through the Hastor Foundation Newsletter, which is published every month, we have the opportunity to get to know young and successful people who can serve as an inspiration to everyone. One of them is Semra Nešust, who comes from Bugojno. She spent her childhood and education in Jajce. She successfully completed the first cycle of studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences - Department of Communication/Journalism - in 2021. As Semra points out, she has always loved challenges and new experiences, and for this reason she decided to enroll in the second cycle at the Faculty of Traffic and Communications, Department of Communication Technologies.

At the very beginning of her second cycle, it was difficult to get used to a new environment, a new occupation and, ultimately, a new topic. However, with work, effort and persistence, she managed to catch up with the material and what the other students completed in the first cycle, which was necessary in order to successfully acquire new knowledge in the second cycle of studies, since they are interconnected. She encountered most of the concepts, subjects and projects for the first time and had to start from the beginning and do a lot of work.

Semra states that, while every other person told her to graduate on time and that she would not succeed, she organized her life in such a way as to show, primarily herself as much as she can, and then others, that she can succeed, without her private life suffering. She managed to pass all the exams, even the most difficult ones, on the first exam dates. She is currently in her final year at the Faculty of Traffic and Communications, and her persistence can serve as an example to all of us of how the well-known proverb that you can do anything when you want to is absolutely true.

Semra has been a scholarship recipient of the Hastor Foundation since the sixth grade of elementary school.

I can safely say that I have been a part of the Hastor Foundation almost since their inception. I got the scholarship back when teacher Ramo was going to more distant places and looking for children that the Foundation would give scholarships to. I believe that I had luck that day, and today, many years later, I am convinced that my life began to move in a better and more beautiful direction and that the Hastor Foundation still has a great influence on my future, but also on all that I have already become.

In addition to the extremely successful and productive years spent at her chosen study, our Semra especially stands out in her volunteer engagement.



*I volunteered with our mentors as a scholarship student in elementary and then high school. For three years I was a mentor to high school students, and now for the second year I have been working as a member of the administration team of the Hastor Foundation. I trained new I gave trainings to new members of the administrative team and told my life's journey several times at monthly meetings for scholarship students. Mentoring helped me get closer to high school students and to first become their friend and only then their mentor. I had a friendly relationship with them all the time, and even now, when some of them have already become mentors themselves, I have a habit of contacting them, greeting them at meetings and joining them for a while. The fact that I started my association with some of them as a scholarship student, then I was a mentor to those same people, and now I see them as high school graduates or even students, gives me a special feeling. I am in regular contact with several of them and I can say that in all of this I have met people who I might not have met without the Foundation, and who are currently part of my everyday life and my life.*

Our Foundation gave Semra a new and more beautiful outlook on life and brought the idea of philanthropy into her everyday life as a basis for action.

*The Hastor Foundation taught me many values that built me into the person I am today. With this family, I acquired my work habits, had greater motivation for learning, work and effort, but at the same time I felt independent when I received a scholarship, bearing in mind the fact that I received it for my work and effort and that, in this way, I can make it easier for my family. When volunteering in my local community, we often beautified our city of Jajce, helped students in the dormitory, gave instructions and helped people during the pandemic caused by the corona virus. There are actually so many events that I can't even remember many of them, but I can certainly say that I truly live the Foundation's message every day.*



In September of last year, Semra, like the other scholarship holders, received an email in which it was emphasized to send a CV if the scholarship students were interested in working. Without expecting much, Semra sent an email, and within three days, a positive turn happened again in her life, like the day she was selected as a scholarship recipient of the Hastor Foundation. After talking with Amela Dedić, she got the opportunity to interview for a job at Prevent Labs as a corporate communications associate. Semra states that at the beginning she was skeptical about how to combine work with university, but, like all previous challenges, she accepted this one bravely and without hesitation and managed to combine work, university, friends and family. Our Semra got her dream job, all thanks to her efforts and work. Her message to all fellow scholarship holders is:

*Whatever you do, do it to the best of your ability, take risks and don't settle for mediocrity. All your dreams can become reality if you have the courage to pursue them.*

We wish our Semra much success in her current and future engagements and that she forever remains an inspiring guiding star for the message that effort and risk always pay off.

# RAM – RUBRIC OF ACTIVE YOUTH

## Izudin Beganović

The rubric of active youth is the space in which we present the most valuable scholarship holders of our Foundation every month. Those are the ones who, day after day, strive to invest their time and energy in higher goals and thus improve themselves and their society. RAM (working memory) is a part of the computer without which its operation cannot be imagined. In the same way are our scholarship holders who in addition to volunteer activism within the Foundation, work extremely diligently in their local communities, a part without which our work would certainly not be the same. 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 **Izudin Beganović**.

Izudin Beganović is a student of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Sarajevo and is currently attending the latter, i.e. sixth year of study. He has been a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for one year and has been a member of the administrative team of the Hastor Foundation since this academic year.

Volunteering at the Hastor Foundation is not Izudin's first experience in volunteering. During his high school education, he was a member of the Izvor nade Foundation, where he gained his first volunteer experiences both with the younger population and in the local community. Izudin reluctantly admits that after entering the Faculty of Medicine, he had to devote his time to his academic career as much as possible and was forced to reduce the scope of his volunteer activities. Now, in the final years of his studies, when his duties at the university are less, he has an ideal opportunity to revive his previous experience and love for volunteering through activities at the Hastor Foundation.



*Although I moved very quickly to the administrative team, I had wonderful experiences volunteering in the field with the students. I always tried to convey to them at least a part of my love for volunteering and I always reminded them of the most important thing: one good turn deserves another. This year I want to have a new experience, to meet new people and I hope that with my work I will help both mentors and all students who need it.*



Lately, as he points out, Izudin tries to focus his work on volunteering and deepening his practical knowledge. The latest activity of this kind is volunteering in the Emergency Department. In this way, he tries to contribute to our community in his free time, and at the same time to upgrade and improve his knowledge, which many students, unfortunately, were deprived of during the period of the COVID 19 virus pandemic.

He believes that young people are the foundation of every society and that their activities directly influence what kind of future awaits us. Sometimes all it takes is one little nudge or one idea to encourage young people to do better for themselves and for their society.

*Being a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation is a great honor and pleasure for me. Financial support is only one segment of many things that it has made possible for me. The most important thing that the Hastor Foundation has done for me is that it has opened new perspectives on how much an individual can contribute to society. The experience of bringing together people from different fields and sciences, while everyone has only one goal - the selfless sharing of experience and knowledge so that everyone can progress together and improve our community - can only be experienced within the framework of the Hastor Foundation.*

Izudin states that in addition to all of the above mentioned, the Hastor Foundation also enabled him to perfect certain skills that he would have been able to perfect without its support. Thanks to the scholarship, he was able to pass several levels of the German language, attend various seminars and congresses in the field of medicine, and participate in various courses that improved his practical skills in the field of medicine, all with the goal that, when he becomes a doctor, he will continue selflessly and as successfully as possible to help people.

He believes that the time organization is the basis of life success. With good organization, it is possible to find time for additional activities and hobbies without harming academic success.

*My message to scholarship holders is to always look to use their time for good purposes. We can buy everything in the world except the time spent, it has no price and can never be returned. That's why it's necessary to create memories and experiences because that will be our only reminder that we didn't spend the years in vain.*

Writing and reading the inspiring stories of our scholarship holders that teach us how to help and the great importance of daily work on ourselves are our step towards our planned goals. It is a true wealth to have countless such stories under the cover of just one community – our Hastor Foundation.



# ALUMNI OF THE MONTH

## Aida Gradašćević

After completing their studies, Hastor Foundation scholarship holders remain tied to the Foundation like the roots of their tree. Such roots are difficult to break because of the connection 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 main support 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 recipient, no matter what age they are in - their commitment to the Hastor Foundation. This month, we bring you the story of former scholarship holder **Aida Gradašćević**.

Aida is a person who, in her business and private life, represents the definition of dedication and commitment to what she does. In the continuation of this inspiring story, you will see that we can achieve everything only when we really want it and when we try hard enough.

Aida Gradašćević was born in Sarajevo. Today she works in Iljaš, where she lives with her family, her husband and three children. She enrolled in the Pedagogical Academy in Sarajevo - Department for Class Teaching - in 2006. Not long after that, she became a member and scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation. In the middle of 2010, she obtained the title of Master of Classroom Teaching, and that's when her teaching journey and growth began. She is also a certified assistant for working with children with developmental disabilities. She currently works at the „Stari Iljaš“ Elementary School in Iljaš as a teacher. In her biography, Aida has also published a scientific paper "Interpretation of literary text in a combined class (possibilities and challenges)" in the Collection of works of teachers of Canton Sarajevo.

She describes herself as very resourceful, creative and communicative. She performs her work tasks with pleasure and quality, and this gives her great satisfaction. She says that she works as a responsible, orderly, conscientious and diligent worker, both independently and in group work.

During her schooling, she was greatly encouraged by the Hastor Foundation. In addition to financial assistance, the fact that she was part of our family was, and still is, a great honor for her. As she says, volunteering at the Hastor Foundation was always unforgettable for her. Good company and joint responses to letters from members of the Foundation were a special form of communication among scholarship holders and a new experience for all members who volunteered as part of the administrative team at the time.

Aida says that the best part during her active membership in the Foundation was volunteering with scholarship students who attended schools in more distant places. She spent most of her volunteer hours in Prača and Busovača. For socializing, it came down to helping the younger scholarship holders in acquiring the knowledge and skills needed for school in that period. It was this type of volunteering that encouraged Aida even more to make her life's vocation work with children, to whom she is always devoted to the maximum.

*In my work and work in the classroom, I am guided by the thought that a child in my classroom is just a student to me, and to someone else the whole world - that's how I work and motivate those little beings so that the whole world can be the best it can be for someone.*

Throughout her entire life, education and work, Aida was guided by the Foundation stands for, her role model in all of this was our teacher Ramo, who Aida, like all of us, has only wonderful and special memories of. She motivates her students by saying that, if they are good and diligent, she will one day recommend them to the Hastor Foundation, reminding them that only the best and most diligent students enter the Foundation.

*A teacher, that's what I always wanted to be. The Hastor Foundation helped me a lot in my efforts to build myself up and achieve my childhood dream. Then when I needed wind in my sails the most, teacher Ramo appeared. I was not intrigued only because of the profession he was previously engaged in, but because of the attitude and strength with which he gathered us all and directed us all to be a member of that wonderful family, not only to receive financial aid but getting to know some new dimensions of friendship, relationship, expansion of knowledge and perspective, traveling throughout our wonderful Bosnia and Herzegovina and helping other younger members of our „family“. During my advancement in my profession, I often fondly remembered teacher Ramo, who didn't speak much, but with his quick movements and looks, he knew how to tell all of us everything in a very short time.*

Aida has been a member of the Hastor Foundation for 5 years, and she tells about that time:

*During my time in the Hastor Foundation, I was always fascinated by the strange thread that connected us all. We were from all around Bosnia and Herzegovina, different, but the same. We socialized and helped each other, wrote letters, shared school and student concerns and problems, solved them together and strived to always, wherever we were, present our Foundation in the best possible light.*



In addition to her work, she dedicated her free time to the Association „Life with Down Syndrome“ as a classroom teacher in the project „Assistant in the Inclusive Department“. At the same time, she worked for two years in the Association „Be my friend“ as a teacher at a workshops within the project „Inclusion of Roma in the elementary education of Sarajevo Canton 2010-2012“. For the last few years, she has been part of the team that writes and implements Erasmus+ projects. She actively participated in the creation of the results of the project „Handbook of good practices - How to use humor in teaching?“ and „Guide for students on how to improve socio-communication skills using humor“. Aida's two practices out of a total of 8 from Bosnia and Herzegovina are published in the manual, which is intended for teachers around the world and has been translated into 5 partner languages. The implementation of another such project called „Let's strengthen the self-confidence of students in elementary school“ will soon begin. Throughout her work at her home school, she was the editor and moderator of the school magazine „Ilijaški Biser“, which, as she points out, she is particularly proud of. It is available in electronic form on the school's website.

Although Aida's free time, if it can even be called that, is filled with all her activities, she finds rest and escape from reality within the four walls of her loving home. For her, family is the center of the world, and she and her husband Damir try to spend as much time as possible with Imran, Ajlan and Merjem, their children.



*My family is the center of my world, occupies a primary place in all spheres of my existence and is an inexhaustible source of happiness and motivation for my every day.*

In the end, Aida says:

*To those who are now receiving a scholarship from the Hastor Foundation, I tell them to always talk about the Foundation with pride and with their mouths full, to be proud of being its members and that the motivation they have in the Foundation prompts them to understand the importance of helping in the future, referrals and support that all scholarship holders at the Hastor Foundation have. I send many greetings to all those who feel at least a part of the Foundation and I say that with the help of the Foundation they are striving towards the realization of their childhood dreams. Don't think it's impossible, I did it.*

Aida's life story is one of the indicators of how strong the connection between the Hastor Foundation and its current and former scholarship holders is. It is one of a series of examples where one can notice the special love and attachment to the Hastor Foundation of all those who felt its support and importance. Our successful alumni are the best confirmation that it is worth supporting and encouraging young people, because this is how we invest in a better future, as well as better education for future generations.





# FUN FACTS

## The Northern Lights Explained

### What are the northern lights?

The northern lights are an atmospheric phenomenon that occurs in the high latitudes in the shape of arcs, rays, curtains and coronas (curtains of bright, diffused lights). The northern lights are usually seen in areas near the poles; the greater the distance from the magnetic fields, the rarer the occurrence of the northern lights. In the North, the lights are called aurora borealis (northern dawn) after the Roman goddess of dawn Aurora and Greek god of northern and northeastern winds Boreas. In the South the lights are called aurora australis (southern dawn).

### What causes the northern lights?

Today we know that the lights are caused by electrons whose energy is between 1-15 keV, meaning that their electric charge is between 1,000-15,000 V. The lights occur when these electrons collide with the atoms in the high latitudes, the latitudes usually being between of 80 to 150 mi. The emission of atomic oxygen is present in the northern lights: a greenish line on 557.7 nm and (especially in the case of low-energy electrons and in higher latitudes) a deep red line on 630.0 nm. There are many other spectral lines — especially the ones of molecular nitrogen — and they occur and disappear much faster, revealing the true dynamic nature of auroras.

### Do the lights have sounds?

People have been discussing the sounds of northern lights throughout history: crackling, hissing, buzzing and whistling. The Danish researcher Knud Rasmussen indirectly mentioned these sounds in 1932 when he talked about the folk customs and traditions of the Greenlandic Inuit people as well as the Canadian anthropologist Ernest Hawkes in 1916. The ancient Rome historian Cornelius Tacitus reported how people on the North claimed to have heard these sounds. Nowadays we get reports of the sounds of northern lights, but no one has managed to record them.



### Can the lights be found on other planets?

The lights have been photographed on both Jupiter and Saturn, two planets whose magnetic fields are far stronger than the one on the Earth. Just like on the Earth, the lights on these planets are caused by the solar wind. Jupiter's moons, especially its third one — Io — also cause powerful aurorae which occur, due to the electric current on this moon, along the magnetic field lines that are present between the rotating planet and its moon revolving around it. Io, which has active volcanos and the ionosphere, is a particularly strong source of the aurorae. Io also emits radio waves that were discovered in 1955. The northern lights have also been found on Mars, which had been thought impossible due to the lack of a strong magnetic field on this planet.



# LENS

Scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation in local missions to collect aid for earthquake victims in Syria and Turkey



Adela Zenkić



Adisa Bajramović  
and Aida Kevrić



Almedina Ibrahimović



Dika Šabanović



Amila Tursunović



Denisa Dedić



Eldina Ramić



Dženita Krehmić



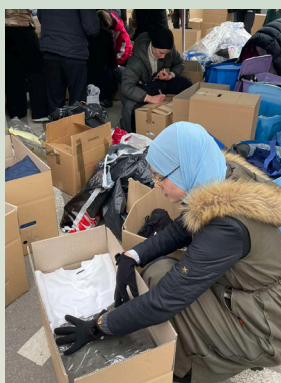
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Emina Zenkić



Uzeir Tihak



Nudžejma Karkelja



Nadija Huskić



Lejla Hasić - Bihać



Lejla Hasić - Čapljina



# POETRY CORNER

## *To Those Who Love Fridays*

Every student wakes up on Friday  
A tiny bit happier than on other days.  
When boys and men with a look of old people in their eyes leave  
the mosque,

I pack my things and look at the clock every now and then,  
But time on Friday seem not to pass  
As if this day is longer than other days,  
Joy fills me every minute of it,

Because the heart knows that it's going home soon.

My luggage and I drag ourselves on the wet sidewalks of Ilidža,  
And then converse with each other in a tramcar  
Leaning on the moldy poles  
That every student at least once has leaned onto  
And closed their eyes for a second

Tired of Sarajevo.  
I always arrive early at the station  
And watch other people hurrying up,  
Everyone to their own joys,  
And some sadness overfills me,  
Because I remember those sitting alone in a room  
And they cannot go anywhere, have no one.

In tranquility I thank God,  
For having my dear countryside  
Mother and father waiting on the threshold  
And the warmth of a home,  
Which knows that I come to it on Friday  
And it hugs me  
Keeps me warm in winter  
Wiping off the difficult moments from the dorm  
Moments present in me  
Countless of them.

And then, ineffably fast,  
The heavy Sunday comes  
And then I pack my luggage again  
And feel sad  
As if Friday never was  
I talk to my luggage  
In old tramcars of the city of Sarajevo.

*Nedžma Latić*



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