

NEWSLETTER

May 2023



FONDACIJA
HASTOR

Introducing new scholarship holders

The Hastor Foundation is introducing new scholarship holders with much enthusiasm, and in that way, is spreading its circle of support for young people who want to work both on their own improvement and the improvement of their community. We believe that the young people who became scholarship holders this year will contribute to helping and spreading good and, as such, they will set positive examples in their surroundings. We are proud of the fact that the Hastor Foundation is able to provide support to talented and motivated individuals by supporting them in their academic and life paths. In the rest of the text, get to know the rest of our new scholarship holders that we present to you in this edition.



Minela Kovačević is a witness to the fact that our scholarship competition is truly a reward for gifted students. Today, she is a successful student in her third year of studying at the Faculty of Pharmacy, and she is breezing through towards her goal which is to produce makeup and cosmetics, something she has dreamed of as a young girl. Two years ago, she launched her own line of natural cosmetics. She says that she learned about the Hastor Foundation through her best friend who has been a scholarship holder since primary school. Minela says the following about how she sees the role of the Hastor Foundation in her life:

To be a part of a large family such as the Hastor Foundation means a lot to me, both on a personal and professional level. The Foundation is giving me a chance to improve myself constantly and to become competent in things that I need in current business trends. To be in the Hastor Foundation means that I gain experience in various fields, which will be of great help in my career.

Minela Kovačević



Sara Keserović is another one of our new scholarship holders who will undoubtedly enrich the work of the Hastor Foundation. Sara is a second-year student at the Faculty of Education and Humanities at the Department of Graphic Design and Multimedia at the International Burch University. She found out about the Hastor Foundation via social networks and she says that it is beautiful when social networks lead to something good and important such as the Hastor Foundation, which has been drawing in young people with its professionalism and attractiveness for years. She adds more about the Hastor Foundation:

I am especially grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the work of the Foundation in terms of what it is for I am studying – which is creating various works in the field of graphic design - which I tremendously enjoy. In that way I also develop because through every work I learn something new and I improve. For that reason, I am truly glad to have become a scholarship holder at the Hastor Foundation. Besides that, something that has been clear to me since the first interview for the scholarship is that in the Foundation there is always a positive atmosphere and that it is a very healthy collective in which there is no place for fear, insecurity, violence and toxic relationships. From the beginning I was greeted with respect, kindness, sincerity and nice and warm treatment, which is of crucial value for all of us. The Hastor Foundation is truly an example of how our society should look like.

Sara Keserović





Hana Hajrić was born in Travnik in 2000. She is a student in the first year of the second cycle at the Department for Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian languages and the Department for the Literature of the Peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Sarajevo. She is one of the founders and the current president of the student club "Jat" which gathers students from the above-mentioned departments where she is studying. She does volunteer work as part of many organizations and associations. She says the following about the Hastor Foundation:

I see the Hastor Foundation as the bearer of good in the present, but also in the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Foundation supports young, ambitious and hard-working people towards their personal and professional success. As such, the Foundation represents the foundation of the advancement of our society.

Hana Hajrić



Amina Bašić was born in Sarajevo, and is currently second-year student of the Department of Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian language and the Department of People's Literature of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Faculty of Philosophy University of Sarajevo. She learned about the Hastor Foundation and its humanitarian goals thanks to her university colleague who has been a scholarship holder for many years. As she says, she was delighted by the positive reviews and the most beautiful words for everything that the Foundation provided for her, and the opportunity to work on personal improvement is what especially made her apply to the contest.

To me, to be a member of the Hastor Foundation is both an honor and a privilege, but also a challenge. I am aware of the enormous responsibility, but also the opportunity to further develop my abilities and in that way contribute to the work of the Hastor Foundation and our society and country as well, says Amina.

Amina Bašić



Lejla Fejzić is 20 years old and lives in Iljaš, where she completed primary and secondary school. She is a second-year student at the Faculty of Education and Humanities at the Department of Graphic Design and Multimedia at the International Burch University. She describes herself as very creative and believes that with the help of our scholarship, she will be able to achieve significant academic success. Regarding the Hastor Foundation, she says:

The opportunity to become a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation is not only a great honor, but it also provides me with the financial support I need to continue my studies and realize my full potential.

Lejla Fejzić





Scholarship holder **Ema Selimović** was born and raised in Sarajevo, where she completed primary school and high school, as well as began her first cycle of studies in the Department of Literature of the Peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Department of Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian Language at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo. From the beginning of her education, Ema excelled in the fields of literature and language, both her native and foreign, which was a clear indicator that the career she chose was ideal for her.

To find myself among the circle of ambitious and hardworking young people brought together by the Hastor Foundation, while gathering the best students from all over our country, is an immense honor for me. It is a pleasure to be a member of this large family, in the true sense of the word. I believe that the Hastor Foundation will illuminate the path already set towards my goals, being both a guide and support for me, not only in the field of education, strengthening ambitions, and improving my knowledge but also in perhaps an even more important field - the field of testing our strength in the process of making this world a better place through our volunteer engagement.

Ema Selimović



candidates because the Foundation offers me numerous opportunities to acquire new knowledge, make connections, gain additional education, and receive significant support for my future.

Minela Softić

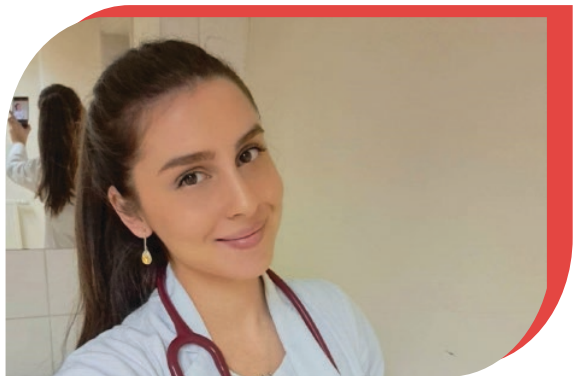


Nejra Šaljić is a scholarship holder from Sarajevo. She is 21 years old and is in her third year of integrated studies at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Sarajevo. Nejra is a member of the Red Cross and the Association of Medical Students in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BoHeMSA), and in her free time, she is involved in humanitarian and educational projects.

I learned about the Hastor Foundation through friends who are also scholarship holders. The knowledge that, in addition to financial assistance, the Foundation offers opportunities to gain new experiences actually inspired me to apply. Mentoring and many other fields in which scholarship holders can get involved provide us with the opportunity to prepare for the upcoming professional life and gain certain knowledge that is not taught in school. In addition, the philanthropy motto of the Hastor Foundation coincides with the humanity of my future profession, so I am very happy to have the opportunity to be part of this big family.

Nejra Šaljić

Minela Softić is 20 years old and comes from Gnojnica, a town near Lukavac, where she completed primary school. Her love for medicine grew from the first day of starting high school until today, when she is a successful second-year medical student faculty in Tuzla. *I learned about the Hastor Foundation from a friend who is also a scholarship holder. After a series of her praises about the way the Foundation treats its scholars and the plan and program of volunteering, I decided to try it out for myself. I am honored to be one of the selected*



Scholarship holder **Amina Delić** is a regular fourth-year student of General Medicine. She became interested in medicine as a science back in high school when she had the opportunity to practice in various healthcare facilities. After completing her studies, Amina would like to work in her field, but stay in her country. In addition to her academic success, Amina has been a long-time member of the Red Cross of Tuzla since 2015, and a member of the non-governmental organization BoHeMSA LC Tuzla, where she participates regularly in workshops, coordinates projects, and participates in various international education and competitions. She learned about the Foundation from her friend who is a member of the Hastor Foundation. ***I have always loved volunteering and working for the social good, so this served as one of the main motivations for my involvement in the Hastor Foundation. I believe that volunteering with the Hastor Foundation will serve as a new challenge that will provide me with new experiences for future work and help me build myself as an even better and more complete person. I believe it is a great privilege but also a responsibility to be a member of the Hastor Foundation.***

Amina Delić



Scholarship holder **Neyla Yasemin Ergun** is studying at the Faculty of Management and Public Administration at International University of Sarajevo, Department of diplomacy. She chose this profession because she deeply believes that by studying diplomacy, she can contribute to the welfare of our country in an excellent way. She was born in Turkey, in a beautiful seaside town. Neyla loves to read books, photograph nature, swim, and travel.

I am creative, resourceful, and especially empathetic because I love helping children and the elderly. In my free time, I like to write and research. I learned about the Hastor Foundation from my wonderful friends from college who explained the mission of the Hastor Foundation and the opportunities it provides for students. I applied because I firmly believe that this type of scholarship should continue and that in the future, I can be the one who will provide an opportunity for someone else to fulfill their dreams. Being a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation is not only a privilege but also a place where we are all like one big family that creates an excellent platform for good through joint collaboration. I am very happy and proud to be a part of this Foundation

Neyla Yasemin Ergun



tailor-made for me. Hearing about the Hastor Foundation, I decided to become part of their family. What inspired me is the secure space they provide for the scholarship holders. Moreover, I realized that I could continue to develop personally and professionally because I have the opportunity to mentor younger scholarship holders. Additionally, I have the opportunity to travel, meet, and build friendships with other young people. I believe that I will not be forgotten, and our relationship will not end with the completion of my studies.

Aida Buza



Aida Buza was born in Sarajevo in 2002 and lives in Visoko, where she completed her primary and secondary education. She is currently pursuing a double major in Pedagogy and English Language and Literature at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo. She decided to take this step due to her fascination and interest in child development and education. Additionally, she wants to positively impact people's lives and be a support for others.

Given that I have always known that I want to study and teach English language and literature, this study program seemed

Prepared by:	Translated by:
Sevleta Halilović	Minela Geko
Dženana Zulum	Ajlla Hadžimuratović

Every month, the Hastor Foundation scholarship holders have an exceptionally responsibility-filled and special, maybe even the most special task and that is to volunteer with young scholarship holders who are yet to become good people with a built sense for helping others. That task is not easy at all, and our volunteers prepare meetings each month that will be fun and useful, and will prepare our young scholarship holders for everything that awaits in the future. The goal of our rubric "Small Stories of Great Volunteers" is to bring inspiring, creative, and motivating stories from our volunteering activities in the field, and this month, we bring you a story of a volunteer group whose mentors are Jasmina Halilović, Ali Imran Alić, Amina Čibo and Nermina Čukas. This valuable group consists of 14 scholarship students of the Hastor Foundation who attend the Konjic High School and carry out their volunteer activities with mentors in Konjic.

One of this month's topics that this group of mentors covered with their students is "Online



communication – a brake in implementation of the "face to face" communication. Yes or no?".

Social media and technology have completely changed the way people communicate, and we dare to say that it also changed the way people live. Over the last ten years, new social networks emerged, some have completely vanished, and it seems that the future will be very interesting as well. What is happening right now is that new platforms suppress the spoken word and emphasize the different means of communication. Because this topic is very relevant nowadays, When preparing the workshops for this meeting, the mentors paid special attention to the topic itself and the methods through which the students will be able to acquire all the necessary knowledge. Students before the start volunteer meeting had the task of talking to the oldest members their families about how they communicated and to what extent way of experiencing today's trends in order to meet could draw a parallel between communication today and before 50 years.

At the beginning of the meeting, the mentors presented the students with the development of communication through history. Then they recorded the evolution of the communication process together on the board. After that, they showed the characteristics of online and "face-to-face" communication in more detail, also through a presentation. The mentors decided to talk with the students about whether modern communication alienates people and if people prefer to talk over the phone or in person, and a small workshop was organized for them. The workshops are one of the means of work students like the most, which makes the mentors glad because of their engagement and interest. During the workshop every student had to write down in a table what they think are the advantages and disadvantages of technology becoming part of communication, after which they had a discussion on what they wrote. The mentors also included the task the students got in advance in the discussion.



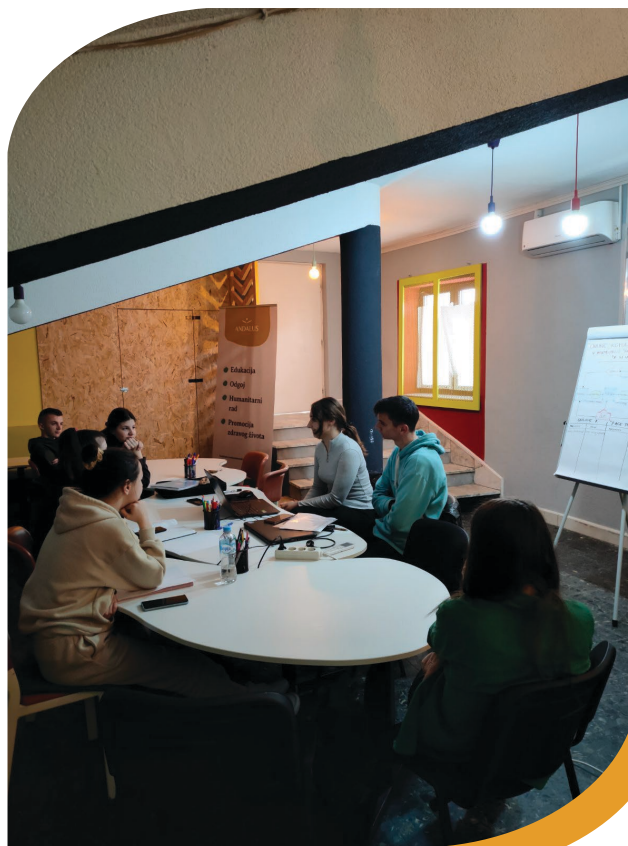
After the workshop, they watched videos about different aspects of communication and while watching them, they used the new information to fill out their tables with advantages and disadvantages of both means of communication. At the end of the meeting, the present mentors and students came to a conclusion that "face-to-face" communication is more favorable to them, but that online communication does not prevent "face-to-face" communication from happening.

Jasmina and her volunteer group emphasize the importance of a fulfilling and purposeful volunteer work and they are sending an example to younger people.

When it comes to volunteer work, we think that positivity, compassion, open mind and readiness to engage socially wherever it is needed, are the key things that a person can develop on a personal level as well. Very often, volunteer work gives us a chance to change people's lives in some way, including our own, and it brings us pleasure because we play a role in someone else's life. Volunteer work is a way of giving back to our community along with developing important social skills. Through volunteering for the Hastor Foundation we realized that the advantages of volunteer work are much greater than anything else we give up in order to realize the planned volunteering, says mentor Jasmina Halilović.

Actress Audrey Hepburn once said, "As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others", and with their monthly volunteer work, our scholarship holders show us that they are the ones who live by that quote. This volunteer group showed how important it is to talk about our reality and everything that surrounds us, and how important it is to, through the hours of volunteering for the Hastor Foundation, explore our position in comparison to the numerous changes around us. This story proves that young people are ready to show interest in the world they live in and recognize the constant changes in that world, and because of that, we believe it is especially useful and inspiring to young people.

We use this opportunity to thank the Youth Council of the City of Konjic and the Andalus Association for the concession a room for monthly volunteering carried out by our valuable scholarship holders.



Edin Šahbaz

Scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation try to be active every day both within the Foundation and in their community. Every month one of them shows up in a special light and thus deserves to have his or her name on the pages of our newsletter.

The scholar of the month of May is **Edin Šahbaz**. He was born in Zenica in 2001 and grew up in Maglaj. Due to his studies, he currently lives in Sarajevo, where he studies at the Faculty of Traffic and Communications, Department of Computer and Information Technologies. Since he is currently in his last year of undergraduate studies, he reveals to us that he plans to continue his master's studies at the same faculty.



Edin points out that from an early age he had a great interest in mathematics and related sciences, and this is how his love for programming was born, which became an integral part of his life. As a primary school student, he participated in mathematics and physics competitions, which continued in high school, when he also achieved significant results in cantonal competitions. As a student, he continued the tradition of competition, albeit at a lower intensity. One such competition is the IT Open Challenge, which was of a regional type and where he qualified in the top 10 participants in the programming category out of approximately 800 applicants. He recently qualified with his team for the CodeSmash Hackathon organized by Softray Solutions.

Our scholarship holder also demonstrates his programming skills through his activities in the IT team of the Hastor Foundation, which significantly improves the work of this team. What the Hastor Foundation represents to Edin and how she sees its role in her life, read below:

The Hastor Foundation has influenced the development of many of my skills. In addition to financial help, she also helped me in the process we call growing up. While I was part of the volunteer group as a student, I had the opportunity to learn a lot from my mentors, to whom I am grateful today. Today, when I have the opportunity to organize meetings on my own, I feel that I can apply what I have learned and that in a few years my mentoring and advice can be of great help to someone. Material aid wears out, but the intangible, which we will carry with us forever by transferring knowledge and experiences, is a true indicator of the value of the Hastor Foundation.

Edin fulfills his volunteer hours through volunteer activities with a group of high school scholarship holders from Maglaj. He liked the role of mentor because he got the opportunity to explore a new approach in working with children. It should also be noted that Edin, since he lives in Sarajevo, regularly returns to Maglaj to organize volunteer meetings. He states that he enjoys allowing the students of his volunteer group to feel equal and that everyone gets an equal opportunity to show their talents. He tries to pass on as much useful knowledge as possible to the children he volunteers with, because his goal is that his mentoring of the scholarship holders will be useful in the future as well.

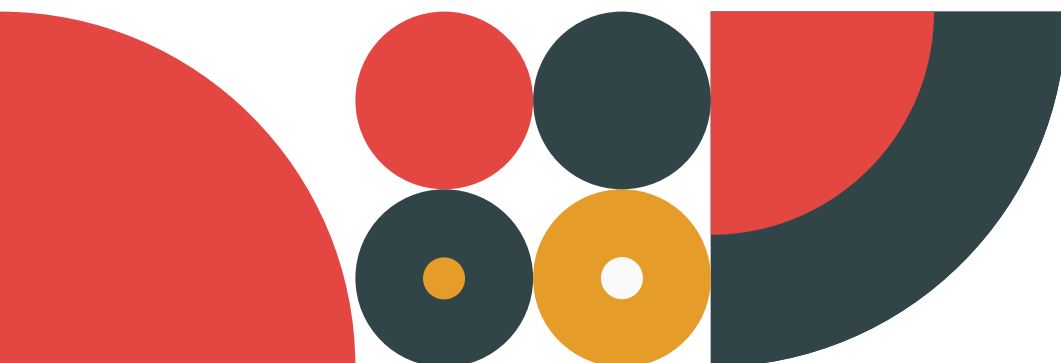
I would like to be not only an alumni of the Hastor Foundation in a few years, but also a donor because I have personally experienced how important the mission and work of this organization is, and this is one of my life goals, the fulfillment of which would give me great satisfaction.



Our scholarship holders want to stay with the Hastor Foundation even after completing their education. It is important that they understand that our role never ends, it just evolves into other forms. Scholarship holders today, alumni tomorrow, and someday - who knows, maybe even donors.

Donors are special people in our lives. Edin's volunteer story is one of those that speak of the beauty of the Hastor Foundation family and the expediency of investing in young people, trying to show them the true values of life. Our scholarship holders have been recognizing the charm of giving for years and strive to be the reason for a child's happiness whenever and however they can.

Prepared by:
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Translated by:
Ajla Hadžimuratović



Andrej Gradina

The Rubric of Active Youth — the place where, every month, we introduce the most hardworking scholarship holder of our dear Foundation: the ones that try their best to put in the time and effort every day for the greater good, in that way making a personal positive change, but also positively impacting our society. Just like RAM (Random-Access Memory) is an indispensable part of the computer, the same way our scholarship holders are essential to the work of the Hastor Foundation. Besides volunteer work that they do as part of their scholarship obligations, they are also devoted to volunteer work in their local communities, representing the Hastor Foundation and its mission in the best way possible. RAM is a section dedicated to those who consistently work on making a positive change in society and in themselves, and it is our pleasure to say a few words about one of them each month. This time we are writing about **Andrej Gradina**.



Andrej Gradina, a fourth-year student at the Department of Guitar at the Music Academy of the University of East Sarajevo, comes from Sarajevo. He has loved music since a young age — he graduated from a music primary school and high school with the highest grade. Besides this, Andrej has also won numerous awards and received recognition in international, state and federal competitions and festivals. He's a member of the Vocal and Instrumental Ensemble "Oskar Danon" in whose organization he performed a concert for the 120 years anniversary of the Sarajevo Synagogue.

In a recent international competition "Guitar United" Andrej won first place and has been granted the registration fee for the "Transilvania International Guitar Festival" that will take place in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. During the past few years he has travelled and performed in Slovenia, Italy and Serbia as a member of the Mixed Choir "Camerata Slovenica", where he also had solo guitar performances.

Victor Hugo once said that "music expresses what cannot be put in words and cannot remain silent" and, because of this, individuals whose job is music have to be especially sensitive, which is exactly what Andrej is. Andrej has been a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder since the sophomore year of his studies, and he states that he had applied for the Hastor scholarship in order to foster his professional growth, but also to gain numerous life experiences which he claims that the Hastor Foundation has given him. One of the countless valuable experiences that he has gained as a member of the Hastor family is the volunteer work — something that the Hastor Foundation is recognized for in the whole of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Andrej, whose life is filled with the most endearing tones, enjoys cooking in his free time. Because he enjoys cooking, he has been helping as a volunteer for two years in the Restaurant of Goodwill, a project of the non-governmental organization "Pomozi.ba." He has been volunteering as a kitchen helper and says that this type of volunteer work daily brings him immense happiness.

I'm happy when I cook. What makes me even happier is the fact that we were able to provide meals for less fortunate visitors of our restaurant. In that way we've proved, once again, that young people can be helpful and that they're invaluable change makers in their communities. By helping in the restaurant I've become friends with my peers and as well as with older people who are full of life wisdom, which has altogether enriched my volunteer experience, points out Andrej.



Besides the volunteer work in the restaurant, Andrej mentions the educational meetings, where he led a group of high schoolers as a mentor in the city of Čelić, as priceless and interesting experience. Andrej prepared many topics for his group that he presented with other mentors, and he has learned a lot during the topic preparation and through the dialogue with the high schoolers. Among all the activities that he has participated in as a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder, Andrej especially highlights the volunteer work with children with vision impairment and blindness.

As the most valuable experience that the Hastor Foundation has given me I'd say it's the experience with children with vision impairment and blindness. That experience is the volunteer work that completely shattered all of the preconceptions I had had about those children. After having this experience, I can freely say that my biggest motivation for being an activist in my community is helping others. I see the most beauty and inspiration in helping other people through my volunteer work, shared Andrej with us.

Andrej's involvement as a mentor during the preparation of our scholarship holders Adna Oraščanin and Haris Hošić should also be highlighted, who brightened up the meeting held on the occasion of the 17th anniversary of the Hastor Foundation with their notes. Andrej decided to weave his love for music into his volunteering, which gave those meetings an extraordinary specialness, and about the

combination of volunteering and art, Andrej says:

Volunteering is extremely important to the community and can have a positive impact on other people's lives. At one of the meetings, I decided to play the guitar during the break, which came in handy because I was perfecting the program, but also for the children because they heard different compositions on the classical guitar. Playing guitar and other instruments can be a great way to improve children's learning abilities, creativity and fine motor development. It can also be a great way to develop a love of music and inspire them to start playing an instrument themselves. Volunteering in this way can be extremely fun and fulfilling, and at the same time, it provides an opportunity to give a child an unforgettable experience that they will remember for a lifetime.

Through the Hastor Foundation, this worthy scholarship holder gained numerous useful experiences that will undoubtedly mean a lot to him in his future career. He used his love for cooking to help others and to somehow show how a hobby can be turned into something that will mean and make things easier for others.

I would recommend my fellow scholarship holders to keep on working on their self-growth, the process where our scholarship helps a lot. Besides this, they should also search for any volunteer work in their community in the field their interest and search for something that will spiritually enrich them, says Andrej.

Prepared by:
Aleksandra Đukić
Translated by:
Omer Muminović

Aida Ribić

After completing their studies, Hastor Foundation scholarship holders remain tied to the Foundation as a root to a tree. Such roots are difficult to tear because that connection can be extremely strong, unbreakable, and full of positive emotions and wonderful memories of the period that's behind them now. This is how former scholarship holders nurture connection with the Hastor Foundation, which was often their main pillar and support in life. Time passes and people face various changes and many memories fade when they are replaced with new and more interesting events. But one memory in the life of every scholarship holder, no matter what age, remains the same – attachment and commitment to the Hastor Foundation. This month we bring you the story of former scholarship holder **Aide Ribić**.

Aida Ribić brings her story from Herzegovina. She was born in Sarajevo, and finished her elementary and high school education in Konjic. She was a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for 5 years while studying at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Sarajevo. He is currently undergoing specialization at the General Hospital "Prim. Ph.D. Abdulah Nakaš" Sarajevo from the field of pediatrics.



Aida's story comes from Hercegovina. She was born in Sarajevo, and she completed her elementary and high school education in Konjic. She was a Hastor Foundation scholarship holder for five years during her studies at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Sarajevo. Aida is currently doing her internship in pediatrics in the Dr. Abdulah Nakaš General Hospital in Sarajevo.



Aida was a scholarship holder during her student years in the period between 2009 and 2014. She volunteered in various ways: in the administration team of the Foundation, with pupils in the elementary school in Hadžići, with high schoolers of medical schools in Sarajevo and high schoolers of a high school in Konjic. The volunteer hours was a special experience for Aida, and it represented another step in life that helped her develop her people skills. Aida got her medical degree in general medicine in July, 2014. Shortly after getting her diploma, Aida got her first work experience in the Community Hospital in Konjic. She describes her first months at work as unusual, challenging

and beautiful. Encountering the reality and realizing the enormous responsibility that she now has was nothing near to her experiences as a student when she had practice in hospitals. Just like it is with any other job, Aida faced both simple cases, but also far more complicated and difficult cases when she didn't know where the beginning was and where the end. For those situations she says that she felt as if she was in a diving suit in the middle of a desert. Some of those overwhelming obstacles were actually non-medical things that she couldn't influence, but that reflected greatly on her work as a doctor. Nevertheless, Aida overcame all her challenges successfully and she points out how much the experience and skills acquired through the volunteer years in the Hastor Foundation helped her in such difficult situations.

First work experience was a new page in my life that was being slowly, but in detail written out. New staff, new people, new habits, new acquaintances... but, most importantly, far greater responsibility and far more obligations.

Love for children, as the most sincere and purest,
Love towards children, as the most genuine and

pure, was the reason why Aida applied for the faculty of medicine and after it for an internship in pediatrics. Pediatrics was Aida's only wish and choice right from the beginning. Her love for pediatrics was only further developed through her experience in the Hastor Foundation: she was a mentor to a group of children for several years, she learned about children in general and she also learned how to connect to them. Through her volunteer hours, various topics, tasks and workshops, Aida learned in a special way how to approach children and how to express her love to them so that she can gain their trust.

Aida loves spending her free time being in nature. As Aida shares with us, she relaxes her mind and body in nature. She has cherished love for sport and nature since young age and that's why she became a member of the Scouts Group "Neretva Konjic" in her first grade of elementary school. She has also been a member of the Mountaineering Society "Borašnica" for an extended period of time now. Aida enjoys mountain climbing and visiting the many breathtaking mountains of our country. Besides, Aida loves doing yoga in her free time.

For me being a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation meant making many new beautiful acquaintances and having unforgettable meetings and day trips, but also getting help and having support. In the moments when we're building our character it's crucial to have obligations and responsibility, but with the knowledge that we always have someone we can rely on when we need help.

To conclude, Aida's message for other scholarship holders is:

I would say to the current scholarship holders to believe in themselves and in their dreams. With a lot of effort and little luck you can achieve everything. As members of the Hastor Foundation, you're part of one big family. Through the volunteer experience you have the opportunity to gain various skills that'll be useful later on in your life. You also have the opportunity to gain new acquaintances and, most importantly, you have your support system.

Prepared by:
Adelisa Begić
Translated by:
Sara Kuduzović



Svrza's house – an example of preserving intimacy and privacy in a traditional Bosnian house



Entering the courtyard of Svrza's house, we are greeted by a completely different world, bordered by a high white wall that today separates reality from the past, and was once built to preserve the family, its intimacy and privacy, are the words of Amra Madžarević in describing this very important national monument of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Svrza's house represents the residential culture of the city's Muslim family from the end of the 18th and through the 19th century. The house was built by the prominent Glodo family from Sarajevo, one of whose members, Munib-effendi Glodo, was known for his fight for Bosnia's autonomy within the Ottoman Empire. Left without male heirs, the house became the property of the

distinguished Svrzo family through family ties. Svrza's house represents a typical example of the architecture of that time, but also the way of life of the wealthy strata of Sarajevo's population. For example, one of the owners of the house Munib ef. Glodo built the Sedrenica waterworks, and he ran one branch of that waterworks to his house. Having running water in one's own house, in those times, was still the privilege of only the wealthiest citizens. Other citizens were supplied with water from the fountains located next to each mosque or in the squares.

The combination of nature and architecture is a significant dimension in the construction of the era in which the house was built. The house, with its doxata, cameras, goes out into the nature,

and nature creeps into the interior with vines and flowers. The house always looks modest from the outside, but the rich and luxurious decoration of the interior speaks of the man who lived in such houses. For the man of that time, his privacy was much more important than his appearance and proving to others based on luxury. The house was first entered from the road through the selamluk. The whole house, more precisely the complex of houses, courtyard and garden, is divided into selamluk and haremluk. Selamluk is a meeting place, where male guests were received and where discussions of state importance took place. In those situations, the wife and other family members retreated to the harem, the women's or public part of the house. In general, the space was divided into two units - hajat (hallway) and halvat (room), around which all the other spaces of the Svrza's house complex are grouped.

In principle, all living rooms were equipped with musanders (built-in wardrobes), which included a banjica (small bathroom) and long sofas (sofas) for sitting. The ceilings were wooden and usually decorated with wood carvings, and the floors were covered with carpets. In the courtyards (courtyards of houses), women planted roses, fruit trees and medicinal herbs, and below the courtyards were cellars where food was stored. Wooden basamaks led to the camera, which in Arabic would mean "from where we look at the moon". It is a small balcony for enjoying the view of the surroundings, and on the opposite side there was an ablution. The entire arrangement system differed from the classical European one, since the furniture was fixed, the middle was always empty and depending on what was in the middle, the purpose of the room differed. Another interesting thing about the architecture of Svrza's house is that the toilet was entered from the house, but it was physically outside the house, which speaks of a high level of hygiene. In addition, in the interior of the large halvat of the newer part of the women's house intended for family gatherings during Eid, Iftar and Mevlud, the surprising appearance of a Venetian mirror is an example of the gradual penetration of European standards and their connection with traditional architecture. Such items bear witness to rich trade connections with important European centers such as Venice.



The famous travel writer Edmund Spencer from the end of the 19th century noted the following about Sarajevo:

A foreigner simply does not expect to come across such a large and obviously rich city, in the middle of always restless Bosnia. Actually the old capital of Bosnia, although deprived of its former size and commercial importance, it is still one of the most beautiful and interesting cities of the Turkish Empire. There is a beautiful surrounding of the city, gardens full of behars with beautiful gazebos, numerous rivers and streams that, as transparent as crystal, meander through fields that are unrivaled in terms of fertility.

At that time, the words of this travel writer undoubtedly carried a lot of weight. However, Sarajevo, thanks to its rich sacred and residential architecture, has managed to preserve its uniqueness to this day and to combine ala turc and ala franca style of construction, and Svrza's house is just one of the many examples that prove this.



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Global Good Deeds Day at The Hastor Foundation

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Sanski Most



Travnik



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Brčko



Gradačac



Gradačac



Sometimes

Sometimes the luxury is in the simple.
 In the voice
 To the eye
 On the edge of the lip
 In a few tones of our favorite songs.

Sometimes the wealth is in the
 intangible.
 In luck
 peace
 Alive and healthy brothers and sisters
 In the still unexplored numerous roads.

Sometimes we don't know how to say
 thank you.
 For lunch on the table
 A warm bed and a house
 Hot homemade soup
 For a cure to our every pain.

Nikolina Stanar



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