

Annual report 2023/2024



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INTRODUCTION



The end of the year is always an opportunity to look back at all of the success and progress of The Hastor Foundation, so the yearly report has been an opportunity for years to preserve and highlight the little steps that have led us to great success. All of this time, we kept the mutual connection between our alumni and scholarship recipients through love towards the Foundation that grows stronger day by day. All of that results in the stories that we strive to share with others, so they can be an inspiration, guided by the words of our founders: "That the flame of virtue always burns if the light is shared with others."

Few of the pages you will see were written over the past year, more with actions than with words, and in that way we showed why The Hastor Foundation is still one of the biggest foundations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also in the region. Through its constant work, it not only improves the impact of its scholarship recipients but also the society in which these young people are growing up. Behind us are 18 years marked by a large number of scholarships awarded, volunteer hours, humanitarian and environmental actions, smiles created, and friendships formed, which we are known for. This is proof that our work has clearly recognizable results.

We can proudly say that a new way of volunteering gave excellent results. Our scholarship recipients, for whom this new volunteering concept was originally designed, increased their knowledge and benefited from the experiences of their mentors. In this way, volunteering at The Hastor Foundation, as our most recognizable component, gave our scholarship recipients an opportunity to build a foundation for a brighter and more successful future. Through this type of volunteering, we helped our scholarship recipients achieve better results in both academic and extracurricular activities, while also building stronger bonds of friendship and trust among them. Additionally, we developed creativity and acquired new knowledge and experience. This year was also marked by the introduction of a new program supporting gifted students in Bosnia and Herzegovina, who, thanks to

their extraordinary achievements in the fields of art, sports, and sciences, received the opportunity to become Hastor Foundation scholarship recipients, adding one more title to their already impressive list. It is a pleasure to say that The Hastor Foundation has once again confirmed its mission of creating leaders and providing opportunities, ensuring that young people in our country have the conditions and desire to stay in Bosnia and Herzegovina, build their families, and develop their careers here. We also reaffirmed this through one of the innovations that marks the beginning of an extraordinary story, the results and benefits of which we will talk about in the future. This year, The Hastor Foundation began the implementation of our mentoring program "First Step into the Business World" through which students who are scholarship recipients will have a unique opportunity to receive mentorship from accomplished experts in fields related to their studies or their desired future professions. In this way, they will develop the competencies needed for the labor market and empower young people in their pursuit to become self-aware leaders in their communities.

Reflecting on the achievements and progress we built together over the past year, I have to mention the activities of The Hastor Foundation Alumni Club, which actively worked on planning and realizing future initiatives with the goal of spreading positive stories and examples in our society. In this way, through the efforts of The Hastor Foundation Alumni Club, it is once again confirmed that the knowledge and experience our scholarship recipients gain as pupils and students remain deeply ingrained in them, and they continue to spread it in the communities where they are active.

Finally, I can say with great honor that the numbers we have successfully counted over the past 18 years include more than 2,000,000 volunteer hours and over 26,000 annual scholarships awarded. This is proof that positive stories, like the story of The Hastor Foundation, endure and grow, building not only fair and educated young people but also a positive environment for future generations.

The pages before you, written with positive stories accomplished through desire, effort, and work, are only a part of the atmosphere that prevailed in our Foundation over the past year. I hope that in these pages, you will find inspiration and motivation to do good deeds and kind gestures, and to spread the flame of virtue, love, and support in your community.

Lejla Donlagić

Director of the Hastor Foundation

About us

The Hastor Foundation is a non-profit organization that, through its activities in almost the entirety of Bosnia and Herzegovina since 2006, actively participates in the empowerment of young people who are drivers of positive change in their local communities and the entire country. Since its inception in 2006, the Foundation has embraced promising and talented young individuals, as well as those from socially disadvantaged families, to provide everyone with equal opportunities for education. The Hastor Foundation supports students from their school desks to their seats in university amphitheatres and their first jobs, making it a unique foundation in this region that consistently provides support to students and pupils.

In an ongoing trend of massive emigration of young people to other countries we give for already 18 years, thanks to this scholarship and mentoring program, perspective to young people in our country and provide them with an opportunity to develop their potential and participate in the improvement of local communities. In that way, we create successful young people, making leaders and strengthening Bosnia and Herzegovina. Thousands of young people, our former scholarship recipients, have been successfully prepared for life and business challenges, profiling them through the support of their formal education and volunteering under our auspices to diligently continue spreading the values and mission of The Hastor Foundation. We are proud that today we can see our former scholarship recipients as good, empathetic, and successful young people in roles as teaching assistants at universities, professors, directors, HR managers, IT specialists, doctors, and as founders and owners of companies.

Generations of successful young people who are now developed individuals with successful professional and family lives have passed through The Hastor Foundation, which, in a way, presents the success of the foundation itself. The common thing for every scholarship recipient of The Hastor Foundation is the developed sense of helping others and their own local communities, along with a sense of responsibility, which is incredibly important for every young person to know. Helping is primarily expressed through a well-

developed and precisely structured system of volunteering that guides scholarship recipients of various ages to better paths of personal development and the improvement of their local communities. Each scholarship recipient of The Hastor Foundation is equally important because each of them contributes to society in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Like hardworking ants that constantly work for their anthill, the scholarship recipients of The Hastor Foundation improve their local communities with their small steps, making the entire country more accessible and promising for all its citizens.

From the initial three hundred scholarship recipients, The Hastor Foundation in the 2023/2024 school and academic year counts more than 2,300 scholarship holders who enrich themselves through their volunteer engagements and provide hope for a better future in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



The Hastor Foundation in numbers

388

SUPER EXCELLENT STUDENTS

583

EXCELLENT STUDENTS

75

BACHELOR'S DEGREE GRADUATES

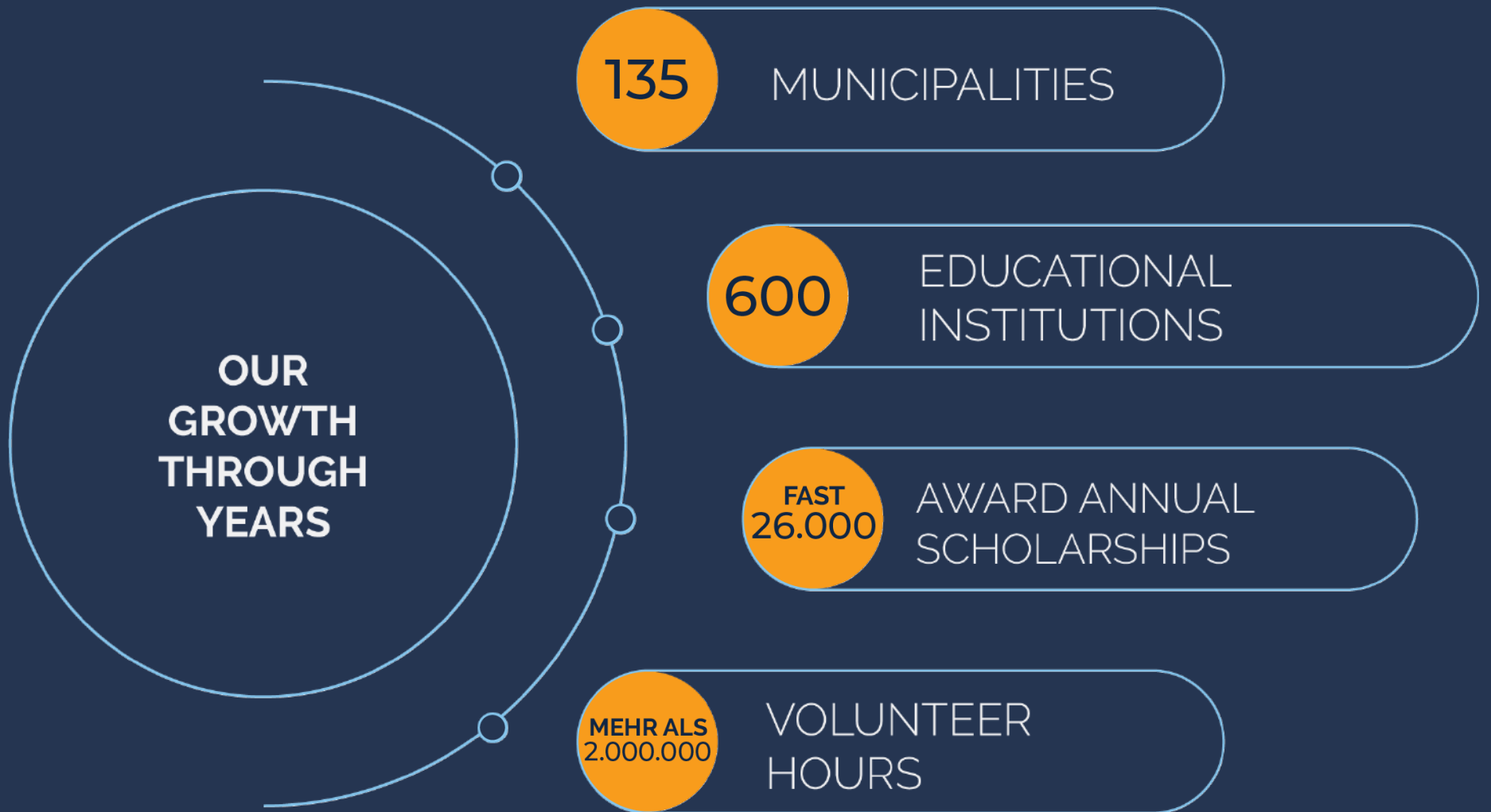
42

MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

OUR FIGURES IN
2023/2024

OVER
2.300

SCHOLARS



Coming of age of the active engagement of the Hastor Foundation

In reflection on the eighteenth anniversary, we witnessed continuous improvement of the community, spreading altruism and unconditional love. The Hastor Foundation continually contributes to social development and the strengthening of human relationships through philanthropic programs and initiatives. The dedication of scholarship recipients is imbued with the spirit of selfless solidarity. The Hastor Foundation promotes altruism and practices it at every step of its work, making it visible and strong.

We marked the 18th anniversary in April 2024, and new beginnings open the door to numerous opportunities. The Hastor Foundation's commitment is reflected in the incredible results highlighted by the support of thousands of young people, both former and current scholarship recipients. Their education is supported with the aim of shaping a narrative that emphasizes social and personal progress, which is how we contribute to building an inclusive future.

Volunteering is the key to our work. The Hastor Foundation scholarship recipients have stood out with their dedication to social initiatives, contributing over 2,000,000 hours of total volunteer engagement. Over the years, The Hastor Foundation has become a symbol of togetherness and social responsibility. More than 26,000 scholarships have been awarded, making a significant contribution to education. The Hastor Foundation is a family, living the aspect of belonging that connects us all.

Over 18 years, The Hastor Foundation has become a synonym for change and hope for young people across the country. That is why the scholarship recipients are an effective force driving change. Their warmth, dedication, and enthusiasm ensure that every effort is a step toward improving the future.

Through volunteering, the scholarship recipients have the opportunity to explore various aspects of life and build personal experiences that enrich their worldviews and allow for the development of their potential. The Hastor Foundation offers the possibility of mutual learning and shared progress.

Through its work, the Hastor Foundation builds bridges of equal opportunities and shapes the future of the entire community. The success of this mission is reflected in the life journeys of our dedicated scholarship recipients. The Hastor Foundation promotes values that include social responsibility and positive change. The impact of the Hastor Foundation is visible at all levels of the community, from individuals to institutions, as a result of continuous commitment to the principles of equality, justice, and education.

In every step of its work, we witness stories of bravery, dedication, and faith. The Hastor Foundation provides significant support to young people, giving them opportunities for progress. It encourages scholarship recipients to strive toward their goals. Their realized dreams testify to the power of education as the foundation for future achievements. Over the past 18 years, The Hastor Foundation has built with dedication and continues to create inspiring stories of young scholarship recipients that serve as a source of motivation.



Scholarship recipient selection process

The Hastor Foundation is the only organization in Bosnia and Herzegovina that accepts scholarship applications for primary and secondary school students throughout the entire year. Applications include basic information about the candidates (contact details, a short description of their socioeconomic situation, and educational background) and can be found on The Hastor Foundation's website or sent by mail. Applications are reviewed once a year, during February or March, after which candidates receive a form to fill out along with supporting documents to verify their economic situation and academic achievements. Based on the submitted documents, the Commission scores the candidates, and those who meet the criteria advance to the next round. The Hastor Foundation team visits the highest-scoring candidates. Only after the on-site checks are completed, scholarships are awarded to a certain number of candidates, depending on the budget for that school year.

Students can become Hastor Foundation scholarship recipients if the Foundation announces a public call for new students. The call is published at the end of the year, and students can apply exclusively online. Candidates with the highest scores are invited for an interview with the Scholarship Selection Commission members.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SELECTION PROCESS



3138
RECEIVED
APPLICATIONS

1



APPLICATION
REVIEW

2



1132
SUBMITTED
FORMS

3



VISITS TO **420**
TOP-SCORING
CANDIDATES

5



1ST SESSION OF THE
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
COMMISSION

4



2ND SESSION OF
THE COMMISSION

6



ACCEPTANCE OF **368**
NEW SCHOLARSHIP
RECIPIENTS

7

Hastor Foundation volunteer model

Mentorship as the Core Component of Volunteer Work

A mentor is someone who sees more talents and abilities in you than you see in yourself and helps you start utilizing those talents.

The Hastor Foundation is rich in ambitious, experienced, and bold young individuals who showcase their skills through their roles as mentors. The monthly meetings they have the opportunity to lead provide an excellent foundation for developing various skills, acquiring new knowledge and experience, and, perhaps most importantly, positively influencing the scholarship recipients they mentor in these volunteer meetings. Mentors are there to offer younger scholarship recipients professional advice and support in their personal or professional development. Through the mentor program, elementary and high students have a unique opportunity for progress by: acquiring useful knowledge and skills, achieving better school success thanks to regular support in learning, strengthening skills important for advancing to higher levels of education, and improving mental health through building a stable relationship with their mentors, and more.

A significant number of our student mentors have selflessly contributed to the development of younger students over the past year, providing them with multifaceted support. Below, we will mention just a few of them. **Almina Ibrahimović** from Srebrenica, is a student at the Faculty of Pharmacy, the University of Sarajevo, and has been part of the Hastor Foundation's large family for four years. This year, Almina volunteered with the Foundation as a mentor to students from the High School Center for Blind and Visually Impaired Children in Sarajevo. Her group consisted of three diligent, hard-working students who were open to every type of collaboration. During their meetings, they usually covered topics aimed primarily at raising awareness and tailored to the students' age. Almina emphasizes how, with each new volunteer meeting, she becomes more aware of the importance of her role as a mentor in young people's lives. She also notices how much they influence and learn from

one another, growing and progressing together. As she says, this motivates her to continue developing her skills and passing them on to younger generations, grateful that the Hastor Foundation provides her with this opportunity:

The Hastor Foundation has been a major turning point in my life and education. Through the Foundation and its volunteer activities, I have discovered many new things and met truly wonderful people—some of whom are my mentors who guided me through high school education.

Our mentors always strive to highlight everything meaningful through their volunteer work: helping others and reminding us of the human values that should never be forgotten. In line with this, **Elma Karić** and **Džeraldina Buljurina** decided to commemorate Pink October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, with their volunteer groups through a series of activities. Elma and Džeraldina, from Busovača, volunteer with two groups of students—elementary and high school students. Their work with high schoolers included making ribbons and organizing a peaceful walk as a symbol of support for women battling breast cancer. Additionally, they designed posters to decorate school hallways. These posters carried powerful messages of support and emphasized the importance of regular checkups and empathy for those affected. **Amila Brkić**, one of the younger scholarship recipients, shared her experience:

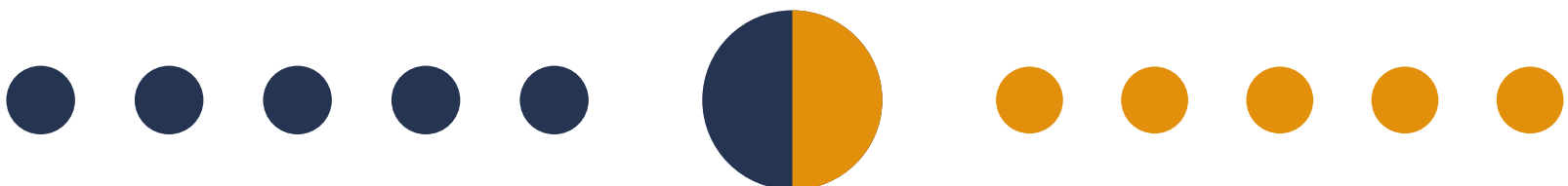
This activity helped me understand how important it is to talk about breast cancer and how we can help others. I am proud to be part of this story.

The next volunteer group is led by two mentors – **Samra Đuderija** and **Zana Beljuri**, two exceptionally dedicated young women who carefully and skillfully prepare meetings for their thirteen high school students. One of their meetings started with a discussion about activism, the role of young people in society, and the importance of both formal and informal education for the future. Inspired by this, they decided to hold a workshop featuring small booths where students could explore specific courses designed to provide practical knowledge: a painting and drawing course, a surgical stitching course, and an embroidery art course. During the workshop, the diligent students collaboratively embroidered the name of the Hastor Foundation. The mentors noted that the students were positively surprised by the activities, and the laughter and conversation were constant companions throughout.



At the workshop, I learned how to do surgical stitching, which was a very interesting and useful experience. It was educational and inspiring to see how small changes can make a big difference in others' lives, shared **Mediha Hećimović**, one of the students.

Today, the world faces countless demanding and challenging roles, and one of them is the role of a mentor. Being someone's mentor—actively guiding them, pointing out mistakes, and offering advice—is by no means an easy task. However, the Hastor Foundation scholarship recipients have the opportunity to take on this role before stepping into more challenging and advanced aspects of life. Through just a few examples of our hardworking mentors, we have managed to showcase their role and highlight the benefits of mentorship.



The Humanity of Hastor Foundation Scholarship Recipients in Action through Volunteer Work in the Local Community

Daily life is based on what we receive, but we truly live by what we give, Winston Churchill once said. Every kind word we offer, every piece of advice or idea, can enrich not only our lives but also the lives of those we give them to. From its inception, the Hastor Foundation has promoted volunteer work and helping others, aiming to instill these values in each of its scholarship recipients. Volunteer work in the community encourages students to become better versions of themselves, to not shy away from helping others, and to embrace the idea that good deeds are always returned with good. This form of volunteer work motivates students to contribute to building a more sustainable and responsible society through monthly humanitarian actions in their local communities, fostering leadership, raising awareness of social issues, and inspiring them to perform good deeds and spread positive human values.

Every month, our volunteer groups set new standards in the process of volunteering. Throughout the year, our dedicated volunteers—elementary school, high school and university students—have made valuable contributions to their local communities through various humanitarian activities. Here, we will highlight just a few of their inspiring stories.

Particularly inspiring are the stories of our scholarship recipients **Ajle Hasanović** and **Alme Osmanović** who volunteer with two groups of students—high school and elementary school students from Tuzla. In May, these dedicated mentors, along with their students, prepared meals for those in need. Through collective effort and genuine empathy, the mentors and high school students made chocolate-covered dates and sandwiches, while the elementary students helped pack and distribute everything. **Amina Džananović**, a student at the Tuzla High School of Medicine, has enriched herself and those around her through this new volunteering experience, strengthening her sense of empathy for others:

This month's volunteer work with our mentors was quite different from previous experiences. Volunteering allowed me to better understand myself and others around me, to strengthen my empathy, and to increase my care for others. It wasn't just about buying, packing, and distributing food products for me—it was about contributing to the community and those around me, which, in itself, is a good deed.



In addition to Ajla and Alma, our dedicated mentors **Alma Ahmetović** and **Džejlana Smajić** took their volunteering efforts to the next level. They volunteer in Zvornik with eighteen elementary and three high school students. Their activities started with collecting waste, sorting plastic, paper and glass, and even making feeders for animals out of plastic bottles and feeding the animals. The students had fun while gaining new skills and experiences, which was evident from the feedback they shared with us:

For me, this volunteer work was a wonderful experience. I felt incredibly happy and fulfilled because we united and performed such good deeds for both animals and people, said **Ajla Sahanić**.



Emira Imamović and **Fatima Musa** decided to volunteer with their students at the orphanage in Bjelave. They brought sweets, spent time with the children, and, in doing so, brought a little joy into their lives. Mentor Emira highlighted that they often visit the orphanage outside of their volunteering activities because it is impossible not to feel a connection and energy with the pure hearts of those children. For student **Adna Hajdarević**, this volunteer work was a particular pleasure:

Volunteering at the orphanage holds special significance for me; it awakens unique emotions, and I always enjoy spending time with the children. The attention we give them during play and socializing means so much to them, just as they enjoy spending time with us. I love volunteering in the local community; I feel useful and happy after each of our activities, and our mentor always ensures we feel like an important part, both within the Foundation and in society.

Uzeir Tihak from Gornji Vakuf, is a third-year student at the Faculty of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, the University of Travnik. In addition to his academic obligations, Uzeir is an active member of the Bugojno Youth Center, where he enthusiastically participates in various activities and projects as part of his community volunteer work. This scholarship recipient is a prime example that volunteering is not just unpaid work—it is an act of love and compassion toward one's community. Through his volunteer work, Uzeir actively contributes to implementing projects aimed at improving the state of his local community, setting an exemplary standard for younger generations as a Hastor Foundation scholarship recipient.

One of the significant projects he participated in was “Viječko,” an educational game organized by the Youth Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina, aimed at establishing municipal, cantonal, and eventually Federation-level youth councils. In addition to this, Uzeir has been involved in numerous other projects of great importance to his local community.



Finally, we leave you with this message: volunteer—it is a skill that will change your perspective on the world, something that will bring inner satisfaction and peace to your soul. Volunteering is an opportunity to show kindness, love and care for the people around you and your environment. Through volunteer work, you not only help others but also improve yourself. Find joy in it, support one another, and together, let's build a better future!



Special Task Teams as the Driving Force of the Hastor Foundation

An integral part of the Hastor Foundation's volunteer process is the special task teams, whose activities ensure the smooth functioning of many processes within the Foundation. Student members of these teams have the opportunity to volunteer 10-16 hours a month in one of the following teams: the Administration and Protocol Team, Monitoring Team, Editorial Team, Translation Team, Graphic Design Team, Social Media Management Team, IT Team, and Project Activities Team.

This allows students to gain exposure to a professional environment during their studies, learn practical skills, acquire valuable work experience in fields related to their studies, and strengthen their competencies. This experience provides a comparative advantage when entering the job market, enabling them to secure employment more quickly thanks to the skills they had acquired.

Administration and Protocol Team

The responsibilities of **the Administration Team** include communication with scholarship recipients via phone and email, recording their notices, inquiries, and volunteering reports, among other tasks. The team also communicates with third parties, responds to inquiries and requests, and provides general information about the Foundation, the scholarship selection process, and application procedures.

In addition to the Administration Team, all student scholarship recipients studying at the University of Sarajevo volunteer on the Foundation's premises. During their volunteer hours, they perform tasks classified as administration and office work, which allows them to familiarize themselves with this type of work and gain experience in the field.

The Administration Team also includes student scholarship recipients who dedicate their volunteer hours to sorting incoming mail, which is then recorded in the electronic protocol book (**Protocol Team**).

Volunteering in the Administration Team was an excellent choice for gaining work experience and developing work habits. It helped me enhance skills such as communication, critical thinking, problem-solving, teamwork, and proactivity in organizing various events. These are exactly the skills that have been highly sought after by employers in recent years. Through their activities, volunteers gain a wealth of knowledge and skills that can be incredibly useful during job interviews.

Jana Marijanović, leader of the Administration Team

Monitoring Team

The way volunteer meetings run is monitored by Monitoring Team members not exclusively for monitoring reasons, but because we have witnessed so far, through the team, the creative ways scholarship recipients organize their meetings, learn about their successes, and gain new ideas and opinions.

Having the experience of working in this team is something that has meant a lot in my professional and private life. The Monitoring Team is a place I had felt myself, and felt I could fully contribute to the Hastor Foundation. The relaxed atmosphere in the team and the support we give one another is what allows us to be the kind of team that we are. Volunteering in this team has helped me free myself from the fear of engaging with unfamiliar people, because I constantly had to talk to students, help them with their problems, advise and be there for them. It is meaningful for my professional life as I want to work in the field that requires talking to people and good communication skills.

Almedina Bogučanin, a team member

Editorial Team

The Hastor Foundation Editorial Team consists of scholarship recipients who carefully plan the content for Newsletter and website of the Hastor Foundation, choose topics for the articles, write and edit them. In the monthly newsletter there can be found articles covering the achievements of scholarship recipients, them as positive examples and their daily activities, but also works of art in the rubric of Poetry Corner. As mentioned, aside from the Newsletter, our Editorial Team edit articles that are posted on the Hastor Foundation's website, whose aim is to notify scholarship recipients and the public of the most important events related to the Foundation.

Volunteer work in the Editorial Team has significantly improved my professional skills, and, naturally, contributed to gaining professional experience. As it's difficult to experience work atmosphere and practically apply your theoretical knowledge when you're majoring in a language, the volunteer work at the Foundation proofreading the Newsletter and other content was, in fact, the first step in the professional world for the field I am studying. Besides, this experience has contributed to building even better work habits and teamwork skills. I am beyond thankful to the Hastor Foundation for the opportunity to further my professional skills, even during my studies.

Amina Bašić, a team member

Graphic Design Team

The monthly newsletter of the Hastor Foundation, annual reports, website, and our social media platforms always feature a creative and professionally crafted design. Credit for this goes to students from art academies, graphic design departments, multimedia studies, and similar fields. In addition to their primary responsibilities, they ensure the design of all documents and certificates created and used by the Foundation is of the highest quality.

Whenever friends or acquaintances ask me about the Hastor Foundation—how it operates, what the scholarship recipients do, and what benefits they have—the first thing I say is that we are given the opportunity to do what we want, not what we have to do. My volunteer work is a perfect example of this: I am a graphic design and multimedia student, and I volunteer in the team that does exactly that. I spend most of my volunteering time creating monthly newsletters, and in collaboration with colleagues from the Editorial Team, I work on visually assembling the beautifully written articles into a single newsletter. Without any exaggeration, this is my favorite activity because it allows me to apply what I learn at university in a real and practical way. It also gives me the opportunity to work in an amazing environment where everyone respects one another and the deadlines, is willing to help, offer advice, and is full of enthusiasm to co-create phenomenal projects, rather than just fulfilling assigned tasks.

Sara Keserović, a team member

Translation Team

Closely collaborating with the Editorial Team, this team is primarily responsible for translating the Hastor Foundation's monthly newsletter into English and German, ensuring it is accessible to everyone following the Foundation. Additionally, the team translates annual reports, articles on the website, and other types of documents required by the Foundation. By providing translations in two global languages, news about the Foundation's events, activities, and achievements reaches all those who share and support the Foundation's mission. In this way, our international friends are always up-to-date with the Foundation's activities.

Volunteering in the Translation Team has been of great significance to me and all students involved. In addition to developing communication and organizational skills, volunteering in this team fosters continuous acquisition of new vocabulary and the repetition of linguistic structures we rarely use in everyday life. Translating, proofreading, and editing the Hastor Foundation's newsletter not only provide professional benefits, but also offer an opportunity to learn about the activities, achievements, and results accomplished by Hastor Foundation scholarship recipients. Being informed about the successes of these young individuals is, above all, motivating and fills you with pride, as you become part of the humane story the Hastor Foundation has been writing for eighteen years.

Lamija Horić, leader of the German Translation Team

Social Media Management Team

Recognizing the importance of information in today's world, and thanks to the Social Media Management Team, we regularly create posts on social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn). Each post is carefully considered and designed, with the layout tailored to the topic, and the content concise yet highly informative. Through these posts, the team keeps the public informed about the Foundation's events, the achievements of its scholarship recipients, and announces upcoming activities.

Being the leader of the Hastor Foundation's Social Media Management Team represents a unique opportunity to continuously learn and practically apply the knowledge I have gained through formal education. Through coordinating the team and tasks, creating content, and analyzing results, I have developed my leadership, organizational, and communication skills. Collaborating with individuals from diverse backgrounds has taught me how to tackle various challenges and obstacles, while also contributing to my personal growth by fostering empathy, flexibility, and the ability to recognize the strengths of others. I can confidently say that my volunteer work at the Hastor Foundation has been immensely valuable for both my personal and professional development. Thanks to this experience, I feel much more prepared, confident, and competitive in the job market.

Venesa Karić, the team leader

Project Activities Team

Through its successful efforts, the Hastor Foundation aims to expand its activities to other forms of support for youth and educational institutions in the economically most underdeveloped areas of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Striving to foster an entrepreneurial spirit among young people, the Project Activities Team was formed last year with the goal of activating their creative potential, motivating them to present ideas, and achieving set objectives. This enables them to contribute to positive changes in Bosnian-Herzegovinian society.

Volunteering in the Project Activities Team has been a truly special experience for me. At the very beginning, I felt a certain level of fear, thinking the responsibilities would be overwhelming. However, thanks to the support of mentors, colleagues, and good organization, we have successfully completed all tasks so far. Each new task represents a challenge that requires research and adaptation, and through project activities, we improve our skills and grow as a team. This work has already allowed me to learn many new things and acquire competencies that have helped me when applying for professional programs and training opportunities. I believe that volunteering in the Project Activities Team is essential for enhancing my knowledge and developing skills that will benefit me in the future.

Tijana Sadiković, a team member

IT Team

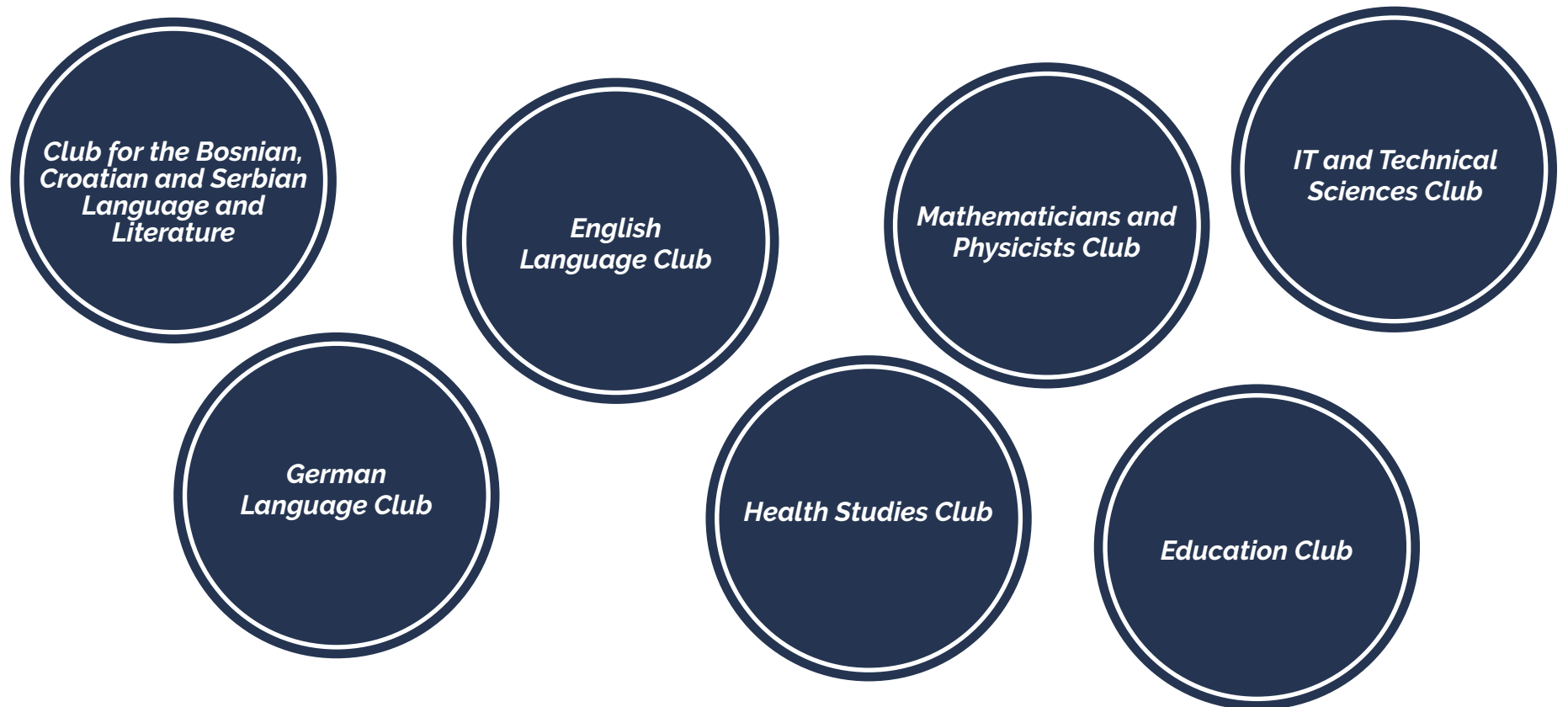
The regular updates of the official website of the Hastor Foundation, the development of new projects, and the maintenance of existing ones are entrusted to the IT Team, which is responsible for the Foundation's online platform. This platform has made it easier for scholarship recipients to carry out their activities, such as submitting reports or announcing volunteer meetings, effectively eliminating complications that may have existed in the past. Our dedicated team continuously works on improving all existing platforms and introducing new ones that benefit all our scholarship recipients.

Volunteering in the IT Team of the Hastor Foundation gave me the opportunity to connect theory with practice and truly contribute to the community through IT solutions. By working on projects, especially on an application designed to streamline the volunteer process, I gained valuable skills that I wouldn't have acquired solely through my studies. This experience allowed me to work on something practical, further develop my leadership and organizational skills, and opened doors to future projects.

Edin Šahbaz, a team member

The Successes of the New Volunteer Model through Instructional Teaching Clubs

The Hastor Foundation, aiming to provide its scholarship recipients and students with maximum support and assistance, launched instructional teaching as part of its new volunteer model through six carefully-organized and thoughtfully-designed clubs. These include the Club for the Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian Language and Literature, the English Language Club, the Mathematicians and Physicists Club, the German Language Club, the IT and Technical Sciences Club, and the Health Studies Club.



In line with the presented names, each of the mentioned clubs had responsibilities within its respective field. The club members - university student scholarship recipients of the Hastor Foundation - conducted instructional teaching as part of their volunteer work in the fields of study they are familiar with the most. In doing so, they developed their skills while helping elementary and high school students overcome obstacles and resolve uncertainties they encountered.

With great pride and without any modesty, it can be highlighted that elementary school, high school and university students have achieved excellent results over the past year, and together, through this example, they have once again confirmed one of the fundamental principles of the Hastor Foundation: mutual assistance as the key to the success of a community.

Club for the Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian Language and Literature

Members of the Club for Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian Language and Literature provided instructional teaching to elementary and high school scholarship recipients of the Hastor Foundation in the fields of Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian language and literature. They selflessly helped students overcome the curriculum and improve their grades in these subjects. Club member **Zerina Hrnjica** shared with us her experience in this type of volunteer work:

Volunteering at the Hastor Foundation through the tutoring program for scholarship recipients has proven to be an extremely valuable and significant experience. The activities we carry out have allowed us to directly contribute to the academic progress of students, with many significantly improving their grades in their mother tongue. This form of volunteer work not only benefited the students, but also provided the volunteers with an opportunity to develop pedagogical skills and a sense of fulfillment from contributing to the community. Overall, this form of volunteer work has proven to be an exceptionally valuable initiative that contributes not only to education, but also to the building of a better society.

Mathematicians and Physicists Club

Since Mathematics and Physics are among the most challenging and difficult school subjects, our members of the Mathematics and Physicists Club had their hands full. This club was by far the most active and held the largest number of tutoring sessions for elementary and high school students, ultimately fulfilling its main goal. Throughout the year, it was a pleasure to read messages from our students who sincerely thanked us for the help they needed in these subjects:

What it is like when you combine the pleasant with the useful and apply knowledge from university in practice, as our scholarship recipient **Elvedina Fidani** pointed out:

As part of my volunteer work in the Mathematicians and Physicists Club, I worked with a large number of students from various cities and had the opportunity to provide tutoring in different areas of Mathematics and Physics. In my opinion, tutoring is excellent support provided to students in overcoming specific challenges in their school subjects. It is both an honor and pleasure for me when I can share my knowledge with someone and help them when they need assistance.

English Language Club

The English Language Club is one of the larger clubs, with excellent organization and even better communication among members, allowing them to conduct a large number of tutoring sessions for elementary and high school students. Most students struggle with foreign languages, but our scholarship recipients were there to help and make the curriculum easier to understand throughout the school year. Many of them even become friends, so the tutoring sessions turn into opportunities for both learning and socializing. Our scholarship recipient, **Šerifa**, has significantly improved her English language skills thanks to the tutoring sessions:

The tutoring sessions really helped me, and I improved my grades. My mentor was a great help, and I am very grateful to her. I believe that providing tutoring at the Hastor Foundation is a great thing and that it helps students a lot.

Scholarship recipient **Elma Karajkić** has been a member of the English Language Club from the very beginning and shared her thoughts with us:

Through English language tutoring, I believe that it wasn't just about learning English, but also about understanding and respect, mutual cooperation, and a love for learning. The feeling is indescribable when a student reaches out after the tutoring sessions to share an improved grade or new knowledge gained. At that moment, you are not just an "instructor," but someone who has managed to provide enough attention and dedication for such an event to take place. I believe that developing these types of clubs was a step toward writing an honest and beautiful story.

German Language Club

The German Language Club had its hands full, but this never posed a problem for our dedicated scholarship recipients. On the contrary, they used the tutoring sessions as an opportunity to prepare for their future teaching careers and are already gaining experience working with children, explaining lessons they struggle to understand. The Club leader, **Amila Mlačo**, shared her experience working with the members of the German Language Club:

Our goal was to make it easier for students to learn German and to make the learning process more engaging through interesting workshops that we carefully prepared, focusing on topics that elementary and high school students mentioned during the meeting preparations as unclear to them. Throughout our collaboration, students were interested and dedicated, to our mutual satisfaction. As the club leader, I feel the need to mention that the club members are very dedicated university students who sometimes held sessions for two or more students, depending on the number of students in the application. Our goal moving forward is to continue in the same way, motivated and disciplined, to address any shortcomings we identify, and to introduce students to learning German through various interactive workshops and topics.

The students eagerly embraced the opportunity to receive help from the Hastor Foundation on their journey to mastering a foreign language, as highlighted by our scholarship recipient **Bejta**, an elementary school student who, thanks to the tutoring sessions, improved her grade in this subject:

The tutoring sessions in German have been very good and useful for me. My mentor helped me improve my grades, and now I have much better grades than before. A big thank you to the Hastor Foundation!

IT and Technical Sciences Club

Given that in recent years, IT has become increasingly popular on the market, and so have subjects related to this field at school, elementary and high school students at the Hastor Foundation have had the opportunity to take part in instructional classes in these subjects as well. Members of this club have used their creativity and often, in addition to providing instruction and what they need, have expanded their knowledge in this field, making the school content even more interesting.

Our scholarship recipient, student **Tajana Salkić**, enjoyed this entire process and shared with us her impressions and experiences from the instructions over the past year:

This type of volunteer work taught me the importance of teamwork, patience and adaptation to different needs and learning styles. Students who attended the instructions often came with doubts and insecurities, and after working together, they left with a better understanding of the curriculum. Their gratitude and progress were a reward enough. This experience reminded me how meaningful and fulfilling are the small changes that we can make in the lives of others. In addition to the students receiving support in education, I also gain valuable experience as a volunteer. This kind of work allowed me to analyze the school content more deeply, improve my knowledge, transfer skills and develop greater empathy towards students. I learned how to establish trust and motivate others, which is invaluable in my further development.

How valuable is the support and help of students in the process of overcoming the school content, says our scholarship recipient **Samra**, a high school student:

It was a pleasure to learn from Tajana because she knows the subject, and she managed to explain the content that was relatively abstract to me. She is always positive and adapts easily. Of course, along the way, she also gave me a lot of advice that would be helpful to me later if I decided to stay in the IT world.

Health Studies Club

The Hastor Foundation has a large number of students attending medical and dental schools, and per the needs of these students, the Health Studies Club was established so that its members, mainly university medical students, could provide instructional classes in professional subjects for high school students, but also in standard subjects such as Chemistry for all students. The students attended the instructions regularly and used the benefits of this learning to the maximum, and **Bakir**, an elementary school student, shared his experience with us:

With the help of tutoring and extra effort, I managed to significantly improve my Chemistry grades. I am especially grateful for the clear explanation and support that helped me understand the content and achieve better results. This experience motivated me to continue working on myself and my goals. Thank you to the Hastor Foundation and my mentor.

Club member **Ajla Džinić** spoke about the importance of tutoring for elementary and high school students, but also for university students:

I see my involvement in this club as a successful project that has simultaneously contributed to the improvement of various skills for students and club members. Through the preparation of the material and work with students during the past year, the students have improved the quality of their work in every lesson, which has led us to our general goal of improving their knowledge. We have had a lot of feedback from students that they have understood the content better or have managed to improve their grades thanks to our tutoring. All club members have done their utmost during the past year to explain the content to students and make it easier for them to overcome it, and I believe that this will continue with even better quality and a series of successes.

Education Club

Hastor Foundation are excellent students who are hard-working, diligent and eager for knowledge. Thinking about ways to provide this group of students with the opportunity for additional training in fields that interest them while also instilling a love for volunteer work and acquiring the habit of sharing knowledge, the Hastor Foundation established the Education Club as part of the new volunteer model, intended exclusively for excellent students, through which students had the opportunity to learn at a more advanced level and process concepts that they did not have the opportunity to work on during regular classes. On this occasion, our students covered various topics from fields of study, such as astronomy, health, Mathematics, IT and graphic design, personality development, etc., and some of the most interesting workshops were titled: *Why does a chocolate bar cost 2 BAM?; Would I produce 1kg of potatoes or 1kg of iPhones?; Is an apple really something sweet?* etc. The members of this club are students from different faculties, who, at the very beginning, had ideas and visions of how to bring students closer to the fields of study they are interested in and how to teach them what they want to know more about.

At the very beginning, elementary and high school students, following their interests, chose the areas they wanted to learn about, and our university students used their general or university knowledge to the maximum, trying to interest the former and bring them closer to what they did not learn about at school. This is how our student of English at the Faculty of Philosophy, the University of Sarajevo, **Ivan Rajić**, told his students about the world of music and guided by the most beautiful notes, introduced the elementary and high school students to the vast worlds of this art:

The workshops about the world of music gave the students a very important introduction to what music means. My role as a workshop leader was not to tell the students what music they should listen to; that would be crazy, but we tried to analyze the real reason why music exists and what good it has brought to the world. The students reacted very positively to the music we learned about and analyzed. The workshops were designed so that the students could relax after exhausting hours at school and then, in that relaxed state, absorb some understanding, some information that will remain written down for a long time and maybe even forever.

It was incredible and inspiring to watch the students happily accept this way of volunteer work, wanting to study and learn more about the world they live in. For almost a year, the Education Club has been a small oasis of knowledge that both the students and their friends-mentors have carefully and diligently built and, in the end, shared with us the results they achieved. As we said earlier, the students and their mentors became friends throughout the process, and often, after volunteering, their conversations flowed in numerous other ways, and thus, they enjoyed the whole process even more.

My experience with Math workshops was extremely positive, and the energy was always there. The children were always ready to work and get involved in the actual development of the tasks. After some time, we became real friends, and we were there if someone needed help with some topics or if someone simply needed to talk. Many talented students have either used these workshops as preparation for competitions, as preparation for entrance exams or as preparation for some fields of study, where the statistics and business mathematics workshops have proven to be the most sought after. The students came back and chose mathematics again and again, which I was very happy about because all my experiences so far showed me that students run away from mathematics. This was not the case here. For me, this year of volunteering in the Education Club has been extremely beneficial. I refined my skills of presentation and transfer of knowledge, but I also learned a lot from my students. Volunteering brought me some discipline and satisfaction as well, which I had not felt before. I believe that it also meant a lot to the students, and I am glad that I was a part of the experience.

Our scholarship recipient **Lejla Fejzić** took this opportunity to give a kind of Photoshop course (Adobe Photoshop program) to a group of students from the very beginning, trying to convey to them as much as possible what she knows at each meeting, and often, as she says, she learned more with them herself. The students were delighted with what Lejla told them month after month and actively absorbed the knowledge, later using it in everyday life and school:

*The workshop with Lejla is a beautiful experience. Through an inspiring presentation, she enabled me and all present to learn so much, and her way of presenting was extraordinary. With her approach and great love for what she does, she encouraged me to explore the field she presented in depth and continue my journey with the new inspiration she gave me, scholarship recipient **Arnela** told us.*

In the end, we can say that for the umpteenth time, we are proud of our scholarship recipients and the effort they invest every day to make the volunteer process as efficient and productive as possible and to ensure that our students gain as much knowledge as possible that they do not learn at school. We believe that in the future, the only turning point on the path started by the Education Club will be that education is the choice of the winner and that our scholarship recipients and students will always choose such path.





Opportunities at the Hastor Foundation: from Internships during Studies to Employment in the Profession

University students through volunteer work in the Hastor Foundation has the opportunity to acquire useful knowledge and skills, gain beneficial experience through their work with elementary and high school students, perfect knowledge and skills relevant to their profession, strengthen their competencies in order to get a desired employment and many other benefits. A large number of our scholarship recipients gained a desired employment and opportunities for personal development thanks to their volunteer work in the Hastor Foundation. One of such examples we bring you in this article.

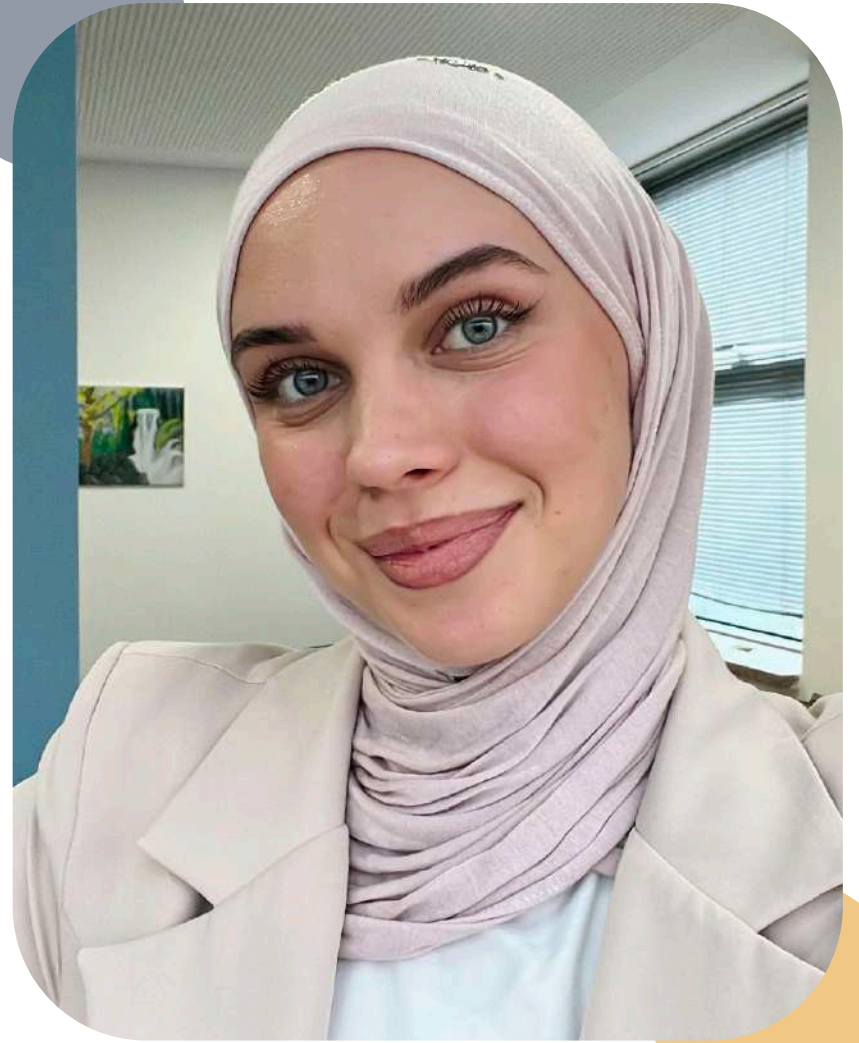
Sumeja Kadribegović, now already a Hastor Foundation alumni, thanks to her dedicated effort and volunteer work as well as outstanding academic achievement, got the opportunity for an internship at the Prevent Holding, one of member companies of ASA Prevent Group. Sumeja says this about the importance of the internship itself:

Getting a call from the Foundation for an internship at the Prevent Holding in the role of a psychologist, in the last semester of my studies, has raised my hopes and I believed it was the internship itself that would be my beginning. I am glad I was a student whose effort and work were recognized, and while I was an intern, I strived to do my work completely devotedly and responsibly and leave a positive impression. The internship was an excellent bridge between my academic path then and my new professional path now.

Seeing her dedication, qualifications and desire for self-development, the Hastor Foundation recommended Sumeja for an internship at the said company, which was her first step in the professional development, resulting in an offer to join the permanent team of employees at the Prevent Holding after only a few months spent at the internship. Sumeja thus secured her first job in her profession - as a Human Resources associate. Sumeja shared this with us when asked about her first months at the new position:



A first job is an important thing for all young people who are graduating. The nervousness grows, expectations are unclear, motivation big. I am thankful that the management at the Prevent Holding recognized my motivation and competencies and made an opportunity for my employment. To work in such a group of companies, especially in the production sector, is a daily challenge that offers an opportunity to learn, perfect one's knowledge and develop professional work. I also have to mention the importance of mentors who lead us through the process of training and qualification for work responsibilities, and I am proud to say that I truly had and have real professionals in my environment who are ready to help and be supportive in any moment.



CAREER

Understanding the importance of opportunities for self-growth, Sumeja has succeeded in finding a far bigger opportunity for herself and create conditions for further growth and self-perfection, and to all scholarship recipients and youth Sumeja says:

I am deeply convinced that all efforts pay off and that the will to learn, be proactive and useful to our community has to be our imperative.

Most significant events in 2023/2024 year

Signing of the Scholarship Agreement with scholarship Students of the Hastor Foundation for the 2023/2024 Academic Year

In 2023/2024, the members of the Hastor Foundation worked tirelessly and dedicatedly in order to expand their large family. By signing a scholarship agreement with scholarship holders for primary and secondary school students, the Hastor Foundation once again demonstrated that it is the most successful foundation of this type in our region, having travelled more than 10,000 km to complete the admission of scholarship holders and the contract signing process throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina and secured scholarships for students and thus carried out its plan and in 2023/2024 school and academic year achieved more than 2,300 scholarship holders.

Since its establishment, the Hastor Foundation has known that, in addition to the scholarship that its scholarship holders receive all twelve months of the year, every month through a carefully created volunteering system, the Hastor Foundation offers its scholarship holders the opportunity to learn something new that will prepare them primarily for life, but also for their academic path and development. Through their

dedicated mentoring work, scholarship students prepare various forms of lectures, presentations, and workshops and influence elementary and secondary school students in many other ways, thus greatly participating in creating successful leaders in our country. This is exactly how each individual in the Foundation makes a puzzle that would be incomplete without any of the mentioned parts, and every one individually contributes to a better and more efficient way of realizing the goals and ideas of the Foundation.

During the entire scholarship period, and through volunteer workshops and meetings, the Foundation tries to build future leaders from the scholarship holders, improve their skills, but above all - instil positive human values and traits that will be a great relief for them on the way to personal development and progress. First of all, they try to instil in them the qualities of nobility, humanity, helping and sharing good, which will remain embedded in them even after the end of the scholarship at the Hastor Foundation, and they will be able to pass them on to others in their environment.



Signing of the Scholarship Agreement with Students for the 2023/2024 Academic Year

The end of October 2023 was marked by the signing of the scholarship agreement with the scholarship students of the Hastor Foundation for 2023/2024 academic year. The signing was attended by our long-term scholarship recipients, among whom were students in their final years of college for whom this is the last signed contract, as well as a large number of freshmen whom the Hastor Foundation has supported through elementary and secondary education, and for whom this is the first signed student scholarship contract. An improved model of volunteering was also presented at the contract signing ceremony.

Namely, since the beginning of its activity, the Hastor Foundation continuously helps and supports the training and education of young people, and one of its most recognizable components is volunteering. With the creation of a new model of volunteering starting this year, that aspect was further improved. After signing the contract, students were also given training for their upcoming volunteer engagement. The trainings were held to better prepare the students for their volunteer engagement so that they could better cope in future roles and transfer their knowledge to the younger

generations as well as possible. All scholarship recipients are assigned to appropriate volunteer teams and clubs in accordance with their field of occupation or study, and in addition to financial assistance all 12 months of the year, they will have the opportunity to improve their knowledge and skills through volunteer engagement, thereby making themselves more competitive on the labour market, but in at the same time to help others and make their local communities better places to live.

With the entry into the new academic year, a large number of scholarship recipients have completed their education, and their formal scholarship has ended, but now, with a new step in their lives, they have stepped into the Alumni Club through which the Foundation will continue to follow their professional steps and be proud of empathetic and good young people and their successes. By signing the contract, the door to the family of scholarship students is wide open for the new freshmen, with the desire to be successful students and the hope that the Hastor Foundation will accompany them to their bachelor's and master's degrees.

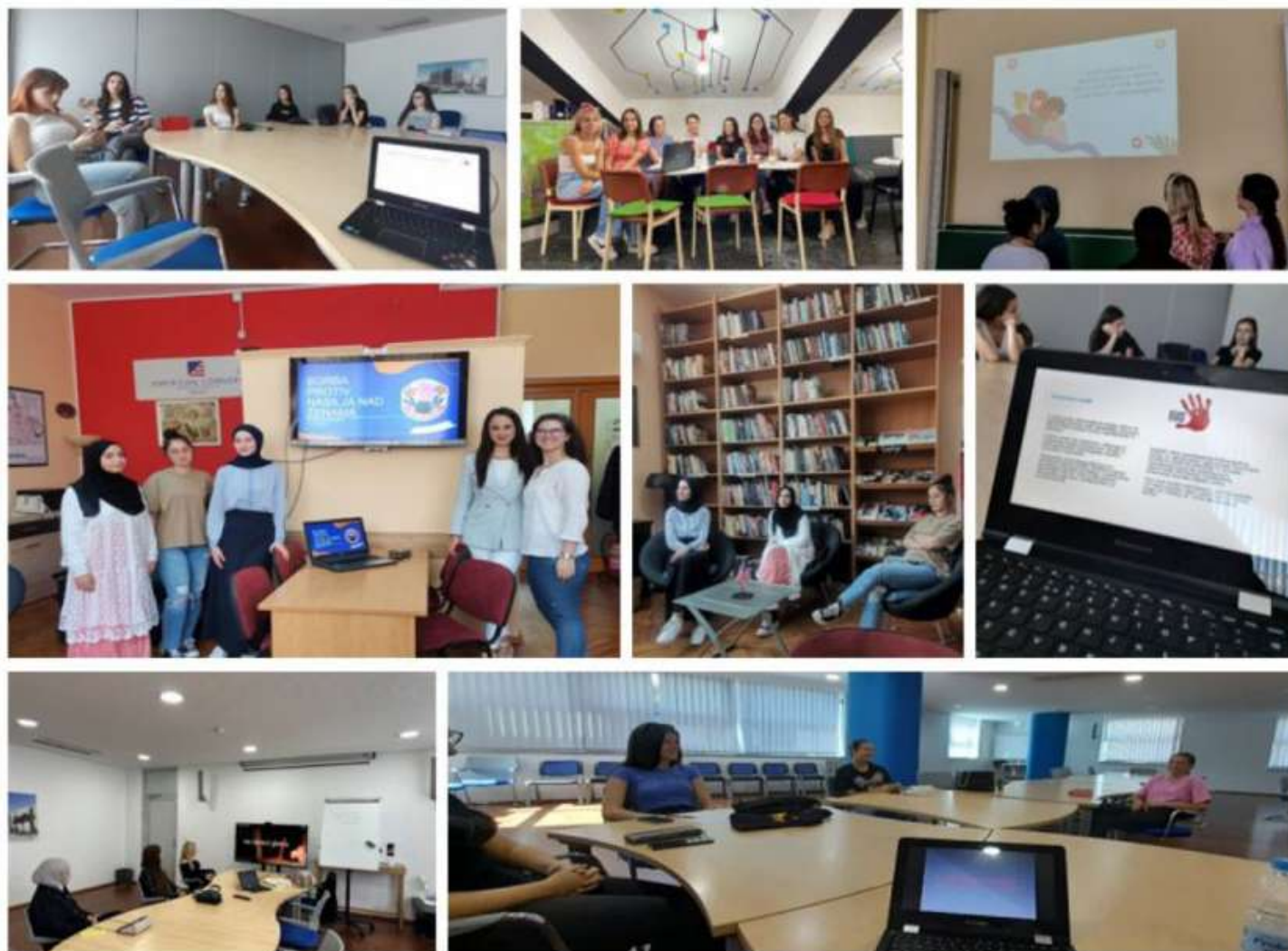
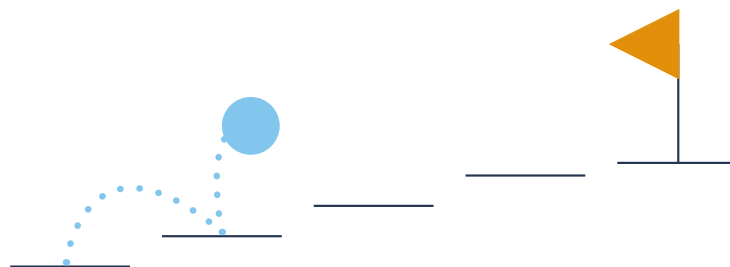


Successful Implementation of the Empowering Girls and Young Women through Mentoring Support

Guided by its long-standing mission, the Hastor Foundation, in cooperation with the Embassy of France in Bosnia and Herzegovina, successfully implemented the project *Empowering Girls and Young Women through Mentoring Support*, through which it sought to contribute to the general strengthening of the position of women in BiH society, whereby the Hastor Foundation continues to actively work on initiating important changes in the community.

The implementation of the project activities included the awarding of scholarships to female students who, through educational workshops, worked on the informal education of 50 female students in the 3rd grade of high school and tried

to raise awareness of very important topics and provide clear and solid foundations for the further development of the female students who attended the workshops that were held throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina – in Sarajevo, Zenica, Konjic, Mostar, Novi Travnik, Bijeljina, Živinice and Zvornik.



**AMBASSADE
DE FRANCE
EN BOSNIE-
HERZÉGOVINE**

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

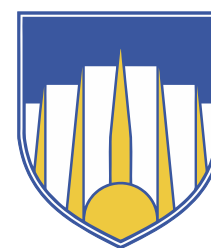
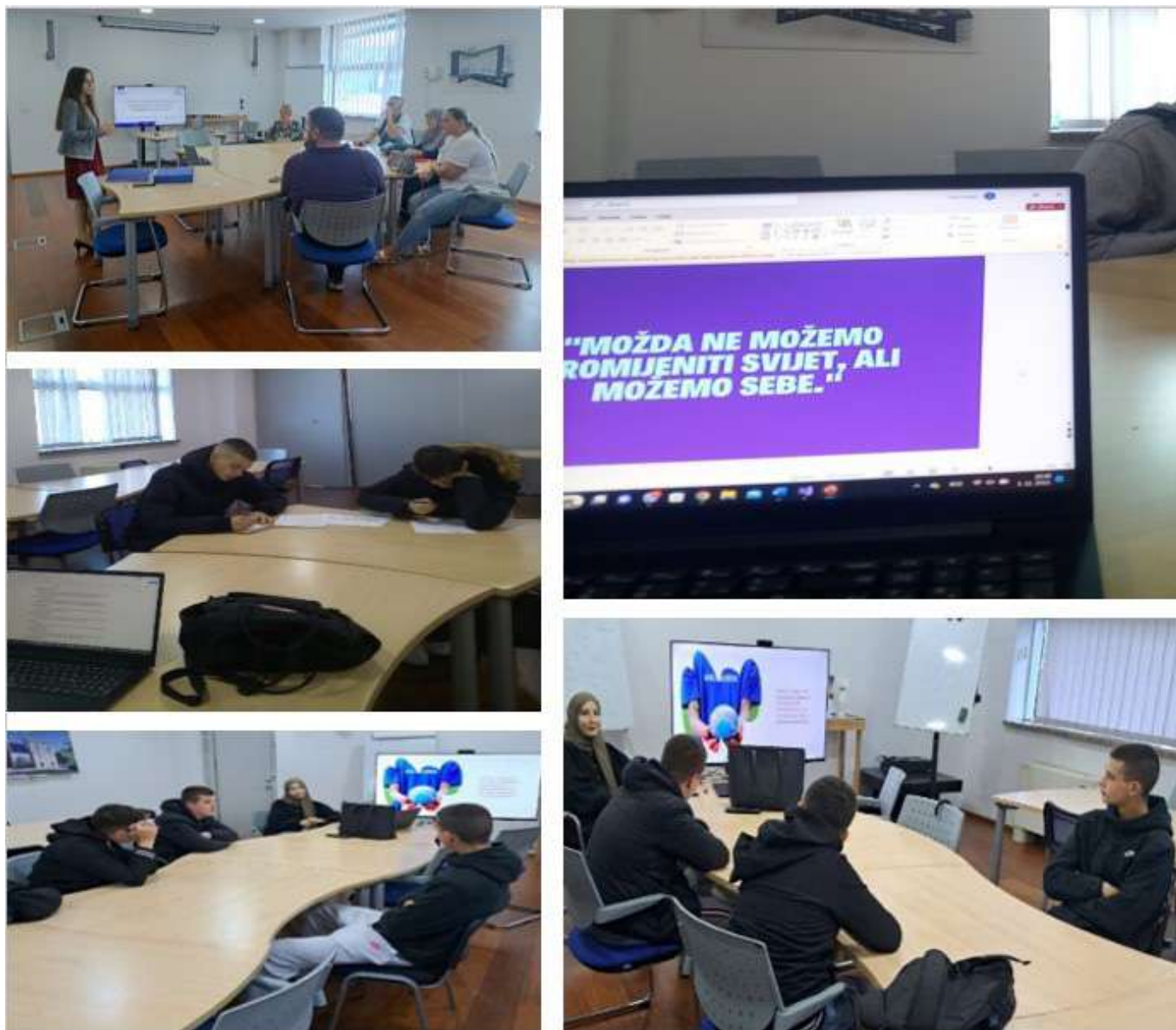


**FONDACIJA
HASTOR**

The Hastor Foundation Continues to Support Non-Formal Education for Young People from Socially Vulnerable Families

Social responsibility and action for the welfare of the community, with a focus on young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina, has been confirmed by the Hastor Foundation through the successful implementation of the project *Supporting the education of young people who come from socially disadvantaged families* in cooperation with the Municipality of Novi Grad Sarajevo, providing the opportunity for the local community to get involved in a very significant process of supporting education, through helping pupils and students who live in difficult social conditions.

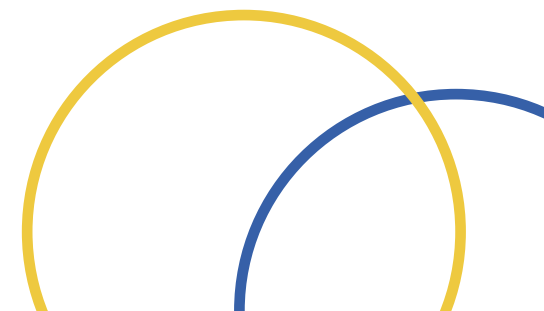
Through the main goal of the project - providing financial and mentoring support to pupils and students from the area of the municipality of Novi Grad - the pupils had the opportunity through regular monthly volunteer meetings for four months to attend educational workshops where they were prepared for the challenges that further education brings, and they tried to help them overcome the obstacles and problems they encounter during schooling.



Općina Novi Grad Sarajevo



FONDACIJA
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Signing of Agreements with New Scholarship Students of the Hastor Foundation

Every year, the Hastor Foundation provides new opportunities to hardworking young people and opens the doors of its large family. Based on the rules and criteria, at the beginning of the 2023/2024 academic year, a competition was announced for the award of scholarships for full-time students enrolled for the first time in the 2023/2024 academic year. Students of accredited higher education institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina have the right to apply.

Based on the rules and criteria, the scholarship selection committee chose those who stood out the most for their academic achievements, volunteer engagements and social contribution, and managed to balance all obligations and maintain exceptional academic success.

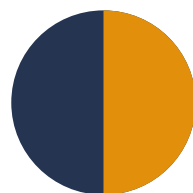
After the competition, interviews were held, and contracts were signed with 23 new students. As every time before, the Hastor Foundation entered the new year with new ambitions, plans, and goals, but also with new scholarship holders who will expand our big family and bring refreshment by building new friendships.

On this occasion, a meeting was organized with the new scholarship recipients, with the aim of getting to know each other, but also to familiarize them with the concept of volunteering and volunteer engagements within the Foundation.



Introduction of a New Support Program for Gifted and Talented Students

Continuing its mission, the Hastor Foundation has decided to make a step forward and, besides the regular application for all students, to open the Application for Gifted and Talented Students from all Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2024. Namely, the regular application has seen thousands of student scholarship throughout the long-term actions of the Hastor Foundation. It is intended for all students and the biggest focus is, besides the academic success, on the socioeconomic status of a student while the new support program's focus is on gifted and talented students that accomplish extraordinary results, be it in academic or extracurricular activities. In this way the Hastor Foundation has opened its doors to another group of students and shown that it is a great support to not only students living in extremely difficult socioeconomic conditions, but also to gifted and talented students working hard and ready to improve not only theirs, but others' lives through education.



When the application process was finished, the most accomplished students have claimed their right to a scholarship and signed first scholarship contracts at a meeting on March 30, 2024. Through the application for gifted and talented students the total number of 93 students from all Bosnia and Herzegovina have claimed their right to a scholarship and we are glad to say that with this new support program our attention has been drawn to gifted and talented students that accomplish extraordinary results not only in their academic, but also extracurricular activities. In this way the Hastor Foundation has once again successfully achieved its goal of providing opportunities to students that are dedicated to their education in order to build a better and more promising future, but also a positive environment for all of us.

Celebrating the 18th Anniversary of the Hastor Foundation's

To mark the Hastor Foundation's 18 years of action, in April 2024 we have celebrated its anniversary in a special way, striving to focus on that which has made our work recognizable from the very beginning. For years we have celebrated our anniversaries with our scholarship recipients, building new friendships and connecting young people from all Bosnia and Herzegovina so it was this time, too. Besides this, we are pleased to mention that we have celebrated the 18th anniversary with a meeting of the Hastor Foundation Alumni Club that gathered a great number of alumni of the Hastor Foundation.

Having a wish to share the joy of adulthood with our scholarship recipients, we have, as per tradition, prepared for them an appropriate program and this time we decided to hold the ceremony at the facilities of ASA Institute. Through their talents our scholarship recipients left a special feeling on the gathering. The scholarship recipient Anja Udovčić opened the ceremony in the most beautiful way with the magical notes of her violin. With her graceful dance and elegance, our scholarship recipient Iman Nur Smalbegović left a remarkable impression on our ceremony while Ivan Rajić, our talented musician, closed it with the bright tones of his song.



This time around we used the opportunity to reward the selfless dedication of our scholarship recipients with symbolic certificates of appreciation. Because of this, on the monthly student meeting 20 certificates of appreciation have been awarded to 20 of our best volunteers and, arranged in alphabetical order, these are the volunteers:

1. **Begić Adelisa**, Jajce
2. **Bojanić Maja**, Derventa
3. **Džihan Irma**, Sarajevo
4. **Đapo Lejla**, Sarajevo
5. **Đuderija Samra**, Sarajevo
6. **Ferati Selma**, Sarajevo
7. **Hasanović Iman**, Sarajevo
8. **Hodžić Amela**, Busovača
9. **Hodžić Sedina**, Lukavac
10. **Horić-Šabić Lamija**, Zenica
11. **Karić Dina**, Sarajevo
12. **Karić Venesa**, Zenica
13. **Keserović Sara**, Sarajevo
14. **Korjenić Azra**, Goražde
15. **Lazić Iva**, Tuzla
16. **Lipovac Irma**, Konjic
17. **Marijanović Jana**, Kakanj
18. **Šahbaz Edin**, Maglaj
19. **Velagić Amar**, Bugojno
20. **Vrtagić Ibrahim**, Živinice



Announcement of the Competition for the Best Artwork and Awards for Young Artists

The Hastor Foundation decided once again to award the most talented scholarship recipients by announcing the Competition for the Best Artistic Works in the school and academic year 2023/2024. The competition was organized for university and high school students so that is why the awards were divided into two categories, too. In the university students' category the first place took **Aiša Avdić** and her award was a Samsung Galaxy S23, the second place took **Elma Sarajlić** by winning a Lenovo Tab M8, and third place took **Merima Pajalić** by winning a Tesla TV 32E310BH.

In the high school students' category the first place took **Denisa Žarkušić** and her award was a Samsung Galaxy A33 5G, the second place took **Naida Omerović** by winning a Lenovo Tab M8, and the third place took **Sadika Fišić** by winning a Lenovo Tab M8.



Winning works in the students category



1. Aiša Avdić



2. Elma Sarajlić



3. Merima Pajalić

Winning works in the high school student category



1. Denisa Žarkušić



2. Naida Omerović



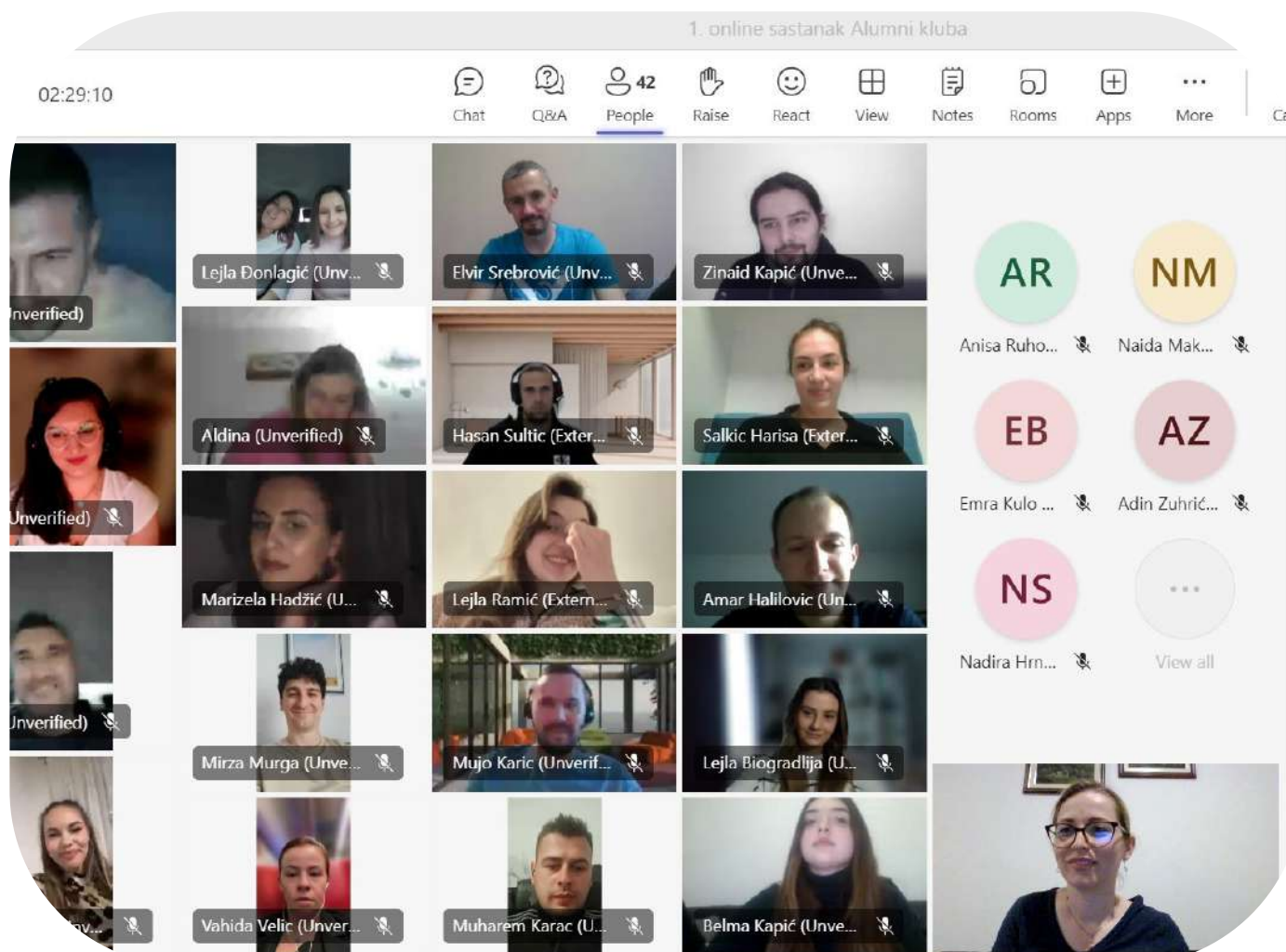
3. Sadika Fišić

Online Meeting of the Hastor Foundation Alumni Club

The current Hastor Foundation would not be what it is without its alumni. Even though they have stopped being its scholarship recipients, their connection with the Foundation is still extremely strong and by their actions they continue to showcase the Hastor Foundation in the best light. Our alumni selflessly share their knowledge, experience and advice with new scholarship recipients, be it through the Hastor Foundation Podcast or through many other activities.

In the spirit of cherishing the collaborative partnership, an online session of the Alumni Club was held on April 17. On the session the Rules of Procedure of the Alumni Club was adopted and the work draft that includes defining priority activities and forming teams responsible for the development of individual activities was presented. By doing this, our former scholarship recipients have confirmed once again their resoluteness to continue spreading the mission of the Hastor Foundation.

The meeting was filled with nostalgia for the past days as well as with great enthusiasm for the further continuation of quality friendship and collaboration with the Hastor Foundation. We are especially proud of the willingness and wish of our alumni to continue working together and we are eagerly looking forward to our future activities.

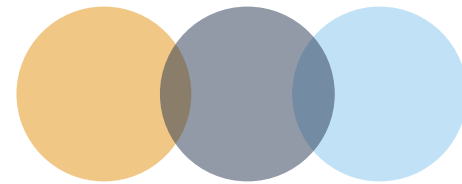


The Maturity of the Hastor Foundation in the Spirit of Philanthropy

Just like in April of the previous year, this time again our volunteer groups of the entire Bosnia and Herzegovina have set the new standards in the volunteering process. Within the project *The Adulthood of the Hastor Foundation in the Sign of Kindliness* our volunteers organized a great number of activities throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, whose goal was to improve the communities they live in.

We are proud of our scholarship recipients who selflessly offer a helping hand to those in need, who spread their humanity and become exemplary members of their community in every aspect. The month of April is marked by various activities, and only some of them include cleaning and beautification

of public spaces, making cards with affirmation messages to the citizens, constructing animal feeders in schoolyards, environmental projects, visiting associations for children with developmental disabilities, creating picture books for children with cancer, humanitarian projects and volunteering in humanitarian associations, visiting nursing homes, helping elderly and frail people and other.



Lecture by Friends from Deloitte for Scholarship Students: ESG and Its Importance for the Future of Business

A lecture for Hastor Foundation scholarship recipients, students of law, economy and related studies was held this year. Our guest Merima Hrapović, senior consultant at Deloitte, held a lecture on the topic of ESG to our scholarship recipients in which she pointed out the key aspects of ESG and its importance for the future of business.

Our guest tried to explain everything in the best way possible to our students who got invaluable insight about non-financial reporting and sustainable development. The students had the opportunity to learn how the ESG reporting can affect business strategies and how they can apply these concepts in their future career, and the knowledge gained from the lecture can offer them a competitive advantage on the labor market and prepare them for a successful career in the modern business environment.



Summer Vacation in the Netherlands 2024

For years, we have witnessed how the Hastor Foundation, through its *Summer Break in the Netherlands* project, provides its scholarship holders with the opportunity to create special and unforgettable memories. This year, the Hastor Foundation, in collaboration with the Dutch organization *Stichting Kinderhulp Bosnië*, offered scholarship holders Asmir Omerdić and Tajana Salkić the chance to travel to the Netherlands and serve as companions to the children who visited this beautiful country as part of this year's *Summer Break* project. Both agreed that this was a special experience during which they learned a lot about the children, as well as about themselves. They tested their organizational skills, resourcefulness, and significant responsibility—caring for 20 students.

This journey reminded me of the importance of spontaneity and enjoying the moment. Through interactions with others, as well as with the children, I learned valuable lessons about patience, creativity, and adaptability.

Asmir and Tajana made every effort to make this trip unforgettable, paying attention to every detail, and often spending time outdoors and organizing picnics. Our scholarship holders summarized their journey in a few words, significant enough to express their enchantment with the experience:

The project in the Netherlands was incredibly diverse and fulfilling. We managed to create memories that we will all cherish for a long time. These experiences will certainly help me in future projects and challenges.



Second Regular Meeting of the Alumni Club of the Hastor Foundation Assembly

On Saturday, September 21, 2024, the second regular assembly meeting of the Alumni Club of the Hastor Foundation took place, where former scholarship holders and friends gathered once again in the warm environment of the ASA Institute in Sarajevo. The meeting was opened by the President of the Alumni Club, Marizela Hadžić, who, along with Vice President Emina Sijahović and Secretary Alem Merdić, announced future activities and their implementation plan. The report on the previous year's work was adopted, as well as the plan and program for the upcoming year.

Although it has only been a year since the establishment of the Alumni Club, I can say that I am extremely excited about everything that awaits us in the future. After adopting the minutes from the previous meeting and the annual report on the work of the Alumni Club, we presented the activity plan for the upcoming year. All activities will be led by the members of the Assembly, and I believe that we will have many beautiful stories to be proud of in the future, emphasized President Marizela Hadžić.



This was an opportunity to reminisce about all the shared moments and successes we have achieved, as well as to share experiences and new ideas about the activities that await us in the future. The meeting was highly productive, and all present members of the Assembly actively participated and shared many useful ideas on how to organize more activities for the Alumni Club in the coming year. All members of the Alumni Club are aware of the importance of the inspiring and motivating environment that has never been lacking for them or the current scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation.

We especially look forward to each upcoming meeting of the Alumni Club, where, as always, we will promote our mission in a positive atmosphere and preserve the friendships that have developed over the years.



The Hastor Foundation podcast

Positive and inspiring stories from the Hastor Foundation have once again found their way to the public this year, thanks to our podcast. We have had the pleasure to talk with successful young people, former scholarship recipients of the Hastor Foundation. Their life stories are motivating, full of challenges, important decisions and big victories. They have selflessly shared their stories with the followers of the Hastor Foundation.

Judging from the feedback we received, we have succeeded in motivating a large number of young people, in whom our guests have sparked courage, a wish to grow and develop a better future for all. That is exactly everything we were striving to achieve, and we are proud for succeeding at it. We have bridged true life values and education with global digital trends and created a story that has changed many viewpoints.

This year, too, our podcast has been realized thanks to the Hastor Foundation's biggest driving force - those who feel the most the values and importance of the Hastor Foundation as they were a part of it, too. One of them is our alumni, podcast host Dženana Zulum who is speaking of this great project with pride:

The Hastor Foundation Podcast is a truly special story. Ever since we launched the podcast, our focus has been on promoting positive life values, inspiring stories and motivating young people. We have confirmed that we are succeeding at it on multiple occasions. Our guests have been wonderful young people who I enjoyed talking to and who are the best example of success in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It's possible, and we are a proof of it.



Mentorship program

The Hastor Foundation Officially Launched the Mentorship Program “First Step into the Business World”

The mentorship program of the Hastor Foundation “First Step into the Business World” has officially started. This type of support for scholarship holders is a new initiative at the Hastor Foundation, providing students with a unique opportunity to receive mentorship from experts in fields related to their studies or future career aspirations. This support includes: new knowledge, education, experiences, advice, opportunities, motivation, networking, skill enhancement, personal development, and, above all, moral support. Along with skill development, students will improve their competencies needed for the job market: analytical thinking, active learning, creativity, critical thinking, etc.

The opportunity to participate in the first cycle of the mentorship program has been granted to female scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation who stand out for their academic success, dedication to volunteer engagement in the Hastor Foundation, and a desire to learn and gain valuable new experiences.



The mentorship program is supported by our ASA Group and its member ASA Hospital, whose employees, esteemed professionals in their fields, will serve as mentors to our scholarship holders, selflessly sharing their knowledge, skills, and experience. We thank ASA Group and ASA Hospital for their support and wish all participants a successful implementation of activities within the mentorship program.



Scholarship recipient successes



A dedicated scholarship holder, **Lejla Bolukbaši**, who has been part of the Hastor Foundation family for two years. It is interesting to note that she is an elementary school student, yet she has achieved some exceptionally commendable results. Lejla is in the ninth grade, and her passion for knowledge knows no bounds. Since she was young, in addition to her success in school subjects, Lejla has actively participated in various competitions. She has a special love for the Turkish language, which is evident from her consecutive participations and results in cantonal competitions in that subject.

Currently, she is busy preparing for the upcoming cantonal competitions. For five years, she has been an active member of the music choir at her school. In addition to all these activities, Lejla is no stranger to appearing in the media, having participated several times in radio and television programs.

The status of a scholarship holder at the Hastor Foundation is not just an opportunity for pleasant companionship, but also a source of invaluable experience that will help me in the future. For me, the Hastor Foundation is not just financial support, but a key factor for future success



Our valuable scholarship holder, **Amina Bašić**, who surpasses herself day by day with her achievements. Amina comes from Hadžići, near Sarajevo, and is currently in her third year of study at the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Sarajevo—majoring in Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian languages, as well as in the Literatures of the Peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She is the author of several expert articles in the fields of philology and linguistics, as well as political and legal sciences, which have been published in printed and electronic journals. In November 2022, her first research paper in the field of diplomacy was also published. Additionally, Amina is engaged in translating and digitizing a corpus of old texts. She does not shy away from any field, actively engaging in diplomacy, leadership, presentation, and rhetorical skills, completing several trainings and also conducting training in these areas herself. It is worth mentioning that she has been a lecturer, speaker, and participant at various conferences. In October of last year, Amina spent time in China as a representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the *Northeast Asia Youth Camp on Sustainable Development 2023 Fujian*. She was one of two representatives from Europe. Highlighting her virtues, tireless work, and dedication, it is no surprise that she is on this list.

I must say that I am extremely proud to have the opportunity to apply everything we learn in our studies in practice. The editorial work through the Hastor Foundation is very demanding, but I also feel immense satisfaction in contributing to the Foundation's work."



Mustafa Puljarga comes from Gornji Vakuf, a small town at the source of the Vrbas River. He is in his first year at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Mostar and has been a scholarship holder at the Hastor Foundation for eight years, during which he has learned a lot. Mustafa has shown a commitment to volunteering and a simple desire to achieve something better since his younger days. During his high school years, he was a member of the High School Students' Association, where he advocated for student rights. His contribution to the community did not stop there; at a higher academic level, he became part of the Scientific and Teaching Council of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Mostar, where he advocated for better student status. He has also extended his empathy to the Youth Network of Gornji Vakuf. He is an active member of the Student Union at the University of Mostar, where he participates in organizing a student league, thanks to the good organizational skills he acquired at the Hastor Foundation. At the faculty, he and his colleagues had the opportunity to participate in the *Design Megdan* competition organized by the *Intera* Technology Park. Their task was to create a model vehicle through teamwork. Mustafa and his team won second place, which led him to a two-month internship at *Alfa Therm*.

An interesting fact about Mustafa is that his motivation in all of this is his love for his homeland. He aspires to be an excellent ambassador for our country, whose successes will make many people hear about Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The responsibilities I have at the Hastor Foundation have taught me responsibility. I have realized that as an individual, I can help, do something useful, and learn many new and important things along the way. Therefore, I want to thank the Foundation, which stands as a bulwark behind us and helps us build our personalities, as well as a better and more successful society.



Although she is only 15 years old, **Ema Sarić** is remarkably successful in the world of acting and creating her own films. At the age of five, she first participated in the *Film Festival* in Dubrovnik, where she was the youngest actress. Nine years later, in 2023, she won at the world *FIFES* festival. Out of 14,000 submitted films, the expert jury declared Ema's film the best. Furthermore, at the Film Festival in Georgia called *OQROS PEPELA*, she was awarded Best Actress. In addition, she was a finalist at the *Student World Impact Film Festival* and received a special award at the *Cinemarking International Film Festival*.

Being ambitious, persistent, and talented, she is excited to be part of the Hastor Foundation, which has always sought such individuals—dedicated, hardworking, and those who strive and set high goals.

It is an honor and a pleasure to be part of this great and noble family, and considering that the Hastor Foundation supports and enhances the work of young talents, I take responsibility for further development, progress, and improvement of myself and my skills.



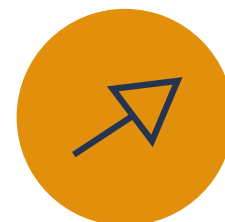
Tarik Dacić, a second-year student at the Second Gymnasium in Sarajevo, is a true example of excellence and dedication in education and research. His excellent academic results, with an average grade of 5.00, as well as his passion for natural sciences, programming, and foreign languages, set him apart among his peers. As a proud scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation, Tarik not only achieves academic success but also actively participates in various projects and competitions. His achievements include gold medals at the International STEM Olympiad in The Hague, as well as numerous successes in mathematics competitions at local, regional, and international levels. Tarik's dedication to science and education is an inspiration for all young people.

The Hastor Foundation, in addition to financial support, provides us with new opportunities and opens new horizons, doing everything it can to involve us more in everyday events in the community and to help us achieve our dreams.



Although she is 17 years old, **Asmira Kunić** has managed to be bold and venture into the world to showcase her skills and abilities. The year 2024 holds special significance for her. From September 26 to 29, 2024, she had the opportunity to represent Bosnia and Herzegovina at the International Robotics Olympiad in Athens, organized by the *First Global Challenge*. Out of 190 countries participating in the Olympiad, the team from Bosnia and Herzegovina won three awards: one *Social Media Award* and two *Video Storytelling Awards*. Upon her return from Athens, she was greeted by the Federal Minister of Education and Science, Prof. Dr. Jasna Duraković.

I am very grateful and happy to have had the opportunity to represent my country at such a prestigious competition and, of course, to showcase my knowledge and learn something new. Everything I learned at the Hastor Foundation accompanied me throughout the competition—to be and remain a good person and friend, no matter where I am.



Extra-Curricular activities of scholarship recipients

Layla Jusko



Layla Jusko lives in Sarajevo and is in her fourth year at the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations at SSST University. At the Hastor Foundation, she learned that those who study and research the most can contribute to their community and that one should always work on self-improvement, both formally and informally. She spends her free time exploring topics related to population development, public health, and climate change. Layla conducted research on breast and cervical cancer, leading the Karolinska Institute and UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund) Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia to recognize her as one of the top researchers in the fields of population development and reproductive health in wider Europe. In 2023, she organized the first United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Youth Conference. Additionally, she represented the youth of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the International Conference on Population Development (ICPD30) in Geneva and at COP28 (Conference of the Parties) within the Bosnian delegation.

Be curious, brave, and open to continuous learning, as the key to achieving your greatest potential lies within this process.

Venesa Karić



Venesa Karić is from Zenica, where she completed her primary and secondary education. She is studying Digital Communications and Public Relations at the Faculty of Education and Humanities at the International Burch University in Sarajevo. As a team leader for social media at the Hastor Foundation, she has the opportunity to apply her university knowledge in a practical setting. Venesa has participated in various informal education programs, including the SHL Academy for Young Leaders in Civil Society, AFW Academy of Political Literacy for Youth in BiH, and training for writing BOLD projects Be Bold It's Up To You (YIHR and VII Academy) and Stay Bold (Youth Power). In 2023, she was awarded a BOLD grant, through which she organized the CareerLeap Summit in May 2024. As part of her internship with EUConsult, she also visited Brussels, participating in a study tour of various institutions and organizations such as Ceplis and EESC. She represented the company Taskovski Films Ltd. at the Sarajevo Film Festival. Additionally, Venesa created her first autobiographical documentary, The Time Is Now, showcased at the KreativFest of the International Burch University, based on her dance story.

To young people, I would say to make the most of the benefits of volunteering and to tirelessly seek opportunities around them, as there are truly many. Through volunteering, I was able to attend my desired university, travel extensively, experience diverse cultures, and gain invaluable friendships and connections, which are, for me, the greatest treasures.

Uma Kalajdžisalihović



Uma Kalajdžisalihović is 11 years old and completed fifth grade with excellent success (a GPA of 5.0) and exemplary conduct. Being an outstanding student with exemplary behavior means being a role model both in and outside of school. Her greatest passion is rhythmic gymnastics, which she has been training in since she was six at the Olympic Rhythmic Sports Gymnastics Club. Recently, she participated in domestic and international competitions in individual and group exercises in Program A, achieving significant results. At the 21st Olympic Cup 2024, she won first place in the individual program without apparatus and received a certificate of appreciation for her successful presentation of rhythmic gymnastics and her selfless contribution to the development and promotion of rhythmic gymnastics. Additionally, she won first place in the individual program without apparatus at the first Vindija Cup in Varaždin. These are just a few of Uma's achievements, and we believe many more await her in the future.

The Hastor Foundation represents much more to me than financial support. Through their scholarship, I received the opportunity to educate and develop myself, as well as the feeling that someone believes in my potential and my success. The Foundation's support allows me to build confidence, invest in myself and my knowledge, and achieve my professional goals.

Vuk Solaković



Vuk Solaković volunteers with the team in the Janja community in Bijeljina. In his free time, he trains in chess and kickboxing, and until recently, he also trained in football. This past year has been very significant for him, as he achieved various successes. He took second place in the RS Cadet Chess Championship (classic) and in the RS Senior Chess Championship (classic - younger seniors) and placed third in the RS Cadet Chess Championship (rapid), the International Cadet Chess Tournament in Belgrade (rapid), and the International Chess Tournament on Bosnia and Herzegovina's Statehood Day (rapid). In addition, he participated in the BiH Cadet Chess Championship (classic) and was named Athlete of the Generation as a graduate of the Sveti Sava Elementary School in Bijeljina.

The Hastor Foundation is an extremely important organization that provides significant support to successful students, not only financially but also by motivating them to continue engaging in the sports they love and excelling in school. This support allows young people to focus on their goals, whether achieving excellent academic results or improving in sports. Thanks to the Hastor Foundation, I've been given the opportunity to continue pursuing my sports and academic ambitions.

Emina Hodžić



Emina Hodžić will remember 2023 for her various achievements. In December 2023, she won the *Grand Gold* medal and a scholarship for the International Burch University at the Bosnian Science Olympiad for her project *SafeTrack*. This project uses AI technology to monitor safety and prevent traffic accidents. Later, the same project earned her a silver medal at the *Infomatrix* competition in Romania and a bronze medal at the International Greenwich Olympiad in London. This year, for the second time, she won first place at the Economics Olympiad of Bosnia and Herzegovina and will represent BiH at the International Olympiad in Greece. Additionally, in September 2023, she achieved 16th place, marking the best-ever placement for Bosnia and Herzegovina at the International Economics Olympiad. She also participated in the Federal Mathematics Competition.

Always strive for your goals, no matter the obstacles that may appear along the way. It's important to believe in yourself, work hard, and never give up. Every obstacle is an opportunity for learning and growth, and with enough effort and persistence, anything is possible."

Hamza Turulja



Hamza Turulja has been a Hastor Foundation scholar for three years, contributing as a volunteer in the social media team. He is a student at the Faculty of Sport and Physical Education in Sarajevo. His love for sports shines through both at university and beyond, evidenced by his long-standing involvement in the Bosnia and Herzegovina karate team. In 2023, he successfully defended his national champion title, became a team runner-up in France, won a silver medal at the European University Games, and achieved many team and individual successes. With such a range of accomplishments, one Annual Report hardly has the space to list them all, and we believe many more significant achievements lie ahead for him. In his free time, he enjoys hiking and spending time in nature.

To young people, I'd say not to expect results overnight and not to be discouraged when things don't go as planned. In sporting terms, life is a marathon, not a sprint, so all the ups and downs only build our character and help us grow stronger.



Ada Avdagić has been a Hastor Foundation scholar for six years, volunteering with the team for high school students. Besides being a successful student, Ada has also excelled in sports. In 2023, she won a gold medal in taekwondo at the qualifications for the European Games, representing Bosnia and Herzegovina at this globally prestigious event. She also won a bronze medal at the European Championships in Olympic categories, the European Senior Championships, and the European Club Championship. In addition, she participated in about ten international competitions, winning gold, silver, and bronze medals. This is hardly surprising since Ada has been a member of the BiH taekwondo team for eight years, is a national champion, and holds recognition as a top athlete.

Always follow your dreams. Don't give up even if you experience setbacks. Every loss is a lesson, so it's important to keep moving forward.



Afan Vehabović is a Hastor Foundation scholar who volunteers with the team for high school students. He spends his free time playing the piano, reading books, drawing, and socializing with friends. His passion for these activities is reflected in his achievements in each area. In 2023, he won third place in a literary contest for high schools held for Statehood Day. Additionally, he placed third in the literary contest for high school students as part of the federal event *Isaak Samokovlija Days – Sun over the Drina*. He also earned third place in the Cantonal Mathematics Competition for high schools. Furthermore, he achieved first place in the Cantonal German Language Competition for high schools, qualifying him to participate in the National German Language Olympiad held in Sarajevo. Regarding music, he achieved a perfect score of 100 points in his category at the International Piano Competition in Smederevo, Serbia, becoming the laureate of his category.

Be persistent in what you love to do. Every effort pays off in the end. Be brave, and you will achieve your goals.

Presentation of bachelor and master graduates in 2023/2024

BACHELOR'S GRADUATES



Alić Elma
Avdić Aiša
Basarić Amina
Bašić Amina
Begić Adelisa
Begović Ilvana
Behlil Nudžejma
Buza Aida
Čolić Nermina
Čomor Adna
Ćosić Biba
Delić Enita
Dizdarević Selma
Đuhera Đenita
Džajić Nedim
Džihan Irma
Džinalić Amina
Fermić Lejla
Gološ Selma
Hadžimuratović Ajlla
Hindić Alma
Hodžić Aldijana
Hodžić Amel
Hodžić Merjema
Hodžić Sedina
Huseljić Elmina
Ibišević Almira
Ibrahimović Almedina
Ibrahimović Saida
Ibrahimović Šeherzada
Ibričić Maja
Josipović Aleksandar
Julardžija Aldin
Jusić Ilvana
Jusko Layla
Karabašić Amar
Karić Elma
Karić Venesa

Kevrić Aida
Klapić Eldar
Klepić Kenan
Kopić Sevla
Korjenić Azra
Kulenović Emina
Lazić Iva
Mehaković Didić Melisa
Mešić Arnela
Mešinović Imran
Mujčin Aida
Mujkić Ermin
Mulahasanović Azar Alija
Ogrešević Ilma
Petak Hajder
Pljakić Nejla
Puzić Emina
Reč Marika
Resić Anesa
Salčin Merjema
Salihović Lejla
Sarajlić Elma
Sažić Selmina
Selimović Hadžera
Sinanović Almedin
Smajić Džejlana
Smajlović Edna
Smajlović Melisa
Softić Ismet
Spahić Amina
Štanar Nikolina
Šahović Amina
Tabaković Bilajbegović Emina
Turić Minela
Tursunović Belmina
Turulja Hamza
Zenkić Emina

Aleksandar Josipović



Aleksandar completed his undergraduate studies at the Academy of Arts of the University of Banja Luka, majoring in Music Theory and Pedagogy, with an average grade of 9.93. He earned the title of graduate professor of music theory and pedagogy. Throughout his education, he participated in many competitions, both choral and in solo piano. He especially highlights winning second place at the pianist competition in Smederevo called ULjUS. Based on his high average and passed exams, he also served as a demonstrator for the subject Harmony. After completing his studies, he plans to continue his education by enrolling in a master's program in Music Theory at the Academy of Arts of the University of Banja Luka.

Since high school, the Hastor Foundation has been with me and has supported all my achievements during my education. In addition to financial support, the Hastor Foundation has opened new horizons in my life and helped me grow and build myself as a successful individual. Through monthly volunteering and gatherings, I met new friends with whom I still socialize today, and thus I worked on developing my local community. I am grateful to the Foundation, and all I can say is that it is an honor to be part of a large family that grows more each year.

Emina Zenkić



Emina Zenkić comes from Prijedor and graduated from the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at the University of Sarajevo, majoring in Biology with a focus on Biochemistry and Physiology. She has been a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for 10 years. During her studies, she participated in various scientific congresses, as well as the BHAAS summer school for biology students. Due to her academic performance, she will receive the Silver Badge from the University of Sarajevo. She is currently enrolled in a master's program in the same field at the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics UNSA.

The Hastor Foundation has supported me throughout my high school and university education. Thanks to the scholarship, I have not only advanced in my education but also had the opportunity to engage in volunteer activities and contribute to my local community, developing many new skills in the process. Your support has been crucial not only in my personal development but also in strengthening the community to which I belong.

Presentation of bachelor and master graduates in 2023/2024

MASTER'S GRADUATES



Abdelaziz Ahmed Hassan Aiša
Ahmetović Fahira
Bečirović (Karaosmanović) Emira
Bureković Faris
Čavčić Elvira
Duranović Edvina
Ergun Neyla Yasemin
Gagić Nikolina
Graho Nejla
Hadžo Harun
Hajrić Hana
Hasić Lejla
Hindija Nejra
Horić-Šabić Lamija
Imamović Nadira
Jakubović Fikreta
Jelić Gabriel
Jusupović Muharem
Kenjić Ivona
Komarac Lejla
Korman Zerina
Kvesić Marijana
Marijanović Jana
Mehmedagić Enisa
Merdić Fadil
Mulaomerović Anes
Nukić Emina
Osmanović Merima
Osmanović Amina

Pirić Dževad
Sadiković Senida
Sarajčić Emir
Sejdinović Dženan
Selimović Esmina
Smajić Elma
Suljević Nejla
Šaljić Aldina
Škrgić Mirzet
Višća Amina
Viteškić Dženana
Zahirović Fatima

Nejla Suljević



Nejla Suljević comes to us from Brčko, where she graduated from the “Vaso Pelagić” Gymnasium. In 2018, she enrolled in the Faculty of Dentistry with a dental clinical center in Sarajevo. She graduated in September of this year, earning the title of Doctor of Dental Medicine. She completed her studies as a recipient of the Golden Badge from the University of Sarajevo.

Through the concept of volunteering within the Hastor Foundation, starting as a mentor to students and progressing to a member of the administrative team, I developed a greater desire to help the community and the environment in which I live. I place the greatest emphasis on developing empathy as one of the most important human qualities. Responsibility and humanity are at the core of my profession as a dentist, and I am happy to have had the opportunity to further work on these aspects of my personality through my volunteer engagement.

Nejla Graho



Nejla Graho, born in Sarajevo, has an impressive academic and sports career. At the Faculty of Education of the University “Džemal Bijedić” in Mostar, Department of Sports and Health, she earned her bachelor's degree in 2023 and completed her master's studies in 2024. She is a multiple recipient of prestigious awards, including four Dean's Awards, three Golden Plaques from the Student Union, awards for the best students of the City of Konjic, and an award from the Federal Ministry of Science, Education, Culture, and Sports for the best students in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Her academic success is also marked by the Rector's Award for the first cycle of studies. Her love for sports has taken her on a successful journey. She has been training in karate for fourteen years and holds the title of Black Belt 1st Dan. As a former national representative, Nejla has won numerous medals at national championships, with her crowning achievement being a silver medal at the Balkan School Games. Additionally, during her studies, she founded the Universal Sports School “Neretvica” Gorani and organized the Summer Sports School four times in schools in Konjic and Jablanica. Currently, she is a coach at the Athletic School in Mostar and actively participates in the “PokreniMO” project, where she leads training sessions for senior citizens. In her free time, she enjoys nature, engaging in running, volleyball, hiking, and gym workouts.

I have been a scholarship recipient of the Hastor Foundation since the eighth grade. For a couple of years, I served as a mentor, and in the past two years, I was part of the monitoring team. My commitments to the Foundation, local community, school, sports, and family have taught me how to best organize my time and set priorities. I am happy to have been part of this team for over a decade.

Statements from former and current scholarship recipients

The Hastor Foundation has completely changed my outlook on life and my lifestyle.

The Hastor Foundation has primarily introduced me to new acquaintances, two of which developed into deep friendships.

The most important thing is that we have learned through the Hastor Foundation how to be human and how to navigate through life in various situations.

It is a source of joy and contentment to me.

The Hastor Foundation has meant a lot to me and has helped me to personally grow.

The Foundation teaches me that hard work pays off, that kindness always prevails and that we should never to give up on our dreams as there is a solution to every problem and every dark cloud can be driven away. The Foundation, together with my parents, is the foundation of my growth, the human values I have gained and the ones I continue applying each day.

The greatest help I could have received during education has been the one from the Hastor Foundation itself.

The Foundation has taught me that we should work hard, fight and adapt. There was definitely a sense of pure love.

The Foundation has taught me to always help others, and the volunteer work has taught me to listen to other people.

One of the most valuable aspects of receiving a scholarship is the knowledge that there is a friend and help in case you need it on the part of the country.

Thanks to the Hastor Foundation who has been helping people eager for knowledge because knowledge is the only treasure we carry and no one can take it away from us.

One day, I would love to be on the other side of the Foundation, to be a donor so that I can at least in this way express my gratitude for everything done for me and other scholarship recipients. Until then, I will strive to speak loudly about this great family and represent it in the best light.

I am glad that nowadays there are people like the representatives of the Foundation, who give attention and support to young and promising people, helping them in their development in every sense of the word, especially in fields like education and sports.

For me, the Hastor Foundation plays a very important role, and for 10 years it has been one of my greatest motivations.

The Hastor Foundation has restored my self-confidence and belief in myself.

The Hastor Foundation has enabled me to work on myself, gain new experiences and opportunities, meet new people, step out of my comfort zone, and greatly eased my parents' financial situation.

The Foundation has helped me meet wonderful people, further improve my skills and abilities, become more organized, and gain various knowledge through volunteer work.

Thanks to the Foundation, I will soon hold a Master's Degree in Pharmacy. In addition, thanks to the scholarship, I have traveled, met new people, and I can certainly say that I am a proud member of this great family.

Without the Hastor Foundation, I don't know if I would be where I am today. I am studying what I truly love, and the Hastor Foundation gives me the motivation to continue and work on myself to be a better student, a better colleague, and a better person.

The Hastor Foundation encourages me to constantly work on myself and the goals I set in life because "Education the choice of winners."

Friends club

Over eighteen years of existence, the Hastor Foundation has continuously enhanced its activities and operations, all with the goal of investing in education and building a higher-quality and more prosperous society in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Thanks to the commitment of everyone connected to the Hastor Foundation, especially its collective team, it has grown into the most significant and largest foundation of its kind in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region. In the 2023/2024 school and academic year, with over 2,300 scholars from nearly all parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Foundation is supported by numerous friends and donors, legal entities and individuals, who recognize and actively support its mission. Through their generous support and decision to direct their social responsibility toward investing in education, our friends and donors make the long-term mission of the Hastor Foundation possible, believing that positive societal changes and a brighter future are achieved through collaborative work, knowledge, and successful education



HASTOR FOUNDATION VOLUNTEERS

Aganspahić Sead
Ahmetović Edin
Alagić Amir
Alijagić Belma
Bašić Nejra
Broz Zoran
Čivgin Nihad
Dedić Amela
Delić Sanel
Dumanjić Samir
Duraković Anela
Đapo Haris
Đonlagić Lejla
Gagula Refija
Gelić Irma
Hadžić Marizela
Hadžić Mehmedalija
Hadžiselimović Eldin
Hajdarević Dželila
Hasanović Merima
Hodžić Adnan
Huseinović Šukrija
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Vuk Edina
Vuković Hanifa
Zulum Dženana

...and to many others we may have missed, please forgive us; it would take at least 50 more pages to express all the love and positive energy we receive from all our volunteers.

Join us

The Hastor Foundation is an organization that has been active in Bosnia and Herzegovina for 18 years, investing in the education of children and youth, especially those marginalized due to challenging socioeconomic circumstances and the environments they live in. In the 2023/2024 school and academic year, the Foundation supports over 2,300 elementary school students, high school students, and university students who have chosen education as their main tool for achieving success and driving significant change within our society. Beyond material assistance, we strive to provide moral support and continuous motivation for their advancement and improvement. Based on previous experiences, the connections made during the scholarship period, new experiences, and a wealth of guidance have opened even wider doors for future employment opportunities and new life chances. Due to the high volume of scholarship applications the Foundation receives daily, unfortunately, some must be reluctantly declined, and a selection process is undertaken to choose the best of the best. To be able to welcome even more talented and capable young people to our large family, who greatly need a strong start, we also need the support of friends who share our vision. The Hastor Foundation's work is focused on creating a more stable and promising society in Bosnia and Herzegovina, grounded in proper values and equal opportunities for all, with education and young people at its core.

We hereby invite individuals, companies, and organizations to become part of the Hastor Foundation's Friends Club and help us provide many scholars with the chance for a successful education by contributing to securing financial resources for scholarships for children and youth across Bosnia and Herzegovina. Join our mission and help us prove together that education truly is the choice of champions!

If you want to support the work of the Hastor Foundation,
You can make the donation payment to one of the transaction accounts:

ASA Banka dd Sarajevo

1346101000825159

Raiffeisen Bank BH dd Sarajevo

1610000055230065

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