European Voluntary Service, Baia Mare, Romania

# Project title: Carnaval de Non Formal III

**Duration of project:** 7 months

May the 1st, 2016 – November the 30th, 2016

# The host association - Team for Youth Association

[www.t4uth.ro](http://www.t4uth.ro/) – some of the information is translated in English. You can “meet” our team here and find out what is our main goal as an NGO. Also, read the blog of the current and ex EVS volunteers. <https://www.facebook.com/t4uth>- to see our events, pictures and videos from activities.

Activities at Team for Youth Association revolve around a set of values that have formed in time and have grown together with the experience of our team: interculturality, volunteerism, tolerance, team spirit, and excellence. Based on these beliefs, our assumed mission is to stimulate the youngsters to develop themselves through volunteering activities, international mobility and nonformal education.

The tools used to achieve our team’s vision include international voluntary activities and other projects that facilitate youth mobility beyond borders. The partnerships we have built locally and internationally offer us a proper environment for recruiting, training and placing volunteers in projects with a variety of themes.

Team for Youth Association was founded in 2009, and since then has developed activities concentrating on three main topics: voluntarism (we also work as a center for recruiting and placing volunteers in different activities in the community), nonformal education (every year we organize a

Carnival of Nonformal education that promotes different instruments for experiential learning), intercultural learning (we bring together the local community with volunteers from different parts of the world, including other continents, like South America or Africa.

# The host community – Baia Mare

Located about 600 km away from Bucharest (the capital of Romania), close to the Ukrainian and the Hungarian borders, home to 115,000 inhabitants, **Baia Mare**, the capital of Maramureş County, hosts a mixture of cultural and ethnic variety. A history of more than 2000 years of gold, silver and other nonferrous metals extraction has carved its landscapes and culture, with many architectural remaining from the medieval time.

The city itself has a number of cultural attractions, several parks and one of the best public libraries in Romania. Being surrounded by hills and mountains makes it perfect for all sorts of activities throughout all the four seasons, with spectacular hiking tracks like Creasta Cocoșului, Vârful Igniș or Vârful Pietrosu, a beautiful lake to cool you in the summer and many ski resorts for winter sports. Not to mention that Maramureş itself gives you the opportunity to dive into one of the last places where rural European medieval life still thrives, with hand-built ancient wooden churches, traditional music, colorful costumes and festivals. Widely known for their hospitality, people living in Maramureş are always ready to give a helping hand.

# The volunteer

Team for Youth Association sketched the general features for the profile of the candidates, according to the activities proposed. The candidate should be between 18 to 30 years, from Germany, Italy, Spain, Austria, Estonia, Réunion Island, France and Portuagal. Candidate should present a strong motivation to get involved in activities that suppose interaction with the local community, public speaking, facilitation of public events. The candidate must show willingness to work in teams and divide tasks, as all the activities in the project are supposed to be implemented in teams and there is almost no activity that requires individual work as well as the candidates would have to be youngsters interested in education in general, possible future youth workers, educators, teachers or even youth interested in volunteering in general, and community engagement.

* Feeling comfortable with the idea of being the center of attention, comfortable to answer the curiosity of others about them.
* Being an ambassador of their culture, willing to talk and make presentation about their country.
* Being decided to analyze situations, communicate about problems and seek solutions to make things work better, both for themselves and the others, being proactive and confident.
* Being willing to learn and develop themselves, in an intercultural team.

The activities of the project require medium language competences in English. A level of communication that allows the volunteer to get around in a foreign country would be more than enough.

# The activities

The activities in the project are diverse and are all directed towards two main goals, one of them continuing the promotion of non-formal methods through public events and Carnival and the second focusing on changing the mindset of the community regarding non-discriminative behavior, non-violent speech, healthy lifestyle, sustainable development.

The main activity in the project is the Carnival of Nonformal methods that will last 6 days and will take place in September during 2 separate weekends. Other activities include monthly events and debates organized on specific topics, puppet and Shadow Theater shows for children, having an educational aim, promotion of EVS for youngsters that are facing the risk of unemployment and intercultural presentations for the community.

The main responsibilities of the volunteers will be:

* To organize monthly non-formal events and awareness raising campaigns;
* To organize monthly seminars and debates on the topics: No Hate Speech, Human Rights, Intercultural learning, Social justice and other topics;
* To create and organize Puppet theater and shadow theater for children in economically disadvantaged, rural areas, Roma families;
* Promotion of EVS through campaigns;
* To create, plan, organize and to promote Carnaval de Nonformal. The activity will be organized during 6 days and will include 10 different methods of non-formal education.
* To hold Intercultural presentations;

# Practical arrangements

The volunteers will benefit from the full support of the Team for Youth Association staff and local volunteers in promoting, preparing and implementing activities. Team for Youth Association will also provide for the volunteers a mentor, as well as Romanian and English language teacher. The volunteers will share a flat with other long-term volunteers and there might also be the case of sharing one room with two beds. The volunteers will receive 450 RON (approximately 100 €) for food and 250 RON (approximately 60 €) pocket money, both wired in their account. To avoid lack of budget management, Team for Youth Association decided to pay the Food money at the beginning of the month and Pocket money on 15th date of each month. Team for Youth Association will also provide a Romanian SIM card for phone, charged monthly, WI-FI available in the apartments and in the office as well.