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Themes Youth

Keywords Culture, Roma history, romani language

Duration (start/end) 2007-2015

In progress Non

Scale local, regional, transnational

Context

The authors of the project – Marta Kotlarska photographer and sculptress Ma?gorzata Mirga-Tas (Roma origin) - decided to engage in a dialogue with stereotypes.

Roma children living in Roma settlements in rural areas do not have many interesting possibilities to spend free time. Often - children from the poorest areas - do not go on vacation anywhere. Project *Romani Clic* is a proposal for them to learn to how to spend useful time playing and learning at the same time. Value of the project is that the people working in it are also the young Roma and children have the comfort of talking on the Romany and Polish language. Participants meet a role models who are young well educated Roma.

During the project children produce pinhole cameras and then they photograph the scene from a fairy tales. The pictures are illustrations for fairy tales written by John Mirga - Roma poet living and working in Czarna Gora. In the last phase of the project, young Roma led photography workshops for their Polish colleagues from the school and together organize an exhibition.

Description

The main objective is artistic education of Roma youth. Project provides varieties of leisure activities for the holiday and artistic way of integration with the mates from school. The project is carried out in stages: first, the Roma children learn Roma tales, later with instructors and tutors discuss it and set design to play a portion of a fairy tale. Then children produce pinhole cameras and photograph the scene from a fairy tale. The results of these activities are beautiful, large and magically looking images. After the workshop the exhibition of these pictures and vernissage is organized and presented to a wider public.

Language of the supporting documents Romani

Additional documents available Oui

Partners Civil society, including Roma community, governmental, local or regional, other

Other Local electronic media, interviews with participants, materials for Ministry of Administration and Digitization as a coordinator of the governmental programme for Roma benefit and institution responsible for minority issues.

Does the policy respond to a EU request and/or refer to EU Directive ? Non

Method used

Workshop with brainstorming, discussions, presentations, theater and art classes.

Technical resources 1

Human resources 3

Financing

7-day session for approx. 30-50 participants – c.a. 7 500 EUR each year

Financial resources 3

Participation

Roma children and youth, Roma school assistants.

Results obtained

Results obtained (specify performance indicators if any):

- approx. 50 Roma children and youth trained each year
- pictures and exhibitions
- publications in Polish and Romanes
- each year one public exhibition
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Soft achievements:

- improving the self-esteem of Roma children
- improving of cultural skills and sensitivity
- improving the cooperation and personal relations between the Roma school assistants and Roma children
- They spend a good time for the holiday

Long-term perspectives and sustainability of the action

Project was conducted each year since 2007 until 2015 now in different places in Poland and London (UK).

Further continuation possible through resources of governmental Programme for Roma community in Poland.

What are the keys to success of this action?

Roma children acquire new skills and develop skills, they nice and usefully spend their free time, integrate within Roma and non Roma community. Learn about Roma history and Roma fairy tale.

What were the main difficulties encountered?

Financial support

What would you recommend to those carrying out a similar action?

- lead such classes in Poland and abroad , also for children from other minorities

- keep it systematic – few days each year.

Action validated as a good practice by

Pointed as a good practice in academic publication: *Romowie 2013. Od działań systemowych do rozwiązań lokalnych*, red. Barbara Weigl, Małgorzata Rozycka, Akademia Pedagogiki Specjalnej, Warszawa 2013

Diffusion resources Material, Other, Website

Internet <http://www.widzisie.com/?romski-pstryk,210> <http://www.otwarta.org/10336/>

Material Publication in both Polish and Romanes

Other schools, art galleries

Action type

Photo Workshops for Roma children “Romany click”

COE Good Practices and Policies

<http://goodpracticeroma.ppa.coe.int/>

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