

# Moldovan Student Sponsorship Newsletter

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## Student Participation in Projects and Seminars

By Angela Arhip

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The charming colors of the fall and the beginning of a new school year urged us once again to gather for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting in the enchanting aroma of nature. This time Valentina Garstea expressed her willingness to hold this meeting, focusing on the theme: Importance of Student Participation in Projects and Seminars of an academic or professional nature. Valentina is one of the most experienced students of our program. She is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year at her master's degree. She is extremely responsible, diligent, smart and hard working. From her own experience, Valentina knows that participation in multiple school activities is of special significance. Valentina has encouraged our youth to make presentations, participate in conferences, or simply attend seminars, as all these focus on an important task and place a special emphasis on students' further academic development and future careers.

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Valentina talks to students

First of all, she began, seminars and conferences are capable of keeping the students updated with the latest topics and inventions. Secondly, learners have the opportunity to listen to the major speeches, and analyze them with student peers or their teachers. Thirdly, participants learn how to work in groups to develop projects. They discover different ways of developing and implementing the key activities that constitute the basic tools of their majors. In addition to this, many of the seminars and conferences provide a financial support to participants, which is indispensable especially for our program students. Projects like these facilitate the pathway to employment. Usually, students who take part in seminars and conferences are given certificates which are helpful in the competitive world of finding a job. The certificate is a method of persuading the employer that you are the best. Finally, ideas and results presented at various conferences on a relevant topic is a deep source of knowledge and experience for students.

## Student Participation in Projects and Seminars, continued

Valentina engrossed our attention with her own participation, telling us more about those seminars, conferences, trainings, etc. and their impact on her own knowledge, personality, and career. She felt that the experience of attending seminars reinforced her interest in the major she has chosen. She emphasized that conferences and seminars provide students with the unique opportunity to interact with distinguished scholars and research papers. They help you make new friends and enlarge the number of people who will turn out to be useful in your later life in your professional field. They are the best and the most effective way to motivate someone to study. Finally, they are an accomplishment on the academic level, building the wealth of knowledge, so necessary to each student.



After such an animated and useful discussion, it was Artur who spoke compellingly about his one year spent in US. Artur went to US at the end of the school year of 2014 through the program "Work and Travel". As other students have related, unfortunately the contract the students signed is not respected. The student is promised one job, but is offered another one. The conditions are worse than promised, they get less money than indicated in the contract, but nevertheless – the trip has advantages, too. First of all, it's a great experience of visiting US and of understanding it, its culture, social codes and traditions. Only living among the people of a nation, can one can really feel the country's soul and way of being. He learned how people earn money, who eats at McDonald's (so popular in Moldova), how the roads are in US, what people eat and how US people spend their free time, how much they work, and if they are corrupt, etc. He also had the chance to be enrolled in a university in New Mexico where he studied and felt the true taste of the American life. Living abroad was an enriching experience for Artur, because it forced him to adapt to things that were unfamiliar and unusual to him, to open his eyes to aspects of life he had never been interested in before. He could experience things so different from Moldova.

Students flooded him with lots of questions and he was happy to answer and share his exciting, but sometimes tough challenges and experiences with them. Thus, we had a great, friendly and informative meeting – a great way to kick off the beginning of the school year!

## **NEWS OF OUR STUDENTS**

We can't end our newsletter without mentioning the results and experiences lived by our students this summer.

**Victor Organ** – finished his 1<sup>st</sup> film, which was highly appreciated at the academy. He also worked with a French group making a 15 minute film. The shooting took place in a village and it was a great experience for Victor. The film will be shown at cinema in October. He was excited to be able to share his film with his sponsor!



**Victor Organ**

**Mihai Galbura** – was employed with the radio and television orchestra - a wonderful achievement for Mihai. He is also working very hard, preparing for a solo-concert.



**Teodor Mamolea**

**Teodor Mamolea** – graduated successfully the university and has now a diploma in engineering. However, he decided to obtain his Master's Degree and will continue his studies. This summer he independently studied many different IT technologies.

He also volunteered for a while, talking about some core technologies in the IT field to a group of young people who are just starting their university studies. He also started German classes.

**Oxana Gutu** – participated in concerts and various events.

**Artiom Cojevnicov** - had a lot of projects, camps for youth, soccer projects, such as UEFA and a missionary trip in Lebanon. Many of them were really unexpected and impressive. For the first time he travelled by an airplane, saw and swam in the Mediterranean Sea, climbed a mountain and many other things which for him were so new, and so breath-taking.

### **New and returning students need sponsors!**

We have 3 students returning to school who participated in our program in the past. In addition, we have siblings of existing students that are hoping for sponsorship as well. I will be in touch with sponsors whose students have graduated and are no longer in school (therefore not qualifying for our program), to see if they'd like to sponsor these students, but in the meantime, here is the list of the waiting students:

- Artur Tiutiunicov (returning student)
- Ilie Soloduh (returning student)
- Eugen Soloduh (returning student)
- Gheorghe Garstea (Valentina Garstea's brother) – NEW STUDENT
- Maxim Zagorcea – NEW STUDENT
- Anatol Mamolea (Teodor Mamolea's brother) – NEW STUDENT

***Please let me know if you would like to sponsor any of these students!***

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