The summer aroma is getting more and more obvious. The city greenness (Chisinau is a very green city) and the birds’ catchy songs are stealing us for a while, making us dreamier and dizzier. We are ready to fly or to dive through thoughts in the remotest places and forget about our daily pursuits… Oh, how absolute and healing is the power of nature!

As a matter of fact, we had planned this quarterly meeting outside in the heart of nature, but this week the weather was rainy and we were afraid it could ruin our plans; so we met inside. Nevertheless, the nasty weather did not have a negative impact on our students’ mood that came good-natured, with the usual smile on their lips and faces and ready to meet and have a great time together.

Our topics at the meeting are very usual ones, but quite welcomed at this time of the year: Exams and Holidays. Even though these two seem quite opposite, they match quite well in our students’ lives. It’s the end of the school year and it’s the time when our youth have to pass the most serious exams, especially those who graduate. What could better motivate a student to be more diligent at the end of the year if not the thought to the so much expected summer holiday? They have already made plans on this occasion and are eager to enjoy them.

As one of my mottos is “Learning hard is the best path to a brilliant future”, so I began the discussion asking the students how prepared they are for the exams, which difficulties they meet, and what the exams are for them. Even though I was a student, too, they brought forth new and curious ideas. For example, placing the book under the pillow the night before the exam and will help you not forget the themes and answer well. Another student said that the exam was more a holiday for her, because she usually studies hard during the school year and has no stress and problems at exams. The majority of students, of course, compare the exams with a nightmare that passes and is repeated again in a half of year. I also shared my student experience and advised them to study hard during the school year and go to the exam with the pride of having the possibility to show their knowledge to teachers and colleagues.

The next point from our agenda was of course the holiday. The summer holiday that usually floods us with ideas, activities, and wonderful weather is a perfect time to forget about problems and enjoy beauty and pleasure. It is the season that wipes away our burdens, at least for a while, and makes us feel free like a bird, giving us the opportunity to visit new places and experience new opportunities. The sun rays are magnificent and not only warm the earth, but also warm our hearts making us fall in love, be happier, and live unforgettable moments.
Unfortunately, some of the summer dreams, like going abroad, are almost unrealizable for our program youth, but being always optimistic and ingenious they know how to find the charm and accumulate extraordinary knowledge and practice during this season. As we have students of different categories, their summer holidays will be various, too. For our graduates, this vacation will be a little bit different; because they’ll be busy either looking for a job or submitting the necessary documents to other schools to continue their studies. Three students are going to US to work through the program *Work and Travel* and they are eager to leave for a new country that is still a big dream for many of us. Other students will go in camps to work and rest. The rest of the youth will simply stay at home without going anywhere. No matter if they go or not, the most important is that all of them have a summer aim and they will do their best to achieve it.

We are sure that you also have some plans and goals for this season and on this occasion we wish you a HAPPY SUMMER!!!

![Angela with students at the May 2014 meeting](image)

### NEWS FROM MOLDOVA

I’d like to conclude with some news from and about our country. First of all, the most terrific news is that the day of 28 April 2014 was celebrated with pomp by all Moldovans – it is the day when the law regarding the visa –free travel in EU entered into force. This means that the visa obligation for citizens of the Republic of Moldova who bear a biometric passport and want to travel to the Schengen zone for a short-stay is **abolished**.

On May 9, we celebrated the European’s Day and on June 1, we celebrated Children’s Day. This is a day that we as parents, try and forget about our problems and work, and offer the day to our sweet children. We try to remember that our kids want our love, attention and time spent together much more than our money and gifts.
Student Sponsorship news

We have the pleasure to congratulate our graduates and their sponsors who shared their, love, generosity and good advice with our students for a year or much more:

1. Denis Sanin  
2. Ilie Soloduh  
3. Eugen Soloduh  
4. Valentina Racitscaia  
5. Filip Petrachii  
6. Marina Mamolea  
7. Ion Cerevatov

Valentina Racitcaia asked to express her thanks through this newsletter: “I’d like to tell you that I liked a lot this program and I would be very happy if I were a member of it in future, too. I’m saying this not only because I need help, but because I enjoyed a lot our meetings and the lessons which are taught here are so useful and necessary for us. I enjoyed a lot the discussions debated during our gatherings and I was so content that I made so many friends in this project. I’m also very grateful to my sponsor Marcy and Mrs. Angela, because they took care of me, loved me and thought of me. They’ve replaced my parents…”

Valentina is not the only one who has this opinion. All of our graduates have something very nice to tell us, but we’ll speak more about their reflections, realizations, and success in autumn when we’ll be able to tell you who has managed to find a job, who is still looking for one and who continues the studies.

We wish the best and a new beginning in a new world to Jazgul Orozova who is going to US to study at a University in Tennessee. The following is a part of the letter she addressed to her sponsor, Cheryl: “…I hope one day I will be able to meet you and thank you personally, for helping me! Thank you for being part of what I am today and for being a motivation for me to do the same for others as you did for me. Thank you!”

I’d also like to express my special gratitude to the Moore family who offered to communicate with and help the 3 three students who are going to the US while they are there.

We’d also like to congratulate the most diligent students of this school year: Ion Terna (due to his sports performances); Mihai Galbura (developing with big steps to become a great artist); Vadim Carp (very good academic results); Grigore Turcan, Oleg Turcan, (practicing hard the taekwondo sport and also offering free taekwondo classes to orphan kids); Artiom Cojevnicov (playing football and also offering free football classes to orphan kids); Vasili Gratii and the Soloduh brothers (play volleyball and participate in many volleyball competitions), Oxana Gutu (singing at various concerts).

The coordinators of our Sponsorship Program implemented a new tradition which we hope will encourage the most diligent students in different fields by offering them a monetary gift. This time we selected Ion Terna who obtained admirable results in his sports competitions. During this school year he participated at 5 important weightlifting competitions: 1) the European championship in Estonia in November 2013: 3rd place; 2) the president cup in Azerbaijan, December 2013: 9th place; 3) the republican championship, adults category, March 2014, 1st place; 4) in Israel, the European championship, adults category, April 2014, 5th place; the republican championship, up to the 23 year old category, May 2014, 1st place. Congratulations Ion!