

Moldovan Student Sponsorship Newsletter

Edited by Marcy McHenry
sponsorship@carolinaadoption.org



WINTER MAGIC

by Angela Arhip

People's faces are radiant and shiny even though it is windy and cloudy; the city is light, even though it's already dark; the atmosphere is warm, even though outside is cold; the tastes are so sweet, even though life in Moldova is very bitter. Is it something magic? Is it a miracle or maybe a witchery? Yes, it is the spell of winter holidays; it's the charm of Christmas and the allurements of the New Year. The decorated Christmas trees, the window shops full of gifts, the New Year songs, the Christmas carols and the first snowflakes – produce the moment's miracle, reminding everybody that the winter holidays are on the wing somewhere nearby and it is the right time to make a wish and raise the mood. The holiday spirit encompassed us, too, and its magic wand made us more joyful, more humorous and more positive. And for the 4th time in this old year we gathered to express our goals for the New Year. Again the same young faces, pierced by new ones came to give and get presents and share their experiences and emotions. However, this time our students were more angelic than usual because everything was special; the gathering, the party meal and the gifts. The traditional Christmas luncheon took place for the 3rd time in the history of our Sponsorship Program, due to the generous hearts that support the students of our program and of course due to Marcy McHenry who has worked hard to make this party special. Thanks to her significant contribution, our students received their first Christmas gifts this year, and expressed their appreciation in their own ways, but what mostly surprised me was how they reacted when they were asked to pick a bag of chocolate, tea, and coffee (these were the gifts this year). Curiously, but they asked me if they had to choose

between tea and coffee and they couldn't hide the utter astonishment finding out that they had both of them. Our noble gesture brought satisfaction and smiles of gratitude on their lips and I was convinced one more time that what is so **little** for us, it is so **much** for them. Let's offer **our little** to these students and make them happy.

As this meeting took place at the end of the year and was a Christmas one, of course it had the same topic. We all spoke about our best and worst Christmases and New Years. The stories were various, impressive, and heart touching. Oxana, for example told us that the most awful Christmas was the one celebrated alone, although it had been planned to be in the company of her dearest people. Ilie said that his horrible Christmas was when he broke his leg and spent the winter holidays in hospital. Unfortunately, more students retold that in their childhood, instead of Santa Clause's gifts they were offered the parents' quarrels and rude words or a heartbroken Christmas in orphanage... Usually parents or relatives came and took them home for holidays, but there were years when they were forgotten in the orphanage - nobody came for them. So, the bright and much expected Christmas became very somber and infinite. Time passed incredibly slowly and the mystery of the holiday was nothing else than hate, sadness, and desperation for poor kids.

Of course, such stories changed our moods for a while. However, we didn't want to leave with sorrowful memories; that is why we closed our reunion with lovely remembrances about the Christmas trees and decorations, the traditional meals, the unexpected pleasant gifts, and of course with the special luncheon we all had together. At the end of the meeting, after wishing each other the best in the New Year, we left determined to begin the New Year with bigger hopes, higher ambitions, and greater realizations.

January 18, 2014
Volume 1, Issue 10

Inside this issue:

WINTER MAGIC	1
Student sponsorship news	2

Dear Sponsors,

- *Many thanks for your Christmas cards and donations to the students. The students have received them!*
- *I welcome your input into the program - drop me an email with your thoughts!*
- *NOTE: New suite number for Carolina Adoption Services! See page 2.*



Moldova Sponsorship Program Students would like to express their wishes to Julie Glandt, the promoter of this project, Marcy McHenry – the coordinator, and our Precious Sponsors, who contribute assiduously at the building of a bright future for these nice young people.

Love, care, friendship and togetherness make the Christmas time more unique.

May love surround you; may care accompany you and may friendship bless you!

May Christmas fill up your life with health, peace and happiness!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sponsorship student news

1. Mihai Galbura – has recently had concerts with philharmonics within the country and abroad. With Chisinau Youth Orchestra he played at the Year Student Award Gala and two other concerts with the Academy Orchestra. He has some other important concerts at Leo Grand, MallDova and Organ Hall in December.
2. Oxana Gutu – was working hard preparing for some carol concerts.
3. Ion Terna – on 4-8 December participated at the weightlifting competition in Azerbaijan. He participated on December 6, but unfortunately he had a trauma on his back and won the 11th place.
4. Alexandru Cojevnicov – participated in volleyball and basketball competitions with the college team.
5. **WELCOME:** New students Artur Tiutiunicov, Ion Pascal, Irina Proden, Gigore Turcan, Victor Organ, Nicolae Gherlac, Filip Petrache, and Alina Rotari.
6. **WELCOME:** Returning sponsors, the Howard family!!