



"Entrepreneurship and connectivity of young people in the Balkans through creativity and culture"

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Innovative methodology for the development of entrepreneurship and creativity through cultural tools



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Abstract

This “Innovative methodology for the development of entrepreneurship and creativity through cultural tools” takes into account:

- ✓ The ongoing digital transformation of the economy and its impact on the creativity and culture sector.
- ✓ The economic ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic on individuals involved in cultural and creative activities in Europe, along with strategies to navigate the recovery from this crisis.
- ✓ The considerable potential for intercultural connectivity among young people and organizations from the EU and the Western Balkans countries.

This innovative methodology draws upon two primary pillars:

1. Researching best practices and examples in Europe, as documented in the Report (O1), and exchanging experiences during subsequent short-term joint staff training events (C1) involving youth workers from the three project partner teams.
2. Actively researching and testing the methodology's elements and coherence with young people, including during the 7-day blended mobility for young people – the Cultural Festival in Sofia #EntreCultFest (C2).

The methodological framework aims to:

- ✓ Develop digital skills to expedite the digital transformation of creative and cultural activities, making them accessible to a broader audience in the post-pandemic period.
- ✓ Cultivate the creative potential of youth in the Balkans through non-formal education methods, contributing to the sustainability of cultural and creative sectors.
- ✓ Enhance civic and intercultural competences.
- ✓ Foster connectivity between EU citizens and the Western Balkans, promoting European identity and culture as pivotal factors for social inclusion and mutual understanding.

The Intellectual Outputs of the project could be used as tools for implementing the innovative methodology in practice and seek to further upgrade, improve and adapt it, in order to generate long-lasting sustainable results across Europe after the project end.

The methodology acknowledges the significance of European cultural and creative sectors, generating approximately 4% of EU's GDP. This share is comparable to that of the "Information and Communication Technology" and "Hotel and Restaurant" sectors. In 2019, individuals employed in the cultural field in the EU-27 amounted to 7.4 million people, constituting 3.7% of total employment in the EU.

Finally, the multifaceted challenges within the culture and creativity domain in Europe, exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis, warrant consideration from various perspectives: scientific, social, economic, political, intercultural, national, and European. Consequently, the innovative methodology is adaptable and applicable in various forms of informal and formal education, holding long-term potential for impact on both its direct and indirect target groups.

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1. Introduction

This methodology is anchored in the foundational principles of the first Intellectual Output developed within the project - "Good European Practices in Intercultural Connectivity, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship." These principles, encapsulated in three pillars, lay the groundwork for a comprehensive exploration:

Basic Terms:

Under this pillar, essential concepts such as "Entrepreneurship in the cultural and creative sector," "digital transformation," and "Interpersonal and intercultural connection" are elucidated. This section serves as a foundational understanding to navigate the subsequent discussions.

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic:

The second pillar delves into the ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cultural and creative sectors in Europe. It addresses pertinent questions, including the effects on individuals, societal routines, economic dynamics, and the creative and cultural landscapes. This section scrutinizes the methodologies and programs employed by the EU to revitalize these sectors, offering insights into the future prospects post-pandemic.

Examples of Good Practice:

The concluding chapter provides a panoramic view of initiatives across European countries and the Western Balkans, showcasing exemplary practices in the creative and cultural sectors. These initiatives span festivals, associations, events, and other captivating ventures, highlighting the diverse and intriguing facets of these industries.

This methodology serves as a valuable resource for the non-formal training of young people, facilitating a nuanced understanding of the creative and cultural sector amidst the challenges posed by the pandemic. By dissecting the EU's strategies to rejuvenate and fortify these activities, participants will glean insights into the ongoing efforts to reshape the industry.

Through this Intellectual Output, the awareness of young individuals regarding the EU's creative and cultural sector will be heightened. The multifaceted information will be presented through diverse mediums, including interactive games, exhibitions, and conferences, fostering engaging discussions on contemporary topics in creativity and culture. This approach aims to empower young people with well-rounded knowledge, instilling confidence in their ability to navigate and contribute to their chosen professional paths.



1.1 The relationship "values-culture-European identity-creativity-entrepreneurship"

1.1.1 The European values show us the face of the EU and its identity and its distinctive parts.

According to the official website of the European Union, the values on which it is based are:

-Human dignity

Human dignity is inviolable. It must be respected, protected, and constitutes the real basis of fundamental rights. According to <https://fra.europa.eu/en/eu-charter/article/1-human-dignity>, the dignity of the human person, is not only a fundamental right in itself but constitutes the factual basis of fundamental rights. The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights enshrined human dignity in its preamble: 'Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all human family members is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world.

-Freedom

Freedom of movement gives citizens the right to move and reside freely within the Union. Individual freedoms such as respect for private life, freedom of thought, religion, assembly, expression and information are protected by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

-Democracy

The functioning of the EU is founded on representative democracy. A European citizen automatically enjoys political rights. Every adult EU citizen has the right to stand as a candidate and vote in the European Parliament elections. EU citizens have the right to stand as a candidate and vote in their country of residence or origin.

The EU supports democratization and fundamental freedoms in the Member States by supporting participation in political decision-making and local ownership of sectors that are key to sustainable development. Depending on the goals of each action, they work with a wide range of partners. Emphasis is also placed on facilitating the participation of women and young people in the processes of civic and political life.

-Equality

Equality is about equal rights for all citizens before the law. The principle of equality between women and men underpins all European policies and is the basis for European integration. It applies in all areas. The focus of equal pay for equal work became part of the Treaty of Rome in 1957.

Although inequalities persist today, the EU has made significant progress in recent decades. This is a result of the legislation on equal treatment and integration. Despite the EU's efforts, gender differences remain. For example, women are still over-represented in low-paid sectors and under-represented in management positions in the labour market.

-Rule of law

The EU is based on the rule of law. Everything the EU does is founded on treaties, voluntarily and democratically agreed by its EU countries. Law and justice are upheld by an independent judiciary. The EU countries gave final jurisdiction to the European Court of Justice - its judgments have to be respected by all.

-Human rights

Human rights are protected by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. These cover the right to be free from discrimination on the basis of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, the right to the protection of your personal data, and the right to get access to justice. These values are laid out in Article 2 of the Treaty of Lisbon and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights

- Here we can include a quiz game with questions about the EU:

Questions

1. Who were these founding members of the EU?
2. What was the organisation they created in 1957 called?
3. What do the 12 golden stars on a blue background represent?
4. Which Member State...
 - ...is one of six monarchies in the European Union;
 - ...is known for its Midsummer celebrations; and
 - ...joined the European Union in 1995
5. Which Member State...
 - ...fought a war of independence between 1991 and 1995;
 - ...has a coat of arms featuring a red and white checkerboard pattern;
 - ...is the latest country to join the European Union?
6. How many official languages does the EU have?
7. Although there may sometimes be disagreements between EU countries, the basic principles behind the EU have remained unchanged for more than

six decades. In 2012, the European Union was recognised for its work in uniting the continent. Which award did it receive?

8. What is the name of the man who, on 9 May 1950, put forward the plan considered to be the beginning of what is now the European Union?

9. In which European city was the latest treaty signed?



Answers

1. Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.
2. The European Economic Community
3. Unity, solidarity and harmony among the people of Europe.

4. Sweden
5. Croatia
6. 24
7. The Nobel Peace Prize.
8. Robert Schuman.
9. Lisbon

1.2 Interpersonal and intercultural connection;

According to the article on the European Commission's website entitled "Our heritage: where the past meets the future - Newsletter # 6", it is explained that young people are not only the future guardians of cultural heritage - they are also the flame that allows heritage to grow. Preserve over the years and retain its value. At the same time, cultural heritage helps the development and education of young people.

- Here each of the participants can tell something interesting about their culture and country
- In which country he/she lives?
- Which is the capital of that country?
- Describe a custom typical for that country;
- Say a few words about his/her hometown and the traditions that his/her family respects;



1.3 Entrepreneurship in the cultural and creative sector;

The presentation of a wider range of author's views on the development of entrepreneurial idea and creativity makes it possible to examine this issue in detail:

Richard Cantillon: The entrepreneur is the person who bears the risk, unlike the person who provides the capital.

Jean Baptiste Say: The entrepreneur shifts economic resources out of an area of lower and into an area of higher productivity and greater yield.

Joseph Schumpeter: The entrepreneurs are innovators who drive the development process.

Israel Kirzner: It is the entrepreneur who sees the opportunity for profit.

Jack High: Associates the entrepreneur with creativity and judgment of the situation.

Peter Drucker: Entrepreneurs search for change, respond to it, and exploit it as an opportunity (for profit).

Albert Shapiro: Entrepreneurs take initiatives, organise some social and economic mechanisms and accept risks of failure.

Entrepreneurship has evolved beyond the traditional view of turning an idea into a profitable business. Nowadays, it encompasses various dimensions. Some see entrepreneurs as resource founders, accumulating material, financial, intellectual, and human assets. Others define entrepreneurs as innovators, while some emphasize their role as risk-takers who receive societal rewards, including wealth and recognition. Additionally, entrepreneurs are recognized as bearers of new culture, showcasing the multifaceted nature of this dynamic concept.

The Significance of Entrepreneurship

The crucial role played by entrepreneurs in the economy is gaining widespread recognition. Entrepreneurship is acknowledged as a catalyst for sustainable economic growth, as entrepreneurs establish new businesses, implement and drive innovation, expedite structural changes in the economy, and introduce new competition, thereby enhancing productivity.

Additionally, entrepreneurship plays a pivotal role in job creation, emerging as a critical factor in integrated economic growth that combats poverty.

UNESCO highlights the increasing disparity between the supply and demand for skills as a primary contributor to elevated levels of youth unemployment. The traditional lifelong career development model has become increasingly scarce, necessitating the consideration of entrepreneurship as an alternative avenue for providing young people access to the labour market and fostering job creation.

Various international organizations, including the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations, the World Bank and Youth Business International underscore the advantages of promoting entrepreneurship among young people. These include:



Youth entrepreneurship is an opportunity to create jobs for young people



Young entrepreneurs are more likely to hire other young people



Young entrepreneurs are particularly responsive to new economic opportunities and trends



Young people are active in the high growth sectors



Young people with entrepreneurial skills are better workers and employees



Young people are more innovative and often create new forms of self-employment



Young people who are self-employed have a higher “satisfaction with life”.

In addition:



Entrepreneurship enables unemployed or discouraged young people to have sustainable livelihoods and provides them a chance to integrate in society



Entrepreneurial experience and/or education help young people to develop new skills, which can be used for other challenges that life offers. Non-cognitive skills, such as identifying opportunities, innovation, critical thinking, sustainability, decision-making, teamwork and leadership, will benefit all young people, whether they intend to become or continue to be entrepreneurs



If entrepreneurship runs well it generates incomes, i.e. incomes for its owners, and for covering duties and taxes, which are used to support public products and services



The essence of entrepreneurship is to search and find solutions to existing problems, which in turn fosters creative thinking and innovation



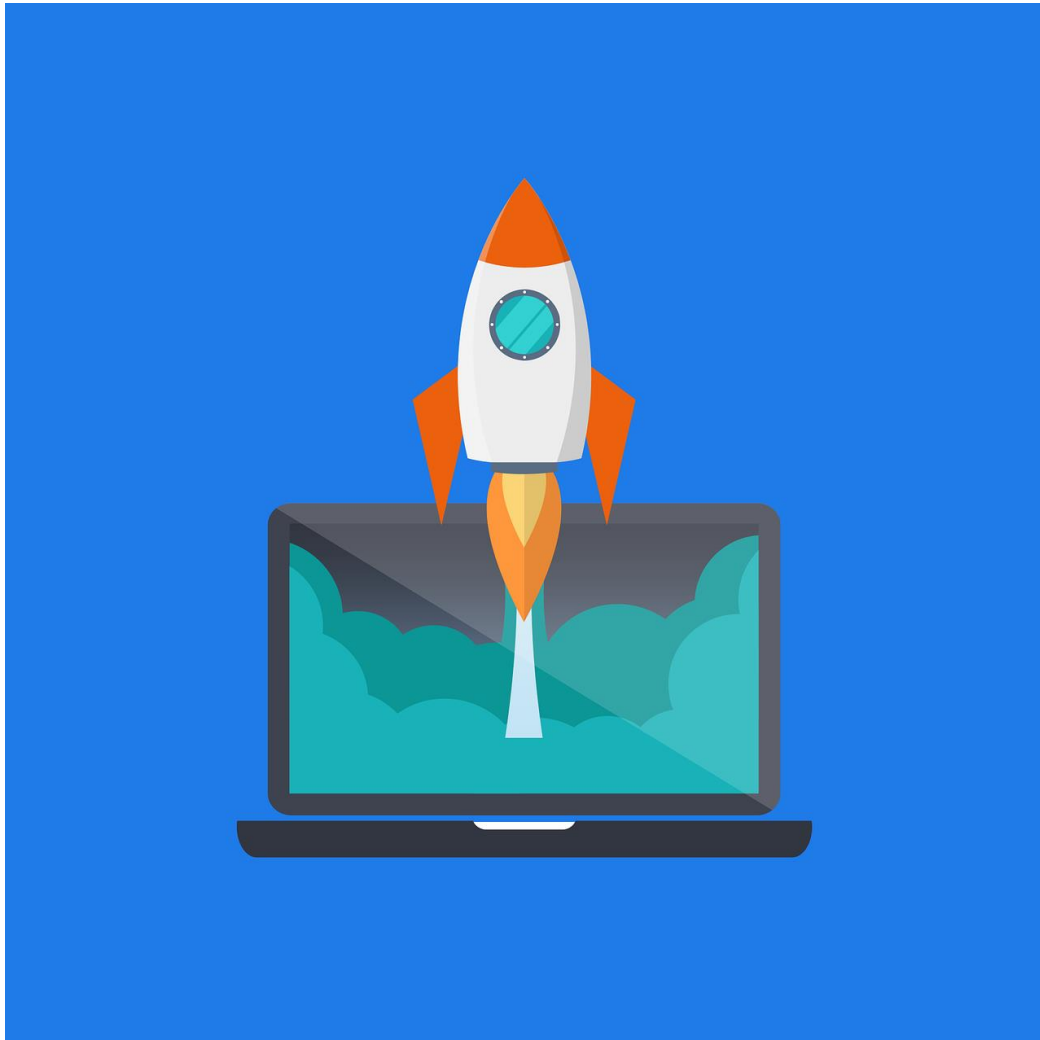
In order for the entrepreneur to be successful all processes should be optimised resulting in increased efficiency of organisation



Due to the market mechanism, which is the driver of entrepreneurial activity, business processes and models of the organisation are constantly improving and the available resources are not wasted



Last but not least, entrepreneurship carries the economic growth of a country - from start-up to scale-up.



Creativity

From “*Human Motivation*”, 3rd ed., by Robert E. Franken:

“Creativity is defined as the tendency to generate or recognize ideas, alternatives, or possibilities that may be useful in solving problems, communicating with others and entertaining ourselves and others”

From "*Creativity: Flow and the Psychology of Discovery and Invention*" by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi:

"Creativity is any act, idea or product that changes an existing domain, or that transforms an existing domain into a new one...What counts is whether the novelty he or she produces is accepted for inclusion in the domain."

Albert Einstein - "Creativity is seeing what others see and thinking what no one else ever thought."

Sir Ken Robinson - "My contention is that creativity now is as important in education as literacy, and we should treat it with the same status."

Steve Jobs - "Creativity is just connecting things. When you ask creative people how they did something, they feel a little guilty because they didn't really do it, they just saw something. It seemed obvious to them after a while."

Creativity is like a superpower. It's the ability to come up with new and original ideas, solutions, or ways of doing things. When you're creative, you can think outside the box and see possibilities others might miss. It's not just about art, it's about bringing fresh and exciting perspectives to anything you do.



Creative thinking:

Roger von Oech, a creativity theorist & writer, distinguishes four main roles in creative thinking and calls them, the Explorer, the Artist, the Judge, and the Warrior (von Oech, Roger „A Whack on the Side of the Head, How You Can Be More Creative. Creative Think“, California, 1992). But what do these roles mean and what kind of thinking do they represent?

- **Explorer:** This is the role for searching for new information and resources. Think of it as the detective who reads books, talks to people, goes out, looks around, and collects things, both offline and online. Basically, the Explorer gathers materials and information.

- **Artist:** The Artist turns these resources and information into new ideas. People often think of creativity as just this part, but without the other roles, it can only create pretty ideas without much substance.
- **Judge:** The Judge evaluates the merits of an idea and decides what to do. It tells us which idea works best and is feasible within the constraints of resources, time, and talent.
- **Warrior:** The Warrior takes the chosen idea into action. It carries out the plan selected by the Judge using the materials and information collected by the Explorer.

These roles are in all of us, but some might be stronger than others. You might love one role but not really enjoy another.

Based on these thinking functions that need to be performed during a creative task, what kind of classroom environment do we need to create and how shall we organise the creative process?

- **Explorer:** This person needs access to information and resources. They should be able to go to the library, search online, talk to others, and maybe even do interviews. If resources aren't in school, the teacher can organize research outside. In the classroom, knowing or not knowing something is less important; it's more about having the skill to find what you need. The teacher isn't just the knowledge provider but a facilitator of the process.
- **Artist:** This person needs to work without judgment. Judging too early stops the flow of ideas. So, both the teacher and learners need to hold

off on judgment when brainstorming. It's about generating lots of ideas before picking the best one.

- **Judge:** When it's the Judge's turn, they need to be sure nobody is looking for one "right" answer. Learners need open-ended tasks and freedom of choice. Teachers might help learners set criteria for evaluating ideas.
- **Warrior:** This person needs time, space, and tools. Doing something actively with others might not work in the old classroom setup. Sitting in circles or around tables might be better.

At the start of creative journey is the Explorer - the one who kicks things off, gathering information, observing the world and figuring out what's needed. Asking questions is her forte and she digs deep to find the raw materials necessary for the next steps. But remember, exploring is just the beginning. We've got to use all that information somehow.

Next up is the Artist - the idea generator. This is where we let our imagination run wild. Think of it as brainstorming - come up with as many ideas as you can. Now, it's time to introduce the next player.

The Judge ensures your ideas are practical, but don't let him hinder your work. Be gentle with yourself and your ideas, some may need to wait for the right time.

The Warrior fights both internal and external foes. You'll need a strong Warrior to battle your own insecurities and anxieties while defeating anything that tries to block your creative efforts. The Warrior is the one who puts in the work every day, turning your idea into reality.



The Five Stages of Creativity:

- ❶ Preparation
- ❷ Incubation
- ❸ Insight
- ❹ Evaluation
- ❺ Elaboration

These stages were originally outlined by social psychologist Graham Wallace in his 1926 book "*The Art of Thought*" and are largely agreed upon by creatives today.

1. Preparation:

Imagine this as the information-gathering stage. If you're a musician, you immerse yourself in inspiring music. Writers read in their genre, artists explore related works, scientists delve into background research, and entrepreneurs check previous market info. It's like building a foundation.

2. Incubation:

After soaking up all that info, it's time for a mental break. This is called the incubation stage, where your mind works on all that gathered material without you consciously trying. It's like letting your ideas simmer in the background, and this can take a varying amount of time, from days to even years.

3. Insight:

The 'Aha' or 'Eureka' moment! This is when your mind connects the dots, and a brilliant idea pops up. These insights often happen during low-intensity

activities like showering or walking because your subconscious has been silently working in the background.

4. **Evaluation:**

Now that you have a bunch of ideas, it's time to sort through them. This stage involves self-criticism and reflection. You ask questions like, "Is this idea truly new, or has it been done before?" Seeking feedback from trusted friends is crucial here.

5. **Elaboration:**

This is where the real work begins and it's often the longest part. Edison said "1% inspiration, 99% perspiration." Elaboration is the 99%. It's the stage where you take your selected idea and start putting in the hard work – testing, refining and making it a reality. Whether it's late nights in the studio, hours at your desk or days in the lab, this is the hands-on, sweat-and-tears part of bringing your creative idea to life.



Source: vecteezy.com

Importance of entrepreneurship and creativity in education

In the ever-evolving landscape of education two dynamic forces stand tall, guiding us towards a future filled with possibilities: creativity and entrepreneurship. These twin pillars are not just concepts, they are the keys that unlock doors to innovation self-discovery and a world of endless opportunities.

The Creative Spark:

Creativity is not confined to art classes or music studios it is a force that permeates every aspect of our lives. In the realm of education, fostering creativity is like watering the seeds of imagination. When students are encouraged to think beyond the ordinary, to question and explore, they become architects of their own learning journey.

Imagine a classroom where learning is not a one-size-fits-all experience but a canvas where each student paints their unique ideas. Creativity brings subjects to life, turning mundane lessons into exciting adventures. It's about finding new solutions to old problems, thinking critically, and embracing the unknown with open arms.

Entrepreneurship. More than Business:

It's not just about starting a business, it's a mindset a set of skills that empower individuals to navigate the complexities of the world. Entrepreneurship in education is about cultivating a spirit of resilience, adaptability and a thirst for continuous learning.

Entrepreneurial education teaches students to identify problems not as obstacles but as opportunities for innovation. It encourages them to take risks, learn from failures and understand that success is often a journey filled with twists and turns. These are not just business skills, they are life skills.

Thinking outside the Box: Embracing Something New

Traditional ways of teaching have their good points, but it's time to try something different. In school, we often learn in a specific one-size-fits-all way. But imagine that your learning experience was like a big canvas and you could paint your ideas in your own unique way. That's the kind of freedom that comes with thinking outside the box. It means not just memorizing stuff but really understanding it, making mistakes and being curious about the world.

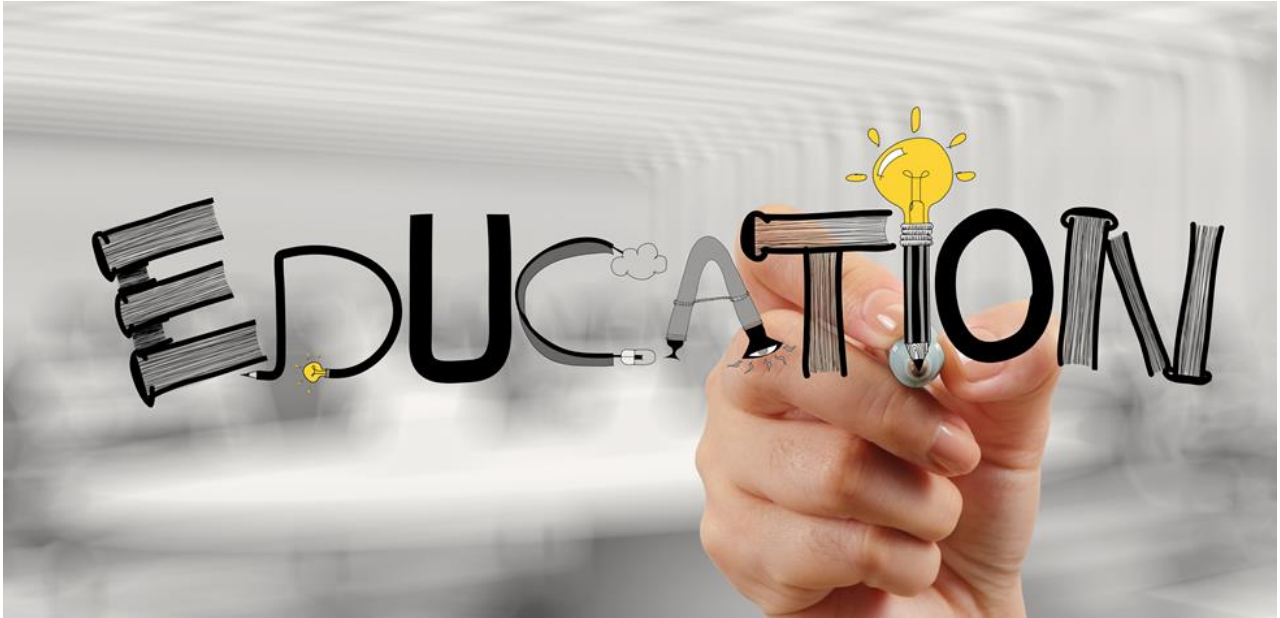
Imagine a classroom where students are not just taught but inspired to create where they are not just consumers of knowledge but contributors to it. Entrepreneurial education is about instilling a sense of ownership, teaching students that their ideas matter and they can make a difference.

Real-World Impact:

The mixture of creativity and entrepreneurship extends beyond the classroom. It equips students with skills that are highly valued in the real world. As they transition from school to college and into their careers, those who embrace creativity and entrepreneurship stand out as problem solvers, innovators, and leaders.

Moreover, in a rapidly changing job market, where traditional roles are transforming and new ones emerging, these skills become invaluable. The

ability to adapt, think critically, and create is what sets individuals on a path not just to success but to fulfilment.



Acquired Competences in Entrepreneurship Education:

Opportunity Recognition: Entrepreneurs develop the ability to identify opportunities in the market, spotting gaps or needs that can be addressed through innovative products or services.

Business Planning: Individuals learn to create comprehensive business plans, outlining strategies, financial projections, and operational details for the successful launch and growth of a venture.

Risk Management: Entrepreneurship education teaches individuals to assess and manage risks effectively, making informed decisions and understanding that calculated risks are often inherent in business ventures.

Financial Literacy: Entrepreneurs acquire financial management skills, including budgeting, financial forecasting, and understanding key financial indicators crucial for sustaining a business.

Market Research: Learners develop the ability to conduct thorough market research, analyzing consumer behaviour, competition, and industry trends to make informed business decisions.

Marketing and Sales: Entrepreneurship education encompasses skills in marketing strategy development, brand building, and effective sales techniques to promote products or services successfully.

Networking and Relationship Building: Individuals learn the importance of building and maintaining strong networks, both within and outside their industry, fostering collaborations and partnerships.

Leadership and Team Management: Entrepreneurs develop leadership skills, including the ability to inspire and lead teams, make decisions and create a positive and productive work environment.

Innovation and Creativity: Entrepreneurship education fosters a culture of innovation, encouraging individuals to think creatively and develop unique solutions to problems in the business world.

Adaptability and Resilience: Individuals learn to adapt to changing market conditions, overcome challenges and bounce back from setbacks, cultivating resilience in the face of adversity.

Communication Skills: Entrepreneurs enhance their ability to communicate persuasively, both internally with team members and externally with stakeholders, customers, and investors.

Negotiation Skills: Individuals develop effective negotiation skills, essential for securing partnerships, contracts, and deals that contribute to the growth of the venture.

Attained Competencies in Creative Education:

Innovative Thinking: Creative education fosters the ability to think outside conventional boundaries, encouraging individuals to generate novel ideas, solutions and perspectives.

Problem-Solving Skills: Learners acquire the capacity to approach challenges with a creative mindset, identifying unique and effective solutions to complex problems.

Critical Analysis: Creative education encourages individuals to critically evaluate information, ideas, and situations, enabling them to make informed decisions and discern nuances.

Adaptability: Students develop the flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances, embracing uncertainty and viewing challenges as opportunities for growth.

Collaboration and Teamwork: Creative education emphasizes collaborative learning, enabling individuals to effectively work in teams, share ideas and leverage diverse perspectives.

Communication Skills: Learners enhance their ability to express ideas clearly and persuasively, utilizing various mediums such as written, verbal and visual communication.

Self-Expression: Creative education empowers individuals to express themselves authentically, fostering self-awareness and confidence in sharing their unique perspectives.

Open-Mindedness: Exposure to creative processes promotes open-mindedness, encouraging individuals to consider diverse viewpoints and appreciate different cultures and perspectives.

Resilience: Creative education instils resilience in the face of setbacks, encouraging individuals to view failures as learning opportunities and persevere in the pursuit of their goals.

Resourcefulness: Learners develop resourcefulness, learning how to make the most of available tools and materials to bring their creative ideas to fruition.

Digital Literacy: In the modern context, creative education includes the development of digital literacy skills, enabling individuals to navigate and utilize digital tools effectively.

Reflection: Learners are encouraged to reflect on their creative processes and outcomes, fostering continuous self-improvement and a deeper understanding of their own capabilities.

Duration	Topic	Method
10:00 – 11:00	Definition of creativity and entrepreneurship	Presentation
11:00 – 12:00	Creative thinking/ The Five Stages of Creativity	Presentation
12:00 -13:00	Importance of entrepreneurship and creativity in non-formal education	Presentation
13:00 – 14:00	Good practices and examples of entrepreneurship in the field of creativity and culture	Group Discussion

1.4 Digital transformation

Digital changes in the cultural world were already happening, but COVID-19 really sped things up, especially in areas that relied on people being physically present. Some parts of the industry managed to handle the economic hit of the pandemic better because they quickly shifted to digital. For example, according to the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers, even though there was a 10% drop in the money creators made worldwide in 2020 compared to 2019 (about \$1 billion less), the switch to digital in some markets helped. Revenue from digital collections went up by 16.6%, mainly because of the rise of services like streaming video.

This move to digital isn't just in one place – it's happening all across the cultural and creative industries. For example, in Albania, many cultural

institutions and businesses in the culture sector started using the internet to connect with audiences. They offered access to recorded theatre shows, digitized libraries, live-streamed performances, and more. In Saudi Arabia, they digitized a bunch of books and film reels. In China, over 1,300 museums let people view their collections online during the peak of the pandemic. Even in Lebanon, the Zoukak Theatre got into digital formats to stay relevant. At first, they focused on old media, like radio plays, and connected with small regional radio stations. By the end of 2020, they had a solid presence on SoundCloud with thousands of listeners.

Sure, these new online ways are great for reaching more people and being innovative, but they also bring challenges. For example, while artists and designers can now sell their work directly to consumers online, it's a threat to smaller galleries and distributors. And for performing arts, especially theatre, going digital is tough. Some experts think the pandemic is a turning point for the culture sector, and even after things go back to normal, digital ways of engaging and sharing will still be important.

The digital revolution has changed how we create, produce, distribute, and access culture. It brought in new ways of doing business, but it also comes with challenges, especially when it comes to cultural diversity and existing inequalities.

According to an article on The Enterprisers Project website, digital transformation is the integration of digital technology into all areas of a business, fundamentally changing how you operate and deliver value to customers. It's also a cultural change that requires organizations to

continually challenge the status quo, experiment, and get comfortable with failure.

In the current historical moment, we find ourselves amidst a unique opportunity where new pathways are unfolding for creative minds across Europe. Despite the challenges presented by the post-pandemic crisis, there lies a prospect to initiate something novel, potentially surpassing the status quo. As a society, our capacity to think critically, anticipate challenges, and courageously determine our course forward is paramount.

It is inevitable that we bid farewell to familiar aspects, but within this juncture, courage is required to adopt a positive outlook towards the future. Art and culture serve as invaluable tools, akin to the glue that binds our societies, aiding us in making informed decisions within our democratic processes.

Understanding the interconnectedness of social aspects, digital inequality, security challenges, and ethics in the online realm, particularly within the sphere of digital arts, is crucial for the formulation of effective cultural policies. It is imperative for our government and institutions to safeguard our cultural heritage, encompassing music, theater, film, archaeology, natural and cultural heritage, and tradition.

Rather than concealing remarkable archaeological and artistic accomplishments, the emphasis should be on showcasing new digital and visible cultural experiences to the global audience. The winds of change are sweeping through every facet of our lives, and post this significant cultural event, transformations will transpire in spaces belonging to everyone – from

Skopje to Sofia, Belgrade to New York, Berlin to Beijing, thanks to the global accessibility afforded by the internet.

A paradigm shift is necessary in our approach to viewing and supporting culture at the national level. Placing art and culture at the center of our plans for state renewal is paramount. Addressing the short and long-term effects on involvement, jobs, and ongoing activities within the cultural sector requires an enhancement of financial and organizational flexibility, coupled with the establishment of financial support and transfer programs. This strategy aims to identify and bridge gaps at the local level, aligning our approach with that of advanced countries which distribute cultural institutions across diverse sectors.

Furthermore, the exploration of opportunities within digital tools and industries is imperative to diversify income sources and connect with a burgeoning audience. This endeavour encompasses adapting to challenges in online art, which presents a departure from conventional live cultural events with a substantial audience.

One should firmly believe in the transformative power of art and culture to unlock human potential and foster an active contribution to societal progress. Cultivating connections through culture imbues our society with character, spirit, identity, and soul. Art is, indeed, an inseparable twin to our human spirit.

1.4 The role of young people in preserving Europe's cultural heritage and overcoming past stereotypes

In the heart of Europe's rich tapestry of history, traditions, and cultural diversity, a pivotal role awaits the energetic and dynamic

demographic of young people. As custodians of the continent's invaluable cultural heritage, the youth of today stand at the intersection of tradition and innovation, tasked with the profound responsibility of preserving the past while boldly challenging historical stereotypes.

Europe, with its kaleidoscope of languages, customs, and art forms, is a living testament to the enduring legacy of generations that have shaped the continent. The mosaic of cultural expressions reflects the unique identities of nations, regions, and communities. However, as we navigate the 21st century, the role of the youth in preserving this heritage takes on unprecedented significance.

Beyond the mere preservation of artefacts and monuments, the contemporary narrative of cultural heritage preservation encompasses a dynamic process of reinterpretation, inclusion, and the dismantling of lingering stereotypes. The weight of historical biases, misconceptions, and stereotypes has, at times, overshadowed the true essence of Europe's diverse cultures. In this context, the engagement of young minds emerges as a catalyst for fostering inclusivity, understanding, and unity.

This exploration delves into the multifaceted role young people play in not only safeguarding Europe's cultural legacy but also in challenging and overcoming historical stereotypes that may have cast shadows on the perception of various communities. It underscores the imperative for youth-driven initiatives that embrace technology, contemporary expressions, and intercultural dialogue to breathe new life into Europe's cultural narrative.

From embracing innovative approaches to heritage preservation to dismantling preconceived notions that may impede unity, the youth of

Europe are poised to be architects of change, ensuring that cultural heritage remains a dynamic force that resonates across generations. Together, we shall unravel the narratives of resilience, innovation, and inclusivity that define the role of young people in shaping the narrative of Europe's cultural heritage. To get inspired, we shall first go through a number of good practices and initiative going on across Europe.

-ARCH

ARCH is a European-funded research project that aims to better preserve areas of cultural heritage from hazards and risks. The ARCH team with the cities of Bratislava, Camerino, Hamburg and Valencia will co-create tools that will help cities save cultural heritage from the effects of climate change.

The impacts of climate change are global in scope and unprecedented in scale. Cities will face frequent extreme events in future and the risk to cultural heritage and historic urban centres from climate change will also increase.

ARCH will develop a disaster risk management framework for assessing and improving the resilience of historic areas to climate change and natural hazards. Tools and methodologies will be designed for local authorities and practitioners, the urban population, and national and international expert communities. The project will present various models, methods, tools and datasets to support decision-making. ARCH's expert interdisciplinary team includes four European municipalities; Bratislava, Camerino, Hamburg, and Valencia; research scientists, city network ICLEI and standardisation organisation DIN.

- European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018

2018 was the European Year of Cultural Heritage. Its aim was to encourage more people to discover and engage with Europe's cultural heritage, and to reinforce a sense of belonging to a common European space. The slogan for the year was "Our heritage: where the past meets the future".

The European Commission implemented 10 long-term European initiatives as a main policy input for the year, in collaboration with the Council of Europe, UNESCO, and other partners. These initiatives included

- activities with schools;
- research on innovative solutions for re-using heritage buildings;
- activities to fight against illicit trafficking of cultural goods.

-Europa Nostra



We are the leading citizens' movement to protect and celebrate Europe's cultural and natural heritage.

We are the voice of all who believe that cultural heritage is vital for our economy, our society, our culture, our environment, our well-being and for the future of Europe.

As Europeans – people who have lived here for generations as well as people who have newly arrived – we have to take full responsibility for transmitting this heritage in good shape to future generations.



What do we do for Europe's heritage?

We act as advocates of heritage towards policy-makers at all levels of governance. We campaign to save threatened heritage sites through the 7

Most Endangered programme. We promote excellence through the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards

- **Circostrada Network**

This project was launched in 2003, and since this time it contributes to the development of Circus and Street Arts in Europe. It initiates professional exchanges, pilot programmes and advocacy projects. One of its key focuses is collaboration between academics and artists to improve research and professional integration. You can join the organisation or follow its website and social networks to learn about audience research, guides on cultural management and publications from their seminars.

- **European cultural foundation**

Our founders created the European Cultural Foundation in 1954 as they envisioned a united Europe where citizens feel proudly European, a place where they can live, express themselves, work and dream freely, in diversity and harmony. Ever since the ECF promotes a European sentiment through developing and supporting cultural initiatives that let us share, experience and imagine Europe. We believe our mission is as urgent now as it was back then.

- We can discuss ideas on how young people can change the future and protect Europe's cultural diversity;

- Whoever wants can give a personal example of what he does to preserve the traditions and culture of his country and what young people do about it;

2. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the creative and cultural sectors



Cultural and Creative Sectors (CCS) include all cultural and creative sectors whose activities are based on cultural values or artistic and other creative expressions, regardless of whether their activities are market or non-market oriented. The type of structure and funding does not matter. The activities they engage in must be related to the production, development, creation, preservation and distribution of goods and services that contain cultural, artistic or other creative expressions. Sectors included are also architecture, museums, libraries, music, literature, performing arts and others.

The creative and cultural sectors are most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic caused the closure of cinemas, theatres, museums, concert halls, and festivals across the EU. These sectors have become almost

entirely dependent on concrete policy decisions. For them, everything has changed radically. Even if the measures have been more relaxed at times, everything happens under extraordinary conditions, which leads us to think that the expected profits from these events have not been realized. Each of the industries reports a decline. One of the most affected is the music business. We all know that nowadays, most musicians make a living mainly through live performances. In the film industry, the crisis is affecting the closure of cinemas and the cancellation of festivals and film productions. There has also been a sharp decline in the fine arts, as many fairs and exhibitions have been cancelled. But as with the music business, the performing arts are also going through a very difficult period. This includes private theatres and schools many freelance artists rely entirely on performances. This whole situation has led to many programs and initiatives to help these sectors. The digital environment has become a leading centre for culture. For almost two years now, online platforms have played entertainment spaces, broadcasting live or recorded events. The leading portals that have helped are YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.

The main problem is that the measures taken by the health authorities to limit the virus and its contagion seem to some people to be too extreme. Accordingly, many believe in this virus. In addition, COVID-19 mortality is significantly higher in different age groups. He continues to change and surprise us with another new ability. It is these mutations that cause constant insecurity in human relationships. In practice, everything related to culture and tourism is limited by the measures taken within the national borders of the countries, and in some cases, at the local level.

In most cases, we all know that tourism relies on the free movement of people in different countries. In this way, they have fun and visit various beautiful places. However, culture focuses more on the search for meaningful human existence based on cultural awareness and the ability to express oneself creatively.

The world of arts, culture, heritage and creativity will not be the same after COVID-19. Due to the state of emergency, not only at the local but also at the national level, it has forced governments to support the most urgent needs and the worst affected sectors. Current strategies, approaches and tools will need to undergo significant changes. The EU needs to rethink its future by reviewing its plan and models. Eurogroup finance ministers held a meeting in April 2020, endorsing the Commission's intention to adapt its current proposal for a multiannual EU budget to reflect the impact of the crisis and the size of the challenges ahead. Ensure cohesion within the EU through fairness, solidarity and responsibility.

3. Examples of good practice in the EU's cultural and creative sector

In the first Intellectual Output developed within the framework of this project: ***"Good European Practices in Intercultural Connectivity, Creativity and Entrepreneurship"***, Chapter 3. Success Examples in the three Countries - Bulgaria, Republic of North Macedonia and Serbia (p. 68-84) was dedicated to giving some good examples and success stories in the realm of culture and creativity from the countries of the 3 project partners. As the Methodology strives for a positive impact at European level, young

people are encouraged to look for the best practices in their own Member State as a source of motivation and inspiration.

The European Union stands poised with immense potential to not only cultivate but also safeguard the cherished values and traditions embedded within its Member States. Across the EU, we witness a myriad of endeavors undertaken by states, reflecting their unwavering commitment to preserving history and bequeathing it to the generations yet to come.

Within the EU, a rich tapestry of cultural preservation unfolds through an array of festivals, foundations, initiatives, institutions, and projects dedicated to the realms of creativity and culture. These dynamic efforts contribute significantly to the perpetual conservation of cultural diversity, granting a broad spectrum of the population the invaluable opportunity to connect with the essence of a nation's culture and its core values.

This vibrant sector is not merely an indulgence but a vital lifeline for each country within the EU. Its significance lies in its role as the guardian of national identity, preventing the gradual erosion of the distinctive characteristics that define and distinguish each country. Without this thriving cultural sector, the very identity of nations is at risk of fading away over time.

In essence, the EU's commitment to nurturing creativity and preserving cultural heritage becomes a beacon illuminating the path towards a harmonious coexistence of diverse traditions. Through these collective endeavors, the EU not only ensures the longevity of its Member States' unique identities but also fosters an environment where cultural richness

thrives, offering a shared understanding and values that bind nations together in unity.

As part of the Methodology, we encourage young people to participate in the following Workshop:

Workshop Title: "EU Mosaic: Exploring European Cultural Diversity"

Objective: *This workshop is designed for participants aged 15-24 to delve into the rich cultural tapestry of European Union (EU) member countries. Participants will work in teams, each assigned a specific EU country, to present and celebrate the unique cultural elements that contribute to the diversity within the EU.*

Workshop Structure:

1. Team Formation (Pre-Workshop):

- Participants will be grouped into teams in advance.
- Each team will be assigned an EU member country to research and present during the workshop.

2. Preparation Phase:

- Participants will receive guidelines to prepare in advance.
- Teams will gather essential information about their assigned EU country, focusing on cultural traditions, highlights, and noteworthy features.
- Teams are encouraged to compile videos showcasing cultural aspects, landmarks, and traditions.

3. Interactive Presentation Session:

- Teams will take turns presenting their assigned EU countries to the audience.
- Presentations should incorporate multimedia elements, including pre-prepared videos, photos, and traditional music.

- Each team will have a designated time for their presentation, ensuring an engaging and informative session.

4. Country Exhibition:

- An exhibition space will be set up with visual displays for each EU country.
- Teams will showcase key cultural aspects through music, photos, and other relevant artifacts.
- Participants and attendees can explore the exhibition during breaks and after the workshop.

5. Q&A and Discussion:

- A Q&A session follows each team's presentation, allowing participants to inquire further into the cultural nuances of the EU countries.
- Open-floor discussions will encourage dialogue, questions, and reflections among participants.

6. Networking Break:

- A designated break for participants to interact, share insights, and discuss commonalities among European cultures.

7. Reflection and Feedback:

- Participants will have the opportunity to share their reflections on the workshop and provide feedback.
- Facilitated discussions will focus on the significance of cultural understanding within the EU context and the impact of such workshops.

By the end of the workshop, participants will have gained a deeper appreciation for the cultural diversity within the European Union. "EU Mosaic: Exploring European Cultural Diversity" aims to foster unity, understanding, and a sense of shared identity among the youth within the EU.

In addition, here is a Quiz Game about the European countries, including sample questions about their capitals, landmarks, photos, celebrities, etc.



QUIZ GAME

Questions:

1. What is the capital of Belgium?
2. What is the capital of Bulgaria?
3. In which country is the Sagrada Familia basilica located?
4. What is the capital of Albania?
5. In which country was Mozart born?
6. What is the capital of Spain?
7. In which city is the Little Mermaid statue located?
8. What is the capital of France?

9. What is the capital of Latvia?
10. In which country is the Colosseum located?
11. In which country was Albert Einstein born?
12. What is the capital of Sweden?
13. In which country was Nikola Tesla born?
14. What is the capital of Poland?
15. In which country is the Madara Rider rock relief located?

Answers:

1. Brussels
2. Sofia
3. Spain
4. Tirana
5. Austria
6. Madrid
7. Copenhagen
8. Paris
9. Riga
10. Italy
11. Germany
12. Stockholm
13. Croatia
14. Warsaw
15. Bulgaria

Four 7-day academies inspired by the #EntreCultFest

The Cultural Festival, held in Sofia within the project framework, served as an inspiration for the development of four dynamic 7-day academies. These academies are based on the thematic workshops that were conducted during the #EntreCultFest. As part of this innovative methodology, they are specifically designed for young people (15-24 years old) and provide a unique opportunity for transformative experiences, fostering exploration, creativity, and cultural connection.

The Pottery Academy invites participants to unearth the artistry within clay, engaging in wheel throwing, handbuilding, and alternative firing techniques. This tactile experience encourages both individual creativity and collaboration, as participants form connections through the shared joy of artistic expression.



The Photography Academy invites participants to immerse themselves in the art of photography, exploring camera fundamentals, mastering composition techniques, and engaging in outdoor photo shoots. It aims not only to develop technical skills but also to cultivate an appreciation for cultural diversity, encouraging participants to narrate stories through captivating visuals.



In the realm of animation, the Animation Academy takes center stage, offering a comprehensive exploration of 2D and 3D animation, storytelling, and collaborative projects. Participants improve their creative skills and engage in cultural exchange, sharing narratives and perspectives through the universal language of animation.



The Folk Dance Academy unfolds as a celebration of Balkan traditions, where participants immerse themselves in traditional dance, regional styles, and the crafting of authentic costumes. Beyond the intricacies of dance, this

academy serves as a bridge to the past, fostering cultural preservation and community bonding.



These four academies serve as a powerful inspiration tool for youth seeking to explore, create, and connect. By providing a methodological guide infused with cultural richness, these 7-day experiences aspire to be transformative, empowering participants to embark on their own journeys of self-discovery, cultural appreciation, and entrepreneurial spirit. The potential of these academies lies not only in skill development but in the cultivation of a community that transcends borders, fostering a collective sense of pride in Balkan heritage and a shared vision for a culturally enriched future.

A 7-day Pottery Academy for Youth

Day	Task	Instructions	Duration	Results
1	Introduction to Pottery	Overview of pottery techniques and history. Introduction to different types of clay.	2 hours	Understanding of basic pottery concepts
1	Handbuilding Techniques	Hands-on practice with pinch, coil, and slab techniques. Creating simple forms.	2 hours	Proficiency in basic handbuilding techniques
1	Introduction to Pottery Tools	Familiarization with essential pottery tools. Proper usage and safety guidelines.	1 hour	Knowledge of basic pottery tools
1	Creating Pinch Pot Projects	Applying pinch pot techniques to create small projects.	2 hours	Successful completion of pinch pot projects
2	Wheel Throwing Basics	Introduction to the potter's wheel. Demonstration and hands-on practice.	3 hours	Basic understanding of wheel throwing
2	Throwing Small Vessels	Practice throwing small vessels on the wheel. Emphasis on centering and shaping.	2 hours	Proficiency in throwing small vessels
2	Glazing Techniques	Overview of glazing methods and color theory. Hands-on glazing practice.	1 hour	Understanding of basic glazing techniques
2	Glazing Individual Projects	Apply learned glazing techniques to individual projects.	2 hours	Completed and glazed individual pottery projects
3	Sculpting 3D Forms	Introduction to sculpting techniques in pottery. Creating 3D forms.	3 hours	Proficiency in basic sculpting techniques
3	Handbuilding Functional Ware	Applying handbuilding techniques to create functional pottery items.	2 hours	Successfully crafted functional pottery
3	Carving and Decorating Techniques	Learn carving and decorating methods for enhancing pottery surfaces.	1 hour	Enhanced decorative skills in pottery
3	Decorating Handbuilt Projects	Apply carving and decorating techniques to handbuilt projects.	2 hours	Decorated and finished handbuilt pottery
4	Intermediate Wheel Throwing	Advanced wheel throwing techniques. Creating larger and more complex forms.	3 hours	Proficiency in intermediate wheel throwing
4	Throwing Sets and Series	Focus on creating sets of pottery items on the wheel. Consistency in design.	2 hours	Completed sets of wheel-thrown pottery
4	Advanced Glazing Techniques	Explore advanced glazing techniques. Hands-on practice with layered glazes.	1 hour	Mastery of advanced glazing methods
4	Glazing Wheel Thrown Projects	Apply advanced glazing techniques to wheel-thrown projects.	2 hours	Completed and glazed wheel-thrown pottery
5	Raku Firing Workshop	Introduction to raku firing. Hands-on experience with the raku firing process.	3 hours	Understanding of raku firing and unique surface effects
5	Handbuilding Large Vessels	Application of handbuilding techniques to create larger vessels.	2 hours	Successfully crafted large handbuilt pottery
5	Alternative Firing Techniques	Exploration of alternative firing methods like pit firing or saggar firing.	1 hour	Exposure to diverse firing techniques
5	Fired Project Analysis	Review and analyze fired projects. Discuss outcomes and potential improvements.	2 hours	Feedback and insights on fired projects
6	Advanced Sculpting Techniques	Dive into advanced sculpting methods. Creating intricate and detailed sculptures.	3 hours	Proficiency in advanced sculpting
6	Combining Techniques	Integration of handbuilding, wheel throwing, and sculpting techniques.	2 hours	Creation of complex and multifaceted pottery
6	Individual Project Development	Planning and initiating individual projects. Personalized guidance.	1 hour	Defined goals for individual pottery projects
6	Open Studio Session	Freestyle pottery creation. Guidance available for individual projects.	2 hours	Creative exploration in an open studio setting
7	Final Project Execution	Execution of individual projects. Guidance and support as needed.	6 hours	Completed and finalized individual pottery projects
7	Pottery Showcase and Celebration	Showcase of individual and group pottery projects. Celebration event.	1 hour	Recognition of achievements and successful pottery projects
7	Feedback and Certificate Distribution	Final feedback session. Distribution of course completion certificates.	1 hour	Acknowledgment of course completion and personalized feedback

A 7-day Photography Academy for Youth

Day	Task	Instructions	Duration	Results
1	Introduction to Photography	Explore camera types and exposure basics. Discuss photography genres. Engage in a group discussion about personal interests.	2 hours	Understand basic photography concepts
1	Photowalk: Neighborhood Exploration	Take a guided photowalk around the neighborhood. Practice capturing various scenes and subjects.	3 hours	Applied knowledge in a real-world setting
1	Group Photo Critique	Review and critique photos taken during the photowalk. Discuss strengths and areas for improvement.	1 hour	Constructive feedback and collaborative learning
2	Camera Settings and Controls	Practice adjusting camera settings. Experiment in various scenarios. Receive feedback on photo outcomes. Discuss creative uses of controls.	3 hours	Improved proficiency in camera settings
2	Creative Photography Challenge	Participate in a challenge to use specific camera settings creatively. Share and discuss results.	2 hours	Innovative application of camera controls
3	Composition Techniques	Learn rule of thirds and framing. Engage in a photo scavenger hunt. Receive peer feedback on composition.	4 hours	Apply composition rules for better aesthetics
3	Still Life Photography	Set up and capture still life scenes. Experiment with composition techniques.	1 hour	Enhanced understanding of composition in various contexts
3	Group Discussion: Famous Photographs	Analyze and discuss famous photographs, focusing on composition. Relate insights to personal work.	1 hour	Broadened awareness of iconic photography compositions
4	Photo Editing Basics	Introduction to editing software. Hands-on experience with basic editing tools. Edit course photos and discuss in a group setting.	3 hours	Basic photo editing skills
4	Creative Editing Challenge	Apply advanced editing techniques to enhance creativity. Share edited photos for feedback.	2 hours	Advanced photo editing skills
4	Group Portfolio Review	Share portfolios for constructive feedback. Discuss editing choices and overall artistic style.	1 hour	Enhanced understanding of individual styles
5	Outdoor Photo Shoot	Capture natural light and dynamic subjects. Experiment with angles. Receive on-the-spot guidance. Share and discuss best shots.	5 hours	Diverse outdoor photography portfolio
5	Environmental Portraits	Focus on capturing portraits in natural settings. Discuss techniques for connecting with subjects.	1 hour	Enhanced portrait photography skills
6	Photography Styles and Genres	Explore portrait and landscape techniques. Try street photography. Discuss insights on different styles.	4 hours	Exposure to various photography styles
6	Night Photography Workshop	Learn the basics of night photography. Practice capturing scenes in low light.	1 hour	Introduction to night photography techniques
6	Personal Project Planning	Brainstorm and plan individual photography projects. Seek feedback and guidance from peers.	1 hour	Defined project goals and objectives
7	Final Project and Showcase	Choose a project theme. Plan, execute, and edit. Prepare a short presentation to showcase the project.	6 hours	Completed project and improved presentation skills
7	Group Project Showcase	Collaborate on a small group project. Present and discuss the outcomes with the entire group.	1 hour	Enhanced teamwork and collaborative project skills

A 7-day Animation Academy for Youth

Day	Task	Instructions	Duration	Results
1	Introduction to Animation	Overview of animation history and principles. Introduction to animation software.	2 hours	Understanding of animation basics
1	Basic Animation Techniques	Learn foundational animation techniques. Hands-on practice with simple exercises.	2 hours	Proficiency in basic animation skills
1	Storyboarding Workshop	Introduction to storyboarding. Hands-on creation of a basic storyboard.	1 hour	Understanding of storytelling in animation
1	Animation Software Basics	Practical session on using animation software. Navigation and basic tools.	2 hours	Familiarity with animation software
2	Character Design	Basics of character design for animation. Hands-on sketching and design exercises.	3 hours	Creation of a simple animated character
2	Walk Cycle Animation	Learn and practice the fundamentals of walk cycle animation.	2 hours	Proficiency in animating character movement
2	Dialogue Animation	Introduction to lip-syncing and dialogue animation. Hands-on practice.	1 hour	Basic skills in dialogue animation
2	Group Animation Project Kickoff	Introduction to the group project. Team formation and project discussion.	2 hours	Initiation of the collaborative animation project
3	Advanced Animation Techniques	Explore advanced animation techniques such as squash and stretch, anticipation, and follow-through.	3 hours	Improved animation skills
3	Expressive Character Animation	Dive into creating character expressions and emotions through animation.	2 hours	Enhanced character animation abilities
3	Group Animation Project: Planning	Plan the group animation project. Storyboarding, assigning roles, and timeline creation.	2 hours	Well-organized project plan
3	Animation Software: Advanced Features	In-depth exploration of advanced features in animation software.	1 hour	Proficiency in using advanced software features
4	Background & Environment Animation	Basics of animating backgrounds and environmental elements. Hands-on exercises.	3 hours	Integration of characters with backgrounds
4	Special Effects Animation	Introduction to animating special effects like fire, water, and particles.	2 hours	Understanding of special effects animation
4	Group Animation Project: Production	Execute the group animation project. Regular check-ins and support.	2 hours	Ongoing progress on the collaborative animation project
4	Animation Critique Session	Review and critique individual animation projects. Peer feedback.	1 hour	Constructive feedback and improvement suggestions
5	3D Animation Basics	Introduction to 3D animation principles. Overview of 3D animation software.	3 hours	Familiarity with 3D animation concepts
5	Group Animation Project: Refinement	Refinement and polishing of the group animation project.	2 hours	Improved quality of the collaborative animation project
5	Animation Industry Insights	Guest speaker or video session on the animation industry. Q&A session.	1 hour	Insights into the professional animation world
5	Animation Portfolio Building	Guidance on creating an animation portfolio. Individual work session.	1 hour	Progress on personal animation portfolio
6	Advanced 3D Animation Techniques	Dive into advanced 3D animation techniques. Hands-on practice.	3 hours	Proficiency in advanced 3D animation skills
6	Group Animation Project: Finalization	Final touches and rendering of the group animation project.	2 hours	Completed and polished collaborative animation project
6	Animation Career Paths	Exploration of various career paths in animation. Guidance on next steps.	1 hour	Informed understanding of animation career options
6	Personal Animation Project	Initiation of a personal animation project. Individualized guidance.	1 hour	Kickstart of a personal animation project
7	Animation Showcase and Celebration	Showcase of individual and group animation projects. Celebration event.	6 hours	Recognition of achievements and successful animation projects
7	Final Animation Critique	Final review and critique session for individual and group projects.	1 hour	Comprehensive feedback and areas for growth
7	Certificate Distribution	Distribution of course completion certificates.	1 hour	Acknowledgment of course completion

A 7-day Bulgarian Folk Dance Academy for Youth

Day	Task	Instructions	Duration	Results
1	Introduction to Bulgarian Folk Dancing	Overview of Bulgarian folk dance history and styles. Basic steps and positions.	2 hours	Understanding of Bulgarian folk dance basics
1	Folk Dance Warm-up and Stretching	Warm-up exercises specific to Bulgarian folk dance. Stretching routines.	1 hour	Improved flexibility and readiness for dance
1	Group Formation and Icebreaker	Participants get to know each other. Formation of dance groups.	1 hour	Formation of dance groups and team bonding
1	Regional Dance 1: Basic Steps	Learn the basic steps of the first regional dance.	1 hour	Proficiency in basic steps for the first regional dance
1	Regional Dance 1: Choreography Session	Practice and refine choreography for the first regional dance.	1 hour	Mastery of choreography for the first regional dance
2	Regional Dance 2: Basic Steps	Learn the basic steps of the second regional dance.	1 hour	Proficiency in basic steps for the second regional dance
2	Regional Dance 2: Choreography Session	Practice and refine choreography for the second regional dance.	1 hour	Mastery of choreography for the second regional dance
2	Regional Dance 3: Basic Steps	Learn the basic steps of the third regional dance.	1 hour	Proficiency in basic steps for the third regional dance
2	Regional Dance 3: Choreography Session	Practice and refine choreography for the third regional dance.	1 hour	Mastery of choreography for the third regional dance
3	Costume and Prop Workshop	Introduction to traditional Bulgarian dance costumes and props.	2 hours	Understanding of costume significance and basic handling of props
3	Advanced Techniques and Expressions	Explore advanced techniques and expressions in Bulgarian folk dance. Individual and group expressions.	1 hour	Improved dance skills and artistic expression
3	Regional Dance 4: Basic Steps	Learn the basic steps of the fourth regional dance.	1 hour	Proficiency in basic steps for the fourth regional dance
3	Regional Dance 4: Choreography Session	Practice and refine choreography for the fourth regional dance.	1 hour	Mastery of choreography for the fourth regional dance
4	Music and Rhythm Workshop	Understanding the role of music and rhythm in Bulgarian folk dance. Dance to live traditional music.	2 hours	Improved synchronization with music
4	Group Dance Rehearsal	Rehearse all learned dances as a group.	2 hours	Coordinated and synchronized group performances
4	Costume Dress Rehearsal	Full dress rehearsal with costumes and props. Final adjustments.	1 hour	Smooth integration of costumes into performances
4	Traditional Dance Games	Engage in traditional dance-related games for enjoyment and team building.	1 hour	Enhanced camaraderie and team spirit
5	Regional Dance 5: Basic Steps	Learn the basic steps of the fifth regional dance.	1 hour	Proficiency in basic steps for the fifth regional dance
5	Regional Dance 5: Choreography Session	Practice and refine choreography for the fifth regional dance.	1 hour	Mastery of choreography for the fifth regional dance
5	Traditional Dance Fusion Workshop	Explore a fusion of traditional Bulgarian dance with modern elements.	1 hour	Creative exploration of dance styles
5	Cultural Exchange: Dance Stories	Share personal dance stories and experiences.	2 hours	Enhanced cultural understanding and appreciation
6	Dance Rehearsals and Refinement	Rehearse all learned choreographies. Refinement of movements and transitions.	3 hours	Polished and coordinated dance performances
6	Folk Dance and Fitness	Combine folk dance movements with fitness exercises for a dynamic session.	1 hour	Improved stamina and dance fitness
6	Costume and Prop Enhancement	Fine-tune costume and prop usage. Make any necessary adjustments.	1 hour	Enhanced presentation with well-maintained costumes and props
6	Traditional Dance Photography	Capture moments of dance in traditional attire.	1 hour	Creatively documented dance memories
7	Final Performance and Celebration	Showcase of learned dances. Celebration with traditional Bulgarian music and food.	6 hours	Successful execution of choreographed dances and a joyful conclusion
7	Reflection and Certificate Distribution	Participants reflect on the course. Certificates awarded.	1 hour	Acknowledgment of participation and achievement

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