

Colegiul National de Arta "Octav Bancila"

Name of the organisation :	Colegiul National de Arta "Octav Bancila"	
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Type of organisation:

SME School University Public Authority
 Training No Profit NGO

Other (Specify)

Fields of action :

SMEs Youth Universities Public Authorities
 Equal opportunities Schools Unemployed

Other (Specify)

Description of the organisation

Colegiul National de Arta "Octav Bancila" is a vocational arts school providing academic education as well as training in arts skills to 1400 pupils who wish to prepare for a higher artistic education and careers in the following profiles:

- Visual arts: painting, restoration of painting, graphic design, sculpture;**
- Architecture and industrial design;**
- Ballet dancing;**
- Music: all the musical instruments required in a phylarmonical orchestra and classical canto;**
- Theatre performance;**

Starting with the primary school and ending with the Bacalaureat diploma, on the basis of European

recognized values, our school aims to give our pupils the skills and knowledge they will need in society and in their further studies. Our school is one of the pioneering art schools in Eastern Romania. Due to the school location in the centre of the city, our pupils come from all the boroughs and reflect the diverse social composition of our community. We also welcome the 20 students who come from Republic of Moldova, helping them to adjust into our school system and assimilate quickly into the European life.

Our students have been awarded year by year numerous prizes in the National Arts Olympiad or international arts contests in all the above profiles.

We have a high number of pupils whose parents either work abroad - and the pupils are taken care of by their grandparents or other relatives - or, they came back from abroad after having spent some years in another country and having attended school there, and we help them to (re)integrate in our school and society; some of these pupils face identity problems throughout the integration process, and we are here to help them find themselves and gain a cultural knowledge that will enable them to accomplish their citizenship in the European dimension. We definitely help all pupils using different approaches to reinforce their individuality and improve their self esteem, to develop their emotional intelligence and eventually to find their place in the present European society.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

Over the last years, we've been involved in European projects that have definitely improved our school quality. Our school participated in a couple of Comenius partnerships, then we took part in two Leonardo da Vinci projects and we were partners of EUROED in a transversal Key Activity 2 project: ESEDI, when our students created and acted a bilingual play in Spanish-Romanian and we developed a workshop on drama as a methodological tool.

We participated in another Transversal Ka2 project which used art methods to fight early school leaving (ITCLEX).

We noticed how our students' horizon and knowledge were broadened, how they acquired foreign languages and communication skills during their mobility or being hosts for the partner students mobility. We believe that the students who have taken part in the activities of an European project are better prepared to pass an interview and get a job when they graduate. That is why we try to participate and involve our students in more European projects concerning foreign languages, drama/theatre, music and media in order to prepare them better for the labor market.

Currently, Colegiul National de Arta "Octav Bancila" is involved in two Erasmus+ KA2 projects: 1. Join Opportunities of Inclusion in Eu Society through Sport and Music (third year of development)



2. My City, My Home, My responsibility (CHIME) also an Erasmus+ KA2 project, which will last 2017 – 2019.

Our teachers have taken part in several European courses (Comenius or Erasmus+ KA 1) and now they practice the teaching methods they've learned.

Our students study the following foreign languages: English, French, Italian, German and Spanish within the school curriculum.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

Colegiul National de Arta "Octav Bancila" has been working in both artistic and methodological projects. In the first category can be included ITCLEX and Join Opportunities of Inclusion in Eu Society through Sport and Music. The latter is implemented also in the school year 2017-2018.

As mentioned above, our school started in September 2017 the development of the Erasmus+ KA2 partnership with 5 other schools from 5 different countries.

As the title states: 2. My City, My Home, My responsibility (CHIME) is about local culture and history, how to learn the history of our towns throughout artistic activities based on local legends collected from the senior citizens of the town, old media articles, urban myths.

In all our projects – local or European – we consider all participants as equal and try to induce this Principle to our students too. The Project Off Book will come very handy in solving some dissensions more easily, in learning how not to be judgemental.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

As an Art school, we think art is always related to communication, understanding, empathy, solving conflicts, getting rid of discrimination, developing our students' emotional intelligence and fostering their self esteem; thus, we believe we can provide the following contribution to the project OFF BOOK:

- We will share good practices and test Teatro Stabile di Grosseto experience (**Theatrical Laboratories**) in our school environment;
- We'll use **Theatrical Laboratories** as pedagogical tools to improve the classroom study atmosphere and enhance students' motivation, to make students highlighting the best parts of their personality, treating the different with deference;
- We'll use drama in an active context, not only during the theatre profile classes that we already have, but also during other classes - to make students face auditions, presentations, exams and eventually job interviews without nervousness;
- We'll develop students' (and implicitly teachers') awareness of the importance of contributing to the improvement of their own education by participatory inclusion;
- We'll make children acquire an European perspective of wider education;
- We'll introduce in the school syllabus the practical upgrading approach of **Theatrical Laboratories** and the adjustment of all skills in order to make our students competitive on the labour market;
- We'll develop openness to dialogue, first by attending the course in the project and then by putting in practice in the classroom what we will have learned;

Reasons of involvement in the project

The project OFF BOOK is a nice surprise that comes after we developed a project against early school leaving: ITCLEX. The problem of early school leaving is still a very serious problem in Romania and we need some experienced methods like this one to fight it.

Therefore, we can also add the good practice of Teatro Stabile di Grosseto experience to our classical education approach and turn it better.

We know that, every time our teachers attend some course, their teaching becomes better and this theme is as close to our school profile as it can be.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Nicoleta Camelia Amaritei

She attended and has a BA from the Universitatea Națională de Arte "George Enescu" Iași, Facultatea de Compoziție, Muzicologie și Pedagogie Muzicală between 1990-1995.

Since 1996 up to the present- she has been a teacher of Music theory at Colegiul Național de Artă "Octav Băncilă" Iași

She also has a MA 2005-2007- in Communication from the Faculty of Psychology of "Al.I.Cuza" University of Iași

For 8 years, from 2009 to 2017- she was the Deputy Principal of Colegiul Național de Artă "Octav Băncilă" Iași

She has a diploma and is an expert in Corpul Național de Experți in Educational Management (C.N.E.M.E.)

She is a Mentor for the teachers at the beginning of their career, working with the county educational authority, Inspectoratul Școlar Județean Iași

She worked in a few P.O.S.D.R.U. projects as well as Leonardo da Vinci Projects

She edited and published the volume dedicated to the National Contest of Music Theory "Constantin Constantinescu" Iași, editions 1-10