

## Hello colleagues and friends!

After a small break, here comes a summer newsletter bringing you news about our past events and future projects. The whole team of Beyond Barriers hopes you'll enjoy it!  
Enjoy reading and enjoy the summer! ☺

## Local projects



### ✓ Centre of Local voluntary service's activities

[www.vullnetarizmi.org](http://www.vullnetarizmi.org)

The centre of local voluntary service was officially opened on 14 April on a gala ceremony and attended by more than 200 people.

This project is planned for the entire year 2011, financed by IPA funding (financial instrument for the EU pre-accession process). Among different programmes that are

planned within this framework, LVS has several of them underway:

- **Computer course:** Twice a week, Arlinda Binaj the volunteer of LVS, provides computer course for a group of 6 people with physical disabilities. They are getting knowledge in informatics: basic knowledge about computers, internet and office software.
- **English course:** The course started on 1 May with 6 people following it. It is run by Albert Tafani at the office of LVS and is going to last for 3 months. The students are making a quick progress and are starting to communicate in English already.
- **Leisure and Art activities:** On the 8 June, our 4 EVS and local volunteers prepared a great surprise before summer holidays for 30 children from the special school Luigj Gurakuqi as they took them to the Academy of Film & Multimedia *Marubi* where the children watched an animation movie "Tom & Jerry". The volunteers were really glad to be able to offer this to the children and to see their smiles, to hear them shouting with joy while watching the movie.

### ✓ A summer with us! – Summer school for the children with disabilities.

The whole August, Beyond Barriers will organise a summer school for the children with disabilities, with title "A summer with us". It will provide children with quality summer school experiences and to begin the process of instilling children, at an early age with a sense of independence. Furthermore, going out of environment of school where these children stay for the whole year will help them to develop a sense of themselves as capable individuals. The program is designed to be recreational but it is also therapeutic and educational. Children will work on necessary daily living skills socialization and cooperation, which is essential for this target group. The project is financed by UNICEF and SOROS Foundation Albania.



### ✓ Camp with youngsters who can't hear

For the first time, the youth section of the organisation ANAD (Albanian National Association for Deaf) organised a camp for deaf youngsters and young people who can hear. This camp took place in Golem, Durrës from 20 to 26 June 2011. All along the week, around 35 participants had time to learn more about each other, to play games and to learn sign language. The Local Voluntary Service Centre and Beyond Barriers were partners to this camp.

### Picture of the month

#### How to participate in the Picture of the month competition?

If you are 15-30 years old and live in Albania, you can send us your picture on the subject of **volunteerism** (max. 2 per month) in JPEG format to the following e-mail address:

[adeline.charnet@beyondbarriers.org](mailto:adeline.charnet@beyondbarriers.org)

Include also the date and place where the photography was taken and a short description. All the pictures will be of USE to BBA and we will have the copyright of using them for other materials, adding the name of author of the photo.

## CONTACTS

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## International Projects

### ✓ EVS

- **Long-term EVS:** What about our 4 EVS volunteers? They are still alive! On 10 June they finished working in the special school due to summer holidays of kids but they are eager to start with activities in September in school again and even more for August when the Summer school begins. Till then, their work is not finished and you can see them in the office working on other assignments, before they leave to Belgrade for their mid-term training followed by a week off to explore Albania and enjoy the country ☺

### - **Promotion of Volunteering and Inclusion in Albania**

In the hottest month August, when everyone is in holidays we will be still working to fulfill what we believe in. We are preparing to host 10 EVS volunteers from UK, who will spend a month with us and the children of the special school Luigj Gurakuqi in Tirana. If you want to join us as a volunteer just to socialise with our guests, send us a mail at [evs@beyondbarriers.org](mailto:evs@beyondbarriers.org). This project a cooperation among ASHA Centre in UK and beyond Barriers Association in Albania, granted under Youth in Action programme from the UK National Agency- British Council.

### - **Volunteering?! Yes, we can!**

This is the other long term project that we are going to host from 1 October 2011 until 31 July 2012 in Tirana. We will host 4 other volunteers, 2 from our partner organisation ProAtlantico - Portugal and 2 from TDM2000 - Italy. The volunteers will work with children with disability and also promotion of local and international volunteering in Albania.

### ✓ **SEE Youth for European Year 2011 – the biggest event for the EYV2011 for the Balkan Region**

This was one of the biggest events that took place from 20-25 June 2011, in Sarajevo BiH and that was dedicated to the volunteering policies and practices in the South Eastern Europe. The event was organised from SEEYN network and its partners. In terms of the IPA project, Beyond Barriers had the opportunity to introduce to the guests the developments of Local Voluntary Service in Tirana. The seminar hosted more than 80 people from all over Balkan region and many guest speakers such as from OSCE, EU Delegation of BiH, Polish Embassy in BiH, France Benevoilat - France, European Volunteer Centre (CEV) - Belgium, PILnet – Global Network for Public Interest Law - Hungary, International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE)- USA, Salto-SEE – Slovenia, TACSO office of BiH etc. Find more info about it [www.seeyn.org](http://www.seeyn.org) or of facebook <http://www.facebook.com/seeyn>



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✓ **Volunteers in Action – Photo exhibition in Black Box gallery in Sarajevo**

While the above mentioned seminar took place, there was also another important and very interesting happening in Sarajevo. The photo competition of SEEYN got finalised with a very interesting Exhibition in the BlackBox Gallery of Sarajevo. The 20 best photos together with the 3 winning photos and a cover, were exposed in this gallery while the opening ceremony hosted the participants of the seminar and many other interested citizens of Sarajevo who visited the exposition during the whole day. Our EVS volunteers Adeline Charnet got the Third Place with the picture on the side, taken during her daily work with children with disability. Congratulations Adeline!



✓ **Activities within Youth in Action programme**

- **Let's be active! Tools to be effective in our local community, Albania:** Beyond Barriers took part in this training course from 19 to 26 of May in Durrës and organised from the network TDM2000 International. The aim was to offer participants advanced tools and new contacts in order to manage new projects between European Union and South East Europe countries.
- **Rainbow of desires, Romania:** From 12 to 20 June, 3 volunteers represented Beyond Barriers in a training course about a specific technique of the Theatre of the Oppressed elaborated by Augusto Boal in the 1960's. The training was organised from the partner organisation Epsilon III Association.

✓ **Comming soon...**

- **Thinkertoys for educators, Letoni:** This is the training to be organised in Latvia from 7-14 August and where BBA will be represented by two young leaders that will have the possibility to learn more and acquire new skills on how to work with young people. The training aims at fostering creative thinking and writing in non formal education and youth work.
- **What you get is what you give, Albania:** Training course for 33 youth leaders from 11 countries who work and are willing to continue working with European voluntary service action. The project will be held from 3 to 10 August in Vlora, Albania and its main topic is based in voluntarism, its promotion to youngsters, exchanging of experiences and improving competencies of participants while dealing with EVS projects.

✓ **Youth in Action Contact Point**

As presented in the previous edition of "Ç'kemi" Beyond Barriers is the Youth in Action Contact Point for Albania for another two years, for the Youth in Action 2007-2013 programme of the European Commission.



Education and Culture DG

The next **Informing Session about YIA** will be organised **'Youth in Action' Programme** on ...

For more information about the activities of the Contact Point you can check our website and/or write us on the e-mail address: [contactpoint@beyondbarriers.org](mailto:contactpoint@beyondbarriers.org)

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## Calendar

### May

- 1<sup>st</sup> - International labour day
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Constitution day (Poland)
- 8<sup>th</sup> - local elections in Albania
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Europe day
- 15<sup>th</sup> - holiday of town municipality of Koper
- 21<sup>st</sup> - World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
- 31<sup>st</sup> - World No Tobacco Day

### August

- 5<sup>th</sup> - International Forgiveness Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> - International Youth Day
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Assumption Day
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Stalinism and Nazism

### June

- 1<sup>st</sup> - International Children's Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> - International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
- 5<sup>th</sup> - World Environment Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> - World Day Against Child Labour
- 14<sup>th</sup> - World Blood Donor Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Autistic Pride Day
- 20<sup>th</sup> - World Refugee Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Statehood day of Republic of Slovenia
- 26<sup>th</sup> - International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

### July

- 11<sup>th</sup> - World Population Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Bastille day (national holiday in France)
- 30<sup>th</sup> - International Day of Friendship

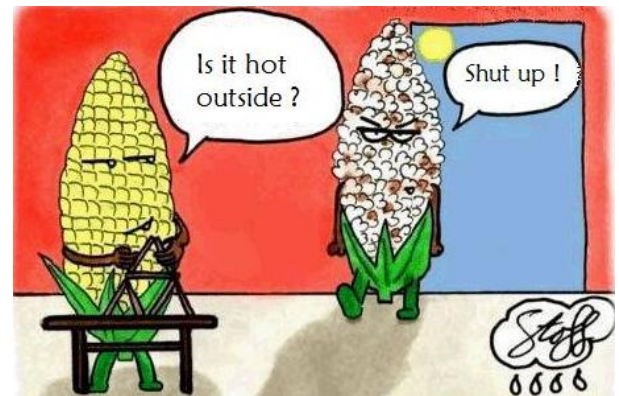
### Activist of the month



This time we present you as Beyond Barriers' Activist of the Month **Ermir Destani**. Photographer and computer graphic designer who uses his skills volunteering on lots of our projects and among others creates booklets, flyers, posters but also helps with our new website.

A big thank to Eri for his work!

### Corner of fun



### You can join us!

You have some spare time and want to use it for active participation or you have an idea but you don't know how to implement it or just lack some resources? Come to visit us or contact us and become one of our volunteers!

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