



Brave Kids 2016 Final Show

Brave Kids 2017 Call for Groups

Brave Kids is a unique cultural-educational project dedicated to uniting children from different parts of the world in a common creative endeavor. Children participate in the exchange of their artistic skills, traditions, and cultures, while also creating a platform to discuss the problems that affect many communities around the globe.

We are now welcoming applications from groups of young artists interested in participating in Brave Kids 2017 in June/July 2017. You can find the application form [here](#).

What does it mean to be a Brave Kids Group?

Brave Kids Groups are made up of 4-6 young artists accompanied by one adult leader. As a rule, children should be between 8 and 14 years old. Exceptionally, we welcome teenagers. However, they cannot be the majority of the group (maximum 2 kids between 14 and 16 years of age). Leaders must be at least 18 years of age, have strong English language proficiency, and know the children in the group well. They can be a teacher or supervisor at the children's local organization or a person that used to participate in the children's group.



By becoming a Brave Kids Group you commit to:

- **Sharing your skills and culture**

We welcome groups of children who regularly gather in their local environment to practice any kind of performing arts and are open to share their skills with peers from different parts of the world. During 3 and ½ weeks artistic groups from different countries will meet in a European city in order to exchange their skills and cultures. The program consists mainly of artistic workshops based on our "kids teach kids" method. With the help of professional artistic instructors who serve as facilitators, all groups teach one another the skills they have developed in lessons, workshops or classes in their home countries. As a result, all children need to be skilled in their art forms and be ready to teach their skills to other Brave Kids participants. These skills can be diverse: traditional music and dance, break dance, circus arts, classical music, acrobatics, among others.

- **Being hosted by local families**

All participants (children and their leaders) stay in pairs with local families who volunteer to host Brave Kids. The host families provide accommodation and food and organize activities such as sightseeing and other excursions during free time. The host families are an important part of the project and extend our mission of intercultural dialogue and learning.

Before becoming hosts for Brave Kids, these families go through a selection process which includes: a general meeting with the host families coordinator, single meeting with the coordinator to assess conditions for hosting, a first aid course, and workshops on intercultural communication, conflict resolution, and English language, among others.

The children are hosted in the families in pairs. Therefore, we guarantee that they are never left alone with people they do not know. Sometimes the leader of the group is hosted with one of the pairs of children, but such cases depend on the conditions the host families can offer.

If you would like to learn more about Host Families, you can watch a [short documentary](#) created after Brave Kids 2013.



Costs: Brave Kids covers the cost of food, accommodation, and local travel during the project. For groups from developing countries, Brave Kids also covers the costs of international travel and the Schengen visa. However, we are not able to pay for issuing passports. Our ability to cover costs is determined for each group on a case by case basis. In addition, we always encourage our groups to have an active role in the search of sponsors for their international travel.

If you are interested in sharing your artistic skills and traditions and learning from others, please apply [here](#).

For more details, please contact:

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Brave Kids Mission

Our mission is to bring together children from all over the world in an atmosphere of friendship and respect for each other's cultures. We do so by joining children together in artistic experiences aimed to inspire them to imagine a better future for themselves and their communities and providing them with the tools to help realize their aspirations.

The Brave Kids creative process provides young participants with the opportunity to express themselves and their culture. **Participants are supported to discover their own unique potential and value, which raises their confidence and aspirations.** Under the guidance of project facilitators, young participants teach and lead each other, encouraging them to exchange ideas, skills, and approaches. By collaborating with other young people from diverse backgrounds on a common creative project, participants develop their ability to communicate and learn to understand difference and celebrate common experience. **This valuable and exciting artistic process nurtures the emotional and social development of its young participants, helping them to make steps towards positive transformation in their own lives and in their communities in the long-term.**

Brave Kids promotes cross-cultural understanding amongst the next generation by connecting young people from different countries and backgrounds in a shared creative endeavor. By providing a platform for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds and the teachers, mentors and activists who champion their rights, **Brave Kids hopes to stimulate debate and positive change to help address the inequalities facing children around the world.**

Our Growing Network



Brave Kids is a thriving initiative which is continuing to develop its reach and impact. Since its foundation, participants for Brave Kids have grown from 15 in 2009, to 144 in 2016.

We have cooperated with groups and organizations from Europe, North America, South America, Africa, and Asia:

Chamwino Arts Centre. **Tanzania**
Sunflower School Theatre. **Ukraine**
Aldebaran Thearte. **Norway**
Ukuleles for Peace. **Israel**
Banana Kids. **Czech Republic**
Breakdance Project. **Uganda**
Hope4street. **Poland**
Mizero Children. **Rwanda**
OPEN SPACE Foundation. **Bulgaria**
M.Y.T.A/ROKPA. **Zimbabwe**
ROKPA CHILDREN. **Nepal**
Tismana village. **Romania**
Teatr PUK PUK. **Poland**
Caritas. **Georgia**
Awake Youth. **Sweden**
Frespirit Foundation. **Ghana**
Case Molino - Qui Ternape, **Italy**
Red Nose Foundation. **Indonesia**
Kathputli Colony. **India**
Mais Caminhos. **Brazil**
Butterfly Children. **Laos**
Act4Art. **Romania**
Haliganda. **Slovakia**
Association for Returnees. **Burundi**
Guija Ting African Art. **Uganda**
Rajasthan Folf Legacy Society. **India**
MiniArtShow, **Romania**
Estudio21, **Spain**

Ashtar Theatre/The Gaza Mono-logues. **Palestinian Autonomy**
Wałbrzych Song and Dance Group. **Poland**
Association of Culture Practitioners. **Poland**
Ein –dor, Nazareth folk dance group. **Israel**
Hong Kong Youth Drama Ambassador Scheme. **China**
In Movement - Art for social change. **Uganda**
Sdruzeni Petrov/MiniMerci. **Czech Republic**
ROKPA ZIMBABWE/ Chiedza Child Care Centre. **Zimbabwe**
Samtskhe-Javakheti Regional Association “Toleranti”. **Georgia**
Terne Romani Bacht. **Poland**
Centre for family and children support “Kelechek”. **Kyrgyzstan**
Youth Association for Culture and Development. **Morocco**
Mongolfieri Theatre-Circus. **Russia**
Hastor Foundation. **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
Sirguline Folk Group, **Estonia**
Zahessi 5 - Fifth Zurab Anjaparidze Art School, **Georgia**
Casa Hogar Nueva Vida, **Mexico**
Reverence Dance School, **Moldova**
Foundation of Good Roma Fairy Kesaj, **Slovakia**
Council for Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, **Macedonia**
Donya Children’s Research Institute. **Iran**
Armenian Youth from Akhaltsikhe, **Georgia**
Naregatsi Art Institute. **Nagorno-Karabakh**
Center for Child Advocacy and Life Planning. **Uganda**
“Arktika” Boarding School. **Jacutia Republic. Russia**
School nr1. **Republic of Buryatia. Russia**
Community House Zboyischa. **Ukraine**
Dance Effort, **Poland**

Brave Kids History

2009

The pilot edition of Brave Kids took place in Wrocław, Poland in 2009. Fifteen children from Nepal and Uganda participated in two weeks of artistic workshops, which culminated in a final performance prepared together with children from one of Wrocław's day-shelters. This pilot project gave both the participants and those who saw the final show the very first hints of the power of art as a means of overcoming traumatic experiences and destructive limitations.



2010

The first official edition of Brave Kids took place in 2010 with 35 children. Participating groups included orphaned children from Zimbabwe, Rwanda (from both Tutsi and Hutu groups), and Nepal along with Swedish youth, refugees from Chechnya and Ingushetia, and a group of children from Poland (Wrocław).

2011

In this edition, friendship was built between 45 children from artistic groups from Uganda, Rwanda, the Czech Republic, Norway, Palestinian Autonomy (Gaza Strip) and two groups from Poland, including refugees from the Northern Caucasus. The Brave Kids Final Show was featured as part of our sister project Brave Festival, and children from Brave Kids performed for 700 viewers.

2012

In 2012 the project took a leap, with the participation of 98 kids from 11 countries: Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, China, Georgia, Israel, Czech Republic, Norway, Bulgaria, Kyrgyzstan and Poland. For the first time, the first stage of the project was divided between two cities in Poland: Wrocław and Szczecin. The final performance was seen by the audience of the Brave Festival in Wrocław and in the Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris (France). The program for children at UNESCO Headquarters was accompanied by an intense seminar devoted to the situation of children in the world and the role of arts and culture in social change.



2013

In 2013 93 kids from 12 countries (China, India, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Brazil, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Israel, Laos, Poland, Georgia and Czech Republic) took part in the project. The first stage of Brave Kids took place in 4 different cities of Poland: Wrocław, Łódź, Warszawa, and Puszczkowo. The second part of the project was held in Krośnice, a small town near Wrocław, where participants worked together on their final show, which was presented during the 9th edition of the Brave Festival.

2014

In 2014 97 children from 16 different countries participated. For the first time, Brave Kids welcomed a group from South America (Brazil). Workshops took place in 4 cities of Poland: Wrocław, Wałbrzych, Warszawa, Puszczkowo, and then all participants met once again in Krośnice to collaborate on a final common performance.



2015

In 2015 the project continued growing with the astounding participation of 113 children from 16 countries – the biggest Brave Kids since its beginning! Brave Kids 2015 took place in 5 Polish cities: Puszczykowo, Przemyśl, Wałbrzych, Warszawa and Wrocław. At the end of the second week of the project, all groups met together in the same town – Zagórze Śląskie – in order to cooperate in the creation of a common final show. A colorful Final Show was presented in Wrocław for the audience of the Brave Festival.

2016

In 2016 we expanded yet again. On June 18th, 2016, we welcomed 144 children from 24 artistic groups from 19 countries to participate in Brave Kids! We also added two international partners: Slovakia and Georgia. The first stage of the project took place in three Polish cities (Wrocław, Warszawa, Wałbrzych) and in Kosice, Slovakia, and Akhaltsikhe, Georgia. In the second stage, all artistic groups met in Oborniki Śląskie (about 25km from Wrocław) to put together a final performance that premiered at Hala Stulecia in Wrocław for an audience of 1600!



Audience for Brave Kids 2016 Final Show



If you are interested in sharing your artistic skills and traditions and learning from others, please apply [here](#).

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