

# Brave Kids 2018 Call for Groups



Brave Kids 2017 Grand Finale

*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.*

*Brave Kids is organized by Song of the Goat Theatre Association in Wrocław, Poland.*

[bravekids.eu](http://bravekids.eu)

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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 professional artistic instructors who serve as 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.**

## How Does the Project Work?

# Brave Kids Project Infographic



Groups are separated into Brave Kids Cities where they stay for the first two weeks.

First Stage: Artistic Groups arrive in Poland and Slovakia



Children and their group leaders stay with local host families in Brave Kids Cities.

Kids participate in artistic workshops, teaching one another their songs, dances, and other arts and collaborating on a common performance.



After two weeks of hard work and play, groups in each Brave Kids City present their City Final Show.



Second Stage: All groups convene in Oborniki Śląskie, a beautiful green town 30km from Wrocław.



For one week, all kids work together to create one common performance.

The kids travel together with their leaders and artistic instructors to Wrocław to present the Brave Kids Grand Finale Show.



## BRAVE KIDS GRAND FINALE!



Since 2016, we also have also produced Brave Kids in Georgia, and starting in 2018, we will have new editions in both Ukraine and Romania.

## 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. Children should be between 8 and 16 years old. 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. During the project, Group Leaders participate in their own program of activities and run workshops for local children, in addition to supervising and supporting their groups.

Our project has a priority to serve the most disadvantaged children, especially those who are orphans or who are marginalized in some way in their communities (because of socioeconomic status, race, religion, ability, etc.). However, we also welcome participants from more stable backgrounds who are interested in intercultural friendship. We partner with strong, socially-minded, mission-driven organizations, but we also welcome informal groups of children who have started to practice some form of art as a way to improve their lives and their communities.

### 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 2 to 3 weeks artistic groups from different countries 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" model. 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.

## When and Where Does the Project Take Place?

Brave Kids 2018 will take place in several different locations at different times. Exact dates will be determined in early 2018.

Poland/Slovakia (in multiple cities) - June/July 2018 (approximately 21 days)

Georgia (in multiple cities) - end of July 2018 (approximately 10 days)

Ukraine - mid-September 2018 (approximately 10 days)

Romania - TBD

While we generally match groups to locations, we also welcome group input on their desired location.

## Costs

Brave Kids covers the cost of food, accommodation, and local travel during the project. For groups from developing countries and from disadvantaged backgrounds, Brave Kids also covers the costs of international travel and the Schengen visa, when needed. 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.

Our project enjoys Honorary Patronage from UNESCO and is organized with financial support from the Municipality of Wrocław, the Polish Ministry of Culture, and the European Commission, as well as from other local municipalities where the project takes places.

## 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 (Brave Kids Pilot Edition) to 159 in 2017.

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

Chamwino Arts Centre, **Tanzania**  
Sunflower School Theatre, **Ukraine**  
Aldebaran Theatre, **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**  
Freespirit 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 Monologues, **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**  
Folk Dance Ensemble Seltinis, **Lithuania**  
Group RIDETO, **Poland**  
Theatre “Under the Bridge,” **Ukraine**  
The Buds, **Romania**  
Novy Kadr, **Ukraine**  
Group TFD, **Turkey**  
Klub Cordex, **Poland**  
CircEsteem, **USA**  
The Song and Dance Show Group, **Romania**  
Koinonia Children Team, **Kenya**  
Colourful Children, **Poland**  
Wałbrzyznian Talent School, **Poland**  
Shevardeni Ensemble, **Georgia**

## How to Apply

If you are interested in sharing your artistic skills and traditions and learning from others or for more information, please contact:

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