

Project "Graffiti Art Takes the Street"

Newsletter #1

(April-July 2021)

■ What is the GATS project?

The project GATS is an Erazmus+ project that strives for major changes in societal views, or in other words, how specific art, like street art graffiti, is perceived. Up until now, it is familiar to all of us how graffiti art was struggling to gain a good reputation as a type of art.

Here is when the GATS project steps into place and takes action. The goal of the project is to improve the reputation of graffiti, making them more acceptable by authorities and communities, but also more accessible and shown in urban areas of frequent movement as well. Along with this, it will also strive to improve the networking and employability of graffiti artists.

★ Let's present the team behind GATS

The consortium of GATS is comprised of organizations from 4 different partner countries; "Embaixada da Juventude" from Portugal as coordinator, then "Eco-Logic" from Macedonia, "Udruzenje Gradjana BUM" from Serbia, and "uniT GmbH" from Austria as partners.



"Embaixada da Juventude" has a rich experience in working with the inclusion of youths and marginalized people too, talent development, youth participation, talent discovery, as well as art; theatre, music, crafts, and all connected to the youths.



"Eco-Logic" has experience working on themes like environment preservation, ecology, cycling, sustainable development, promoting the concepts of 'green' and green-jobs, researching and creating educational content, as well as blending such concepts into gamification methods and board games too.



"Udruzenje Gradjana BUM" is experienced in working on civil activism, cultural development and community creativity, intercultural dialogue, environment protection, gender equality, support of civil society organizations, innovative youth groups, and organizing art events and exhibitions as well.

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"uniT GmbH" has experience in working with arts and adult education; theatre performances, art projects with elders, migrants, students, then translations and showings of theatre plays, activities with photography, filming, dancing, painting, literature - all with the goal of better inclusion of youths and marginalized groups both.

Such multi-experienced organizations can bring a lot to GATS, from the activism perspective, as well as the creative one!

What will inspire the artists to draw the graffiti pieces?

GATS is more precise in its goal than just general improvement of the reputation of street art. The street art created within this project will be specifically appointed on the themes:

- Environment
- Ecology
- Climate change
- Youth activism

What do we want to achieve? And how will we do that?

- 1) **Improving the reputation of street art graffiti** via meaningful and useful inspiration themes that are educational and beneficial.
- 2) **Conveying important messages** that are often neglected; our environment, our Planet Earth with its climate, and engaging the youths in more activism overall wellbeing from many aspects.
- 3) Enriching the **network** of the artists by organizing their sessions, encouraging group work whenever possible, and enabling socializing while being productive.
- 4) Increasing their **employability** through enriching their portfolio and being active with GATS

■ What do we do now...?

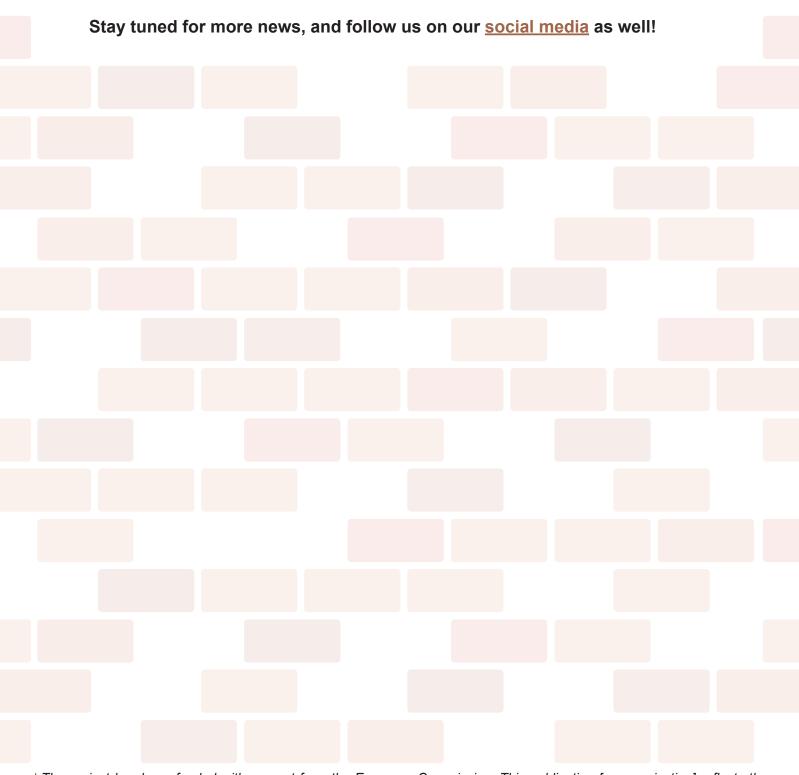
Now in the springtime, we are actively engaged in a search for graffiti artists that will be the 'creative' hand behind the pieces of art in several urban areas, in cities of each partner country of the project. We have all prepared and are using a call for artists to gather and select from a talented group of enrolled potential candidates, enrolling with their portfolios of exemplary work in this field.





What is next?

As artists express their interest and sign up, we, the partners, will be choosing and defining the precise urban locations where the graffiti will be drawn and set, so once the selection is finalized, the chosen artists will start drawing in the Autumn time.



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