

Fundația “Român în Olanda”

FOUNDATION “ROMÂN ÎN OLANDA”

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Stichting “Român în Olanda”

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Background

The Romanian community in the Netherlands is mainly formed by two groups of migrations: one historical, created between 1970 - 1990 and a newer one, constantly expanding due to the professional mobility, formed after 2000. Currently there are about 20,000 Romanian in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Each ethnicity is defined primarily by reference to its language. Inevitably the question "What are you?" subsumes another question whose answer is more nuanced and difficult to give: "Who are you?" "Where do you come from and where are you going?" These are interrogations resulting from the natural search for identity, personal values and not least, integration in the Dutch society and culture. The foundation "Român in Olanda" has been created to tackle these very topics.

Summary

The overall objective is to guide and consolidate the Romanian community in order to integrate and feel at home in The Netherlands. For achieving this overall objective, we organize a series of events and activities involving pluri-disciplinary aspects:

- build a cultural bridge between the cultural heritage, the folkloric and spiritual Romanian traditions and the Netherlands;
- create an artistic and scientific connection between Romania and the Netherlands by geography, art, science, people and places;
- understand and nurture the cultural identity values emphasizing openness and empathy for Dutch cultural identity values;
- increase awareness of Romanian language – the ability to comprehend, convey and receive messages in Romanian language (spoken and written);
- develop a creative and playful environment where the pupils can feel secure to communicate and participate;

Our mission

Classes

In 2016, The School comprised one group of young children (of 3,5 to 7 years old) and one group of older children (of 7 to 11 years old) totalizing 26 children. Two teachers carry out weekly classes for the two groups. One group of 9 adult students also attend weekly classes held by a third teacher.

The classes attended by the *young group* aim at:

- teaching a phonetically correct verbal expression;
- oral language development of creativity and expressiveness;
- stimulating curiosity by explaining and understanding the environment.

The classes attended by the *elder group* aim at:

- reading: to read properly and expressive texts used at the time of primer;
- writing: to recognize and write letters with diacritical marks, Romanian language specific groups of letters, diphthongs and triphthongs;
- phonetics: to know how to break words into syllables;
- oral communication: using dialogue, indirect speech, story-telling.

The general objectives for *both groups* comprise:

- enriching the active and passive vocabulary based on experience, lexica and syntaxes;
- understanding and conveying simple messages; react to them;
- comprehending a text; retaining the main ideas and discussing a given text;
- participating in group activities both as speaker and as listener.

Parent communication

Parents are involved on a regular basis and their feedback is integrated in order to constantly improve and adapt the classes to the current situations.

Meetings

Board and Parent Council are held at least once each semester.

The Team

Parent Council

Bogdan Gavaza +31636597033 bogdan@gavaza.org

Ioana Tomescu +31642724951 ioanatomescu@hotmail.com

Teachers

Mrs Eliza van Peppen - young children group

Mrs Diana Gealep - elder children group

Mrs Gia Crisan - adult students group

Interns and Speakers

Mrs Irina Fundeanu - young children group assistant

Mr Gabriel Barbalau - music workshop

Mrs Germina Punga – Herbreteau – painting workshop

Mrs Mira Feticu – literature workshop

Risk assessment

The School’s organizers distributed to each parent and student the following circular:

“Every child should always be under the responsibility of an adult. Indeed, children are under the responsibility of the teacher during the course including the time when a child is out of the classroom, for example at the bathroom. Photos and videos can be taken for the purpose of pedagogical documentation provided that this does not disclose the non-public infrastructure of the course’s location.”

Teachers’ professional development

Because of the lack of budget, no training was offered in 2016.

Feedback and complaints

At least once per semester, the teachers of both children’s groups meet individually with the parent(s) of each child (children). In these 10-minute meetings, the teacher and the parent discuss the integration and progress of the child, and provide to each other feedback. These meetings are voluntary and confidential.

Furthermore, at the end of each semester, the course organizers and the teachers ask the parents and the adult students to provide feedback. This assists the organizers and the teachers to consider and address any aspect that the children, the parents and the adult students consider important to help improving this course in accordance with the target groups’ expectations. A special form is circulated (by email) to the parents and the adult students to be filled in and returned to the organizers and teachers. In this form, the parents and adult students may also give grades (from 1 to 5) and provide comments and suggestions regarding all aspects of the course.

Goals for next year

We aim into moving to a more suitable location, open a group for teenagers and consolidate the financial situation with more subsidies.

Looking back at 2016

In the reported period, the School consisted of one group of young children (4 to 7 years old) and one group of older children (7 to 10 years old) amounting to 26 children. Two teachers carry out weekly classes for the two groups. In addition, one group of 9 adult students also attend weekly classes held by a third teacher.

Classes held in 2015/2016:

1st semester (21 classes) – start date: 5 September 2015

2nd semester (16 classes) – start date: 5 March 2016

Classes held in 2016/2017:

1st semester (20 classes) – start date: 10 September 2016

2nd semester (16 classes) – start date: 11 March 2017

Looking forward to 2017

In 2016, numbers of children in young group (of 4 to 7 years old) and that of children in the older group (of 7 to 10 years old) are expected to increase. Also, the group of adults attending Romanian language courses is expected to enlarge. Furthermore, we intend to create a language class for teenagers.

In addition, the visibility of the project will be achieved through communications, short movies, photos and filmed reports, made available to the Romanians in the Netherlands, and also those from other countries, on the website of the Foundation, as well as on Facebook, from each of the participants, parents, teachers. The Board will ensure that journalists and media reporters from the Netherlands and Romania will be invited to every important event held.

Classes expected to be held in 2017:

1st semester (18 classes) – start date: 9 September 2017

2nd semester (13 classes) – start date: 17 March 2018

Turnover of contributions and expenses account

<i>1 March 2016 – 31 March 2017 (euro)</i>	
Contributions	
Contributions (parents and adult students)	8,670.00
Subsidy from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania	1,232.60
Total income	9,902.60
Expenses	
Personnel	4,500.00 (3 teachers x EUR 1,500.00 x per year)
Preparation of the curriculum materials (by the teachers)	540.00
Supplies (paper, pencils, glue, erasers, etc.)	933.32
Facilities	(offered free of charge by sponsor)
Production of photographs and short videos	1,000.00
Books for the children's library	882.51
Culinary workshop for children	335.00
Website of the course (administration and maintenance)	520.00
Civil liability premium (per annum)	284.28
Reserve for 2017	907.49
Total costs	9,902.60