

**BVS/BRETHREN SERVICE
PROJECT FORM**

Name of project/organization: OKC “Abrasevic” (Youth Cultural Center “Abrasevic”)

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www.okc-media.org

BVser’s job title: ASSISTANT TO PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

BVser’s immediate supervisor: Kristina Coric, coordinator of the Management team of OKC Abrasevic

Description of project/organization:

Please include

- *overall purpose or goals of your organization,*

Youth Cultural Centre “Abrasevic” is open network of nongovernmental organizations, non-formal groups and individuals which exists to ensure an adequate role of the youth in the social and cultural processes in Mostar. By offering them space, support and connection it strengthens and encourages young people to work on improvement and diversity of cultural offer, as well as on efficient solving of social issues important for their future in Mostar and region.

Idea of YCC “Abrasevic” is to create open society where youth, with their own efforts, actively influence on positive changes in social, political and cultural life of community.

Our objectives:

1. **Democratisation:** launching and strengthening citizens’ initiatives that contribute to (re)construction of cultural, artistic, social and political life of the city and the country, and raising public awareness about the important issues in society, such as culture, human rights, economy, ecology and politics.
2. **Interaction:** increasing contact between different cultures and communities in order to raise intercultural awareness, while preserving an individual identity that favors the building of self-esteem and process of auto-identification.
3. **Confidence building:** affirming the young population, increasing their knowledge and promoting new initiatives, cultural and artistic trends, with the aim of building self-confidence of youth and confirming their capacity to act within their society.
4. **Education:** offering formal and non-formal learning opportunities that support the creative and productive personal development of youth and help them acquire learning and working habits and skills and youth mobility.
5. **Cooperation:** Association of non-governmental organizations with the aim of reinforcing their recognition and impact in society and building sustainability.
6. **Cultural development:** strengthening the artistic and cultural fields in Mostar and the region by offering structure, space, time, technique and logistics to a quality program, for artists as well as for the public, on the local and international levels.

- *description of programs,*

- Media center (video, radio, journalistic workshops, web portal, radio shows, activist video, campaigns)

- Rehearsal/music room
- Trainings and seminars (strategic planning, cultural management, technical trainings)
- Workshops (photo workshop, theater workshop, drums workshop...)
- Cultural program (concerts, screenings, poetry evenings, theater, promotions, exhibitions)
- Sports and ecological activities (eco club, cycling, trekking, alpinism)
- Festivals (Mostar Intercultural festival, Short film festival, Audio art festival)
- Exchanges (festivals, study visits, conferences)
- Work camps (ecological work camps, reconstruction work camps)
- Info Center (promotion of sexual and reproductive health of youth)

- *brief history,*
very, very brief:

YCC “Abrašević” is the NGO created in July 2003 by a collective of different NGOs, informal groups and individuals from the town of Mostar who joined to gather their own ideas, people, means and energy and reclaimed a pre-war cultural center in Mostar as a space for their activities, with the aim of making it a public space accessible to all people of Mostar.

The campaign which was launched in spring 2003, resulted in a success only three months later. Ever since, OKC Abrasevic is working on reconstruction of the ruined buildings to achieve a fully reconstructed and equipped facilities that could welcome the young people of Mostar that wish to implement activities as well as artists and performers from the whole world.

In 2005, the performance hall was rehabilitated to an extent and now represent the only performance hall of this size in Mostar (600 standing places). The workshop and office space, as well as kitchen, sanitary and electric facilities are hosted in 16 containers that are placed in the courtyard of Abrasevic and on the roof top of performance hall.

- *size, structure, staffing of your organization,*

OKC Abrasevic is an umbrella structure to the following associations:

- **Alternivni Institut**, is an association for artistic and multi-media projects and publishing. Most important projects: Kolaps Book Production; Kolaps Magazine Production; Kolaps Music Diffusion, Club Alternativni Institut (organizing of cultural events, especially concerts); Seminars “Litkon” (www.litkon.org), organized by a literature network of young publishers of ex-Yugoslavia region) and the web site (www.kolaps.org).
- **Mladi Most** is an open youth space for culture and reconciliation, offering educational, social and cultural activities through courses, seminars, workshops, events and happenings and partnerships. (www.mladi-most.org , www.film-klub.org)
- **MIFOC** is a youth citizens' association working on support to cultural and civic processes in Mostar and the region (www.mifoc.org)
- **Sunčana Strana** is an association offering media promotion and campaign services for non-governmental organizations and youth activities. (www.okc-media.org)
- **Film klub Mostar** is a youth association working on promotion and development of cinema, film and video culture as well as on education of young people in the field of video and cinema techniques. Film klub organises each year Short film festival (Festival kratkog filma) which gathers professional, amateur and student films from ex-Yugoslavia region and Europe (www.film-klub.org)
- **Klub istraživaca “Zelena glava”** is a non-formal group of nature and sports lovers which organises sports activities (cycling, climbing, trekking), ecological actions, activities in the nature and work camps
- **Info centar Mostar** is working on peer education of youth on issues of sexual and reproductive health. Info centar is organising its presentations in elementary and secondary schools in Mostar as well as making trainings for peer educators and trainers.
- **Graditelji mira** is a youth NGO promoting a culture of mutual understanding and peace and reconciliation and international cooperation. The work of "The builders of peace" is focusing on

different aspects of building the civil society in the town of Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our work comprises non-formal education, interethnic and intercultural dialogue, volunteerism, ecology, preservation of cultural and historical heritage, peaceful conflict resolution, promotion of culture through creative workshops and art shows and intercultural and youth exchanges.

OKC Abrasevic is managed by Management team (consisting of 6 part-time employees) that work on management of the center, administration and finance, public relations and program.

The organization also has a Governing board (5 members), Assembly that meets two times per year and Activity team, consisting of project and activity coordinators, that on daily basis ensure the implementation of activities.

- *brief description of your location/area,*
- *anything else you think would be helpful and would attract prospective volunteers*

extreme social atmosphere (regular events include concerts and themed evenings), important to be flexible and have a relaxed attitude, if you are a smoker you will not be looked at as an unhealthy human, low costs of living, close proximity to seaside and mountains, Mediterranean climate...

Job description:

- *List specific duties the volunteer would be required to do.*
 - External communication (newsletters, mailing lists, funding organisms)
 - Translations, English text proof reading and editing
 - Assistance in office duties (inquiry letters, archiving, preparation of files and documents)
 - Support to programs and activities as needed.
 - Participation in space maintenance (cleaning, reparations, installations...)
 - Design and distribution of promo materials (annual report, flyers, posters, brochures etc.)
- *Optional or flexible duties?*
 - Assistance to eco club activities
 - Assistance in implementation of different activities of OKC Abrasevic, as needed.
 - Fundraising
 - Project coordination (should the volunteer express interest for a specific project/activity)
- *Training offered?*

The volunteer has the opportunity to follow different trainings offered to OKC Abrasevic. These trainings will be defined in the course of the following year.

Minimum requirements or prerequisites:

- *E.g. education, skills, abilities, experience, physical requirements, gender, age, etc.*
 - Willingness to learn the local language
 - High level of autonomy / independence
 - Communication skills

- Ability to work in stress conditions
- Ability to adapt
- Good interpersonal skills

- *Useful but not absolutely necessary:*
 - Education in the fields of finance and management, computer technologies, culture
 - Experience in NGO and cultural activities
 - Experience in working with children and youth
 - Experience in fundraising activities
 - Experience in photography, video, graphic design or radio
 - Skills in IT and web maintenance

Housing for volunteer:

- _____ *in community*
- _____ *in independent apartment*
- _____ *on project site*
- _____ *with family*
- _____ *other*

X Must the volunteer seek his/her own housing?

Housing is not provided to volunteers. A volunteer may choose a place to live according to his/her own wishes and financial circumstances.

Description of housing, if already provided:

Other comments:

Please return to:

*Brethren Service Office
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1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland
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