



Conference „Volunteering and Educational Programmes in Museums” In the frames of Project „Get in Culture - Polish-Georgian Cooperation”

Friday, February 13, 2015; 14:00-17:00; Writers House, 13, Machabeli str., Tbilisi

**The conference is held under the patronage of
H.E. Andrzej Cieszkowski , Ambassador of Poland to Georgia**

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| 14.00 - 14.20 | Opening of the conference.
H.E. Andrzej Cieszkowski, Ambassador of Poland to Georgia
H.E. Richard Norland, Ambassador of the United States to Georgia
Mr. Levan Kharatishili, Deputy Minister of Culture and Monuments Protection of Georgia
Przemyslaw Nocun, Leading partner, Association "Bridge to Georgia"
Maka Dvalishvili, Georgian Partner, Director of Georgian Arts and Culture Center |
| 14.20 - 14.35 | Presentation of the RITA Programme and main ideas of the project, partners and participants, Przemyslaw Nocun, Association "Bridge to Georgia" |
| 14.35 - 14.50 | Presentation of the study tour and its results, Tamar Kiknadze, Georgian Arts and Culture Center |
| 14.50 -15.10 | Short introductions by participant museums |
| 15.10 - 15.40 | Presentation of the best educational/volunteering projects of project participants, Konstantine Grdzlishvili and Authors of the programmes. |
| 15.40 - 16.00 | Role of volunteering in culture in Poland and Georgia - possibilities of financing - promotion of EVS and other programmes, Sandra Mikołajczyk, Regional Center of Volunteering in Katowice; Ana Sirbiladze, Youth Association Droni |
| 16.00 - 16.15 | Discussion: Ideas for future cooperation of the partners and participants, giving prizes to authors of best volunteering programme, starting a new project together |
| 16.15 - 17.00 | Reception |

Georgian-English consequence translation will be provided

Venue Address: Writers House 13, Machabeli str., Tbilisi	RSVP appreciated till Wednesday 11, 2015, 6 pm Contact: Tamar Kiknadze gacc@gaccgeorgia.org ; 2 931335, 5 99586058
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Project Summary:

Georgia possess 231 museums of different profiles and different legal status. Research and analysis undertaken by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia and Georgian Museums Association (GMA) in consultation with experts from UNESCO and ICOM (2003-2004) revealed a wide range of problems. Although in recent years reorganization of some of the museums took place, most of the small, regional museums are still in critical conditions. Low quality of educational programs and the limited dialogue with the community are important issues in this regard. Educational programs targeted to the different social and age groups can make the valuable contribution in attraction of visitors, general development and strengthening of the role of museums in society. But the lack of finances, experience in modern methods of education and outreach tools prevent museums to use this opportunity properly.

On the other hand volunteering can serve as an effective tool for the development of small regional museums which usually face shortages in finances and human resources. Due to the limited communication tools and the lack of good practices, regional museums do not develop this kind of programs and managers often do not realize that volunteers could play an important role in bringing their expertise to diversification of the services, development of educational programs, etc.

Main objectives:

1. To support the development of volunteer programs in the Georgian institutions and organizations working in the field of culture (mainly in museums)
2. To support the development of the museums' educational activities through the volunteering

Specific objectives:

- strengthening the skills of cultural operators in the field of volunteering and creation of new educational programs (created 6 programs)
- creation the conditions for inclusion of the local community in educational activities through the development of volunteering programs at Georgian organizations / institutions
- development of Polish-Georgian cooperation (at organizational level between partners and participants direct project)

Achieved results:

Representatives of Georgian institutions participated in the week study visit to Poland, where each day they met with Polish museums workers and experts (participation in the presentations, discussions and workshops). After returning to Georgia 6 programs have been created with 6 different Georgian institutions. Partners plan to continue cooperation after the project closing from March 2015. Specific actions will be determined at a meeting in February.



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Project leader: Association "Bridge to Georgia" was founded in 2010 in Krakow. From the first year of operation in Krakow organizes Days of Georgian Culture (previously 5th edition). In 2013, the Association launched the Georgian Cultural Centre in Krakow, where are conducted free courses of Georgian language, Georgian dance, Georgian choir as well as meetings with Georgian culture. To carry out this activity organized a group of volunteers consisting mainly of students from Georgia studying in Krakow.

In 2012, the Association carries out jointly with the National Centre for Mountain Tourism PTTK and provincial administration in Dusheti and Development Association Khevsureti project co-financed by the program "Polish Aid 2012" -Support micro-enterprises of the tourism sector in the region Pshav-Khevsureti.

The project partners: Katowice Regional Center of Volunteering; Georgian partners: Georgian Arts and Culture Center; Youth Association Droni



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