

Towards Peace Belfast Mobility 14th – 18th March 2014

The Metropolitan Arts Centre, Belfast

- Welcome to the Mobility: Context setting
- Description of the programme itinerary
- National Agency requirements: Revising the project
- Introductions and project definitions
- Presentation of local projects: Germany-Matthias: Denmark-Rikke: Lithuania-Justina: Hungary-Viktoria & Eric: Ireland- Breandán: France –Fabrice & Dorethee



- Luis: Review for the workplan to address the smaller partnership, these would be emailed to the Towards Peace partners and each partner would send these to their respective National Agency for agreement.

Designing the common framework, video was an agreed methodology. Revising the work plan, and agreeing the meetings.

- Belfast Cultural Immersion
- Working the Work plan
- Definition of the project at international level
- Distribution of tasks for the rest of the project

June 2014: Towards Europe end of project will be an agreed visit for Towards Peace in Brussels.

Activity Level: Local intergenerational dialogue building learning processes between young people and seniors

Intercultural dialogue between partners with a common message of peace.

Development of methods of intergenerational work..digital storytelling, artistic practices etc.

Local productions on living memories of war and conflict .

Each partner has 12 mobilities

Leuven 25-26-27 June 2015

- Learner meetings : Hungary end of August 2014; Lithuania end of Oct 2014
- Working Groups
- Project management group
- Communication group: Breandán to set up Facebook Page for the project, Fabrice to set up a group email account
- International learners group??
- How to map the local activity.

Action: What are we saying as a common message? What we are saying both locally and internationally. What are we doing together? What are the learning objectives?

Are we developing one common objective and a collected final product?

Notes from workshop which explored these questions:

*The journey – and towards peace – are essential in that we focus on processes. We're all in different "places" on our journey – and it's an ongoing exploration or development. These keywords will form the narratives of the videos being made by learners from all our countries/projects. The journey towards a new country, the journey towards reconciliation with neighbours and former enemies, the journey towards a better understanding of a common past – these can all be varieties of the common message and narrative *Journey Towards Peace*.*

The journey Towards Peace

Through the methodology of arts and culture the learners in the Towards Peace programme will develop a better understanding of;

- The diversity and commonality of European culture
- The variety of methods and processes (tools) of dealing with conflict
- The narrative of healing and reconciliation
- The potential of arts and culture as a medium of articulation and dialogue

The partners attended separate workshops exploring “Non Verbal Communication” and “How Photographic Archives had been used in Belfast to address issues of conflict:

Golden Thread Gallery: Non Verbal Communication

- Towards Peace Partners were met by the Gallery Director Peter Richards and welcomed to the leading contextual Art gallery in the city. A guided tour of the exhibitions was provided.
- Towards Peace partners were joined by partner groups and individuals from across the city who have worked with North Belfast Interface Network and Draw Down The Walls, these included artists, practitioners and some adult learners.
- An interactive non-verbal communication workshop was led by Fabrice who was joined in this participation by the performance artist collective Bbeyond Belfast.



Red Barn Gallery

- Towards Peace partners were welcomed to the gallery by Frankie Quinn the gallery director and given a guided tour of the exhibition celebrating International Women’s Day.
- Presentations on the work of the Belfast Exposed photographic archive, an archive of photography from the height of the conflict, Castleton Lanterns- a project exploring the legacy of Irish men who joined the British army and perished in WW1 and AFTERMATH- a project which explores the greatest mass evacuation of refugees in post WW2 Europe following the beginning of the most recent phase of the Irish conflict and how other refugees from other conflicts have since settled in Ireland. Followed by Q&A.

Civic Reception with Lord Mayor of Belfast Máirtín Ó'Muilleoir

- The Lord Mayor welcomed the Towards Peace partners and learners to the City Hall, listened to the story of the project and shared the welcome of the city with our European visitors.



St Patrick's Day Celebrations: Timeout was taken to attend the St Patrick's Day carnival parade to celebrate our National Day as the parade snaked its way through Belfast city centre.

Understanding the conflict: A political tour of the segregation walls that divide the city of Belfast with a political narrative provided by former Republican and Loyalist prisoners. This was followed by a debriefing session over lunch. All activities, workshops and events were recorded on video to act as part of our evaluation tool during the project.

