



# Newsletter

**40** The United World College in Mostar  
Autumn 2014 - School Year 2013/2014

**Official opening of the first UWC Mostar student residence**

**Prominent support for Mostar endowment  
"Bridge to the future"**

**Welcoming the 9th generation  
of UWC Mostar students**

**UWC Day**





Autumn 2014 issue:

- 2 UWC Mostar welcomes students from over 40 countries of the world
- 3 Official opening of the first UWC Mostar residence “Mejdan”
- 4 Prominent support for Mostar Endowment “Bridge to the Future”
- 6 Mr. Shelby Davis at UWC Mostar
- 6 European Researchers Night 2014



- 7 UWC Day
- 8 6th College Fair
- 8 In the honour of Aleksa Šantić
- 9 Piece by Peace



- 10 Lillehammer and Stolac visiting UWC Mostar
- 10 UWC Mostar Alumna youngest recipient of Huawaei scholarship
- 11 Events in photos: Hike to the cross, Rafting trip



UWC Mostar welcomes the 9th generation of students

School year 2014/2015 has officially started and UWC Mostar welcomed 86 new students from 43 countries of the world. Induction Week 2014 From August 30th-September 7th, new students had the opportunity to get familiar with Mostar, life at UWC Mostar, the IB Programme and much more.



Official Opening Ceremony of the first UWC Mostar student residence

The official opening ceremony of the first new UWC Mostar student residence took place on September 9th, 2014. The ceremony was attended by UWC Mostar students, friends and supporters as well as representatives from the City of Mostar. Ljubo Beslic, Mayor of the City of Mostar, Jens Waltermann from UWC Deutschland - Die Deutsche Stiftung UWC and Jens Wagner from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Bosnia Herzegovina officially opened the residence together with Valentina Mindoljevic, UWC Mostar Headmistress. The Mayor, Mr. Beslic stated that he sincerely hopes that other buildings will also be renovated in the near future and that UWC Mostar students will continue to be great representatives of the City of Mostar. The purchase and renovation of the building was made possible by the German UWC Foundation with the financial support of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Heidehof foundation and private donors. The building known as “Mejdan” residence currently accommodates 37 UWC Mostar students.





# Prominent support for Mostar endowment 'Bridge to the future'

United World College Mostar Endowment 'Bridge to the Future' is proud to announce the establishment of the following endowment scholarships:

- The Aung San Suu Kyi Scholarship;
- The Nelson Mandela Fellowship;
- The Prince El Hassan bin Talal and Princess Sarvath El Hassan Scholarship;
- The Paul A. Volcker Scholarship;
- The Elisabeth and David Sutcliffe Scholarship;
- The Antonin Besse Scholarship.

Each scholarship funds a place for a talented student at UWC Mostar in perpetuity. UWC Mostar is a ground-breaking educational project in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Unlike any other school in the country, UWC Mostar brings together students from all of Bosnia's religious and ethnic groups so as to bridge the country's harmful ethnic divides, opposing Orthodox Serbs to Catholic Croats to Muslim Bosniaks. Together with a group of international students coming from over 50 countries, they aim to fulfil UWC's mission "to make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future." During their time at the College, the 16 to 18 year-old students are educated in a fully integrated environment built on principles of mutual respect and tolerance. These principles are propagated in the local community through an extensive social service programme and the organisation of events involving other young people from all

three main ethnicities. The College has been highly successful since its inception in 2006. Over 600 high-calibre students have been educated at the College with over 70 per cent gaining scholarships at prestigious universities around the world. The College has furthermore succeeded in putting integrated education on the agenda, helping local communities, aiding in the restoration of derelict buildings in Mostar and showing that ethnic barriers can be overcome. Despite its success, the College has operated under considerable financial constraints in recent years. To ensure the long-term future of UWC Mostar, the Foundation of the College decided last year to create the endowment fund 'Bridge to the Future', registered as a charity in the UK. Once established, this endowment will finance the operating cost of the College using the returns gained from investing its funds. The endowment initiative aims to raise 150 endowment scholarships, totalling €30 million. This will allow the College to be financed in perpetuity. As of today, the endowment has raised more than €3 million from various private sources. For more information regarding UWC Mostar and the endowment, please visit [www.uwcmostar.ba](http://www.uwcmostar.ba) or [www.mostarendowment.com](http://www.mostarendowment.com). Alternatively, please contact Marius Kat at [marius@mostar-endowment.com](mailto:marius@mostar-endowment.com) or at +44-20-74302250. For updates, like our Facebook page (Mostar Endowment: 'Bridge to the Future') or follow us on Twitter (@MostarEndowment). Please find attached personal statements from some of our most prominent initial supporters elaborating on their support for UWC Mostar.

## The Aung San Suu Kyi Scholarship

"It is essential for us to rebuild the Burmese education system that was destroyed by decades of mismanagement. We must encourage young Burmese to take opportunities to study abroad, so they might bring back skills and experiences that will support the democratic reconstruction of our country. Burma is rich in human potential. It is only through education that our young people will be able to develop as able and responsible citizens who will ensure the future of our society. It is therefore with great pleasure that I have accepted the invitation of the United World Colleges to endow a scholarship in my name for a young Burmese at their Mostar College. I thank the donors for their generosity towards the people of Burma. Your gift will enable a young person to gain not just an academic qualification but what is denied to so many young people



in Burma today, the capacity to meet the challenges that our country is facing. The United World Colleges offer an enlightened education that is directed, as the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights envisions, towards understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations. That is the greatest contribution any institution can make towards the happiness of humanity."

## The Nelson Mandela Fellowship

"The Nelson Mandela Foundation is truly thrilled to receive and to endorse this important fellowship which will enable South Africa to be permanently represented in the United World College in Mostar. Nelson Mandela's support of the international education and leadership offered by the United World Colleges is a matter of public record. The generosity of the UWC Mostar endowment trustees is a gesture that will keep alive in a really convincing and personal way the memory of his enthusiasm and support for the UWC. It reflects his highest beliefs." In Johannesburg (1995), as President of the United World College International Council, Nelson Mandela said: "The virtue and the strength of the UWC is that it provides small



but powerful cells of innovation, catalysts for change, breaking barriers of habit and opening up broader vistas of experience for both pupils and educationalists."



## The Prince El Hassan bin Talal and Princess Sarvath El Hassan Scholarship

"We are honoured at UWC Mostar's decision to announce a scholarship in our name. The College's mission to contribute to the construction of post-conflict societies is both noble and important. We hope that graduates of both the College and our scholarship go on to

help heal divided societies in meaningful and lasting ways. We are delighted to be part of this wonderful opportunity that will ultimately help people around the world come to terms with their past, and move together into a brighter future."



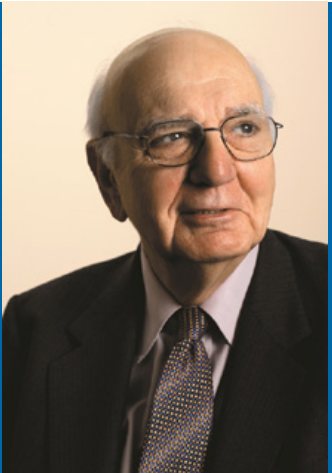
## The Elisabeth and David Sutcliffe Scholarship

"The creation of an endowed scholarship in our joint names for UWC Mostar is a huge excitement for us. The College, with all its associated activities, has dominated the years of our retirement since 2001. The memories of the 1990s, when our close physical proximity to the terrible events just across the border with the former Yugoslavia brought home to us our

helplessness in doing anything effective about them, have been the main force in our work for the Mostar College. We know just how much energy, enthusiasm, thought and generosity have been necessary to launch the endowment fund. Without it the College assuredly has no future. We are immensely grateful and immensely proud."

## The Paul A. Volcker Scholarship

"I am honored to accept the invitation of the United World College in Mostar to have a student scholarship endowed in my name. The students of UWC Mostar are fortunate to have such generous donors committed to supporting their education at this unique institution. In today's turbulent times, the importance of the mission of UWC Mostar - facilitating dialogue and learning among young students from different backgrounds and countries - rings especially true. One of the lessons of economics is prosperity can be maintained only in the context of international coordination and collaboration. In more peaceful days, I long ago visited Mostar. I was struck by its old world charm, but also by the continuing frictions and lack of full trust among the different social and religious groups. UWC Mostar and its "lighthouse" model of education reform are looking toward a new promise for this place and its people, and to extend the message to other regions of this disturbed world. I urge the recipients of scholarships at UWC



Mostar, as they continue their education and contemplate their future, to live out the ideals set forth by the College in their personal and professional lives. I also humbly suggest that some students may wish to consider public service as one path to contribute to a more harmonious, prosperous world. After more than 30 years in the federal government of the United States, I can assure these students that there can be a sense of satisfaction in devoting one's energies and talents to the public good beyond any material reward."

## The Antonin Besse Scholarship

"I am moved to have a scholarship at UWC Mostar endowed in my name. I am deeply grateful to the donors who have made this gesture. UWC Mostar has been the final chapter in my long involvement in the United World Colleges. The problems we faced in the early days brought back vividly to my mind all the challenges faced by the founders of Atlantic College back in the 1960s. In Mostar, I feel we have a college on the true front line of international education. The road running past the front of the Gymnasium building was indeed the front line in those terrible events in Mostar in the 1990s. I feel that my father with St. Antony's College in Oxford and I with the United



World Colleges have been enormously privileged to make a contribution to international understanding. The UWC Mostar endowment campaign gives me the confidence that this work of mine and of my close colleagues now has a long-term future."





## Mr. Shelby Davis at UWC Mostar

On September 25th, 2014, UWC Mostar staff and students had the pleasure and honor of welcoming

Mr. Shelby Davis and Mrs. Gale Davis. During the day, they met with UWC Mostar students and staff, visited the city of Mostar as well

as our new Mejdan residence. Mr. and Mrs. Davis were joined for lunch by UWC Mostar students and staff members. Mr. Davis and his family are great

supporters of the UWC Movement through the Davis United World College Scholars Program.

## European Researchers Night 2014

For the first time in Mostar in cooperation with UWC Mostar, the European Researchers night 2014 took place on September 26th. The programme included competitions, scientific lectures, treasure hunting, archaeological excavation simulations, presentations and star gazing. Researchers' Night was a great opportunity to meet scientists and researchers, see interesting experiments, participate in competitions

and explore new things, handle sophisticated research equipment, understand the links between science and art, and to figure out just how far the knowledge boundaries go. Programme in Mostar took place in several locations throughout the city with over 100 UWC Mostar students volunteering. Over a thousand participants enjoyed the night of science in Mostar. Researchers' Night, first launched in 2005 by the European Com-

mission, offers people a unique opportunity to really engage with researchers, bringing them closer to each other through the magic and beauty of science.

The event was also an excellent chance to discover outstanding European scientific research projects and to find out more about how to develop a scientific career.



## Celebrating UWC Day

On September 21st and 28th, UWC Mostar marked UWC Day with a wonderful event dedicated to the citizens of the City of Mostar.

"Around the World in 80 Minutes" was a successful and joyful event which took place on Sunday, 28/9/2014 and included both UWC Mostar students and citizens of the city of Mostar. Students prepared wonderful meals, presentations, songs and stories for all to enjoy. Everyone who visited the merry fair on the spanish square was able to get a taste of over 40 countries of the world, enjoy traditional dances and music.







## 6th College Fair at UWC Mostar

Presentations, information and everything you need to know about applications!

On October 2nd, 2014, the 6th College Fair was organized by UWC Mostar. A great number of interested students as well as visitors enjoyed wonderful presentations and information sharing by 13 colleges that participated in the Fair. Students had the opportunity to participate in workshops on writing application essays and financial applications and receive information on criteria, condition and possibilities of studying abroad. This year, UWC Mostar had the pleasure of welcoming: Bennington College, Connecticut College, Earlham College, Methodist University, Princeton University, Quest University, Ringling College of Art & Design, St. John's College, St. Olaf College, University of Rochester, University of Saskatchewan, Wartburg College and Westminster College.



## In the honour of Aleksa Šantić

This year marked the 95th Poetry Night of Aleksa Šantić, a famous Mostar poet. Under the mentorship of UWC Mostar Serbian language teacher Tanja Čvoro, our students prepared a wonderful poetry evening and a multicultural event for the audience of the "Vladičanski dvor". Through their rimes and verses, UWC Mostar students honored Aleksa Šantić in Spanish, German, Ukrainian, English and local languages. The evening started with Šantić's elegy recited by our student Aleksandar Vladičić, and continued with verses by Goethe, Nikolić, Dizdar and Ujević in their original languages. At the same time, an art exhibition took place and all of the funds raised through the exhibition were donated for the scholarship fund for future students.

It was a great pleasure to be a part of a very significant cultural project. UWC Mostar students have proven that they can organize spectacular events with ease, despite being limited with time. The students have presented great quality and wealth of differences symbolically merged in a place honoring a great poet. The melodic sound of well known German, Spanish, Ukrainian, Montenegrin, Serbian, Croatian and Bosnian famous poets was also a voice of youth, united spirit and joy.

Tanja Čvoro



## Piece by Peace

First UWC Mostar short course which took place in August included 14 participants from different countries of the world and two external facilitators from UWC Pearson College.

Student organizers from UWC Mostar were joined by 14 participants from Albania, BiH, Egypt, India, Israel, Mexico, Portugal, Netherlands, UK, USA and Yemen. Programme aimed to: Develop recognition and appreciation of differences among people, build an understanding of the causes and effects of conflict and approaches towards resolution, motivate change within oneself

and action within one's community, encourage personal challenge and form community based on mutual understanding and

responsibility. These goals encompassed both participants and facilitators and the program is reflected UWC

values during the activities and discussions held. A component of the short course included the cooperation with service activities at UWC Mostar (service CASs) that engage with the local community and helps students understand and relate to local issues on a more individual level. Programme also included various cultural activities that aimed to develop self-awareness and respect to cultural differences and similarities.







# BH Cultural week - Poetry night success

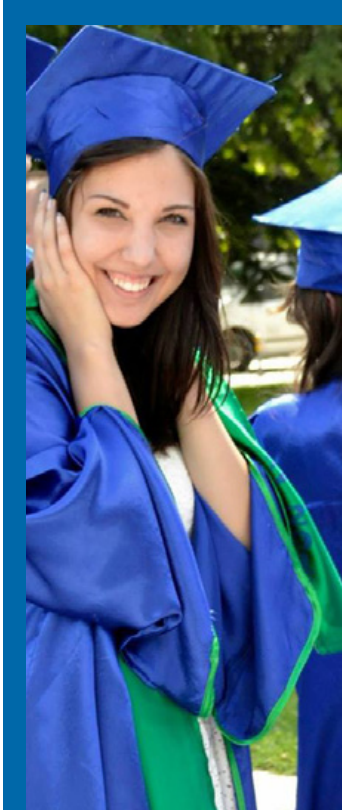
UWC Cultural Weeks are designed to heighten students' awareness of the world. Certain weeks are designated to students coming from certain region(s) who are expected to present their parts of the world in the best possible light. During the intensive programmes, students usually prepare interactive presentations or workshops on food, folk dances, national myths, costumes, traditions, customs, rituals, ge-



ography and many other parts of their respective cultures, specific of their regions or countries. At that time, kitchens are full of traditional meals and the weekends are usually reserved for theme parties with national costumes and traditional music. September was the month for BH Cultural Week. Poetry Night was the opening event of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian Cultural Week. Students from BiH had an amazing experience in gathering together to present the beautiful poems written by people from all over our country. The club "Aleksa" was the most convenient place for presenting literature as a significant part of our culture and enjoying listening to the recitals in local language followed by the English translations. Poems written in Bosnian, Serbian and Croatian were accompanied by astonishing performances of local songs and traditional instruments.

## Lillehammer and Stolac cooperation in Mostar

On Friday, September 19th, UWC Mostar welcomed a group of high school students from Lillehammer, Norway and Stolac BiH. Our visitors were welcomed by the PR Coordinator and a group of students who presented life and work at UWC Mostar. Lillehammer high school has been cooperating with Stolac secondary school for a few years and the pleasant visit was a part of this years exchange programme and getting to know the City of Mostar.



# UWC Mostar alumna the youngest recipient of the Huawei scholarship

Nataša Zlokapa is a UWC Mostar alumna and the youngest recipient of the Huawei scholarship 2014. She will be moving to Vienna, Austria and start her architecture studies. This is the third time that Huawei company supports young talents with excellent academic achievements. We congratulate Nataša and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.



## Upcoming calendar events

- 18/11 - High School Fair
- 10/12 - Reflection Day - Winter Gala
- 13/12 - Winter Break

### IMPRESSUM

Editor: Adla Velagić - Ćurić,  
PR and Communications  
United World College in Mostar  
Design: Shift creative agency, Mostar

United World College in Mostar  
Spanski trg 1,  
88000 Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Tel: +387 (36) 320 601, 323 273,  
Fax: +387 (36) 319 926  
E-mail:info@uwcim.uwc.org

Foundation Education in Action  
Skenderija 33, 71000 Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Tel: +387 33 212 083, 557 995,  
Fax: +387 (33) 557 996  
E-mail:development@uwcim.uwc.org