

Newsletter

51 The United World College in Mostar
School year 2018/2019



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A word from the editor

With many excitements, a lot of dedication and great enthusiasm at UWC Mostar, we have reached a successful end of the year. It is our pleasure to combine all of the most important stories, activities and events in the summer edition of our Newsletter, starting with saying goodbye to our 12th generation to the amazing impact and stories of our alumni all over the world. We are looking forward to our new generation, new ideas, achievements and a successful academic year! Enjoy the summer and the summer edition of UWC Mostar Newsletter.

Adla Curic
PR and Communications

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2019

Class of 2019 graduated on May 25th, 2019. 97 students from 56 countries of the world received their diplomas from our guest of honour, Minister Pär Stenbäck, Founding member of the International Youth Foundation, International Crisis Group, European

Cultural Parliament and the Finnish Children and Youth Foundation, Council Chair of UWC Red Cross Nordic and Chair of the UWC International Council since 2018. With five beautiful student performances and more than 600 attendees, families and friends shared this beautiful moment with

us and wished our graduates best of luck in their future adventures. We are happy and proud to have been your home for the past two years. UWC Mostar



The UWC Movement was born out of a wish to foster and unite young leaders who together can build a more peaceful world. The bonds you have created amongst yourself are your contribution to this endeavour. The intervention and decisions of individuals at crucial moments in history can be decisive, but those institutions safeguarding a peaceful, fair and secure society are just as important. Whatever your career and training will be, law, political science, medicine, finance or humanities, go and make these institutions and make them fortresses of peaceful progress!

Minister Pär Stenbäck

APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW ACTING HEAD OF UWC MOSTAR

UWC Mostar is pleased to announce that Dženan Hakalović, Head of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at UWC Mostar has accepted appointment as Acting Head of the United World College in Mostar (UWC Mostar) with effect from 12th of March 2019.

Dženan Hakalović graduated from the University of Sarajevo with a degree in History in 2006.

He has been employed at UWC Mostar since 2007 teaching History, Peace and Conflict Studies, Global Politics and Theory of Knowledge. He held the position of the Curriculum Coordinator (Head of Academics) from 2011 to 2014 and Head of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences from 2013 to 2019.

Dženan participated in a number of educational projects including PACE in 2007, International Summer School on Peace and Conflict Resolution in 2011, Pestalozzi

program 2013-2014 and EIHR Education Summit in 2015. He runs workshops for History teachers and is an IB DP examiner for History since 2015.

He is married and has two children.

Dženan Hakalović assumed the role of the Acting Head in March 2019, and at the 20th College Board meeting his mandate as the Acting Head of the UWC Mostar was extended until the end of the next school year (2019/2020).



TOWARDS A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR - SELECTION 2019



Selection for BiH students 2019 was successfully completed and implemented with 28 scholarships for the best candidates who applied to attend one of UWC schools. Two separate Open Days were held in Sarajevo and Mostar in order to promote this great opportunity to as many candidates as possible, as well as present the college and its work and impact on a broader level to a wider audience.

This year the promotion was supported by cooperants from different parts of the country. Thank you to the amazing staff of the American Corner Trebinje who welcomed our students and presentations on UWC NC BiH scholarships as well as the wonderful staff of the education CEM Travnik, who welcomed our students and hosted two events on scholarship presentations! The amazing team of Humanity in Action

Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo also happily welcomed our open day and our representatives during the promotional activities days. During the selections weekend all of our candidates showed great enthusiasm and UWC spirit and our NC, students, staff and admissions coordinator made sure that they feel welcome and at home. Thank you all, we are looking forward to welcoming you to UWC Mostar!

EBRD 2019 ANNUAL MEETING IN SARAJEVO - HELPING UWC MOSTAR TO ENRICH ITS STUDENTS' LIVES ON CAMPUS

The EBRD Community Initiative provided a charitable contribution of €50,000 to United World Colleges (UWC) in Mostar during last week's EBRD 2019 Annual Meeting in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The donation will help the College with the renovation of a new student residence in Mostar.

The donations provided by the EBRD Community Initiative to Annual Meeting host countries are intended to contribute to a project which not only enhances the wellbeing of a particular group or community but which, if possible, also has a wider social impact.

UWC Mostar is particularly appropriate in this context contributing as it does to the building of trust in the post-conflict society.

UWC Mostar provides a unique environment where students from all ethnic and religious groups study and live together.

The UWC's central location in Mostar's Spanish Square, once the Green Line, also

ensures that it is very much part of the local community. To maximise its impact on the local community and to enhance the experience of the students, the College has purchased and is renovating several buildings ruined during the war.

The buildings are designed as student accommodations in line with the needs of the College and those who study there.

The EBRD Community Initiative donation will fund the construction of the living area

and kitchen on the ground floor and the recreational room in the basement of the new residence. This space will be used for small theatre and music performances and other leisure activities for students and staff, thus providing them an opportunity to relax and enjoy their free time together.

Speaking at the donation ceremony, EBRD President Sir Suma Chakrabarti noted that "UWC is not just a school, it is a catalyst for change".

Dženan Hakalović, Acting Head Teacher of UWC Mostar, thanked the EBRD for the donation and for recognising their efforts to promote peacebuilding in post-conflict Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He stressed that "the donation will greatly help improve the students' living conditions by turning a building ruined during the war into a beautiful student residence".

Article by Olga Filippova, EBRD, The Financial



ŠANTIĆ RESIDENCE AND UWC MOSTAR VISITED BY THE EBRD REPRESENTATIVES

Construction works taking place on "Šantić" residence are in full swing in 2019. Named after the famous poet from Mostar - Aleksa Šantić, and located in the street with the same name, the residence will accommodate around 50 students and welcome new members of the UWC Mostar family in 2020.

We had the pleasure of welcoming representatives of the European Bank for Development and Reconstruction this May

Colm Lincoln, Deputy Secretary General – Chair of the EBRD Community Initiative, Jane Ross - Head of Communications, Rosie Goldsmith - Chair of EBRD Literature Prize, Ian Brown - Head of Sarajevo Resident Office, Nandita Parshad - Managing Director – representative of the Olivier Descamps Award and Charlotte Ruhe - Managing Director – representative of the Olivier Descamps Award were welcomed by UWC Mostar staff and spent the day learning more about UWC Mostar and future plans, future cooperations, as well as visiting residences and sightseeing in Mostar Old Town.



FRIDAYS FOR FUTURE - STUDENTS' CLIMATE STRIKE

Friday for Future with Environmental Group UWC in Mostar was organised and implemented by UWC Mostar students with several activities being a part of this significant event.

With FridayforFuture Climate Strike - for a better future and healthier planet, we hope that we become aware and conscious about our actions, we hope for a change - and we will not give up believing in a better tomorrow!

One thousand origami cranes were placed in Gimnazija Mostar/UWC Mostar building. Known as "eternal flames of world peace", this action was named "Cranes For Climate".

Referring to a Japanese belief, cranes are

a symbol of peace and are given to a person who is seriously ill, to wish them recovery. Places like Hiroshima and Nagasaki and many temples have eternal flames of world peace, they believe that when wind and weather dissolve them, the wish for world peace is released.

The eternal flames of peace referred to the belief in the healing of our planet Earth and a more peaceful world

Students' Climate Strike itself was a huge success and its impact was more than we expected - our students were featured in "The Guardian", which also contributed that their message was sent all over the world.



Winners of Science

UWC Mostar students Tarik Raljević, Ivan Martinović, Amina Grbić, Sara Osmanović, Barbara Bilić and Marko Berić competed in the Cantonal Math Competition and made sure that we accomplished the second best score among all competing schools!

Three of our students made it to the Federal Math Competition and at the Cantonal Competition in Physics, UWC Mostar student Abdul-Vehab Dozić won first place with the score of 97,5%, while Tarik Raljević was in top five scores.

In the area of Mechanics and Thermodynamics our students competed successfully with Sara Osmanović winning second place and Ivan Martinović third place.

Congratulations to our Math and Physics competitors, thank you for successfully representing our school together with teachers and mentors Elmir Čatrnja and Miljan Rupar.



MARCHING FOR RIGHTS

"We keep facing the invisibility and violence to maintain social roles and injustices in the world. Every day, women are killed, abused, silenced and discriminated against. It's for them, for us, and for the future, that we choose to speak against violence".

UWC Mostar students were a part of the movement taking place around the world honouring the memory of more than 100 women who lost their lives demanding their labor rights. Just like every year our students march for lives and are joined by the wider Mostar community.

"This year's 8th of March, a day in which we honour the memory of more than 100 women that lost their lives demanding their labor rights, we want to be part of the movements taking place around the world on this day, and commemorate the women that

fight everyday in an oppressive system that relegates their issues to a secondary level. We make a call for organization to stop tolerating violence against women and girls.

The struggles to reclaim women's rights has been an arduous and long duty. We keep facing the invisibility and violence to maintain social roles and injustices in the world. Every day, women are killed, abused, silenced and discriminated against. It's for them, for us, and for the future ones, that we choose to speak against this violence."



HELPING THE REFUGEE CAMP SALAKOVAC



Powerful, significant and moving - the impact of UWC Mostar mission. Our students spend a lot of their time and dedication helping others and brightening the days of those who had to leave their homes and are hoping for a better future. Refugee Camp Salakovac (Mostar), currently accommodates refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Pakistan. UWC Mostar students assisted the work of the refugee camp, helped the BHWI foundation with translation, psychosocial support and social activities with children, but also joined the team of Red Cross Mostar in different activities helping the refugees.



PARTNERSHIP WITH MOSTAR HALF - MARATHON

For the first time this year, UWC Mostar became a proud partner and supporter of Mostar Half-Marathon 2019. This years' marathon included a conference and races for seniors and juniors as well as a humanitarian race, where all raised funds were donated to the Diabetis Association of Herzegovina Neretva Canton "Insula". Our students participated in the race and were amongst both the volunteers, acting as checkpoints throughout the route, all completing the half marathon successfully. The students volunteering were organised by UWC Mostar students Maj Mis and Bengi Eren; "It was cool to be able to support all the runners, and really nice to witness all the positive attitudes!" said Bengi when asked about her volunteering experience. The half marathon is held up by the volunteers, majority from the Mostar community, and they have worked very hard this year. From

organisation and support in the weeks leading up to the event, to meeting early in the morning on the day, they have been the driving force making sure everything ran smoothly. The first runner to cross the finish line was Samuel Kiplimo Naibei and Sophia Lucke, a student who completed the run in just under 2 hours, when asked about her experience said: "It went better than expected! After the first 15 km my legs got really heavy, but I made it through. Running a half marathon was something I wanted to try at least once in my life, and it was a good goal to train towards!" Like the other contestants she has an air of success and relief about her, and a medal around her neck as proof of the achievement. UWC Mostar and our students proudly supported this humanitarian event and hope to continue the successful cooperation in the following years.



CHINESE CULTURE CORNER



UWC Mostar proudly presents - Chinese Culture Corner!
Initiated by UWC Mostar housemom Mirela and English teacher Si Yun, with Lily, Michelle, Skye, Hong Lee, Xinyuan and Xikun the aim of this project is to contribute to a diverse cultural environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina and promote and bring closer Chinese culture, language, tradition and history to the Balkan people.
By contributing to a diverse cultural environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the mission is to promote and bring closer Chinese culture, language, tradition, history to the Balkan people.



About

"We are a group of students at UWC Mostar, a teacher, Mirela, a volunteer English teacher, Suyin, and Xiukun, who have come together to create Chinese Cultural Corner, a creativity CAS (creativity, action, service), that presents Chinese culture to Mostar.
We have a passion to either share what we know already or to learn more about China and Mandarin language, but we also want to connect with the people of the Balkans, and people from all around the world.
Mirela has spent a year studying International Relations for her MA in Beijing China

Foreign Affairs university, while Suyin has a new-found mission to discover more about her ethnic background, having promised her father to learn Chinese. Michelle (Yuxin), chose to come to Mostar to explore the history here while learning with people from 80+ countries to discuss ongoing or past world issues. Lily (Leyi) has lived here previously with her mom, who works in the Chinese embassy in Sarajevo. Xinyuan (Laura) is fascinated by the complex relationships of different ethnic groups and hopes to integrate more with the local community. Cooking is Hongli's passion. He seeks the demonstration of Chinese culture through cooking and food which he shares through the whole UWC community and therefore with

the people of the Balkans. Skye (Yiming), would love to share more about Chinese philosophy and art with the local community.
Our aim is to share aspects of culture, including language learning, calligraphy, cooking, exercise and blogging with anyone who may be interested in learning more about China. We meet regularly, usually every Saturday morning to do one or more activities. We welcome the people of Mostar to join us."
Make sure to like the official FB page <https://www.facebook.com/chineseculturalcorner/> and check out the blog <https://chinacor.blogspot.com/>

DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Embassy of the Republic of Germany supported the implementation of this year's Model United Nations in Mostar - MostarMUN. Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to BiH, H.E. Christiane Hohmann signed a contract of cooperation with UWC Mostar supporting this project and with best wishes for a successful future cooperation.



MOSTARMUN 2019



With more than 250 attendees from over 80 countries of the world, MostarMUN 2019 was the largest MUN conference organised by UWC Mostar in cooperation with University "Džemal Bijedić" Mostar, University of Mostar, University of Modern Sciences CKM.

In addition to more than 250 delegates, the Opening Ceremony welcomed the

Ambassador of Republic of Germany in BiH, H.E. Christiana Hofmann, Mayor of the City of Mostar Ljubo Bešlić, Head of the Regional Office OSCE to BiH, William Ozkaptan as well as distinguished representatives of UNDP in BiH.

The audience and delegates also engaged in a discussion panel where experts from the Federal Foreign Office Hannah Elena Donges, UNDP SEESAC Dragan Božović, and EUFOR Brigadier Martin Trachsler,

presented the the topic of "Small Arms and Light Weapons Trafficking."

MostarMUN 2019 is supported by Embassy of the Republic of Germany in BiH.

Project partners: UWC Mostar, University "Džemal Bijedić" Mostar, University of Mostar, University of Modern Sciences CKM.

Official sponsors: Mostar Rock School, Red Bull BiH and Bakery "Mlini".



CULTURE AND TRADITIONS AT OUR SCHOOL

Culture Weeks are designed to heighten students' awareness of the world. Certain weeks are designated to students coming from certain region(s), who are then expected to present their cultural region in diverse ways as the student group feels is right. During the intensive programmes, students prepare interactive presentations or workshops on food, folk dances, national

myths, costumes, traditions, customs, rituals, geography and many other parts of their respective cultures, specific of their regions or countries. Before the feast, the culmination of the week, kitchens are full of traditional meals and the weekends are usually reserved for theme parties with national costumes and traditional music.

Every year our students offer their peers the best of traditions and in addition to organising wonderful weekly programmes, they do their best to design beautiful posters representing their countries. This year we have decided to award the best and most beautiful posters, and here are our top three proposals.



Markings and participations



“World Wetlands Day” is celebrated internationally every year and marks the date of the adoption of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Our ESS students along with Biology teacher Marea Grinvald marked this day by participating in a conference organized by Hutovo Blato Nature Park.

Following the conference, they did a variety of practicals in nature learning about different ways of measuring water quality. Their visit to the Nature Park is just one of many activities in the frame of a regional project - “School networks in protected areas”, supported by WWF Adria.



The 5th National Selection Session of the European Youth Parliament - Narenta 2019 hosted 7 UWC Mostar representatives this year! Our students were a part of “Diversity and Tolerance - Uniting People” with more than 170 participants from BiH and Europe and we will keep you updated!

At the Opening Ceremony, representatives and participants of this years' session were joined by the Head of the OSCE Mission in BiH Ambassador Bruce G. Berton, as well as the Head of the OSCE Regional Office Mostar William Ozkaptain.



HIGH SCHOOL FAIR 2019

Together with students and mentors from Gimnazija Mostar, Osnovna škola "Zalik" Mostar and Osnovna škola Ilije Jakovljevića Mostar, UWC Mostar participated in the two months activities preceding the High School Fair 2019 programme. Visiting museums, creating a poster supporting the City of Mostar as the European Culture Capital 2024.

Within the High School Fair days 2019, UWC Mostar in cooperation with Gimnazija Mostar, Osnovna škola "Zalik" Mostar and Osnovna škola Ilije Jakovljevića

Mostar - who all together formed TEAM 1, participated in the exhibition "Portfolio" - presentation of teams working on the topic "Mostar - European Capital of Culture 2024". The exhibition was the final activity within the High School Fair days 2019. UWC Mostar team presented and promoted UWC Mostar at the Final Fair day, visited by all elementary school students from Mostar region.

One of the main goals of the Fair, in addition to promoting high schools from Mostar region is also promotion of cooperation and communication among the wider community of the City of Mostar.

TEAM 1 students: Benjamin Selimotić and Imad Ahmedspahić (UWC Mostar), Amar Zagorčić, Lejla Repeša, Luka Crnogorac and Leonarda Babić (Gimnazija Mostar), Amina Kuko, Amna Puce (OŠ Zalik), Josipa Perdija and Lucija Mlinarević (OŠ Ilije Jakovljevića). TEAM 1 mentors: Adla Velagić-Čurić (UWC Mostar), Saša Šantić and Ajla Sljepčević (Gimnazija Mostar), Angelina Puljić and Ivanka Bakula (OŠ Ilije Jakovljevića), Armin Pandur (OŠ Zalik).

Poster photo made by Team 1 students, supervised by Saša Šantić.



UWC MOSTAR ALUMNA - ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE AFRICAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE

A new organization started last summer with hopes to connect and empower female African international students at Oklahoma University.

Members of InFocus Africa, a student group at OU, collaborated to create the African Women's League. The goal of the group is to create a community and support system for female African students.

One of the founders of the African Women's League is Tatenda Chido Nicolle Dzvimbo (UWC Mostar '17).

"You find that most international students, we come, we don't have families, it's pretty much just us," Dzvimbo said.

Dzvimbo is an international student from Zimbabwe. According to her, the idea for the African Women's League came through a conversation between her and Grace Olaleye, a graduate student studying construction science. The two met at a National Education for Women's Leadership conference.

The purpose of the conference was to mentor young women who want to be in leadership positions, which sparked the idea for the women's league.

"Immediately I knew the league was something I wanted to be a part of because I know what it is like to not have that community," Olaleye said. "So we wanted to create a safe space for female African international students."

The two wanted specific things for the organisation that they believe would solve problems international students have in America.

"We do not have many connections or links to the local community," Dzvimbo said. "We are basically confined to the walls of OU, so that's where the desire came from. We needed to network with the local community, and also make the community aware of our presence."

Olaleye's parents were immigrants. After meeting Dzvimbo and connecting on a personal level over the hardships international students go through, the two decided to create this organization, Olaleye said.

According to Dzvimbo, after solidifying their plans, the two reached out to InFocus Africa's president, Pedro Domingos Papos-seco Manuel, a senior international studies and public affairs and administration major.

"There were some topics that pertained to female African students that she thought would be great for them to address as women," Manuel said. "She asked how I could help, and how InFocus could help, so I advised her on how to start."

Manuel expressed how much he embraced the idea of having a women's league and thought it could be a great addition to InFocus Africa.

"InFocus is broad, and African Women's League focuses on different issues," Manuel said. "Having them focus on more specific things could help us reach our goals in a more effective way, and it's just a way for us to focus more on female issues."

Dzvimbo said another big goal for the African Women's League is helping international students embrace their cultural identities and not conform to American culture.

(Dzvimbo) thought that many people were getting lost, and not being themselves. We have to claim our culture, and we have to be ourselves regardless of where we're living, because our culture is not less than theirs," Manuel said. "African Women's League is a way to empower African women and encourage them to be themselves."

Dzvimbo said she wants the league to be able to educate people about the diverse nature of Africa, and how it's more than just one culture.

"We're not a country, we're a continent," Dzvimbo said. "We have several identities and different cultural backgrounds."

Manuel said there are a lot of misconceptions about the African continent. Some of these include the beliefs that Africans still live with lions or that Africa is all about poverty, starvation and war. InFocus Africa and African Women's League both want to work to break down those stereotypes, he said.

"I think African Women's League is here to say, 'Hey, it's okay to be different, it's okay to be African, it's okay to dress in a way that you feel comfortable, it's okay to do your hair and makeup in a way that makes you feel comfortable. Don't just behave in a different way so you are accepted,'" Manuel said.

Article by: OUDaily.com



PEACE-BUILDING, ART, EDUCATION AND BUILDING BRIDGES ALL OVER THE WORLD



UWC Mostar alumnus Ahmad Yassir (UWC Mostar '16) is currently a volunteer teacher at Abaarso School for Sciences and Technology in Somaliland, an autonomous region of Somalia, in the best school in the country that is working within very high standards of education and discipline.

Ahmad designed two courses: "Exploring Uncertainty through Art", and "Building Global Bridges". His art course is the first in the school, his students explored "what is art?" and the work of Marcel Duchamp as an introduction to art, before following the syllabus that covers: Dada, Surrealism, Islamic Art, and Feminist art. Covering those art movements got his students out of the perception of classical art and made them look at art in a more subjective way, which results in making them more confident about producing art and becoming more creative and liberal in their means of self-expression, which are things students don't usually practice in traditional education.

Ahmad is hoping to gain experience in international teaching before he returns to Lebanon and brings impact and change to the educational system in his home country.

Have you ever heard of Somaliland? No,

not Somalia, but Somaliland! Its the 27-year-old country that gained independence, but isn't declared internationally yet, hence they are still suffering the challenges of the region, and their establishment within international standards. Ahmad Yassir is currently a volunteer teacher at Abaarso School for Sciences and Technology, the best school in the country that is working within very high standards of education and discipline.

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The school's mission statement is to graduate the future leaders of their country, and

this is what his second course focuses on. He started his course by talking about philosophy and skepticism, so his students would take a neutral standpoint while writing their reports, and whilst engaging in discussion becoming more curious in their personal investigations. His course joins global politics, peace-building, epistemology, and peace and conflict studies. Where the focus is tailored to making students differentiate between creative essays, and writing reports on the conflict and development of their country, Somaliland.

"Teaching for me is like hosting a talk show. Not inserting hierarchy and making students decide on the order of my lesson plan for each class, so they would directly take a part in sailing their own educational experience by taking decisions that completely has to do with them. I tailor my approach to every student individually rather than treating them all as one. My teaching style includes a mix of interactive activities and open discussion format. I use the board a lot to highlight on the important notes, my drawings and projections are as important because displaying the content visually matters. In addition to that, I write the student



opinions and the important class notes on big flip chart paper, to make them feel validity in their ideas, as it is also a resource to revisit information discussed in previous classes. I also don't hand in everything to my students, I make them curious and personally engaged with the topic, for them to research on it and understand it subjectively."

"I've been living here for about three weeks now, and the role that I have on campus has been very rewarding and it's making me very happy, although the living conditions are slightly tough, and with limited resources, it's great to be around other teachers that are coming from all around the world: different parts of the USA, New Zealand, Poland, Australia, and local teachers of course, which makes it feel so much like an extension of UWC to me! However, we need to be accompanied by two soldiers every time we want to go off campus, water is so limited we are expected not to flush the toilet every time we use it, one food option every meal which is very nicely cooked and spiced, and it reminds me so much of my mother's food! All the teachers work on average of 13 hours per day for 6 days a week. But I am genuinely

happy to be around very smart students, who are hard working and always hoping for their personal success, and ambition towards leading their country in the future."

Ahmad Yassir was born in Tripoli 1997, he got the opportunity of going abroad to UWC in Mostar, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, before enrolling in the undergraduate program at Bennington College, Vermont, USA. Ahmad's education and work focus on the creative development of education through public action and visual arts, he designs multi-disciplinary courses focusing on solving issues that students have towards their educational experiences.

Although he is an undergraduate student in his third year, he has brought change to three educational institutions already, starting with Ahliyah School in 2017 where he assisted the teachers in alternative teaching models and gave group presentations on educational awareness and motivations to pursue their passions and interests while having a big workload. Followed by Syrian Smile Makers Team in Kilis, Southern Turkey in 2018. Ahmad designed a course tailored to Syrian children refugees, mixed with a lot of interactive activities, peacebuilding projects,

and visual arts classes to make them think beyond the influences brought to them by their families. He formulated it to suit every student individually and work on embracing their personal talents, under the notation of pursuing their education and getting into higher education. In the Summer of 2018, Ahmad received a proposal to work for Abaarso School.

Ahmad is hoping to gain experience in international teaching before he returns to Lebanon and bring change to the educational system that exists there, through the experience that he will gain internationally to expand his educational, before implementing it in his home country.

You can contact Ahmad through his website; ahmadyassir.com

You can learn more about Abaarso by visiting their website: www.abaarsoschool.org

OFFICIAL UWC MOSTAR ALUMNI PAGE LAUNCHED



We are excited to launch the official UWC Mostar Alumni page, created by UWC Mostar in collaboration with its recently appointed Alumni Board in our efforts to redevelop the alumni outreach strategy to bring the College, students, faculty and alumni community closer together. This page along with the official UWC Mostar page and seasonal newsletters will be used to keep alumni posted on the UWC Mostar news, various UWC-related oppor-

tunities, alumni and reunion updates. We also encourage all of you to reach out to the Alumni Board with any suggestions, comments or content that you want to see on this page and in the newsletter by messaging us on Facebook or via email at Alumni@uwcim.uwc.org. Please spread the word and follow the page if you want to stay in the loop. We look forward to all the exciting future events, opportunities and collaborations between the College and alumni community!



Strengthening the alumni community

As part of the Alumni Board's mission to strengthen the alumni community of UWC Mostar, we are working on bringing alumni together through fundraising programs and events. One such program is the fundraising event hosted by Rotary Club Beograd

Skadarlija and led by Djordje Hinic of the Alumni Board's fundraising subcommittee. As part of this undertaking, the funds are raised through participation fees, sponsorships and proceeds from an auction held at the end of the event. Except for covering the costs of the event, the money collected goes toward UWC Mostar scholarships. The event was first launched in 2018 and it was a big success, as nearly 50 people from 6 countries came together to sail

for UWC Mostar Scholarships. This year's flotilla will take place from September 7 to 14 in Western Greece, and there is already over 120 people from over 20 countries on the crew lists. If you are interested in learning how to sail, visiting Greece, and meeting people who want to contribute to UWC Mostar, please feel free to contact Rotary Club Beograd Skadarlija at rcbeogradskadarlija@hotmail.com.



UWC MOSTAR ALUMNI COMMUNITY

UWC Mostar and the Alumni Board are excited to present you with an opportunity to come back to Mostar and make an impact on your peers, students and the wider UWC Mostar community. In line with this, we are very proud to announce the start of a new activity, namely, a series of Alumni-led Talks/Workshops for the upcoming autumn. With the goal of strengthening the UWC Mostar community and inspiring collaboration and exchange of knowledge, we would welcome any and all of you to submit your talk propos-

als by July 1, 2019. We envision the talks/workshops to span a variety of topics -- anything from discussing your current job, fellowship or internship to sharing your insights, practical skills or talents. We would like the talks/workshops to be engaging, inspiring and encouraging for the students and allow alumni to connect with the student body and share their story.

The proposals should consist of 200-300 words briefly describing the topic and/

or outlining a list of planned workshops or activities. Please submit your proposals to alumni@uwcim.uwc.org by July 1, 2019. The board will review the ideas and will work with the selected speakers to identify the best dates for the talks.

We look forward to hearing from all of you. For any questions or clarifications, please email alumni@uwcim.uwc.org.

Please note as this is a new activity, we are not able to cover the cost of travel, but we will provide the speakers with accommodation.