

Message from the Head
January, 2023

"I used to dream about escaping my ordinary life, but my life was never ordinary. I had simply failed to notice how extraordinary it was." (Miss Peregrine's home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs)

I wish for all of you dear Friends of UWC Mostar, the opportunity to recognise the extraordinariness in each of our lives this year.

At the end of January now, at the college, we are in the 4th week of the new term. And today, the students have a Global Awareness session. This is a space where the UWC Mostar community considers topics of global relevance and also engages with speakers who are making a difference in the world in small and big ways. The first

GA session of this calendar year hosted Alerk Ablikim, who shared his story as a Dutch-Uyghur activist and about the human rights and social issues revolving around the Uyghur people. Last week we had a parent, Mr. Mohamad Al-Ississ, Minister of Finance in Jordan and a UWC alum (Pearson '96) share his stories and inspire our students. And today, our students and staff deliberate on 'Can UWC Change the world?' and reflect on what it means to be a part of the UWC Community.

Is it not extraordinary to be part of a learning community that reflects, deliberates and engages together on the state of the world and what role each individual can play in order to make it a better place?

UWC Mostar also continuously strives to reach out into the community and the region to exchange ideas and contribute to much needed cooperation. Along with many community activities by our students and staff, our Director of Student Well-being recently had the chance to represent the college at the International Student Residences Conference in Belgrade and even had the opportunity to speak about the importance of mental health and safeguarding at the Serbian Parliament! Our Admissions and Advancement teams have also been cooperating with the National Committee of Bosnia & Herzegovina for the selection of students for the next academic year. They organised some very well received in-person open days in Mostar, Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Trebinje. Another collaboration was in the form of a visit by some of our teaching staff to Druga Gimnazija Sarajevo that also offers the IB program. They participated in workshops about TOK and CAS to exchange ideas with teachers from other IB schools in the country.

The extraordinary dedication with which our staff innovate, teach and live the mission of UWC Mostar, truly makes me appreciate this community. And as supporters, donors, NC members, parents and friends of UWC Mostar, I see the extraordinariness in each of you too!

Thank you all for being a part of this amazing extended UWC Mostar family!

Sonia Rawat,
Head of UWC Mostar

Cooperations and activities



First International conference of student residences and residential schools
"Challenges in residential work- progress through dialogue"

This January, UWC Mostar's Director of Wellbeing, Ljubica Bajo Behmen joined the first International conference of student residences and residential schools "Challenges in residential work- progress through dialogue" organized by the student residence "Militin Milanković" in Belgrad.

The Conference is a part of a greater effort to establish a network and an association of student residences and residential schools in Southeast Europe.

With around 40 participants from Serbia, Montenegro, BiH, North Macedonia, and Hungary, including residential home directors and the Minister of Education and Culture of Republika Srpska, and the Deputy Minister for international cooperation of Montenegro, the conference covered many topics relevant for residential schools and student residences.

[More](#)

IB schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Druga gimnazija Sarajevo welcomed IB schools from Bosnia and Herzegovina including UWC Mostar representatives Selma Šarantić, Elmira Čatrnja, Andrew Theron, Maja Abadžija, Ian Stroughair, Emina Alibegović and Iva Marinković. The cooperation between IB schools was initiated by II Gimnazija teachers who organized and held workshops with the purpose of exchanging experiences. The aim of the workshops was to strengthen the bond between all four IB schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the development of ideas and joint projects.

[More](#)



Events and Initiatives



UWC Open Days in Mostar, Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Trebinje

As a part of our promotional activities supporting UWC National Committee of BiH, UWC Mostar organised Open Days in several locations in BiH. Intended for applicants and interested candidates Open Days 2023 very successfully provided informative sessions, presentations, discussions and Q and A with our staff members in Mostar, Banja Luka, Trebinje and Sarajevo.



UWC Mostar
National Library Mostar and American Corner Mostar

UWC Mostar continues with great cooperations in 2023. Our favourite two for this month's edition are:

"Little English Language School" in cooperation with Narodna knjižnica HNŽ Mostar - Children's Department of the HNC National Library, Mostar, aiming to express creativity and learn English language, intended for children age 7-10 and led by UWC Mostar students.

"Physics Lab Experiment" program in cooperation with American Corner Mostar takes place every week and is intended for high school students who would like to have fun with physics and learn some great things with UWC Mostar Physics teacher Miljan Rujpar.

Alumni



VACANCIES AT UWC MOSTAR

The following vacancies are available from August 2023:

Teacher of IBDP Economics
Teacher of IBDP Mathematics
House-parent
Outdoor Activities Coordinator

For information and details, please go to:
www.uwcmostar.ba

UWC Mostar & Booking.com

Use the [UWC Mostar micropage](#) on Booking.com when reserving accommodation for your trip. Booking.com will automatically donate a small percentage of the amount to our school, more specifically, to the travel fund for scholarships students coming to study at UWC Mostar.

It's a really easy way to make a meaningful contribution, so please encourage parents, family and friends to use it!

