



ECHOES OF YOUTH

Echoes of youth
Comune di San Giorgio Albanese
18/06/2022 - 27/06/2022

If you are reading this infopack because you are interested in participating in our Youth Exchange!

Please, make sure you are in touch with the official sending partner of the project from your country!



THE PROJECT

The Municipality of San Giorgio Albanese is one of the several Arbereshe enclaves (an ancient Italo-Albanian minority) present in southern Italy. It is located in Calabria, in the province of Cosenza and has about 1500 inhabitants. The Municipality enjoys one of the most views in Italy, close to the Pollino park and the Ionian Sea. The historic center still remains intact and represents a good example of Arbereshe architecture. Local knowledge is handed down from generation to generation thanks to the connection between city and countryside. In the neighborhoods, the neighbors sit at the door and converse with each other, telling stories of cultures and traditions in Italian and Arbereshe. The religion is Greek Orthodox, thanks to the influence of the Arbereshe culture, one of the few cases in Italy.



The Municipality is open to reception and has strongly supported the reception of various refugee families with the formula of a widespread hotel to combat depopulation. Furthermore, a professional integration plan is made based on previous skills and those developed with activities in the community. SPRAR plays a key role in this integration with local workers and refugees working together. It is interesting to see how the country has come back to life with the arrival of young people and migrant families. The internationalization policy also includes formalized and non-formalized twinning with various Albanian and French cities. Lastly, international volunteers are being hosted thanks to the AIESEC program. The development plans also include welcoming and sending volunteers through the European Solidarity Corps program.

This project was born from the desire to share experiences, cultures and musical skills, thanks to the experience of last year's IN cultural exchange project.

During the cultural exchange we saw how the power of music could overcome every cultural and linguistic barrier and unite young people from different countries, during free time and cultural evenings. It was very strong to see how popular music and some “evergreen” songs acted as a binder to make families, politicians,



local and international young people, refugees, children and all the crowds that poured into San Giorgio from neighboring countries interact. We consider the need to forge community bonds and solidarity as the only way to promote the participation of young people in rural areas and at the same time fight the depopulation that our communities experience every day. Making young people more active in their communities, through stimuli that attract all ages, is our solution to a more united community which together with super problems related to water scarcity, disadvantaged geographic conditions and unemployment.

The moments of confrontation of the workshops on creativity and Erasmus + contributed to the development of this idea of exchange on music linked to the entrepreneurial spirit. Each participant, in fact, will have the opportunity to share their musical experiences and the characteristic music of their nation with others, in order to then be able to create a series of popular songs in different languages, to protect the linguistic and cultural roots through the action of youth.

OBJECTIVES

- To encourage entrepreneurial skills based not only on the lines of already existing jobs and market logic but above all on creativity and musical expression;
- To encourage participants to transform a passion into a potential job, based both on musical skills (such as composing and structuring an audio track) and on the finalization of a musical product, also analyzing personal branding, market logic and product marketing;
- Development of practical skills in the field of music, starting from the concept of sound, passing through the harmony and for group composition, up to familiarizing with the use of professional equipment for making music (microphones, mixers and editing software);
- Favoring the integration of different cultures and languages, using music itself as a medium, as a vehicle of intercultural learning and expression of a message of social importance, that is, of valorization and integration one tra culture;
- Promoting the Erasmus + program and youth opportunities in the context of European contributions to the creativity of young people and support for small creative businesses.



PARTICIPANTS

- Must be between 18 to 30 years old
- Have an adequate knowledge of Music or be music lovers;
- English language is not totally compulsory as there would be simultaneous translations
- 6 participants per country (5 young people and 1 team leader)

ACTIVITIES

The topics covered by the project will be:

- This project is designed for young creatives, music lovers both in its most technical form and for those who understand how a track is drawn up, and for those who already have a good business idea in the difficult modern music market.
- Knowing how to play an instrument can be considered an extra gear, but we believe it is important to stimulate everyone's creativity on the concept of sound, also involving young people who do not yet have specific musical skills. We aim to have talented young people who struggle to enter the world of work, in order to improve the sense of entrepreneurial initiative and the ability to work on their own.
- The idea is to open the project to all those who have a passion for music, but also to those who dedicate themselves to volunteer activities, with the prospect of transforming their initiative and activity into a potential job, through an association and freelancers.
- From the Municipality there will be young people who see the challenges of the rural community every day and 2 or 3 young refugees, as well as two young people who we have already involved in the last exchange, one of which as a group leader and some young people who participate in the band of the country.
- Each organization will spread the call for participants among its own young people, looking for who has the aforementioned characteristics and the desire to participate.



- The partners will share the answers of the application form via google and we will proceed to discuss the selection between the different organizations. We will give the possibility to write the application in English or mother tongue, in order to ensure that each partner will be included and subsequently translate the most interesting ones, after a pre-selection based on the aforementioned criteria.

The following will be assessed:

- the passion for music
 - the previous or no experience in mobility projects
 - the interest in social entrepreneurship and the free profession
 - the condition of employment (unemployed, unemployed, NEET etc)
- We know well that in each chosen nation the school systems end at different ages and the creative sectors are more receptive when one is young; furthermore, the funding and programs dedicated to young people, which we will discuss during a dedicated session, fall within the chosen target group.

SAN GIORGIO ALBANESE

San Giorgio Albanese is a small village in the province of Cosenza (Calabria) located on the hills close to the Sila tableland. From the center, people can enjoy an awesome landscape: all around red hills and, in the distance, the Pollino Mountains, the Jonio Sea and its shores. The peculiarity of San Giorgio Albanese is the presence of an ethnic and linguistic Albanian minority – the Arbrëschë people – who settled in Southern Italy between 15th and 18th century, when they escaped from Ottoman Empire's invasion of Balkans. Arbëreshë communities managed to preserve their Eastern Catholic religion, their traditions, customs, gastronomy and *Arbëresh*, an old variety of Albanian spoken in southern Albania. Also the architecture and the city planning of the center have preserved some typical arbëreshë characteristics, such as the narrow streets around the so-called *sheshi* squares. Here the convivial atmosphere of the *Gijtonia* (literally "the neighborhood") combines urbanism and social life, where neighbors, sitting on the steps of the stairs (the so called *te sheshi*), chat, tell anecdotes and stories of the past, while crocheting or weaving baskets.



BOARD & ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation: participants will be accommodated in a tourist reception facility suitable for hosting the entire group in compliance with safety regulations. The distribution of the participants in the rooms will ensure gender division, while efforts will be made to mix the national groups.

In case of special needs and food allergies, a communication from the organizers will be required.

EXPENSES & TRAVEL COSTS

Board and accommodation will be fully covered by **ERASMUS + Programme** , but we recommend to bring with you pocket money for any extra expenses. Travel costs will be reimbursed up to the maximum amount established by the European Commission, only if **YOU PRESENT ALL THE ORIGINAL TICKETS and BOOKING EMAILS.**

Arrival day 18/06/2022 - Departure day 27/06/2022

- **Greece** Amount per Participant - € 275.00 Number of participant: 6
- **Portugal** Amount per Participant - € 360.00 Number of participant: 6
- **Romania** Amount per Participant - € 275.00 Number of participant: 6
- **Turkey** Amount per Participant - € 360.00 Number of participant: 6

NOTE: Keep original invoices and tickets, e-tickets and boarding passes. Price, currency, name of passenger, date of purchase and travel should be clearly visible on all documents; otherwise we will be unable to reimburse the travel costs.

ITINERARY/ TRAVEL PLAN

The closest **AIRPORT** is Lamezia Terme but you could also check the flights to the International airport of Naples, the International Airport of Bari or at Fiumicino or Ciampino airport in Rome.



- **From Lamezia** : you can get from Lamezia terme Aeroporto to Corigliano Calabro by train.
- **From Rome** : both from Ciampino and Fiumicino you can reach Roma Termini taking a [Terravision](#) Transfer and from there you can take a train to Corigliano Calabro.

Otherwise you could find a bus. In this case you should get to Roma Tiburtina by metro (MEB Rebibbia) and there you will find the bus to Corigliano Calabro .

- **From Naples** : outside the airport you will find the bus stop Salita Viaggiatori. Take the line ALIB Acton-Beverello to Piazza Garibaldi-Milano and then walk to Stazione di [Napoli Centrale](#) . From there you can find a train to Corigliano Calabro . Another option is taking a bus from Metropark (Piazza Garibaldi) to Corigliano Calabro .
- **From Bari:** you can get to Largo Sorrentino by train (FR2) and from there take a bus to Corigliano Calabro

From Corigliano Calabro train station, we will inform you about how to reach San Giorgio Albanese.

You can buy tickets on [Trenitalia](#) website while you can check buses on [Flixbus](#) or [Simet](#) websites.

[Please contact us before to book tickets, sending us a travel plan or a screenshot of the plane you wanna catch, so we can make sure that there are available transports to San Giorgio Albanese at that time.](#)

For travel:

- Francesco di Marco
- Mobile and whatsapp
- Email: f.dimarco@extramus.eu



WEATHER

Summer is usually very hot but don't forget to take with you some warmer clothes for the evening or in case of bad weather!

Contacts

If you need any further information, don't hesitate to contact us!

Our email **contact for European projects** is: leo@extramus.eu