

Association for Media Literacy Planet-M Skopje

2023 Annual Report

The Media Literacy Association "Planet-M" supports the development of the young generation by carrying out activities in the field of education, art, culture, as well as human (child) rights and active involvement of young people in all segments of their growth and development in civil society.

The mission of the Media Literacy Association "Planet-M" is to provide an inclusive and supportive space for building the knowledge and critical thinking of young people, to educate and inspire new generations for constructive involvement, creative engagement and leadership to strengthen civil society, create a better future with mutual understanding in the service of humanity through educational and cultural exchange, tolerance, shared values and cooperation.

The vision of Planet-M Media Literacy Association is a self-sustaining society where young people are inspired leaders, change makers, problem solvers and active citizens, ready to create the future they want.

The purpose of the association is to promote media literacy, education, culture, critical opinion, tolerance, law and democracy, as well as developing them through formal and informal educational processes and actions and involving the youth in them. In order to realize the mission, the association prepares, develops and implements creative projects and workshops that promote informal education and culture in modern society for wider educational, cultural, economic and social development. to help them reach their full potential. Through informal education in various segments, Planet-M educates and supports young people in their growth, maturation, as well as the achievement of equality and harmony according to gender, social, ethnic, relationship or any other basis, thereby reducing discrimination, bullying and violence among young people in general.

The main tool for motivating and involving young people is film art, mostly through the International Youth Film Festival "Giffoni Macedonia", which is a branch of the largest festival for children and youth "Giffoni Experience" from Italy, as well as through the traveling part through smaller towns called "Giffoni Travels" ". Film showings are used to motivate young people for open debate on topics that concern young people.

A significant segment of the activities are international cooperation and involvement of the youth of our country in various international projects.

During 2023, the association implemented the following major projects:

- **The EPYC project (Enhancing Peace through Youth Creativity)** all results and final works of participants were implemented as a special segment within the 11th edition of Giffoni Macedonia
- **Participation in Italy at the Giffoni Experience festival with 10 young people**
- **Giffoni Macedonia Youth Film Festival 2023**
- Youth Festival **Giffoni on Tour** in Probishtip, June 5-1, 2023 in Cultural Center "Zletovski rudar"

The list of all activities of Planet-M can be seen at the link:

<https://planet-m.mk/activities/>

The annual narrative and financial reports as well as PRESS clippings can be found at the link:

<https://planet-m.mk/transpatency/>

GIFFONI

filmfestival MACEDONIA

YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL

5-10 OCTOBER 2023



ИНСТИТУЦИОНАЛНИ ПАРТНЕРИ И ПОДДРЖОБАНИ / INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS



СПОНЗОРИ / SPONSORS



МЕДИУМСКА ПОДДРЖОБАНИ / MEDIA SUPPORTERS



CEREMONY OPENING



The festival was officially opened on October 5) at 19:30 at the "Millennium" cinema, with the screening of the Italian-Swiss film "The Returned" (L'Arminuta) directed by Giuseppe Bonito, based on the novel of the same name by Donatella di Pierantonio. At the opening, the ambassador of Italy in Skopje, H.E. Andrea Silvestri. Ambassador Silvestri recalled how three years ago he went on stage for the first time in front of festival participants, in 2021 during the pandemic, when the capacity of the hall was 30 percent.



PROGRAM



The eleventh edition of Giffoni Macedonia was held in the standard format, which has been used since the very beginning of the festival's existence, but with an enriched creative program and more guests.



The students, divided into three age groups, watched feature films and short films carefully selected for their age and, acting as a jury, chose the winners in each of the categories by joint voting.

In addition to films, the program included discussions led by young moderators, as well as meetings with prominent figures from the film and other related industries and presentations by young authors. The creative workshops under the guidance of professional mentors were carried out in two shifts during all five days, and numerous creative works of the young participants emerged from them.



The films for the Cadets and Seniors categories were subtitled in English, and the feature films for the Juniors category were subtitled in Macedonian.

In addition to the film program, a large part of the festival's program had an educational character. Through master-classes, lectures and workshops, young people learned new information and skills and learned and developed their creativity.

FILM PROGRAM

In the film program, by default, 15 feature films are shown in the competition program and 1 feature film at the opening of the Festival and over 40 short and animated films that were shown in several competition categories.

Films played in the competition program for Juniors:



Dancing Queen

Norway, 2023. 92'
Director: Aurora Gossé



Scrapper

United Kingdom, 2023, 83'
Director: Charlotte Regan



Romaissa - the Superhero from Rotterdam

Netherlands, 2022. 71'
Director: Fadua El Akchaoui



The Worst Ones

France, 2022. 99'
Director: Lise Akoka and Romane Gueret



There and back

Russian Federation, 2023. 107'
Director: Oleg Assadulin

Films played in the competition for Cadets:



The fantastic Three

France, 2023. 95'
Director: Michaël Dichter



Guilt

Turkey, 2022. 84'
Director: Umran Safter



The Properties of Metals

Italy, 2023. 120'
Director: Antonio Bigini



Darkling

Serbia, Denmark, Italy, 2022. 104'
Director: Dusan Milic



Excursion

Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, France, Norway, 2023. 93'
Director: Una Gunjak

Films played in the competition program for Seniors:



Delegation

Israel, 2023. 99'
Director: Asaf Saban



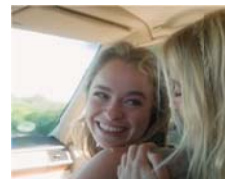
Papaya 69

Switzerland, 2023. 90'
Directors: Riccardo Bernasconi, Francesca Reverdito



Rock, Paper, Grenade

Ukraine, 2022. 93'
Director: Iryna Tsilyl



Tomorrow Somewhere by the Sea

Germany, 2023. 80'
Director: Patrick Buchting



Sisterhood

N.Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro 2021. 90'
Director: Dina Duma

Short films in the competition program for Juniors:



Bird's Nest

by Nadia Louis-Desmarchais
Canada, 9'



The Winner

by Ali Keyvan
Iran 15'



Valentine's Magic

by Anne Christine Girardot
Netherlands 20'



Word of Honour

by Lolita Naranovich
Russia 9'



Eternal Rest

by Giuseppe Sangiorgi
Italy 10'

Short films in the competition program for Cadets:



Rename
by Weilong Li
China, 10'

The Moisture
by Turan Haste
Turkeye 20

Insects
by Greta Zamparini
Italy 14'

Eye for an Eye
by Anthony Coveney
Canada 9'

Eye for an Eye
by Anthony Coveney
Canada 9'

Short films in the competition program for Seniors:



My Grandmother's Story
By Zed BW
Lithuania, 10'

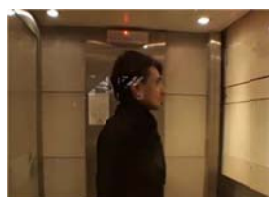
Get Home Safe
by Tamara Denic
Germany 13'

Mother's Song
by Mauro Lamanna
Italy 15'

Miasma
by Tiantian He
China 20'

Oh Dear Daddy
by Marco Di Gerlando
Italy 16'

Short animated films by students:



Lust for Life
by Leona Jarikj
Macedonia



The Green Dog
by Film group Kašići
Croatia



Burnoutby
Jonathon Charlie Copson-Pacal
Australia



In a world of wolves
by Israa Ben Hassine
Italy



Absent
by Strahinja Krstić
Serbia



Encounter
by Anastasija Petrović
Serbia



Friendly
by Anastasija Petrović
Serbia



The Sweet Taste of Victory
by Simon Jegorović,
Tamara Lukić
Serbia

Short animated films by students:



The leaf of life
by student collective 6D
Portugal



Oh man
by student collective 6D
Portugal



Turn the page
by 6 young people (11-14)
Hungary



What mouth speaks, hands make
by L.Kranjčić, K. Šmic,
F. Bogović, V.Dvoržak,
A.Mlinarić
Croatia



GPT menu
by L.Kranjčić, K. Šmic,
F. Bogović, V.Dvoržak,
A.Mlinarić
Croatia

EPYC Short Film Awards

For the EPYC Short Film Award, a special open call was published on the FilmFreeway platform in February 2023. <https://filmfreeway.com/EPYC>

The call was also promoted on the FilmFreeway platform, through social channels and website and distributed through major international partners.

Short films in competition EPYC Short Film Award



Going diaspora
by Damir Mehic
Bosnia Herzegovina, 17'



Gulab Gul
by Semih Sagman
Turkey 11'



Lights
by Jitka Nemikinsová
Czech Republic 8'



My Grandmother's Story
Kamile Kareivaite & Robin Marten
Leppik
Lithuania, 17'



Firas Fits In
by Tony El Ghazal
Jordan 12'



Elena
by Mateo Cingu
Albania 15'

Short films in competition EPYC Short Film Award - Young Authors



Elevated
by Chloe W
anHong Kong, 7



Top secret
by Valeria Martynenko
Ukraine 8'



Dog Tag
by Ryan Goldberg
United States 6'



The world you want
by Matija Štifanić
Serbia, 6



RISE, FALL, HOPE
Alexandra Delgra, Tiana Distefano,
Nina Fiala, Kevin Lu, Alice Phelan,
Merlin Pühr, Angelo Schiroky, Austria
7'



My day in Kyiv in summer 2022
by Elina Myshanych
Ukraine 7'



Humanize
Portugal, 3



Death in Normandy
by Leo Kahn
United States 4'



THE PEACE GIRL
by Rui Duque, Patrícia Matos
Portugal, 3'

AWARDS

This year, cash prizes were also awarded in a special EPYC (EPYC) competition for films on the topic of building peace, coexistence and mutual understanding between people.

The awarded prizes are:

- Best Short Film for the Best EPYC Short Film Award (800€)
Lights (Lights) animated film by Jitka Nemikinsová (Czech Republic)
- Best short film for the EPYC Balkan Short Film Award (500th€)
Going diaspora by Damir Medzic (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Best Short Film for the EPYC Youth Short Film Award (500th€)
Normandy (Normandy) by Leo Kahn (USA)

The international jury composed of all participants of the festival voted and made the following choice:

Best feature films:

- Best film in the category Juniors:
Dancing Queen by Aurora Gossé (Norway)
- Best film in the Cadets category:
The fantastic three (The fantastic Three) by Michaël Dichter(France)
- Best film in the category Seniors:
*Sisters*of Dina Duma (N. Macedonia)

Best Short Films:

- Best short film in the Junior category:
Valentine's Magic by Anne Christine Girardot (Netherlands)
- Best short film in the Cadets category:
Mariposa by Maurizio Forcella(Italy)
- Best Short Film in the Seniors category:
Get Home Safe by Tamara Denic(Germany)

The following were selected in the other competition categories:

- Best Animated Film:
Ana Morphose by Joao Rodrigues(Portugal)
- Best short film made by students:
Anastasia Petrović's Encounter(Serbia)

The following films were shown in the exhibition section:

- "Jan" short film by Kenen Music (BiH) and a conversation with the director (world premiere)
- Watermelon – a short feature film by Martin Cichovski and a conversation with the director
- Life on a board – a short documentary film by Leona Jarić and a conversation with her

EPYC DOCUMENTARY FILM

- The Students from Umberto Primo by Alessandra Maioletti, a feature-length documentary by Alessandra Maioletti (GR, IT)
As part of the EPYC program, the documentary film "The Disciples of Umberto Primo" by Alessandra Maioletti and Antonio Crescenzi was shown. A moving story about nine Jewish high school students from a prestigious Italian school in Thessaloniki during the Nazi occupation, which shocked young viewers, the peers of the protagonists, reminding them of the importance of remembering the Shoah and the duty to never allow similar crimes to happen again. check.

CREATIVE WORKSHOPS

The Giffoni Macedonia festival pays great attention to the informal education of young participants, among other things with traditional creative workshops in which young participants get to know the techniques and secrets of creative and artistic expression and acquire new skills, while discovering their talents and interest in professional direction towards the creative industries.

The following workshops were organized for Juniors, Cadets and Seniors:

	Workshop	Lecturer	Category
1	Fine art	Monica Moteska	Juniors
2	Movie	Predrag Vukosavljevic	Juniors
3	Music+Acting = Musical	Lada Shoptrayanova Petrovska	Juniors
4	Digital design	Ladislav Cvetkovski and Linda Trajkoska	Cadets and Seniors
5	Video news	Martin Cichovski	Cadets and Seniors
6	Comic strip	Zdravko Girov and Davor Dramićanin	Cadets and Seniors
7	One-take video	Kiril Karakash and Svetislav Podleshanov	Cadets and Seniors
8	One minute movies	Philip Lafazanovski	Cadets and Seniors
9	Photography	Robert Yanculoski	Cadets and Seniors

All workshops for high school students took place in two shifts due to the large number of participants. While the Cadets were watching a movie, the Seniors were at the workshops and then vice versa. All the results of the workshops were shown on the final evening: on the stage of the Millennium cinema, the point prepared in the framework of the Musical workshop was performed, and in the hall of the cinema, the works of the Juniors from the art workshop, as well as the comics and photographs made by the Cadets and Seniors, were exhibited. at the comics and photography workshop. Films and videos from other workshops were screened at the Millennium Cinema during the festival's closing ceremony.

ART WORKSHOP

The art workshop for Juniors is a place where everyone can try their creativity and learn something new about painting secrets and techniques. This year the art workshop was under the mentorship of Monika Moteska, a graduate painter with many years of experience and numerous independent exhibitions, as well as rich experience in working with children.



FILM WORKSHOP

The film workshop for juniors was intended for students whose interest is directed towards film art. Under the leadership of Professor Predrag Vukosavljevic from Obrenovac, Serbia, who has been working on film education with students from his town for many years. At this workshop, the young people acquired the basic knowledge needed to create an audiovisual work - a short film, and during the five days of the workshop, divided into groups, the students managed to shoot seven short films.



MUSIC AND ACTING WORKSHOP = MUSICAL



In this workshop, three types of performing arts were combined: music, dance and theater. The Musical workshop was dedicated to film music. The youngest had the opportunity to try themselves in the area in which they feel best: some of them contributed an idea for a dramatic text, others with choreography, and all of them participated with song and dance in the stage performance of the notes from the famous movie - Brilliant.

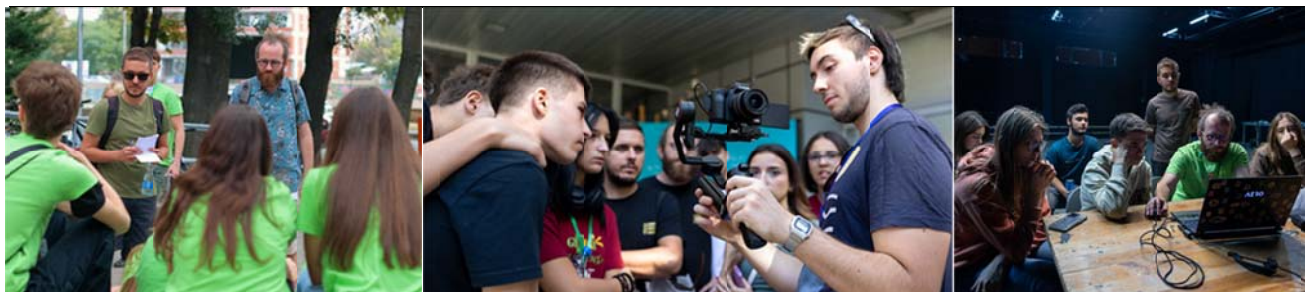
PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Traditionally, one of the workshops for which there is the greatest interest among young people is the photography workshop. This year the photography workshop was conducted in collaboration with the Institute for Communication Studies (ICS) and IREX as part of USAID's media literacy project, "Youth Think".



FILM WORKSHOP - ONE-TAKE VIDEO

One of the most requested workshops this year has returned to the program after a two-year hiatus. Under the mentorship of directors Kiril Karakash and Svetislav Podleshanov, the participants had the task of devising a script and choreography for recording an entertaining video clip in one frame around the premises of the MCC and its surroundings, which they then filmed themselves.



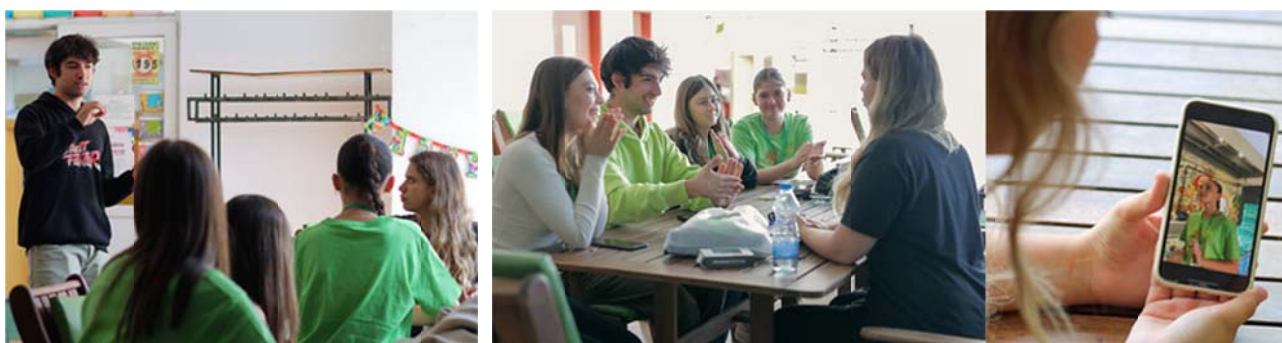
FILM WORKSHOP FOR ONE MINUTE FILM

The film workshop for a one-minute film was led by the young director Filip Lafazanovski, who is still a student, but actively works and constantly films, and already has experience in working with students. Within five dayhigh school students shot and edited videos in teams and together they made 15 one-minute films. Thus, through practical work, high school students learned how to record and edit with the simplest tools. Most of the short films were recorded with a mobile phone.



VIDEO NEWS WORKSHOP

The video news editing workshop is a new workshop that emerged as an idea of several active young people who are interested in recording videos for social networks. This workshop was led by Martin Cichovski, a well-known and popular man from Djibouti who has directed several short films, and together with other high school students he created an informal group "Marvi Production" with which they recorded 6 episodes of the "Generation Bushavi" series.



DIGITAL DESIGN WORKSHOP

At this workshop, participants had the opportunity to learn how to communicate visually and how - with the help of the free Canva platform - to create graphic designs or visual posts for social networks. The workshop aimed to encourage individual and team work, but also critical thinking and the use of graphic design as an expression of one's own attitudes and opinions. The workshop was led by Ladislav Cvetkovski, professor of graphic design at the Faculty of Fine Arts.



COMICS WORKSHOP

The comic workshop was once again on the program of Giffoni Macedonia. Under the mentorship of comic authors Zdravko Girov and Davor Dramićanin, the workshop was dedicated to the creative expression of young talents, with an emphasis on visualizing their original ideas, from fantasy to superheroes. Educating the youngest about the beauty of comics and its accessibility as a medium in which they can channel their creativity and desire to draw, and thus embody their exuberant childhood imagination in comic form.



THE INTERNATIONAL JURY

The eleventh edition of Giffoni Macedonia was held in full capacity with the usual and well-known mass meetings and gatherings. In order to enable all interested students from secondary and elementary schools to register for participation, a call for registration was published during the month of September through Instagram and Facebook pages of the festival. The participants registered through an online form until the vacancies were filled: 200 Cadets, 250 Seniors and 115 Juniors, according to the capacity of the cinema halls and accompanying rooms where the workshops were held.



The Cadets and Seniors were joined by over 40 participants from Italy, Serbia, Croatia, Kosovo, Bosnia, Greece, Bulgaria, Romania and France, and among the juniors, for the first time, we had 6 participants from Serbia who are actively making short films. All foreign participants stayed for seven days in the homes of their peers in Skopje.

The participants of the festival from all three categories had the opportunity to stand out in several areas: the discussions, the workshops, the hospitality program and other activities they participate in during the festival. Among the most active participants from all categories, several were selected who, in the period until the next edition, will represent the Giffoni Macedonia festival at other international festivals with which we cooperate.



This year, at the closing of the festival, the first five participants were chosen who will be part of the group of Macedonian representatives in the jury of the Giffoni Experience in Italy in July 2024, together with over 6000 participants from over 50 countries. During the festival in Italy, they will have the opportunity to meet top Italian and international authors, directors, producers, actors, writers and other public figures and experts.

HOSPITALITY PROGRAM

Every year around fifty international students join the jury and are hosted by their local colleagues during their week in Skopje. The selection of invited countries takes place on the basis of existing cooperation with various organizations within the framework of the Giffoni Film Festival. For this year's edition of EPYC, all countries from the Western Balkans and that is from the entire Balkans, as well as from Italy, were invited. Thus, 35 children from: Serbia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Kosovo, Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia and Italy were hosted by as many local families, with great enthusiasm and participation of the host children and parents.

For the first time, the hospitality program was extended to the youngest: a group of 6 children from a school in Serbia, aged between 10 and 14, accompanied by their teacher, were included in the Junior jury. In this way, we started the expansion of the regional scope and the spirit of exchange and cooperation also applies to the youngest category, so far reserved only for children from North Macedonia. The hospitality program has always been a strong point of the festival and one of the things that the participants loved, as it allows children to make new friends, learn about the culture, language and traditions of other countries and have travel experiences outside of the family context. and the school. In fact, often the children who host their peers have priority in the selection of representatives of North Macedonia at other festivals in Italy and in the region.

JUNIORS



The program for the juniors took place in the Cinematheque of Macedonia and started with a film screening, followed by a discussion. The discussions for the juniors took place in Macedonian, and the moderator was Leona Jaric, who grew up with Giffoni and recorded several short feature films and documentaries. At one of the discussions after the screening of the film "There and Back", the director Oleg Asadulin was present, with whom the participants discussed the film, and the Macedonian actor Igor Angelov had a special meeting with the young people, whom the participants asked about the profession of an actor and his experience in filming movies.



The discussion was followed by a break for a snack, and then the juniors were assigned to the rooms intended for the creative workshops. The program for the juniors ended after the workshops, ie around 3:00 p.m.

CADETS AND SENIORS



The program with films and workshops for Cadets and Seniors took place in the Youth Cultural Center. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. when they alternated in two shifts following a film program in the Frosina cinema and workshops in other rooms in the MCC and outdoors. The discussions for the cadets and seniors took place in English, the moderators were Berta Milevska for the cadets and Iskra Celakovska for the seniors, but often other active Giffonians were involved in the moderation.



From 16:00 to 18:00 the program included masterclass meetings, some of which were open to the general public.



MASTER CLASSES AND GUESTS

At the Giffoni Macedonia festival, young people are especially excited when they have the opportunity to meet professionals from the creative industries or young talents who promote their first independent works at the Festival.

This year, interesting guest appearances and content from several fields were provided that offered young people new perspectives on the professional opportunities offered by the rich field of audiovisual arts. The visits took place in the afternoon at the Frosina cinema in MCC. At these meetings, the participants could ask questions to the guests and discuss the given topic. Some of the events were also open to the general public.

At the meeting with the two authors of the Filmthusiast brand, an Instagram profile dedicated to the film with over 4 million followers and the first in the world for interaction with the public, the young people were interested to discover that the authors of this brand are two brothers from Skopje, a little older than them, who decided to devote time and effort to transform their passion for cinema into a real job, which led them to collaborate with major international production companies, travel and meet movie stars.

Screening of Marvi Production's latest film "Watermelon" and a meeting with the authors, a group of young Macedonian filmmakers who discovered their love for cinema in Giffoni and decided to turn it into a profession. Present at the meeting was the director Martin Cichovski, leader of the group, who also managed the video journalism workshop in this edition of the Festival.



In the afternoon program, in addition to the screenings of the films for the EPYC Short Film Award and the EPYC documentary, there were three more special events, part of the EPYC project.

EPYC Talks 1: "Changing the World, One Film at a Time" with the participation of representatives of film festivals and organizations that support young authors and create opportunities for young people to learn cinema in order to try, indeed, to change the world.

Speakers at the discussion were: Sladjana Petrovic Varagic from Filmart, Serbia, Kenan Music and Mirza Custovic from the Omladinski Film Festival in Sarajevo, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Eirini Zeza from the Olympia Film Festival in Athens, Greece. The event started with three key questions:

- What stories generate or cause change?
- If change is possible, what can we do to encourage it?
- Does the film really have the ability to shape the way of thinking of the youth?

The discussion that opened with the public showed that young people have a great interest in these issues, have clear ideas and the potential to change the world for the better.

Within the EPYC program it was shown the documentary film "The Students from Umberto Primo" (The Students from Umberto Primo) by Alessandra Maioletti (Greece, Italy).



EPYC Talks 2: "Innovative education. Learning values through film and creative activities" was the topic of the second discussion at which representatives of school and non-governmental institutions with many years of experience in media education and education through cinema for mostly young people. Enes Lekiqi from Pristina, Kosovo and Stefani Velichkova from Sofia, Bulgaria discussed with the young people in the audience the connection between creativity and education as an innovative approach in the formal school system and non-formal education. Mario Cesaro and Vincenza Fasano from Giffoni shared the Giffoni Experience's many years of experience in creativity education and in the fight against cultural poverty throughout Italy through the projects "Giffoni School Experience" and "Sixteen Ways to Say Hello". Finally, the participants appealed to the authorities to use the great potential of film and art in general, by adapting the curricula of elementary, middle and high schools to new trends, to the interests of children and to the immediate and enormous power of images.



The representatives of the non-governmental organization Metamorphosis from Skopjeheld a masterclass and lecture on "Fake news and who is playing with our minds?", during which, through an interactive presentation, young people had the opportunity to check their knowledge about fake news, media manipulations and fact-checking procedures that are presented to us every day through newspapers, TV and social media.

This meeting touched on the issues underlying the so-called "hereditary hatred" and "transmitted prejudice", concepts that can be overcome thanks to the efforts of initiatives such as the EPYC project.

The international evenings is a traditional event particularly desired by the participants of the international festival to which all participating countries contributed by setting up their own stand with traditional food and information about the culture and traditions of their country. This is an event that takes place in the first days of the festival so that young people have the opportunity to make friends and get to know each other.



World premiere of the short film "Jan" by the young Bosnian director Kenan Music and meeting of the public with the director, actors and part of the production team. The conversation lasted very long due to the excitement of the film and many interesting questions and answers.



A meeting with the young director Leona Jaric on the occasion of the screening of her new film "The Life of a Plank", who from the youngest age of being a participant of the Giffoni Macedonia festival, through the workshops, grew up to become a film author. This is just another example of the important role Jiffoni plays in encouraging young people to test themselves and experiment with creative avenues that allow them to express their imaginations and communicate messages to the world.

COLLABORATION AND NETWORKING

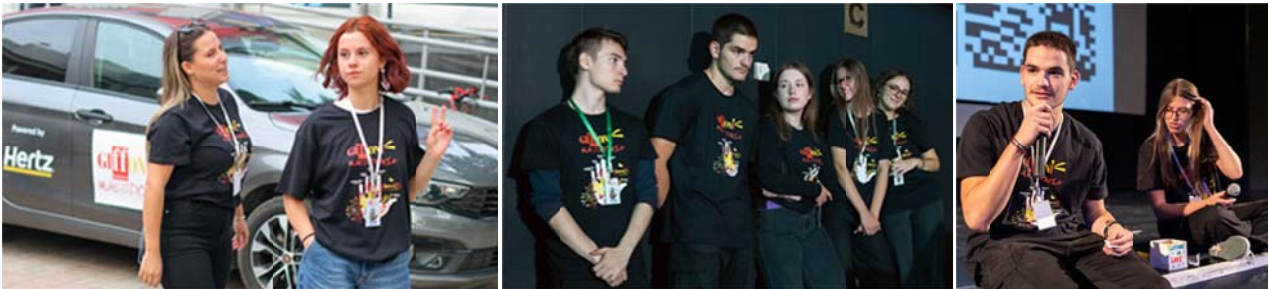
In addition to "Giffoni Macedonia", eight regional festivals and youth cinema organizations participated in the activities of the Festival. The following directly participated in the festival in Skopje: Film Festival Giffoni, Italy; Sarajevo Youth Film Festival, Bosnia and Herzegovina; PriFest Film Festival, Kosovo; Interaction, Film Festival from Požega, Serbia; Posavci Film School, Obrenovac, Serbia; School Association - Slatina, Romania; Ars Kino Association - Sofia, Bulgaria; Olympia Film Festival - Athens, Greece.

Also various several festivals and regional organizations collaborated in promoting the EPYC Award competition and spreading the messages of the EPYC project to their members and students: Serbian Film Center - Belgrade, Serbia, Underhill Festival - Podgorica, Montenegro, Tirana Film Festival, Albania. Short Form Festival, Gornji Milanovac, Serbia, Universal Kids - Istanbul, Turkey, Tvrdjava Kulture - Sibenik, Croatia, International Children's Festival - Sibenik, Croatia.

VOLUNTEERS



The Giffoni Macedonia festival always has a large participation of volunteers who are mostly former participants of the festival and are a significant segment in the entire organizational structure during the festival days.



During the festival, they take care of coordinating the activities at all locations, registering the participants, assisting in discussions and workshops and many other activities necessary for the smooth running of the festival. Like every year, the interest in volunteering was great. In order to register the volunteers, a call was published through Instagram and Facebook where all those interested could register for volunteering at the tenth edition of Giffoni Macedonia. From over 70 applications, 35 volunteers were selected.



PERMANENT CLOSING



The closing ceremony of the Giffoni Macedonia Youth Film Festival, which closed the eleventh edition, was held on October 10 at the Millennium Cinema.

Traditionally, the last evening is always dedicated to all the young participants of the festival. The program of the closing ceremony consisted of the presentation of the final products prepared by the participants during the workshops during the five festival days and the announcement of the winning films in each of the competition categories. The works from the art workshop for the Juniors and the comics workshop for the Cadets and Seniors were exhibited in the hall of the Millennium cinema.



At the beginning, the youngest performed a ten-minute performance musical from a workshop in which they participated, and then the participants were greeted by Deputy Ambassador Mario de Rosa, who himself was from Giffonia when he was a student.



The program was led by Marti Ali and Iskra Celakovska, who announced the program blocks. Blocks of the juniors' short films from the film workshop, video clips from the video news, stipe, digital design workshops, two videos in one shot and fifteen one-minute films from the cadet and senior workshops were shown.



After showing all the films and videos from the workshops, the awarded films were announced according to the votes of all the participants, and at the end of the event, the names of the first five representatives who will represent our country at the Giffoni Film Festival in Italy 2024 were announced.

The last evening is both joyful and saddest for all participants. During the past six days, everyone made a lot of friends, had a great time and created together, and finally they have to part until a new meeting.



The eleventh edition of Giffoni Macedonia was supported by the Ministry of Culture of North Macedonia through the Film Agency, the partner from Italy Giffoni Experience and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, the Embassy of Italy in Skopje, the French Institute, MKC and the Cinematheque of RSM. Supporters of the festival this year were Pivara Skopje with the Rosa brand, Automobile SK, Hertz, Kofiindustri, Europortc/Mondrian, Makdia, Divela, Spitsikoto, Restaurant "Kaj Gino" and Pacomak and others.

Photos from the festival can be seen at the following links:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/199301108@N07/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/199333875@N03/>

The video materials can be seen on the YouTube channel of the festival:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR0nu2vUj57yk8kBH1aNQ3A>

More information can be found at:

Website: <https://giffoni.mk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GiffoniMK>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/giffoni.macedonia/>