

fondazione
alta mane italia

Annual report

2018



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Letter from the President

In 2018, Alta Mane Italy supported and monitored a total of 45 projects (36 in Italy and 9 abroad in partnership with AMG), which this report illustrates in detail.

In the sphere of social inclusion, AMI support continues to focus on projects working in increasingly multi-ethnic, inclusive contexts of youth marginalization and disadvantage. Along with supporting projects dedicated to the social integration of unaccompanied minors, young migrants, second generation youth and young Italians (Civico Zero-Save the Children Italy, Laboratorio 53, Asinitas, MaTeMù-CIES, Piccola Orchestra di Torpignattara-Musica e Altre Cose, ZeroFavole, Officine Gomitoli-Dedalus, Puntozero, Banda Rulli Frulli-Mani Tese and Olinda), in partnership with AMG, AMI has supported a training project for 40 musicians in order to provide musical workshops for refugees and asylum seekers in the SPRAR (Musicians For Human Rights).

In the sphere of health, AMI has supported a project of the Dear Association in partnership with AMG aimed at pre-adolescent and adolescent patients in the Pediatric Oncohematology ward of the Regina Margherita hospital in Turin, which aims to develop a new version of an award-winning opera by a renown Swiss artist in virtual reality.

In 2018, the Otello Circus debuted, an ambitious project for sensitization carried out by the Accademia Arte della Diversità and AllegroModerato (described in Focus 2018), after which the Accademia Arte della Diversità won the Ubu 2018 prize for theatre in the Special Award category.

Also in the sphere of art and sensitization, AMI supported a residency for artists and social theatre companies (Altre Visioni, of Animali Celesti), a national technical meeting among associations that organize artistic workshops in juvenile penitentiaries (The CO2) and a tour of the video-theatre performance created during the Atelier dell'Errore BIG project was undertaken to important cultural festivals in 4 Italian cities (Triennale of Milan/Teatro dell'Arte, Scarabocchi Festival in Novara, European Photography Festival in Reggio Emilia and the LEI Festival in Cagliari).

AMI also continued to support exchanges between the two social circus arts associations in partnership with AMG, with the participation of three professionals from the Cambodian Phare Ponleu Selpak Association at the second edition of the African circus festival organized by Fekat Circus in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and a three-month internship for a young professional from the Fekat Circus at the Phare headquarters in Cambodia.

In Amman, Jordan, at the Paola Biocca Rehabilitation Centre – an orthopedic rehabilitation centre dedicated to the humanitarian worker Paola Biocca – AMI and AMG supported You Able to start up a process of professional assistance to refugee children and victims of trauma connected with war through the use of creative therapies and the expressive arts.

The recent research and development sector expanded considerably in 2018 with support to 3 projects to systematize the experience of partners (Amici di Luca, Laboratorio 53 and the Rulli Frulli Lab) and 4 projects to evaluate impact carried out by important research agencies and sector professionals (Associazione 21 Luglio, MaTeMù-CIES, Puntozero, Civico Zero-Save the Children Italy).

In conclusion, it is hoped that the strong evaluation effort undertaken by AMI in 2018 will prove beneficial thanks to a deeper understanding of the processes and effects of project activities for direct beneficiaries (in terms of changes undergone and artistic, emotional and social competencies acquired by the youth involved) in order to make the work of the associations more effective but also to guide the strategic choices of the Foundation.

Maria Teresa Scassellati Sforzolini
President

fondazione
alta mane italia



The Foundation

Fondazione Alta Mane Italia (AMI) was established by Fondazione Alta Mane Geneva (AMG) in October 2010. It began operations in Italy in June 2011 after obtaining legal recognition from the Rome Prefecture in April 2011 and being inscribed in the Register of Corporate Bodies.

The Foundation's main objective is to support "projects aimed at improving the conditions or health of people, individuals or groups of individuals, as well as youth, living in situations of serious crisis, extreme social difficulty or psycho-social suffering, supporting their development and social, physical, recreational, emotional and psychological well being, particularly through experiences and initiatives tied to Art and its applications in the social and medical sphere" (article 2.1 of the Statutes).

During these early years of activity, AMI has gradually expanded its range of action on behalf of less fortunate young people through fruitful dialogue with its partners. These are mostly institutions, associations or NGOs working with marginalized youth or young people suffering from serious illness through artistic initiatives and workshops.

Artistic activities are usually part of broader and more structured programmes set up primarily within youth centres, prisons, rehabilitation centres or therapeutic communities for the social inclusion and integration of young people or the treatment or rehabilitation of hospital patients. In the hospital

context, artistic stimulation gives young patients a chance to experience new forms of often non-verbal expression, facilitating their relationship with others.

Partners are chosen on the basis of priority actions identified periodically by the Foundation and in accordance with extremely rigorous criteria concerning the transparency and managerial reliability of the applicant organization, the effectiveness and seriousness of the project, the use of specially adapted methodologies and codes of conduct and in general the impact of these initiatives on beneficiaries.

The Board approves only a limited number of projects each year, since these are followed actively by AMI. Indeed, the Foundation endeavours to meet the needs of its partners and sometimes also to promote the exchange of experience for mutual growth, with careful monitoring of initiatives including meetings and on-site missions.

This approach requires a major professional commitment from staff. In order to make the action of the Foundation more effective on behalf of its partners, and to ensure the best use possible of its human and financial resources, only a limited number of proposals are submitted each year for examination by the Board.

**ALTA MANE SUPRAQUE TUOS EXURGE DOLORES INFRAGILEMQUE ANIMUM,
QUOD POTES, USQUE TENE.**

STAND TALL AND FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN, RISE ABOVE YOUR PAIN AND WEAKNESSES

Ovidius, Consolatio ad Liviam

Why art?

“Culture and the arts are essential components of a comprehensive education leading to the full development of the individual. Therefore, Arts Education is a universal human right, for all learners, including those who are often excluded from education, such as immigrants, cultural minority groups, and people with disabilities.”

Road Map for Arts Education, UNESCO, 2006

How is it possible to survive the distress caused by extreme forms of social exclusion, the isolation that often accompanies disability and psychological vulnerability? In the face of the suffering caused by disease, how can the glimmer of resistance and vitality that remains present in the youngest people be recognised and allowed to breathe and develop?

Through their careful and committed work to alleviate the hardship and suffering of young people, albeit in profoundly different social and cultural contexts, many of the professionals and organizations supported by AMI in Italy and abroad provide an answer: art.

Art helps people find the strength to react to situations of extreme hardship; it makes it possible to tap into what remains of vitality, desire, beauty, freedom, and give them form and space. Art allows experiences that are difficult to put into words to be expressed and communicated, opening up a channel of communication and exchange with other people that in some situations is strongly compromised.

The Foundation operates in environments characterised by forms of extreme hardship, where the prospects of children or young people might be annihilated by privation or suffering, and where art offers an opportunity to withstand marginalisation, brings respite and channels inner resources, providing an escape route from pain and oppression, geared as it is towards life and the future.

Furthermore, artistic performance gives those living ‘on the margins’ the visibility that is often denied; it allows them to be applauded and seen in a positive and creative role, not one of crime or violence, disability or shortcoming, but of beauty and dignity.







DYNAMO CAMP, Italy

Mission

Fondazione Alta Mane Italia supports projects aimed at improving the living or health conditions of people, particularly children and youth, in situations of extreme social exclusion or psychophysical suffering, by using artistic experience to foster their recovery and inclusion.

The decision to support projects linked to art rests on the conviction that a strong synergy exists between artistic experience and the therapeutic/rehabilitative process and social reintegration of people suffering from serious pathologies or experiencing severe marginalisation.

By stimulating personal creativity and expression, artistic experience helps build self-esteem, self-confidence and a sense of identity; in many cases it is able to mobilise deep-seated and healing emotions and energy and to trigger important processes of personal and collective change.

The exchange of experience between partners is a source of mutual enrichment, consolidation and improvement of the artistic practices.

The dissemination of experience, including through research and awareness raising, can foster the application of best practices, facilitate the prospects for the future self-sustainability of partner organizations and increase the level of awareness around these issues.

Strategy



The 5 areas of intervention



Context of social exclusion

AMI supports projects and organizations that use art in the context of social exclusion to benefit young people facing situations of extreme marginalisation



Therapeutic contexts

AMI supports projects and organizations that use art in therapeutic contexts to benefit young people facing situations of extreme physical and psychological hardship



Awareness raising

AMI supports and carries out communication and awareness-raising activities concerning the transformative power of art among needy youth, mainly connected to the projects of its partners



Exchanges

AMI promotes exchanges between operators and beneficiaries of partner projects



Research and development

AMI promotes and sustains partner organizations involved in research activities, impact evaluations and relative publications and meetings

The use of art in the 5 areas



Art and Social Inclusion

Target 1

Young people and children in conditions of social hardship (living in run-down areas, migrants, second-generation immigrants, young prisoners and children of prisoners, ethnic Roma, street children)

Aims of the artistic workshops

- To create an alternative to marginality and life on the streets
- To promote opportunities for coming together, socialisation and intercultural integration
- To encourage the young generations to participate actively in culture
- To spread the principles of legality, civil coexistence and solidarity
- To offer alternatives involving beauty, legality and openness to the future
- To create moments of encounter, dialogue, exchange and growth for young people from various parts of the world
- To facilitate free self-expression and the narration of personal life stories, enabling the young people to process them
- To promote opportunities for sharing one's own experience and cultural references with other young people

Target 2

Young people and children in conditions of physical and psychological hardship (the physically impaired, young people with mental/cognitive/sensory disorders, or who are suffering the after-effects of coma)

Aims of the artistic workshops

- To create opportunities for integration between young people on the margins of society
- To stimulate self-expression and nurture the disabled person's creativity
- To promote rehabilitation processes for people with disabilities or severe trauma
- To nurture the skills and resources of the excluded person
- To restore dignity and identity to people with impairments



Art and Health

Target

Children and adolescents who have been admitted to hospital pediatric units / day hospital / therapeutic communities

Aims of the artistic workshops

- To stimulate the children's creativity and imagination in order to make diagnosis and treatment as untraumatic as possible for them and their families
- To give the children and young people a chance to experience the time spent in hospital as an opportunity for learning as well as for receiving treatment
- To stimulate the young patients to express their emotions and confront the fear linked to treatment creatively and positively
- To reinforce the young patients' decision-making, expressive and creative skills
- To foster the ability to generate dreams, thoughts and prospects
- To promote socialisation among the children and young people



Art and Awareness raising

Activities

Videos produced by AMI, tours, performances, festivals, mainly in support of its partners.

Aims of the activities

To bring about a change in perception and social conscience regarding certain issues of exclusion

To give the young beneficiaries of the partner projects a chance to measure themselves against an audience in order to grow artistically and develop a personal identity

To give greater visibility to partners' initiatives

To promote new and inclusive artistic models to the general public

To help partner organizations publicise and promote their work, methodologies and results

To sensitize individuals and public and private institutions concerning the potential of artistic experience in highly critical contexts

To promote knowledge and debate on issues of exclusion within dedicated circuits (festivals, shows, prizes, social networks)



Exchanges

Target

Operators in contexts of social inclusion, operators in therapeutic contexts.

Aims of the exchanges

To stimulate a comparison of the values of partner organizations and the exchange of methodologies and good practices

To promote the experience sharing to improve the quality of social inclusion, also by visiting the reciprocal project sites

To expand operators' individual skills as a result of the training implicit in the exchanges

To share difficulties and solutions in order to grow together and promote cooperation between operators

To give partners an opportunity to observe their projects from a new perspective and increase their awareness of the work they do

To promote the networking of experience acquired in different hospital contexts



Research and Development

Activities

Research, Publications, Conferences, Impact evaluations

Aims of the activities

To promote research into issues relating to art and psychophysical and social suffering

To encourage the systemisation of the most relevant experience

To identify the most effective methodologies and project experiences through impact evaluation

To disseminate the 'best practices' to the benefit of an increasing number of beneficiaries and of the entire AMI 'ecosystem'; in other words, in the "art and disadvantage" sector in which AMI specifically works

To provide partner organizations with the tools for evaluating their own activities and improving their services

To gather feedback from partners in order to evaluate and improve the work of AMI

To account for the way in which AMI's resources are used through impact evaluation

Stakeholders



AMI has numerous stakeholders: first, operators of partner organisations and the young project beneficiaries; then families, health workers / educators / social workers, public and private institutions, other donors, the performance- and video-viewing public. These are all recipients or beneficiaries of the Foundation's support or individuals or organisations that are involved or implicated in its institutional activities in some way.

AMI's own staff and service providers and all who assist in accomplishing its mission are also stakeholders.

L'UOMO
E
LA TERRA



02 - Organizational and Operating Model

Governance & Staff

Foundation Board

- Maria Teresa Scassellati Sforzolini – Executive President
- Giovanni Comboni – Vice President
- Cataldo D’Andria – Board Member
- Stefano Mazzi – Board Member

College of Auditors

- Marco Tani – President
- Valeria Pichiorri – Member
- Sara Baldassari – Member

Project and strategy development area

Project evaluation committee:

- Maria Teresa Scassellati Sforzolini
- Francesca Nazzaro
- Giovanni Comboni

Technical Management and General Project Coordination:

- Francesca Nazzaro – Director, General Project Coordination
- Annalisa Sutura – Project Manager
- Laura Danieli – Project Manager
- Costanza Mammola – Project administrative assistant

Management and Administration area

- Roberta Giasseti – Chief Operations Officer
- Sandra Orebi – Secretarial assistant, management of service provision, initial bookkeeping
- Studio Cavalieri – General accounting

Consultants

- Avv. Francesco Cappellini – Legal consulting
- Studio De Luca – Labour consulting

Communication and Image area

- Paola Raguzzi – Studio Pinguino

Management model

AMI'S OPERATING STRATEGY IS BASED ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGERIAL EFFICIENCY IN PURSUIT OF INNOVATION, THE CREATION OF SOCIAL VALUE AND THE GENERATION OF IDEAS AND FUNDS FOR SIGNIFICANT CHANGE.



This strategy finds expression in:

- A lean and flexible structure, aimed at maintaining an efficient relationship between the resources used and the activities carried out
- Highly professional and strongly motivated work teams
- A management model that tends towards efficiency and maximum transparency in accordance with the laws and best practices in the sector
- Ongoing research and training concerning national and international trends in philanthropy in the Foundation's areas of intervention

Selection process

WHO DO WE SUPPORT?

Non-profit organisations, NGOs, social cooperatives, associations, foundations, in Italy and abroad

We do not support for profit organisations or those pursuing political or religious goals, or individuals, with the exception of study grants for young beneficiaries of partner projects that are already supported by the Foundation

WHAT DO WE SUPPORT?

In contexts of social exclusion: long-term workshops / artistic interventions for children, adolescents and young adults

In therapeutic contexts: long-term artistic workshops for children, adolescents and young adults

Exchanges: visits to partners' project sites

Awareness raising: videos, tours, performances, festivals, mainly connected to partner projects

Research and development: Conferences, research, impact evaluations mainly connected to partner projects

HOW DO WE SELECT?

Selection occurs primarily through the active search for quality projects

Evaluation of spontaneous applications (not through open calls)

Selection of a small number of qualified projects in order to ensure efficient and high-quality project management, given the current AMI staff

In 2018, 3% of spontaneous applications were approved

HOW DO WE FUND?

Through agreements with partners

After screening annual reports and mid-term and year-end financial reports

With constant monitoring of activities by telephone, email and Skype and through meetings and regular missions to project sites

WHERE DO WE INTERVENE?

Contexts of social exclusion characterised by poverty, violence, abuse, lack of educational / cultural services, disadvantaged rural areas, outlying metropolitan areas, run-down urban areas, slums, prisons, areas characterised by urban violence

Therapeutic contexts: hospital wards, day hospitals, therapeutic communities

Selection criteria

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

Project proposals that are coherent with AMI's focus area
High artistic / pedagogical / social quality of the project proposal
Relevant professional experience of the artists / educators / operators involved
Seriousness, competence, reliability of the proponent organisation, thoroughness and transparency of the information provided
In therapeutic contexts, respect for the needs of the young patients and of the individual hospital ward
High impact potential of the proposed intervention in support of the young beneficiaries

ADDED VALUE FOR SELECTION

New applications of art in degraded social contexts or complex therapeutic settings
Beneficiary groups that are particularly vulnerable, overlooked or in emergency situations
Innovative forms of artistic language and / or original methodologies
Original approach leading to a new way of looking at fragile target groups
Quality of the potential future partnership and presence of possible co-funders
Potential intervention impact evaluation capacity

FURTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

Degraded and disadvantaged social and / or geographical contexts that are lacking other institutional / financial support
Potential for project replication within a network
Capacity for research and to systematise experiences, potential to influence the local cultural/scientific context
Ability to sensitise institutions and the public on issues of exclusion and to trigger processes of cultural and social transformation
Approaches and methodologies that are of interest to other partners and a willingness to share them, also in view of possible exchanges

Operating Modes

ACTIVE RESEARCH

The partner selection process is characterised by an active search for excellence in the sector, in Italy and abroad

SELECTION

Not only organisations with consolidated experience but also those that have been recently established and are small in size are considered for selection, providing they are innovative and with a high potential for development

DISBURSAL

The Foundation's support to partners is aimed primarily at nurturing staff skills in order to make the quality of interventions for young people as high as possible

PARTNERSHIP/QUALIFICATION

Support to partners involves not only a financial relationship but also creation of a genuine partnership, through a qualifying process lasting on average from 2 to 5 years, also with the aim of promoting possible future self-sustainability

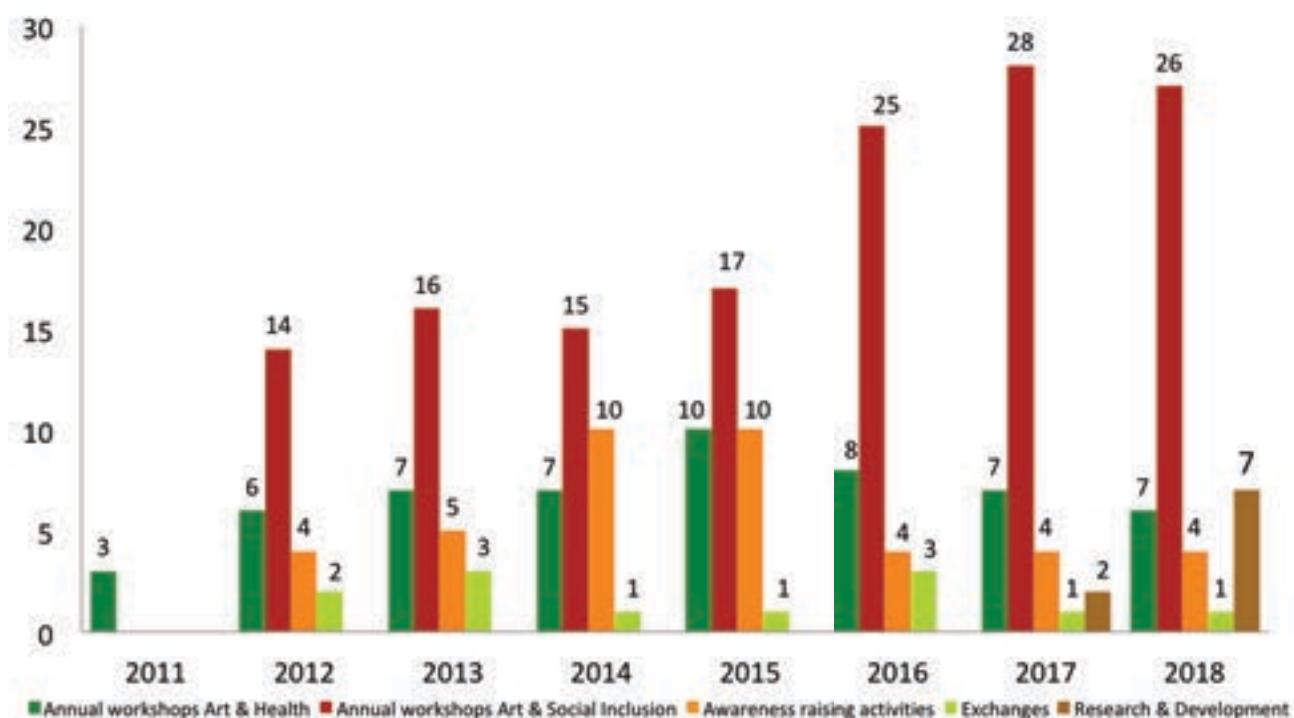
EXIT STRATEGY

Gradual exit strategy that is shared by the partner

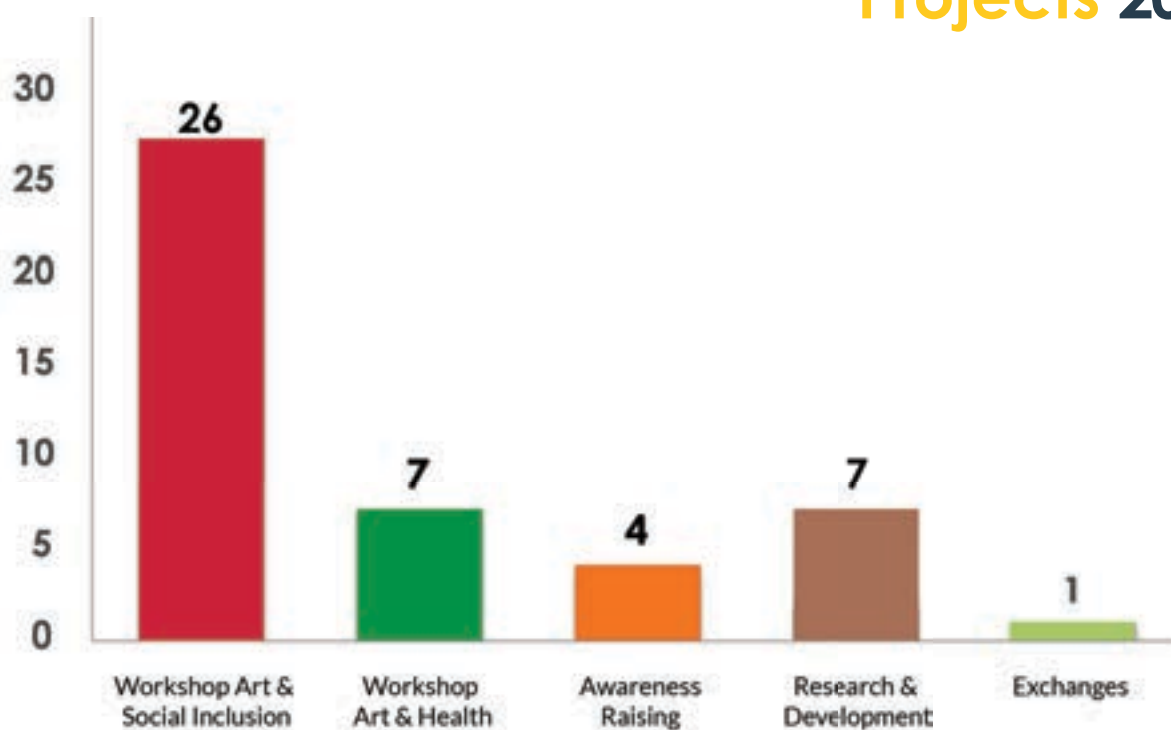


03 - activities & projects 2018

Projects In The First 7 Years Of Activity 2011 - 2018



Projects 2018



2018 in summary

ART & SOCIAL INCLUSION

Beneficiaries* ITALY: 1.658 ABROAD: 1.389

ART & HEALTH

Beneficiaries* ITALY: 1.176 ABROAD: 5.625**

TOTAL BENEFICIARIES: 9.848*

TOTAL ARTISTS AND OPERATORS: 230

PARTNER

WITH PROJECTS IN ITALY: 28 WITH PROJECTS ABROAD: 8

TOTAL: 36

WORKSHOPS HOURS

ITALY: 10.122 ABROAD: 5.222

TOTAL 15.344

*Number of direct beneficiaries of the artistic workshops (according to data collected by partners). In addition to the workshop beneficiaries, there are also beneficiaries of the awareness-raising activities and exchanges, who are not considered in this context.

** The 5.000 beneficiaries of the activities of Fekat Circus in Ethiopia are an estimate, not the fruit of careful data collection and refer to the activities carried out in the Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa, the biggest in Ethiopia.

Workshop locations - Abroad



ALL THE PROJECTS ABROAD AND SOME OF THE PROJECTS IN ITALY (DYNAMO CAMP, MUSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, DEAR) ARE MANAGED IN CO-PARTNERSHIP WITH ALTA MANE GENEVA (AMG): THIS PARTNERSHIP ENTAILS THE SELECTION/MANAGEMENT/MONITORING OF THE PROJECTS BY AMI WHILE THE FUNDS ARE SUPPLIED BY AMG.

Workshop locations - Italy



258 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES MANAGED ANNUALLY BY THE FOUNDATION FROM 2011 TO 2018

Focus 2018

OTELLO CIRCUS



On 7, 8, 9 and 10 June 2018, the **Otello Circus** debuted at the **Teatro LaCucina** of Milan in the context of the **“Da vicino nessuno è normale”** (up close nobody is normal) Festival, organized by the **Olinda Association**, an AMI partner, for an enthusiastic public of more than 500 spectators, among whom music and theatre critics and professionals.

The lyrical opera theatrical piece was put together by the **Accademia Arte Della Diversità – La Ribalta Theatre** and the **AllegroModerato Orchestra**, by abridging the theatrical and musical works of William Shakespeare and Giuseppe Verdi, focusing on their specificities and increasing the professionalism of the actors, dancers and musicians of the two organizations.

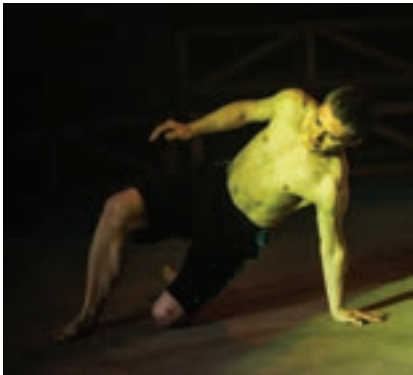
The Otello Circus is an ambitious artistic project with great social relevance that was enthusiastically received by the public, including the experts, overturning the prevalent view regarding disability. In fact, it demonstrated that *“limits and conditions do not hinder the realization of self, and that when it is offered, whether by able or disabled people, it becomes a good for all.”*

The Accademia Arte Della Diversità – La Ribalta Theatre and the AllegroModerato Orchestra are both cultural projects that aim at social inclusion – projects that focus primarily on musical art and theatre art, claiming the right to art for those in “disadvantaged” situations. These are not activities for one’s spare time or entertainment but a poetic project, an ethical project that aims to give back to its participants their identity and professionalism. The 8 disabled actors and 8 musicians imbue the opera with their own personal poetry, staging a huge circus of human sentiments. The disabled professionals involved in the artistic work have acquired a powerful sense of the possibilities for self-expression and personal worth. They have faced and overcome new challenges in terms of autonomy, consciousness and knowledge that were previously unimaginable, both in their artistic work and in their ability to thrive in the world.

The Accademia Arte Della Diversità and the AllegroModerato have succeeded in adopting a group ethic, reconsidering and rearranging music and recitation in view of a final, shared result that is no longer exclusive of its specificity.

The Otello Circus is a project that is full of stories of liberation; the show is full of men and women who can finally be something other than their illness or disability. *“They are asking us not to judge them through the lens of social solidarity; they are asking us to look at them and judge them for their art.”*

“Years of solitude, and a world that does not fully understand who you are. Tonight, the flower that you are inside has blossomed – on the stage, the meek and silent boy has become Iago, a lovable bastard. Tonight, a star was born for me (...) Tonight, I saw pure theatre that only the pure can provide” (Father of one of the actors).



(Photos: M. Rizzo)



ALLEGROMODERATO - OTELLO CIRCUS, Italy (Ph. V.Dell'Oro)

Activities and Projects 2018

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Amarò Foro

Objectives

To assist minors in the process of acquiring self-awareness as individuals with the rights and responsibilities of citizens capable of interacting critically and actively in society while respecting and giving value to everybody's differences. To combat exclusion and fight prejudice and stereotypes, promoting cultural contamination, knowledge and exchange between the children in the Tor Bella Monaca area and the informal settlement on via di Salone.

Beneficiaries

About 40 children between the ages of 7 and 13, Rom and non-Rom, Italians and foreigners, living in the Tor Bella Monaca neighbourhood and in the informal settlement on Via Salone, and their families.

Activities

Since September 2016, the 21 luglio Association, along with other groups in the Tor Bella Monaca area, have been entrusted by the city of Rome to manage the "Ex Fienile" Centre, provided to the neighbourhood as an educational and cultural centre for the area. The Amarò Foro project offers minors of all nationalities from the area and the nearby informal settlement of Salone artistic workshops as opportunities for meetings and exchanges to alleviate the strong social tensions and disarm the conflicts present among the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. A group of educators, cultural mediators, artists and specially trained art educators carry out street education and workshops in break dancing and music at the Ex Fienile four afternoons a week. In particular, in 2018 for the older kids (11-13 years) the workshop has focused on breakdance and on the values of integration promoted by the hip-hop culture, with meetings with special guests (ballerinas, musicians, singers, composers and writers) to encourage the young people to try out new artistic disciplines and stage a final performance. Also, the children and youth involved in the project have visited the city of Rome to get to know and "conquer" their own city, with its historical-artistic wealth to which they do not normally have access.

The project undertakes a "pedagogy of citizenship" centring on minors and adolescents who experience inequality, exclusion and marginalization in the "nomad" camps and the youth living in extreme marginalization in the Tor Bella Monaca area. The youth undertake individual and group studies for citizenship, learning about rules respecting others, creative and emotional expression through art, self-awareness and acceptance of themselves and others as individuals wishing to be free to dream and be happy.

Partner

21 luglio

This association was founded in Rome in 2010 to safeguard and promote the rights of children and fight against all forms of discrimination and intolerance in the face of diversity, in particular as regards the Rom population in Italy. The Association carries out activities to raise awareness and research the conditions of Rom camps and their rights violations, pressuring institutions via appeals, campaigns and legal action to protect children's rights. The 21 luglio association has been supported by AMI since 2013.



Art Education Activities 2.0 at the MaTeMù

Objectives

Promotion of inclusion and social integration of immigrant children and adolescents and the facilitation of intercultural dialogue by means of artistic and music workshops at the MaTeMù Centre in Rome.

Beneficiaries

320 youths between the ages of 11 and 25 (Italians, foreigners, second generation, youth living in relief camps or group homes) who frequent the CAG MaTeMù in the multi-ethnic Esquilino area in Rome.

Activities

MaTeMù is a CIES youth centre located in the Esquilino quarter of Rome frequented by people from all over the world. It is a laboratory for ideas and initiatives where youths from various cultures and places can spend their free time experimenting with their creativity in a place where differences are seen as values and stimuli for the exploration of new opportunities. Music is a powerful instrument for integration and communication, enabling people to overcome many of the limits imposed by social conflict and intolerance.

In 2018, the project provided various artistic workshops – music (percussions, strings, saxophones), voice and singing, rap and breakdance – operating every afternoon at the CAG MaTeMù. Over time, a process of socialization has occurred that has resulted in the creation of a group called the “MaTeMusik Band,” proof that artistic expression works as a draw and a catalyst of energy and positive motivation.

Partner

CIES - Centro Informazione e Educazione allo Sviluppo

This NGO was created in 1983 to contribute to the reduction of the North-South divide and find a new balance founded on peace and the equitable distribution of the world's resources. In Italy it promotes, in particular, intercultural values to foster the successful integration of immigrants and refugees; abroad it supports development cooperation programmes. CIES has been supported by AMI since 2013.



Artistic workshops at Airola juvenile prison

Objectives

To promote the development of relational and personal skills of young prisoners through creative activities and the acquisition of professional artistic skills.

Beneficiaries

12 minors at Airola juvenile prison in Benevento.

Activities

Established under the project Palcoscenico della legalità (Stage of Legality) by the CO2 Association, the artistic workshops at the Airola juvenile prison aimed to produce a short film. In 2018, CO2 offered workshops in screenwriting and musical composition, proposing various themes to the inmates to reflect on important issues such as fatherhood, leaving prison and the future. There have also been practical audio, video and post-production workshops. The video workshop taught the basics of photography, filming and editing. The audio workshop presented music under a new guise, giving the young participants the rudiments of sound engineering and song recording. Combining the results of the audio workshop with musical composition resulted in the production of music used in a short film, which was the final product scripted by the young people and containing original music composed by them.

In prison, the language and techniques of theatre are a tool for learning teamwork but, even more, for reflecting on individual and collective responsibility concerning mafia culture and mindset

Partner

The CO2 - Crisis Opportunity 2

Founded in 1997, the CO2 works to give voice, through multimedia training workshops, to young people who experience marginalization in the outskirts of our cities and in juvenile prisons. Since 2012 it has been engaged in particular with “The stage of legality”, an innovative project to educate participants about legality. CO2 has been supported by AMI since 2018.



Atelier dell'Errore Big

Objectives

To support and strengthen the personal resources of young adults who have recently left Children's Neuropsychiatric services through artistic expression, transforming a social problem into a social resource. To promote their skills by giving them professional opportunities on an artistic level (staging of exhibitions, workshops, installations, theatrical performances).

Beneficiaries

17 youths who have been certified by the Children's Neuropsychiatric services of the AUSL in Reggio Emilia and the Giovanni XXIII Hospital in Bergamo, between the ages of 17 and 22.

Activities

The Atelier dell'Errore BIG project has offered young adults who have ended their participation under the care of the Neuropsychiatric services the possibility to engage in art in an "Alta Scuola di Arti Visive" (high school of visual arts) one day a week, morning to evening. The Atelier dell'Errore BIG took place in a big room in the Collezione Maramotti in Reggio Emilia and youths participating in the workshops have been able to visit the museum and be inspired by the contemporary works of art exhibited there.

The association has exhibited the work created by the participants through exhibits, installations and demonstrations in prestigious, international contemporary art venues, museums and hospitals and has presented video-theatre performances at major international festivals.

At the Atelier they can work with pencils, coloring pens, highlighters, chalk and huge sheets of white paper. The only thing missing are erasers. Over time, simple rules have been established: "no erasing" and "only draw animals," so there are no mistakes in the drawings made by the young artists that have been diagnosed with psychiatric and psychopathological illnesses. Whatever the outcome, the result is always greeted as a transformation of "mistakes" into a necessary step towards the final product. Artistic activities are a big discovery for many young people, who find they love to draw and often revealed extraordinary talent. Drawing, expressing their interior landscape their own way and on their own time without being evaluated or judged or (as has been the case for so many) excluded, enables them to feel rewarded and valued for who they are. For some of them, the Atelier becomes a real motivating force and when they turn 18 and their care by the Children's Neuropsychiatric services comes to an end, the Atelier dell'Errore BIG project becomes a huge opportunity to continue to engage in art.

Partner

Atelier dell'Errore

This association was created in Reggio Emilia in 2011 by a visual artist to provide children and youth who frequent the Children's Neuropsychiatric services of the AUSL and the Giovanni XXIII hospital in Bergamo a high level artistic and cultural workshop as they undergo treatment. The association has been supported by AMI since 2017.



Awakenings Theatre

Objectives

Social integration and rehabilitation of people with coma-induced consequences or serious brain damage to help them “awaken” and communicate, know themselves and make themselves known via theatrical activities.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 13 young patients at the Luca De Nigris Casa dei Risvegli (literally Awakenings House) between the ages of 16 and 25 in a vegetative or minimal consciousness state, and about 20 youths involved in post-coma rehabilitation who have been discharged and face social isolation.

Activities

Theatre for patients undergoing therapy at the Casa dei Risvegli and for those who have been discharged, young people in vegetative and minimal consciousness states in post-trauma rehabilitation, to help their “awakening” and return to consciousness. This is a clinical/therapeutic activity that involves various forms of theater personalized for individual patients. Each session involves activating different sensorial capacities simultaneously through various forms of theatre that result in physical, psychological and emotional stimulation. In 2018 activities have included reading texts, narrating with objects, puppets, stuffed animals, shadow play, videos, the use of tactile materials, smells, colored lights, music, sounds and anything else that can be used in theatre. **Theater for patients with coma-induced consequences** that have been discharged and risk social isolation. Theatrical activities aimed at re-inserting these youths socially constitute an important tool for recovery and self-awareness, an occasion to face and understand their condition and internal world in a context characterized by sharing emotions and feelings to facilitate the rebuilding of an identity that incorporates the results of a traumatic event and rehabilitation. The workshop has been aimed at youths who have been recently discharged (Dopo...Di Nuovo [literally “Afterwards...Anew”] theater company); and young people who had been home for some time (Gli Amici di Luca [literally Luca’s Friends] company), which in 2012 was involved with the theatre company Babilonia Teatri in a co-production of Pinocchio, still on tour today in major Italian cities.

Partner

Amici di Luca

This association was created in 1997, thanks to which in 2004 the “Casa dei Risvegli” was born – an innovative public centre for rehabilitation and research of the public health services in Bologna for people in post-acute vegetative states with the potential to improve. The centre integrates medical treatments – rehabilitation, psycho-pedagogical work, volunteer training and innovative technologies. Amici di Luca has been supported by AMI since 2012.



CivicoZero Rome and Milan

Objectives

Increasing and improving the protection and development of the resilience of foreign minors, particularly those who are alone, through artistic, recreational and cultural activities designed to promote self-expression and enable them to tell their own story and re-elaborate their experiences.

Beneficiaries

275 unaccompanied foreign minors and young adults facing social marginalization, risk and abuse, who frequent the CivicoZero Day Centres in Rome and Milan.

Activities

The CivicoZero Centre was started in Rome in 2008 by Save the Children Italy to provide protection to the migrant youths that have found themselves in situations of social marginalization, to minors that are part of the juvenile justice system and minors risking exploitation and abuse. The centre works to improve their living conditions and promote their rights operating both in the streets and in specific locations (such as the CPA relief centres, social services for minors, penal institutions and juvenile court) and undertakes activities at the CivicoZero Day Centre, where it offers low-cost services and provides artistic workshops.

The project uses art as a way to provide the youth with a way to re-elaborate their personal experience and, particularly, the trauma that many of them have experienced.

The project supported by AMI foresaw various workshops in 2018: creative writing and oral traditions, music (guitar and drums), expressive theatre and photography/videos. Organized visits are held to cultural sites as well as exhibitions and events.

In 2018, AMI also supported the realization of artistic workshops conducted at the CivicoZero in Milan, opened by Save the Children in 2015. The creative workshops provided minors a place to be themselves and express their own ideas, respecting reciprocal rights and obligations. This experience of freedom and acknowledgement results in greater well-being. By availing themselves of the instruments at their disposal, such as photography, theatre and music, the minors become involved in experiences that improve their ability to protect themselves in order to prevent abuse, exploitation and violence.

Partner

Save the Children Italy

Founded at the end of 1998 as a non-profit, this organization began activities in 1999. Today, it is an NGO recognized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It undertakes activities and projects for children from developing countries and those who live in Italy. Save the Children Italy has been supported by AMI since 2016.



ConCerti Sguardi

Objectives

To develop the expressive potential, cognitive ability and video-making skills of people with disabilities through specialized professional training.

Beneficiaries

Three musicians from the cooperative AllegroModerato aged between 18 and 29, with mental or physical disabilities.

Activities

AllegroModerato has been exploring the possibilities arising from the interaction between music and the performing arts for some time.

Video-recording enables the point of view of the person behind the camera to be understood. In the context of disability, particularly of a psychological nature, video-recording becomes an important communication tool and even more an important means of understanding how the youngsters see and interpret the world and communicate their own inner world.

In this sense, live filming and recording of a musical event enable the transition to be made from the inner to the public dimension. This is an important objective in the social integration of people with disabilities, who tend to have greater difficulty expressing their inner world.

The video-making workshop has been divided into two parts: a theoretical part on the use of the video camera, the digital recorder and the microphone and on techniques of shooting, editing, post-production and direction; and a practical one of audio and video recordings of concerts, musical rehearsals and shows (among which the full recording of Otello Circus). At the end of the workshop the young musicians created and edited two DVDs that include all the recordings.

Partner

AllegroModerato

This cooperative was founded in 2011 by teachers and experts in special musical education, music therapy and rehabilitation with the aim of promoting musical training for people with psycho-physical vulnerabilities, firmly convinced that this activates and generates energy and emotional, cognitive and relational competence. AllegroModerato has been supported by AMI since 2015.



Dancing Beyond the Scenes

Objectives

Enhance skills and develop new expressive possibilities of vulnerable people and the professionals who assist them via dance workshops and theatrical training in Novara.

Beneficiaries

18 people of whom approximately half with disabilities in the care of the Territorial Handicap Educational Service of the city of Novara.

Activities

Established in 2016, the association Oltre le Quinte (Beyond the Scenes) grew out of 20 years' experience of dance and music workshops offered by the social services department of Novara city council (ComuneArte) to people with vulnerabilities. Today it is an integrated artistic group comprising around 20 people including professional educators, volunteers, vulnerable young people and people working with integrated artistic disciplines.

With support from AMI, Oltre le quinte set out on a path of experimentation and training by introducing a weekly workshop in dance/somatic-emotional research led by a dance movement therapist choreographer who aims to stimulate a creative relationship between generations, ethnic groups, types of vulnerability and diverse abilities. The possibility of reclaiming a pre-verbal code by boosting the physical vocabulary of gesture facilitates the participants' integration through the nuances of a form of communication that becomes highly inclusive and affirming.

In 2018, the project also included two intensive workshops on the transmission of gesture with Virgilio Sieni and theatre training with the actress Lucilla Giagnoni.

Partner

Oltre le quinte

Established in August 2016, the association comprises experts from a variety of professional backgrounds who have worked to promote integration using various artistic disciplines (orchestral music therapy, dance, theatre, art therapy) in workshops offered to people with vulnerabilities by the Novara social services department. Oltre le quinte has been supported by AMI since 2017.



Ethics and aesthetics of different conditions

Objectives

Engendering meeting and dialogue between differences, people and different conditions through the channels and language of art and theatre by exhibiting them in a poetic key, giving value to their beauty and fostering a new perspective to ameliorate fear of the other.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 60 young adults, among whom those with psycho-physical disabilities and other conditions of social marginalization (foreign minors, minors living in care communities, asylum seekers) in Reggio Emilia; volunteers; theatre workers; teachers and university students.

Activities

The project offers high-level “theatre of art” activities for some of the youths who are part of the ZeroFavole theatrical company. The theatre workshop is guided by two theatre professionals with pedagogical competencies who have worked with the group since its founding. The theatre is no longer something to do in one’s spare time but an occasion for high-level artistic production that also directly involves the families of the youths.

The project has included collaboration with renown artists who conducted the workshops and directed the performances for a certain period of time.

The project expanded in 2018 to include theatrical research led by the Institute of theatrical practices for human care in Turin.

In 2014, a collaboration began between ZeroFavole and Babilonia Theatres, a brilliant avant-garde theatrical company, which performed *Inferno* (2015), *Purgatorio* (2016) and *Paradiso* (2017), the last two co-produced together with the Theatres of Reggio Emilia. *Paradiso*, the last work of the trilogy, was staged at the Teatro India in Rome and at the Festival Arte X Igual in Bariloche in Argentina in 2017, with the live accompaniment of the AllegroModerato Orchestra.

Partner

ZeroFavole

This volunteer association was founded in 2010 in Reggio Emilia with the aim to promote the rights and fundamental freedoms of the disabled. Theatre is the main means the association uses to offer integration and opportunities for self-expression for all, whatever their abilities and appearances. ZeroFavole has been supported by AMI since 2013. (Photograph Fabio Villa)



Olinda as a system of opportunities

Objectives

Promoting access to culture and active participation for youths who live on the outskirts of Milan, enhancing their ability to envision aspirations.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 130 youths living on the outskirts of northwest Milan (Comasina area) who frequent three scholastic institutes as well as public and private services in the area that deal with the mental health of minors.

Activities

The Olinda Association transformed the ex-psychiatric Paolo Pini hospital in Milan into a place of culture and meetings where people experiencing social marginalization or mental health problems find welcome, voice and social and cultural inclusion. Along with a hostel, a coffee shop and a restaurant, the ex-mental institution also houses the La Cucina Theatre where Olinda has been organizing the Up close nobody is normal Festival for 20 years, “confounding distance and investigating difference.”

The project offers artistic, high quality theatre using an intercultural approach in a culturally important context such as the Paolo Pini, for youth living on the outskirts of Milan, that engenders cultural participation, connecting big cultural themes with the life led by the youths, which is characterized by marginality and cultural poverty.

In 2018 AMI supported three paths of artistic research for adolescents: “Non-school”: a theatre workshop (in winter and in summer) in collaboration with the Teatro delle Albe, which culminated in performances that have been staged during the Up close nobody is normal Festival; a short film production workshop entitled “Una stanza tutta per sè” (A room all to oneself); and an intensive drawing workshop for professionals and beginners entitled “Quello che ho visto” (What I have seen). In 2017 and 2016 the project attracted collaboration with important theatrical companies such as Societas Raffaello Sanzio, Teatro de los Sentidos and the Fattore K theatrical company.

Partner

Olinda

This association was founded in 1996 at the ex-psychiatric hospital Paolo Pini in Milan aiming at the cultural and social inclusion of socially marginalized people and those with mental health problems. Olinda has created a context for urban regeneration in the ex-mental institution, offering rich cultural experiences including the Up close nobody is normal theatre. Olinda has been supported by AMI since 2016.



RifugiART

Objectives

To break the isolation experienced by people seeking asylum in Italy, fostering reciprocal trust and familiarity with the country; to support beneficiaries to consider their lives, revitalizing their ability to tell their own stories, which has been damaged due to traumatic events and/or inhuman and degrading treatment.

Beneficiaries

20 young adults that have requested asylum and political refugees, some of which are victims of torture.

Activities

Laboratorio 53 organizes mutual self-help groups in Rome, formed by refugees, particularly those requesting international protection, in order to provide them a space for interaction and self-expression aimed at fostering relationships. The objective is to provide new social relationships and emotional bonds to people running from familial and social conditions at the risk of their lives, in order to build new social support networks based on interpersonal relations, trust and reciprocity. Art is used in these mutual self-help groups both to facilitate communication, which is often compromised by language barriers, and as a universal, immediate and effective means of expression. Art also helps those people who have suffered inhuman treatment, such as torture, with the consequent dehumanization and stripping away of culture, to reconnect with their feelings, define their experience and share their cultural references.

The project supported by AMI in 2018 has focused on the radio and photo animation workshops and on the production of the RifugiART manual, in order to open up new spaces for debate, information, artistic expression and communication and develop an alternative narrative of migration in Italy. The workshops have resulted in a number of final performances made up of narration, drawings, photographs and sound recordings (entitled Guide invisibili [Invisible guides]) that speak to the public on the theme of migration, bringing the voice of asylum seekers to the stage.

Partner

Laboratorio 53

This association was founded in Rome in 2008 by lawyers, social workers, cultural mediators, psychologists and anthropologists with the aim to offer asylum seekers and refugees assistance and welcome via multidisciplinary activities. Laboratorio 53 has been supported by AMI since 2016.



Rulli Frulli Band

Objectives

To train 5 adult members of the Rulli Frulli Band to promote the social inclusion of youth, and particularly of disabled youngsters or those from different cultural backgrounds and origins, through music and to disseminate the experience in other contexts.

Beneficiaries

5 adult members of the Rulli Frulli Band, 70 young people from the Rulli Frulli Band (12- 30 years old) and 32 from the Rulli Frullini Band (6-12 years old), with and without disabilities, with different origins and backgrounds, 25 young asylum seekers from the system of protection for asylum seekers and refugees (SPRAR) in Reggio Emilia and 25 young people from the multi-ethnic Baranzate district (MI).

Activities

The Rulli Frulli Band is a musical project for inclusion as well as the creative re-use of recyclable materials to create musical instruments. About 70 youths between the ages of 8 and 30, among whom some are disabled, have been getting together weekly since 2010 in Finale Emilia to build musical instruments with recyclable materials and play percussion instruments under the guidance of the orchestral director of the C.G. Andreoli School of Music. Every year since 2013 the Band gives concerts throughout Italy for several months.

The Band was an important occasion for getting together and socializing after the earthquake that hit Emilia in 2012, thanks to the support provided by Mani Tese Finale Emilia, and over time became a reference point for vulnerable youths on the part of the Child Neuropsychiatric service.

The project supported by AMI has offered the possibility for the Band to grow by allowing five adult members who have been a dedicated part of the Band for a long time to acquire a more active role by assisting teachers, also in order to spread this experience to other Italian cities. Since 2017 the project has also been disseminated within the system of protection for asylum seekers and refugees (SPRAR) in Reggio Emilia run by the cooperative "Dimora di Abramo" and within the emergency housing project in the multi-ethnic Baranzate district (MI).

Partner

Mani Tese

This association was founded in 1964 to combat hunger and the imbalance between the North and South of the world. It undertakes international cooperation projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America along with initiatives aiming at sensitization and economic solidarity in different Italian locations. Mani Tese has been supported by AMI since 2017.



So(g)no un Teatro

Objectives

To develop relational and communication competencies, self awareness and trust in others in order to help people with a high risk of marginalization and exclusion to fully develop their potential and become active members of their communities.

Beneficiaries

39 young prisoners and ex-prisoners, minors detained in alternative structures, young citizens from the Puntzero schools and company in Milan between the ages of 16 and 25.

Activities

The “So(g)no un Teatro” project is carried out in the “C Beccaria” Juvenile penitentiary and involves the prisoners as well as youth from the outskirts of Milan at a high risk of marginalization and deviance.

From 1998, the Puntzero Association has been undertaking professional theatrical workshops inside the penitentiary aimed at the social reinsertion of difficult cases (both as actors and technicians) through a professional, experimental and highly innovative approach. With the support of the Marazzina Foundation, Cariplo Foundation, the Piccolo Teatro Foundation and the Teatro alla Scala of Milan, Puntzero in 2015 completed the remodeling and operationalizing of the penitentiary theatre (seating 200), transforming it into a place for active involvement on the part of citizens and cultural pluralism.

The project foresaw support to weekly theatrical workshops aimed at producing and staging new editions of Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” and Sophocles’ “Antigone” by the mixed Puntzero company. The trainers prepared both actors and technicians to support the performance (lights, audio, sets), also in collaboration with volunteer technicians from the Piccolo Teatro Foundation of Milan and the Teatro alla Scala.

Partner

Puntzero

This non-profit association was founded in 1995 in Milan and produces theatrical work involving artists, social workers, technicians, students, volunteers, ex-prisoners and citizens who aim to combat the phenomenon of social disadvantage and juvenile deviance. Puntzero has been supported by AMI since 2017.



Talent at the Officine Gomitoli

Objectives

To guarantee young and adolescent Italians and migrants stable opportunities for inclusion and expression through creative and expressive activities undertaken in the “Officine Gomitoli” Intercultural Centre.

Beneficiaries

230 adolescents and young Italians and foreigners (second generation, new arrivals and unaccompanied minors) living in fragile or socio-economically or culturally deprived or deviant situations in Naples.

Activities

The project foresaw the realization of artistic laboratories at the Officine Gomitoli Intercultural Centre, a place dedicated to the promotion of youth rights, the valorization and enhancement of their skills and professional and creative abilities. This space, inaugurated in June 2016 and supported also by the Con il Sud Foundation and the Charlemagne Foundation, comprises various businesses and is located in the historic centre of Naples in an ex-wool mill from Bourbon rule in Porta Capuana, an area where many migrants live and the object of an urban regeneration plan (UNESCO world heritage site). In 2018, the project promoted three artistic laboratories: a theatrical laboratory aimed at an exchange of stories, memories and dreams among people from European countries and abroad; a photographic laboratory to narrate different cultural identities of people and places and highlight political, urban and social lacunae, aiming to recuperate the stories and memories of the territory; and a laboratory of visual arts and watercolor, dedicated to inter-cultural miscegenation to offer knowledge of different cultures, practices and traditions embodied by the participants.

In addition, alongside the laboratories, Officine Gomitoli offered intensive expressive workshops with renown international artists.

Partner

Dedalus Cooperative

The Dedalus Cooperative has been in operation in Naples for 35 years, carrying out activities involving research on the phenomenon of disadvantage and migration, and offering job training services, refuge and cultural mediation. Dedalus has been supported by AMI since 2017.



The Little Tor Pignattara Orchestra

Objectives

To offer the Italian and foreign youths of the Orchestra an opportunity for integration with their contemporaries and for professional development through music as a tool for bringing people together and promoting well-being.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 15 Italian and first or second-generation immigrant youths between the ages of 16 and 23, some of whom come from difficult socio-economic and family situations and social vulnerability in Rome.

Activities

The Tor Pignattara Little Orchestra, founded in 2012, is made up of Roman youth hailing from different countries that play instruments from all over the world. These young musicians got together two afternoons a week for three-hour sessions in a rehearsal studio in the multi-ethnic neighbourhood of Tor Pignattara. The youth participated in small groups run by an artistic director who is a professional musician and focused on musical technique, individual motivation and the work done in a rehearsal studio, as well as the musical and emotional relationship and balance between the members of the group. The older kids, who have been members of the Orchestra since the beginning, have become peer-educators for the younger members, who are inserted into the group both musically and relationship-wise.

A psychologist worked with the young musicians and maintained a constant dialogue with family members and the people running the shelters from which some of the youth came.

AMI has supported the professional training of the young people of the Little Orchestra of Tor Pignattara not just in the artistic and performative sense, but also as regards the more technical aspects of music, such as in the technical and organizational sectors connected with staging, in order to provide them greater opportunities for work in the music sector. The Orchestra performed for the public, raising people's awareness with regards to socio-cultural integration.

Partner

Musica e altre cose

This association was founded in 2008 to carry out initiatives aimed at the practice, production, diffusion and promotion of culture, music, theatre, cinema and art in general. It provides training in music, performance, promotion and production of cultural projects in Italy and abroad. Musica e altre cose has been supported by AMI since 2014.



The policeman and the dinosaur

Objectives

To support the children of jailed parents through communicative activities based on creativity and drawing; to promote the expression and control of feelings that are hard for children to express.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 100 minors between the ages of 3 and 14, the children of inmates at the Secondigliano prison of Naples.

Activities

The project was born to develop and facilitate the relationship between children and their imprisoned fathers, based on the assumption that art is a powerful instrument for the re-elaboration of reality, allowing children and their fathers to create imaginative spaces in which to meet, freely expressing and connecting with their emotions. In this way the father-child relationship is once again mediated by play and by the spontaneity of the artistic gesture, rather than by the stress and pressure of the traditional 'closed-door' encounter. The artistic activities enable the children of the prisoners to transform the prison into a more familiar place in which to make their mark. The project enables time together between children and their fathers in the context of an art workshop conducted by psychologists, teachers and expert art therapists.

From 2014 to 2017 AMI supported a project at the Opera prison in Milan. In 2017 and 2018 the project has been run at the Secondigliano prison in Naples and has provided a weekly drawing workshop for children waiting to meet with their jailed parent, creation of a dedicated space for father-child meetings mediated by drawing and a support group for the jailed fathers.

Partner

Bambinisenzasbarre

This non-profit association was founded in Milan in 2002 to operate in the penal system in psycho-pedagogical support to imprisoned parents with particular attention to their children. Bambinisenzasbarre opened "Yellow Places" in many Italian prisons to welcome children visiting their jailed parents. The association has been supported by AMI since 2014.



Theatre and stories with migrants

Objectives

To create a unified poetic aspiration and language for migrants and Italians in order to foster shared belonging to a hybrid community through theatre, fairy tales, myths and theatrical works that are universal and transcend culture. To positively influence the processes of inclusion, socialization and integration of young foreign women who have recently arrived in Italy and prevent the distress experienced by their children; to convey and promote the testimonies of young refugees and sensitize public opinion on migration issues.

Beneficiaries

12 young migrant women from the Miguelim Centre in Rome, 8 Italian women and second-generation foreign girls, the children of the women participants who are newly arrived in Italy for family reunification.

19 asylum seekers and refugees; 7 young Italians and 3 young second-generation foreign kids.

Activities

This project aims to mitigate the hardening climate as concerns migration using art as a means to create an authentic meeting ground between people involving cultural exchange and a sense of community belonging as an antidote to the frequent episodes of intolerance occurring in Rome. In particular, the project uses the theatrical disciplines and oral narrative to give voice to the disadvantage experienced by many vulnerable people: young women who have just arrived in Italy (often for family reunification) and their children, young refugees and asylum seekers. For the young women, involved in the Narramondi workshop at the Miguelim Intercultural Centre, the narrative arts are a way to meet and share experiences in order to overcome the sense of upheaval, culture shock, nostalgia and exclusion as a result of socioeconomic marginalization, sharing their fears and anxieties connected with raising their children alone. For asylum seekers who have just arrived in Italy, involved in the Edipo a Colono workshop at the Ostiense Centre, theatre is an opportunity to heal broken lives and overcome the traumas of their travels, helping to build a new identity and sense of belonging along with their Italian contemporaries.

These workshops have resulted in the performances of Narikhonto and the show Indidy Mamady e il Dono, which have been performed in symbolic places in the city.

Partner

Asinitas

This association was founded in 2005 in Rome in order to foster common ground and coexistence between people from different places, in particular through teaching Italian to migrants and political refugees. Asinitas has been supported by AMI since 2017.



Theatrical workshop

Objectives

Spreading the principles of right to life, legality, civil coexistence and solidarity to the youth of the Sanità district in Naples

Beneficiaries

45 adolescents and young people between the ages of 16 and 25 that live in the Sanità district of Naples in situations of extreme social marginality and risk.

Activities

The Sanità district of Naples has the highest rate of crime, organized crime and social marginalization. Young people who live here are barely able to imagine a future outside these confines and the Nuovo Teatro Sanità is the only cultural centre in this area. The Pavesi Foundation, supported by the Con il Sud Foundation, the Charlemagne Foundation and AMI offered free expressive and cultural training workshops as well as lessons in artisanal skills to the youth of this area, small children and their parents.

AMI supported a theatrical workshop in this context conducted by the directors and actors of the Nuovo Teatro Sanità aimed at adolescents and youth, also to train them in the theatre arts.

The workshop offered young people free weekly classes in recitation. Through collective theatrical work the aim was to give space to the talents of young people, promote them through professional artistic direction and develop both individual and community sensitivity, dedicating specific attention to the ability to work in a group.

The theatre accompanies the growth of the youth living in this area in the context of cultural, civil and social dedication. The project aims to accompany young people to discover theatrical narration, bringing them to reflection and knowledge and putting them in touch with socially conscious productions and authors to favour greater awareness of the role of every single individual in standing against crime, particularly in the difficult social environment of the Sanità district.

Partner

Alessandro Pavesi Foundation

This foundation was created in 2008 in Naples to promote principles of legality and solidarity among youth, spreading knowledge and respect for sacrosanct human rights and civil coexistence. The foundation runs an after-school programme in the Sanità district and uses theatre to involve children and youth from the schools in Naples. The Pavesi Foundation has been supported by AMI since 2016.



Training of Community Music Leaders in SPRAR centres

Objectives

To help improve the resilience, general well-being and relationship with other refugees and asylum seekers living in SPRAR centres by training musicians to lead musical workshops in various parts of Italy.

Beneficiaries

30 professional and amateur musicians working with young asylum seekers and refugees.

Activities

Musicians for Human Rights carry out musical education activities inspired by the principles of human rights in schools, refugee centres, prisons and relief centres.

The project, authorized by the Central Service of Italy's Protection System for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (SPRAR), has involved training musicians to lead musical workshops with refugees and asylum seekers living in SPRAR centres in various parts of Italy. In 2018, with the support of AMI and AMG, the training was held in Turin and Bologna led by an expert from Musicians Without Borders and a trainer from Musicians for Human Rights.

The training was subdivided into three cycles over the course of six months. Between cycles, the trained musicians began to operate in the SPRAR centres, running musical workshops under the supervision of the trainers.

Partner

Musicians for Human Rights

This Italian association, founded in 2009 by the First Horn Soloist of the Santa Cecilia National Orchestra Alessio Allegrini, is composed of musicians from all over the world engaged in promoting a human rights culture through music. Musicians for Human Rights has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2018.



White Hands Rome

Objectives

Reduce the fragmentary nature of deafness through musical activities that provide a sense of unity, identity and belonging; fostering integration between hearing and deaf youth.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 25 children, adolescents and adults, both deaf and hearing, Italian and foreign, among whom some with psychological-physical disabilities, students of the Magarotto ISS Institute in Rome and residents of the Fabriani boarding school.

Activities

The Mani Bianche Roma Association, at the Fabriani boarding school of Rome (and previously at the Magarotto ISS Institute), held afternoon workshops in music and chorus, children's voices and sign language singing for deaf and hearing children and adolescents from different cultural backgrounds, including some with psychological-physical disabilities. The white hands chorus has been directed by professional musicians with the collaboration of a psychologist/sign language interpreter (LIS) and a disabilities expert. This positive musical experience has enabled the inclusion of children and adolescents with sensory, cognitive, motor and learning difficulties, as well as autistic children and those without disabilities, who all share a condition of social marginalization.

Partner

Mani Bianche Roma

This association was founded in 2015 by a group of music and disability professionals with the aim of promoting social inclusion via music and song, creating an opportunity for positive experiences of integration for children and youth in urban areas characterized by family, psycho-social and economic problems. Mani Bianche Roma has been supported by AMI since 2015.



Art for Disadvantaged Children and Youth

Objectives

Consolidate a centre for art in Cambodia to foster independence and trust in disadvantaged children through the arts, and raise the awareness of families and the community regarding the problem of street children.

Beneficiaries

445 Cambodian children and youths between the ages of 10 and 22 living in conditions of extreme vulnerability, many in the streets, exposed to violence, abuse, health issues, drug addiction, social isolation and discrimination.

Activities

Since 2003, M'Lop Tapang has been providing support to the street children living in Sihanoukville, a major tourist attraction on the southern Cambodian coast. From the beginning, art and music have been an essential part of the organization's activities – a way to make contact with street children, build a relationship with them, contribute to and increase their self esteem and trust, and help them overcome the trauma of their past. In January 2016, M'Lop Tapang opened a new arts centre, offering artistic activities free of charge for more than 400 children living in socially disadvantaged conditions. In 2018, the project foresaw support to musical workshops where children could learn to sing and play the guitar, the piano or the drums; circus and acrobatic workshops (aerial arts, juggling, clownery, unicycle riding); and dance workshops, including traditional Cambodian dances – contributing to passing on these traditions to the new generations.

Partner

M'Lop Tapang

This organization was born in 2003 to support the street children of Sihanoukville. Currently, more than 4,000 children and 1,500 families are involved, participating in nine specialized centres in the area of Sihanoukville that offer shelter, medical care, education, sports and art, consultancy and support, and protection for families from all kinds of abuse. M'Lop Tapang has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2016.



Art in the sun and wind

Objectives

Support the development of skills, intelligence and creativity of children who live in conditions of extreme vulnerability in the state of Chiapas in Mexico via artistic workshops.

Beneficiaries

218 children between the ages of 6 and 14 living in the marginalized colonies of Tuxtla Gutierrez in circumstances of extreme vulnerability (alcoholic parents, violence, poverty).

Activities

The “Art in the sun and wind” project gets its name from the outdoor workshops set up directly in the colony on the outskirts of Tuxtla Gutierrez. In this way, Vientos Culturales aims to reach the most marginalized children, bringing art directly to their streets and carrying out different kinds of artistic activities “in the sun and wind”.

In 2018, the project foresaw weekly workshops (an afternoon workshop of about 3 hours per week in each colony), treating a different topic each time (environment, health, science, art, traditions) in order to stimulate their interest in pertinent themes through art. Different artistic practices have been used in the workshops: storytelling, illustration, improvisation, videos, collage, drawing, painting, papier mache, singing.

Also, once a month Vientos Culturales organized artistic activities in the neighbourhoods involved in the project to clean and beautify the community (murals, paintings, various signs), involving parents and adults. At the end of each semester, the art done during the workshops was presented to the community through theatrical events and exhibits, also with the participation of local artists.

Partner

Vientos Culturales

Vientos Culturales is an association founded in 1996 in Tuxtla Gutierrez to stimulate disadvantaged children and youth in the state of Chiapas, Mexico, through art. All activities aim at the individual development of the children and youth to stimulate their creativity, broaden their knowledge, improve their critical thinking and promote positive values. Vientos Culturales has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2015.



Be P-Art!

Objectives

To develop expressive skills through photography and promote the artistic potential of disabled and able-bodied students at seven primary schools in Tanzania; to raise awareness on the theme of disability.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 400 disabled children in Dar es Salaam, pupils at seven primary schools, visitors to the photography exhibition mounted at the primary schools and at the Vipaji contemporary art gallery (Dar es Salaam).

Activities

Activities:

The project involves running photography workshops in seven primary schools in Dar es Salaam where clubs were started in 2017 to promote the inclusion of disabled children within the framework of the project "All Inclusive" run by CEFA with support from the Italian Development Cooperation Agency. The workshops use the format "The dark sight of photography" to enable the pupils, and particularly those with disabilities, to present their view of the world and recount their experience. The workshops will culminate in an itinerant photographic exhibition in the schools and at the Vipaji gallery.

This project has been postponed to 2019 for reasons contingent to Tanzania.

Partner

CEFA

This NGO has been operating since 1972 in international cooperation, particularly in rural areas; since 2009 it has also been involved in the training and socio-economic inclusion of people with vulnerabilities (adults and children) using artistic disciplines (photography, theatre, dance, art, music). CEFA has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2018.

Open tent

Objectives

Transforming a place used for torture and death into a space where art and life for young people are supported; promote the social inclusion of children through circus workshops in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Beneficiaries

40 vulnerable children between the ages of 6 and 15 living in the communities of Independencia and Loyola (Buenos Aires).

Activities

ECuNHí (Espacio Cultural Nuestros Hijos) is an artistic-cultural centre founded by the Plaza de Mayo Mothers in the ex-ESMA (Espacio Memoria y Derechos Humanos), which, during the last dictatorship, was the biggest clandestine detention centre in Argentina.

Amigos del ECuNHí has transformed a place of torture and murder into one that promotes art and life – a cultural centre where performances and artistic workshops are held for children and adults.

In 2018, the Carpa Abierta social circus was held here and directly in the marginalized communities.

Circus arts are an inclusive artistic expression that favour the development of physical, artistic and social skills, promoting group identity, respect and discipline by enhancing self-esteem and the acceptance of self, others and difference.

The project uses the circus arts to enable vulnerable children to experience the transformative power of being part of a group, creating a performance and garnering applause – all of which enable them to consider themselves part of a different social situation and envision a new future.

The project foresaw weekly workshops in the circus arts in two marginalized communities in the province of Buenos Aires. Every two weeks a joint workshop was held for the beneficiaries from both communities to work together in preparation of a show, performed for the public at the ECuNHí Centre. In 2018 the show was directed by the renowned international director Cesar Brie and presented in various theaters of Buenos Aires.

Partner

Amigos del ECuNHí

This organization was founded in 2011 to promote and support the ECuNHí Cultural Centre's cultural, social and research activities, as well as the organization of events and the diffusion of initiatives and potential publications. Amigos del ECuNHí has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2016.



Pathways

Objectives

Using theatre as a powerful tool to give voice and a means of expression to marginalized children and youth of Zambia; sensitizing the community to the importance of education for vulnerable children; promoting the breakdown of the social stigma associated with street children, the disabled and HIV-affected people.

Beneficiaries

390 vulnerable children and youths, living in marginalized communities in Lusaka and 2 other districts (Kitwe and Kabwe) participating in workshops and performances; 445 street children; the public of the Barefeet Youth Art Festival in Lusaka.

Activities

Barefeet Theatre uses a multi-dimensional approach based on various artistic expressions (theatre, music and dance), psycho-social support, creativity and self-expression (through the “Participatory Process Performance” method) in order to tackle themes or subjects of interest to the young participants, thus sharing their concerns and responding in this way to the needs of vulnerable children living in marginal communities of 2 districts of Zambia.

In 2018, the project, supported by AMI and AMG, foresaw artistic workshops for vulnerable children and youth in shelters for street children located in marginalized communities, culminating in the production of a performance presented in their respective communities (in public spaces such as markets and squares) and at the Barefeet Youth Art Festival in Lusaka.

The project also foresaw the realization of street activities, visits and dialogues with street children, identifying their problems and possible solutions (such as reinsertion in families or hosting in rehabilitation centres).

During the Barefeet Youth Art Festival, all the groups that work with Barefeet presented their performances, which had been prepared during the workshops. This is a unique opportunity for the children to perform for a larger public at the national level along with international artists from around the world, providing them with inspiration from positive role models and the shared enthusiasm for performance.

Partner

Barefeet Theatre

This organization was founded in 2006 by ex-street children to respond to the difficulties faced by young people living in the streets of Zambia. Through the use of theatre, games and creativity, vulnerable children in Zambia are given the chance for a better life. Barefeet has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2016.



Visual and Applied Art School

Objectives

To consolidate the first visual arts school in Cambodia to enable its young beneficiaries to improve their creativity and develop professional careers in graphic design, web design, illustration e 2D animation.

Beneficiaries

296 children and youths with backgrounds characterized by poverty, violence and abuse in the rural outskirts of Battambang.

Activities

The idea behind Phare Ponleu Selpak (PPS: “the luminosity of art”) was created in 1986 by nine young Cambodian refugees who had taken part in a drawing class offered at the “Site 2” refugee camp on the border between Thailand and Cambodia. When they returned to their country at the end of the terrible Khmer Rouge regime, they created the PPS association to help children express and overcome the trauma of war through art, and to contribute to the reconstruction of their country via the recuperation and recognition of Khmer art and culture.

Today, the PPS campus in Battambang hosts renown art schools (circus, theatre, dance, music and visual arts) as well as public, government schools for 900 children, nursery schools and social service facilities to assist disadvantaged children and youth.

In 2018, the project, supported by AMI/AMG, foresaw the consolidation of the Visual and Applied Art School (VAAS) begun in 1994.

At the new headquarters, inaugurated in November 2015, the VAAS offers free, three-year professional courses to students who are older than 16 and have completed secondary school. The first year is dedicated to instruction in the fundamentals of visual arts and their application. The second and third years focus on a specialization in either graphic design, web design, illustration or 2D animation. During the third year, students can participate in an internship in one of the 35 companies selected by PPS with the assistance of a job facilitator who works to foster relationships with professionals and reinforce the communication skills of students.

The art school also offers free art classes to children in pre-school, elementary and secondary schools, organized as extra-curricular activities, in order to develop concentration, communication and creative thought.

Partner

Phare Ponleu Selpak

This association was created in 1994 to contribute to the reconstruction of Cambodia through social action and, particularly, Khmer art and culture. It offers courses in various artistic disciplines such as circus arts, music, visual arts, theatre and dance. Phare Ponleu Selpak has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2016.



Cartoons in the wards

Objectives

To transform the time spent in a hospital environment into an opportunity for growth, discovery, socialization and self expression through the production of cartoons.

Beneficiaries

109 children and youth (between the ages of 5 and 17) on 6 wards of the Children's Hospital in Brescia.

Activities

AVISCO has been running cartoon production workshops for children hospitalized in the pediatric, orthopedic, trauma, pediatric surgery, children's neuropsychiatric, oncohematology and otolaryngology wards of the Children's Hospital in Brescia since 2012. Using a nursery rhyme, a comic book or a melody as a stimulus, the children pick a little story, a character or a phrase as the subject of their cartoon, which they produce by using strips of colored paper, clay or sand which is set inside a box that is connected to particular technological instrumentation. The children can also create a soundtrack to go along with their cartoons by recording music and their voices. This engaging activity has favoured socialization and well being, helping to give substance and voice to a child's internal world also through the use of new technology.

The project also involves the screening of professional animation in the wards, giving young patients the chance to see cartoons of a high artistic and educational level.

In 2018 the project added a sound workshop to enable the young patients to create and record the sound tracks for their cartoons.

Musicians, poets and writers donated content, often unpublished, to the children for use in their cartoons.

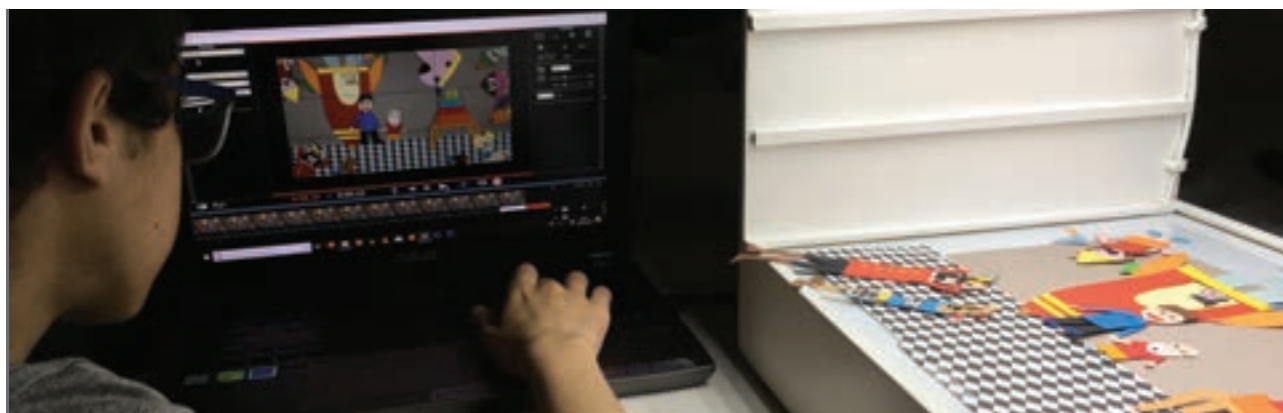
At the end of the project the professionals invited the children and their families to an exhibition day in a public cinema, during which the cartoons created by the children were shown.

The project has created a bridge between the children in hospital and their classmates thanks to a written competition entitled "Cartoons from the classroom to the hospital wards", in the schools frequented by the young patients, enabling the children in the hospital to use material contributed by their classmates as stimulus for their cartoons.

Partner

AVISCO

This association was founded in 1986 to research, experiment and update audio-visuals in the scholastic and socio-educational setting. AVISCO organizes guided courses on cinematographic literature, audio-visual production workshops and photography for children, and training and refresher courses for teachers and educators. AVISCO has been supported by AMI since 2013.



Confluences

Objectives

To give children in the care of the Child Neuropsychiatry Service at the Regina Margherita Hospital the chance to express, process and confront the suffering and anxiety linked to their illness and psychological distress through art. To allow the young patients to build their self-esteem, confront and process aggressive experiences, define their individuality within the group and share personal emotions and experiences with peers and therapists.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 80 minors between the ages of 7 and 16 who are patients at the Psychiatric Therapeutic Day Hospital for Children's Neuropsychiatry at the Regina Margherita Hospital in Turin receiving treatment for school phobia, somatization and eating, behavioral and learning disorders.

Activities

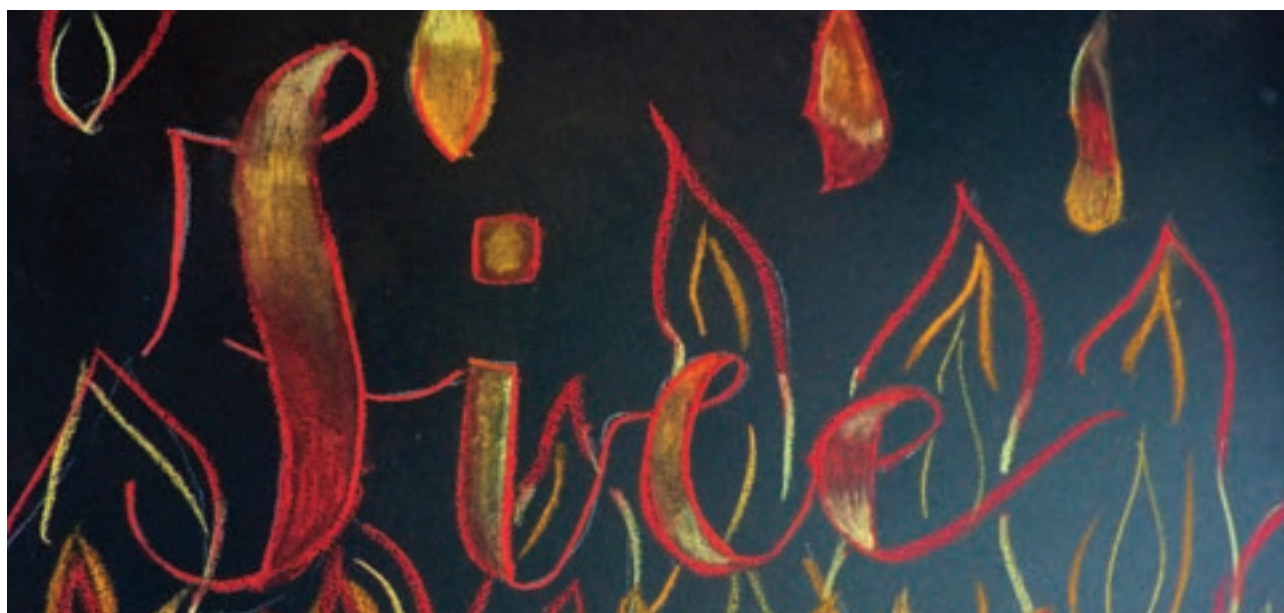
At the Psychiatric Therapeutic Day Hospital for Children's Neuropsychiatry at the Regina Margherita Hospital, artistic workshops have been conducted by an art therapist to promote the personal expression and creativity of the young patients frequenting the daily psychiatric services, as well as the hospital school. Artistic activities, thanks to the use of pencils, crayons, water colors, clay and other sculptural and pictorial materials, promote the expression of emotion, increase self-esteem, defuse aggressive experiences and assist in the definition of each child's individuality within the group.

The workshop took place once a week, with individual artistic expression in a group setting. Individual artistic activities were also provided for children and youth with more serious problems making it difficult to participate in group activities. Art therapy has been supervised by a psychologist with experience in art therapy and has been integrated in the general care of these minors via constant exchange and dialogue with other members of the medical team

Partner

Linea d'Acqua

This art therapy association was founded in 2016 by professional neuropsychiatrists, art therapists and psychoanalytic psychotherapists aiming to integrate health care with artistic activities and experiences for overall well-being. Linea d'Acqua has been supported by AMI since 2016.



Dynamo Art Factory

Objectives

Support to the Art Factory to enable sick children to express their fears and emotions in a creative and positive fashion; expand and strengthen the experience of contact with contemporary art experienced at the camp by bringing the Art Factory into important Italian museums and allowing kids and families to get in touch with major national exhibition organizations.

Beneficiaries

758 children and youth between the ages of 6 and 17 with various pathologies (at the camp) and 55 children and young people (in museums).

Activities

Dynamo Camp welcomes children affected by serious and chronic illness who are out-patients or in remission, as well as disabled children (with neurological, neuromotor and rare pathological conditions) and their siblings and parents.

Dynamo Art Factory is one of the camp's special projects, the creative heart of a vacation during which the children and adolescents, as a group, spend entire afternoons creating, designing, cutting, pasting, modeling and coloring. Every summer, renown contemporary Italian and international artists contribute their creativity and talent to a project that involves the youths directly. The artist begins by giving them a creative "challenge", which is then taken up by each in a different way, resulting in a special emotional and artistic experience. At the end of each session, the result is a single piece of work that bears the artist's name and illustrates the emotions of the children.

In 2018, the project undertook 10 artistic workshop sessions of 9 days each and the dissemination of the experience of the Art Factory in major contemporary art museums in 2 Italian cities (Bologna and Milan) with the offer of a one-day workshop always held by renown artists, aimed at creating a collective work which, at the end of the workshop, is exhibited for a period of time in the museum and subsequently brought back to the Dynamo Art Factory.

Partner

Dynamo Camp

This association was created in 2007 and is part of the Serious Fun Children's Network, an international channel founded by Paul Newman in 1988 to contribute to the improvement of the lives of children with serious illnesses and their families. Dynamo Camp is located in the WWF oasis in Tuscany, which was inaugurated in 2007, and is the only Recreational Therapy facility in Italy designed to host minors whose lives are compromised by illness. This association has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2016.



HanaHana - Robo&Bobo Edition

Objectives

To offer young patients a high-level artistic experience; enhance the education aimed at adolescent and pre-adolescent patients by offering them a chance to directly interact with a stimulating and creative reality; and aspire to new methods to bring works of art inside and outside hospitals.

Beneficiaries

12 pre-adolescent and adolescent patients of the Day Hospital and in the ward of the Pediatric Oncohematology department of the Regina Margherita Hospital in Turin.

Activities

Dear is a non-profit organization that has been working on making hospital environments more human through creative projects since 2016, when it started the Robo&Bobo project, an innovative didactic-workshop on programming, digital creation and electronic and digital graphics aimed at bringing adolescent and pre-adolescent children closer to new technology.

In 2018 the HanaHana – Robo&Bobo Edition consisted of the development of the original version of an award-winning, virtual reality work by the Swiss artist, Mélodie Mousset, in the Pediatric Oncohematology ward of the Regina Margherita Hospital in Turin. The HanaHana work was created during a series of workshops that the young patients directly contributed to in the form of a Virtual Reality work.

Adolescents and pre-adolescents are often excluded from the activities being provided in the ward, which are mainly aimed for younger patients, so these artistic workshops provide them the chance to transform the negative experience of being hospitalized into an occasion that enables personal creative expression and an acquaintance with new technology. Activities involved the development of an interactive work with the contribution of the artist, training for operators (two professionals and two volunteers) and the subsequent realization of hospital workshops.

Once completed, this work was presented to the public in the context of the Turin Week of Art (November 2018) and at the hospital for possible future continuation and replication.

Partner

Dear

A non-profit organization founded in 2016 that deals with the humanization of hospital environments through creative projects and alphabetization in the fields of design, electronics and programming through didactic-workshop courses for adolescents and pre-adolescents (11-18 years old) with oncohematological diseases. Dear has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2018.



LADoro

Objectives

To offer a creative space for young cancer patients and their families to express through art and imagination the anguish and dysfunction experienced as a result of illness in order to prevent the long-term trauma of a cancer diagnosis.

Beneficiaries

158 children and adolescents, patients at the Unità Operativa di Ematologia e Oncologia Pediatrica dell'Ospedale Policlinico di Catania (Pediatric Hospital of Catania).

Activities

The project has included the presence on the ward of psychologists and art therapists for the creation of individual and group creative workshops for child chemotherapy patients and their parents (design, creative imagination, visual arts, videos, short films, graphics and social networking). L' Albero Dei Desideri Association (LAD) uses the principles of art therapy to make the cancer diagnosis and subsequent treatment less traumatic for the children and their parents, by stimulating their creativity and imagination as a way to react in a dynamic and vital fashion to the inevitable stasis of the illness. The LAD's operators have provided individual and group creative workshops for the young patients and their families at the pediatric hospital in Catania in close collaboration with the hospital doctors. On admission and during painful diagnostic-therapeutic procedures, creative activities help ground parents and children in their family units and emphasize their individual capabilities in order to prevent the long-term traumatic effects of the cancer diagnosis. Throughout their time at the hospital the artistic activities help the children maintain their sense of freedom and control, enabling them to be the protagonists of their reality and keeping at bay "the sickness that grows inside and seems never to abandon body or thought."

Partner

LAD

This association was founded in 2010 by a group of psychologists at the UO di Ematologia ed Oncologia Pediatrica del Policlinico of Catania to introduce creativity and imagination in the "Cure & Care" of young cancer patients and their families as a means to express the anguish and dysfunction associated with the illness. LAD has been supported by AMI since 2015.



Arts for children traumatised by war

Objectives

To train staff in the use of creative therapy and expressive arts to provide professional assistance to children who are refugees and victims of the trauma resulting from the war, in Jordan.

Beneficiaries

25 staff, formal and informal educators, artists, teachers, psychologists and volunteers working at the Paola Biocca Rehabilitation Centre and refugee camps in Amman, Jordan; some refugee children and victims of trauma participating in the workshop; relatives and members of the community.

Activities

The project involved art therapy training for Jordanian staff, formal and informal educators, artists, teachers, psychologists and volunteers working at the Paola Biocca Rehabilitation Centre, an orthopaedic rehabilitation centre dedicated to the memory of aid worker Paola Biocca, who died in 1999 during a humanitarian mission to Kosovo.

The centre was launched in 2015 by the NGO You Able in partnership with the Italian anti-landmine campaign and the Jordanian association LLCR- Life Line Consultancy and Rehabilitation to assist Jordanian citizens and refugees in need of prosthetic limbs, particularly victims of landmines. The number of children, particularly from Syria, receiving treatment has risen sharply in recent years. This has made it necessary to use non-verbal and art therapy tools during rehabilitation to allow the youngsters to express their feelings and enable their trauma to emerge and be treated.

Training in the use of art therapies involved an intensive seven-day course led by two Italian art therapists that included theoretical training for the staff and a practical art-therapy workshop with child trauma victims.

Partner

You Able

This association aims to protect the health of disabled individuals, in Italy and abroad, assisting in the recovery from an original or acquired disability due to war, natural disasters, accidents or other harmful events. You Able has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2018.



The Smile's Medicine Project

Objectives

Improve the physical, mental and emotional well-being of young patients in the paediatric wards of the Black Lion hospital in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia).

Beneficiaries

Approximately 5,600 children between the ages of 0 and 16 hospitalized in the Black Lion hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Activities

In 2018, the project included clowns and entertainment by young artists from the Fekat Circus, 4 of whom are clown-doctors, trained in annual workshops.

The clowns visited the rooms of the patients twice a week. In the main room of the paediatric ward entertainment has been provided and various recreational, artistic and play activities have been offered using games of construction and memory.

Since 2014, the clown-doctors have also carried out activities in the oncology ward of the hospital based on a Memorandum of Understanding with the Black Lion Hospital.

These activities improve the emotional and psychological well-being of the young patients, contributing to the humanization of hospital stays and stimulating healing. Fun and creative activities are, in fact, considered therapeutic tools capable of improving the psychological and emotional well-being of the children.

Fekat Circus also attempts to stimulate children and young people living in disadvantaged conditions by offering circus arts and juggling classes at the association's compound and in other educational centres (orphanages, homeless shelters and other NGOs) every afternoon.

Partner

Fekat Circus

Created in 2004 by 12 young Ethiopian artists who grew up in the streets of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, today, this non-profit association of professional artists engages in artistic, sports, circus and acrobatic activities to promote the inclusion of socially disadvantaged minors. Fekat Circus has been supported by AMI and AMG since 2012.



Meeting Art in juvenile prisons

Objectives

Organizing a meeting between associations that work with art in juvenile prisons to share good practices and problems.

Beneficiaries

15 theatrical operators of 10 associations working in juvenile prisons in Italy.

Activities

The non-profit Crisis Opportunity (CO2) association has organized a meeting, held the 24th of March 2018 in Rome, between the associations that carry out artistic workshops in Italian juvenile penitentiaries to discuss current projects, share experiences and best practices, discuss any difficulties and problems encountered and create a network and connection platform, also in view of future collaboration.

This meeting was designed as a technical gathering for professionals connected with the “Un'altra storia: Festival dell'impegno civile” (Another story – a festival of civic dedication), held at the Teatro India in Rome from 23 to 25 March 2018.

Participating in the technical meeting on art in juvenile prisons were 15 theatre operators working in juvenile prisons; CO2 of Rome, working at the Airola and Malaspina juvenile facilities in Palermo; Puntozero of Milan, active at the Beccaria prison; Teatro del Pratello of Bologna at the Bologna juvenile prison and Pontremoli juvenile facility; Teatro Kismet of Bari (Fornelli prison); Fuori le Ali and Adynaton, active at the Casal di Marmo prison in Rome; and Banda Rulli Frulli from Finale Emilia, which this year is organizing musical workshops at the former Psychiatric Hospital of Reggio Emilia.

Partner

The CO2 Crisis Opportunity 2

Founded in 1997, the CO2 works to give voice, through multimedia training workshops, to young people who experience marginalization in the outskirts of our cities and in juvenile prisons. Since 2012 it has been involved in particular with “The stage of legality”, an innovative project to educate on legality. CO2 has been supported by AMI since 2018.



Otello Circus

Objectives

The creation of an operatic theatrical work to give people with disabilities places and opportunities for artistic expression by narrowing the gap between music and theatre.

Beneficiaries

16 actors, dancers and musicians with mental or physical disabilities between the ages of 24 and 30 who are members of the Accademia Arte della Diversità and the AllegroModerato Orchestra. Audiences attending the shows.

Activities

For some time, the Accademia Arte Della Diversità in Bolzano (with theatre) and the AllegroModerato Orchestra in Milan (with music) have been working to give voice and opportunity for artistic expression to people with mental and physical disabilities.

The two companies collaborated and, with this project, created an ambitious lyrical theatrical opera based on Giuseppe Verdi's and William Shakespeare's Othello. The project resulted in an abridged version of the both works that is able to convey the drama, meaning and theatrical and musical content. The professional workshop in the art of opera theatre involved all the 'disadvantaged' actors of the Art of Diversity Academy and the musicians of the AllegroModerato Orchestra and included artistic collaborations with major Italian choreographers and playwrights. About 8 actor dancers, 17 musicians and 3 singers have been involved in rehearsals and the staging of the opera as well as some joint artistic residencies (from September 3-9, 2017 and from May 21 to June 10, 2018) at the Olinda's "Teatro La Cucina" in Milan.

The opera is performed in a small circus tent with the ring as the stage and the audience seated on the circular bleachers. Othello is a great circus of human sentiments in which the characters display their emotions in the form of circus arts.

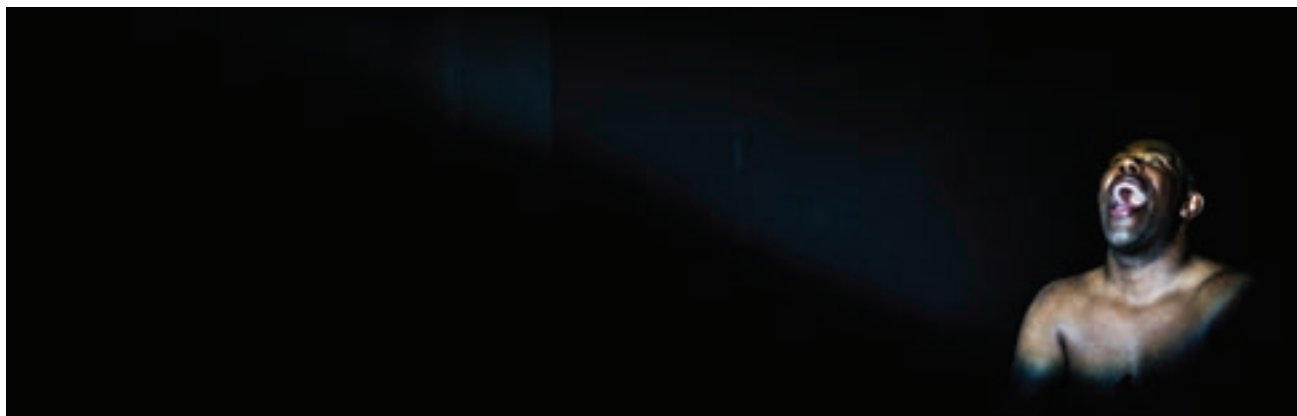
Partner

Accademia Arte Della Diversità

This cooperative was founded in Bolzano in 2012 as a follow-up to the activities of the Teatro La Ribalta, founded in 1996, to establish the first professional Italian theatre company with disabled actors. This company goes beyond integration with an eye towards free access to the creation of artistic and cultural activities also on the part of people with disabilities.

AllegroModerato

This cooperative was founded in 2011 by teachers and expert instructors in special music education, musical therapy and rehabilitation, with the aim of promoting musical instruction among people with psycho-physical fragilities, convinced that this activates and develops emotional, cognitive and relational energies and competencies that the musicians can re-invest in all their daily activities. (Photo Marzia Rizzo).



Other VISIONS

Objectives

To promote via a Festival a social and cultural environment in which people suffering from mental health disorders and professionals acquire artistic and human knowledge through a shared artistic pedagogy. To sensitise audiences to a new way of looking at art and marginalization. To promote a comparison between different models of theatre pedagogy.

Beneficiaries

Roughly 70 professionals, artists, educators and people suffering from mental health disorders involved in 5 theatre companies; approximately 400 spectators, including social and health service users, secondary school students, young migrants and other local association staff.

Activities

Organization and realization of a three-day festival (from 7 to 9 September 2018) involving professionals, actors and non-actors in the prestigious natural setting of the Migliarino San Rossore park in Coltano (Pisa).

The festival included: workshops and meetings on contemporary theatre pedagogy led by internationally renown artists and contemporary theatre performances by 5 companies of national interest due to the quality of their artistic productions, which grow out of situations of marginalization and distress: Animali Celesti – Teatro d'arte civile from Pisa, Accademia Arte della Diversità - Teatro la Ribalta from Bolzano, AEDO from Lucca, Teatro 19 from Brescia and Teatro degli Incontri from Milan.

Partner

Animali Celesti - Teatro d'arte civile

Animali Celesti - civil art theatre is a cultural and social promotion association made up of artists, educators, psychiatric patients and ordinary citizens interested in the values and forms of diversity, which experiments with the relationship between theatre and mental distress in an artistic and relational setting. Animali Celesti has been supported by AMI since 2018.



‘Piccola Liturgia Errante’ Tour

Objectives

To enable youngsters from the Atelier dell'Errore BIG to take their visual/theatre performance to several major Italian theatres within the context of consolidated national festivals. To provide them and their families with an opportunity for social inclusion, regeneration, gratification and motivation.

Beneficiaries

9 performing actors, aged between 17 and 22, with certified paediatric neuropsychiatric disorders in the care of the Reggio Emilia local health service and the Giovanni XXIII hospital in Bergamo. The “Piccola Liturgia Errante” tour has also involved the children from the Atelier dell'Errore of the Child Neuropsychiatry services in Reggio Emilia and Bergamo, and their families.

Activities

The “Piccola Liturgia Errante” theatre tour in Milan, Novara, Reggio Emilia and Cagliari, was performed successfully at the Festival Enter in 2017, curated by the Teatro delle Albe/Ravenna Teatro in Ravenna and at the Festival of Spirituality in Turin. The show consists of a video-drama performance reading and is a kind of self-presentation by the Atelier in the form of theatre. The tour has been a pedagogical and educational activity of extremely high quality that has generated great enthusiasm and a strong sense of participation in the youngsters and their families, creating a virtuous mechanism with a direct positive impact on all the young people involved in the project Atelier dell'Errore.

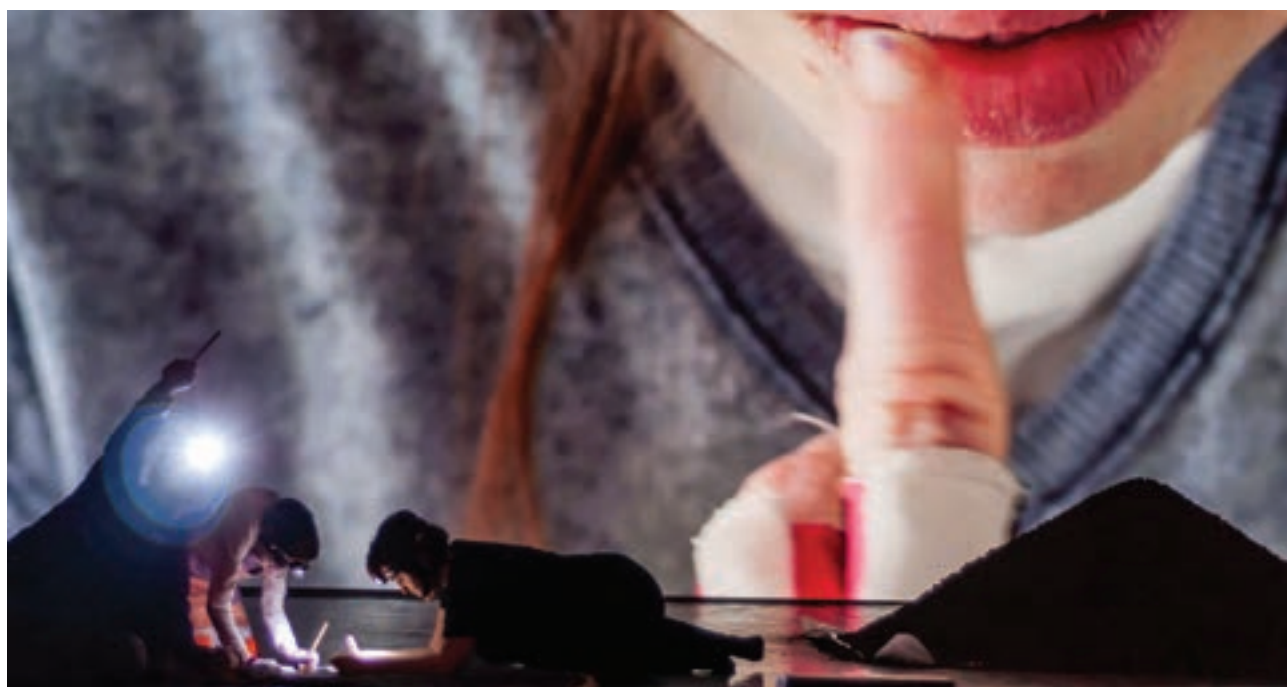
In 2018 the show was performed at important Italian festivals such as Triennale of Milan/Teatro dell'Arte, the European Festival of Photography in Reggio Emilia, the Scarabocchi Festival in Novara and the LEI Festival in Cagliari.

Partner

Atelier dell'Errore

Atelier dell'Errore

This association was created in Reggio Emilia in 2011 by a visual artist to provide children and youth who are patients of the AUSL Children's Neuropsychiatric services and Giovanni XXIII hospital of Bergamo a culturally and artistically high-quality art workshop to supplement their treatment. The Atelier dell'Errore has been supported by AMI since 2017.



Fekat-Phare Exchange

Objectives

To promote a process of constructive comparison of the practices and standards of the organizations involved in the social circus field and enabling understanding of their respective artistic approaches, pedagogical methodologies and marketing strategies.

Beneficiaries

3 Fekat Circus (Ethiopia) professionals and 3 Phare Ponleu Selpak (Cambodia) professionals; children and youth who are the beneficiaries of the projects undertaken by these two associations.

Activities

Fekat Circus in Ethiopia and Phare Ponleu Selpak in Cambodia share a social approach using circus arts and promoting the local culture through the continuous offer of artistic workshops for disadvantaged children and youth.

Through Fekat Circus's "Circus, Berta!", aimed at the realization of the second African Circus Arts Festival supported by the European Union Delegation in Ethiopia, AMI and AMG supported this exchange, which included reciprocal visits to experience the activities of the social circuses carried out in the respective countries. Through these exchanges, Fekat Circus and Phare Ponleu Selpak were able to broaden their visions, discover different models of circus organizations working in the social field, become more aware of the artistic and cultural context of the host country, deepen the artistic programming and the work of local artists from whom they can draw inspiration, also exploring possible future collaboration.

In the first phase, the professionals of Fekat Circus travelled to Cambodia in March 2017 to visit the social activities undertaken in Battambang: the performing arts school (circus, theatre, dance, music), the VAAS - Visual and applied arts school, as well as the educational and social activities offered by Phare Ponleu Selpak. Subsequently, the three professionals visited the Enterprise Circus, which Phare Ponleu Selpak began in Siem Reap to present their shows, which are prepared during the workshops, to the local tourists.

In a second phase, in February/March 2018, three Phare Ponleu Selpak professionals travelled to Ethiopia to visit the activities of the Fekat Circus, which are carried out daily, and to participate in the African Circus Arts Festival held in Addis Ababa from February 28 to March 4, 2018 with the participation of 6 Ethiopian circuses and 5 other African circuses from Kenya, Morocco, South Africa, Guinea and Mozambique. During the Festival, the Fekat Circus inaugurated its new tent and managed the organization of workshops, meetings and the presentation of numerous shows.

Partner

Fekat Circus, Phare Ponleu Selpak

See respective profiles for information on these partners.



Defining the Rulli Frulli methodology

Objectives

Identify and systematize the process followed by the Rulli Frulli Band, and replicate the transformative potential of its methodology.

Beneficiaries

Operators and youth that participate in the activities of the Rulli Frulli Band.

Activities

The project foresees the realization of research, in collaboration with the Università Cattolica of Milan (ARC – Archivio della Generatività), to facilitate a process of defining the Rulli Frulli method by examining what has been happening in Finale Emilia in recent years and in the other areas of intervention (the SPRAR of Reggio Emilia, the multi-ethnic community of Baranzate, the ex-Criminal Psychiatric Hospital in Reggio Emilia).

This qualitative and quantitative analysis has been conducted through field research and beneficiary data obtained via questionnaires, interviews and focus groups in order to gather the details, specifics and contextual factors and elements of the Rulli Frulli experience.

Ultimately, the research aims to provide the direct and indirect beneficiaries of the Rulli Frulli a means to effectively communicate and share the potential of the experience with others.

Partner

Rulli Frulli Lab

The Rulli Frulli Lab Social Promotion Association was created in 2017 in Final Emilia (MO) to support the activities planned and carried out by the Rulli Frulli Band. The objective of the association is to coordinate and manage musical workshops aimed at the inclusion of girls and boys with disabilities as well as, in collaboration with other social spheres, to spread the culture of music as an instrument of integration and enhancement of disability in other contexts. Rulli Frulli Lab has been supported by AMI since 2018.

Evaluating the impact of the CivicoZero workshops

Objectives

To guide the strategic choices of the organization both in terms of structure and programming of artistic workshops as well as the potential role that artistic activities play in enabling the inclusion and integration of unaccompanied minors.

Beneficiaries

Sector professionals.

Activities

In light of the triennial support from AMI to the CivicoZero Centre, and considering the greater relevance of the workshops in the lives of the minors and youths who have benefitted, Save the Children Italy intends to conduct an evaluation of the effects of the artistic workshops carried out in the CivicoZero Centre of Rome (managed by the CivicoZero social cooperative).

The evaluation involves many actors (clients, cooperative professionals and, to the extent possible, workshop participants) and is based on various approaches (questionnaires, focus groups and more detailed techniques), preferably using qualitative techniques, both individual and group.

Partner

Save the Children Italy

Founded at the end of 1998 as a non-profit, this organization began activities in 1999. Today, it is an NGO recognized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It undertakes activities and projects for children from developing countries and those who live in Italy. Save the Children Italy has been supported by AMI since 2016.

Evaluation of the impact of the MaTeMù artistic workshops

Objectives

To investigate the changes experienced by the young participants from the artistic activities run by the MaTeMù youth centre in terms of acquired artistic skills, emotional and social skills and attitude towards the future.

Beneficiaries

Sector professionals.

Activities

The project involved the realization of an evaluation of the impact, in collaboration with Human Foundation, of the artistic workshops run by the CIES MaTeMù youth centre since 2013 with AMI support, in order to understand how the intervention helps promote the social inclusion of young people by increasing their social and educational well-being.

The evaluation enabled an understanding as to what extent the intervention contributed to promoting the social inclusion of young people, using methodology inherent in Theory-based evaluation (Weiss 1997) through quantitative (questionnaires, regression analyses) and qualitative (interviews, focus groups) analysis tools. The evaluation also contributed to highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the project, collecting evidence of the impact and identifying change factors and drivers of this model of intervention.

Partner

CIES - Centro Informazione e Educazione allo Sviluppo

This NGO was created in 1983 to contribute to the reduction of the North-South divide and find a new balance founded on peace and the equitable distribution of the world's resources. In Italy, it promotes, in particular, intercultural values to foster the successful integration of migrants and refugees; abroad, it supports development cooperation programmes. CIES has been supported by AMI since 2013.

Evaluation of the impact of the theatre activities at the Beccaria juvenile prison

Objectives

To develop an impact evaluation, paying particular attention to the changes in the lives of the young people in the Puntzero theatre company in Milan.

Beneficiaries

Sector professionals.

Activities

In collaboration with Università Bicocca of Milan – Educational Sciences department – the project undertook an evaluation of the social impact of the theatre workshop run by the Puntzero theatre company for more than 20 years in “C. Beccaria” juvenile prison in Milan and supported by AMI since 2017.

The evaluation was undertaken with the theatre company using a participatory approach involving all the main stakeholders – young detainees, company management, actors, prison officers, educators, administrative staff, medical staff, trainers involved in other professional workshops at the prison, and the detainees’ parents. The evaluation included meetings to co-plan the evaluation model and identify the indicators, individual and group interviews and questionnaires.

Partner

Puntzero

This non-profit association was founded in 1995 in Milan and produces theatrical work involving artists, social workers, technicians, students, volunteers, ex-prisoners and citizens who aim to combat the phenomenon of social disadvantage and juvenile deviance. Puntzero has been supported by AMI since 2017.

Health and well-being through the game of theatre

Objectives

To sensitize a broader public to post-coma issues and the impact that theatre workshops can have on the rehabilitation and social integration of people in vegetative states or post-coma. To raise awareness of the project Teatro dei Risvegli, a theatre workshop promoting the social reintegration of young people with coma-induced consequences and those undergoing post-coma rehabilitation.

Beneficiaries

Social and health workers, hospital staff, representatives of the academic, medical and social communities.

Activities

The publication, based on the extensive experience of the Amici di Luca Association and the Teatro dei Risvegli project, is an important medium for information and discussion, and a tool for raising awareness on the use of theatre in post-coma recovery.

The research was carried out in 2017 in partnership with Bologna University and the Emilia Romagna regional health services to explore the impact of a theatre workshop for post-coma patients. It was presented in Bologna on 3 October 2017 during the 'Music and theatre in therapeutic situations' conference as part of the programme of events for the third 'European Day of Awakenings'.

Partner

Amici di Luca

This association was created in 1997, thanks to which in 2004 the "Casa dei Risvegli" was born – an innovative public centre for rehabilitation and research of the public health services in Bologna for people in post-acute vegetative states with the potential to improve. The centre integrates medical treatments – rehabilitation, psycho-pedagogical work, volunteer training and innovative technologies. Amici di Luca has been supported by AMI since 2012.

Impact of the Amarò Foro project

Objectives

To undertake a wider process of revising the instruments for the monitoring and evaluation of the Amarò Foro project to make the interventions of the association more efficient for the benefit of the project beneficiaries: Roma and non-Roma children and youth between the ages of 7 and 13 from the Tor Bella Monaca area.

Beneficiaries

Operators and artists of the association and sector professionals.

Activities

The project included an integral process of evaluation of the impact of the Amarò Foro project (supported by AMI since 2015) in order to ascertain the results it has achieved, its strengths and weaknesses, lessons learned and best practices, the direct and indirect benefits enjoyed by the beneficiaries as well as any lacunae, challenges and difficulties encountered. The evaluation will last 16 months and be conducted in three phases: initial interviews and exchanges with the key actors of the Associazione 21 luglio, other partner associations and agencies through brainstorming/workshops; development and fine-tuning of the instruments of evaluation; adoption of monitoring/evaluation instruments in the course of the Amarò Foro project; and evaluation of the impact via meetings, interviews and field visits.

Partner

Associazione 21 luglio

This association was founded in Rome in 2010 to safeguard and promote the rights of children and fight against all forms of discrimination and intolerance in the face of diversity, in particular as regards the Roma population in Italy. The association carries out activities to raise awareness and research the conditions of Roma camps and their rights violations, pressuring institutions via appeals, campaigns and legal action to protect children's rights. The Associazione 21 luglio has been supported by AMI since 2013.

RifugiART

handbook

Objectives

To promote the diffusion and replication of the RifugiART project by offering other professionals a case study for suggestions, discussion and reflection.

Beneficiaries

Sector professionals.

Activities

The handbook is based on the experience gained during the Radio and Photo-movement workshops run by Laboratorio 53 in Rome.

It provides an important methodological examination highlighting the specificity of the method used by Laboratorio 53 to assist migrants, contributing to its diffusion and replication.

It allows the experience accrued so far to be theorized, rationalized and transposed into writing in order to offer other professionals a case study of the creative and narrative potential of migrants and of the artistic form.

Partner

Laboratorio 53

This association was founded in Rome in 2008 by lawyers, social workers, cultural mediators, psychologists and anthropologists with the aim of offering asylum seekers and refugees assistance and welcome via multidisciplinary activities. Laboratorio 53 has been supported by AMI since 2016.

ACCADEMIA ARTE DELLA DIVERSITA' - ALLEGROMODERATO, Otello - Italy (ph. Marzia Rizzo)



Testimonials



"Even when medicine surrenders to the power of the illness, creativity, yet again, gives us a hand, helps us face the unbearable" **LAD**

"In a hospital, everybody is in tune to the key of pain. In a musical group, they are in tune to the key of well-being, and thanks to you, today we were all in tune with the second key" **Father of a child who is a hospital patient. - AllegroModerato**



"Dance connected with Hip Hop culture assumes an importance from the social point of view as it engenders positive action through a youthful, alternative and constructive cultural model. " **E. - CIES-MaTeMù operator**

"The artistic activities of the Officine Gomitoli have definitely increased the capacity of the boys and girls to relate both to themselves (their bodies, thoughts and emotions) and to others – both inside and outside the Centre" **Dedalus**



"The Arts in general, as a human experience, as well as theatrical space as a receptacle of disciplines such as theatre, dance and music ..., possess the availability and generosity to provide opportunities for welcome and belonging to people no matter who they are. They offer a privileged time and place to enable a person to get out of himself, from isolation and solitude, and find others." **ZeroFavole**

"G. felt fulfilled; being part of the creation of an opera made her feel very proud; she was even surprised that she was capable of creating beautiful things just like the others" **Mother of G. - Dynamo Camp**



"I think I transmitted the main principle of art, in my view, to the children: sharing and the possibility for all to participate." **Artist, after the Art Factory - Dynamo Camp workshop**

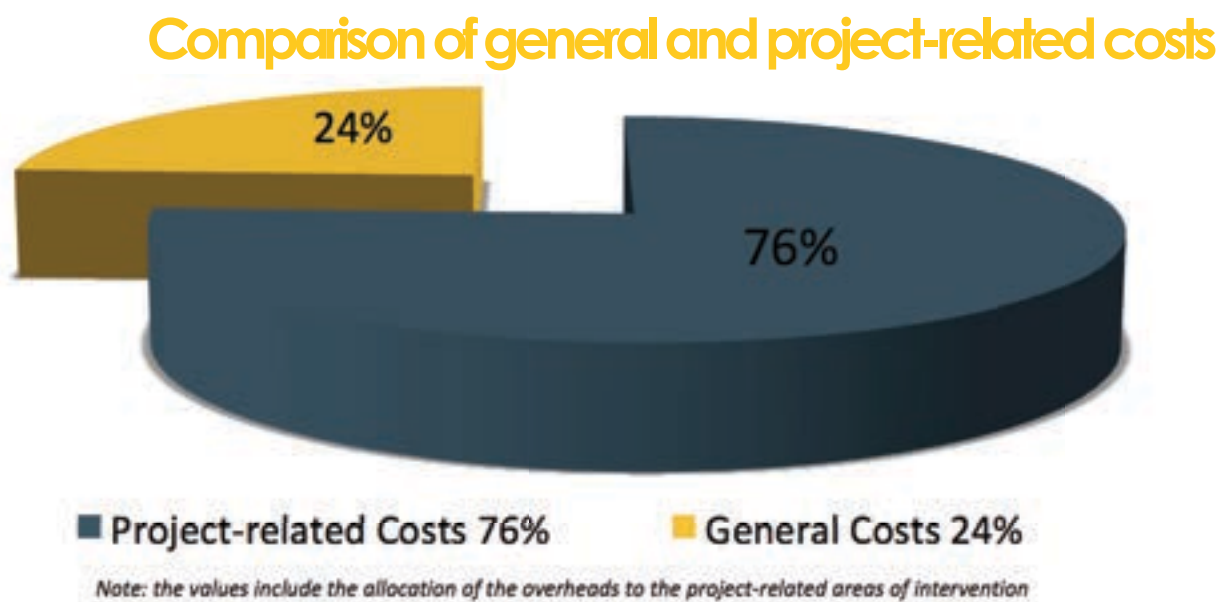
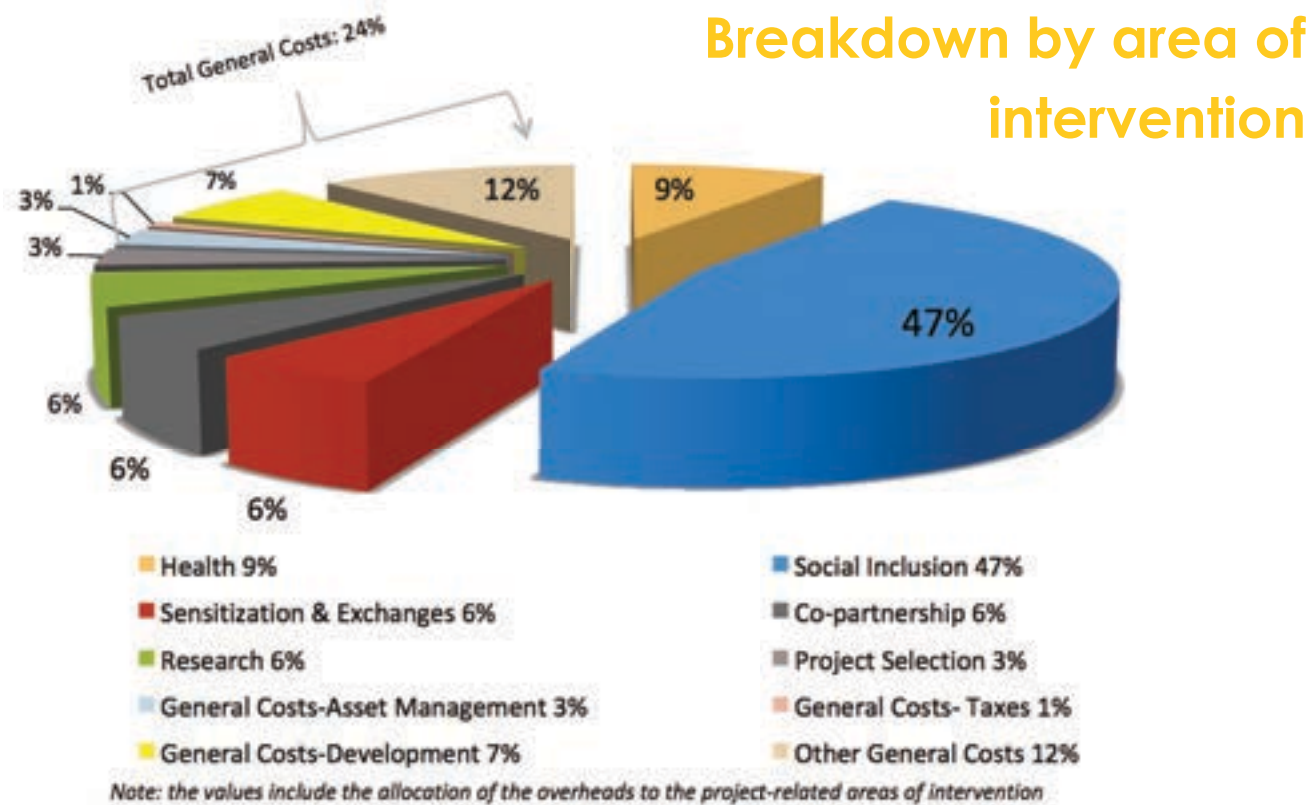
"That has always been our objective, not to entertain but to render professional, to train thinking people, to arouse their curiosity, "arm" them with culture, build a better world" **C. - CIES-MaTeMù operator**



Excerpt from the balance sheet 2018

The Foundation’s financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 drawn up in accordance with article 2423 and subsequent articles of the Italian civil code and reviewed by the board of auditors and, from 2018, by the auditing firm Deloitte & Touche, was approved by the Board of the Foundation in April 2019. The Foundation’s financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

The following diagrams give an overview of the use of the Foundation’s resources in 2018.



Legal information

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Inscribed in the Register of Corporate Bodies at
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Fiscal Code 97625000589

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fondazione

alta mane italia



alta mane supraque tuos exsurge dolores
infragilemque animum, quod potes, usque tene

Ovidius, Consolatio ad Liviam