

fondazione
alta mane italia

Annual report

2019



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Introduction

AMI is one of the few European foundations that focuses specifically and exclusively on art and disenfranchised youth. True to its mission, in 2019 it provided nearly €500,000 to organisations that use art to support vulnerable children and youth.

In 2019, AMI concentrated its work along two lines: guaranteeing its partners the best support possible and, at the same time, managing a particularly difficult period due to the premature death of its President, Maria Teresa Scassellati Sforzolini, one of the founders and the Foundation's soul and engine.

In terms of the organisations supported, AMI tried to provide the maximum support also from a non-financial point of view by consolidating the strong collaborative culture of its partners, assisting them in the development of their skills, stimulating the creation of networks, promoting research and evaluation and providing incentives – even personally – for the diffusion of projects and spread of best practices.

Starting in January 2020, the world was overwhelmed by the diffusion of the Coronavirus, the consequences of which, even as of today, resulted in serious repercussions on the activities of the Foundation and its partners. AMI is managing the emergency by observing government measures and guaranteeing the continuation of its activities via smart working. In this context, the work of the Foundation is principally focused on support to its partner organisations to assist them in dealing with the difficulties connected with the interruption of activities that had been initiated for the most vulnerable children and youth.

ALLEGROMODERATO, Italy (Photo Monica Milanesi)

01 Identity of the Foundation

The Foundation

Fondazione Alta Mane Italia (AMI) was established by Fondation 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 marginalised 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, hospitals, 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 organisation, 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?

Art is not a mirror held up to reality but a hammer with which to shape it - Bertold Brecht

How can one survive the pain tied to suffering from extreme forms of social marginalisation, or the isolation that characterises serious disabilities and psychological fragility? When it comes to suffering connected to illness, how does one recognise that glimmer of resistance and vitality present in the young? How to give it breath, develop it and make it last?

Many of the professionals and organisations that the Alta Mane Italy Foundation (AMI) supports in Italy and around the world – in different social and cultural contexts but all bound by the same red line of youthful disadvantage and suffering in their careful and dedicated work – provide the answer: art. The artistic experience helps people to find the strength to react to situations of extreme disadvantage; art enables them to grasp vitality, desire, beauty and freedom, and give them form and space. Art allows people to express and communicate experiences that are impossible to put into words, enabling a channel of communication and exchange with others, which is oftentimes seriously compromised.

In fact, non-verbal artistic language opens new channels of communication with one's surroundings, alleviating the isolation that accompanies suffering and social marginalisation, creating pathways of communication that involve everybody (beneficiaries, family members, professionals and the community). The Foundation works in sectors of extreme disadvantage, where suffering or difficulties can annihilate the prospects of even the youngest and youth, and where art offers an opportunity to resist marginalisation, providing vital inner oxygen and resources. It is a means of escape from oppression and pain, aimed at life and the future.

Furthermore, artistic performance provides those living "at the margins" the visibility so often denied them; to be applauded and seen in a positive, productive light – not as criminals or thugs or the handicapped but beautiful and dignified human beings.

The decision on the part of the Foundation 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.



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 psycho-physical suffering, by using artistic experience to foster their recovery and inclusion.

Testimony



"Fear is of the soul, not the intellect. That's why the recourse to the imaginary".

LAD - Intermediate report 2019

"The Judge said to A.: "Your appraisal has arrived and confirms your complex clinical state and evident danger to society. The doctors are proposing therapy, A., why don't you begin medication?"

A.: 'My therapy is theatre.'"

Puntozero - Final Report 2019



"During a month of work the participants felt more secure and trouble-free because their difficulties were understood. They demonstrated curiosity with respect to the contents of the in-depth analysis and also the city of Mantova and the places for getting together. The exercises resulted in changes for the participants: they acquired a sense of personal assuredness, self-esteem and trust in others, overcoming the fear of being in the public eye."

Teatro Magro - Final Report 2019

"The entire educational approach of Matemù is based on the idea of providing high level artistic experience, not to pass the time or to entertain but to actually contribute to the opening of opportunities of access to culture, art and beauty.

A slogan from the textile industry comes to mind, in which not only survival but also beauty – roses – is a right.

Culture invites culture.

We who can contribute will always look to new roses."

CIES - Final Report 2019



"Different themes have been employed during this period of work, starting with the confirmation of the group's adhesion to the proposals and the desire to renew participation and be the active protagonists in these processes rather than beneficiaries of a service. Other elements were added with regards to individual projects and life goals for the disabled who, having seen themselves in different contexts and with different roles, were enabled to acquire skills, exert the effort and entertain desires, resulting in specific objectives."

Oltre le quinte - Final Report 2019



Strategy



The 5 areas of intervention



Workshops in the context of social exclusion

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



Workshops in therapeutic contexts

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



Awareness raising

For its partners, AMI supports and carries out communication and awareness-raising activities concerning the transformative power of art among disadvantaged youth



Exchanges

AMI promotes exchanges between operators and beneficiaries of partner projects



Research and Development

AMI promotes and supports partner organisations in their activities as regards research, impact evaluations and related publications and conferences.

Breakdown of the 5 areas of intervention



Art And Social Inclusion Workshops

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 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 workshops

Target

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

Aims of the 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



Awareness Raising

Activities

Videos produced by AMI, tours, performances, festivals, mainly tied to partner projects

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 organisations publicise and promote their work, methodologies and results

To sensitise 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. Sometimes the exchanges also include the young beneficiaries of partner projects as well as operators.

Aims of the exchanges

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

To promote the sharing of experience 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 contexts



Research And Development

Activities

Research, Publications, Conferences, Impact evaluations

Aims of the activities

To promote research into issues relating to art and psycho-physical 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 'best practices' for the benefit of an increasing number of beneficiaries and of the entire AMI 'ecosystem', which is the sector of art and disadvantage specific to AMI.

To provide partner organisations 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, also to account for the way in which AMI's resources are used and the objectives reached.

AMI Stakeholders



AMI has numerous stakeholders: operators of partner organisations and the young project beneficiaries, 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.

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

02 - Organisational and Operating Model

Governance & Staff as at 12/31/2019

Foundation Board

- Cataldo D'Andria – President
- Stefano Mazzi – Vice President
- Alexandra Gelpke – Councillor
- Franci Maria Annie Wilson-Buemi – Councillor

College of Auditors

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

Project area

- Francesca Nazzaro – General project Director and Coordinator
- Annalisa Sutura – Project Manager
- Laura Danieli – Project Manager
- Costanza Mammola – Project administrative assistant

Management and Administration

- Roberta Giassetti – 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

Communications and Image

- Paola Raguzzi - Studio Pinguino

Management model

AMI'S OPERATING STRATEGY IS BASED ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGERIAL EFFICIENCY IN PURSUIT OF INNOVATION AND CREATION OF SOCIAL VALUE, ADDRESSING RESOURCES AND IDEAS TOWARDS 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 natural persons 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 with the projects of our partners

Research and development: conferences, research and impact evaluations connected with partner projects

HOW DO WE SELECT?

Selection 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 2019, 3% of spontaneous applications were approved

HOW DO WE FUND?

Through agreements with partners

After screening economic and financial results, activity reports and six-month and yearly 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 wards
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

Operational Modalities

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

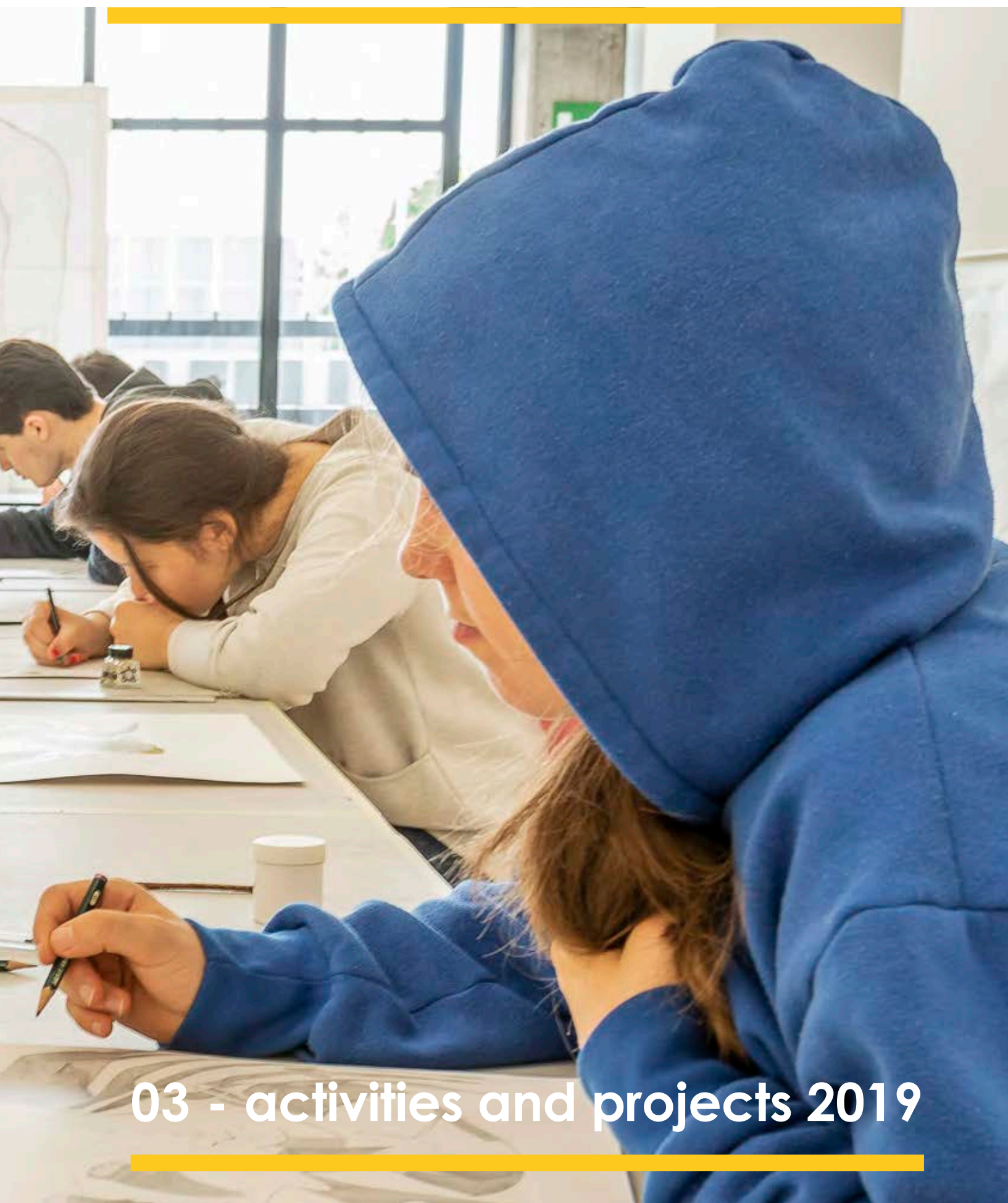
The Foundation's support to partners is aimed primarily at nurturing staff skills in order to make the quality of interventions for young people as high as possible

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

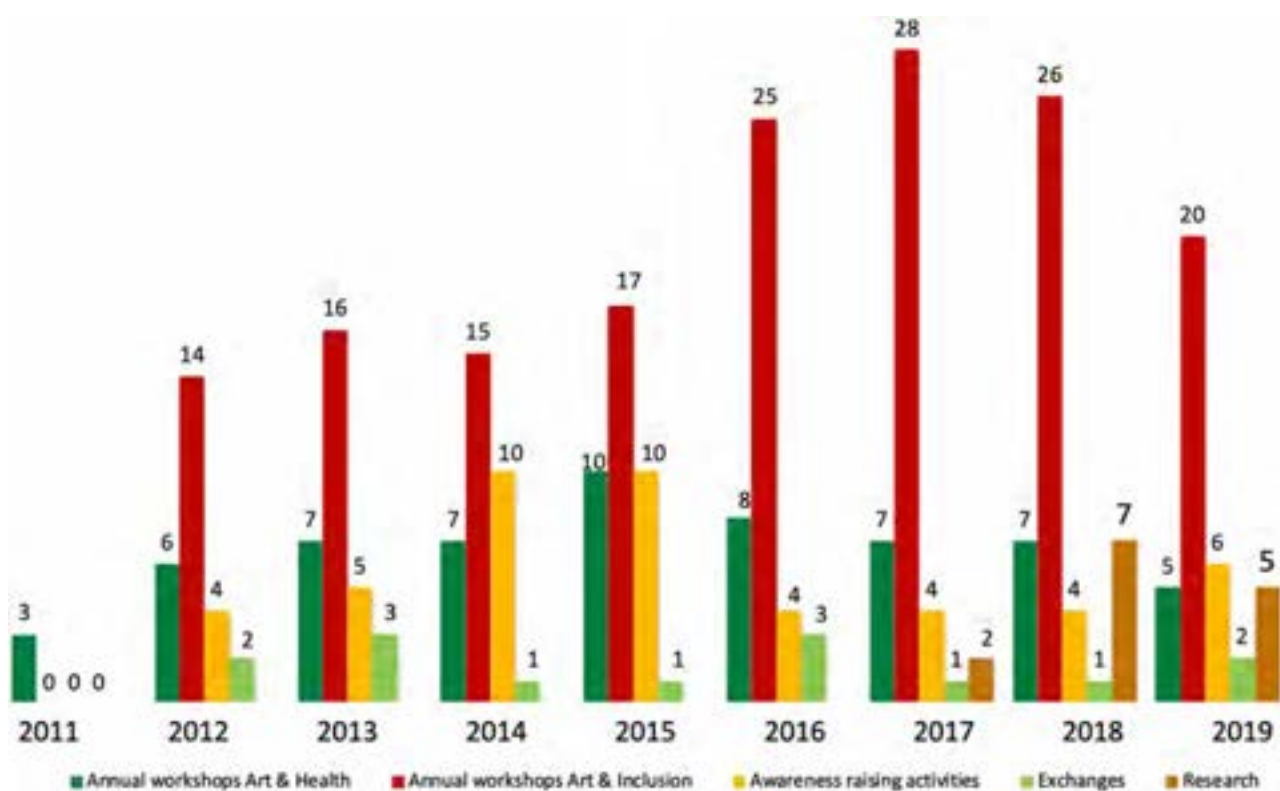
EXIT STRATEGY

Gradual exit strategy that is shared by the partner



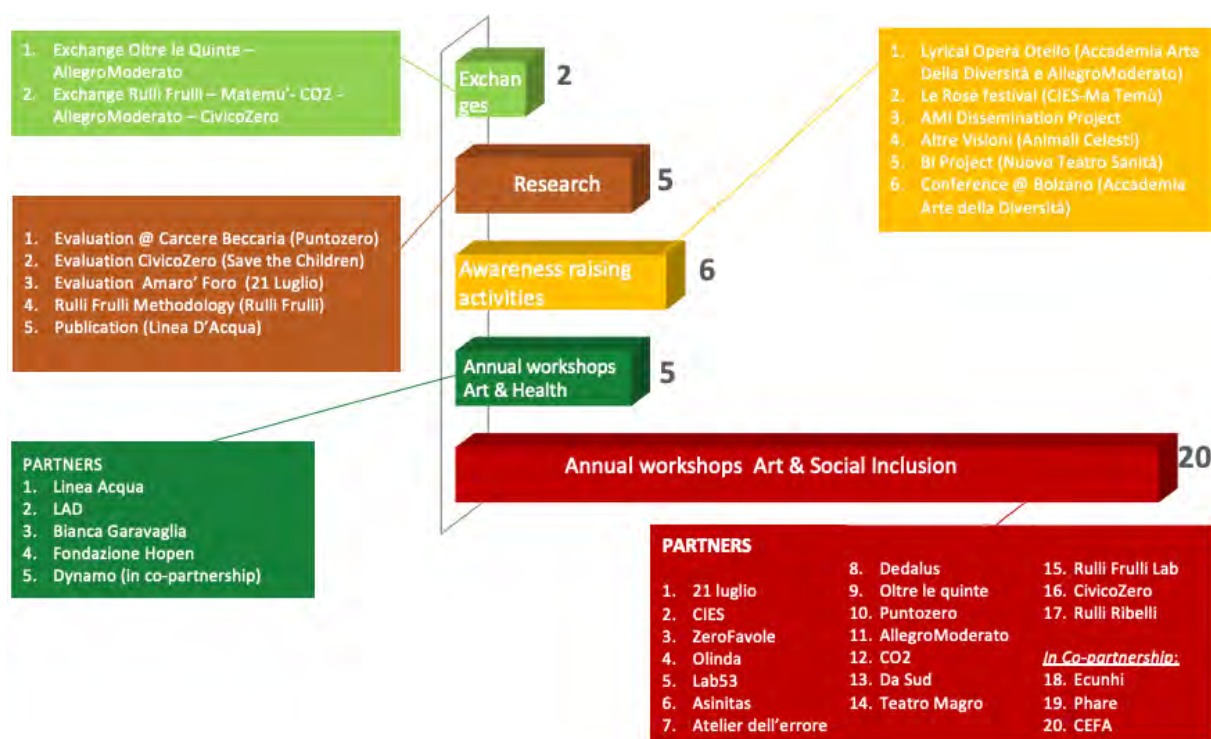
03 - activities and projects 2019

Projects in the first 8 years of activity 2011 – 2019



296 annual projects/activities in about 8 years

38 Projects in 2019



Activities and Projects in 2019

2019 in brief

ART AND INCLUSION

Beneficiaries* ITALY: 3,042** ABROAD: 467

ART AND HEALTH

Beneficiaries * ITALY: 1,555

TOTAL BENEFICIARIES: 5,064**

TOTAL OPERATORS: 208 (artists and operators)

PARTNERS

PROJECTS IN ITALY: 25 ABROAD: 3

TOTAL: 28

WORKSHOP HOURS

ITALY: 6,919 ABROAD: 132

TOTAL 7,051**

*Number of DIRECT beneficiaries involved in the artistic workshops (based on data provided by partners). Along with direct workshop beneficiaries there are also the beneficiaries of sensitisation and exchanges that have not been counted in this table.

** of which 2,170 beneficiaries of the Rulli Frulli Band project, which also involved the students of several schools in Reggio Emilia

Map of Projects - Abroad



THE THREE PROJECTS ABROAD AND THE DYNAMO ART FACTORY WERE MANAGED IN CO-PARTNERSHIP WITH ALTA MANE GENEVA (AMG): THIS PARTNERSHIP COMPRISED THE SELECTION/MANAGEMENT/MONITORING OF THE PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY AMI WHILE THE DONATIONS WERE PROVIDED BY AMG

Map of Projects - Italy



296 TOTAL NUMBER OF YEARLY PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES MANAGED BY THE ALTA MANE ITALIA FOUNDATION FROM 2011 TO 2019

Focus 2019

Interscambio Rulli Frulli Days

Festival Realizzato col sostegno di Fondazione Alta Mane Italia

RULLI FRULLI DAYS EXCHANGE - A Festival realized with the support of the Alta Mane Italy Foundation

The Rulli Frulli Days Exchange was held in Finale Emilia on 31 May and 1 June, described by the "Buone Notizie" Corriere as the first Woodstock of integration.

Two days of concerts, stories and meetings between the musical bands of 5 AMI Partners:

AllegroModerato, with its InBand – IN as in integration, inclusion, being "In" – a musical group from Milan composed of abled and disabled teachers and musicians – which performs everything from jazz to pop rock, blues and new interpretations of the classics. (3 teachers and 7 musicians with disabilities).

CIES/MaTeMù, with the MaTeMusik Band & Crew, a group founded in Rome and composed of youths between the ages of 11 and 25 from various parts of the world: Italians, foreigners, second generation and those from foster homes or shelters (23 youths and 6 operators).

CivicoZero, with its group, the Percussioni di Civico, where cultures meet and exchange dialogue through the rhythm of percussion instruments, born within the Centro a bassa soglia CivicoZero of Rome, which deals with socially marginalised, foreign youths (5 youths and 2 operators)

CO2 which, together with the rapper Lucariello, conducts a musical composition workshop for youths being held at the Airola juvenile facility in the province of Benevento (3 operators, of which 1 is the musician/conductor for the workshop).

Rulli Frulli Lab, with its musical groups: the Rulli Frulli Band (about 70 musicians, of which 15 with disabilities and 1 operator), Marinnai (about 30 Italian youths and youths requesting asylum, and 1 operator), the Rulli Frullini (about 30 young musicians, of which some are disabled, and 1 operator) in Reggio Emilia, and the multi-ethnic Banda del Quartiere (neighbourhood band) of Baranzate in Milan (about 20 musicians and 1 operator).



All these projects value diversity and provide space for the creativity of the participants, each in his own voice, language and ability, making music together with the objective of promoting inclusion and stimulating social integration to the rhythm of music.

Along with the nearly 200 musicians, the event involved and attracted an enthusiastic public of approximately 1,200 spectators, of which the teachers and students of two high schools in the city. In particular, 140 students volunteered to organize and manage the Festival for its duration.

The bands provided a rich programme of concerts, shows, screenings and debates, and ended with a performance of all the bands together on the same stage to an enthusiastic and happy crowd, providing a strong sense of unity.

This exchange represented a motivating and stimulating experience for all the participants, and was effective on two levels: as a motor for the exchange of ideas and methodologies between the operators of the partner organisations and as a powerful means of social integration for the youth in the bands, who spontaneously and profoundly interacted throughout the event. Even during pauses in the programme, the youths from the bands played and danced together in the courtyard or the gym, which was outfitted as a dormitory for them, sharing intimate and powerful moments and engaging in improvised jam sessions.



**AllegroModerato - InBand****CIES _ MaTeMù****Civico Zero****Banda Rulli Frulli****CO2****Rulli FRulli - Baranzate**

The atmosphere thus created was unparalleled proof of how this kind of exchange, comparison and cooperation brings new ideas, incentives and energy. A period of this kind of intense, stimulating and embracing experience will not remain an isolated moment but has sowed seeds that will bear fruit for every project and every person that participated. After these days of meetings and sharing, for example, the Rulli Frulli Band and CIES/MaTeMù decided to continue to exchange practices and undertake a closer collaboration, particularly on the theme of autism. Thus, the Rulli Ribelli a MaTeMù! Project was born, focusing on social inclusion and involving the operators of both associations (CIES and Rulli Frulli Band) in shared workshops held in Rome from October 2019 for adolescents from different nationalities, cultures and abilities, some of whom are autistic.





ZEROFAVOLE, Italia (Photo Fabio Villa)

Projects - category index

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#MakeSomeNoise

Objectives

Provide a new “key” to understand, re-elaborate and enrich the texts of classical literature through audio-books and interpret them in the form of a new, contemporary musical product; foster and increase the ability of youths to work in groups through learning and education aimed at producing culture; promoting knowledge and education about beauty and the importance of literary works.

Beneficiaries

12 students (14-20 years old) from the Ferrari Institute of Rome, located in the southeast of the capital (Don Bosco/Lamaro), a high-density area characterised by high scholastic drop-out rates further exacerbated by increasing numbers of NEET and the involvement of minors and young adults in criminal activity.

Activities

The DaSud Association aims to undertake an alternative, didactic artistic workshop at the Accademia Popolare dell'Antimafia e dei Diritti using electronic music, rap, prose and audiovisuals to create a new cultural product that joins classical and contemporary literature with modern techniques of musical production. The AP library has a big collection of records (audio-books of classical literature, from the Divine Comedy to Russian literature and the work of Pascoli, interpreted by artists like Gino Cervi and Vittorio Gassman). Inspired by Hip Hop and thanks to a technique that converts analogic sound to digital form, these audio-books – obsolete but fascinating – undergo a process of re-elaboration and enrichment with the objective to create a new “key” for these texts. The resulting work is a reinterpretation of the original classical work and a new contemporary musical product at the same time. The final product of the workshop will be a musical E.P (a 4-track digital album) linked to a video that will guide the listener through the entire project.

Partner

daSud

This anti-mafia association operates to oppose the mafia socio-cultural context through a deepening, elaboration, recounting, sensitisation and recuperation of memory from the bottom up, promoting civil and social rights. In 2016, in collaboration with the Ferrari Institute of Rome, daSud inaugurated the “AP, l'Accademia Popolare dell'Antimafia e dei Diritti”, a place of culture and artistic production to practice social inclusion on the outskirts, fight scholastic dispersion and change perceptions regarding the mafia and anti-mafia. daSud has been supported by AMI since 2019.



Amarò Foro

Objectives

Assisting minors in the process of acquiring the full knowledge of being active citizens, with rights and responsibilities and the capacity to critically and actively participate in society while respecting and valuing everybody's differences. Combating exclusion and breaking down stereotypes and prejudices, promoting cultural contamination and knowledge and exchange between the children in the Tor Bella Monaca area and the via Salone shanty town.

Beneficiaries

22 minors between the ages of 7 and 13, Roma and non-Roma, Italians and foreigners, who live in the area of Tor Bella Monaca and in the shanty town on Via Salone in Rome, and their families.

Activities

The 21 luglio Association, along with other groups in the Tor Bella Monaca area, have been managing since September 2016 the "Ex Fienile" Centre in Rome, which acts as a meeting place for education and culture in this area.

The project offers minors of all nationalities in the neighbourhood and from the Salone shanty town, artistic workshops as an opportunity to meet and get to know each other, thus alleviating the strong social tensions and defusing the conflicts between residents. A group of educators, cultural mediators, artists and specially trained art educators carry out street education and workshops in break dancing, music and rap at the Ex Fienile four afternoons a week. In particular, for older children (11-13), the workshop in 2019 focused on breakdance and the value of integration promoted by Hip Hop culture, with meetings with special guests (dancers, musicians, singers, composers and writers) to stimulate the youths to experiment with new artistic languages and a final performance. Also, the children and youth involved in the project participated in visits in Rome to acquire knowledge and "conquer" the city, with its beauty and historical-artistic works to which they do not usually have access.

The project promotes and undertakes a "pedagogy of citizenship" centering on children and youth who experience inequality, exclusion and marginalisation in the Roma camps as well as the minors experiencing 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, regaining their right 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 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 actions to protect children's rights. The 21 luglio Association has been supported by AMI since 2013.



Atelier dell'Errore Big

Objectives

Supporting and strengthening through artistic expression the personal resources of young adults who have recently left Children's Neuropsychiatric services, transforming a social problem into a social wealth.

Giving value to the abilities of the youth by offering them opportunities for artistic proficiency by undertaking exhibits, workshops, installations and theatrical performances.

Beneficiaries

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

Activities

The Atelier dell'errore BIG project offers 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) several times a week. The Atelier dell'errore BIG takes place in a big room in the Collezione Maramotti in Reggio Emilia and youths participating in the workshops are able to visit the museum and be inspired by the contemporary works of art exhibited there.

At the Atelier, participants 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 youths, who find they love to draw and often reveal 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 these youths 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.

In 2019, some of the participants of the Atelier dell'Errore Big acted as tutors for the younger children in all the activities and workshops of the Association.

The Atelier also exhibits the work created by the participants through exhibits, installations and demonstrations in prestigious, international contemporary art venues, and presents video-theatrical performances at international festivals.

Partner

Atelier dell'Errore

This Association was founded in Reggio Emilia in 2011 under the guidance of a visual artist and offers children and youths who participate in the Children's Neuropsychiatric services of the AUSL in Reggio Emilia and the Giovanni XXII Hospital in Bergamo art workshops of a high cultural and artistic value that are part of their treatment. The Association has been supported by AMI since 2017.



Artistic activities at the CivicoZero

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

248 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 marginalisation, 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 supported by AMI in 2019 undertook various workshops: music (guitar and drums), expressive theatre and photography/videos. Organised visits are held to cultural sites as well as exhibitions and events. 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 different workshop activities provide minors a place to be themselves and express their own ideas, respecting reciprocal rights and obligations in line with their abilities, engendering authentic social inclusion that enables them to be the protagonists of their own lives and modify their conditions. This results in greater self-awareness and increased self-esteem. Telling their own stories through the workshops is the first step for the affirmation of self, necessary to activate resilience and promote inclusive activities in all aspects of their daily lives.

Partner

CivicoZero

The CivicoZero Cooperative was born in 2011 to manage the CivicoZero Centre, located in the area around Termini Station, which was begun in 2008 by Save the Children to provide support, direction and protection to foreign minors and young adults living in social marginalisation and deviance and at risk of exploitation and abuse. From 2016 to 2018, AMI supported Save the Children Italy to develop the artistic activities at the CivicoZero Centre. Starting in 2019, the project included direct support for the Cooperative for the first time.



Rulli Frulli Band

Objectives

To promote youth social inclusion, particularly different abled youth and/or those from different countries and cultures, through music, disseminating experiences in other contexts of marginalisation by training 5 young adult Band members.

Beneficiaries

5 young adult members of the Rulli Frulli Band; 75 young people from the Rulli Frulli Band (12- 30 years old), 35 from the Rulli Frullini Band (6-12 years old), with and without disabilities and/or different origins and backgrounds; 30 young Italians and asylum seekers from the system of protection for asylum seekers and refugees (SPRAR) in Reggio Emilia; 30 young people from the multi-ethnic Baranzate district (MI); and 2,000 students from elementary schools in Reggio Emilia.

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 socialising 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 5 young adult members who have been a dedicated part of the Band for a long time to acquire a more active role by assisting teachers (through work scholarships), 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). Since 2019, the Rulli Frulli Band has involved children in the elementary schools of Reggio Emilia in musical workshops held in their classes and ending with a big concert during the “Notte di Luce” event organized yearly in this city.

Partner

Rulli Frulli Lab

This Association was founded in 2017 in Finale Emilia (MO) to support activities designed and carried out by the Rulli Frulli Band, coordinating and managing musical workshops aimed at the inclusion of differently abled youth as well as, in collaboration with other social entities, disseminating music as an instrument for integration and valorisation of the differently abled in other contexts. The Rulli Frulli Lab has been supported by AMI since 2018.



Danzando oltre le quinte

(Dancing beyond the scenes)

Objectives

Enhance skills and develop new expressive possibilities of vulnerable people and the operators who assist them.

Beneficiaries

18 young adults of whom approximately half with disabilities in the care of the Territorial Handicap Educational Service of the city of Novara, between the ages of 16 and 39.

Activities

Established in 2016, the Oltre le Quinte Association grew out of 20 years' experience of artistic 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 introduced 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 2019, the project also included two intensive workshops on the transmission of gesture with Virgilio Sieni, theatre training with the actress Lucilla Giagnoni and training in photography with Silvia Pastore.

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

35 youths, among whom those with psycho-physical disabilities and other conditions of social marginalisation (foreign minors, minors living in care communities, asylum seekers; 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 weekly 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 renowned artists who conducted the workshops and directed the performances for a certain period of time.

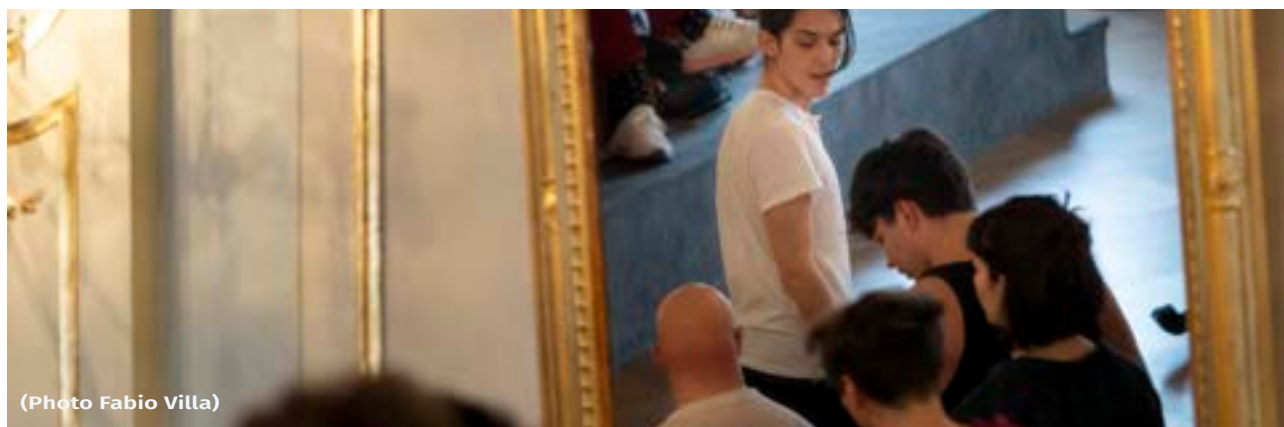
In 2014, a collaboration began between ZeroFavole and Babilonia Theatres, a brilliant avant-garde theatrical company, which performed *Inferno* (2015), *Purgatorio* (2016) and *Paradiso* (2017), the last two co-produced together with the Theatres of Reggio Emilia. *Paradiso*, the last work of the trilogy, was staged at the Teatro India in Rome and at the Festival Arte X Igual in Bariloche in Argentina with live accompaniment of the AllegroModerato Orchestra. In 2018, the project expanded to include theatrical research led by the Institute of theatrical practices for human care in Turin and was also brought to schools in Reggio Emilia, where actors and non-actors together with theatrical operators conducted theatre workshops for the students.

In 2019, the ZeroFavole company was taken over by a team of 5 young theatre operators who had grown up with the project.

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 roles, abilities and appearances. ZeroFavole has been supported by AMI since 2013.



(Photo Fabio Villa)

Roses: MaTeMù masterclass

Objectives

Providing intensive workshops at the MaTeMù Centre for Youths (CAG) of the CIES. Promotion of inclusion and social integration of youths from different social and cultural backgrounds.

Beneficiaries

158 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, 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.

In 2019, AMI supported 8 masterclasses, intensive workshops that involved high-level artists from the world of theatre, music, dance and literature.

From 2013 to 2018, AMI supported the MaTeMù centre's various artistic workshops – urban dance, music (percussions, strings, saxophones), voice and singing and rap – as well as multidisciplinary arts such as Stepping Rap, Poetry Slam & Impro, and Drum & Dance. Music is a powerful instrument for integration and communication, enabling people to overcome many of the limits imposed by social conflict and intolerance.

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.



Light Orchestra

Objectives

Offering a positive experience as regards self and the migrant reality through music and beauty for unaccompanied foreign minors and young migrant women, with the aim of instilling motivation and hope with regards to their situation. Increasing relational capacity and the “giving of self” on the part of the AllegroModerato Orchestra musicians with psycho-physical disabilities through orchestral music.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 15 young women between the ages of 18 and 32, recent arrivals in Italy and guests of shelters for women refugees or victims of the slave trade and violence; young music students from the AllegroModerato with psycho-physical disabilities.

Activities

Since 2016 the AllegroModerato Orchestra, composed of abled and disabled music teachers and musicians, has been experimenting with music workshops with migrants to foster processes of social inclusion through music. Starting in 2019, with AMI support, the Orchestra developed this sector further using a methodology that enables people who have never played an instrument to play strings or percussion, actively involving all participants in the execution of famous symphonic works. The method enables an approach to musical instruments without the underlying technical or theoretical knowledge.

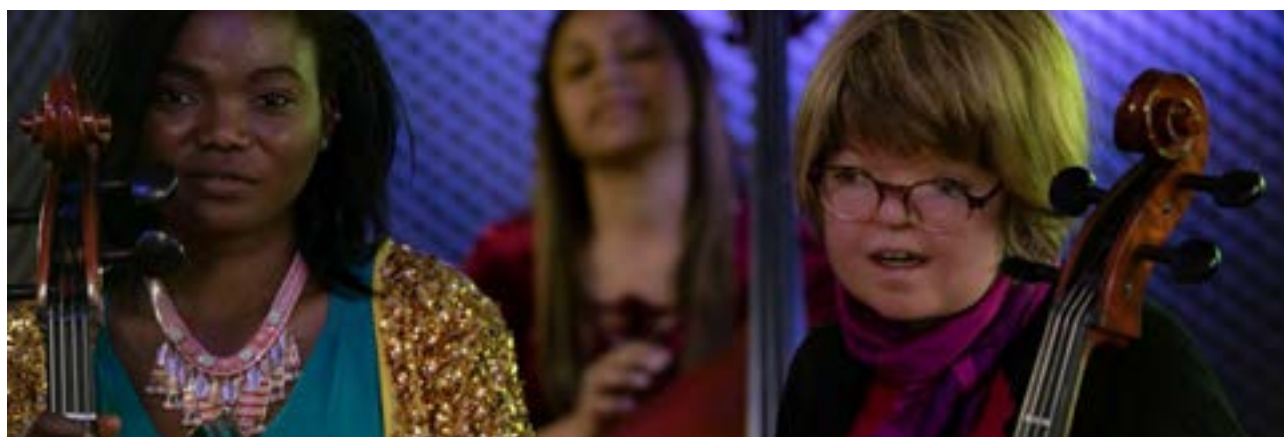
One morning a week the disabled teachers and musicians go to the Donne di Milano institute where they provide an orchestral string workshop for young migrant women, recent arrivals in Italy. The disabled musicians act as tutors: not only do they play but they show the women how to hold the instruments, how to pluck the chords and create a vibrato. Gradually, trying out the bass drum or plucking a harp or playing a violin, they listen and learn.

Music enables the participants to learn how to play an instrument via listening and interacting with others, thus developing concentration and perseverance. This interaction creates a pleasant social atmosphere among the people involved, and the immigrant women spend time that is stimulating and creative. The project also enables the young, disabled musicians to experience volunteering and looking after the immigrants, setting aside for the duration of the workshop their reality of vulnerable disability.

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 psychological-physical vulnerabilities, firmly convinced that this activates and generates energy and emotional, cognitive and relational competence. AllegroModerato has been supported by AMI since 2015



Olinda as a system for opportunity

Objectives

Promoting access to culture and active participation in cultural projects for youths who live on the outskirts of Milan, enhancing their ability to envision aspirations through collective and intercultural work that integrates and puts value on differences.

Beneficiaries

101 adolescents and youths living on the outskirts of northwest Milan (Comasina area) and frequenting three scholastic institutes as well as public and private services in the area that deal with the mental health of minors, as well as youths from communities for foreign unaccompanied minors or in foster care.

Activities

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

The project aims to offer artistic, high quality theatre with an intercultural approach in a culturally important context such as the Paolo Pini, aimed at youth living on the outskirts of Milan that engenders cultural participation.

All the theatrical research culminates in performances that are put on during the Up close nobody is normal Festival.

In 2019, the project developed four avenues for artistic research:

- “Non-school”: a theatre workshop in collaboration with the Teatro delle Albe, weekly in the winter and intensive during the summer months;
- A workshop in musical improvisation and design conducted by Stefano Ricci and Daniele Roccato;
- A chorus for the youths of the non-school for the Milena Costanzo show, which debuted at the 2019 edition of the Up close nobody is normal Festival;
- A chorus for the youths of the non-school for a performance of Purgatorio (from the Divine Comedy trilogy), conducted by the Teatro delle Albe in Matera.

Partner

Olinda

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



A cultural centre at the 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

8 minors at the Airola juvenile prison in Benevento.

Activities

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.

CO2 offers the young prisoners at Airola workshops in screenwriting and musical composition, proposing various themes to the inmates to reflect on important issues such as fragility, legality, leaving prison and the future, as well as practical experience with audio, video and post-production.

The final product of the workshop was a short film scripted by the youths and containing original music composed by them.

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 the short film.

The short film was used to introduce the youths to the power of story, the analysis of the written and spoken word, the formulation of syntheses, synopses, summaries, presentations and scenic stories, as well as to stimulate the youths to consider different personal themes, even those that are difficult.

Partner

The CO2 - Crisis Opportunity 2

Founded in 1997, the CO2 works to give voice, through multimedia training workshops, to young people who experience marginalisation 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.



R-EXIST – Meeting diversity

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, socialisation 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 sensitise public opinion on migration issues.

Beneficiaries

7 young migrant women from the Miguelim Centre in Rome; approximately 10 young Italian and second-generation women; 20 asylum seekers and refugees; some young Italians and 2 second generation children.

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.

At the Miguelim Intercultural Centre in Torpignattara, young foreign and Italian women involved in the Narramondi workshop meet once a week to share experiences through oral narratives and fairytales, myths and stories from around the world, told with the body, through music, dance and shadow theatre thanks to the involvement of artists and trainers. For the young women in the workshop, the narrative arts are an occasion to meet and share experiences of upheaval, culture shock and nostalgia.

For asylum seekers who have just arrived in Italy, involved in the Città Sospesa, 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.

Two performances resulted from both the workshops and were staged in symbolic places in the city as well as at some schools in the area attended by the children of the young mothers involved. The children participate in expressive-narrative workshops, thus giving them a chance to see their mothers in a new light, not passive and isolated but active members of the community.

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.



RifugiART

Objectives

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

Beneficiaries

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

Activities

Laboratorio 53 organises 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 self-expression and sharing. Art also helps those people who have suffered inhuman treatment, such as torture, with the consequent dehumanisation and stripping away of culture, to reconnect with their feelings, define their experience and share their cultural references.

The project supported by AMI in 2019 has focused on radio and photo animation workshops to open up new spaces for debate, information, artistic expression, as well as to 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 Ribelli at MaTeMù

Objectives

To promote the social inclusion of boys and girls from different social and culture contexts, as well as boys and girls that are neuro-diverse and disabled; to promote and stimulate artistic competencies; to diffuse an inclusive culture of diversity in the social context where the project is carried out; to stimulate individual and group empowerment, experimenting with and amplifying relational capacities and socialisation.

Beneficiaries

1 boy with autism and 15 boys and girls that participate in the CIES/MaTeMù youth centre of Rome; adolescents of different nationalities, cultures and abilities, among whom some are autistic.

Activities

Rulli Ribelli at MaTeMù! is a project undertaken by the Rulli Frulli Band of Finale Emilia (MO) at the CIES/MaTeMù youth centre in Rome and the Cervelli Ribelli/Insettopia of Rome. These projects were introduced during the Rulli Frulli Days exchange supported by AMI (Finale Emilia, 8-9 June 2019), which brought about an encounter of 5 AMI partners carrying out activities of social inclusion through music. This meeting illustrated a need to continue to exchange practices between the Banda Rulli Frulli and the CIES/MaTeMù as well as undertake closer collaboration, also as concerns autism.

Rulli Ribelli at MaTeMù is an artistic project for social inclusion guided by musical didactic references and pedagogical principles aimed at putting the person at the centre, based on workshop didactics, focusing on subject exchange and the promotion of cooperation between the various participants.

During the workshop, which is held twice a month, a musical didactic method is applied that was created by the Banda Rulli Frulli in which the choice of music is prevalently given to percussion instruments made from recyclable materials in order to enable a spontaneous approach to music that doesn't intimidate the novice musicians but, to the contrary, stimulates game play. The collective creation of various objects also provides an occasion for socialisation and exchange. The BFR didactic method is flanked by the art-education used by CISE/MaTeMù, according to which art is education in and of itself. In this perspective, the acquisition of an artistic ability comes from a desire which, along with acting as fuel to stimulate the acquisition of technical competencies, can also be exploited to elaborate different prospects for oneself.

Partner

Rulli Frulli Lab

This Association was established in 2017 in Finale Emilia (MO) to support the activities designed and undertaken by the Rulli Frulli Band, as well as to coordinate and manage the musical workshops to include differently abled boys and girls in collaboration with other social entities to spread a cultural of musical understanding as an instrument for the integration and valorisation of different abilities in other contexts. The Rulli Frulli Lab has been supported by AMI since 2018.



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 marginalisation and exclusion to fully develop their potential and become active members of their communities.

Beneficiaries

30 young prisoners and ex-prisoners, minors detained in alternative structures, young people from the Puntozero 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 marginalisation and students.

From 1998, the Puntozero Association has been undertaking professional theatrical workshops inside the penitentiary aimed at the social reinsertion of the young prisoners through a professional, experimental and highly innovative approach with the support of entities such as the Cariplo Foundations, the Piccolo Teatro Foundation, the Teatro alla Scala of Milan and the Marazzina Foundation.

In 2019, the project comprised 7 kinds of training in dance-movement: singing and voice, multimedia communication, multimedia production, lighting, scenography, make up and costumes. This training has provided the participants with competencies, preparing them as actors and technicians working at the prison theatre (seating 200), which was finally opened to the public in December 2019, transforming it into a place for active involvement on the part of citizens and cultural pluralism.

The Puntozero workshops aimed at artistic productions that were an element that motivated the incarcerated youth as they were taught to work together, adhering to deadlines that kept their attention level and enthusiasm high. Everybody works towards a common objective, which culminates with providing a public with two hours of unforgettable emotion, the skills of each participant and the efforts of the group as a whole engendering the magic of a staged performance that ends in a final applause.

Partner

Puntozero

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. Puntozero has been supported by AMI since 2017.



SUB.ITA

Objectives

Increase the communications skills of asylum seekers to facilitate their integration into the social and cultural fabric; promote activities of shared interest among the young generations of new Italian citizens and foreigners.

Beneficiaries

15 young asylum seekers (18-28 years old) of the SPRAR Enea of Mantova; 5 young Italian performers (16-22 years old) who are part of the Teatro Magro; interested local citizens.

Activities

The Teatro Magro social cooperative has been involved in artistic-social projects for years, undertaken in their HOME theatrical workshop, focusing on communications skills (voice, body, social relations) for asylum seekers.

Expressive activities help stimulate the expressive potential of the participants, teach civil discourse and rapport, foster empathy, improve perception of one's body, space and time, increase concentration, reinforce self-esteem and self-control and enhance each participant's originality and personality.

Along with the weekly workshops, the project provides an intensive workshop with the participation of an external artist (July 2019), as well as the participation of some young Italian performers who are semi-professional theatrical/performance art and citizenship students at the Teatro Magro. The young asylum seekers also attend two, contemporary, carefully chosen theatrical performances that can get the beneficiaries used to critical vision and being together with others in a shared social situation.

The project was realized in direct partnership with the City of Mantova and the SPRAR Enea through a biennial convention (November 2017 – December 2019).

Partner

Teatro Magro

Born as a theatrical group in Mantova in 1988, Teatro Magro became a social cooperative in 2003. It supplies socio-cultural services in various sectors, also involving the social sphere (projects to prevent bullying in schools, prisons, projects for addicts, centres for the disabled, work with street children in Romania in collaboration with the Parada Association). Teatro Magro has been supported by AMI since 2019.



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

118 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 artistic workshops at the Officine Gomitoli Intercultural Centre, a place dedicated to the promotion of youth rights, the valorisation and enhancement of their skills and professional and creative abilities. This space (inaugurated in 2016 and supported 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-woolen 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 2019, three artistic workshops were provided: a theatrical workshop aimed at an exchange of stories, memories and dreams among people from European countries and abroad; a photographic workshop to narrate different cultural identities of people and places, highlighting political, urban and social lacunae and recuperating the stories and memories of places; and a visual arts and watercolor workshop dedicated to an intercultural meeting and mix to introduce different cultures, practices and traditions present at the centre.

Along with the continuity of the artistic workshops, the Officine Gomitoli also offered an intensive expressive workshop with renowned 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.



Be-Part!

Objectives

To develop expressive skills and promote the artistic potential of disabled and able-bodied students at 7 primary schools to raise awareness on the theme of disability.

Beneficiaries

411 students from 7 primary schools in Dar es Salaam, including 271 disabled children; visitors to the photography exhibition mounted at the primary schools and at the Vipaji contemporary art gallery.

Activities

This project, supported by AML, began operations in 2018 but was postponed to 2019 for reasons contingent to Tanzania. It involved running photography workshops in 7 primary schools in Dar es Salaam where student clubs were started in 2017 within the framework of the “All Inclusive” project run by CEFA with support from the Italian Development Cooperation Agency to promote the inclusion of disabled children.

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 culminate in an itinerant photographic exhibition in the schools and at the Vipaji gallery.

Partner

CEFA

CEFA 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).



Visual and Applied Art school

Objectives

Enable the young beneficiaries to strengthen their creativity and develop a professional career in the sectors of graphic design, web design, 2D animation and illustration, fields that are currently in full bloom in Cambodia.

Beneficiaries

319 children and youths from backgrounds characterised by poverty, violence and abuse in the rural outskirts of Battambang.

Activities

The idea behind Phare Ponleu Selpak (PPS: “the luminosity of art”) was founded 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 renowned 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.

The project, supported by AMI/AMG (and, up until 2016, also by French partners – AFD and CCFD) consolidated and professionalised 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 specialisation 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, organised as extra-curricular activities, in order to develop concentration, communication and creative thought.

Partner

Phare Ponleu Selpak

This Association was born 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.



Open Tent

Objectives

To transform a place of torture and death into a space that promotes art and life for youth; to promote the social inclusion of children living in the communities of Independencia and Loyola (Buenos Aires) and adjoining neighborhoods.

Beneficiaries

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

Activities

Ecunhi 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.

Ecunhi 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.

The Carpa Abierta social circus arts workshop is partially held here and partially directly in the marginalised communities. The circus arts are an artistic expression that favours 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 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 foresees the continuation of two weekly workshops in the circus arts in two marginalised communities (Independencia and Loyola) in the province of Buenos Aires and a performance, realized in 2018 under the direction of Cesar Brie, a renowned director of international fame, staged in the major theatres of Buenos Aires and Mar del Plata.

Partner

*Amigos del ECuNH*i**

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



Condominy

Objectives

To combat the isolation, the endless days and the confinement of adolescent cancer patients by bringing normalcy, strength and beauty into the hospital and their homes.

Beneficiaries

24 adolescents and young adult cancer patients at the INT Pediatric Cancer ward who participate in the Youth Project.

Activities

The Youth Project of the Pediatric Cancer section of the IRCCS Foundation, National Cancer Institute of Milan, was created in 2011 by the Bianca Garavaglia Association for adolescent cancer patients with the aim to create a new, specific medical and cultural organisational model that aims at not only dealing with the illness but also the life of the young patients by bringing normalcy, their creativity, strength and beauty into the hospital.

Adolescent cancer patients often experience particularly problematic situations that are not dealt with adequately as regards their clinical and psychological needs. They end up in “no man’s land”, caught between child and adult oncology. The Condominy project, created by an artist, aims to combat the serious physical and social isolation experienced by adolescent cancer patients by building a condominium on a virtual platform composed of various rooms created from their individual concepts of the “ideal room”.

With the desire to transform stories into reality or at least to get as close to this as possible, a group of architects sensitively listened to and evaluated the requests of the young “clients” and attempted to provide them a projected response that adhered as closely as possible to their needs. Using models, the rooms of the youths took on shape and color. Descriptions and photographs of the rooms are now available in a book.

Partner

Bianca Garavaglia Association

This Association, founded in 1987, offers financial and operational support to the National Cancer Institute of Milan, one of the main institutes for the care and research for young patients from all over Italy. From 2011, with the Youth Project, the Association dedicated attention to adolescents, who find themselves in a particularly problematic situation due to the clinical needs and specific psychological requirements that have not received adequate attention. The Bianca Garavaglia Association has been supported by AMI since 2019.



Confluences

Objectives

To give children in the care of the Child Neuropsychiatry Service at the Regina Margherita Hospital (Day hospital and ward) the chance to express, process and confront the suffering and anxiety linked to their illness and/or psychological distress.

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

64 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 receiving treatment for school phobia, somatisation 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 and defuse aggressive experiences. They also assist in the definition of each child's individuality within the group and enable the sharing of emotions and personal experiences with peers and therapists.

The workshop took place once a week, with individual artistic expression in a group setting. Individual artistic activities were also provided for children and youths with more serious problems that make it difficult to participate in group activities.

Art therapy has been supervised by a psychologist with long-term 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.



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

176 children and adolescents, patients at the Unità Operativa di Ematologia e Oncologia Pediatrica dell'Ospedale Policlinico di Catania (Pediatric Hospital of Catania). In 2019, the children and their families, guests of WonderLAD, a structure for children with serious illness, participated as well.

Activities

The project has included the presence on the ward of psychologists and art therapists (5 days a week) for the creation of individual and group creative workshops for child chemotherapy patients and their parents (design, creative imagination, visual arts, videos and short films). The Tree of Desire 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 providing in their care 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 emphasise 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."

In 2019, the project left the hospital grounds to involve children with various pathologies staying at WonderLAD, a structure for children affected by serious illness along with their families.

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.



Tutti a pittura

Objectives

Improve the psycho-physical well-being of young people affected by rare illnesses and combat their isolation and desolation, seeing as their pathologies are undiagnosed, by offering them an occasion to meet and share. Enable the youth involved to test themselves and their abilities through free artistic and creative expression.

Beneficiaries

10 youths between the ages of 12 and 27 affected by pathologies characterised by delays in psycho-motor development and, above all, undiagnosed.

Activities

The Hopen Foundation, recognising the importance of artistic expression for psycho-physical growth and well-being – in particular for people with physical, psychological and motor disabilities – provides young people affected by rare pathologies with a course in painting, with special attention to the correct use of the various instruments and colour combinations to create works of art via mixed painting techniques.

The project aims to create an occasion for social inclusion and, at the same time, an opportunity for creative learning, teaching patients to gradually respond to the abilities required by the various activities and enabling them to express themselves through a new artistic language.

During the lessons, the participants are able to recognize themselves and others within a single shared space in which they can freely express themselves while interacting with others through an artistic and creative language.

Partner

Fondazione Hopen ONLUS

Founded in 2015, this Foundation offers support and consultancies regarding the circumstances families must face when lacking a diagnosis. It is made up of a group of doctors, freelance professionals, university professors and business people who share experiences connected with rare genetic illnesses that have no name. Hopen has been supported by AMI since 2019.



Dynamo Art Factory

Objectives

To enable sick children to express their fears and emotions in a creative and positive fashion through artistic workshops that provide them instant happiness and gratification thanks to the works created; to 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 organisations.

Beneficiaries

1,185 children and youths between the ages of 6 and 17 with various pathologies (at the Dynamo Camp) and 96 children and young people (in museums).

Activities

Dynamo Camp is open all year around and 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, renowned 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.

The project undertook 8 artistic workshop sessions of 9 days each at the Dynamo Camp and the dissemination of the experience of the Art Factory in major Italian contemporary art museums, begun in 2018 and carried out throughout the year. In 2019, Dynamo offered one-day workshops at the Museo Madre of Naples, the Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation in Turin, the Museo Novecento in Florence, the MAMbo of Bologna and the MACRO in Rome. These workshops, always held by renowned 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.



Other VISIONS

Objectives

To promote theatrical pedagogy and performance opera realised with the involvement of people with physical, mental or social problems with particular attention on adolescents. To give value to a high-level artistic theatrical experience in different Italian cities, creating a network of artists, operators and organisations working in the field of social inclusion. To stimulate audiences to look at art and marginalisation and the value of differences in a new way.

Beneficiaries

81 operators, artists, educators and people suffering from mental health disorders involved in the following theatre companies: Animali Celesti – Teatro d'arte civile of Pisa; Teatro 19 in Brescia; and Geometria delle nuvole in Cecina; social and health service users, secondary school students, young migrants and other staff of local associations.

Activities

In 2019, the project provided theatrical workshops and a performance festival as well as meetings on the theme of theatre, adolescence and marginalisation aimed at promoting dialogue on a pedagogical level regarding training, production and research activities that the four Italian theatrical companies that operate in the field of disadvantage offer to adolescents. The different workshops came together in an in-house festival (from 6 to 8 September 2019) that included various theatrical presentations and performances by the 4 companies in a high prestige location such as the Parco Naturalistico in Migliarino San Rossore – Coltano (PI).

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. The Association has been supported by AMI since 2018.



Bi

Objectives

Promoting cultural exchange and the transmission of experience of various realities from several generations in order to provide an occasion for growth and training around the themes of community and adolescence but also creative writing, literature, drama and stage used as tools to enrich and define one's cultural identity.

Beneficiaries

4 young actors from the Nuovo Teatro Sanità, created within the Bottega TeatrAle workshops supported by AMI between 2016 and 2018 (Pavesi Foundation).

Activities

The project foresees the realisation of a performance based on a story by Bernardo Atxaga, an internationally known representative of Basque culture and language, on the theme of adolescent contrasts. In December 2019 a first in-house workshop was held for four young actors who have been part of the Nuovo Teatro Sanità for years. Trained as part of the Bottega TeatrAle workshops not only as actors but also in the disciplines of study, drama, directing and theatrical organisation, since 2015 they have been the protagonists of various Nuovo Teatro Sanità projects and other national theatrical productions (Punto Corsara, Marche Teatro, Napoli Teatro Festival, Trame d'Autore).

The regional debut of the show was held at the Nuovo Teatro Sanità in January 2020.

The performance will also be presented in Milan under the auspices of the Olinda Up close Nobody is Normal festival, involving realities that, similar to the Teatro Sanità, put particular attention on adolescence, meetings between professionals and non-professionals and the integration of a public of all ages.

Partner

Nuovo Teatro Sanità

Founded in Naples in 2013 in the Sanità district by a group of young theatrical professionals along with the youth of the neighbourhood, characterised by serious socio-economic disadvantage connected with dropping out of school and unemployment, the Nuovo Teatro Sanità artistic collective is made up mainly of youths under the age of 30 and provides quality culture to train young people in the theatre arts and involve them in the management and activities of the theatre. The Nuovo Teatro Sanità has been supported by AMI since 2019.



“La malattia che cura il teatro”

Conference

Objectives

To promote comparison and reflection between the more significant experiences of theatre and marginalisation, on the role of theatre and the transformative processes engendered in individuals, especially in relation to disadvantage and diversity.

Beneficiaries

Theatrical operators, scholars, critics and various national and international entities working with theatre and diversity.

Activities

The realisation of a meeting composed of debates, theatrical productions, photography exhibits and other performances by some of the most significant Italian entities engaged in art in the social sphere (among which 5 AMI partners: AllegroModerato, Animali Celesti, Olinda, ZeroFavole and the Accademia Arte della Diversità), along with other national and international players that integrate in a daily fashion the relationship between theatre and diversity in their work.

Partner

Accademia Arte Della Diversità

This cooperative was founded in Bolzano in 2012 to form the first professional Italian theatrical company with differently abled actors. The Accademia Arte Della Diversità has been supported by AMI since 2015.



Roses: performances and concerts at the MaTeMù

Objectives

To sensitise the population of Rome to the theme of ArtEducation.

Beneficiaries

158 youths between the ages of 11 and 25 (Italians, foreigners, second generation youths living in foster homes or shelters) that participate in the CAG MaTeMù in the multi-ethnic Esquilino area of Rome; the event-going public.

Activities

In 2019, AMI supported the opening of the MaTeMù, a CIES center for youth located in the Esquilino area of Rome and frequented by people from all over the world.

Between 2013 and 2018, AMI supported the centre's various artistic workshops, particularly musical ones. Music acts as an avenue for socialisation and resulted in the creation of a group called the "Matemusik band", proof of the ability of art to act as a lure and catalyst for energy and positive motivation.

Various artists from the world of music, literature, theatre and dance have recognised the enormous creative potential of this space and have offered intensive workshops to the youths (see the Roses Masterclass project). The results of these workshops were then presented in active, known artistic spaces in Rome

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.



Otello Circus

Objectives

To offer places and opportunities for artistic expression to people with disabilities, bringing them closer to music and theatre and vice versa. "To unite two poetic universes, two identities in a single common project that aims to give back identity and professionalism to disadvantaged actors, dancers and musicians."

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 in 2017 and 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.

In 2019, Otello Circus toured nationally at the Teatro Comunale in Bolzano and the Naples Theatre Festival at the Corte del Palazzo Reale in Naples.

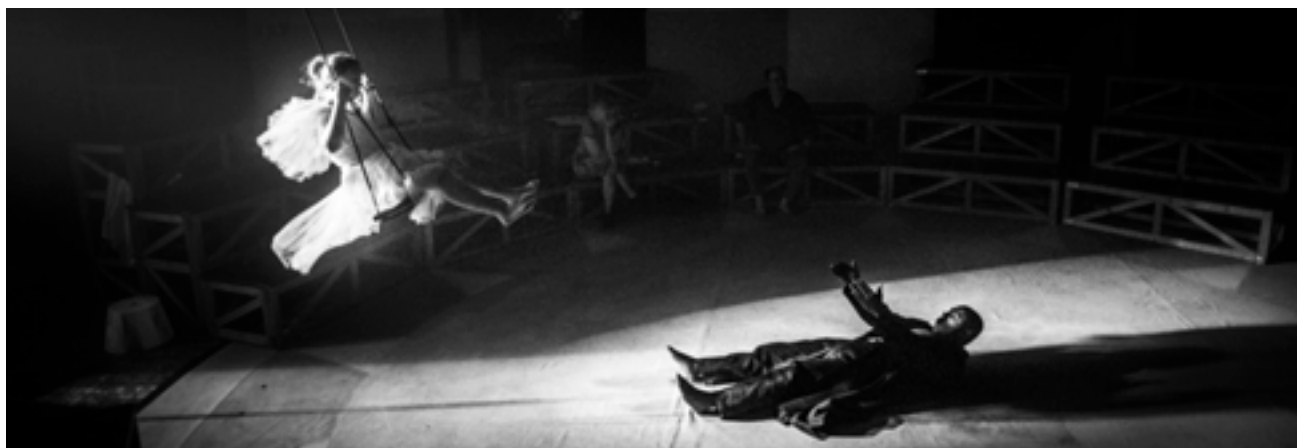
Partner

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).



Allegro ed Oltre

Objectives

Disseminating the “Tutta un'altra musica” community music project, increasing the benefits for children who are patients and the disabled artists as well as the cultural impact in terms of sensitising people on the theme of dignity for the disabled and pediatric hospitalisation. To create occasions for meetings and exchange between the AllegroModerato musicians and those of Oltre le Quinte involved in community music activities.

Beneficiaries

13 operators of the Oltre le Quinte Association of Novara (8 of whom with specific training in orchestral music therapy).

Activities

This project provides training and supervision conducted by the Allegro Moderato musicians for Oltre le Quinte operators on the methods of community music, experimented by AllegroModerato in the wards of the Niguarda Pediatric Hospital and the San Carlo Hospital in Milan for young patients with the involvement of disabled musicians. The experience garnered by these musical workshops resulted in research (under the scientific supervision of the Università degli Studi di Bergamo) and a subsequent publication that documents the analysis of the methodology, the processes of inclusion, the social impact and the potential of the project.

Thanks to this training, the Oltre le Quinte orchestra, which is similar in composition and methodology to the AllegroModerato, can apply this methodology in hospitals and other social contexts in Novara and the territory of Piemonte. Training developed in two phases: theoretical lessons at the Oltre Le Quinte headquarters in Novara and meetings held during the “Tutta un'altra musica” workshops in the pediatric wards of the San Carlo Borromeo and San Paolo Hospitals in Milan.

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 psychological/physical fragilities, firmly convinced that this activates and generates energy and emotional, cognitive and relational competence that the musicians can carry over to their daily lives. AllegroModerato has been supported by AMI since 2015.



Rulli Frulli Days Exchange

Objectives

Establish a meeting of musical integration among the musical groups of 5 associations supported by AMI that use music to promote the integration and inclusion of diversity.

Beneficiaries

Approximately 190 people amongst the operators and youths of 8 musical groups: Banda Rulli Frulli, Rulli Frullini, Marinai, Banda del Quartiere Baranzate, MaTeMusik Band, Gruppo Percussioni CivicoZero, InBand-AllegroModerato and CO2. Differently abled children and youths, Italians and people from around the world who are members of these groups.

Activities

The exchange involved the musical groups of 5 organizations supported by AMI:

- AllegroModerato, an artistic and musical training centre in Milan for the disabled with its InBand, which performs everything from jazz to pop rock, blues and new interpretations of the classics;

- CIES with the MaTeMusik Band & Crew, a group composed of youths between the ages of 11 and 25 from various parts of the world;

- CivicoZero with the Percussioni di Civico, a group where cultures meet and exchange dialogue through the rhythm of percussion instruments, born within the Centro a bassa soglia of Rome, which deals with socially marginalised, foreign youths at risk of abuse;

- CO2 which, together with the rapper Lucariello, conducts a musical composition workshop for youths being held at the Airola juvenile facility in the province of Benevento; and

- Rulli Frulli Lab, with its four projects of musical inclusion: the Rulli Frulli Band, Rulli Frullini and the multi-ethnic Banda del Quartiere (neighbourhood bands) of Baranzate and Marinai.

The exchange unites all the musical projects of inclusion that give value to diversity and space to the creativity of the participants, each in his own voice, language and ability, making music together. During the two-day Festival, the musical bands are able to get to know each other and exchange stories, projects and music. The project involved concerts and musical integration meetings with the presentation of various groups as well as informal meetings and training for the youths and operators. The exchange was organised by the Rulli Frulli Band as part of the Rulli Frulli Days Festival, from 31 May to 1 June 2019, which took place at the Finale Emilia (Modena) Istituti Secondari Agrario e Pedagogico (agrarian and pedagogical institutes). A concert open to the public took place on 1 June featuring all the musical groups involved and concluding with a performance of the Rulli Frulli Band along with prominent national singers.

Partner

Rulli Frulli Lab

See the respective profiles for information on the partners.



Evaluating the impact of the CivicoZero artistic workshops

Objectives

To guide the strategic choices of the organisation 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

Operators and artists of the organisation and 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 conducted 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 was based on various approaches (questionnaires, focus groups and more detailed techniques) and involved many actors (clients, cooperative operators and, to the extent possible, workshop participants) using “contingent evaluation”, which helps establish the value attributed by the community to an “object” with no market value by asking participants how interested they would be in paying to keep this good, or whether they would accept giving it up.

From this analysis it was clear that each workshop enabled: introspection, a review of one’s own story, connection between “who I was” and “who I am”; relationships, communication and storytelling (through narrative, theatre and music); simulation (particularly evident in theatre), prefiguration and, therefore, the ability to face new (often undesirable) situations in Italian society; joy, liberation and catharsis. All this is possible from the minimal saturation of artistic workshops.

Partner

Save the Children Italia

Founded at the end of 1998 as a non-profit, this organization began activities in 1999. Today, it is an NGO recognised 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 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 theatre company.

Beneficiaries

Association operators and artists and sector professionals.

Activities

In collaboration with the 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 active involvement of the theatre company and principal 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.

The evaluation clearly showed the potential of theatrical workshops to produce knowledge, self-awareness, discovery and self-expression. According to those interviewed, the theatrical workshop is a “place of freedom” in which participants are enabled to suspend roles and rules. At the same time, it is a “welcoming” space where it is possible to experiment and discover parts of oneself, challenge oneself, take risks and still feel protected and not judged. In particular, all the participants emphasised that theatre was a place that allowed them to vent and liberate their emotions. As far as the impact on the youths, this included the ability for self-expression, overcoming shyness, relaxing and getting to know oneself, discovering new parts of themselves. In fact, theatrical work undertaken in a prison context appears to offer the young prisoners a concrete opportunity to imagine themselves in the future beyond the current imprisonment in which they now live.

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.

Publication: “Confluenze: l’arte terapia nei percorsi di cura integrati per il ritiro sociale in adolescenza”

(Convergence: art therapy integrated into the treatment of social withdrawal by adolescents)

Objectives

To promote reflection on the experience of artistic workshops provided for many years to minors in the care of the Psychiatric Therapeutic Day Hospital of the Child Neuropsychiatric Regina Margherita Hospital by detailing their changes and developments.

Beneficiaries

Operators and artists of the association and operators in this sector.

Activities

A publication of the experience of the artistic workshops (from 2015 to 2019) undertaken in the Psychiatric Day Hospital of the Regina Margherita Hospital with the aim of stimulating reflection on the value of the therapeutic workshops themselves and the enrichment they have provided working in synergy with other activities in the context of multidisciplinary treatments.

The publication details the changes and developments that the multi-professional team undertook in the context of the diversified and flexible treatment provided in the Psychiatric Day Hospital of the Regina Margherita Hospital over the years in order to respond to the new developments and requests for assistance from the adolescents.

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.

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 artists of the association and operators in this sector.

Activities

The project foresaw 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 was 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

This 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.

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.

Beneficiaries

Operators and artists of the association and sector professionals.

Activities

The project included an integral process of evaluation of the impact of the activities 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 lasted 16 months and was conducted in three phases: 1. initial interviews and exchanges with the key actors of the Associazione 21 luglio, other partner associations and agencies through brainstorming/workshops and the development and fine-tuning of the instruments of evaluation. 2. Adoption of monitoring/evaluation instruments in the course of the Amarò Foro project. 3. Evaluation of the impact via meetings, interviews and field visits; revision and analysis of project data, development of the results of the evaluation, conclusions and recommendations.

Partner

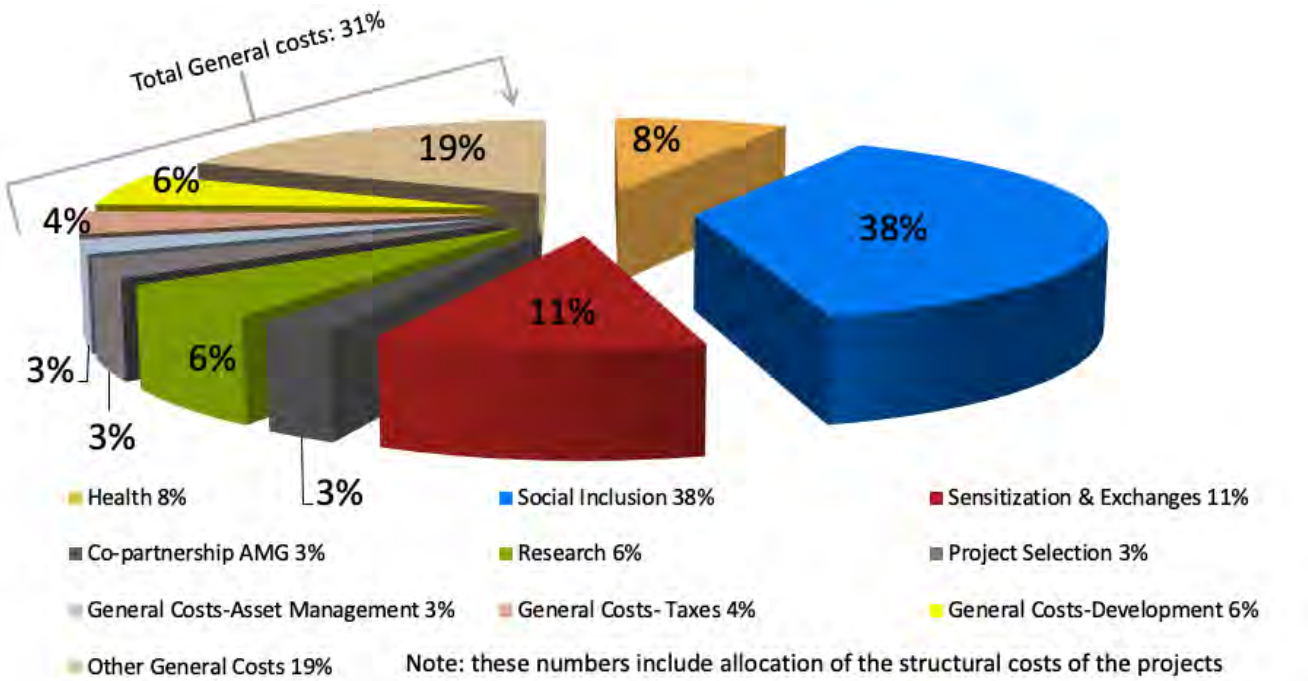
21 luglio

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 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.

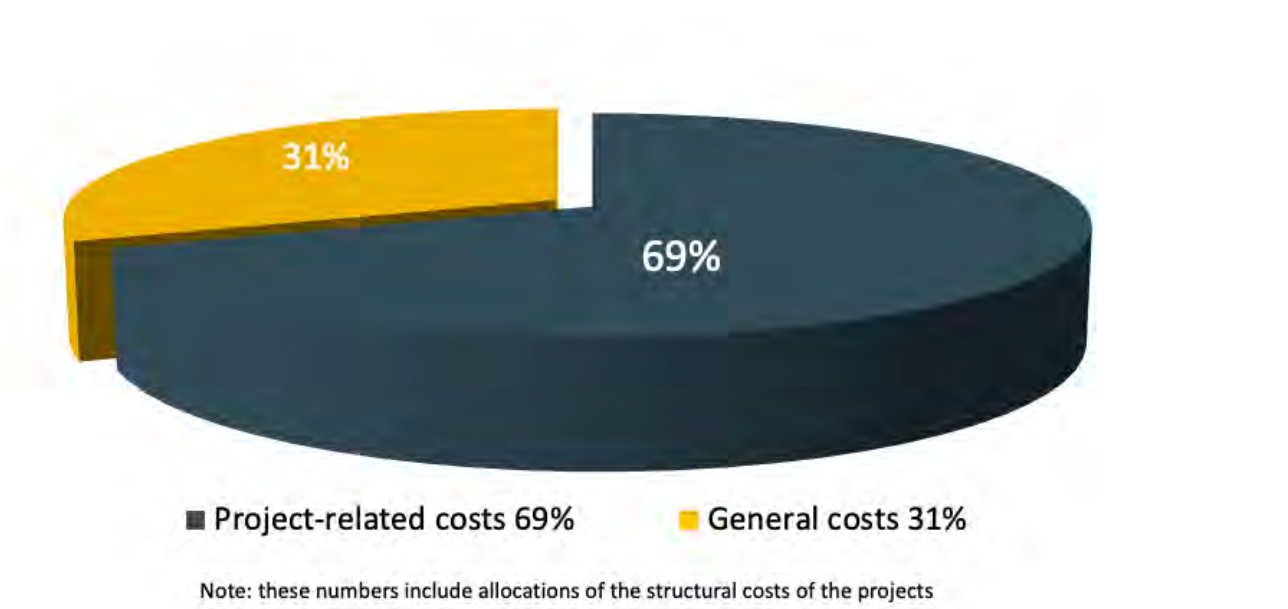
Excerpt from the balance sheet at year-end 2019

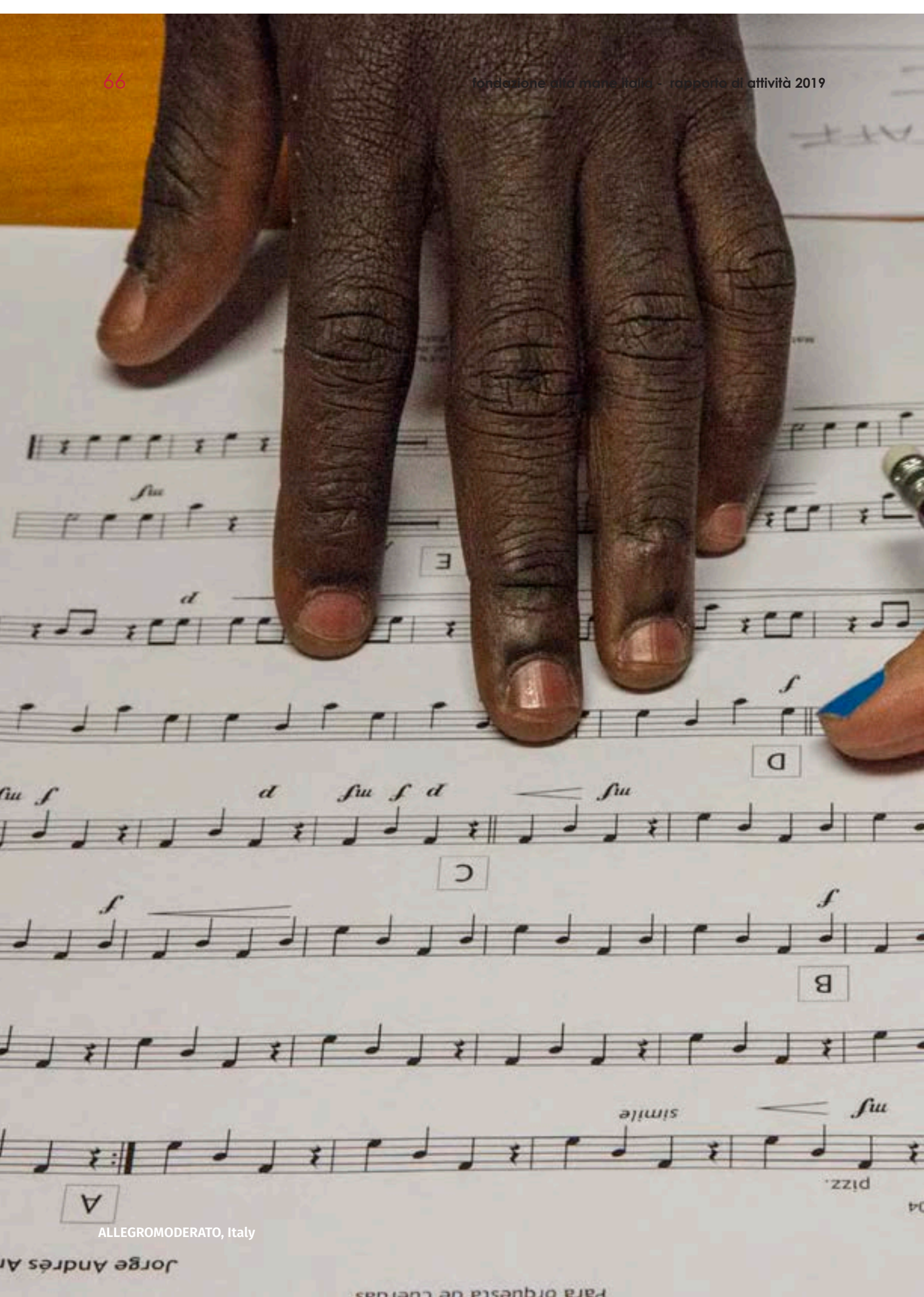
The Foundation’s annual report as at 31 December 2019, drawn up in accordance with article 2423 and subsequent articles of the Italian civil code and reviewed by the board of auditors and, since 2018, by Deloitte & Touche, was approved by the Board of the Foundation in May 2020.

Breakdown by area of intervention



Comparison of general and project-related costs





Legal information

FONDAZIONE ALTA MANE ITALIA

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Inscribed in the Register of Corporate Bodies

at the Rome Prefecture: n° 792/2011

Fiscal Code 97625000589

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Roma

ALTA MANE supraque tuos exsurge dolores
in fragilemque animum, quod potes, usque tene.

STAND TALL and for as long as you can,
rise above your pain and weakness.

PUBLIUS OVIDIUS NASO, Consolatio ad Liviam



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fondazione

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