

EVS-project RUSSIA

2. Volunteer Center (at the Youth Theater), Ulan Ude, Siberia, Russia

Age limit: 18-30

EVS Project: travel costs, insurance, hosting costs, pocket money covered

Project language: Russian, English

Period: 10 months from 1st October 2012

Pocket money: 90 Euro per month

Accommodation: own room, eg. in a apartment or host family, to be decided together the with hosting organisation

Number of volunteers: 2 volunteers

Application: the LTV application form* has to be filled in English and submitted to evs@sci-italia.it by 25th May 2012

Short Description: The volunteers will work on the development of a Volunteer Center at the the Youth Art Theatre of the city of Ulan-Ude in collaboration with Siberian Creativity Group

Project Description: Youth Art Theatre of the city of Ulan-Ude (also registered as non-governmental organization) is an independent theatre founded in 1980 by a group of actors. SCG has collaborated with the Theater for many years already, they provided platform for workshops and exhibitions on Human Rights and other events organized by SCG. Recently the theater ceased the artistic activities. It is now functioning as a volunteer center that runs several own social projects with the direct participation of Siberian Creative Group and the support the initiatives of the community. In the "Youth Volunteer Center project in the Theater" where hosted 4 EVS volunteers and organized several workcamps with their participation. The Youth Volunteer Center is highly motivated to work with EVS volunteers because they stimulate the volunteer activities of local youth involved in Theater's social projects by their own example as projects' permanent activists.

The volunteers will be working together with the NGO for the development of a volunteer center at the theater; they will also be participating in its various social projects. The theatre's main need is human resources who will help coordinate volunteer projects continuously and involve more youth in the projects. The theater is a popular meeting place among the active youth of Ulan-Ude; therefore, there are lots of opportunities for EVS volunteers to fulfil this task. By involving international volunteers in its projects, the theatre will popularize volunteer values in the city and make them attractive to the youth.

Volunteers will support the organization by carrying out tasks such as:

- Assisting in preparation and running the regular projects of the Youth Theatre such as
 1. ecological summer project "Edinstvo v Raznoobrazii/ Unity in Diversity", an international volunteer project on the shore of Lake Baikal, near the village of Sukhaya
 2. an annual spring social project "Pamyat/ Memory" (organizing youth to maintain the graves of prominent people in the city cemetery).
 3. social project "Doroga Radosti/ Pass of Joy" (elevation of the Dimitrova street where the Youth Theatre is situated) and others
- Assisting in organizing and running some activities in collaboration with the Siberian Creative Group: Volunteers working in the resource center together with the EVS volunteers will continue organizing the movie club. It is aimed at raising awareness of young people of various social issues. EVS volunteers will also participate in environmental artistic workshops organized by the team of our center in secondary schools and universities. They will also be cooperating with youth clubs, participating in the English club organized by other SCG and EVS volunteers, working with orphanages, rehabilitation centres, and hospitals.
- Helping to manage and administer activities of the Youth Theater (PR-promotion of its performances among young people).
- Assisting in everyday work of the theatre, including maintenance work.

Volunteers will learn some PR methods in their work on attracting attention from the community, and hopefully more support from local volunteers. From time to time volunteers will be asked to give interviews to local TV channels, radio stations, and newspapers.

Volunteers' work will often be supervised by the theatre administration but volunteers will be quite independent and free to create new ideas and projects.

Their work schedule is flexible as weeks plans will depend on a current project (described above). Volunteers will work 6 hours a day, 5 days a week (there are two days they will have off, but not necessarily on the weekend). Often the main work will be done in the evenings because volunteers gather in the evenings and theatre work is also concentrated in evenings. The project's team will have regular monthly meetings for evaluation of projects' activities. Each of them will have his or her own personal mentor. Meetings with the mentor will be scheduled at least once in two weeks to help evaluate the stay, plan for next week, etc.

They will have weekly meetings with the SCG coordinator/director and discuss an approximate schedule of work.

The volunteer will be provided with Russian lessons during the 10 months of their stay. At the beginning the volunteers will have more intensive learning. Their teachers will be English-speaking students from the Department of Foreign Languages at the Buryat State University or teachers of English who are certified to teach Russian as a foreign language.

Volunteers will be provided with accommodation and money for food and local transport. Each of them will have his/ her own or shared room in the home of hosting family or in an apartment. They will share a bathroom and a kitchen with the hosting family