



TY FILM PROGRAMME

EUROPEAN CULTURAL PROJECT | SUMMER 2018

1. European Cultural Project. Who are we?



European Cultural Project is a program offered by Nova Productions Limited. It has been developed by a group of professional people who have been dedicated for over 20 years in helping children and teens to grow into responsible young adults. We have put a program together which encourages children from all nationalities to develop fundamental social skills, using the art of filmmaking as a tool.

We work hand in hand with actors, cinema directors, script writers, DOP, sound engineers, make up and SFX artist, teachers and in some cases host families, making our program one of the best around for teenagers. The layout of the program ensures a great experience for the students while also providing a safe and nurturing environment for the development of their skills. We feel that learning creatively in a safe and accepting environment is the key to ensuring students attain excellent results both in the classroom and their personal lives.

Our zero tolerance approach to bullying on our ensures that all children are closely monitored and cared for in a safe and protected environment.

We have carried out extensive surveys amongst children, ranging from ages 12 to 17. From this research we have gleaned extensive knowledge of how we can boost the children's natural passion for learning the skills that they will need to carry them into adulthood.

The wide range of activities in our program will make sure that the children are engaged at all times, never bored and thus never falling into a negative attitude to their exercises or other classmates. We will endeavor to make sure that every child in our care feels confident, accepted and happy. As we all know people of any age tend to be shy on their first meeting and it is here that we found our "icebreaking exercises" are very effective in getting the children off on the right foot from the very beginning.

It is with all this in mind that we feel our creative academic program offers a unique and highly inventive and interactive approach to learning.



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2. Who can take part in the Project.

Any child aged 12 to 17 can take part in our summer program. The school year program is offered to 4th year students in different European Schools. The international program is suitable for English speakers as the activities are not based on the level of English of the participant but in having fun while adding to the program the creation of cultural bridges and making friends from other nationalities.

Our long term goal is offering the program to all European Secondary Schools and run it in a weekly basis from November till May and for 3 consecutive weeks during July and August.

We are trying to make the international program as affordable as possible to all participants. Taking into consideration the travelling expenses. A large number of people and organizations are already working as volunteers or reducing their ordinary prices to make sure we can make the program affordable to more people.

We can assure that all kids that have taking part in the program for the past number of years have all had a great learning experience.



3. The Program.

The importance of social skills

Some children learn social skills through their regular daily lives, without needing to be specially taught. Those children who don't learn automatically, and who do not get special attention to help, may over time experience some of the following:

- Problems with their behavior at home and school.
- Difficulty with their schoolwork and attention span.
- Difficulty handling and expressing their emotions.
- Not being accepted by peers.
- Problems getting along with others.
- Being bullied or being a bully.
- Low self-image.
- Problems that may bring them in contact with the law.

The activities in the program target the following 4 main areas:

1. **Survival skills** (listening, following directions, ignoring distractions, using nice or brave talk, rewarding yourself)
2. **Interpersonal skills** (sharing, asking for permission, joining an activity, waiting your turn)
3. **Problem-solving skills** (asking for help, apologizing, accepting consequences, deciding what to do)
4. **Conflict resolution skills** (dealing with teasing, losing, accusations, being left out, peer pressure).

Teaching through creativity has been proof to be the most effective way to equip children and teens with social skills. Guidance in how to develop them is essential as social skills have to be learnt. We use a number of ice breakers to make the students feeling their belonging to the group. All activities are carefully chosen to reach achievable goals which leads students to be enthusiastic and in this way their active participation is guaranteed.

We help their skills in working as part of team as well as being confident in public speeches. We encourage at all times a sense of belonging to the group and great friendship is created.

The activities that take place in our programs are mainly divided in 3 blocks:

- Filmmaking and all its departments including: Creative writing, acting, improvisation, directing, producing, set design, SFX, cinematography, sound and editing.
- Sports
- Fun outings include

As part of the summer program there are several workshops held on the effects of bullying, problem solving, introduction to TM and positive thinking. We find these workshops are very helpful to all our teen participants.

Team work is involved in all activities, teams are set on the first day and run throughout the whole program. Points are given in each activity based on effort, participation, enthusiasm and collaboration. There is an award ceremony and screening held on the last day of the summer program where certs are given to the teams and individual students.