

CO/UPS



TRADITIONS,
HISTORY, LEGACY -
CERAMIC DIVERSITY

*ON THE
TRACK OF*

HISTORY

INTRODUCTION



The cultural wealth of Poland and Ukraine was a great inspiration for youth who participated in ceramic workshops.

The main project objective was to present common historical, cultural (traditions, rituals, language, folklore) or natural features in the form of a sculpture, figurine or other clay symbol.

Young people selected the most vital tangible and intangible components of cultural heritage, including the common ones, which were depicted in the form of ceramic products decorated accordingly. The photos of all handicrafts can be seen by Internet users in the specially designed "E-gallery of cultural handicrafts" and constitute the unique content of the jointly created catalogue "CO/UPs on the History Track".

The project included ceramic workshops, decoration of handicrafts, outdoor photography, developing digital competences, promotion and dissemination of results.

CERAMICS

The main goal of this project was to create ceramics which could express our common culture and customs. Each youngster created some ceramic products that refer to the culture, values or traditions of our nations. Among the items we've made there is a cup, a plate, a magnet and a small picture. There are also works upon an individual request of the participant. The young artists applied various techniques, but their works contain some elements of national heritage expressed by the ornaments and combination of colours. Thanks to the description of each youngster's work, we can better understand the idea of the given masterpiece and an author's intention.



Danylo I.

Ukraine and Poland have a lot in common. For my crafts I used elements such as fox, flowers, branches, berries and viburnum. Our nations have used these elements for centuries.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Barbara

I've made a mug and plate with flowers and used different patterns that I associate with Poland and Ukraine. In my picture and magnet I've made a penguin and snail with a short sentence in the Ukrainian language, so it is connected with nature, art and our countries.

Yelyzaveta

I am a girl who explores the world from the inside out. I have a deep connection with nature, my family and place I was born in. I appreciate life, diverse experiences and every person I meet. Therefore my works refer to nature, family, my Motherland and my inner world.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Zuzanna

I like being close to nature. I love forests, flowers, plants and all living creatures. That's why my ceramic works present a big leaf and a lizard. I like travelling and whenever I am on holiday, I always buy some souvenirs – in this case the souvenir is represented by a pink bowl. However, they are always plenty of flowery patterns, which can reflect my love for nature.



Olha

As for me, a mug is a symbol of cosiness and deep conversations. During our intercultural exchange we were lucky to experience many meaningful talks and create a mosaic of common values, future initiatives and improve ourselves in order to be a conscious & proactive citizen in this increasingly fast-paced global world.

PHOTO



Natalia

I like nature and spending time outdoors. My cup has a poppy flower print. My bowl is shaped as a flower. My picture shows dandelions on the meadow. My magnet is a connection of nature and cultural motives. In addition, flower print is common for the Polish and Ukrainian culture.

CERAMICS



Pavlo

All countries have their history and traditions. The Trypillia settlers represent the oldest Ukrainian civilization, which is depicted in the plate – a traditional trypillia plate with ornaments and the four cardinal directions: North, South, East and West.

On the cup you can see Ukrainian ornaments which are characteristic of West Ukraine and mean “good harvest”. The picture shows a typical temple from ancient Greece. This monumental, old and beautiful building is the main source of my inspiration.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Weronika

I am a typical dreamer. The main patterns in my works are faces without any special features. I just wanted to show that our faces are influenced by different cultures, which we encounter throughout our lives. Face can be also seen as a mystery. The colours are inspired by nature and the Polish-Ukrainian culture.

Kateryna

While creating my ceramic products I was inspired by common things from the Polish and Ukrainian culture. As a design for my cup I have chosen a pattern which symbolizes strong family connections because family is an important part of life for both Polish and Ukrainian nation.

I've made a plate in the form of a leaf as it symbolizes strength and will to live. I associate it with Polish and Ukrainian youth who have gathered during our project to present common historical, cultural and natural roots.

My magnet shows the unity between the Polish and Ukrainian culture and despite the fact that we came from different countries and cities, such art activities have connected us and awoken our creativity.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Wiktorja

I am very happy when I see nature and living creatures in any form. Therefore, I've made a bowl in the shape of frog. Frogs jump as if they were enthusiastic. I like animals and my life then makes sense.

Vladyslava

Life is like an empty canvas, so we decorate it for our whole life. My ceramic works serve as an interpretation and visualization of my current condition, my feelings and my understanding of Polish-Ukrainian connections. My first plate in the shape of a circle represents unity and safety. The patterns put on it represent the diversity of our cultures. My second plate in the form of a leaf depicts hope, renewal, and revival of our nations. Also I made a stand for candles because fire represents warmth, safety and cosiness that can better unite and integrate us.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Laura

I love acrobatics. I spend every single moment on stretching my body. I am also a nature lover. I like spending my free time on meadows in the sun with beautiful flowers around me. As one of my favourite colours is green, my soap dish reflects my affinity with this colour, and generally with a "green" zone of my life.

Bazhenia

In my pieces of ceramics I present some flowers very characteristic of my region of Ukraine: sunflowers, some popular ornaments, and also the unity of Polish and Ukrainian nations. Sunflowers are one of many symbols of our nations. The ornaments are a crucial part of our cultures. In my works I used the colours corresponding to the Polish and the Ukrainian national flags.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Lena

Nature is my inspiration. There is not much to say about the mug because I just like cows and the cow print. Also, it is a really common animal both in Poland and Ukraine. I've also made a lizard. The bowl represents Ukrainian and Polish national patterns. Flowers represent our nature. My picture is more like a bas-relief. I did it as a souvenir to remember this project. That's why I put there a date, a leaf for Ukraine, a flower for Poland and a spiral symbolizing the fusion of our nations.



Alina

Creative expression is a powerful resource. I like nature. In my ceramic works I presented flowers which express elements of Ukrainian Petrykivka painting. It's a historical symbol of Ukrainian art. Also I depicted the Carpathians. It's my favourite part of the Western Ukraine. In my opinion everyone should visit this amazing place. I hope that you will be inspired by my pictures and will discover the incredible world of Ukrainian nature.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Alicja

I've made a bowl shaped as a turtle because this is an element of nature. I try to be eco-friendly. Plastic in the ocean is a global problem. I really want to stop global warming. If we do nothing, we will live in the deserted world. I am going to put jewellery into this bowl. Another important thing to me is love, so I created a heart that symbolizes this crucial feeling.

Bohdana

The picture represents the love for my homeland - a small town Kosiv near the Carpathians, its magnetic landscapes with a bird-symbol of Poland, which reminds us that Ukrainians and Polish people have similar roots. The cup and the plate include traditional Ukrainian patterns, while the magnet serves as a souvenir of Polish-Ukrainian Youth Exchange Programme with flags and plant symbols from both countries.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Zuzanna P.

Birds can fly and I associate them with freedom. Freedom is the most important thing in my life. The second most crucial thing to me is love. I cannot imagine my life without it. My dream is to wake up every single morning and know that I give love to the world and the world gives love to me. When I took clay in my hands, I immediately fell in love with it. I'm really happy that you can see the result of this special love.

Oksana

In my work I depicted the sun on a black background as a symbol of good that defeats evil; The flower in the colours of the Polish and Ukrainian flags symbolizes friendship between our countries.

I presented people on the tree as in my opinion humans form culture and traditions.

One of my ceramic works reflects Petrykivka painting, which is a traditional ornament of Ukraine.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Julia

I am of the opinion that our roots have a lot to do with nature. Each of us is deeply wild and free. We need constant harmony in life. That's why the patterns in my works represent nature. I want them to represent people's closeness to nature - no matter what nationality these people are. My works show peace and harmony. I think that nature and wildness are something that connects all people.

Viktoriia

I drew a poppy flower and a rhombus. In Ukrainian folklore poppy means protection from everything bad that may happen to people. Diamonds mean good relationships with family and friends. On my cup and plate you can see flowery patterns, which mean to us love for my homeland. On the magnet I drew Ukrainian typical symbols - kalyna and wheat. Ukrainians call them mother plants as they give us life.

PHOTO



Joanna

I really enjoy art, Slavic folklore and culture. I am very close to nature. I love observing and being around it. I've shown it in my works through Polish folk flower patterns and a stork that reminds me of my ethnicity and childhood. I've also made a smiling flower bowl, which I think, represents my cheerful personality and love for nature.

CERAMICS



Danylo T.

My nickname is comrade. I love math, games and stories. Almost of any kind. In my ceramic works I have shown things I like. I also presented nature as the earth unites all of us.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Oliwia

I like to photograph nature very much because it reflects the values that are important to me. Animals are authentic, they don't pretend. They are simply themselves and through my work I can immortalize them. Clay proved to be a good way to show the unique nature of animals. The turtle reflects me because he does not live in a rush and the headphones on his head symbolize disconnecting from the external world.



Anastasiia

I created people on a desert island because man is the embodiment of the ideal and the imperfection in one. And although there are more than 7 billion people in the world, many of them are lonely because they have their backs to each other and cannot see each other's eyes.

Also my mug resembles a tree because we all come from nature and it's in our roots. I love connecting people and nature.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Szymon

I'm interested in history and culture of Poland, so I was looking for the same parts which connect Ukraine and Poland. I know we both have nature inspired by folklore, so I decided to focus on that in my works. I used flower and animal motives to decorate my works and related them to Slavic culture.

Daria K.

As I like minimalism a lot, my works are made in this style, so they're quite empty and elegant at the same time. When you look at a cup and plate, you can notice that these ceramic items contain fingerprints, which reflects the similarity and simultaneously the difference between Polish and Ukrainian nations. The incense holder is made in the shape of a leaf and represents the common nature and the spirit through the ages. The last piece of art is a bust of a random human that shows Ukrainian and Polish nations with their long history.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Adrianna

My works show the first ideas that came to my mind when I think about Poland and Ukraine. Our folklore has a lot in common. The flowers are important in both cultures so I've made a cup and plate in this style. My second plate has an abstract face, which is a symbol of an unobvious experience. Each day in this project was a new journey and this specific face shows that.

Severyna

Lviv has a rich history being Polish and Ukrainian city, so the architecture, language and culture of my hometown in general represent some features from both nations. Nature, for instance, has been always important to people in our region, that is why my work pictures leaves, flowers, a tree and the sea.

Red poppies symbolize eternal remembrance and blue cornflowers are a symbol of kindness and humaneness. A tree stands for connection with past, present and future as we had common past and now we are responsible for shaping our common future as neighbours and collaborators. A naked woman alone in the sea symbolizes a connection of a human being and nature because women as mothers and muses are a crucial archetype in Slavic culture.

PHOTO



CERAMICS

Mariusz

In general I like nature. I am keen on animals. I always do my best to protect environment. I also like pictures with animals. Health is the most crucial asset to me. I take care of my health and well-being of my relatives. Family well-being is vital for thriving communities.

Dariia F.

Through my works I wanted to highlight the unity of Ukrainian and Polish people and their friendship. That is why I used mainly the colours of our flags and patterns that are common for us. Everyone knows that history divided us in the past. Despite being in the shadow of a difficult history between our nations, I hope there will be no more barriers between us.

PHOTO



Sandra

I am a typical home bird. I like when people show warmth to each other. I like being in the comfort of my home. Therefore, a mug, a small tray and a yellow plate for my bric-a-brac symbolize my comfort zone and the most important intangible assets for me – peace, warmth and time for self-reflection.

CERAMICS



CHAPTER 2

QUILLING





DESCRIPTION

Quilling is the art of rolled, shaped, and glued paper that results in creating a unified, decorative design. The name quilling is thought to come from the origin of the art; birds' feathers, or quills, were used to coil the strips of paper around.

The participants of our project have designed their own quilling pieces of art. Each individual with their own story and background has created a very special card using quilling as one of the ways to express their inner world.

MULTICULTURAL

Multicultural Night brought the Polish and Ukrainian youth together in a fruitful celebration of the cultural, national and linguistic diversity during the educational and artistic project.

The Ukrainians wore their traditional vyshyvanka (an embroidered shirt with a genetic code encrypted in the embroidery) - a symbol of happy destiny, beauty and family memory. The event featured live music, ethnic instruments performance, vibrant dances, delicious food and various networking games.



NIGHT

During our Multicultural Night, the Polish youth brought the Ukrainians closer to Polish culture through the presentation of traditional food and dances. We danced "belgijka" together, played Polish rhyming games and listened to a few cultish Polish songs together. The integration took place in a positive atmosphere, during which the representatives of both countries got to know their cultures and traditions better.



PHOTO TASK

All photo tasks aimed to integrate youth, build team spirit and develop problem-solving and decision-making skills.

Some of the project participants were keen on photography. They could easily and supportively guide their teams through this assignment. There were three topics the youth had to stick to:

- Monuments and stained glass windows
- Tree and symbolic roots
- Intangible and (vain)glorious assets

The young had to use their imagination, they had to closely collaborate. They could also use their bodies, thus breaking the magic barrier of touch.

MONUMENT AND STAINED GLASS WINDOW

Our task was to take photos of monuments or stained glass windows. We could also form a monument from our own bodies. It was just a matter of our imagination. The photos were supposed to be a work of a group or an individual. We had to activate our creativity and spatial sense. We had to collaborate. It was also a great opportunity to get to know the city better. The task was interesting and the results were very satisfying.



TREE AND SYMBOLIC ROOTS

Recreating trees and symbolic roots from our bodies was not an easy task for us.

Each of us has had a different vision of creating common roots. The thing which we have created is something more than we have imagined. Some connections between us cannot be seen only in the pictures. Something invisible is the relationship between us. It was evolving and ripening throughout the project. Therefore, after a couple of days we discovered our common nature, roots, common passions and how much we needed each other to cooperate perfectly.



INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets are not visible at first glance. Having a deeper insight into them, they can be interpreted in diverse ways. Therefore, our photos show various values. Our hands symbolize the days of the project that were passing so fast. They show how time connects people, making us aware that every single day brought us closer together and we felt like a big family.



PROJECT SUMMARY

Our project "Traditions, history, legacy - ceramic diversity" came to an end. During the project the Polish and Ukrainian teams got to know their national traits and cultures. During personal conversations we revealed interesting details of daily lives of the fellow participants.

Not only did we explore our cultures, but also we acquired interesting, artistic skills. We had an opportunity to get our hands dirty in clay, creating objects that personify interesting things related to the culture of Poland and Ukraine. We have created root trees and ID cards which represented us as a community and individuals.

But what deserves everyone's attention most is the relationship that we have built during the project. Doing project assignments, fun activities, spending time together and just chatting, we really became friends, which was the most crucial value to all of us.

PARTICIPANTS FEEDBACK



I like ceramics. I used clay for the first time and I think I did it pretty well. I will definitely use my sculptures in my everyday life. I found out that Ukrainian culture is very similar to ours.

I improved my English and learned to make clay stuff. My favourite moment was multicultural night.



I really wanted to improve my English skills, meet new people and try something new. In this project I learned how to do ceramic things and many interesting things about Ukraine.



I liked creating ceramic objects, it was very exciting to explore ceramic techniques and work in the intercultural environment.

Besides, I enjoyed quilling. I was fascinated by the city where the project was held. It was an inspiring and unforgettable experience to take part in this project.



I like ceramics so much as it gives me internal calmness and an opportunity to express myself.

In this project I liked every single moment when I could show my artistic side and spend time on conversation with people from the other country.



Pottery has always been a kind of art I wanted to try doing, so participating in the Polish-Ukrainian youth exchange, where I could not only do pottery, but also learned more about traditional ornaments of the neighbouring country sounded like a perfect opportunity for me. I remember how different my expectations were comparing to what I had as a result!

Today I can say that I am not only a fan of ceramics, but also I know more about it now, so my future works will be more thoughtful and done in a neater way. Moreover, I feel extremely lucky that I had a chance to practise my artistic skills with so creative and patient facilitators we had. Their knowledge and approach helped me understand common ornamental roots of Ukraine and Poland better and made my learning experience unique and unforgettable.



I decided to participate in this project because I have a big desire to develop and cover the subject of customs, traditions, historical past. I want to strengthen the role of culture among young people. I'm confident, that history and culture are the lifeblood of a vibrant society. Our creative expression helps define who we are, and helps us see the world through the eyes of others. Also I got in this project a new knowledge and experience, innovative skills, opportunity to practice foreign languages and find new friends. It was a very cool opportunity!



TRADITIONS, HISTORY, LEGACY - CERAMIC DIVERSITY



POLSKO-UKRAIŃSKA RADA
WYMIANY MŁODZIEŻY

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ПОЛЬСЬКО-УКРАЇНСЬКА РАДА
ОБМІНУ МОЛОДЦЮ



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I NAUKI

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CONTACT:

Foundation Institute of Social Re-Integration IRIS
Office: Gdańska 54/116, 90-612 Łódź
Phone: (+48) 790 205 209
<http://fundacjairis.com>
<fb.me/fundacjaIRIS>