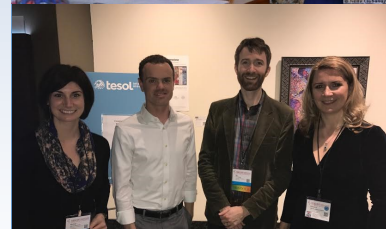




ACADEMY for Innovation and Change through Education

2016-2017

ANNUAL REPORT



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ACADEMY FOR INNOVATION AND CHANGE THROUGH EDUCATION

AICE is a nonprofit organization aiming to provide innovative programs in education which promote positive lasting change on the local, regional and international level.

We enable local individuals and institutions to develop key skills in such areas as quality education, integration technology for development, civic engagement, youth empowerment, gender equality, regional development.

AICE employs highly professional experts in education, research, project management, human resources, online teaching and learning with extensive experience in various fields related to education and professional development.

Our team collaborates with other NGOs specialized in international education, such as Reach the World, English Teaching Resource Network, Moldovan English Teacher Association, iEARN (International Education and Resource Network), VIF Learning Center, Youth Service America, Adobe Foundation.



OUR TEAM

DR DANIELA MUNCA-AFTENEV

A transformative leader in Moldovan cross-cultural education and exchange programs, with more than a ten year expertise in managing educational projects, online teaching methodology, project-based inquiry, global classroom development, diplomacy, service-learning, alumni development, and ESL/EFL (teaching English as a second / foreign language).

OLGA MOROZAN, PHD

An expert with extensive experience as project coordinator and trainer in various national and international projects and programs connected to education and social sciences. Advanced skills in designing and teaching e-learning/face-to-face courses in Education and Social Sciences, Management and Leadership for all age students, pre-/in-service specialists in education, psychology and management, future leaders of Moldovan society.

CORINA CEBAN

An educator with a 16 year experience in teaching English as a foreign language. Works in the “V.Alecsandri” Lyceum from Bălți and is an Access Microscholarship Instructor. Holds the 1st didactic degree in teaching English and has graduated the E-teaching Program from University of Oregon, USA.



We believe strongly in the power of education that simultaneously improves the quality of life both of individuals and the wider society.



“EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.”

NELSON MANDELA

**ACADEMY FOR INNOVATION AND CHANGE
THROUGH EDUCATION INFOGRAPHIC**



NATIONAL
PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTED IN 35
DISTRICTS AROUND
MOLDOVA

TEACHERS AND
STUDENTS
INVOLVED IN
ONLINE
COLLABORATIVE
PROJECTS

2000



NATIONAL
CONFERENCES
ORGANISED EVERY
YEAR

CONNECT

We connect Moldovan educators and students with school partners from North Carolina and USG program alumni

INVOLVE

We teach Moldovan educators how to use Web 2.0 tools for interactive teaching



SHARE

We engage Moldovan educators in peer learning professional development communities

EMPOWER

We bring civic engagement and service learning in Moldovan schools around the country

English for Media Literacy

Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) for English language learners

Learn English while you explore different types of mass media such as newspapers, magazines, television, and social media.

coming soon!

Registration opens March 20 Class begins April 3



tinyurl.com/moocmedia

English for Media Literacy Project supported innovative eLearning English teaching methodologies in 12 target regions around Moldova: Cantemir, Cahul, Balti, Comrat, Ungheni, Orhei, Tiraspol, Chişinău, Taraclia, Ştefan-Vodă, Anenii-Noi and Soroca. 12 young Moldovan educators and 180 beneficiaries have been introduced to the concept of "media literacy". Project mentors have gained valuable paid teaching experience, improved their English language competency and media literacy and addressed media literacy as an aspect of foreign language learning across the country.

ENGLISH FOR MEDIA LITERACY PROJECT

MARCH—JULY 2017

On March 24-25 our project facilitators from 12 target regions participated in the two day training moderated by American experts, English Language fellows from US: Joey Fordyce (South Ukrainian Pedagogical University) and Nathan William Meyer. The training included such sessions as: being an online facilitator, how to provide guidance and feedback online, media literacy, credibility of sources, fake news and alternative facts and identifying bias. The training was hosted by our strategic partner, national Center for Excellence for Librarians located in the "B.P. Haşdeu Library". The online course is five weeks in length and started on April 3, 2017. Students have learned how to select and evaluate the topics in social media, blogs, podcasts, television, film, newspapers, and magazines. They have also improved their reading skills in areas such as skimming, scanning, finding the main idea, and looking for transitions.

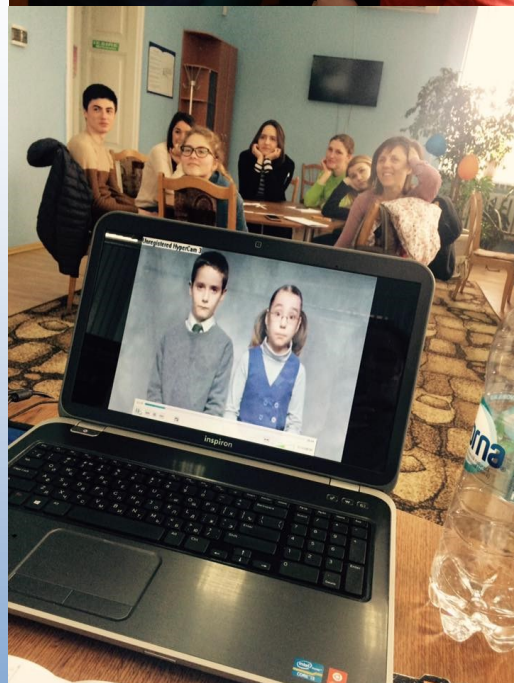


QUOTES FROM PARTICIPANTS

"I enrolled in the program to improve my English language skills and secondly to enhance my journalism related skills which is paramount to my success in this field. Being a journalist, it is important to know, and to continue learning all the time, especially about types of media. So, during Week 1 I discovered a lot of new things about various aspects of social media. I also found new words and improved my vocabulary. The impact of the information is big, and I want to thank you our facilitator who explained everything clearly and this is why the learning process was interesting. During Week 2 I discovered some new facts about bias in traditional Media. Now I can make difference between traditional and social media. It was a great experience for me. I appreciate all the quizzes, because I could see the results immediately." (**Natalia Pîslaru, Journalist**)

"The difference between MOOC classes and the ones I had in school is "HUGE!", mostly because everything is happening online. All you need is at one click distance. Nonetheless, it was a challenge for me as I had no previous experience in taking online classes. As for the course itself, I found especially useful the information about the types of tricks used in both traditional and social media. All in all, this course was quite edifying for me personally, and I would recommend it to any of my students." (**Alexandru Covtun, Teacher, Anenii Noi**)

„The course was extremely interactive and the information about the media literacy was very easy to understand. The first unit was for me like a fantastic proof that I made the right decision to join this course and I was fortunate to be selected among the course takers from Chisinau. I discovered how important it is to analyze media messages and scan and skim the info when we are in a hurry in order to have a full “picture” of an event. From the second module I discovered insightful specifics about different types of media and how social media can help us become real game changers. Unit three allowed me to get more details about advertising and its specifics so that now, whenever I see an add it makes me think about the essential questions studied during the course. Wish you all to gain fantastic scores in completing the assignments!" (**Daniela David, Marketing & Communications Assistant**)



MOLDOVAN TEACHERS AND STUDENTS CELEBRATE 2017 GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY IN COLLABORATION WITH YOUTH SERVICE AMERICA



It has become a tradition for our team to celebrate Global Youth Service Day every year in collaboration with Youth Service America. This year, in April, more than 300 Moldovan teachers and students from remote areas engaged in community development activities which meant to bring positive, lasting change in their cities and villages. We taught our students the value of giving and the power of

volunteering. We are confident that Global Youth Service Day will help our students become active, responsible citizens, ready to face the challenges of our global era. What a bliss to see the Global Youth Service Day logo in Tiraspol, Drochia, Cantemir, Criuleni, Vulcănești, Sângerei, Dondușeni, Soroca, Leova, Rezina, Ciorescu and Ungheni!

QUOTES FROM PARTICIPANTS

"Every year people from all around the world celebrate GYSD. Our team wanted to hear the sound of a happy laugh and bring a smile on the faces of children from the "Ciocârlia" Center, who are a little bit different from us and who need our support. We visited them and tried to make their day happier. We think that we should always try to improve this world and contribute to its growth." (Natalia Rața, Drochia)

"Most of the elderly from Criuleni are people who need help. My students organised an Easter Concert at our local Retirement House in collaboration with singers and artists from our local School of Arts. We prepared Easter bunny baskets, cooked cakes and biscuits and dyed Ester eggs. My students also paid a home visit to Aunt Mary, an elderly woman with special needs. The volunteers whitewashed the walls, swept and washed the floor, cleaned the things from the dust, and arranged the furniture from her house. (Svetlana Roibu, Criuleni)



"My students from Tiraspol visited three vulnerable families and prepared Easter packages for their children. All our gifts were handmade and we even organised a master class for the kids - we designed and made Easter cards from dough." (**Eugenia Protiuc, Tiraspol**)

"My students from Cantemir chose as their Global Youth Service Day theme: "Refuse Selection". The motto of the project was: Select, Reuse, Recycle the refuse for a Happier Earth. They coordinated many different activities in the town of Cantemir and Ciobalaccia village. They started with researching on the project, spoke with the Cantemir Communal Household director and found out that in all areas of our town there are selective collectors for plastic, paper, and wet waste. At the same time, they interviewed the citizens of our town to find out if they select the refuse and shared flyers with useful information about the necessity of refuse selection. And they did not stop here! They organised informative activities for pupils from primary grades: 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade. In this way, they educated the young generation who are our future." (**Victoria Isac, Cantemir**)





IEARN-MOLDOVA TEACHER AND STUDENT NATIONAL NETWORK

iEARN is a non-profit organization made up of over 30,000 schools and youth organizations in over 140 countries. iEARN empowers teachers and young people to work together online using the Internet and other new web communication technologies. Over 2,000,000 students each day are engaged in collaborative project work

worldwide. iEARN-Moldova network has more than 300 registered teachers and over 1000 students who participate in various international online collaborative projects every year. Under the constant guidance of our experts, Moldovan educators connect to their colleagues from over 140 countries around the world.



EFL YOUTH VOICES

"The iEARN-Moldova EFL Youth Voices Media Project provided EFL (English as a Foreign Language) teachers and students from all around Moldova with creative, non-traditional, cutting-edge educational tools meant to foster student creativity and engagement. The project recognized and rewarded best EFL student projects which used art, film, music and online tools to draw attention to such themes as tolerance and appreciation for diversity, women and girls empowerment, environmental issues and civic engagement. We collaborated with our colleagues from Belarus, Indonesia, Georgia, Tunisia and Argentina." (Luminița Tiuliuliuc, Edineț)



QUOTES FROM iEARN-MOLDOVA EDUCATORS



CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROJECT

"The Cultural Exchange Project was implemented by 20 of my students aged 12-14 and 50 American students aged 14-15 from Lake Nona High School, Orlando, Florida, USA. Together with my American colleague Nicolle Boujaber-Diederichs, Social Studies Teacher, we helped our students put together cultural packages for our partner schools. There are no words to describe the feelings of my students while opening the enormous box full of gifts, souvenirs, sweets and personal letters! Thanks to iEARN my students got a fabulous motivation to improve their English and learn more about their peers from abroad! They decided to share the letters, presents, cultural items from the USA with their peers from Causeni. They organized an exhibition which was two week long." **(Svetlana Coiceva, Căușeni)**



TALKING KITES AROUND THE WORLD

"On March 21st, during the Equinox, my 7 grade students from "Petru Movila" Lyceum, Chisinau, flew "talking" kites as part of the Talking Kites around the World iEARN Project. That was a great event, a real holiday and a tribute to Janusz Korczak who advocated for the rights of children. We felt very inspired seeing the name of our lyceum on the map among 19 other educational institutions from around the world devoted to supporting the idea of global citizenship partners." **(Elena Bogoeva, Chișinău)**



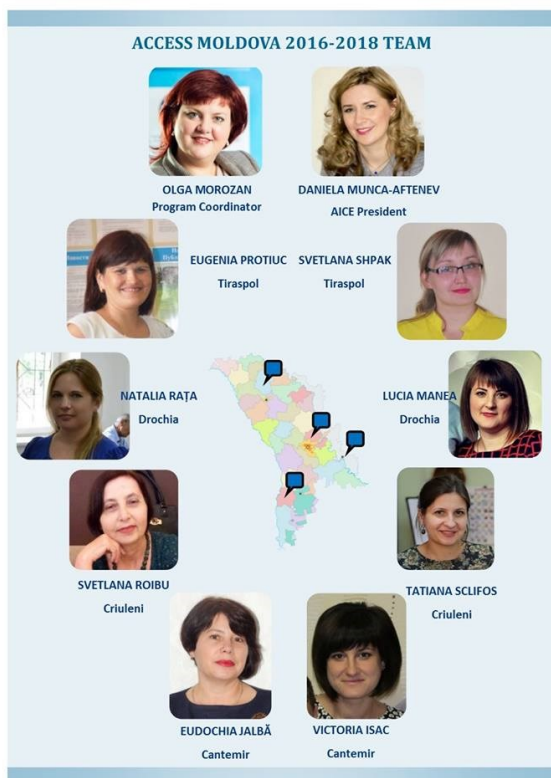
"ME becomes WE . Learn 2 Change" Global Teenager Project

Our most active and gifted leaders from American Language Centre from Chisinau, embarked on a pilot Social-Action Project within Global Teenager Project in autumn 2017. They were ready to make meaningful changes in their community and to share their ideas and plans with their global peers from the Netherlands, Canada, Nepal, Ukraine and Romania. The project was organised from September 2016 till January 2017. Our students could get a hold of ICT (information and communication technologies) skills, and learn to communicate efficiently virtually. While accomplishing their assignments they used a variety of creative digital tools, such as: Powtoon Cartoon Maker, Camtasia, Piktochart, Animoto, and Storyjumper. ¹¹

The English Access Microscholarship Program (Access) provides a foundation of English language skills to talented 13-20 year-olds from economically disadvantaged sectors through after-school classes and intensive sessions. Access gives participants English skills that may lead to better jobs and educational prospects. Since its inception in 2004, approximately 95,000 students in more than 85 countries have participated in the Access Program. Academy for Innovation and Change through Education is administering the 2016-2018 project round in four locations in Moldova: Cantemir, Drochia, Criuleni and Tiraspol.



ACCESS MICROSCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TEAM



Two Access educators from Tiraspol and Criuleni participated in the 7th South Caucasus Regional English Language Teaching Conference organised in Tbilisi, Georgia. The conference was organized in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy Kyiv, Regional English Language Office and U.S. Embassies from Baku, Yerevan, Minsk and Chisinau. Department of State English Language Fellows conducted workshops on advanced EFL/ESL methods for secondary and tertiary level. The program addressed the following themes: using technology in the EFL classroom, content based instruction, integrating across skills in EFL, teaching English for specific purposes, developing intercultural communication and critical thinking approach in ELT.



SAMPLE REGIONAL PROJECTS

♦ ACCESS STUDENTS FROM TIRASPOL ARE ENGAGED IN THE VIRTUAL ALUMNI EXCHANGE

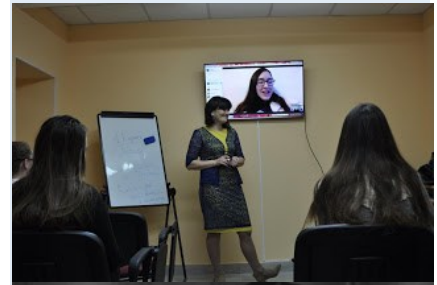
Access students from Tiraspol are engaged in the Virtual Alumni Exchange Program coordinated by US Department of State together with Reach the World. Regular online sessions are organised to connect our students to American native speakers who participate in the Virtual Alumni Program. Alexandra Pearce is one of those students—she lives in Chicago and loves chatting with Access students from Tiraspol via Skype, as this is how she can practice her Russian speaking skills. As a result, we have a bilingual exchange and so our students can improve their English and also help their American partners to learn new Russian words.

♦ ACCESS DROCHIA STUDENTS BECOME MOVIE DIRECTORS FOR ONE DAY—"SELF IDENTITY" PROJECT

In January pupils from Access Drochia worked on their first civic engagement project entitled: "Self-identity, Self-expression". Students learned what self-identity means and how they could express themselves. Alexandra Rața, our Access teacher assistant helped them become movie directors and create their own digital story. They also ran a school survey and interviewed their peers and after gathering and analyzing all data, they created a receipt for happiness.

♦ ACCESS CRIULENI STUDENTS VOLUNTEER FOR THE LOCAL KINDERGARTEN "SPICUSHOR"

Access students from Criuleni launched a local community service initiative meant to promote the importance of self esteem and tolerance at the Pre-K level. We established a local partnership with Spicușor Kindergarten and so local children could participate in various activities coordinated by Access Criuleni students. Their goal was to make kids realize the importance of every person and be tolerant from an early age. Kindergarten children were very active and positive, and they enjoyed participating in all activities because they were asking with gleaming eyes when the teens would come to visit them again.





PARTNERING WITH LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION FROM MOLDOVA

On September 10, 2016 over 50 teachers and librarians from different regions around the country participated in a workshop which aimed to introduce participants to digital books and their benefits for traditional readers: "Developing Youth Creativity through Electronic Books". The event was organized in collaboration with ABRM (Librarians Association from Republic of Moldova), with the financial support offered by IREX (International Research and Exchanges Board), Novateca program. During the event participants explored the concepts of "ebook" and "ereader", learned about "epub" files and experimented with a number of online platforms that can be used by young learners

and readers to create their own digital stories, such as StoryJumper, BookR and StoryBook. Novateca is a 2 year learning grant for librarians from the Global Libraries program (Gates Foundation) which provides wide scale public access to ICT through the public library network in Moldova.

"We have a fully equipped multi-media classroom in our school and my students can use tablet PCs to study foreign languages. I am happy I had the opportunity to attend this workshop, as now I will be able to combine traditional books with digital books. We should have more events like this one organized for Moldovan teachers from all around the country." (**Tatiana Dragan, Floresti**)



AICE EXPERTS AS LIBRARY AMBASSADORS

"Our NGO is administering various educational projects which aim to develop creative, well informed and modern youth, ready to face the challenges of the 21st century. This is why it was a real pleasure for me to get engaged in the "Advocacy for Moldovan Librarians" Project as a Library Ambassador. My role was to promote all the modern services offered by Novateca and our national network of libraries from all around Moldova. Together with other Ambassadors, we organised a few open events for teachers and librarians and encouraged the youth engaged in our projects to go to the library and read as much as they can." **(Dr Daniela Munca-Aftenev, AICE President)**



ONLINE PLATFORMS FOR MOLDOVAN EDUCATORS FACEBOOK PROJECT

Over 1100 educators from various regions around Moldova are active members of the "Online Platforms for Moldovan Educators" Facebook group. Every two weeks we introduce a new web 2.0 platform which can be used as an effective teaching tool. We create video tutorials to help teachers of English, math, history, geography, biology, Romanian language, French language, physics and psychology integrate web tools in their daily instruction. At the end of each academic semester we organize a national competition of most creative student school work which makes use of one of the online platforms recommended as part of our Facebook initiative. This way, teachers and students from Moldova work together to bring modern technologies in their schools in academic and extra-curricular activities and projects. Most active teachers and students received diplomas of appreciation to reward their willingness to become digitally literate.





SNAPSHOTS FROM OUR FACEBOOK GROUP



Daniela Munca-Aftenev with Tatiana AB.

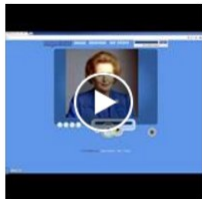
November 25, 2016 · Chisinau

Dragi membri ai Comunității "Platforme digitale online pentru cadrele didactice din Republica Moldova",

Ultima sarcină din cadrul proiectului nostru de anul acesta este legată de utilizarea instrumentului Blabberize, care va fi, cu siguranță, pe placul tuturor elevilor Dv, indiferent de vîrstă și de disciplina studiată.

Biografia lui Ștefan cel Mare <http://blabberize.com/view/id/1492248...>

See More



Blabberize Tutorial

Recorded with <http://screencast-o-matic.com>

YOUTUBE.COM



Daniela Munca-Aftenev shared a link.

March 20

Bună ziua, tuturor! Astăzi vom explora un instrument web nou care ne va ajuta să planificăm însărcinări menite să dezvolte gândirea critică prin compararea a 2 termeni, concepte, teme, personaje - <http://www.diffen.com/>

Doriți să încurajați copii să consume miere în loc de zahăr? Analizați diferențele dintre cele 2 prin intermediul Diffen :

http://www.diffen.com/difference/Honey_vs_Sugar

Cum diferă Pământul de planeta Venus?

http://www.diffen.com/difference/Earth_vs_Venus... See More



Tutorial DIFFEN

Recorded with <http://screencast-o-matic.com>

YOUTUBE.COM



Daniela Munca-Aftenev shared a link.

August 24, 2016 · Chisinau

Stimați colegi,

Săptămîna aceasta vom lucra cu o platformă online care permite înregistrarea mesajelor audio anexate la o imagine pe care o putem încărca direct de pe calculator: <http://www.fotobabble.com/>

Ca și în cazul platformelor 123apps, Vocaroo și Voice Spice, elevii ne-ar putea expedia tema pentru acasă sub forma unui link, împreună cu imaginea și comentariul audio corespunzător. Pe lângă audio, vom putea utiliza și o fotografie, o imagine, un desen pe care le vom pute... See More



Daniela Munca-Aftenev shared a link.

September 19, 2016 · Chisinau

Bună ziua, tuturor!

Transmit ștafeta colegei mele, Natalia Rața, care a absolvit cu succes câteva proiecte educaționale internaționale care implică utilizarea cu succes a platformelor online. Natalia a creat un tutorial pentru a vă învăța să creați filmele online prin intermediul Platformei Stupeflix. Apropos, site-ul funcționează în 3 limbi: franceză, spaniolă și engleză:

<https://studio.stupeflix.com/fr/> ... See More



Tutorial pentru Stupeflix

Recorded with <http://screencast-o-matic.com>

YOUTUBE.COM

NORTH CAROLINA—MOLDOVA

SERVICE LEARNING SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

From October 2016 to May 2017 20 schools from Moldova and 20 schools from North Carolina were involved in an online collaborative project which aimed to introduce Moldovan and American students to the concept of "service learning", with a focus on its rewards for the English language instruction. American and Moldovan educators learned how to introduce community engagement pedagogies in their daily instruction and enhance state curriculum with community development initiatives. By the end of the project, each participant worked in teams with a cross Atlantic partner to organize and implement at least two community development activities in their home cities and villages. Over 200 students from Șoldănești, Orhei, Cahul, Tiraspol, Drochia, Cantemir, Criuleni, Vulcănești, Sângerei, Dondușeni, Soroca, Leova, Rezina, Ciorescu and Ungheni used the project blog to learn the value of international collaboration and the power of volunteering through English language instruction. Our American school partners: Carolina International School, Cato Middle College High School, Tuckaseegee Elementary School, Turning Point Academy, Queens Creek Elementary School, Charlotte Latin School, Virginia Williamson Elementary School, Hunter Huss High School, Carmel Middle School, Hawthorne Academy of Health Science. The project was financed by US Embassy to Moldova through the English language grants competition and has been supported by North Carolina—Moldova Bilateral Partnership from North Carolina, USA.



SHARING BENEFITS OF SERVICE LEARNING

"The aim of service learning is to intentionally and purposefully integrate education with service. An effective partnership between an educational institution and the surrounding community provides the opportunity for both outreach and awareness of social issues. Through community service, students become culturally aware of the differences of others in their surrounding area. In turn, community members receive cost-free benefits, while spreading consciousness of the struggles faced by the local community."

Victoria Bell, Queens Creek Elementary

"Bringing service learning into the school would be beneficial to our school and students because the students would be able to learn, ask questions, and participate using a service learning provider. Students could learn life task, behavior relationships, and the importance of community. Students could learn that through service learning, there is something bigger than ones self." **Timothy Ryan, Queens Creek Elementary**

"The benefits which I have witnessed of bringing service learning into my school has been huge. As a health science school, the students are interested in learning all aspects of the medical field. Allowing students to have first hand experiences and hands on experiences encourages them to fulfill their dreams. Students also have been involved with creating an outside vegetable and spice garden to donate to the community. " **Nicole Sparrow, Hawthorne Academy of Health Sciences**



AICE EXPERT BRINGS NEW PERSPECTIVES FROM HER FULBRIGHT EXPERIENCE IN UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY



AICE expert Olga Moroza has just returned from US, after completing her Fulbright research at University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK) focused on e-learning courses in education and social sciences. At UNK, Olga Moroza has been conducting research on the perception of tele-health for psychologists, and teaching two online classes. She has also presented at various conferences on campus such as the World Affairs Conference, Early Childhood Education Conference and Tech Edge Conference. The Fulbright Program is an international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government. The program, which is active in more than 160 countries, aims to increase understanding between people in the U.S. and those in other countries.

"My Fulbright Program visit at the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK) was a remarkable experience of lecturing, research and mutual exchange on integrating education technology into college/school curricular and extracurricular programs, and counseling services. Exploring the up-to-date educational approaches and building the new connections with US educational partners and experts from UNK and Kearney's K-12 school network enriched my US cultural understanding, and broadened my knowledge of US values, democracy, and civic engagement. This exchange experience will open new perspectives for future international collaboration on sustainable development goals and e-learning initiatives between Nebraskan and Moldovan educators and students engaged in the educational initiatives coordinated by Academy for Innovation and Change through Education. In the fall of 2017 I am planning to involve English Access Microscholarship Program teachers in several professional development opportunities offered by UNK ."

Olga Moroza, AICE Vice President

UNIVERSITY
OF NEBRASKA
UNK
KEARNEY

OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERS



The University of Nebraska at Kearney is a public, residential university committed to be one of the nation's premier undergraduate institutions with excellent graduate education, scholarship, and public service. The University of Nebraska at Kearney will achieve national distinction for a high quality, multidimensional learning environment, engagement with community and public interests, and preparation of students to lead responsible and productive lives in a democratic, multicultural society.

Reach the World makes the benefits of travel accessible to classrooms, inspiring students to become curious, confident global citizens. Each year, Reach the World connects hundreds of travelers with hundreds of classrooms in one-on-one global digital exchanges. Since 2009, Reach the World has served more than 17,000 youth, 900 travelers and 500 volunteers. Together, our community has created more than 16,000 primary-source travel stories, chronicling daily life around the globe.



Novateca helps Moldovans attain a higher quality of life by increasing their economic and social opportunities through public libraries. Through a seven-year national program supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in partnership with USAID, Novateca provides Moldovan citizens with access to relevant information and locally tailored services in public libraries countrywide.

OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERS

iEARN is a non-profit organization made up of over 30,000 schools and youth organizations in over 140 countries. iEARN empowers teachers and young people to work together online using the Internet and other new communications technologies. Over 2,000,000 students each day are engaged in collaborative project work worldwide.



The Adobe Youth Voices, a program created by Adobe Foundation, ignites young people's Creative Confidence – the ability to harness creative skills to solve problems – through the power of digital storytelling. Through Adobe Youth Voices, TakingITGlobal works in partnership with NGOs, educational institutions and youth organizations in an effort to engage youth aged 13-18.

Founded in 1986, YSA supports a global culture of engaged children and youth committed to a lifetime of meaningful service, learning, and leadership. With half the world's population under age 25, our mission is to help all young people find their voice, take action, and make an impact on vital community issues. Starting in 2016, YSA will focus all our assets and outcomes on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.



VIF International Education, based in North Carolina, USA, builds global education programs that prepare students for success in an interconnected world. VIF's professional development, resources and consultation services are easily packaged to address specific goals and needs and are deployed in partnerships that support individual teachers, teacher cohorts within a school or across a district, or whole-school and district-wide initiatives.

The North Carolina - Moldova Partnership was formalized on April 22, 1999 by the Republic of Moldova and the State of North Carolina. It has since evolved into a partnership that includes the efforts of many more organizations and individuals to include private firms, civic organizations and non-profit agencies. The partnership is a bi-lateral association with planning committees in both North Carolina and the Republic of Moldova who work together in a cooperative effort to improve and enrich the lives of everyone it touches.

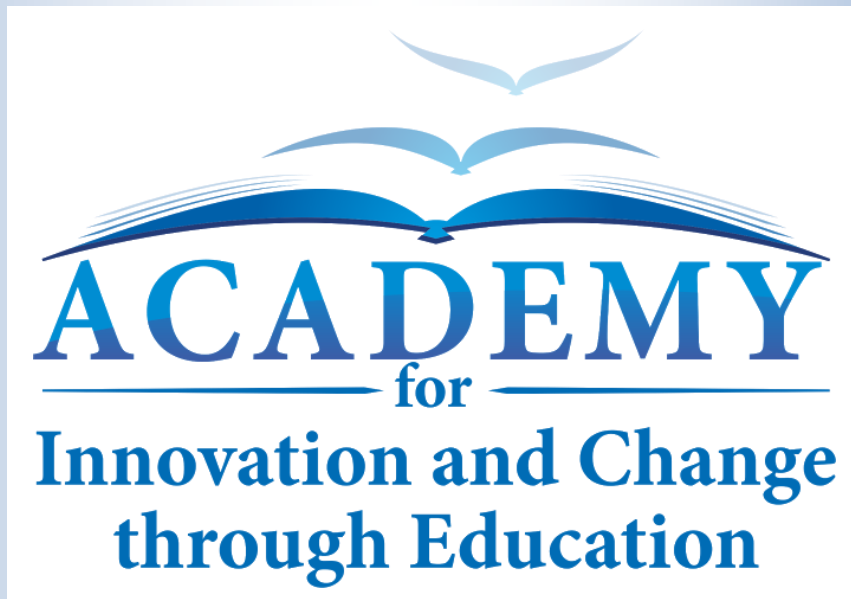


Founded in 1987, Participate (formerly VIF International Education) is a B Corporation based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina that collaborates with schools and districts across the country to implement 21st century professional development programs. With a heritage steeped in global education, Participate serves as the leading U.S. Department of State-designated J-1 teacher exchange sponsor program, while supporting a network of 115 global and dual language immersion schools that help students to develop vital language learning and global competencies, including skills in cross-cultural communication and collaboration.

The English Access Microscholarship Program (Access) provides a foundation of English language skills to talented 13-20 year-olds from economically disadvantaged sectors through after-school classes and intensive sessions. Access gives participants English skills that may lead to better jobs and educational prospects. Participants also gain the ability to compete for and participate in future exchanges and study in the United States. Since its inception in 2004, approximately 95,000 students in more than 85 countries have participated in the Access Program.



Moldovan Librarians Association (ABRM) is the leading national NGO which promotes the development of the library community from Moldova. ABRM is promoting free and equal access to information and knowledge for all and is coordinating projects which encourage Moldovan citizens to perceive the library as a community and professional development center.



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