CreatLearn – this is what it’s all about
Our world needs creative people, who are able to think in new and innovative ways to meet the challenges of the future.
This is a project with partners around the Baltic about creativity – about giving young people at school tools to think in and express themselves through the languages of art and culture, to believe in their own creative powers;
CreatLearn – Schools building competences to lead and learn in a rapidly changing world. In schools in the Hanseatic City of Rostock and Rostock County Council in Germany, Guldborgsund in Denmark, Klaipeda district in Lithuania and the City of Kalmar in Sweden now teachers, filmmakers, theatre people and artists together with young people carry through local projects with the aim of richer learning and creativity through art and culture. Our common theme is Civil Courage. – The courage as a human being and citizen to stand up for justice and solidarity in a tough world. Our goal is development of methods of using culture and art in schools and working with young people. We will present our findings in an inspiration book for schools and teachers and for everybody interested in creativity, learning and teaching. This is a project in the EU South Baltic program 2012-2013. Björn Samuelsson, Project Leader, Kalmar, Sweden, bjorn.samuelsson@kalmar.se

SWEDEN
CreatLearn in City of Kalmar
In Kalmar this autumn students had a “shock opening” with a “relationship consultant”, declaring that blue eyed people are more intelligent than brown eyed, and therefore should have special privileges. An interactive theatre piece, of course that led to vivid discussions; you understand more about discrimination when you yourself are a subject to it.

Students have been working with forum theatre, staging and discussing scenes of civil courage. They have been watching film and working with film, photo and art and have been writing texts on the subject. Their works of art will be shown in the city park of Kalmar this spring and films will be shown at the Kalmar busses.
DENMARK
CreatLearn in Guldborgsund Municipality
CreatLearn had the official Guldborgsund launch 1 August 2012 during the Festival Week in Nykoebing Falster (Denmark), at which the Portuguese Dancer and Choreographer Francisco “Pako” Almeida together with 50 local students performed “The Dream” in the central culture house of Nykoebing. The 50 participants came from Fjordschool as well as from Eskilstrup school and Stubbeskoebing school in Guldborgsund Municipality and these three schools are, together with Theatre the Mask and the culture house cooperation CultHus, the partners in the Danish section of CreatLearn.

In September all three schools did run workshops of the interactive drama-form Forum Theatre for students age 13-16, and in October 20 teachers from the schools had an intense and very successful first training in this. Forum Theatre, aka Theatre of the Oppressed, is not a performing drama-form, but takes a starting point in own experiences and is mainly a method for personal and social development and e.g. recognised as an excellent anti-bullying tool. In this way Forum Theatre was chosen by the teachers as a relevant topic to develop and implement following the overall CreatLearn theme “Civil Courage.”

Gill Dowsett from Theatr Fforwm Cymru in Wales did provide the training, as she already has been working several times in Guldborgsund, and she will also do the second part of the training in 20-21 February 2013 as well as a supervision, follow-up, when the teachers themselves have used their new skills in workshops at neighbour-schools 12-13 March 2013. This will secure a solid basis of Forum Theatre skills at our three CreatLearn schools for the future and hopefully also inspire the rest of our schools to enter similar projects during the coming years.
LITHUANIA
CreatLearn in Klaipeda district
19 teachers, 4 professionals, stage manager, scenographer, designer, choreographer, started their activities in 7 arenas, theatre, stage decoration, chorus, choreography, avant-garde fashion, folk instruments and time travelling, established at 5 schools in Klaipeda district 1 October 2012.

Before the start of school arenas, teachers had the opportunity to participate in three seminars and workshops conducted by professionals from Klaipeda Music Theatre. 220 students are involved in preparations of staging mystery play “Sand Box Citizen.”

GERMANY
CreatLearn in Rostock County Council
From 24 to 25 October 2012 teachers from the Danish schools visited the schools in Schwaan and Rövershagen. They received an impression of very different activities which either already have taken place or are going on, respectively are planned within CreatLearn, e.g:

In Rövershagen:
19-20 June 2012 - Tolerance workshop (pottery),
28 September 2012 - Instant acts against violence and racism,
11 October 2012 - CreatLearn Blog writing workshop,
Planned for a joint project week in 2013: A “different” fashion show and a graffiti workshop is.

In Schwaan:
Every week since August 2012 until June 2013 - Anti-bullying workshops – the world is multicoloured,
12 September 2012 - CreatLearn Blog writing workshop,
Ongoing: Chill-out lounge, anti-aggression room, theatre play “Ralf is gone!”
Planned 18-22 March 2013: different workshops in a joint project week
CreatLearn in the Hanseatic City of Rostock

In the beginning of the project at "Schulcampus Evershagen", the pupils learned to use simple things that you can find in each household, like brooms, dustbins, hand brooms and dustpans as percussion instruments. They practiced every week for learning to play together as a group.

Together with their teacher the children prepared a common performance for the summer celebration at the city district of Evershagen. You see these children at their final rehearsal before the performance .(pictures 4-6).

The pupils had a very successful public performance in which they played together as a team at the summer celebration in Evershagen. As first result of the Creat Learn lessons and a big improvement for all of them the pupils overcame their stage fright and their fear.

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