

European Map of Intergenerational Learning

Newsletter – 27th edition

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European Projects, Programmes & Partnerships from the field:

BLACK TO THE FUTURE -



'Black to the Future: A Sankofa Exploration of Youth Work' is a 20 month innovative intergenerational project for youth workers from the African Diaspora in Amsterdam, Bonn and London. The project facilitates an African Sankofa process which encourages an intergenerational group of African Diaspora youth workers to look back at youth work practice from late 1970's onwards and also youth work practice today so as to create a model for the future.

Through a series of study visits, work shadowing activities and dialogue sessions, 'Black to the Future' seeks to introduce youth workers to African and other creative non formal educational principles and processes ('World Café', 'Open Space Technology') and practical tools such as 'Digital Mapping' to help them understand better the changing nature of European African Diaspora identity and promote European integration. The practical outcomes of the project will be a digital map of stories, a toolkit and an evaluation process.

To learn more about 'Black to the Future', a co-funded by European Commission within Erasmus+ Programme, visit [The Ubele Initiative](#) – project coordinator



Intergenerational Seniors Residence in the Netherlands



In Deventer, in the Netherlands, the senior residence *Humanitas* provides free accommodation for students. In return they commit to spending at least 30 hours of their time every month with their older co-residents. This solution enables, on the one hand, students to access accommodation in a country where rents are very high and, on the other hand, the residence staff to get some support in looking after seniors.

Younger and older people report positive and enriching experience from those intergenerational exchanges that help break up stereotypes. Wheel chair races, manicure and beauty care, bottom up drinking and singings are brightening up the older residents' everyday life.

A [Dutch Radio programme](#) has also collected some moving interviews from *Humanitas* residents (in Dutch).



Are you an Intergenerational Champion?

[Generations Working Together](#), Scotland has been asking politicians and organisations to take photo with signs (see photo above) that say they support Intergenerational Work to talk about /support intergenerational causes. So far the organization has had a few MSPs take part but is keen to get more champions in Scotland.

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Orange Tree Village – New Intergenerational Living Centre in Canada

The unique concept of intergenerational living is gaining traction in areas of the world and now has a foothold in Regina, Canada. The Orange Tree Village, opened in December 2016, provides spaces for not only seniors, but families, students, and professionals with a learning centre for children as well – people of different generations live alongside each other with the hopes of building relationships. The intergenerational village offers: Supportive Living, Specialized Memory Care, Short Term Stay Options, Affordable Living and 'A la Carte' Living.

The Village Hub – Services are open to the public as well as residents. All activity programs focus on genuine engagement; rather than adhering to a rigid schedule, staff are trained to work from an “activity toolkit” that can adapt to individual or group preferences on any given day. With an underlying focus on creating meaningful and enriching connections and interaction, residents are surrounded by friends, neighbours and community members of all ages. Orange Tree Village residents design their own lifestyle through use of the centres: art studio, yoga and dance room, multipurpose cooking facilities, meeting rooms, library and daily programming options. For more information, please visit the [Orange Tree Village website](#).

Valuing Vaccinations Across Generations

Generations United is expanding its international campaign, Valuing Vaccinations Across Generations, as they continue working with teams in Tokyo, Japan and Granada, Spain. GU launched the campaign in the U.S. in 2016 to bridge the importance of immunizations within segmented groups into an intergenerational conversation within families and among different generations. In its first year, the campaign produced compelling and shareable content including an informational infographic and discussion guide about the critical importance of vaccinations across generations. Moving forward, partners will continue to share campaign messages to an expanded audience through culturally-relevant materials and outreach strategies. To learn more about Valuing Vaccinations Across the Generations, [click here](#).



The Global Junior Challenge is an international contest organised by Fondazione Mondo Digitale rewarding projects making innovative use of information and communication technologies in the social inclusion area, education for life, training and intercultural cooperation. The aim is to encourage young generations and their teachers to use new technologies, exchange experiences and emulate successful initiatives - a chance to reflect and share experiences on the challenges posed by the 21st C education and the role of new technologies in the innovation of the teaching approach and in the process of social inclusion, development and poverty reduction. The GJC competition is open to all kind of associations, public and private institutions, cooperatives, schools, universities, companies and individuals of any age: projects must be active or finished, and address young men and women up to age 29, who use ICT for educational objectives. You can register your project via the [GJC online form](#). For further information, email: info@gjc.it

TRASVERSALE Project Update

More than 90% of companies in Italy are family owned. High school students are likely to work in a family business once they enter the labour market. In order to increase employability for college students and facilitate school-to-work transition, [Trasversale srl](#) together with the training agency of the Chamber of Commerce of Rome, [Forma Camera](#), organized a cycle of seminars for students attending Amaldi High School - Rome. Participants met two local family companies, [Cartoni spa](#) (professional camera support) and [De Sanctis Costruzioni spa](#) (construction company) and had the chance to listen to family entrepreneurs (3rd generation) and to understand strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of a family business. For more info, email Ezequiel: ezequielurcovich@trasversale.com

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Intergenerational News & Events

Senior Citizens become experts, with younger adults, in ageing research in Quebec, Canada

The population of Quebec is one of the fastest ageing populations in the world. Determined to better meet the needs of this older population, researchers from Sherbrooke University in Montreal have joined forces with the greatest ageing experts: older adults who take part in every stage of a scientific study aimed to value and empower older people. The intergenerational research team, which includes 7 older adults, addresses the ability of seniors to act in the current social context, looking at the physical & mental capacities, power over life, and social & personal constraints or limitations. To read more and watch a video about the project, [click here](#).



'Mobility Scouts' engages older people in creating age-friendly environments

As 'experts' of their own life, older people know best how services and public spaces should be designed and organised to meet their needs. The Mobility Scouts project aims to empower older people to contribute to the creation of an intergenerational/ age-friendly environment and services as co-producers involved in the decision making processes. The core idea is to train older people to initiate co-production processes and cooperate together with local authorities and service providers in the development of age-friendly environments and services in their own community, village or city. For more information, [click here](#).

MOBILITY SCOUTS

'Bras Dessus Bras Dessous'



'Bras Dessus Bras Dessous' is a network of citizens based on solidarity in Brussels that aims to connect isolated or vulnerable older persons with neighbours willing to dedicate some time and attention to them on a one-off or regular basis. The final goals are to:

- Reduce older residents' loneliness and social exclusion in enabling them to get involved in the community
- Make the neighbourhood more dynamic
- Keep the older person at the core of the life of the district, foster his/her empowerment
- Foster independent living at home for longer (for persons who wish it)
- Support informal carers

Visit [Bras Dessus Bras Dessous' website](#) for more information (in French)

BACK TO LIFE

Back to Life brings children from the Newbyres Nursery to visit residents at Newbyres Village Care Home every week. Since September 2016 they have undertaken a wide range of activities which include indoor sports, baking, crafts and songs. There are also weekly visits to the Village and plans to do outdoor activities during the summer. Newbyres Nursery received so much help from the local community during their recent renovation that they wanted to forge strong links with the community. Newbyres Nursery were so impressed with hearing reports from the US where preschools were working closely with care homes that they decided to try it out. Although still in its infancy the project is proving very successful.

For more information about this project, [click here](#).

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European Day of Solidarity between Generations 2017 – focus on sustainable employment & work-life balance

In the current context of high youth unemployment and of reforms aiming to rise the pensionable age across the European Union, AGE seizes the momentum of the European Day of Solidarity between Generations to highlight the key role of intergenerational solidarity and cooperation as a way to promote the employment of both young and older people and address some of the challenges deriving from demographic change.

“Promoting age diversity at the workplace is a matter of coherence in a European Union that asks its citizens to work longer”, points out Anne-Sophie Parent, AGE Secretary General in [our press release](#) sent to mark the EU Day.

Video Presentation - Intergenerational Space and Places by Matt Kaplan

Matthew Kaplan, Intergenerational Programs & Aging, Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, & Education, Penn State University

What does it mean to create public places that are conducive to intergenerational engagement and cooperation? Places such as parks, playgrounds, shopping malls and community centers where the generations can readily meet, interact, build relationships, and, if desired, work together to address issues of common concern. In his talk, Matt Kaplan presents examples of creative programs, planned environments (including images and objects found in these environments), and design strategies that are responsive to intergenerational engagement goals in diverse settings. Kaplan frames these examples in the context of intergenerational contact zones -- a conceptual tool (for examining complex, multi-generational settings), and a design tool (for generating innovative ideas for developing intergenerational meeting spaces which may be converted into socially meaningful places).

To watch the video presentation, [click here](#)

Resources

[SPARKLING GREY](#) aims to provide SMEs of textile and metal sectors with adjusted and innovative human resources management strategies that address age and multi-generational issues while supporting career management skills specifically targeted to senior workers. The [1st Newsletter](#) of the project highlights research on the needs of the companies and employees in the metal and textile sectors in what regards to age management, intergenerational and knowledge transfer policies, practices and procedures, as well as what are the next steps that the project will undertake.

CONGRATULATIONS to EMIL member - Dr K. Wright-Bevans on completing her PhD in Intergenerational Practice

Katie was recently awarded a PhD for her thesis - Intergenerational practice and social change: exploring social representations in text, talk and action. Katie's research was supported by Keele University, the Beth Johnson Foundation and Stoke-on-Trent Public Health. Through 3 studies using mixed qualitative methods, the research demonstrated how intergenerational practice is characterised by a tension between its collectivist community-led ideals and institutional practices driven by individualist approaches to health and wellbeing. Katie would like to thank those who supported the research including Prof Michael Murray, Dr Alex Lamont, Dr Alan Hatton-Yeo, Linking Generations Northern Ireland and many community agencies across Stoke-on-Trent. Katie is now a lecturer in psychology at Keele University and continues to be involved in research with older adults on wellbeing and community cohesion. [Click here for a link to Katie's e-thesis.](#)

Let's go intergenerational! A collection of methods for intergenerational practice

Developed within the project “archipelago of generations”, this publication offers you methods to foster intergenerational learning. While some of them will be familiar to you, they might still yield a different outcome, when used in an intergenerational setting. The authors invite you to try them out, adapt them to your own needs and redevelop them.

[Click here to download the document.](#)