



Fall 2020 Newsletter



Forensics Clubs in Moldova

Have you ever lifted a fingerprint? Do you know how to analyze a crime scene? And did you know that studying science, technology, or math could help you become a police officer/jumpstart your career in law enforcement? Well, 420 enthusiastic middle school students in Moldova are discovering answers to these questions in their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) & Forensics Afterschool Clubs, part of the Moldova Legal Socialization Program (MLSP). The Clubs help students to make connections between their STEM classes and possible careers in law enforcement. Students are introduced to crime research and the mobile forensic laboratory and have learned how to investigate a crime scene, retrieve and process fingerprints, and engage in practical activities with the help of their teachers and representatives from the Technical-Forensic and Judicial Expertise Center of the General Police Inspectorate of Moldova using PH-supplied forensic toolkits. The Clubs started in September 2020 in 22 pilot schools in the Ungheni, Cahul, Soroca, Chisinau, Straseni, Floresti, Căușeni and Glodeni regions.

Prior to the formation of the Clubs, police officers and STEM teachers received training in how to collect evidence similar to the processes followed by professional forensic experts; practiced teaching strategies and practical applications based on STEM concepts; and used various tools and methods of forensic research.

As one of the participating teacher's stated: "During the forensics enrichment activities, a young Sherlock Holmes (or a young criminalist) with great enthusiasm simulates the investigation of a crime scene by following the traces and collecting the evidence. With the help of these enrichment forensic activities, we educate children to become conscientious citizens who will work with law enforcement for the safety of tomorrow's society."

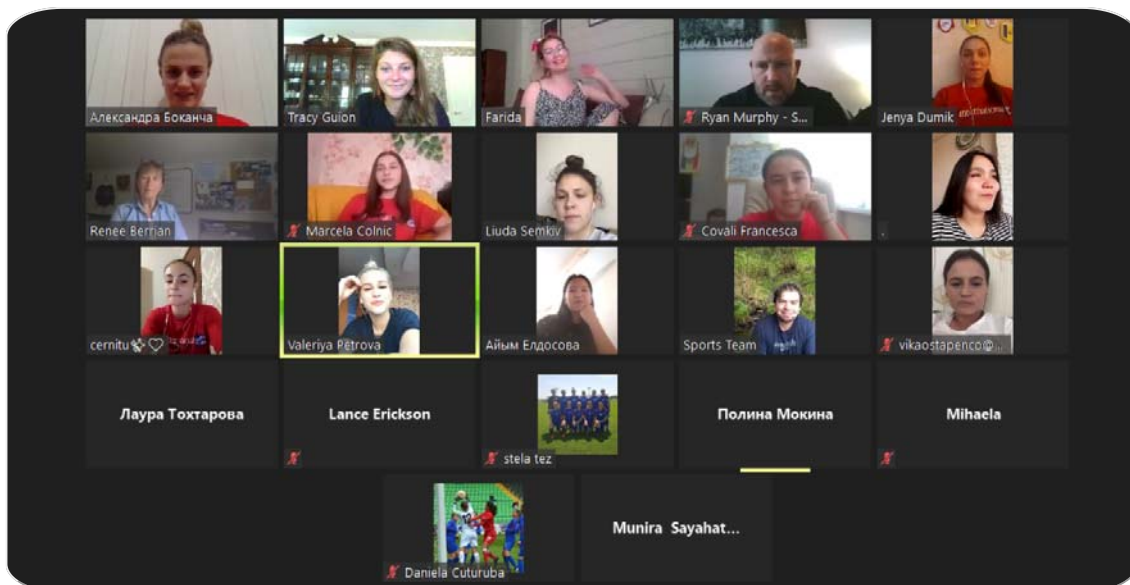
Innovate-Ukraine

Sixteen start-up entrepreneurs from Kharkiv, Severodonetsk, and Lysychansk in eastern Ukraine are being selected to participate in a sustainable business financing methods workshop to foster innovation and entrepreneurship. The training is being co-developed by Ukrainian and American experts focusing on the mechanics of business financing, best practices and models of business financing, concept pitching, accountability to investors and lenders, and ways to sustain financing longer-term. Following the workshop, the Ukrainian and American content experts will work with online education specialists and media/tech specialists to turn the workshop materials into an open access digital training platform available to all Ukrainian entrepreneurs.



(Photo Credit: www.freepik.com/vectors/background)

Youth Leadership Through Sport (YLS)



Multi-Country Webinar

On June 26, 2020, the PH Vermont Office hosted a virtual webinar for YLS alumni from three different countries and three different sports. The YLS alumni were from Moldova, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine who played soccer, ice hockey, and basketball, respectively. The webinar brought together female youth athletes from all three countries to share success stories and impactful memories about their experiences on the YLS programs in the United States. The webinar was hosted entirely in Russian and focused on women's empowerment through sport. The webinar was a hit and YLS alumni from all three countries requested more webinars like this in the future.

Upcoming Webinars

Over the past few months, the PH Vermont office has been excitedly planning virtual webinars to keep our international audience engaged and inspired during these tough times. PH has an incredible list of online webinars lined up, including but not limited to: a panel with U.S. and foreign professional athletes discussing their professional international experience; a virtual hockey camp with Olympic ice hockey champion Amanda Pelkey; and a series of training webinars with non-profit Train the Mind.



The graphic features a grey background with several logos at the top: the United States flag, the Department of State seal, Sports Diplomacy, PH International, and Youth Leadership Sport. Below the logos are six small photos of the participants: Matt Caskey (Moderator), Travis Leech, Taylor Copenrath, Chelsea Furlani, Chris Dial, and Bulbul Kartanbay. The central text reads: 'PRESENTED BY PH INTERNATIONAL'S POWER THROUGH SPORT WEBINAR SERIES: Power through Sport Goes Global: Free Throws, Hockey Skates & Culture Shock'. It also includes the text 'Join a panel discussion with international professional athletes', '45 MINUTE DISCUSSION, FOLLOWED BY LIVE Q & A', and the date and time 'Tuesday, November 24th 11:00 AM EST'. At the bottom, it says 'FACEBOOK LIVE' and provides the URL 'https://www.facebook.com/PHIntOrg/' next to a Facebook logo.

Shout-out to our YLS participants, alumni, and parents!

While the pandemic has prevented us from gathering and traveling in-person on our programs, it can't stop us from staying in touch and sharing our love for sports! The PH Program Team recently created a private YLS Instagram account to bring together the entire YLS family! PH will share YLS content, photos, memories, quotes, fun facts, etc.! If you're involved with the YLS program, follow the account at: **@ylsprogram** or scan this QR code to get to the page:



Azerbaijani Youth Environmental Program (AYEP)



In September 2020, PH was awarded a new program through the U.S. Embassy in Baku, Azerbaijan. AYEPA aims to provide 10 Azerbaijani youth (ages 16-18) with the opportunity to examine environmental sustainability, leadership development, and community engagement through a 12 day exchange in the United States in the summer of 2021. Through the AYEPA program, the Azerbaijani youth will develop and become equipped with leadership skills and environmental awareness which will help them implement environmental projects in their schools and communities upon their return home.



Georgian Students 'Get Connected'

PH was awarded the Access Exchange Program to complement its ongoing English Access Microscholarship Program (Access) in Georgia. Access provides a foundation of English language skills to economically-underprivileged youth through afterschool classes and enrichment activities. To amplify their English language learning, the new Access Exchange Program will provide Georgian Access students and alumni an opportunity to improve their English language writing and communication skills while also providing them with leadership skills and exposure to U.S. culture through a three-week exchange to the U.S.

To better prepare the students for their travel to the U.S. in 2021, the online "Get Connected" component will begin this month to engage selected students in English Language conversation and learning. Working with our partner, the International Education Center (IEC) at Diablo Valley College in California, "Get Connected" will provide monthly sessions in which the students will learn more about U.S. culture, improve their speaking and listening skills, and build community. The sessions will also provide an opportunity for the IEC and Georgian teachers to increase their knowledge of the group, assess the students' language skills, and help them to better plan the summer 2021 program.



Using Television to Reach a Wider Audience in Bosnia & Herzegovina

A new initiative is producing TV shows on corruption and the prevention of juvenile delinquency targeting over 280,000 people in Canton Sarajevo. In partnership with TV Sarajevo, the new media component “Corruption and Juvenile Delinquency” is part of the Bosnia & Herzegovina Legal Socialization Program (BLSP) and aims to call attention to the issues of corruption and juvenile delinquency and models for potential solutions. TV shows are being produced and aired on such topics as youth activism in the fight against corruption, cyberbullying and protection mechanisms, and how to recognize corruption. Students from 16 secondary schools in Sarajevo Canton are participating in the project by developing videos, essays, and photos which offer their suggestions on ways to mitigate corruption and juvenile delinquency.

In September, the TV Sarajevo morning show, *Sarajevsko jutro*, hosted a conversation on the importance of the project. Guest speakers included Duška Jurišić, the Executive Director of TV Sarajevo, and Nedžada Faginović, the Bosnia & Herzegovina Country Director of PH International.



Teachers Mentoring Teachers in Armenia

In August, twelve Armenian teachers of English participated in a 10-day online “Training of English Teachers as Mentors” course conducted by Steven Gomez, a U.S. TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) Training Specialist, as part of the larger U.S. Embassy Yerevan funded Building English Language Capacity for Armenian Students and Teachers (BELCAST) Program. Participants learned the key principles of mentorship and gained new skills in

effective student-oriented teaching techniques; grammar and communicative methods; balancing learners' reading, writing, speaking and listening skills; and techniques for monitoring and assessing students' progress. The trained mentors are now busy designing a training program for 40 Armenian teachers of English which will be conducted next year and are mentoring and supporting the professional development of their peer teachers.

We will be sending out our annual appeal very soon. Please click here to DONATE now, and thank you!



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