

Visual Arts Education Conference

The European Programme CREATE: “Creative Primary School Partnerships with Visual Artists” in Cyprus Education

May 26, 2017

Cyprus University of Technology, Limassol



CREATIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WITH VISUAL ARTISTS

What **CREATE** project is about?

CREATE (Creative Primary School Partnerships with Visual Artists) is a project that draws upon the priority areas of the education and training process offering an alternative literacy and a creative space for children of the age of 6-12 to be engaged in experiential and cooperative learning by working with contemporary visual artists.



CREATIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL



PARTNERSHIPS

WITH VISUAL ARTISTS

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The project was funded by the European Commission.



Erasmus+

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CREATIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WITH VISUAL ARTISTS

European Programme CREARTE:

- 01/09/2015 - 30/11/2017
- involves the cooperation of visual artists with primary schools and the design and implementation of school art projects



CREATIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS
WITH VISUAL ARTISTS

The following partners cooperate in the CREARTE project:

1. Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Porto, Portugal (coordinator)
2. Department of Primary Education, Ministry of Education and Culture, Cyprus
3. Cyprus Pedagogical Institute
4. University of Jaen, Spain
5. The European Regional Council of the International Society for Education through Arts (InSEA)
6. Goldsmiths University, United Kingdom
7. BUFF Film Festival, Sweden

CREATIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WITH VISUAL ARTISTS

CREARTE's focus:

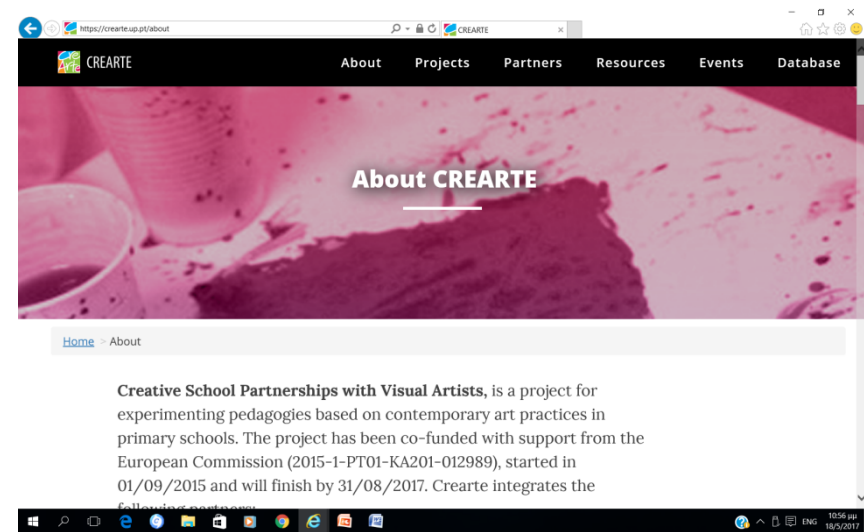
- to exchange opinions and share ideas and expertise between the partners about the collaboration between schools and visual artists
- to provide training of the trainers
- to provide in-service teachers' training



CREATIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WITH VISUAL ARTISTS

CREARTE's focus:

- to promote the design and implementation of innovative teaching
- to produce educational recourses
- to disseminate the results through the official CREARTE open source online platform (www.create.up.pt)



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Historical Retrospection of CREATE



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January 2016

Cyprus partners participated in the First Transnational Project Meeting and the Training of the Trainers events.



Screen shot from the Cyprus presentation in Porto, 24-28 January 2016.



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January – April 2016

CREARTE logo design



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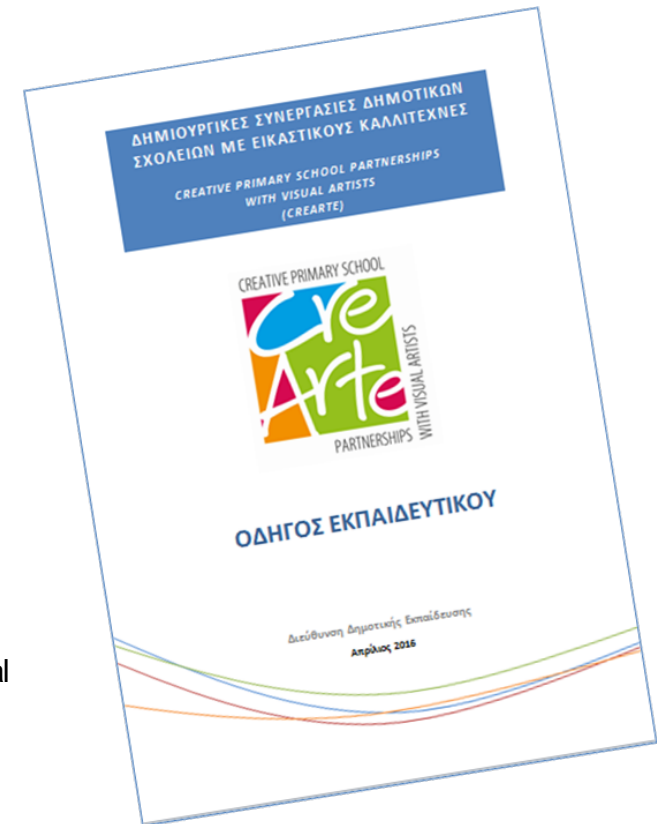
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January – April 2016

- A section on the Ministry's official webpage was created so as to provide information on the CREATE project.
- Supporting documents were produced and were compiled in an Educators' Guide.

Educator's Guide: Creative Primary School Partnerships with Visual Artists, Department of Education, Cyprus Ministry of Education and Culture, April 2016.

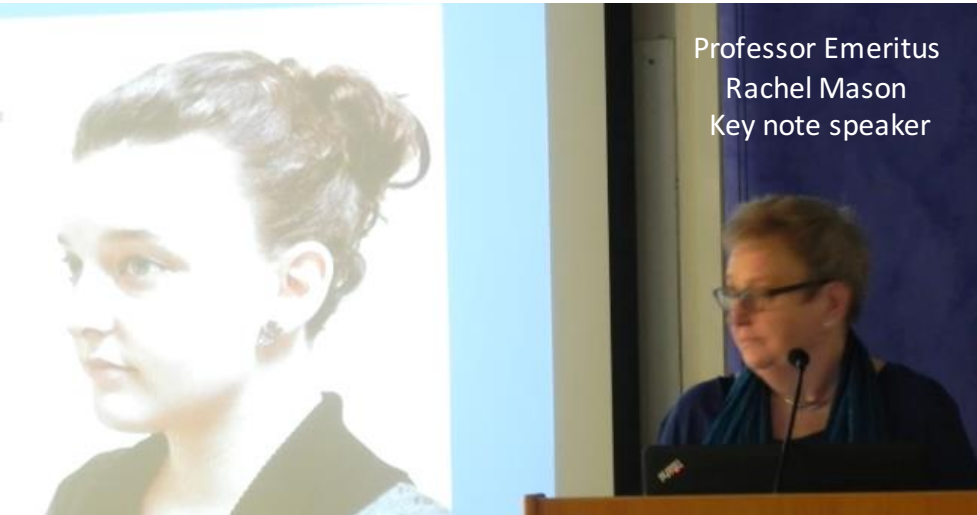


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April 15, 2016

Local Training Event



Professor Emeritus
Rachel Mason
Key note speaker



Susan Ogier
Key note speaker



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April 15, 2016

Local Training Event - Workshops



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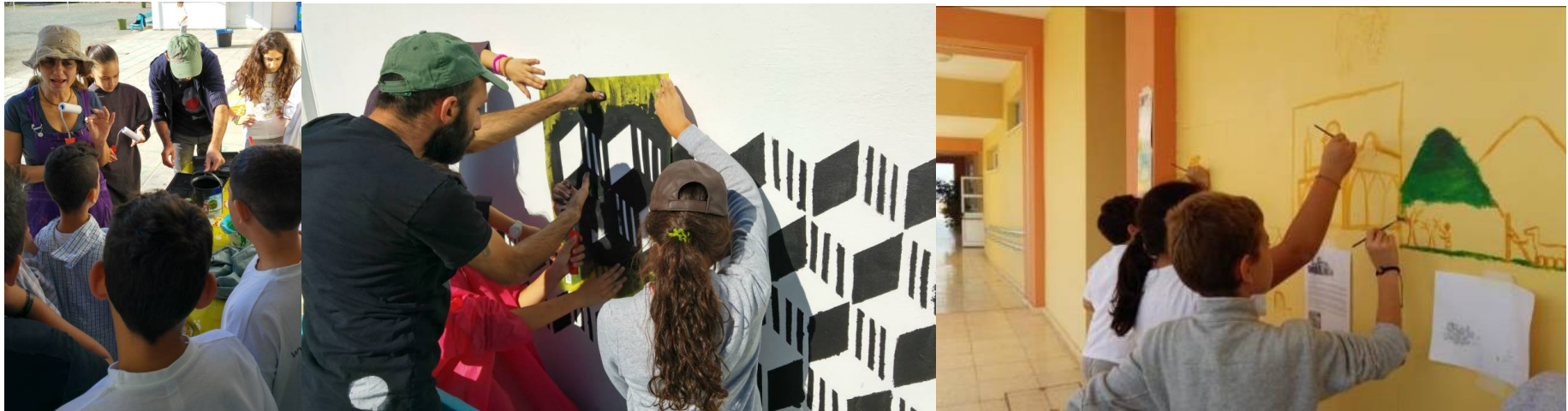
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May 2016

Deadline for the application procedure
for funding school partnerships with visual artists



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September - December 2016
Implementation of CREARTE projects



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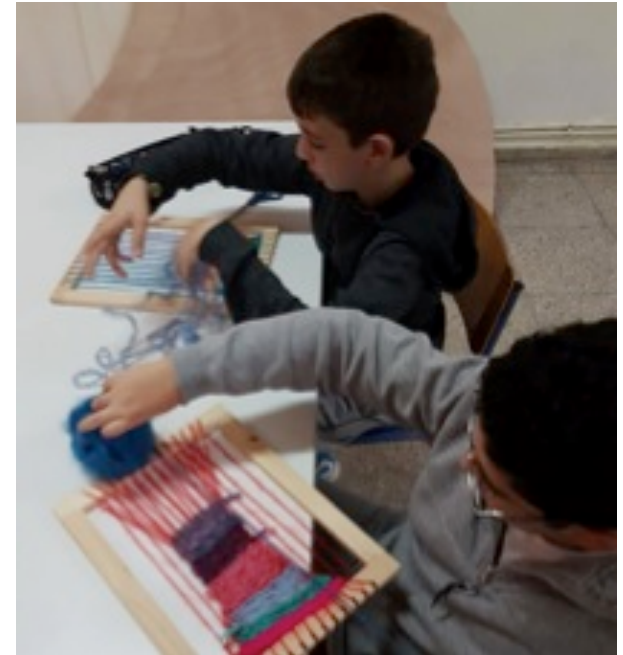


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Project Funding

- 16 creative school partnerships with 19 visual artists were funded
- payment of the services of one or more visual artists for each project, depending on the form of cooperation
- payment of necessary materials for the implementation of projects



CREATIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WITH VISUAL ARTISTS

The projects were built according to the needs of the school/teachers, the students and the artists.

Teachers and schools collaborated with visual artists for the purposes of organization, planning and implementing the projects.



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The projects

- engaged children with the Cyprus visual artists
- developed critical thinking, creativity and artistic expression of children
- dealt with topics or ideas related to various areas of the Curriculum
- collaborated with the community, linking the socio-cultural and educational backgrounds of the participants.



CREATIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS
WITH VISUAL ARTISTS

Pedagogical Advocacy

CREARTE suggests child-centred pedagogies that focus on experiential learning and explorative approaches and emphasizes:

- the exploitation of the interests and experiences of students in real-authentic situations.
- the multimodal expression and creation
- the in-depth exploration of materials and ideas
- the acceptance of subjectivity; multiple interpretations and diverse ways of learning
- the enhancement of critical thinking and research



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ΔΗΜΟΤΙΚΩΝ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΩΝ

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Pedagogical Advocacy

CREARTE

- encourages diversity and flexibility in designing and delivering the visual arts projects.
- gives emphasis to the utilization of various teaching strategies such as play, dialogue, investigation of materials and ideas, experimentation, visual research, debate, interaction with authentic situations/ artefacts/ people, reflection and dissemination of ideas.



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Criteria of planning CREARTE projects

- Presented the stages of organisation and application of creative collaboration
- Determined with clarity realistic objectives and suitable activities.
- Developed the energetic methods of learning (e.g. active entanglement of students in the decision-making, cooperative learning, critical investigation and problem solving).



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Criteria of planning **CREARTE** projects

- Planned according to the methodology and content of Cyprus Visual Arts Curriculum.
- The content of the project was related to the artists' field of study.



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Criteria of planning **CREARTE** projects

- Presented the process of evaluation, which included documentation of the work in process, as well as the final work/event/report/performance
- Characterized by originality, creativity and artistic value.



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Educational recourses are produced to

- a) enhance students' collaboration with professionals
- b) connect school life with the real world of creative professionals that could serve as role models and inspire young students
- c) promote networking of schools with the creative community as well as collaborative approaches to teaching through visual arts



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Educational recourses are produced to

- d) engage students from all backgrounds and with various abilities to collaborative research work with creative professionals as well as their fellow students
- e) provide alternative and creative spaces in the school programmes so as to make teaching and learning more attractive and efficient, and achieve the development of basic and transversal skills.



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Educational recourses are produced to

- f) disseminate the results through:
- the official CREATE open source online platform (www.create.up.pt),
 - the official Ministry of Education and Culture website and
 - the edition of the Department of Primary Education and Cyprus Pedagogical Institute.



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Feedback

Teachers

- pointed out the great importance of the project because it had upgraded the value of arts in the school,
- learned new art techniques and alternative materials for art making

Students

- enjoyed very much the projects
- learnt new skills
- acquired new knowledge about artists and making art

Teachers and students said they would like to continue to have artists in schools in the next school year.



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Institutionalization

The Ministry of Education and Culture recognizes the need to continue and expand schools' partnerships with visual artists and it is in the process of securing and providing funding for school projects for the next years.



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Thank you for your attention!

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