

ACTIVITY REPORT
Centro Comunitario
EducArte
Educando para la vida
Períod: June-September 2016

This second quarterly report put together by Centro Comunitario Educarte refers to the activities carried out over the last 4 months. It is with great gratitude to those who support us and their positive energy that we have been able to develop projects that allow hundreds of boys, girls, adolescents and young people to participate in recreational, educational, play-based and participatory activities.

This year we have been able to consolidate our projects; bringing new ideas and strategic cultural and artistic actions to the table that take into account the participation of children, adolescents, teachers, parents and local authorities.

ART PROGRAM
Narrative Summary

One of the significant actions that we have implemented during this period has been in the area of alternative communications – specifically, the creation of an online radio station that has allowed our participants to express their opinions, their ideas, their dreams and their proposals for the creation of a healthier and happier community. EducArte Radio¹ was born as a tool of alternative communication to facilitate and encourage the participation of children and adolescents in the promotion of their rights in a creative and proactive manner. This project has allowed both girls and boys to become less shy and to recognise the importance of expressing their opinions and sharing their vision of the world and their community.

Another action that we developed with the participants of Colegio El Adelanto – the educational centre that provides the base for our educational projects – was our 1st 3x3 Football Tournament, which generated a lot of interest both within and outside the school. To organise this activity we designated work groups wherein the students from Year 6 were required to coordinate collaborative activities to turn the school playground into a football field – to paint and organise the donation of goalposts, footballs and trophies and to organise the inscription of teams and the timetable of games. We were delighted to see women participating in several teams – something that breaks down the stigma associated with girls taking part in sports. At the end of the activity, we presented a trophy to the winners and to the girls’ team that participated in the tournament. This event generated so much interest that EducArte has been invited to co-organise similar events within other educational and

¹ <http://educarteradio.myl2mr.com/>

artistic institutions across Sacatepequez – something that means EducArte has become a point of reference for the promotion of recreational activities with a community impact.²

Other important activities that have been developed include the creation of the EducArte Community Cinema Project – that seeks to provide a space for girls and boys to have access to recreation and entertainment as part of a non-violent collective, as well as instilling in them a love for cinema and art that is vital to their personal development. We have also continued to develop and implement the Maleta Magica (Storytelling and Mobile Library) – an activity that stimulates passion for reading and books, particularly amongst preschool-age children.

EducArte was instrumental in making Antigua Guatemala the venue of the International Poetry Festival, along with Grupo Metafora de Quetzaltenango. This Festival has been carried out for the last 12 years and is one of the most important in Central America. Students from Colegio El Adelanto – participants in EducArte’s projects – had the opportunity to recite poems by important Guatemalan writers on a stage in the Central Park. This represented a huge opportunity for the students to make themselves known and to involve themselves in a process that allows them to develop as young artists.

EducArte was also able to facilitate the Central American Student Exchange in Colegio El Adelanto, which was focused on sharing educational experiences, knowledge and alternative educational proposals through the Arts. Through integrated games, a forum and group creative projects, the half-day Exchange allowed young people from other countries to understand the complicated issues to do with education in Guatemala and to take back to their respective countries various references to do with Education in the Arts and for the construction of peace.³

IMPORTANT POINTS OF IMPACT:

- EducArte continues to be a permanent base for local and national activism, through our Art Program and the activities that we have developed with the participants of Colegio El Adelanto (who have wholeheartedly supported our proposals and we hope that next year will continue to do so with even more energy and more participants). The support and commitment to our projects has proved that they are seen in a positive light and a lot of interest has been generated around the future projects that we will be developing between now and the end of the year.
- The participants in our Art Program have had many different experiences this year. They have been the main protagonists of actions creating an impact in their community – an impact that is evident through the willingness of the parents to let their children participate in our projects within and outside the educational

² <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1055054801251724&set=pb.100002416424357.-2207520000.1475108542.&type=3&theater>

³ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1092777020812835&set=pb.100002416424357.-2207520000.1475109349.&type=3&theater>

establishment. This clearly demonstrates that the local community trusts us and the projects that we implement.

- We have strengthened the processes that we use to communicate and collaborate with other local organizations, as part of our work to create a network that promotes the individual and collective practice of childrens' and adolescents' rights.

PHOTO GALLERY

