



2013

Dobredoje Macedonia Welcome Centre

International Charity Bazaar

"Be the change you want to see in the world"
Mahatma Gandhi



This year "Dobredoje" Macedonia Welcome Centre (DMWC) once again celebrated the International Children's Day. Participants were Embassies in the Republic of Macedonia, many local businesses and artists, as well as individuals who felt they can contribute to changing the life of the Down syndrome people in Macedonia and have fun at the Bazaar.

2013 DMWC International Charity Bazaar took place on **Saturday, 8 June**, from **16:00 to 20:00**, on the second floor of **Skopje City Mall**. It was opened by Ms. Emilija Miladinova Avramcheva, President of DMWC, Ida Manton, Chairperson of

the Down Syndrome Center, and H.E. Ambassador Dr. Robert Kirnág, Charge d'Affairs of the Slovak Republic in the Republic of Macedonia. The programme started with performances of children from Nova, QSI, and ASM international schools, Cvetan Dimov Macedonian Culture and Arts Performong Society and Piano Forte music school. They were followed by poetry reading by Aleksandar Matovski-Cako, piano piece performed by Darko Arsov, painting, fun games, shopping and presentations at the stands. The Bazaar concluded with the Lottery and tasting wines from all around the world at the "Wines of the World" stand.





Participants in the DMWC International Charity Bazaar 2012

Several embassies participated by having a stand and selling their national products, contributing to the "Wines of the World" stand, supporting the pre-event (Art Exhibition in NLB Tutunska Banka) and providing prizes for the Lottery.

Participating Embassies STANDS

Embassies of: Republic of France, Republic of Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, The Kingdom of the Netherlands and The People's Republic of China.



Republic of France



Republic of Poland



The Kingdom of the Netherlands



Romania



The People's Republic of China

The Chinese Embassy highly appreciates the hard work of Macedonia Welcome Center for organizing the 2013 DMWC International Charity Bazaar. We would like to express our thanks to you for offering us this opportunity to show our concern for vulnerable children.



Slovak Republic



LOTTERY

The Embassies of: Federal Republic of Germany, Republic of Bulgaria, Republic of Poland, Slovak Republic, and Kingdom of Sweden, and EU Delegation.



WINE STAND

Austrian, Bulgarian and Hungarian Embassies offered their wines for this stand.



“The Bulgarian Embassy in Skopje actively participated in the charity projects, organized by DMWC. Our efforts are very much devoted to help the children in the host county, especially the children in need. For that reason the Bulgarian mission was one of the main supporters of 2012 and 2013 Charity Bazaars, having in mind that the collected money went to the children with special needs and Down syndrome. DMWC can rely on our support for future projects as well!”

American School Macedonia was delighted to be part of your event. We greatly appreciate the professionalism of all DMWC members. Knowing that our performance was for a good cause made the experience all the more worthwhile and enjoyable.

We thank you for establishing such a wonderful new tradition in Macedonia.

PRE-EVENT

The Embassy of Slovenia assisted in organizing the pre-event on 29th May, Art Exhibition and sale of work of over 20 prominent Macedonian painters.

Thanks to the supporters of 2013 Bazaar

“Dobrodojde” Macedonia Welcome Centre and the Down Syndrome Center would like to express deep gratitude to all those who took part in and supported the event.

*This year’s DMWC Bazaar was hosted by Skopje City Mall.

*Re-Medika supported “Tree of Happiness” art workshop.

*Acibadem Sistina supported the organization of the event by covering the costs of the printed materials and providing prizes for the Lottery.

The Lottery was made possible thanks to: *Adrijana Alacki, Alchemist, Balizza, Deko, Dentizar, Derma Beuty, Etno Selo, Atanasovski family, Hotel Bistra, Mavrovo, Hotel Drim, Struga, Hotel Porta, Skopje, International Women’s Association (IWA), Jasmina Bosevska, Mama’s, Noa Tours, Ramstore Macedonia, Semos, Skopski Pazar, Sony, Vila Dihovo, Vitrum Art, Wolford and Zaneta Gelevska-Veljanoska.*



Art Exhibition and Sale



Art Exhibition and Sale within the framework of the 2013 DMWC International Charity Bazaar took place on 29 May 2013 at NLB Tutunska Banka's Gallery. It was opened by H.E. Dr. Robert Kirnág, Charge d'Affairs of the Slovak Republic in the Republic of Macedonia, who was also the Honorary President of the Charity Bazaar.

These prominent Macedonian painters donated their paintings to be sold at the exhibition:

Vasko Taskovski, Pavle Kuzmanovski, Reshat Ameti, Sergej Andreevski, Danco Ordev, Milos Kodzoman, Zaneta Gelevska-Veljanoska, Miroslav Masin, Simonida Filipova-Kitanovska, Stefan Hadzi-Nikolov, Maja Raunik-Kirkova, Toni Sulajkovski, Osman Demiri, Kasiopėja Naumovska, Goce Bozurski, Tanja Tanevska, Burhan Ahmeti, Dijana Tomic-Radevska, Dita Starova, Bogoja Angelkovski, Teuta Hoxha-Imeri, Trajce Nikolovski, Marjana Kojstojcinovska-Uzunovska, Ali Sinani, Ilija Kochovski, Dimitar Kochevski-Micho, Dragan Najdenovski, Stefan Malbashic, Maja Kovachevska, Vladimir Simonovski, Bedi Ibrahim, Zaklina Gligorieva Kocovska

and Mikica Trujanovik.

Nikola Kolev, a person with Down syndrome, exhibited his art work and sold most of it. He enjoyed the attention of people from different cultures and professions and had an opportunity to explain the paintings he creates on his computer.

All the proceeds from the sale of art works were contributed to the 2013 DMWC Bazaar Charity Fund used to finance the seminar and workshop organised by the Down Syndrome Center (DSC).





Art Workshop – Tree of Happiness



The result was fascinating – a colourful, vivacious tree that is now hanging on the wall in Remedika. It is actually the first image mothers sees after leaving the delivery room. We are very grateful to Remedika for supporting this art workshop by buying the painting in advance and placing it at a most significant place in their hospital. The transfer of the painting to its final destination was a reason for Remedika to host an event to which the Down Syndrome Center was invited and those who participated in creating this art saw where its permanent home would be.

Among the many activities at the Bazaar, the most colorful was painting the "Tree of Happiness". Children from all the participating schools joined the children with Down syndrome were led by Zaneta Gelevska-Veljanoska in painting a tree that symbolizes the life fulfilled with happiness, the life that is equally valuable to all of us, the life that everyone has a right to. We wanted to make the visitors think about this, to realize that the Down Syndrome people have the equal right to participate in the Macedonian society with any other member of the community.





Funded by the 2013 Bazar Charity Fund: Retreat for Families with Children with Down Syndrome



The money collected in the Charity Fund - 129,704 MKD was spent for implementing the projects of the Down Syndrome Centre, which included Working Retreat in Bitola and a Seminar in Skopje. Both events were planned and partially executed with the money raised at the 2013 DMWC Charity Bazaar.

Down Syndrome Retreat in Dihovo (Bitola area)

A three-day retreat was organized in Dihovo from 20th to 22nd September in Villa Dihovo, Villa Ilinden and Villa Patrice. There were different workshops that made the three days very full, exciting and unforgettable. There were 10 persons with Down syndrome, accompanied by their family members, and it was a valuable bonding opportunity for all of them. It was a great pleasure to have the financial means to accommodate all the families who responded to the invitation. Many initiatives were born, ideas were shared

and friendships made. The unselfish love and skills development were offered by Irina Gjorgieva during her outdoor Yoga sessions, by Zaneta Gelevska-Veljanoska and Mirjana Kjuka at their creative art workshop, Nermina Numanovic at her Brain Gym and with and Ida Manton during her story-telling session. The group was joined by the local Institute for Speech and Hearing Development, and their staff was actively and with dedication supported all the activities, including hiking. Among the other activities it is worth mentioning the collecting of stones for painting on the river bank, pizza making, and cooking with our amazing host Pece Cvetkovski.

"Down Syndrome: Macedonian story and Its Challenges", 13-14 December, Hotel Porta, Skopje

The goal of this seminar is to map out the services offered at the moment to the persons with Down syndrome and their families, to assess what is needed and what can be done to improve the current



situation. Participants from both public and private medical institutions and parents will share their stories and experiences of Down syndrome in Macedonia. Therapists, social workers and advocates for improving the life of the DS people in Macedonia will exchange opinions and coordinate their activities.

Anyone interested to join the seminar or recommend a person or institution that may be invited to participate can visit the Down Syndrome Center's website for more information: www.downsyndrome.mk, their facebook page, or simply write to: downsyndrome.mk@gmail.com.