







Heritage Bridge project report

-  Heritage Bridge has been a Nordplus Horizontal projects between Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.
-  We all celebrate our 100 year anniversaries 2017-2018 and our goal was to find ways for schools and museums to work together on heritage education through the Time Travel method.
-  This is our report.
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Time Travel to 1918 (Ajarännak 1918) for the 100th anniversary of Estonia.

The historical destination was February 24th 1918, the date of the publication of „the Manifest to all Nations in Estonia“ in Tallinn, that included the declaration of independence of Estonian Republic.

The main partners and leaders of the Estonian project were Estonian National Museum and Audentes School from Estonia.

Since this method of teaching history is not yet widely known in Estonia, we decided that the project is a good opportunity to promote the idea of time travel as well as provide training on how to prepare and conduct it.

The preparations took two years. During this time we promoted our ideas in newsletters and at meetings with school teachers. To simplify discussions we created a closed Facebook group Ajarännak1918 (Time Travel 1918). At the meetings with teachers it became clear that while the

historical events in Estonia in 1918 are known in general, there are gaps in the knowledge concerning the culture and everyday life of the early 20th century Estonia. Therefore we held two training days for the teachers to talk about the political background, as well as about fashion and school system – and in general about the „life“ of the era. We discussed and put in place the vision of what will take place in many schools all over Estonia on February 7th 2018. As an example we conducted an entertaining time travel event in the end of October 2017 in the Estonian Open Air Museum in Tallinn so that the teachers would have a clearer understanding of how to organise and conduct a time travel.

The Facebook group Ajarännak1918 proved to be an excellent medium. In a project of this size it is very important to keep all the participants informed. The group has over 180 members. It made it easier to distribute training documents and useful reading material, share experiences and emotions. The group also helped everyone to understand better how the time travel will be carried out in different corners of Estonia. Many



schools had studied their local history and were using historical places, situations and persons playing an important role in the declaration of independence, within their scripts.

Our Time Travel 1918 took place on the 7th of February 2018 at 10 o'clock. 46 schools and 8 museums from all over Estonia took part. That's over 8400 students travelled 100 years back in time with us.

The Time Travel began with the reading of the independence manifesto. That was followed by a lively discussion about what this document and freedom really mean to us: how should the Estonian Republic, where everybody feels at home, look like? What can we do to help achieve it? And maybe the most important question of all: is the independence of our nation self-evident? Different world views and opinions collided, the

excitement and fear for the future.

Ultimately, people reached a common understanding: only in unity and with each others cooperation, will we be able to build a country that is based on freedom, justice and fairness, which will preserve the Estonian nation and culture all across time.

The feedback to the Time Travel 1918 has been extremely positive. Both the students and the teachers were very pleased to discover this new and exciting way of studying history. Encouraged by this rewarding experience we have started with the preparations of our next project. June 2019 marks the 150th anniversary of the first song festival in Estonia. The All-Estonian Time Travel 1869 will take the participants back to the preparatory months before the festival, taking place in May 2019.



Finland was also the project leader for Heritage Bridge as a whole. In Finland the project was carried out by the Ostrobothnian Children's Culture Network BARK, administrated by the Regional Council of Ostrobothnia. During the Finland 100 celebrations in 2017, BARK did a Time Travel tour through the region of Ostrobothnia. The stops was in each of the region's 16 municipalities with a Time Travel for all 8 graders in each municipality with a Time Travel going back to the time Finland have been independent. These were done in collaboration with local heritage associations and other museums in each municipality.

Time Travels and events

The Time Travel tour kicked off in January 2017 in Tottesund, Maxmo. The year was 1914, before the independence. At this event also our Baltic colleagues took part as a project meeting. After this the Time Travels took place in 1917 in Vaasa and Korsholm and from there the tour travelled from Kristinestad in the south to Lohtaja in the north, to different places and years during Finland's independency. Most of the Time Travels

were to the time of independence; 197-1918, but many also took place in the 1920s and dealt with democracy and the challenges the new country stood in front of. In the Time Travel tour in the region, 2001 pupils took part.

The tour did a couple of stops in other areas of Finland as well with trainings and a Time Travel. These were held in Seinäjoki and Kotka. In Kotka the Time Travels have continues with local organizers. In these trainings 60 people took part.

The biggest event was the international Bridging Ages conference in Vaasa in September. At this conference there were 120 people from over 10 countries around the world presenting and interacting on heritage education and Time Travels. During the conference, we travelled back to 1917 at a vocational school in Vaasa.

What it brought...

For local heritage associations and museums it brought an inspiration to do collaboration with schools. The target group in the region, 8th graders are often considered a hard group to work

with, but tour gave a very positive experience for museums also to work with this group. For museums it have created a model for how to work with schools and create interactive programs.

The collaboration will continue strongly on all levels; regionally, nationally and internationally. In the region the collaboration will continue with new Time Travels with partners that now are familiar with each other and can easily plan together. On a national level there are already plans to create more projects with Time Travel trainings and a goal is to create a common seminar around it in the future.

Finland and the Baltic states have a lot in common in our history. But there are also differences, which makes it so interesting for coming projects.

We realized there are a lot to explore and create future projects around the heritage education theme. Questions about democracy, nationalism or the simple question how to make history relevant in the schools are interesting topics to work with and the Ostrobothnian Children's Culture Center BARK is very positive to work with these topics in the future.

Future projects; how will the collaboration continue on a regional/national level? Goals, collaborations

The highlight of this projects was the ideas and inspiration we got from our partners. We truly had a common goal and vision. That made it a joy to be the project leader! We're happy to do it again!



Partners and theme

Tukums Museum developed a cooperation with the associations of history teachers of three administrative districts: Tukums, Engure, Jaunpils, and three schools: Brocēni Secondary School, Tukums Rainis Gymnasium and Tukums 2nd sec-

ondary school. The aim of the cooperation was the development of cooperation between museums and schools, building a capacity of museum workers in museum education and elaborate new programs of the museum education for the schools that are going to introduce a competences-based curriculum learning.

The main theme related to the history of the Latvian state and the goal was: to develop culture competencies of pupils providing the possibility to experience culture and encourage critical thinking as well as students' creativity.

Trainings, seminars and events organized

Tukums Museum staff (7 in total) participated in 4 training seminars (in Estonia, Lithuania, Sweden and Finland) and got a new professional experience how to use the Time Travel method, how to prepare and develop scenarios and how to value outcomes. The experience of Tukums museum was presented in two conferences of the International organization in applied heritage and Time Travels, Bridging Ages which was held in Kalmar, Sweden, 2016, and Vaasa, Finland, 2017.

Tukums Museum organized 5 workshops for 85 teachers, including two seminars for history teachers, two seminars for teachers of different subjects and one seminar for school principals of Tukums, Engure and Jaunpils administrative districts.

Tukums Museum has taken the initiative to build an informal collaborative group of Latvian museum pedagogues. During the project 6 museum pedagogues seminars took place in 6 different museums in Latvia, which have 253 participants in total. A range of topics of the seminars was very wide, ranging from programming to the evaluation.

Tukums Museum developed 3 programs using the Time Travel method. These programs are dedicated to different topics which are important in Curriculum of schools. They provide interdisciplinary approach and complement each other in means of themes and methods.

The program "Louise ūdenskļņģeri" is created for elementary school children and it takes place at the former Lancenieki school where Džūkste Fairy tale museum, a branch of Tukums museum, is situated. The purpose of the program is to encourage a cultural awareness and creative expressions of children, learning about the great folklorist Anss Lerhis-Puskaitis and intangible herotage of his time experiencing his wife's culinary skills.

The program "Myth or Truth" was designed to foster students critical thinking. During the program students had possibility to study and analyze historical sources which were created before the First World War and value a reliability of the information available. The program is designed for schools, which move to the competences based curriculum learning. The program was prepared for three different audiences (4 to 6th, 8th and 9th, 10th-12th forms).

The program "Time Travel to 1918" is devoted to the beginnings of the Latvian state and was designed to encourage secondary school students to reflect on the independent and democratic state's role today. The program gives possibility for students to feel a spirit of Germany occupied western Latvian people in autumn 1918 and first messages about a birth of the independent state.

What new did the project bring for schools/museums?

The project has given the Tukums Museum employees new knowledge and understanding of the Time Travel method. The museum professionals deepened their understanding and use of competences based learning approach in the school and in the museum as well as strengthened cooperation with the association of the history teachers and 4 schools from Kurzeme region as well as more than 30 different museum educators in Latvia.

Tukums museum got very valuable experience and knowledge from the project partners which is used to create a platform for the cooperation of Latvian museum educators as well as design a model of cooperation in between museum and schools.

Future collaborations

Tukums Museum will continue its cooperation with Latvian museum educators through continuing training seminars. Because of the experience gained during the project, Tukums museum will continue also the interdisciplinary courses for teachers (all teachers of various subjects from the same school will be trained at the museum at the same time). The aim of that is to make the museum more accessible to teachers and discover the diverse opportunities to supplement the formal education process at the museum.



Taking in view the experience of the Estonian National museum and Audentes School (Estonia) Tukums museum is planning also to create a "Time Travel to 1918" as a travelling program which is possible to elaborate and use by teachers themselves in each school.

Tukums museum would be happy to assist a more active cooperation in between Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Finnish museums. The first step is an international conference "Time Travel as a tool for museum communication" which is organized in Tukums, 28-29.6 2018, in order to share a best practices of the project participants and encourage continuing cooperation activities

of museum educators and teachers from these Baltic countries.

Highlight of the project

Tukums Museum has acquired a new experience and knowledge in use of the competencies based learning approach in the museum using Time Travel method and elaborated a methodological toolkit for the museum professionals and teachers. For Latvian museum community a platform for museum educators "Nedarbnīca" which was created because of the initiative of the Tukums museum is very important milestone for future developments and professional communication.

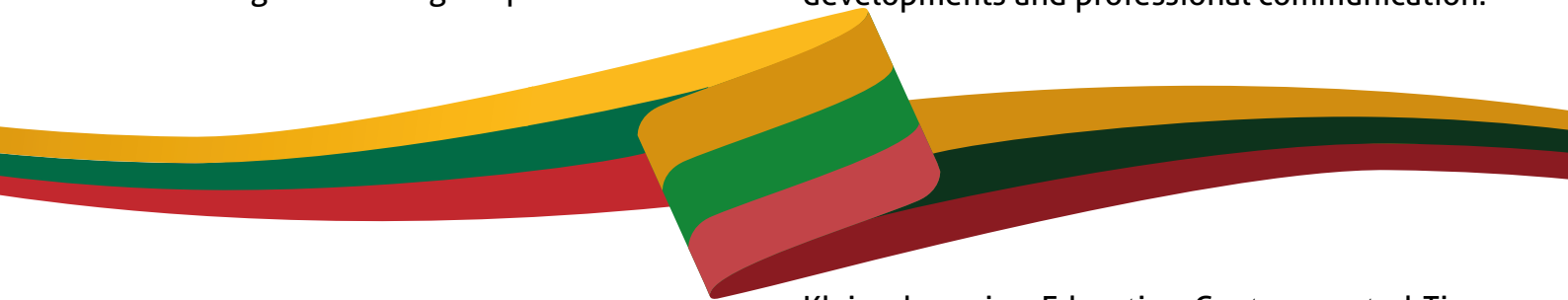
The project in each country; partners, general idea for collaboration for schools and museums, theme

Gargzdai Area museum (Lithuania) is one of the Heritage Bridge project members. Museums goal was to start a collaboration with the education system in the region, create Time Travel education and develop this education methodology for new projects. Gargzdai Area museum reached this goal: the museum started collaboration with

Klaipeda region Education Center, created Time Travel education back to 1939 years, held new Time Travel project and developed new ideas.

Trainings or seminars held

The museum participated in Heritage Bridge workshops, seminars in Tartu (Estonia), Vaasa (Finland) and in international Bridging Ages conferences in Kalmar (Sweden), Vaasa (Finland). Representative from Gargzdai Area museum



presented the Time Travel education in museum during last international conference (Vaasa, Finland).

Gargzdai Area museum also held of one of the meetings in the project in June 2017. The museum organized a seminar and Time Travel in Agluonenai village back to 1939.

Time Travels and events organized: short description and number of participants

Gargzdai Area museum created a scenario for a Time Travel to 1939. Mostly it was organized in museums department in Agluonenai. 5 Time Travels had been done all in all and 89 people (54 pupils, 15 adults and 20 pensioners) participated.

Gargzdai Area museum also organized a Time Travel seminar for teachers. Many debates, ideas and new partnerships were discussed during the seminar. Gargzdai Area museum used the Time travel methodology booklet, which they made from another Time Travel project.

What new did the project bring for schools/museums?

The project helped to collaborate more to schools, other museums and most importantly with Klaipeda region education center. Better dialogue between culture and education institutions created new projects in Gargzdai Area museum.

Future projects; how will the collaboration continue on a regional/national level? Goals, collaborations

After the project the main goal for Gargzdai Area museums is to continue collaborations with recent Time Travel partners and gather new collaborations. Gargzdai Area museum is planning to create new scenarios for new Time Travel educations and participate in new Time Travel projects.

Highlight of the project (can be national or transnational)

Gargzdai Area museum is very pleased to participate in such project as Heritage Bridge. It created new ways for collaboration with Baltic countries and Finland. Gargzdai Area museum also started developing the collaboration in regional level. Organizing seminars for teachers and arranging Time Travel events for pupils will be main target for new projects.





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