

WOW 2018
Week of the World
*A Pedagogical Project for Human Development, Cultural
Dialogue and Understanding*





Who are we?

“A gonfie vele” is a cultural association founded in 2010 in the province of Piacenza (IT). The association came about from the desire of promoting cultural differences as resource: difference is understood not as an obstacle but - on the contrary - as a fundamental vehicle to foster deep dialogue and weave relationships capable of going beyond geographical boundaries.

Initially, the promotion of difference as a resource was done through meetings, symposia, round tables; later on, youth from all over the world (i.e. Israel, Macedonia, Brazil, Egypt, Japan, Haiti, Uganda, Poland, Algeria, etc.) and aged between 15 and 19 came together for a week, which became known as the “WOW - Week of The World”

From 2010, WOW took place in Italy, in the province of Piacenza until when in 2012 the group visited Bangladesh and during the summer of 2015 went to Israel, to Ibilin, Upper Galilee, at the headquarters of the Mar Elias Educational Institutions.

This year, WOW will take place in the province of Piacenza. The association will continue operate through the well-established and winning cooperation with PIME (Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions), with which the association has strong pedagogical synergies. The intense work of training, design and planning of the Week has made it possible to expand the pedagogical offer every year since 2010.

Under the leadership of a pedagogical team partly engaged as experts and partly volunteers, every year the Week of the World has had a specific theme that the youth involved were asked to work on and “live” through workshops, games, testimonials, visits and excursions, exchanges, etc.

We are convinced that the work done during each of the WOW since the first edition was held in 2010, has had a strong impact on the youth involved, offering them opportunities for growth, and also on the different social and cultural contexts from where the youth come from and to which they belong and always return to.

The Week of the World offers time and space to search for the beauty and the enrichment that stem from the encounter with “the other”.





The pedagogical offer 2018

Thanks to the cooperation with the Diocese of Piacenza – Bobbio, in particular with the Youth Pastoral Office, the Week of the World - 2018 will take place in Italy at the premises of the residence called "Bellotta", located in Pontenure, in the Province of Piacenza.

WOW will be organized this year from July 23 to July 30, 2018.

The offer is addressed to all youth aged between 15 and 19, up to a maximum of 100 participants.

The pedagogical journey of the 2018 edition will revolve around the theme: "Taking care of the other"

Inspired by the narrative of the Little Prince by Antoine De Saint-Exupéry, the participants will be invited to work through workshops and dialogue on the topic of responsibility and co-responsibility towards oneself and others.

This experience will be shaped by key figures of the famous text of Saint-Exupéry which will help the participants to deepen topics that are at the foundation of all human experience and are transversal to all cultural and geographic latitudes, as also the renewed presence of many foreign participants to WOW editions demonstrate.

Some of the most significant topics that we will tackle include:

- Caring for what you have tamed ... taming;
- Time as founding element of human relations;
- Freedom as the greatest gift;
- Seeing the essential with the heart.

The participants

Also this year, the Week of the World will see the participation of Italian children and children from abroad.

The availability is for maximum 100 participants. Every foreign country will be able to involve a maximum number of 8 young people and one guide; the latter will be the interface and the responsible person for her or his group.



Costs

FOR ITALIAN PARTICIPANTS

The amount for the participation to the WOW is of € 300 per person.

The contribution covers:

- Food and accommodation for the entire week;
- Transport for the week;
- Pedagogical team;
- Pedagogical Kit for all participants.

FOR PARTICIPANTS FROM ABROAD

The amount for the participation to the WOW is the equivalent to the flight tickets (with return) from the country of origin to Italy.

The association will cover the costs related to:

- Food and accommodation for the entire week;
- Transport with private bus from/to the airport to/from the location “Bellotta” as well as transport for all the excursions foreseen during the week;
- Pedagogical team;
- Pedagogical Kit for all participants

How does the association cover the costs to make this Week possible?

Like every year, the association benefits from diversified fundraising:

- Charity dinners;
- Markets;
- Donations from private individuals and companies;
- Contributions from the Promoters of the WOW;
- Contributions from youth and their families.



Promoters

The WOW is realised thanks to the cooperation and synergies between:

- Association "A gonfie vele" <http://www.agonfievele.org>
- Foundation PIME - ONLUS <http://www.pimemilano.com/>
- Diocese Piacenza - Bobbio

Your help!

We ask those who read to help us, even with a small donation. Everything can make a difference.

Heartfelt THANK YOU from the staff and from each one of the children!!

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