

FINAL LIST OF SELECED CANDIDATE

Western Balkans Youth Cultural Fund – 3rd Open Call

LOT 1 (Individuals)

Ref. No.	Full Name of Applicant	Title of the Project	Contracting Party	Project Summary	Thematic Area
Final List (6 projects)					
1309	Xhenson Çela	Comics exhibition: Connecting Roma and non-Roma through art and agriculture.	Albania	The project aims to bring together Roma and non-Roma, especially youngsters, through a series of comic exhibitions that depict agriculture and early Roma professions through storytelling and comic art. The exhibition will provide accurate information about the connection Roma has with the land and agriculture, highlighting their response to nomadism. Additionally, it will showcase Roma early professions that have contributed to building Romani culture and their contribution to the societies they have settled for centuries.	Thematic Area 1: Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
1327	Ana-Marija Tomić	The Last Gig	Bosnia and Herzegovina	The project "The Last Concert" draws on universal themes of love, loss, and personal search, but at its core, it carries important messages about youth empowerment and their active engagement in society. Through the character of Margita Stefanović, the play showcases how young people, despite facing personal and societal obstacles, can create their own artistic and life paths, defying the expectations of their environment.	Thematic Area 2: Youth empowerment and engagement in society
1320	Ismail Myrseli	COLLECTIVE MEMOIR 5/5	Kosovo*	This project aims to create an alternative information platform that fosters mutual understanding and dismantles negative stereotypes surrounding the relationship between Kosovo and Serbia. It delves into how individuals actively engage in counter-narratives through their leisure activities, particularly outside mainstream media, propaganda, and hegemonic structures. By examining subversive lifestyles, the project investigates how these activities can challenge dominant cultural narratives and international relations, contributing to smaller-scale narratives that continuously foster change.	Thematic Area 1: Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
1322	Jana Radan	Bokeze	Montenegro	Idea of "Bokeze" is to design a unique deck of cards that brings to life the spirit and folklore of Boka Kotorska bay (Montenegro) through the games of Briškula and Trešeta. Driven by the desire to preserve the long tradition of these games, which are part of the Mediterranean spirit and way of life, we have created "Bokeze." The design has been carefully crafted with significance for our region.	Thematic Area 1: Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
1317	Verica Tenekedjieva	Transporting Women	North Macedonia	How often do women find common ground by sharing stories about what happened to them in public transport? This project aims to give women the ability to feel the power to protect themselves and raise their voices. It also aims to highlight this problem and the reason for its occurrence. I believe this project can bring these important stories to a broader audience.	Thematic Area 2: Youth empowerment and engagement in society
1315	Jelena Balevic	If the Girls Are United...	Serbia	The aim of the project is the promotion of the art of young female artists from Serbia, Kosovo and Montenegro, their networking, mutual cooperation, discussing common problems related to their work and profession etc. The idea came about due to the dropout of young female artists who encounter various problems after art studies like: not having the opportunity to exhibit their works in public, nor they have necessary skills to promote their art or the opportunity of participating in the art market in their society or abroad, facing an unsettled legal status and financial insecurity at the very beginning of their artistic careers, especially if they start their own families. The project idea also includes the mobility of artists who live and work in Kosovo and Montenegro (5 artist), because of their participation on site activities of preparation and realization of the final group exhibition which would take place in Belgrade, Serbia.	Thematic Area 2: Youth empowerment and engagement in society

***This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence**

Western Balkans Youth Cultural Fund – 3rd Open Call

LOT 2 (CSOs)

Ref. No.	Full Name of Applicant	Title of the Project	Contracting Party	No. of Partners	Project Summary	Thematic Area
Final List (9 projects)						
2341	Porta Rome per Integrim	Preserving Authentic Traditions and History (PATH)	Albania	1	The project “Preserving Authentic Traditions and History (PATH)” aims to engage 15 youth from the Municipality of Kruja in intercultural activities with Roma youth, fostering a deeper understanding of Roma culture and traditions. The project includes training on Roma cultural heritage delivered by members of the Roma community, the filming of a documentary on Roma weddings in both the Romani and Albanian languages, and the embroidery of traditional Roma costumes. The project will culminate in a public screening of the documentary for the community of Fushë Kruja, which will also be broadcast on television and online platforms. At the same event, the embroidered costumes will be presented.	Thematic Area 2: Youth empowerment and engagement in society
2317	Udružene "Dječije pozorište Eko Art Bugojno"	Testament of the tombstones	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	Stimulate intercultural dialogue and reconciliation of youth from theaters from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro using joint learning and exploration of common past and rich cultural heritage. By using drama education and methods, youth will learn about past, identify common grounds for collaboration and develop three unique theater plays/performing art forms, inspired by the ideas and messages found on “stećci” – medieval tombstones specific for Balkans; thus, finding common ground for further enhancing of intercultural dialogue, peace-building and reconciliation.	Thematic Area 1: Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
2347	Association for dialogue in Family and Society Small Steps	Code Bluebeard	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	"Code: Bluebeard" is a project which aims to connect young female creatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo through a documented, collaborative theatrical adaptation focused on the topic of gender-based violence. "Bluebeard" as a play, produced by Magicni teatar, is a free adaptation of the French folktale of the same name - it explores the topics of boundaries and gender - based violence. The play openly deals with femicide, the variety of ways in which such a tragedy can play out and the ends of lives of all the women who crossed the invisible wall of what is allowed.	Thematic Area 1: Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
2318	NGO LAPS	Stitch the Bridge	Kosovo	1	"Stitch the Bridge" is a collaborative project between LAPS (Kosovo) and The Future (Serbia) aimed at fostering reconciliation between youth from Kosovo and Serbia by exploring the shared tradition of embroidery. Through workshops and collaborative stitching sessions, 12 participants (6 from Kosovo and 6 from Serbia) will work together in pairs to create symbolic embroidered clothing pieces. The project emphasizes cultural heritage, collaboration, and reconciliation, using traditional art to bridge differences. The final products will be donated to NGOs supporting single mothers in both societies.	Thematic Area 1: Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
2313	SHL-Kosova	Colors of Dialogue	Kosovo	1	The Colors of Dialogue project aims to promote regional cooperation and mutual understanding among youth from Kosovo and Montenegro through a collaborative art colony. This initiative brings together young artists to engage in intercultural dialogue, emphasizing themes of peacebuilding and reconciliation. Participants will participate in workshops, discussions, and joint artistic activities, allowing them to share their diverse cultural backgrounds and address common challenges. The project will culminate in an exhibition featuring the artworks created during the colony, highlighting the power of art as a medium for communication and understanding.	Thematic Area 2: Youth empowerment and engagement in society
2348	Mreža za omladinski aktivizam Crne Gore (MOACG)	Sounds of creation from the young generation	Montenegro	1	The primary goal of this project is to empower and promote young musicians by addressing the challenges they face and providing them with the tools necessary to enhance their visibility. The project consists of four key activities designed to provide practical support and raise awareness about the issues affecting young musicians. Through some activities, the project aims to create a lasting impact by providing young musicians with essential skills, increasing their visibility, and fostering a more supportive environment for their development and success.	Thematic Area 2: Youth empowerment and engagement in society

2331	Theater Vortex	Art unites: Fused in the chaos of the streets and the hidden corners of the city	North Macedonia	1	This project aims to unite artists (actors, directors, dancers and street performers) from Macedonia and Kosovo. The project will be divided in two parts, a three month workshop and a final performance that will take place on the streets of Skopje and the amams in the old Skopje bazaar. 12 actors will take part in the performance and the workshop, and they will be led by a director and choreographer. The performance will include professionals, i.e. graduated artists from Macedonia and Kosovo, as well as amateurs from a Macedonian theater troupe. The final product that will be brought to the streets will actually be the product of the workshop. Although experienced directors and choreographers will be involved in the process itself, the product will mostly be an innovation of the inspiration of the actors themselves.	Thematic Area 1: Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
2329	Klub likovnih umetnika "Raska skola"	All we are saying IS GIVE RECONCILIATION A CHANCE!	Serbia	2	There is a great number of open questions between some societies from Balkan. Interethnic disintegration of ex - YU offers so cull "values" and the war left intimate consequences that still are not cured. Nationalism created new nationalistic heroes, and propaganda expanded isolation and interethnic hate. Still, John Lennon's timeless hit in the wild and swinging 60s is still relevant. Overall goal of this project -Development of awareness for mutual reconciliation among the population of different societies in the Balkans.	Thematic Area 1: Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
2337	Artepunkt	Youth without borders: Cooperation through diversity	Serbia	1	The concept forms a common space for young people from different entities to exchange experience, understand each other and develop mutual acquaintances, friendship and trust. In a time when prejudices are deeply rooted, this cultural project has the potential to become a platform for dialogue and cooperation between young Serbs, Bosniaks and Croats in Mostar (Bosnia) who will recognize their similarities and differences, as well as the wealth they carry, all for the benefit of peace and stability.	Thematic Area 2: Youth empowerment and engagement in society

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LOT 3 (6 Peace Champions Grants)

Full Name	Contracting Party	Project Summary
Fabio Toska	Albania	The exhibition “Vazhde” aims to bring diverse generations and art mediums together, by looking forward to a perspective of continuity as the name itself calls. The exhibitions organized at Prag Space support the good sense of democratic art by gathering emerging artists and supporting them into making a step forward, thus in a wider context, making a good impact for the city and expanding the art engagement in general.
Uma Đurić	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Uma Đurić is a performance artist, activist and researcher. She has conducted over 100 workshops and interactive lectures for young people across the Western Balkans. Uma Đurić serves as the project manager for the Youth & Culture program at Small Steps, as well as a consultant for various organizations and independent artists (CIM, YIHR, Foundation for Local Democracy, Youth for Peace, Happy End Story Productions, and others). She is the author and co-author of several theatrical texts in Magični teatar ("Pilgrimage," "Bluebeard," "Nosferatu").
Kreshnik Arifi	Kosovo	As an artist raised in a society marked by war, I have always had a deep interest in creating art that transcends cultural and national boundaries, addressing the world as one place. My focus is on building artistic spaces and platforms that offer equal opportunities for everyone, regardless of nationality or identity. I see art as a transformative tool, one that not only prompts reflection, but also enables the creation of new connections between people.
Staša Baštrica	Montenegro	During my engagement in Queer Montenegro, I have been involved in creation and implementation of multimedia and art projects that encourage dialogue, empathy, and community cohesion, with focus on social inclusion of LGBTIQ community. My activist and artistic contributions extend to collaborating with artists from diverse backgrounds to create inclusive spaces where different voices resonate, breaking down prejudices and promoting peace through shared cultural experiences. During Montenegro Pride Week, which is the main platform for promotion of queer culture, I have been involved in creation of cultural and artistic events that promotes equality and inclusion, such as art exhibition, workshops and music events.
Ozbek Ajvaz	North Macedonia	In the last several months I have been thinking to create an art installation in form of action in public that will be useful for my neighborhood and that will send message for peace, cultural cooperation and understanding. My idea is to create sculptures in a public space (a park in my neighborhood) that can be used as space where community members will gather. The bench will be in fact artwork that will collect symbols of cultural representation of ethnic groups that live in my community (Macedonians, Albanians, Turks, Roma and Bosnians).
Irena Čučković	Serbia	The planned activities include a call for CSOs to join the capacity building program, and individual or group sessions with them, some of which will be held online and some in person. The consultation program will last two months. Apart from the project development training itself, the idea is to offer other resources to local organizations from WB6 such as networking opportunities with organizations in the region and presenting calls to which they could submit their projects.