

Mara-Lucia, 15 years old, Hermannstadt

I had the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus project “Photographic Dialogues.” I enjoy art—both admiring it and practicing it. I like paying attention to details, discovering things about the people around me, and especially discovering myself.

This program helped me not only to learn new things about photography, but also to feel through it, as a form of expression. During this project, I had the pleasure of meeting many wonderful people, from whom I learned a lot.



Maria, 18 years old, Hermannstadt

I am a curious, open-minded person eager to explore. I enjoy discovering as many areas of art as possible. I draw, I paint, and more recently, I've started doing photography.

Within this project, I have gained a lot of knowledge. I explored the city and captured it from new angles. I learned to appreciate the small hidden treasures that surround me. Moreover, this experience helped me become more confident when presenting a photograph. Art is subjective; each person feels a different experience when viewing it and appreciates it in their own way. Thus, every photograph will find a soul it resonates with.



Ana, 17 years old, Hermannstadt

Together with 11 other young people, I am part of the “Photographic Dialogues” project. I believe that the most important thing in determining whether a project was truly worthwhile is what you take away from it.

Therefore, I can say that this project opened a new path for me in art, as I had the opportunity to encounter different ideas and perspectives that inspired me. At the same time, our small community shows that, although we are different, we are ultimately young people who want to be heard and listened to. I believe this is where our passion for photography was born.

For me, photography has become a form of expression and a way of capturing the world as I see it.



Delia Maria, 21 years old, Hermannstadt

I am a 12th-grade student at the Textile High School. I am a creative person and I enjoy spending my time listening to music, cooking, or taking photographs. Photography and cooking help me relax, while music inspires me and puts me in a good mood.



Dragoș-Andrei, 16 yearsold, Hermannstadt

I enjoy poetry, rock music, the color blue, exact sciences, and, of course, photography. I use art, in almost all its forms, to create a space of my own, where I can express what I think and feel without any kind of constraint. Only through art can I truly be free.



David George, 16 years old, Hermannstadt

I love art. What is art? It is not easy to say. In a way, we are all artists, and we use art as a form of self-expression and self-discovery. Lately, I have discovered that art can mean much more than I once thought. For me, the result is no longer at the center of attention, the creative process is what truly matters. Through it, our humanity comes to light, and we gain insight into our inner world. This applies to any form of art, whether it is painting, music, or photography. In photography especially, I have learned to appreciate the creative process. In three months, I haven't taken many photos that I am truly satisfied with, but I have gained much more. Friendships have formed, and something also "clicked" in my mind: it's okay to have fun, not to focus on the final result, to enjoy the world around you, and ultimately, to simply be human.



Maria Luiza, 16 years old, Hermannstadt

I am in a period of self-discovery through art and the way I see the world. I am a curious, open-minded person, drawn to exploration, from new people and places to seemingly small details.

Photography has become a natural way for me to express myself. It has helped me communicate more easily with those around me, transform emotions into something creative, and observe things with more attention and patience. Besides photography, I also paint, and the artistic side of me is one of the most stable forms of my identity. An essential part of who I am is also volunteering at a dog shelter. This experience has deeply changed me: it has taught me empathy, responsibility, and the joy of helping souls that cannot ask for help. It makes me feel present and useful, and my connection with animals brings me a special kind of peace.

All these experiences: art, photography, volunteering; shape me every day. I am learning to trust myself, to find my voice, and to express myself, even when I don't use words.



Catalina, 16 years old, Hermannstadt

I am part of the Erasmus project. I believe I have become a more friendly person thanks to this project. I have changed a lot since we started meeting every week. I met some incredible and extremely talented people through this project.

Photography has become a very important hobby for me. It has helped me overcome my fears and express my opinions. The teachers have supported me greatly and taught me many things about photography. I am very grateful for the opportunity to take part in this project, and I hope I will have the chance to participate in other projects organized by this association.



Andra, 16 years old, Hermannstadt

I am a student at the “Carol I” High School of Construction and Architecture, currently in the 10th grade. I love expressing myself through art, such as photography and dance.

I enjoy spending my time walking around the city, listening to music, dancing, and, of course, taking photos. I am a friendly, creative person, eager to learn new things and very persistent. Since joining this project, I have overcome my fear of meeting new people and have further developed my passion for photography.



Maia, 18 years old, Hermannstadt

I am a 12th-grade student, and I enjoy developing myself through art. I discovered photography in the autumn of 2024, and since then, I have been building new meanings for it within myself, through which I later filter the world around me.

Within this project, I have observed how photography can become an antidote to fear, and how the city, through the capture of light, takes on a living form, like an immense eyelid that opens, looks, and creates.



Eliza, 17 years old, Hermannstadt

I am part of the “Photographic Dialogues” project alongside 11 other teenagers who have become close friends. I have several passions: first and foremost photography, then dance, walks in nature, and collecting.

I consider myself a creative person who is constantly seeking opportunities for exploration and self-discovery, as well as new challenges. I believe that thanks to this project, which has improved my techniques and deepened my knowledge of the art of photography, I have truly discovered myself, realizing that I am actually a very sociable person who enjoys taking initiative in projects and is almost always attentive to those around me.



Radu, 18 years old, Hermannstadt

I am an 11th-grade student. My favorite things are Physics, Music, and Nature. I enjoy going to the mountains and reading. I generally listen to Metal or Electronic music, but I am also a big fan of classical music and jazz.

My passion for science, especially Physics and Chemistry, led me to photography. Many people express themselves through drawing or painting, but I feel that I express myself best through photography. With the help of a camera, I can show others my vision of the world around me, something I cannot do as well through other means. With the support of those involved in the “Photographic Dialogues” project, whether mentors or colleagues, I have been able to express myself even better through photography than before.



Andreea Ciortea, trainer in the project Photographic Dialogues, Hermannstadt

Over the past few months, I have had the privilege of working with teenagers who were eager to grow through culture and the art of photography. What made me happiest, however, was witnessing their development: the way they learned to work in teams, got to know one another, and connected with their colleagues from Heidelberg. I hope the results you will see in the exhibition reflect how remarkable and open-minded they truly are. They are proof that this kind of project really does achieve its goals, often going far beyond what we expected.



**Daniel Bălțat, trainer in the project
Photographic Dialogues, Hermannstadt**

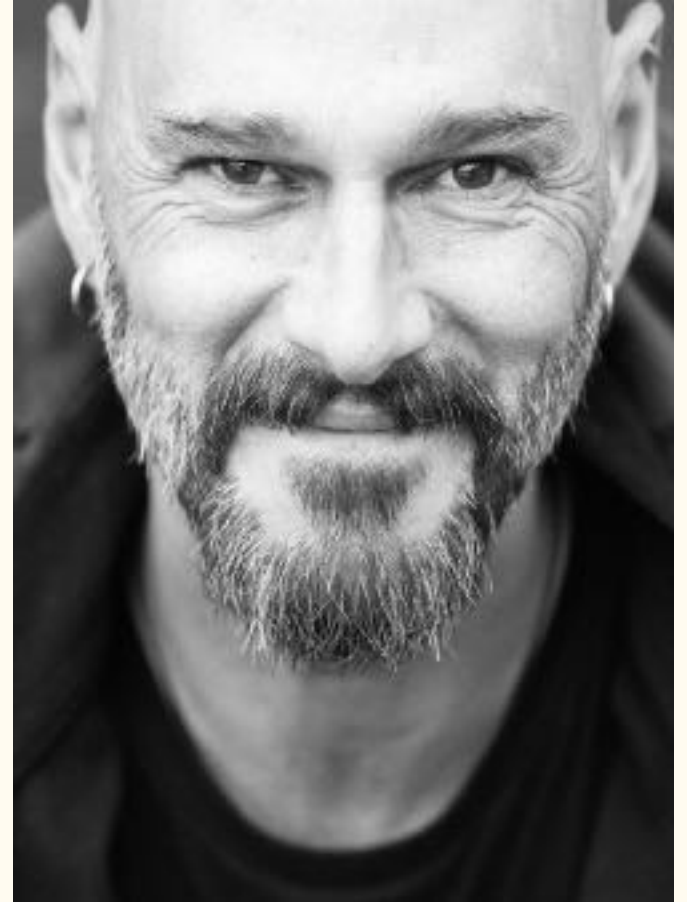
I'm a photography professor at the "Image Art" Sibiu Photography School and I have had the honor and pleasure to participate as a teacher in this Erasmus Project for some amazing children. It has been a real pleasure working with them, also a challenge to find common topics to discuss about, and to do something more concrete, moving from theory to practice. I hope I managed to teach them and I hope they enjoyed it as much as I did working in this team.



Alexandru Moga, invited artist, Hermannstadt

I am an artist based in Sibiu, Romania, a self-taught creator guided by instinct rather than rules. My work moves across mediums, wood sculpture, photography, and graphic design; but everything I create carries the same inner coherence and emotional signature. I am drawn to atmosphere more than technique, exploring themes of stillness, darkness, and the subtle connection between the human body, nature, and raw materials. Through my art, I don't seek to escape shadows, but to shape them into something quiet, honest, and unexpectedly gentle.

Working with young people is a deeply creative experience, as they perceive and construct images from an authentic, unfiltered perspective. Their freedom of expression brings freshness and sincerity to every frame, turning photography into a space for genuine exploration and discovery.



Rares Helici, founder of the project Photographic Dialogues, Hermannstadt

Together with my team, and in collaboration with our partners from Heidelberg, I'm very happy that we managed to create a photography project for teenagers who are passionate about photography, as well as for those who wanted to discover this artistic side of themselves. We live in a fast-paced world, where teenagers, and people in general, need patience and moments of pause. Photography can offer exactly that: a chance to slow down, to make more time for ourselves and for the people around us. It can also help us develop our creativity.

I believe photography is one of the best tools for self-development, both for teenagers and for adults. I'm especially happy for this group of teenagers from Sibiu, who connected very quickly and built many friendships, and even collaborations. I challenged them to work in different team structures, and the results of that process will be visible in the final exhibitions in Heidelberg and Sibiu.



PHOTOGRAPHIC DIALOGUES

**Ein visuelles Manifest der Gen Z.
Hermannstadt, Rumänien/
Heidelberg, Deutschland /**

Ein Erasmus+ - Projekt initiiert von dem Verein
OMIE aus Hermannstadt, in Kooperation mit
KulturTandem International e.V., gefördert von
der Europäischen Union

