

Stories of Everyday Ethics Storytelling Camp

The U.S. Embassy to Montenegro has partnered with the renowned American performing arts NGO *The Moth* (<http://themoth.org/about>) to carry out a week-long camp specifically for Montenegrin youth. *Stories of Everyday Ethics* will train young people to speak out on ethical issues and to inspire their peers to do the right thing.

Storytellers from *The Moth* will conduct week-long storytelling workshops in Montenegro in early September for 8-10 high school students and 8-10 college students. A selection panel that includes U.S. Embassy employees will select finalists on the basis of student essays on ethics and rule of law topics, and then will interview finalists in person, by phone, or via Skype to select final participants. The selected students will work with the storytellers to develop a public presentation of their personal stories. Although the workshops will be held mainly in English, the presentations themselves will be in local language.

After the formal presentation, the Embassy will work with students to present their stories at other venues, possibly including schools around the country, parents groups, the American Corner, and NGOs.

The U.S. Embassy hopes to attract students from throughout Montenegro and will cover all costs for participants, including food, lodging, and transportation to and from the camp's location.

Eligibility:

- Enrollment in a Montenegrin high school or university for the 2014-2015 academic year.
- Proficiency in English that is sufficient to participate in the workshop and to write the qualifying essay.
- ***No previous public speaking experience is required.***

Application Procedures:

Students should submit their emailed application to PodgoricaExchanges@state.gov no later than July 27. The application can be in Microsoft Word or in the body of an email but must include the following:

1. Name
2. Email address and phone number
3. Date of birth (If under 18, parents' permission is required)
4. Home town
5. School
6. Essay response (see below). ***Note: Essays will be evaluated on the basis of the content of the essay, not the grammar, spelling, or style. It is more important that you tell your own story in your own words without asking for help than that your essay be grammatically perfect!***

7. All applications must include the following statement: “I certify that this is my own work, and I understand that I will be automatically disqualified if any or all of this essay is copied from another source or written by another individual.”

Essay questions:

Please answer at least one of the following questions and tell us your experience in a short paragraph in English of no more than 300 words.

- Did you ever see someone you know do something that was ethically wrong? What did you do about it?
- Tell us about a time when you had to make a difficult ethical decision.
- Have you ever faced consequences for cheating on a test or for reporting someone else cheating? What happened? How did it make you feel?
- Tell us about a time when you confronted someone in authority (a parent or other adult relative, a teacher, etc.) about doing something ethically wrong.
- Tell us about a time when you or someone you know competed for a prize, job, or other honor but it went to someone else because they had more money or better connections.
- Have you or your family member ever had to pay a bribe or been asked to pay a bribe? What happened? How did you feel?
- Tell us about a time that you had to fight for what you believed. Why did you do this? Was it hard?
- Sometimes we can face decisions between two values that are important (such as loyalty to family vs. being fair). Have you ever faced this kind of decision? What did you do?
- Has an adult ever asked you to do something you felt was ethically wrong? What did you do?
- Tell us about someone in your family or community who inspires you because he/she fights for what’s right even when it’s hard.

Complete applications must be received at PodgoricaExchanges@state.gov by July 27, 2014.

For more information, contact one of our American Corners and Reading Rooms as follows:

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