



NATIONAL SCHOOL ENGLISH DRAMA FESTIVAL

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COME WITH US TO
DRAMALAND



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Drama Festival
National School English Drama Festival
Come with Us to Dramaland

18th edition, 8th-10th June 2018
Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Radio House, 160 Donath Street

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Editors' Opinion

Dramaland 2018

Another Year of Drama Festival

Paradoxically, at the peak of youtube and influencers, theatre remains one of the major forms of expression, entertainment and reflection, strengthening its position with each performance. It gathers a large young audience, not only in the theatre hall but also wherever it takes place as an artistic act. It is no wonder, thus, that students from primary to secondary school are so attracted to it both as actors, producers and audience. All they need is the venue and they are ready to embrace the theatrical act. This is what the organizers of this festival are doing. Provide the stage and theater troops formed of students under the guidance of teachers arrive from all over the country to present their flash of reality.

For a whole year they live and enjoy the life around them. They perceive and understand and then small glimpses are offered back to us who come to watch. A script is born, actors selected and then hours and hours of rehearsal until the new environment is produced ready to lure in the audience, charging it with new perceptions, enhancing their own reality.

Everything is in English. English words flow on stage and convey feelings, events and characters. The students in the hall are immersed in this foreign language which is so very familiar that its foreignness disappears. It is not only a practice but a joy that becomes universal.

It is supposed to be a Teen World but it transcends into a no age multitude of characters and attitudes, having a colourful life of their own. And we...and they learn. Maybe this is what learning should be all about. To not even notice it takes place.

*Teacher Sanda Gabor
"Gheorghe Sincai" National College*



Organisers' Message:

*The English Drama School Festival,
DRAMA Is in All of Us*



Coordinators:
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The theatre arts are, nowadays, so much a part of our daily life, and an enjoyable way, for us, teachers, to connect with the pupils and offer an alternative way of approaching English. In spite of the fact that some specialists are of the idea that the performance in school should not be considered central, we feel the urge to state the contrary: the child acting in the classroom is involved in a process of communication and exploration of real feelings and rich experience. Each performance, be it a simple improvisation exercise, provides opportunity for learning from an authentic act about both content and form of a script. That is way every lesson is a new experience, every activity improves pupils' skills in creating, performing and responding to drama.

Drama classes are just the starting point in stimulating pupils' interest in arts and their work needs recognition at a higher level and that is why we carry on organizing an artistic event which comes every year to confirm the tradition of the English school theatrical representation in Cluj-Napoca, bringing together participants from Romania. The Festival is organised by Cluj School County Inspectorate and Cluj English Teachers' Association since 2000, It has been included and financed by the Ministry of Education since 2008. It is not a mere competition, but an opportunity to demonstrate how critical thinking, the valuing of differences, freedom, flexible and original approaches to teaching, or the stimulation of the pupils' imagination help develop their personality and language skills.

We all enjoy the joy the kids experience while performing, the audience's reaction, the success felt by all. As a consequence, organizing such an event has become more demanding, required huge commitment and responsibility, but this work really pays off. We must say that we are a team and a living proof that indeed, "practice makes perfect". The outstanding performance, the high, the constructive critics and



professional attitude of the jury members encourage and at the same time demand for another edition. What we find truly rewarding in this experience is to see both the satisfaction on the now well known faces of our colleagues from other counties and the improvement of their students' performance, all of them present here year after year.

The harmonious development of pupils' personality, of their knowledge related to the reality in which they live and the chance to recreate it in a safe environment make of educational drama a responsibility coming from the teachers' hearts and addressed to the hearts of pupils. Based on the teaching experience all of us have had so far we have reached a deeper understanding that comes from knowledge and internalized that "education is not a destination, it is a horizon".

Along the 18 editions, we have gained expertise and tradition, results that need to be continued as there is a true „know-how" which contributes to a net among partner-schools, interested in both English language studying and improving the stage artistic forms.

The innovative character and the profoundly creative dimension of the Festival derive from promoting learning foreign languages through drama methods and techniques. The ingenious way to value them through drama classes, the partnership with famous actors and directors, cultural interinstitutional partnerships, the facilities offered by virtual means of communication have been the ingredients to define the impact of this project to promote learning foreign languages, multilingualism and interculturalism through language and literature.

What else can we say, but invite you all to COME WITH US TO DRAMALAND in 2019!





Programme of the Festival

Friday, 8th June

11.30-12.00 *The Opening of the festival*

Lower Secondary section

12.00-12.30 *The Biggest Big Idea*, adapted, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Mihaela Romaniuc and Alexandra Oana

12.35-13.05 *Ella of the Green Cinders*, adapted, No. 7 Lower Secondary School, Giurgiu, teacher Marinela Anghel

13.10-13.35 *Harry - the 3rd and Final Episode*, original, 'ELF' High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan

13.40-14.10 *A Christmas Carol*, adapted, 'Mihai Eminescu' Lower Secondary School, Zalau, teacher Mihaela Temes

LUNCH BREAK

15.00-15.30 *Shrek*, adapted after the movie, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen Blaga

15.35-16.05 *Beauty is a Beast* by DM Larson, adapted, 'Teodor Murasanu' Lower Secondary School, Turda, teachers Octavian Gruian and Lucica Irimia

16.10-16.40 *Mr. Goe and Miss Jenny*, adapted after after I.L. Caragiale, 'George Coşbuc' Lower Secondary School, Tirgu Mures, teachers Ada Moldovan and Tana Opferman

16.45-17.15 *The Ministry of Solutions*, original, No. 3 Lower Secondary School, Negresti-Oas, teacher Szabolcs Dohi

17.20-17.40 *The Homework* by Mile Poposki, adapted, 'Mihail Kogalniceanu' High School, Vaslui, teacher Mihaela Claudia Liteanu

17.45-18.15 *Call Them Humans, If You Like!* adapted after I.L. Caragiale's *Diplomaşie, La Peleş, Five o'clock, Vizita, D-l Goe...* IT National High School, Arad, teacher Florina Pasculescu

18.20-18.45 *Put Colour in Your Life*, adapted, 'Nicolae Titulescu' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan





Saturday, 9th June

Primary section

9.30-9.50 Puss in Boots, adapted, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen Blaga

9.55-10.25 Holka Polka by DM Larson, adapted, 'Gheorghe Lazar' National Pedagogical College, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Adina Bondor

10.30 Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu





High School section

11.30-11.50 Fly, Butterfly, original, 'Andrei Muresanu' National College, Dej, teacher Calina Gavrea

11.55-12.20 Bobby's Dying by Tudor Musatescu, adapted, 'Mihail Kogalniceanu' High School, Vaslui, teacher Mihaela Claudia Liteanu

12.25-12.55 A Second Chance, original by Cimpan Bianca, 'Petru Maior' Theoretical High School, Ocna Mures, teacher Viorica Rogoan

LUNCH BREAK

14.00-14.30 The Saga of Freydis and the Raiders by Geoff Bamber, adapted, 'Silvania' National College, Zalau, teachers Lucia Balanean and Dana Mezei

14.35-15.05 My Fair Lady, adapted after GB Shaw's Pygmalion, 'Iosif Vulcan' National College, Oradea, teachers Sanziana Nesiu and Felicia Holbos

15.10-15.40 Don Juan's trial adapted after Moliere's Don Juan, 'Dragos Voda' National College, Sighetu Marmatiei, teacher Valeria Rus

15.45-16.15 A Dollar by David Pinsky, adapted, 'Alexandru cel Bun' College, Gura Humorului, teacher Diana Oana Sabau-Lupașc

16.20-16.50 Ianka by Oscar Speace, adapted, 'Leowey Klara' Theoretical High School, Sighetu Marmatiei, teacher Andreea Elena Biro

16.55-17.25 Billy Elliot, adapted after the film, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Dana Grigorovici

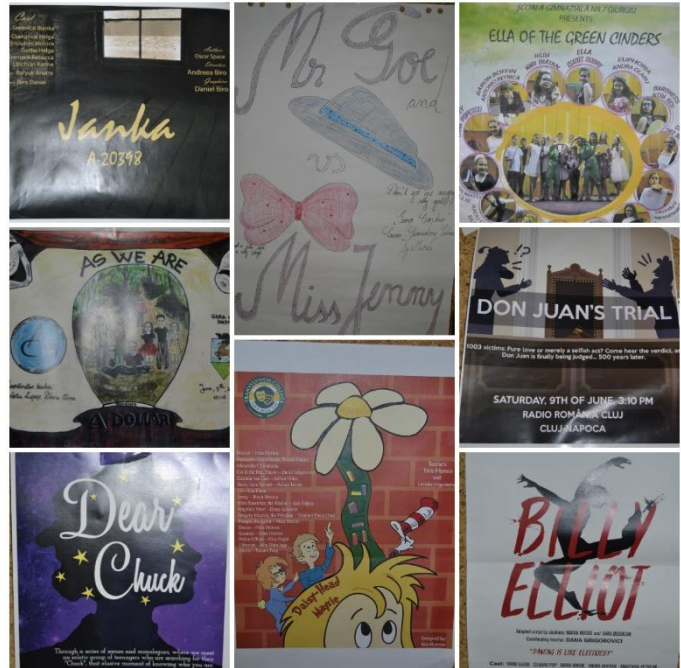
17.30-17.55 Dear Chuck by Jonathan Dorf, adapted, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Pedagogical High School, Zalau, teachers Kinga Kiss and Marilena Mocuta

18.00-18.30 Out of your mind by Sue Murray, adapted, 'Nicolae Balcescu' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Diana Berindeie





Sunday, 10th June
10.30 Artistic programme
11.15 The Awards Ceremony





Awards

Primary Section:

1. Best Show of the Festival: Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu (5639/1/22.05.2017)
2. Best Acting Teams
 - 1st Prize: - Puss in Boots, adapted, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen Blaga (5639/2/22.05.2018)
 - 2nd Prize: - Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu (5639/3/22.05.2018)
 - 3rd Prize: - Holka Polka by DM Larson, adapted, 'Gheorghe Lazar' National Pedagogical College, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Adina Bondor (5639/4/22.05.2018)
3. Best Stage Direction: Puss in Boots, adapted, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen Blaga (5639/15/22.05.2018)
4. Best Musical Background: Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu (5639/14/22.05.2018)
5. Best Choreography: Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu (5639/13/22.05.2018)
6. Individual Interpretation - Best Actors
 - 1st Prize: Vladimir Petcu Urasu in Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu (5639/5/22.05.2018)
 - 2nd Prize: Lucas Rotaru in Holka Polka by DM Larson, adapted, 'Gheorghe Lazar' National Pedagogical College, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Adina Bondor (5639/6/22.05.2018)
 - 3rd Prize: Galan Casian in Puss in Boots, adapted, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen (5639/7/22.05.2018)
7. Individual Interpretation - Best Actresses
 - 1st Prize: Ana Petrina in Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu (5639/8/22.05.2018)
 - 2nd Prize: Alia Pop in Puss in Boots, adapted, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen Blaga (5639/9/22.05.2018)
 - 3rd Prize: Irina Petrina in Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu (5639/10/22.05.2018)
8. Best Supporting Actor: David Grigorovici in Daisy Head Mayzie, adapted after Dr. Seuss, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Delia Filipescu and Lavinia Ungureanu (5639/11/22.05.2018)



9. *Best Supporting Actress: Emma Corbeanu in Holka Polka by DM Larson, adapted, 'Gheorghe Lazar' National Pedagogical College, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Adina Bondor (5639/12/22.05.2018)*

Lower Secondary Section:

1. *Best Show of the Festival: Put Colour in Your Life, adapted, 'Nicolae Titulescu' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/16/22.05.2018)*

2. *Jury's Prize: Put Colour in Your Life, adapted, 'Nicolae Titulescu' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/28/22.05.2018)*

3. Best Acting Teams

-1st Prize - *The Homework by Mile Poposki, adapted, 'Mihail Kogalniceanu' High School, Vaslui, teacher Mihaela Claudia Liteanu (5639/17/22.05.2018)*

-2nd Prize - *Ella of the Green Cinders, adapted, No. 7 Lower Secondary School, Giurgiu, teacher Marinela Anghel (5639/18/22.05.2018)*

-3rd Prize - *Call Them Humans, If You Like! adapted after I.L. Caragiale's Diplomaie, La Peles, Five o'clock, Vizita, D-l Goe... IT National High School, Arad, teacher Florina Pasculescu (5639/19/22.05.2018)*

4. Best Adapted Script

-1st Prize - *A Christmas Carol, adapted, 'Mihai Eminescu' Lower Secondary School, Zalau, teacher Mihaela Temes (5639/29/22.05.2018)*

-2nd Prize - *Ella of the Green Cinders, adapted, No. 7 Lower Secondary School, Giurgiu, teacher Marinela Anghel (5639/30/22.05.2018)*

-3rd Prize - *Shrek, adapted after the movie, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen Blaga (5639/31/22.05.2018)*

5. *Best Original Script: The Ministry of Solutions, original, No. 3 Lower Secondary School, Negresti-Oas, teacher Szabolcs Dohi (5639/32/22.05.2018)*

6. *Best Stage Directions: The Homework by Mile Poposki, adapted, 'Mihail Kogalniceanu' High School, Vaslui, teacher Mihaela Claudia Liteanu (5639/33/22.05.2018)*

7. *Best Musical Background: Ella of the Green Cinders, adapted, No. 7 Lower Secondary School, Giurgiu, teacher Marinela Anghel (5639/36/22.05.2018)*

8. *Best Choreography: Ella of the Green Cinders, adapted, No. 7 Lower Secondary School, Giurgiu, teacher Marinela Anghel (5639/34/22.05.2018)*

9. *Best Costumes: Put Colour in Your Life, adapted, 'Nicolae Titulescu' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/35/22.05.2018)*

10. *Most Popular Show: Harry - the 3rd and Final Episode, original, 'ELF' High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/37/22.05.2018)*

11. Individual Interpretation:

BEST ACTORS

-1st Prize - *Cristian Chereches in A Christmas Carol, adapted, 'Mihai Eminescu' Lower Secondary School, Zalau, teacher Mihaela Temes (5639/20/22.05.2018)*

-2nd Prize - *Stefan Chiper in The Homework by Mile Poposki, adapted, 'Mihail Kogalniceanu' High School, Vaslui, teacher Mihaela Claudia Liteanu (5639/21/22.05.2018)*



-3rd Prize - Mihai Husaru in *Shrek*, adapted after the movie, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen Blaga (5639/22/22.05.2018)

Individual Interpretation:

BEST ACTRESSES

-1st Prize - Alexia Pop in *Shrek*, adapted after the movie, 'Ion Creanga' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Carmen Blaga (5639/23/22.05.2018))

-2nd Prize - Sara Doroftei in *The Homework* by Mile Poposki, adapted, 'Mihail Kogalniceanu' High School, Vaslui, teacher Mihaela Claudia Liteanu (5639/24/22.05.2018)

-3rd Prize- Amalia Martin in *Call Them Humans, If You Like!* adapted after I.L. Caragiale's *Diplomație, La Peleş, Five o'clock, Vizită, D-l Goe...* IT National High School, Arad, teacher Florina Pasculescu (5639/25/22.05.2018)

Best Supporting Actor: Vlad Opris in *Harry - the 3rd and Final Episode*, original, 'ELF' High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/26/22.05.2018)

Best Supporting Actress: Katia Cărbune in *The Biggest Big Idea*, adapted, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca, teachers Mihaela Romaniuc and Alexandra Oana (5639/27/22.05.2018)

12. SPECIAL PRIZES for:

1. Dragoş Popa for *The funniest fireman* in *Put Colour in Your Life*, adapted, 'Nicolae Titulescu' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/38/22.05.2018)

2. Dulfu Mihnea Raul and Toşa Hanna Antonia for *Good cooperation of characters* in *Harry - the 3rd and Final Episode*, original, 'ELF' High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/40/22.05.2018)

3. Mihai Buligă for *The most interesting presence on stage* in *Harry - the 3rd and Final Episode*, original, 'ELF' High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/41/22.05.2018)

4. Ana Petri for *The most expressive fairy-tale character* *Harry - the 3rd and Final Episode*, original, 'ELF' High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/42/22.05.2018)

5. Rus Maria Cassandra for *Best Character Metamorphosis* in *Put Colour in Your Life*, adapted, 'Nicolae Titulescu' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/43/22.05.2018)

6. Mr. Goe and Miss Jenny for *The Best Contemporary Interpretation of Mr. Goe* in *Mr. Goe and Miss Jenny*, adapted after after I.L. Caragiale, 'George Coşbuc' Lower Secondary School, Tirgu Mures, teachers Ada Moldovan and Tana Opferman (5639/44/22.05.2018)

7. Mateo Smereciuc for *The Most Playful Character* in *Harry - the 3rd and Final Episode*, original, 'ELF' High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/45/22.05.2018)

8. Tudor Ţurlea for *The Most Dynamic Male Character* in *Call Them Humans, If You Like!* adapted after I.L. Caragiale's *Diplomație, La Peleş, Five o'clock, Vizită, D-l*

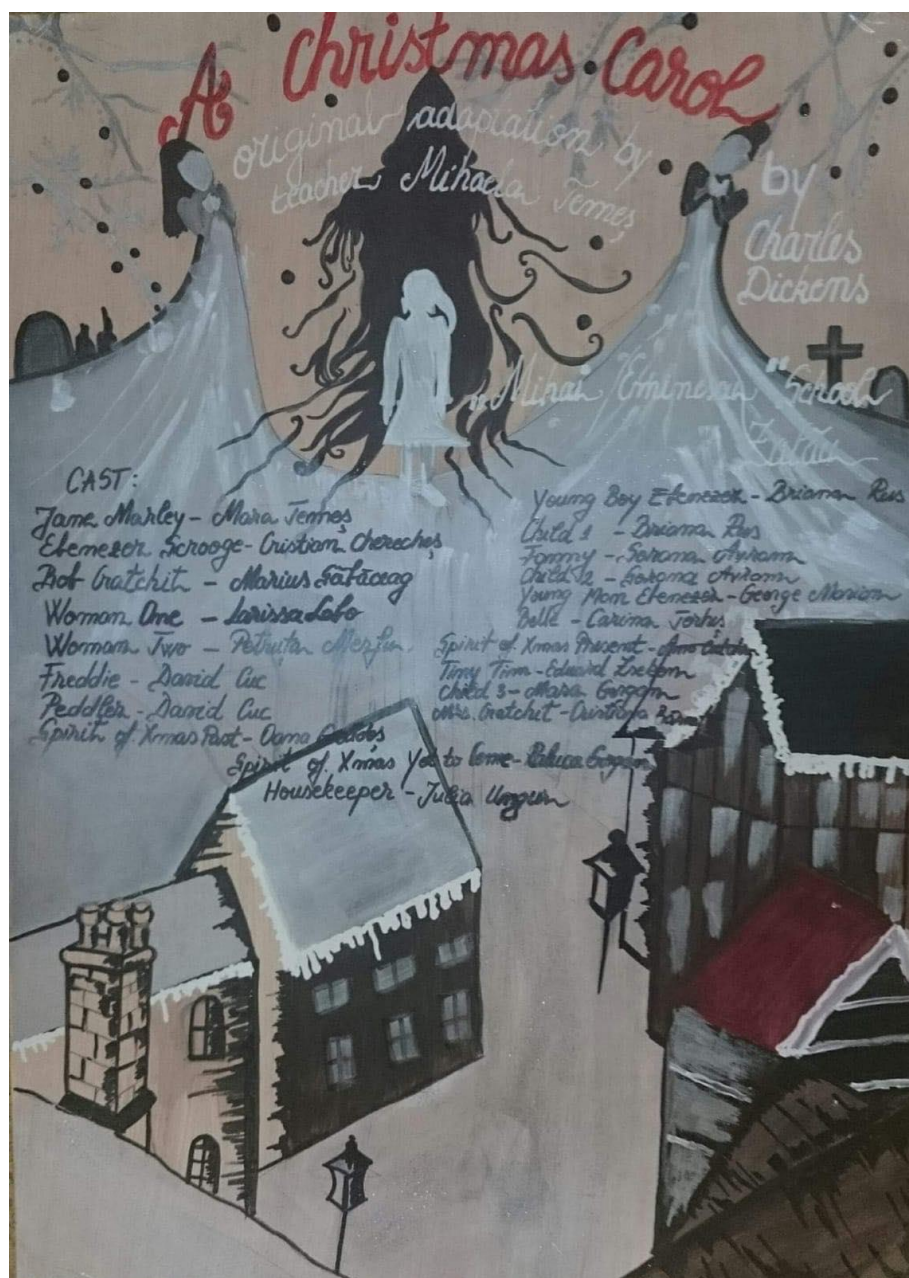


Goe... IT National High School, Arad, teacher Florina Pasculescu (5639/46/22.05.2018)

9. Teodora Petras for The Most Convincing Character in Put Colour in Your Life, adapted, 'Nicolae Titulescu' Lower Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Leonard Dan (5639/47/22.05.2018)

10. A Christmas Carol, adapted, 'Mihai Eminescu' Lower Secondary School, Zalau, teacher Mihaela Temes for The Most Humanistic Message (5639/39/22.05.2018)

Best poster: A Christmas Carol, adapted, 'Mihai Eminescu' Lower Secondary School, Zalau, teacher Mihaela Temes (5639/48/22.05.2018)





Upper Secondary Section:

1. *Best Show of the Festival: Out of your mind by Sue Murray, adapted, 'Nicolae Balcescu' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Diana Berindeie (5639/49/22.05.2018)*
2. *Jury's Prize - Bianca Cimpan for Script Writing in A Second Chance, original by Cimpan Bianca, 'Petru Maior' Theoretical High School, Ocna Mures, teacher Viorica Rogoian (5639/59/22.05.2018)*
3. *Best Acting Teams*
 - 1st Prize: *Out of your mind by Sue Murray, adapted, 'Nicolae Balcescu' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Diana Berindeie (5639/56/22.05.2018)*
 - 2nd Prize: *A Second Chance, original by Cimpan Bianca, 'Petru Maior' Theoretical High School, Ocna Mures, teacher Viorica Rogoian (5639/57/22.05.2018)*
 - 3rd Prize: *Billy Elliot, adapted after the film, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Dana Grigorovici (5639/58/22.05.2018)*
4. *Best Adapted Scripts*
 - 1st Prize: - *Bobby's Dying by Tudor Musatescu, adapted, 'Mihail Kogalniceanu' High School, Vaslui, teacher Mihaela Claudia Liteanu (5639/60/22.05.2018)*
 - 2nd Prize: - *Dear Chuck by Jonathan Dorf, adapted, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Pedagogical High School, Zalau, teachers Kinga Kiss and Marilena Mocuta (5639/61/22.05.2018)*
 - 3rd Prize: - *Janka by Oscar Speace, adapted, 'Leowey Klara' Theoretical High School, Sighetu Marmatiei, teacher Andreea Elena Biro (5639/62/22.05.2018)*
5. *Best Original Script: A Second Chance, original by Cimpan Bianca, 'Petru Maior' Theoretical High School, Ocna Mures, teacher Viorica Rogoian (5639/63/22.05.2018)*
6. *Best Stage Direction: Out of your mind by Sue Murray, adapted, 'Nicolae Balcescu' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Diana Berindeie (5639/64/22.05.2018)*
7. *Best Musical Background: Out of your mind by Sue Murray, adapted, 'Nicolae Balcescu' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Diana Berindeie (5639/65/22.05.2018)*
8. *Best Choreography: Dear Chuck by Jonathan Dorf, adapted, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Pedagogical High School, Zalau, teachers Kinga Kiss and Marilena Mocuta (5639/66/22.05.2018)*
9. *Best Costumes: The Saga of Freydis and the Raiders by Geoff Bamber, adapted, 'Silvania' National College, Zalau, teachers Lucia Balanean and Dana Mezei (5639/67/22.05.2018)*
10. *Most Popular Show: Billy Elliot, adapted after the film, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Dana Grigorovici (5639/68/22.05.2018)*



11. Individual Interpretation - Best Actors

- 1st Prize: Radu Neacșu in *Bobby's Dying* by Tudor Musatescu, adapted, 'Mihail Kogalniceanu' High School, Vaslui, teacher Mihaela Claudia Liteanu (5639/50/22.05.2018)

- 2nd Prize: Adrian Păușan in *The Saga of Freydis and the Raiders* by Geoff Bamber, adapted, 'Silvania' National College, Zalau, teachers Lucia Balanean and Dana Mezei (5639/51/22.05.2018)

- 3rd Prize: Vlad Dămșa in *Out of your mind* by Sue Murray, adapted, 'Nicolae Balcescu' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Diana Berindeie (5639/52/22.05.2018)

12. Individual Interpretation - Best Actresses

- 1st Prize: Anda Pop in *The Saga of Freydis and the Raiders* by Geoff Bamber, adapted, 'Silvania' National College, Zalau, teachers Lucia Balanean and Dana Mezei (5639/53/22.05.2018)

- 2nd Prize: Elena Vedeanu in *Out of your mind* by Sue Murray, adapted, 'Nicolae Balcescu' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Diana Berindeie (5639/54/22.05.2018)

- 3rd Prize: Anca Florentina Cherar in *A Dollar* by David Pinsky, adapted, 'Alexandru cel Bun' College, Gura Humorului, teacher Diana Oana Sabău-Lupașc (5639/79/22.05.2018)

13. Best Supporting Actor: Andrei Ardelean in *The Saga of Freydis and the Raiders* by Geoff Bamber, adapted, 'Silvania' National College, Zalau, teachers Lucia Balanean and Dana Mezei (5639/84/22.05.2018)

14. Best Supporting Actress: Vioris Ilca in *Fly, Butterfly*, original, 'Andrei Muresanu' National College, Dej, teacher Calina Gavrea (5639/55/22.05.2018)

15. Special Prizes (Jury's Choice)

1. Răzvan Rusan for The most engaged character in *The Saga of Freydis and the Raiders* by Geoff Bamber, adapted, 'Silvania' National College, Zalau, teachers Lucia Balanean and Dana Mezei (5639/69/22.05.2018)

2. Anda Domșa Stănă for Best Singer in *Fly, Butterfly*, original, 'Andrei Muresanu' National College, Dej, teacher Calina Gavrea (5639/70/22.05.2018)

3. Ioana Lazăr and Anastasia Petrean for Best connection between characters in *Billy Elliot*, adapted after the film, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Dana Grigorovici (5639/71/22.05.2018)

4. Sara Bodocan for Truthfulness on stage in *Billy Elliot*, adapted after the film, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Dana Grigorovici (5639/72/22.05.2018)

5. Janka by Oscar Speace, adapted, 'Leowey Klara' Theoretical High School, Sighetu Marmatiei, teacher Andreea Elena Biro for Collective Character (5639/73/22.05.2018)

6. Beatrice Ciubucă for Best Narrator in *My Fair Lady*, adapted after GB Shaw's *Pygmalion*, 'Iosif Vulcan' National College, Oradea, teachers Sanziana Nesiu and Felicia Holbos (5639/74/22.05.2018)



7. Roxana Berci for Double Role in Don Juan's trial adapted after Moliere's Don Juan, 'Dragos Voda' National College, Sighetu Marmatiei, teacher Valeria Rus (5639/75/22.05.2018)
8. Dear Chuck by Jonathan Dorf, adapted, 'Gheorghe Sincai' Pedagogical High School, Zalau, teachers Kinga Kiss and Marilena Mocuta for Best Message (5639/76/22.05.2018)
9. Janka by Oscar Speace, adapted, 'Leowey Klara' Theoretical High School, Sighetu Marmatiei, teacher Andreea Elena Biro for The Topic of the Play - An Interesting Approach (5639/77/22.05.2018)
10. Iulia Cotirlă for The most engaged character in Out of your mind by Sue Murray, adapted, 'Nicolae Balcescu' Theoretical High School, Cluj-Napoca, teacher Diana Berindeie (5639/78/22.05.2018)





Jury's Feedback

We would like to thank the jury members for their professionalism and presence:

- *Ana Maria Pop-Pricope, Bianca Baraboi, Diana Cojocnean and Iulia Beres at primary section,*
- *Dana Grigorovic, Calina Gavrea, Ana Maria Pop-Pricope and Bianca Baraboi at lower secondary section,*
- *Maia Bruja, Calina Gavrea, Ana Maria Pop-Pricope and Bianca Baraboi at upper secondary section.*

Acting Out - A Trial in Disguise

"Action!" That seems to be the start and the key of it all. Acting itself requests artful movement meant to enchant the audience and draw it into another reality, the one of the story told on stage. Easy as it may seem for the ones who have never experienced the reality of the backstage, it is known as being a real trial for the ones who deal with the actual making of the show. Is the story part of the trial? It may be to a certain extent. It is not easy to find a subject both of interest for the audience and manageable on stage. Still, so as to finally reach its purpose, it also needs the actors' part, the most valuable element, identified in matters of material and work.

What many people fail to see and therefore risk to underestimate, is the type of work done in this case. The actor is the one willing and trying to step into the shoes of his character; the more he can do so, the better the final result. It is hard work to step into another identity and stay there for as long as it takes, often assuming features and reactions totally different from or even rejected by your real self. Not anyone can do that, talking about material; and it takes loads of work to get it right, if you do understand what you have to do. But actually, this is the only way to make your acting look realistic, the only way you can, as mentioned before, catch the interest of your audience. Therefore, the actor is the actual maker of the show.

*What this year's festival has brought to my attention was a particular, seemingly secondary element; seemingly I said, because it has managed to stay in my mind prior to all the other acting sequences of the festival, many of which were of quite good quality. It was exactly what most of the directors try to avoid: *immobility*.*

Keeping the audience's attention on you involves gesticulating, speaking, sometimes even shouting, energy manifested at different levels, changes of tension and stress as the story tells itself. And yet, I have come to realize the extraordinary effect of the contrary.



*The absolutely motionless presence of the Broom Prince in **Harry**, both intriguing and fascinating, was clearly a balancing element in the play. And it was not the immobility of the character itself that struck me, but the extraordinary intensity of its presence, a presence that almost seemed to tell a story of its own. It is sure not easy to realistically render change of moods and types of personality, but to “shout” your being there without even a blink, that is what I consider mastership. The Broom Prince was there to demonstrate that there is no such thing as a secondary place in a play as long as the actor doesn't confine himself to it. He was also there to show that it is not what you do on stage, but how you do it, that really counts. Congratulations to Mihai Buliga, the most interesting presence on stage this year, and to the one that offered us the delightful glance into the power of the untold, Mr. Dan Leonard.*

*Jury member
Prof. Călina Gavrea,
„Andrei Mureșanu” National College - Dej*





Some Winners and Participants' Thoughts

Our Experience at Drama Festival

Drama Festival, initially just a festival that we knew little about, found its way to our hearts and turned into one of the best experiences we have ever had.

Starting with the show itself, I believe it is safe to say that no member of the team can ever forget the feelings that came along with being on stage and a part of a play of such beauty and complexity as "Out of Your Mind". Every character had a great impact on the storyline and the presence of their thoughts helped highlighting the difference between one's thoughts, actions and words.

Despite being aware of this play's potential, we did not think ourselves as being on a par with the other teams. Therefore, winning the award for "The Best Show" came as a surprise to us. The makeup and the music played a big role in allowing us the hold of such a title. These, along with the script, have been chosen by our talented teacher, with whom was very easy to communicate in an open manner. Nevertheless, the audience finding our play enjoyable, was extremely beneficial for our case.

As a team, we recall that, not only the show itself has played a role in shaping us as people, by adding to our hitherto life experience, but also the rehearsals; filled with laughter, hard work and communication, they were of great importance regarding the achievement of our goal. Furthermore, new friendships have been created, as well as the existing ones have grown stronger.

To conclude, we can not be grateful enough for having had the opportunity of being a part of such a wonderful festival. We are all looking forward to its next edition, at which we will participate with yet another play and a little more confidence.

*By Melisa Marian and Elena Vedeanu,
"Nicolae Balcescu" Theoretical Highschool, Cluj-Napoca*

Let's Get On Stage!

"Come with Us To Dramaland" is the only time of the year when you walk into Casa Radio and you stumble upon a whole new world: witches, ballerinas, holocaust survivors, magicians, knights and everything you could ever imagine. However, if you look closer, believe it or not, you can see that they are just regular students. These students are seeking a fun way to express themselves, to develop their talents, to improving their skills and confidence. Dramaland is just the place to do that.

The halls are filled with nervous whispers, quiet footsteps and untold emotions. On the other hand, outside it is just the opposite. Shouts and laughter fill the warm,



breezy air of the summer day. There are children everywhere doing warm-up exercises, their voices filled with excitement, more powerful than ever. This is the time when students from all over the country bond and new friendships take shape.

As the performance time is rapidly approaching and as you advance towards the stage the buzz and rumble intensify up to the point of becoming electric. The last touch-ups are made, one last word of encouragement and the next thing you know you are in the bright spotlights unraveling the riveting story you have prepared. And as you embody your character, your true self from underneath is smiling, smiling proudly because you have made it this far and because you realize you are capable of doing greater things than you have imagined. And even though your character is envious, sleazy or peaceful this smile is seen in the eyes and in the way you move because as Mrs. Wilkinson, the ballet teacher, tells Billy Elliot "it's how you express yourself that's important".

By Sara Bodocan, 10th grade,
"Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Cluj-Napoca

An Incredible Experience

"I truly enjoyed every moment of our scenario played on the stage. I've learned about friendship, about making a strong team together, about helping each other everytime. And besides that, I've learned about how hard it is to make and play an entire scenario. I was so proud when our work was rewarded by applause and diplomas. We are truly thankful to the organizers for giving us the chance to do that." Larisa

"In my opinion, the festival we attended was an incredibly interesting one, filled with truly beautiful plays. Our play was a very unique one, and I believe that it sent a realistic message about finding ourselves during our teenage years. This whole experience taught me that, in order to play my role impeccably, I have to overcome my shyness." Sonia

"First time on a stage, first time acting in front of people... it was amazing. I absolutely loved every single second of it and I really want to do that again next year with my amazing team. Thank you, dear teachers, for giving the best of you and also for your support and love." Denisa B

"Taking part of the theater group is the best memory about 9th grade. I had an amazing time and I have learnt a lot of new things about acting and I have improved my English a lot and also I am not so anxious anymore to speak in front of a lot of people. All the work was worth it." Denisa G

"This festival has given my colleagues and I the opportunity to harbour a passion for theatre and it determined us to give our best in staging "Dear Chuck", a play



that has had a deep effect on everyone involved. Furthermore, it helped us make meaningful connections with all the people involved in giving life to our play and and I'm forever grateful that I had the chance to be a part of this festival along with such marvelous people."Denisa P

"The experience was amazing, and I enjoyed performing our play on the stage more than I thought. It has made me more confident and secure of who I am. The amount of hours that we have worked really paid off at the end, because in my opinion, we did really well. It was truly an incredible moment to be there and see what others prepared, and compare it to our play. I will forever remember these moments."Andra

"From my point of view, I would have never thought that I could actually have so much fun while acting since I'm such an overly inept person. When our teacher announced us that we had won 3 prizes, I couldn't stand still. I couldn't have done it without my teachers' and fellow mates' hard work and dedication so there's an honest thank you for their patience."Reka

"Not only that I learned a lot about theater and team work, this was also a journey for myself in the way of knowing myself better and exploring my full potential in the field as best as I can especially now that is just a hobby that I enjoy doing with my friends. Also, I could never forget the moment when I walked on the stage, the only moment when I felt my group's anxiety along mine."Catalin

"It was a refreshing activity with lots of hardworking people, you can't expect something to be amazing without some effort. Some of the things I learned were useful afterwards, like dancing or a valuable vocabulary. To be honest, it was not so easy, but in the end, we were all proud of ourselves, we enjoyed spending that time together creating a new friendship and coming up with new ideas just to see us, rocking the stage and making something brilliant, gratifying for other people."Eduard

**By the students from
"Gheorghe Sincai" Pedagogical Highschool, Zalau**







Reporters' Reviews and Interviews

The Biggest big idea

The biggest big idea was Transylvania College's Middle School entry for the 18th edition of the Come with us to Dramaland Festival.

The play was about two groups of friends, both very different in style and personalities: The Losers, average kids, nothing that special about them made up of Prof, Libby, Jess and Max, and the Skimshaw crew, your typical popular kids, consisting of Paige, Parker and Madison.

They both enter an invention competition for different reasons. The Losers need money for Libby's gran, and the Skimshaw crew, for the new phone that just came out. The Skimshaw crew steals Prof's notebook containing all the information needed to build a time machine. However, this doesn't set back the Losers as Prof already has built the invention. The two judges give them a deadline, and both teams start building away!



When time's up both teams present their invention. The judges see that both teams have the exact same inventions and a new rule is added: Both teams need to time travel and bring an artifact. Whoever brings it first wins!

give Paige an invisible, voice activated fingernail implant which serves as a phone in that period.

The Skimshaw crew travel to the future, where they meet 2 humanoid. The humanoid help the Skimshaw crew recharge their machine and

They return and present it to the judges. They try to get it to work, but fail miserably. Meanwhile the Losers come back with their 'artifact', a stone-age rock, as the judges



claim. Prof desperately tries to tell them that their machine didn't work because of the rock, but the judges are way too focused on the rock to even pay attention.

The judges declare the Losers the winners as their rock was way more believable than the fingernail implant.

The play was performed on the 9th of June 2018, at Casa Radio. With Alexandra Oana and Miss Romaniuc as coordinators.

Here's a bit of info on how this play was made possible. First, a draft version of the script is created, and is updated until the creators are happy, then based on the characters, the cast is formed. The script is given to the cast and they practice it to perfection. During practice, the creators may update or shorten the script if they realize it exceeds the time limit.

Then, when they are happy with the finished play they finally present it in various competitions or shows.



By Adela Bolba, Transylvania College, Cluj-Napoca

A Christmas Carol

Just like the previous year, Mrs. Mihaela Temeş and the talented children from Mihai Eminescu Lower Secondary School in Zalău offered the audience a cohesive, well presented play that managed to capture the beautiful message of the original Dickensian writing.

We especially appreciated the obvious teamwork and thorough repetition that the students put into the final result, a fact demonstrated not only by the beautiful winter setting they created as background, but also by the acting that was so true to each character, as they all played in a naturally flowing manner. It seems that the children were assigned the parts they really could relate to on a personal



understanding level, as they so convincingly interpreted the spirits, the rest of the characters such as Cratchit and most of all, Scrooge. Since we mentioned him, all of our classmates were amazed at how well he did with such a long, complex part, sustaining it throughout the play with utmost success.

We wonder what they will create for us next year...

By Paul Abrudan and Georgiana Felecan
"Avram Iancu" Theoretical Highschool, Cluj-Napoca

Harry - the 3rd and Final Episode

From the get-go, we were introduced in a special atmosphere, an alternative world, by the booming voice that created a unique introduction to the play. The message was positive and inspiring - to believe the stories and to let fairy tales live their lives just as they are. This statement was delivered in a challenging way, with a sequence of episodes that tried to portray fairy tale characters in an inspiring manner.

Our class particularly enjoyed the amusing episode of the Cinderella love story and especially its dance, with the stable boy and his beloved dancing to flamenco music in front of the disconcerting eyes of the scarecrow.

As all good fairy tales, the play offered by the Elf School team, coordinated by Mr. Dan Leonard, contained an element of mystery, a twist to the plots one would expect, which keeps the audience on the edge of their seats throughout the performance.

By Ana Holobăca and Daria Ciufudean
"Avram Iancu" Theoretical Highschool, Cluj-Napoca

Harry- the third and final episode

The play is based on a concept of "what if", presenting various instants, attitudes and possible outcomes in classical well-known stories. The whole world of the story characters seems up-side-down and the public is faced with the question whether such a world can or cannot be "acceptable".

Strong points: very good English at most actors, natural stage attitude.

Weak points: rather poor connection between the parts of the play, creating a sensation of randomly chosen fragments being glued together.

By the students from "Leovey Klara" Highschool, Sighetu-Marmatiei



Shrek

Donkey

1. *Who is your favourite actor and why?*

Well, I guess I can say my favourite actor is Johnny Depp. I love watching his films ... I saw some of them several times.

2. *What do you want to be when you grow up?*

I really enjoyed acting but I don't think I'll be an actor. I want to be a surgeon, I think.

Robin Hood

1. *How many plays have you done so far?*

I acted in two plays.

2. *If you had a magic wand, what play would you prefer to do next and with what actors?*

It's a hard question. I've never thought about this and I don't think I can decide now.

3. *How did you prepare for the role?*

We spent many hours at school rehearsing. The most difficult part was learning all the lines.

4. *What do you want to be when you grow up?*

That's easy... I'm gonna be a pilot.

Mr. Goe and Miss Jenny

Mister Goe

1. *When did you start acting?*

I can't really say I'm acting, it is more like a hobby for me.

2. *What do you want to be when you grow up?*

I want to be a basketball player.

3. *Who is your favourite actor?*

My favourite actor is Johnny Depp. I like how he plays in The Pirates of the Carribean movies.

Mr. Goe's Mom

1. *How did you prepare for the role?*

I spent a lot of time at school repeating everything. We also had to choose the costumes and prepare the decorations for the stage.

2. *What do you want to be when you grow up?*

I'd really like to be a hairdresser.

3. *Who is your favourite actor?*

It's Angelina Jolie. She's very beautiful and talented.



The Ministry of Solutions

Secretary

1. *When did you start acting?*

This is the first year. I think it's great and I'm going to keep doing this.

2. *What do you want to be when you grow up?*

I hope I'll become a doctor.

3. *How many plays have you done so far?*

I've done three plays so far.

4. *Were you nervous?*

Yes, a lot. It's very difficult to act in front of so many people you don't know.

*By Daria Margin, Daria Popuța, Noris Rusnac, Alexandra Sarik
"Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Cluj-Napoca*



Mr. Goe and Miss Jenny

We can say that this particular play caught our attention from the very first minutes. Played by the students of 'George Coșbuc' Lower Secondary School, Tîrgu Mureș (teachers Ada Moldovan and Tana Opferman), it is a tribute paid to one of the greatest playwrights in Romanian literature - I. L. Caragiale.

The children had the incredible idea of transforming a classic literary masterpiece into one adapted to the new times. We have troublesome Goe, the three „mums”, the trip by train, just like in the original play- but then, there is a twist to the story. It is funny that they bought the train tickets online, from Goe's phone. Unfortunately,



Goe drops and breaks his phone, so, whether they like it or not, Grandma, Auntie and Mommy” have to pay for another two tickets. The mobile phone is at the centre of all trouble, just as it happens in real life. The play does not stop here, though. Mr. Goe finds his match in the person of Miss Jenny. Her family is similar to Goe’s family. Our favourite part was their arguing, as the dialogues were well written and full of wit.

The play criticizes, in a humorous way, the way children are brought up today. The children played their roles very well, with just a few clumsy moments here and there, easy to understand when you are not a professional. Overall, it was a great play and it was worth watching! Congratulations!

*By Andreea Petrișor and Mara Turbuleasa
„Ion Creanga” Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca*

The Ministry Of Solutions

We enjoyed watching The Ministry of Solutions, which was played by the students of No. 3 Lower Secondary School, Negrești-Oas (teacher Szabolcs Dohi).

It is an original play which presents the idea of a better life in which choices are made by somebody else instead of you, making life easier, but also pointless, we would say. A special ministry was established to solve people’s problems. As one could easily imagine, people are queuing at the Ministry of Solutions. Some of them have serious issues to ask help for, while others’ problems are more superficial. The Prime Minister decides to check if the Ministry should be kept or not. Consequently, the Minister of Solutions is visibly overwhelmed, as people keep coming with their strange and unusual requests. He asks for help and God helps him by sending two angels to assist with solutions. It appears that this is not the answer, though, and people will have to work together and find their own way out.

It is a play with a lot of potential. First of all, it speaks about the human nature and it has quite a clear message: people should learn how to make their own choices and find their own solutions. Then, it tells us that there are many ways to solve a problem- a kind and humane one, but also a violent, less kind one, and we really have to judge for ourselves which way to go.

Our colleagues from Negrești-Oas were good in this play. We particularly liked the “angels” and the Minister. As a friendly suggestion, we think that they need to work more on the accent and pronunciation, and also improvise more when needed. We really appreciated the facial expression and the dialogues. Great work and keep doing your best!

*By Alexandra Braica, Stefania Mesesan and Denisa Pintilie
„Ion Creanga” Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca*



A Christmas Carol

The public was virtually transported to the magic of Dickens's story. The script was well adapted, so that to meet the requirements of the festival regulations; the staging of the play and the students' acting was excellent, with a special mention - Uncle Scrooge, interpreted by an extremely talented young man.

Strong points: really good acting, nice and creative props, fluent English

Weak points:

By the students from "Leowey Klara" Highschool, Sighetu-Marmatiei

Shrek

Everyone needs a friend. Everyone needs to feel accepted for who they really are. We need our world to make sense, and it can only make sense through love, friendship, and understanding. These are some of the messages tackled on by class 6D from "Ion Creanga" School in Cluj-Napoca, guided by Ms. Carmen Blaga, who impressed the audience with their colourful and funny adaptation of well-known Shrek.

It is the story of an ogre who lives in a swamp and feels really lonely and unloved. He and his new friend, Donkey go on an adventure to save beautiful Princess Fiona, whom Lord Farquaad, the heartless ruler of Dulor wishes to marry. After Shrek rescues Fiona, he starts to fall in love with her. Is there going to be a new love story or an everlasting friendship? Is Fiona's secret going to ruin everything? Shrek, Donkey and Fiona teach us not to build walls between us. Donkey does it by not giving up on the idea of having a friend, Fiona by accepting who she really is and Shrek by learning that he needs to accept others in order to be accepted by them. Their performance was full of innocence, humour and touching moments.

Another thing that made the performance stand out was the whole world of fairy tales recreated on stage by a multitude of characters who brought life and colour to the play. Music and dance added to the atmosphere.

The young actors put a lot of passion into the making of the play, and the final result made their effort show. Their performance had it all! It was very dynamic and fluid, with really successful comic bits, unexpected twists and unforgettable characters, great costumes and amazing acting. Congratulations to students and teacher for a job well done!

*By Teodora Nechita and Vlad Horvat
"Ion Creanga" Secondary School, Cluj-Napoca*



Putnaru Ana, in the play “The homework”

1. How do you feel after the show? Any thoughts?

I feel pretty good, considering the fact that I haven't played on a scene for quite some time.

2. Have you taken part in this kind of festival before?

Yes I have, and I would like to participate again because I like the feeling, it's a very interesting experience.

3. What character did you play today?

Today I interpreted a child who encounters a math problem and he receives help from his family, relatives, neighbors.

4. What do you like about the character you played?

What I like about the character I interpreted is that he is a very happy one and I think that characterizes me.

5. What is the biggest challenge about taking on this role? Did you have some difficulties?

Yes, because in this role I had to cry, make everything seem real, also to be happy, so I had to change my mood very quickly.

6. Do you find any similarities between you and the character that you played?

It's true that I also have math problems that I don't know how to solve, and I ask my mom or my dad to help me.

7. What's the message of your play?

In my opinion the message of the play is to always be friendly with everyone, because you don't know when you might need help and you will know that if that's the case, there's somebody there who can help you.

8. Can you tell me a funny moment from the rehearsals?

At the rehearsals it usually happens to forget some words or to tell someone else's line and we laugh about that sometime.

9. What motivates you to act?

What motivates me to act is that I have a theater group that supports me and I really want to continue.

10. How do you deal with the jitters before the play?

At the beginning I always said to myself „everything is going to be all right” That is what our teacher keeps telling us, and so in the end, it was.

11. Would you like to follow an acting career or is it just a hobby?

For the moment I think that it's just a hobby, but I could make a career out of this.

12. Any suggestions for the next year's festival?

All the students that are going to participate next year should trust themselves and be confident, even if they get 'entangled' in the lines or get a line wrong, it's a human mistake that everyone can make.

Reporter: CARINA DUCA
Coordinating Teacher: Andreea Suciu
“Ana Aslan” Technical College, Cluj-Napoca



Irina Panin, in the play „Call Them Humans, if you like”

1. How do you feel after the show?

Freed. (laughs)

2. Were you nervous?

A little bit.

3. Have you taken part in this kind of festival before?

Similar to this, no, I haven't. But I had, two weeks ago, another play at school and it was ok.

4. What character did you play today?

I was Mandy, the older daughter of Mrs. Piscopesco and I had a sister that is...let's say a little bit crazier than me. The role was hard to play, especially because I had to have many different facial expressions, but, in my opinion, it went pretty smooth.

5. What do you like about the character you played?

I liked how I was supposed to act, I mean the facial expressions and moves on the stage, because it took me a long time to get used to all the movement we had to do.

6. You told me that the many different facial expressions that you had to make represented a challenge for you. Besides that, were there any other challenges?

No, I basically relied on the theatrics. What made it difficult was that at some point I was having problems with my voice and I couldn't yell as loud as my character is supposed to in scene 3.

7. Do you find any similarities between you and the character you played?

Yes, I find many similarities. Both me and the character are more... dreamy and this thing helped me a lot to play it.

8. What's the message of your play?

I think one of the messages is "Kids, don't smoke because you will faint!" like it happened in the scene (laughs).

9. There were many funny moments. Can you tell me one from the rehearsals?

Yes, at the beginning one of my colleagues, a girl, had to wear hills, and my boy colleague wore them too also with a dress, it was hilarious! (laughs)

10. What motivates you to act?

The movies and TV series I watch.

11. How do you deal with the jitters before the play?

I think I'm the best of all, and this thing helps me to get over emotions

12. Do you want to make a career out of this or it is just a hobby?

I want to make a career out of this.

13. Any suggestions for the next year's festival?

To learn the lines much better! (laughs)

*Reporter: Emma Romitan,
"Ana Aslan" Technical College, Cluj-Napoca*



Teacher Florina Pasculescu, play "Call them humans, if you like!"

1. So how do you feel after the show?

Relieved, I guess and still emotional. (laughs)

2. If you could do anything different or some improvements what would they be?

Well, we always want to improve something, I cannot specify something right now, but we always improve something, even while they were playing they added different things without me knowing it. So, I was surprised!

3. Can you tell us a little bit about your passion? What does it mean to you?

Well, I like theatre! I have been doing drama with my students since 2008, with a gap of 3 years because I was on maternity leave, and I am here after a gap of 5 years. Beginning with 2013 I was here every year with my students.

4. Can you imagine yourself choosing another path in life?

If you just mean teaching, just teaching, then I must confess unfortunately I'm not able to do anything else. Otherwise I might switch, but I'm doomed I guess. (laughs)

5. And in this area of drama and theatre do you see yourself like that too?

I just love going to the theatre and playing with my students!

6. So you've told me you've worked with students in a lot of drama activities.

Can you tell us more?

Yes, starting with 2008, during class, extra classes such as the drama club and even as I have previously told you during classes with different drama games and drama activities suitable for their age level, even my first degree paper is based on my activity.

7. How do you decide on a certain play?

It depends on the students' age, on their language level, on their opinions sometimes, but not always. (laughs)

8. How long have you and your students prepared for this performance?

For this one we started in October, I mean meeting, discussing, reading the original Caragiale's sketches, working on their adaptation, and then translating and afterwards starting working and rehearsing.

9. So it was a lot of researching before working?

Yes, indeed. That was essential.

10. When you're having a hard time coping with the kids, or the play doesn't go the way you wanted, what motivates you to continue?

Well, they do! My students. When they see that I'm mad at them, they keep rehearsing on their own, and send me videos, and apologizing. (laughs)

11. What's your opinion on the festival?

Well, it's already an 'old' festival and that's a good thing! Some years are better, and some years... it depends I guess on the participants and different other factors. But I think it's one of the best things that has happened for English teachers so I think it should continue!



12. What's the message of your play?

This year's play is about nowadays society and hoping to cope with new values, and hoping to improve the future, learning about our weaknesses and trying to correct them!

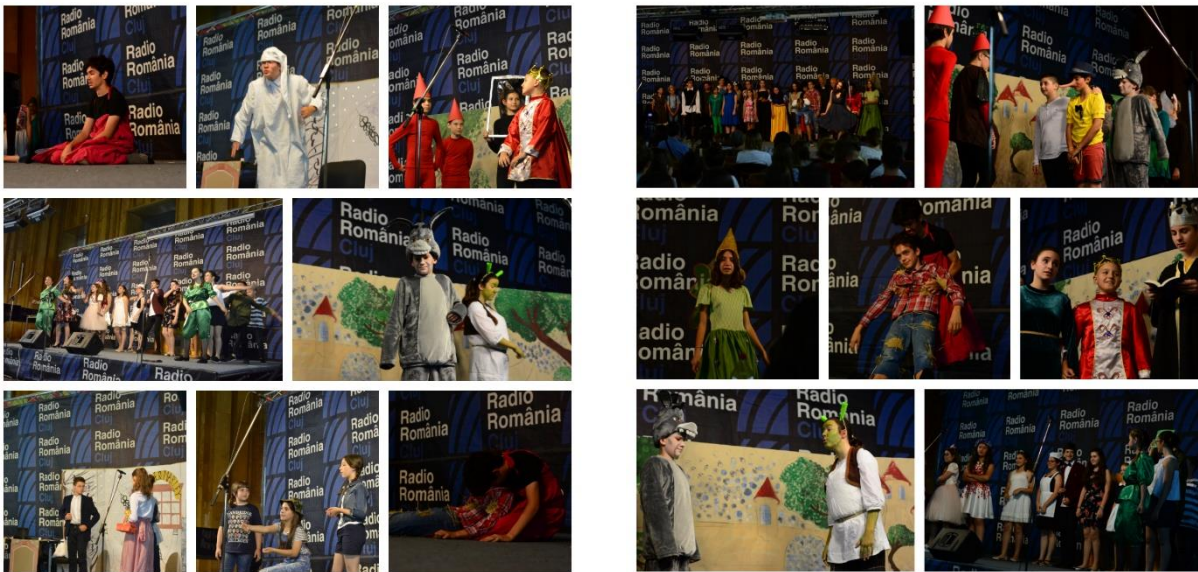
*Reporter: Emma Romitan,
"Ana Aslan" Technical College, Cluj-Napoca*

Don Juan's Trial

An intriguing story based on Moliere's work, subtly emphasizing the essence of the main character- the ladies' hero and lover, Don Juan. The script had wit, glamour and great humor.

*Strong points: amazing naturalness in the acting of Don Juan, including his capacity to improvise in less fortunate moments of the play, good, funny finale
Weak points: some of the characters were not fully familiar with the requirements of the script*

*By the students from
"Leowey Klara" Highschool, Sighetu-Marmatiei*



Maria Rus, in the play "Put colour in your life"

1. So how do you feel after the show? Any thoughts?

I think it went really well, and we rehearsed a lot and we were very nervous actually, because in the first part where his cap fell of we had to improvise a bit. I think all in all, it went really well!



2. Have you taken part in this kind of festival before?

Yes, I think this is my second time at this festival.

3. Tell me about the character that you played today.

Cruella de Blanche was an evil dictator and she was the wife of Black Brain, she was the main one against the idea of reading books and independence, but in the end she realized that without knowledge you can't build up any character so, she turned around and showed the rest that she can work with words as well as the parents of the children.

4. What do you like about your character?

I like that she was mean, I like that she knew what she wanted and didn't hesitate to take what was hers.

5. What was the biggest challenge of this role?

Well, it was yelling all the time. (laughs) Your throat will get sore after a while... but it was a really funny character to play.

6. Do you find any similarities between you and the character that you played?

She was very powerful and I like to think that in my every day life I am also powerful.

7. What's the real message of your play?

That knowledge builds up your character and it should be a very important part of your life.

8. Now tell me a funny moment from the rehearsals.

It was when one of the rabbits stormed onto the stage and said the wrong line, she said the line of a child which was "No, I want to read it", it was very funny!

9. What motivates you to act?

I love being on the stage, it is lots of fun, I feel that I can express myself through so many different characters and be however I want to be on that stage.

10. How do you deal with the jitters before the play?

I don't have any! I'm not usually nervous before plays.

11. Do you want to build up a career out of this or is it just a hobby?

Yes, I would like to build a career, and my dream goal is to become an actress.

12. Do you remember a line or a part of the play that you think is important?

The last monologue that I did, the one with letters and words, I thought that it was very important to show that the character grew and changed.

*Reporter: Emma Romitan,
"Ana Aslan" Technical College, Cluj-Napoca*

Elena's father - Ninu Matei

The homework

1. I saw that you act with passion, what motivates you to act?

Well, my team and my English teacher, every time when we finish rehearsals assures us that everything will be all right, and calls us cuties: "well then, my cuties, we'll see each other next time."



2. What character did you play today?

The father of the student who didn't know how to solve the problem in her homework, and tried to help her.

3. If you could change anything about your character, what would that be?

I would like to get up from the chair more often, and be less agitated (laughs).

4. Have you taken part in this kind of festival before?

Yes I have, this is the 4th time.

Teacher - Mihaela Claudia Liteanu

1. Can you tell us a bit about your passion, and what does it mean to you?

It means a lot of work, something different from what I do in my classes at school, a lot of work because I strive to get my students to do things the best they can.

2. How long have you worked with students and the theatre group?

I have worked like this for the past 9 years.

3. Could you imagine yourself choosing another path in your life?

No, I like what I do now, I wouldn't change it

4. I'm glad to hear that, what would be the best memories regarding the drama club activities?

The moment where we were handed the prizes, it felt like our work has paid off.

Call them humans if you like!

Tudor Turlea- Mitica Lefterescu

1. What character did you play today?

I played Mitica Lefterescu, a character from the 5 o'clock sketch by Caragiale.

2. What's your motivation or reason for acting?

I like to act because it's fun, I don't really have a reason.

3. So it's only a passion?

Yeah, mainly a passion...

4. Do you intend to make a career out of it?

I've often thought about it, but now I would like it to remain just a hobby.

Put color in your life

Queen of Hearts - Delia Pop

1. So, what character did you play today?

I played the Queen of Hearts, from Alice in Wonderland.

2. Were you able to find yourself in the role that you were playing?

A little bit, when I'm angry.

3. Knowledge is power is one of the lines in your play. Do you agree?

Yes, I agree, without knowledge, we are just puppets, easily controlled by those who have it.



4. How long have you been playing?

About a year or so.

5. What's the biggest challenge you faced when taking this role?

Finding the right clothes and learning my part in the show and calming my emotions.

6. So... overcoming your emotions?

Yeah, that's about it.

7. What would you change about your character?

I think I would make her stronger and not let her get easily beat up.

8. In your opinion, would these changes make her a better character in the play?

It would definitely make her a funnier character, strong and not so smart.

9. What made you choose to do this?

I was asked by my English teacher to participate almost one year ago and I said why not.

10. What could you tell us about the rehearsal?

During last summer we didn't rehearsal all the time that much, but instead we made exercises to improve our experience.

11. Why did you want to be involved in this production?

I didn't have a specific reason. I was attracted by the name of my character, Peter, and seemed very interesting to play a character that is opposite of my personality. It was a challenge. It's a challenge to be any character that is not like you.

12. What's going to surprise people about this show?

Just come and see.

13. Who has the best costume?

None of us or you can say that all of us, we created them and we are proud to wear them..

14. If you could play any other character in this show, who would it be?

I wouldn't. I don't have a preference, but I think the chance to play Peter was a chance to improve my acting because it was something different.

15. When you have five minutes break during the rehearsal, what do you spend that time doing?

We would play a joke about the characters and about the foolish way we play them. We have fun during the breaks.

16. How do you handle the emotion/ stage fright?

I try to concentrate on the subject and on the performance and not at the things that could go wrong and I think the most reassuring thing is that if I make a mistake only I and my colleagues will know about it ... so I choose to think about the fun part of acting.

Actor: Gergely Konrad

1. If you could be any other character, who would it be?

I would go for Robert, I don't know why, it just seems a great character.



2. *So you don't identify in any way with this character?*

No, not really. How do you handle the stage fight?

It was fun, I liked the sensation, I would do it again!

3. *What did you expect from the play?*

I liked the way it turned out, even cooperating with the other plays. I don't know for them, but I believe they liked it.

4. *Why did you want to be involved in this production?*

I like English very much and I think I am a fairly good actor, so I said "why not?"

5. *Can you say something about the rehearsal?*

We are all very happy to be part of this success.

6. *Is this show a true story?*

I don't know. It's inspired by a true story, I guess.

7. *Do you identify yourself with any of the characters?*

No, I don't, with none of them.

8. *What was the message of the play?*

I don't know if there was a message. It was pure comedy.

9. *What do you expect from the public?*

I saw them laughing, a lot, I think they liked my role and they enjoyed it.

10. *Do you think you reached the public's expectation?*

Yes.

11. *How were the roles chosen?*

They were chosen by the teacher, she knows better I guess ...

Dear Chuck's Trial

The play "Dear Chuck" by Jonathan Dorf was about finding "Chuck". This is a metaphor for the moment of life in which all teenagers discover who they really are.

The play was interesting, but it didn't make sense because of the fact that it didn't have a storyline and the language of the actors was not very fluent. The script was well written and the play of actors were relaxed and realistic. Also, the costumes were not sophisticated, but they were very expressive.

In my opinion, the best scene was the one that showed two different types of couples. The first couple presented was together because the boy and the girl were both judged for being single. The second one showed two people that fell in love because they like the same things and they didn't care about other people's opinions. Finding "Chuck" is not easy because every teenager has to cope with the loss of a friend, with a broken heart, sometimes they also have to deal with controlling parents. When you find "Chuck", you also find out who you are.

By Gansca Reia,
"Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Cluj-Napoca



The Saga of Freydis and the Raiders

This year, at Dramaland, theatre groups from different cities were brought together by their love for drama and passion for acting. Every single group presented us, the viewers, unique stories, special characters, certain moments in human history, real or imaginary in the best way they could think of and through hard work.

The acting team from 'Silvania', Zalău made quite an impression presenting the story of Freydis, a girl who wanted desperately to be in a saga and who struggles to



save her village from the Raiders, a band of murderous warriors. The play ends with a plot twist that nobody expected: the villagers and the Raiders are willing to work together to create Ikea, a furniture store that sells food as well, the carpenter being Freydis' little brother.

The audience couldn't move their eyes off the charismatic characters. The viewers were under a spell of humour, realised through perfect acting with no mistakes or hesitation at all.

The costumes and the scenic design were on point and nothing seemed off. What caught my attention was the question of gender equality, brought up by the desire of Freydis to be in a saga, which fascinated me because of the original way it was presented in.

Needless to say, the play was a success, with flawless acting, unique characters and costumes and a plot with interesting twists. All the effort put into this play made it one of the festival's highlights and I hope I will see group 'Silvania' again in future festivals. It was an amazing performance!

By Sara Cristurean
„Nicolae Balcescu" Theoretical Highschool

My Fair Lady

It is common knowledge that when you are on the stage, in the limelight, you should forget the nervousness, the stage fright and get into the groove in order to make the magic happen. You practically step into a new world. But when the play is "My fair lady", the famous musical, this is easier said than done. This is why I really appreciated that the group of students from "Iosif Vulcan" National College, Oradea had the courage to choose it for their performance.

The whole story is based on Pygmalion's myth, the one who sculpted Galacteea only to fall in love with her and beg the gods to give her life. It is the myth that G. B. Shaw, the famous Irish playwright, based his play on. Professor Higgins somehow carves Eliza's phonetical language and behaviour, succeeding in making her act ladylike.

There were certain positive aspects in the acting team's performance. Firstly, they managed to highlight the difference between social classes in England at the beginning of the 20th century. Eliza, the so-called "flower girl" comes from the lowest social layer, whereas Professor Higgins belongs to the high society. And the actors were good at showing these differences in behavior and mentality. One of them was the contrast between Eliza's humour and Professor Higgins's seriousness. Another was the marked contrast between the topics of conversation when Eliza meets Professor Higgins' acquaintances. He tries to fix Eliza's language and



manners and teach her how to blend into the aristocracy but a person's mentality and experience prove harder to change.

The presenter's monologue at the beginning of the play and her intervention throughout the play brought an element of originality to the performance. The costumes fused well with the plot and managed to recreate the quaint atmosphere one expects to see in England at the beginning of the 20th century. The costumes also highlighted the contrast between the aristocrats' fine and delicate apparel and Eliza's shabby clothes, which emphasize her origins, the fact that she comes from an ordinary and even hostile environment. What I also greatly enjoyed was the artistic moment which consisted of a dance with spinning umbrellas. It brought sparkle into the show and it was well executed. Of course, there is still some work to be done, as the young actors should learn how to control their emotions and focus on the nonverbal language, on expressiveness and posture. All these come with experience, which is, of course, gained in time and I am sure they will improve all of these skills.

To put it in a nutshell, as a spectator I was pleased with the show and the play really reminded me of the original musical I watched not long ago. Congratulations and don't forget that success results only from hard work and practice. It is not unlike the episode when Eliza struggles with "The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain." Right?

*By Alexandra Pop
"Nicolae Balcescu" Theoretical Highschool, Cluj-Napoca*

A Dollar

A group of characters from the theatre band (the Comedian, Villain, Tragedian Heroine etc.) are walking through the middle of nowhere to find their fortune in another city. They are all broke and are running low on food and supplies. To perk them up, the Comedian brings up a small amount of ambrosia. They all sing and dance and play games to see who gets the ambrosia. The Villain knocks over a bag and a dollar is in the ground. Everyone tries to snatch it up for themselves. The Villain now, wanting to have all the control because he has the money, demands them to follow his orders. A revolt follows and the Comedian ends up with the dollar. He asks a Stranger to split it for all and the Stranger takes the dollar and runs away.

The play was enjoyable and easy to take, so the audience could just relax while the actors were playing their roles. Their poor and cozy costumes were suitable for the plot and also for the message they want to express, accommodating the actors into their roles perfectly. The characters performed were diverse, illustrating different



kinds of people in a group and their diverse way of thinking. The way in which the actors expressed themselves in English was a fluent and intelligible one.

On the background, a peaceful sound of water flowing and birds singing, integrate the audience into the atmosphere of the play, making it more like a pleasant experience. The plot was unique, spontaneous and captivating, you couldn't expect anything coming and that has contributed to the magic of the play. At the end, when the stranger comes in, nobody was expecting such ending, so they left the audience kind of confused and also amused by the weird situation created. That emphasizes the fact that is childish to fight for useless things and put the domination and the wealth before friendship.

On the other side, beside the fact that the plot was interesting it also was slightly boring and plain at the beginning. It hadn't much dynamic scenes or full of suspense. At some points when nothing was happening and a moment of total silence was fell on, I lost my concentration and interest on the play.

In my opinion, the play on a whole was well done and the actors well instructed. I appreciate the fact that it wasn't static, they were moving around and also dancing. I consider the best part of it was the plot twist at the end; they succeeded putting some smiles on our faces for the simple fact that nobody saw it coming.

By Ana Ghitulescu,
"Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Cluj-Napoca

Don Juan

Reporter: What character did you play?

Iulia Oana Radu: I've played the prosecutor.

Reporter: How did you feel playing him?

Iulia Oana Radu: I've had a lot of emotions, and I also felt interesting being in the role of analyzing Don Juan the character that made history through love which he sees as totally free of any social bonds.

Reporter: What message do you think you have left behind?

Iulia Oana Radu: I think that I showed people that they can do whatever they want to do even if all the world is against them.

Reporter: Have you ever been to this festival before?

Iulia Oana Radu: Yes, I've participated in this festival in the past, but with students from other school.



Reporter: What do you think about this festival?

Iulia Oana Radu: This festival is great and I've fallen in love with it.

Reporter: What recommendations do you have for the organizers?

Iulia Oana Radu: I would recommend them to invest more in publicity in order to be a wider audience. There should be more people that are enjoying such a festival. I also like the town really much.

By Victor Bocean, Gheran George,
"Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Cluj-Napoca

Billy Elliot

Have you ever felt as if the only way of expressing a thought or a feeling in its purest form is by means of bodily movement? I, for one, am convinced that all of you have experienced the impetuous need of jiggling along your favourite song. That is because dance is primarily human, so deeply enrooted in ourselves that we can all but neglect it.

Some people, however, live entirely through dance, and sometimes even transform it into art, despite their initial limitations and all their trials and tribulations. This is the core idea of an extraordinary tale involving an 11-year-old misfit boy, ballet classes and a lot of unfounded prejudice. This year on the stage of Dramaland, the jury and the audience watched a wonderful rendition of "Billy Elliot", staged by students from "Gheorghe Sincai" Theoretical High School and directed by their coordinating teacher, Dana Grigorovici.

The script revolves around the life of a middle-class boy named Billy whose ambition is to become a professional ballet dancer, even though his father wants him to become a "real" man and thus forces him to attend boxing lessons. Billy's sheer passion is obvious to those around him; when asked what it feels like when he is dancing, he describes it as being "like electricity". With the help of an empathic ballet teacher, Mrs. Wilkinson, the boy manages to convince his family to send him to Royal Ballet School, and 14 years later his father and brother are visibly moved when Billy, having achieved his lifetime goal, gives a striking performance in "Swan Lake".

Nowhere else have I seen such a profound and authentic on-stage connection between wonderfully talented teenagers. What truly distinguishes them from others is the uplifting sense of grace and delicacy which they manage to deliver at all times. To them, subtlety of emotion is key. The risk they took with this play was well-calculated, and the performance was a success. Just like in Billy's dancing, the energy they conveyed was pure "electricity". The future looks bright for these young



actors, as they are hard-working, passionate, and most of all, they understand the power of the human soul.

Mara Spatar, 11th grade "Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Cluj-Napoca



Billy Elliot

The play was about a little boy who was sent by his father to boxing lessons but, one day, he discovers ballet and decides to join ballet classes behind his father's back.

The script of the play was brilliant as it had lots of humorous parts and dynamic lines. The actors were well chosen and they did an astonishing work, passing as extremely natural and funny and also blending into the story because of their suitable clothes. Their body language was full of confidence and because of that they managed to create a strong connection with the audience. What made the play even more excellent was the use of music as a transition, which fitted perfectly with that specific time-frame. Also a coreography was added and, in the end, it gave energy to the play. The setting was well put together and rich in details and it was used effectively by the actors.

Being played so naturally and realistically, it succeeded in spreading a message: in order to fulfill your dreams, you need to have the strength to never give up on your goals and to never let yourself be intimidated by people who don't believe in your talent.



Personally, I think the play was very well organized and the actors managed to show the development of the characters in a great manner. What I liked the best was the unicity of each and every character and the way that their evolution was showed so gracefully.

*By Karina Dudas,
“Gheorghe Sincai” National College, Cluj-Napoca*



Dear Chuck

Interview with Buruiian Denisa Maria

Reporter: What character did you play?

Denisa: I played Georgia, a girl who is trying to find herself.

Reporter: How did you feel playing this character?

Denisa: It was very exciting and it didn't feel like a burden at all, I enjoyed playing Georgia as we have similar personalities and so I felt very comfortable while being on the stage.

Reporter: What's the takeaway message?

Denisa: I think that our message, the play's message, is that everyone is trying to find himself, to experience new things and generally to become a better person. Also, it is a reminder for the audience that people should try to improve themselves whenever they can.

Reporter: Hve you ever been to this festival before?

Denisa: No, it is the first time that I have ever been to this drama festival.

Reporter: What do you think about the festival?



Denisa: It was wonderful for me to take part in this festival because I really enjoyed being on the stage and trying to send a message to the audience.

Reporter: What recommendations do you have for the next edition?

Denisa: For me, this festival was perfect and it was well organised so I wouldn't change anything.

*By Campean Oana, Dumitru Smaranda,
"Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Cluj-Napoca*

Out of your mind

The play "Out of your mind" by Sue Murray, adapted by 'Nicolae Bălcescu' High School, explores the fact that we all have interior lives. We have thoughts, feelings, hopes and dreams that we choose not to reveal to those around us. In the play, as the audience watches the characters develop and build a story, they can also hear their thoughts and have a better understanding of their feelings, even of those who do not influence their actions.

The first thing to strike the audience was the variety of props the play used, so complex that it could almost make the plot seem to take place in a real setting. The background was very colorful and realistic, suitable for every scene. The costumes of the actors were diverse and colorful as well, each of them being perfectly fitted with each of the character's personalities. Their costumes also reflected the character's age, no matter if they were a teenager, elder or child. The dialogue that took place on the stage was fluent and the actors used coherent language, although at times it was too rapidly spoken for the audience to understand the message. The music they used was also suitable for every scene, making the setting feel real after every transition. The actors were extremely talented and they all seemed very comfortable in their role, despite being of a different age than their characters. As for the significance of the play, they managed to make it clear that each of us has dreams and hopes the others don't understand or share and that, at the end of the day, we must be kind to each other.

Personally, I found the play enjoyable and extremely humorous at times. Such is the case for the ending, where an old couple that appeared in the first parts had a flashback of themselves many years before. Not only that the scene had many funny lines delivered perfectly by the actors, but the appearance of other two very gullible and hilarious characters made the audience appreciate the hilarity of the play better than they had before.

*By Oana Campean,,
"Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Cluj-Napoca*



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