

# Experimental Movement Centre

## ORGANISATION DESCRIPTION

Experimental Movement Centre is a non-profit organisation which has been introducing new circus and performing art to children, youngsters and grown-ups already for 14 years. The training rooms are located in the near centre of Tallinn, the capital of Estonia but performances, events, shows and camps have travelled all over Estonia and many other countries. The main purpose of the organisation is to teach, unite and develop young people to be independent and creative through dance, circus, acrobatics, acting and music. We have a friendly and easy-going collective of trainers and students. The trainers have grown out from the same school so they have the best overview of the school policy and know-how. It's a school where you'll learn for your whole life. The target group is mainly children aged between 2 – 16. But we also have several training groups for grown-ups. We have approximately 150 children and 20 grown-up students. The school is opened for everyone who has a wish to learn acrobatics and circus tricks. From our side, we'll try to raise independent, thinking, creative and good people through our teachings. Please also check our video on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CuZUUniSGs8&t=46s>

## PROJECT CONTEXT

The project environment is located in the capital of Estonia – Tallinn. Experimental Movement Center has very decent and well-equipped rooms in Kopli which is near Tallinn city centre, 10 minutes by public transportation. Estonia is socially tolerant – people with cultural differences are generally treated well and nearly all information is available in English. The economy has developed in the last decade to the average European level with some discrepancies in some cases. The Experimental Movement Center (ELK) is not a live-in community so the volunteer wouldn't live in a residential area of Tallinn with other international volunteers. The volunteer should be ready to share a room and have a flexible attitude. Main directions of ELK are acrobatics, circus, theatre with a hint of dancing. More about the organisation can be found at <http://www.omatsirkus.ee/eng>. We have different age groups of children having classes almost every day of the week. The volunteer will have exact instructions what, when and where is expected from him/her. The working team is nice and friendly and the rooms are equipped with decent proper requisites for the trainings.

## PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Main responsibilities: to assist in trainings as an assistant coach. For example, holding the jump rope, hold the unicyclist's hand, helps the children with somersaults (everything happens by the instructions of the coach). The volunteer would help to bring the requisites, prepare the room for trainings and carry out the trainings with the coach. Is present in performances, camps (city camp, summer camp). Helps to organize the competitions (coffee table, receptor, printing the diplomas, enters the data of the judges, helps in rewarding). In addition the volunteer should help to organize the events (communicating with people, spreading advertisement, selling and checking tickets, organizational activities, assisting). Dealing with children. If the volunteer wishes he/she can help with creative work (organizing the performances and

programs, choreography, music, costumes etc). Can participate in trainings, use rooms and requisites. Getting know Estonian culture and circus activity in Estonia is a plus. Communicating with young artists and sports people. Depends on the strong sides of the volunteer - if the person has a hobby or a strong knowledge of for example photography, design or filmmaking he/she is very welcome to take photos, tape the performances or trainings or design the costumes or whatever he/she does

the best. Our trainers also have very different strong sides and everybody does what they do best. We offer the volunteer the possibility to participate in the trainings and through that develop his/her athletic side and acrobatics and circus skills. The volunteer would participate in the camps and will learn to communicate with children and improve teaching skills. The volunteer is welcome to participate in the tuitions for trainers which we occasionally arrange during the year. And of course, we offer the opportunity to learn the language and Estonian culture by communicating with our splendid collective.

## **PROFILE OF THE VOLUNTEER AND RECRUITMENT PROCESS**

Because of the nature of the work it would be very handy if the volunteer has a sports and art-minded attitude. Experience in dealing with children, circus, acrobatics or other stage or creational activity is very much appreciated. Physically active and healthy lifestyle is a big plus. The ideal candidate matches with our cheerful and positive minded collective. We appreciate if the candidate would have a good sense of humour, is easy to communicate with and likes dealing with children and youngsters, is accurate and does everything on time. Adaptable and prepared for changes. English or Russian language is inevitable on the communicative level. Basic knowledge of computer skills is very much helpful. The applicant should send an application form foreseen for everyone who applies for EVS through coordinating organisation EstYES. The decision will be made by the motivation and suitability of the applicant.

## **RISK PREVENTION, PROTECTION AND SAFETY**

The volunteer will have support from the co-workers and mentor (regular meetings, help to integrate into society). The host organisation will ensure: 1) that the volunteer work is safe and been assessed for risk; 2) that every effort is made that project meets high health and safety standards; 3) that the volunteer is trained and familiar with the volunteering work and have access to adequate safety equipment if needed; 4) that the volunteer will get all the practical and psychological support from the staff. The volunteers will have an experienced supervisor who will help the volunteer to understand the new environment and feel more comfortable. The volunteer will have the opportunity to learn Estonian language. Accommodation for volunteers will be organised by our coordinating organization NGO Noortevahetus Arengu Ühing ESTYES: the volunteer will live in an apartment with convenient transport connectivity to the workplace, each volunteer either in a separate or shared room. The apartment is fully furnished with beds, bedclothes, bath/shower & equipped kitchen. As an alternative, the volunteer can live in a student hostel or in a respectable local family with the same conditions. Food will be prepared by the volunteer at home, money will be provided by our coordinating organisation. In addition, volunteers will be paid a monthly allowance according to EVS financing rules.