

### **About Zavod Bob**

Youth association **Zavod Bob** (Bob Association) was founded in 2007. It aims to provide the terms for successful development of **youth autonomy**, promotion of the **importance of informal/non formal education** and work practice, encouragement of **cultural activities** and **social entrepreneurship** and an increase of **active participation of youth in the society**. Target groups of participants for different programs are youth in general, youth interested in youth work and unprivileged, marginalized, fewer opportunities youth.

We currently manage two youth centers in the center of Ljubljana and run another 11 projects that include working with NEETs (young people not in employment, education or training), street-based youth work, shared use of urban green spaces, an annual festival of youth cultural/art/creative production, and a program for social change through Theatre of the Oppressed. Our organisation employs fifteen youth workers and cooperates with other thirty youth workers that are a part of project groups. All this is done with a horizontal organisational structure in which each project is managed by the project team. 90 percent of employees and coworkers in programs and projects are youth (aged 15-29). They are cooperating as proposers, planners, executors and evaluators of project and operative activities. We advocate active participation of youth in all the levels of operating. The point of this type of organising is to always search for consensus between all employees and project workers, solution based work approach, equality and transparency of work.



# Current projects in Bob Association that volunteers could be involved in:

**PUM-O** (Project Learning for Young Adults) is an informal learning program for empowerment of young adults from disadvantaged backgrounds. A group of approximately 10-20 youth from 15 to 26 years old spend five days a week from 8am to 2pm at Zavod Bob where mentors try to motivate them to enter formal education system again, to develop a career identity or find a job. These youth are registered as unemployed at the unemployment agency, are not included in the system of formal education or didn't finish primary or secondary education.

**Tasks for EVS volunteers**: volunteers can offer peer-to-peer assistance with practical skills (English, computer skills such as Office, etc). They can organise projects together such as fixing bicycles in our workshop, organising events for the wider public, depending on the interests of the volunteer.



Youth center Ulca: Bob association plays a role of the coordinator and offers informational and counseling service in youth center Ulca ('Street') at the Central train station of Ljubljana. The center was funded by youth connected through interests for hip hop culture and youth work which they see as a possible platform for social changes. It is a space for youth participation, cultural and sports activities and information sharing.

From Monday to Friday 11am-4pm the space is open for youth to spend their time there as they wish; hang out, play table tennis, do homework, work, etc.

**Tasks for EVS volunteers:** volunteers can be in charge of the youth center between 11am-4pm, promote the space among youth on the streets, hold workshops and organise intercultural events in the youth center. They can help with creative renovation of the space, the youth center's visual identity, etc.



**Network Young street (Mreža mlada ulica)**: Bob association is a member and coordinator of NGO network **Mreža mlada ulica**. MMU's main project are Friday evening 'actions' where we give 'triggers' - small buckets for garbage - to groups of youth. By telling youth what these buckets are for and how to use them we establish a dialogue with youth about public spaces, garbage, noise, public urination, bullying, and most importantly, about responsible usage of common goods and respectful attitude towards environment and people. All this is accompanied by offering free pancakes to passers-by.

FB profile: https://www.facebook.com/MrezaMladaUlica/

**Tasks for EVS volunteers**: between April and November volunteers can participate in the Friday evening 'actions' where they can choose from different roles – making pancakes, distributing garbage buckets, encouraging youth for responsible use of public spaces. They can participate in motivational weekends and project working groups, help with the graphic design of the network, organise and participate in study visits and projects abroad, make videos and photos of the 'actions' and cooperate in team building activities.



**Bob Geto ft. Tobalko Vila** is a program of youth street work that offers support to disadvantaged youth to be able to face their problems and difficulties. At the same time it is a peer to peer support scheme program of preventive street youth work that raises awareness about negative effect of alcohol, tobacco and drug consumption.

FB profile: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/geto.bob/">https://www.facebook.com/geto.bob/</a>

**Tasks for EVS volunteers:** volunteers can join the project group at their activities in high school dormitories (Dijaški center DIC) and promote European mobility projects and EVS amongst the youth there from September till the end of June.



**LivadaLab** is a program of shared use of urban green spaces where different activities are being held (community gardening, picnics, sport activities, etc.). The 6000m2 green space is run by Livada project team but is available for use for all the interested local population. Therefore it is also a place that connects youth and locals and engages them in common activities, which leads to intergenerational connection, knowledge and experience sharing and mutual solidarity.

LivadaLAB has three working groups: Plants, Activities and Elements. Each of them has a detailed plan of action for 2017.

The Plants group is in charge of a small urban field of wheat, pumpkins and corn, planting a fruit orchard, building a new raised garden bed, as well as general maintenance of the site.

The Elements group is in charge of building a deer-repellant fence around the site, a clay fireplace, a nomadic shelter, a compost toilet and a well.

The Activities group will organise creative workshops, cultural and sports events, a picnic, an open market and other events for the local population.

FB profile: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LivadaLAB/">https://www.facebook.com/LivadaLAB/</a>

**Tasks for EVS volunteers**: volunteers can join either (or all!) of the working groups and work on-site, help with project planning and development of new activities, motivate youth to participate in projects, organise their own events and attend weekly team bonfires on-site, develop their own projects ideas and write applications for European funding.



**NEXTival** is an annual festival of youth creative, cultural and artistic production, held in the first week of June. It offers young people the possibility for introduction of their cultural production, projects, services and products. The goals are public and media coverage of youth activities, enrichment of youth culture, influence the public image of youth as active society members, development of creativity and entrepreneurship amongst youth, and building a platform for networking of youth and the private sector.

**Tasks for EVS volunteers**: volunteers can join the organisation team, promote their own projects and EVS program at the festival.



**All or Nothing at All** is a program aimed at social change through cultural activism. It is encouraging political participation of youth with involvement in unconventional political practices. It uses mainly the techniques of the Theatre of the Oppressed to empower the youth, give them a voice and raise their social activity.

FB profile: https://www.facebook.com/1374328259472881/

**Tasks for EVS volunteers:** volunteers can join weekly workshops of the theatre group All or Nothing at All and learn how to use the Theatre of the Oppressed techniques through practical experience.



**Cat'n'ring** is a food catering project that grew out of a project '**PDCAE** – Program for Developing Competences for Autonomous Employment'. It involves a group of young people who are exercising catering on Bob's events with the goal to open a formal catering business in the future.

FB profile: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Cat-n-Ring-539270452932161/">https://www.facebook.com/Cat-n-Ring-539270452932161/</a>

**Tasks for EVS volunteers:** volunteers can help the group with P.R., administration of their Facebook profile, photographing their catering events, searching for the catering opportunities, giving ideas for the menus, cooperation in food preparation and catering.



**ČlovekilNJE** project is a part of wider campaign by Ljubljana municipality named 'Human, take care of your city as you only have one!'. The campaign is focused on prevention and decrease of vandalistic acts. Človekinje is a group of professionals that does preventive youth street work with the aim of empowerment of local communities to be able to address their own needs and solve the problems arising there.

FB profile: https://www.facebook.com/clovekinje/

**Tasks for EVS volunteers:** volunteers can cooperate with the organisation and realization of ČlovekiNJE's community events for children and youth in the park and join the project group workshops in schools, as well as promote EVS there.



### Other tasks for volunteers:

- Development and implementation of own project ideas under mentorship of Zavod Bob;
- organisation of their own events, workshops and other activities based on their interests;
- help with the visual image of the association (developing the website and social media, creating short movies and videos as well as other promotion materials);
- organisation of their own activities using crafts and bike repair workshop;
- promotion of EVS;
- support at PR and website, administration of social network profiles;
- creating multimedia materials (photos, videos) of Bob's activities;
- participating in the activities of other youth organizations that Zavod Bob cooperates with;

### What we offer to volunteers:

Bob Association offers volunteers an opportunity to work in a friendly and warm environment. They will be included in the team of youth workers with years of experience. They will learn how to follow association's main principles and use them at their future work. Those are: active participation, overall mentorship and sustainability. We are focusing on empowerment of youth in all fields of their life. Youth are included in all the organisational processes of Bob Association.

The volunteers will be able to join multiple project groups and learn different working methods (Project based learning, Experiential learning, Field work, Street based youth work, Theater of the oppressed, etc.) and develop and implement their own ideas with the professional support. At the end of exchange we aim to give them valuable working experience and raise their competences in the field of youth work.

Bob Association, together with the sending organizations and the National Agency, will provide the volunteer with all the necessary information and resources to ensure a quality intercultural and non-formal learning experience, including: An Info Kit containing information intended for the volunteer before traveling; EVS Training and Evaluation Cycle during the EVS; Slovenian language course by the chosen language school; health insurance and support with all the administrative procedure (visa, residence permits, travel arrangements, etc.).

The volunteers will be accommodated in a private apartment or student dormitory free of charge; they will each receive 80 EUR of monthly allowance and 150 EUR for food expenses per month.

The volunteer will have an assigned mentor who will guarantee a good integration into our association, our project and our community, who will help and guide them to guarantee their safety and happiness. At the end of the activity period the volunteers will receive a Youthpass, an official European certificate recognizing their professional skills and acquired competences.

### What volunteers offer to us:

Volunteeers will add a multicultural dimension to our work. Zavod Bob works mainly with young people with fewer opportunities and NEETS (young people not in education, employment and training), so working with people from other cultures will be a valuable learning process for the youth in all our projects.

Zavod Bob encourages self-initiative in youth. The volunteers will offer us a possibility to realise new projects together and they will offer us a different perspective on our approaches. We always appreciate the presence of motivated volunteers!:)

## How to apply:

If you are interested in cooperating with us, send us a motivation letter and CV to zavodbob.evs@gmail.com.

Dates of the project: The placement will last from 14.04.2017 till 28.02.2018.

#### About Slovenia

Slovenia is a small country in southern Central Europe, bordering Italy, Croatia, Hungary and Austria. The population of Slovenia is 2 million. In the west, we have 45km of seaside, in the north you can find the Alps, wild forests in the south and in the east, rolling plains and vineyards; for a small country, the nature in Slovenia is incredibly diverse. More than half of Slovenia is covered by forest. We are small enough that you can go skiing, then drive to the seaside and swim in less than an hour.

Until 1991, Slovenia was a member of Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; it became an independent country in 1991, so we are a relatively young political power. We joined NATO and the EU in 2004. But we do have most tractors per capita in the world!

The capital of Slovenia is Ljubljana; other major towns include Maribor in the east and Koper on the seaside in the west. The official language is Slovene, as well as Hungarian and Italian in the ethnically mixed areas.

Slovenians you might have heard of without realising they were Slovenian: Slavoj Žižek, Melania Trump, Martin Strel, Tina Maze, Peter Prevc.

# **About Ljubljana**

The capital of Slovenia, Ljubljana, is a relatively large central European city with approximately 300,000 inhabitants, situated in the center of Slovenia. The beautiful city centre is situated between the river Ljubljanica and the castle hill above. The visitor's first impression of Ljubljana is that it is an exceptionally young city where over 50,000 students provide very young vibrations as the biggest Slovenian University is located there. With its charming city center, its alternative scene and its many cafes, bars and restaurants Ljubljana is a popular tourist destination. Trees and greenery surround the Ljubljanica river embankments, designed by the late great Jože Plečnik. Ljubljana is also home to one of the oldest botanical gardens in Europe as well as four nature parks, the most known of which is Tivoli Park. It earned the Green Capital of Europe 2016 title.

Ljubljana is a friendly city for young people. Public buses connect the whole city and there are public bicycles available throughout the wider center. The castle hill and Tivoli park cut a line of green spaces through the town, perfect for a picnic in the spring. The old city center is closed to cars which means that the city's wide streets and squares are designed for pedestrians and bicyclists. There are many places to hang out, including the famous Metelkova, an old Yugoslavian barracks that was squatted and turned into an alternative cultural center with exhibitions, bars, clubs and a hostel. The musical scene in Ljubljana has been awakening in the last few years and there are many bars with live music and concerts, as well as plenty of social events. There are approximately 500 international students in Ljubljana and they hold many international events.

Zavod Bob is located right behind the Central bus and train station, five minutes walk from Metelkova and the city center.

### More info about Ljubljana:

http://www.spottedbylocals.com/ljubljana/

http://www.ljubljana.si/en/

https://www.visitljubljana.com/en/visitors/

http://www.mywanderlust.pl/alternative-ljubljana/