

Thursday, 11 February 2016

PRESS RELEASE

21/2 International Mother Language Day, UNESCO

An event of love and awareness-raising for refugee children -

Global mobilization for the right of access to Education for all by Varkey
Teachers Ambassadors, “i love dyslexia” EFL School and
3Dlexia Cosmos Volunteer Team

Special performance for children of “The Quiltmaker’s Gift” at the new
Vasilakou Theatre

“i love dyslexia (ILD), 3Dlexia Cosmos Volunteer Team and Aggeliki Pappa, founder of ILD, Varkey Ambassador, finalist for the Global Teacher Prize 2016, which is also known as the teachers’ Nobel prize, have the pleasure and honor to announce an event to be held in Athens, Greece to celebrate UNESCO’s International Mother Language Day 2016.

The aim of this special day is to promote linguistic diversity and multi-language education, as well as the preservation of less-spoken languages. In our times, this International UNESCO day takes on multiple dynamics and value, since refugee children need to be immediately re-integrated into the education process, whatever their spoken language or whichever language they have to be educated in. The emphasis is on the acquisition of an international voice to enable their smooth integration in the schools of the countries through which they travel.

Messages of mutual assistance, solidarity, generosity, the transformation of fear into love, but also of communication through “magic” key words and Art are spread through the action in the performance of “The Quiltmaker’s Gift”. “i love dyslexia” has prepared this event with loving care, under the auspices of the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO, with the collaboration of the people in charge of the Elaionas Refugee Shelter, and all participants in the performance of “The Quiltmaker’s Gift”. We invite all refugee children to participate, acting as ambassadors of the Day’s great messages, spreading the power of Art, multilingualism and respect of multiculturalism all over the world!

Through the event publicity for UNESCO’s International Mother Language Day, the global awareness movement #nolostgeneration and #teachersmatter is promoted, with Greeks contributing substantially to crucial international matters through Culture and Education.

Ms Aggeliki Pappa, founder of ILD, innovative special educator and teacher trainer, states: “Throughout history, Greece’s mission has been this: to offer the world virtuous Education and its Cultural heritage. The founding values of our organization include offering to all our fellow human beings who might be in need. We celebrate this special day offering joy and optimism to refugee children; at the same time, through the participation of Varkey Ambassadors, comprising the group of 100 top teachers in the world for 2015 and 2016, the message for refugees’ right to education acquires tremendous momentum, with our country as its starting point.”

“i love dyslexia” has organized this event in honor of refugee children who have found a temporary home at the Eleonas Refugee Shelter and extends an invitation to anyone wishing to participate, to stand by the side of the people running the Shelters and support them in any possible way. During the event, “ILD” will hand over to volunteer teachers and the people in charge of the Refugee Shelter, an innovative educational guide / toolkit, designed by the teaching team at “i love dyslexia”; this will act as a “key” to encourage foreign language learning, since it is adapted to meet the immediate needs of refugee populations for communication in an international language. Furthermore, “i love dyslexia” students will guide us through the Palmyra monuments and 3-D museums, restored and created during their workshop sessions at ILD.

The event starts at 2.30 pm on Sunday 21 February at the New Vasilakou Theatre, with inauguration speeches and greetings; the performance of “The Quiltmaker’s Gift” for all children will follow and finally, at 5.00 pm, there will be a digital meeting to share the messages of all Varkey Ambassadors for this special day, so as to spread #NoLostGeneration and #teachersmatter messages worldwide from Greece.

For further information please contact us or refer to the event program.

Description and Mission of “i love dyslexia”

“i love dyslexia” (ILD) is the first and unique fully specialized educational organization globally for the holistic teaching of English as a Foreign Language to students with dyslexia and other learning needs. Our organization was shortlisted as one of the top 10 innovative organizations in Greece and is the only one distinguished in the field of education for 2015, in the annual competition “Greece Innovates”, jointly run by Eurobank and SEV (Hellenic Federation of Enterprises). ILD’s founder and Head of Research, Ms Aggeliki Pappa, has been elected as one of the 50 top teachers worldwide, through the institution of the Global Teacher Prize 2016.

The core of ILD innovation combines: (a) original material for complete, systematic and holistic intervention, globally, in teaching foreign languages, developed by Ms Aggeliki Pappa, based on the different brain of people with dyslexia, at the same time making use of new technologies and (b) experiential workshops for “differentiated teaching”, whereby groups of students of differing abilities, ages and level of English, develop not only their foreign language skills, but also Life Skills (Life Skills Education) which are a must when dealing with the challenges of the 21st century.

The ultimate aim of ILD is the improvement of life quality for its students, by offering them access to the holistic learning of the English language, but also the diffusion of knowledge, experience, research and ethos that characterize its activities in the domain of education in general, within the Greek and global educational community. To achieve these aims, we voluntarily undertake training programs for state and private institutions in Greece, but also through projects in which “i love dyslexia” participates, representing Greece for educational innovation at an international level.

The founder and Head of Research of the award-winning, innovative educational organization “i love dyslexia”, is Ms Aggeliki Pappa, English Language Teacher, special educator, researcher and teacher trainer in international projects at Folkuniversitetet in Uppsala, Sweden.

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Mission and Scope of 3Dlexia Cosmos Volunteer Team

The 3Dlexia Cosmos Volunteer Team aims at supporting humanitarian activities of innovative education so as to promote inclusive pedagogy and the cultivation of transformative educational paradigm and research for the 21st century.