

RURAL STAGES FOR YOUTH VOICES

Culture as a Tool for Youth Work in Rural Areas

Rural Stages for Youth Voices is a European Training Course exploring how cultural events and temporary cultural spaces can create opportunities for youth participation, creative expression and active involvement in rural and peripheral areas. Young people living in rural areas can have fewer opportunities to participate in cultural and social life, access creative spaces and take an active role in their communities. At the same time, youth workers and local organisations need practical approaches to engage young people, support their ideas and create spaces where they can contribute, collaborate and shape cultural initiatives together.

The project explores how culture can become a space for youth work, participation, volunteering and community building, connecting young people with local communities, organisations and the wider rural territory.

THE IDEA

Echollective will bring Entroteraneo Festival, an independent cultural and music festival developed in rural Liguria, as a real-life case study. Rather than presenting a model to replicate, the Training Course will use Entroteraneo as a starting point to explore how cultural initiatives can create opportunities for young people, strengthen local communities and become meaningful tools for youth work.

Together with experiences from other European organisations, participants will analyse different approaches to:

- rural cultural youth work
- youth participation and empowerment
- volunteering and active involvement
- co-design and youth-led initiatives
- community building
- inclusion and cultural diversity
- local stakeholders and young organisations

The goal is to develop practical methods and approaches that participants can adapt to their own organisations and territories, while exploring how culture can connect young people, local communities and rural areas.

PARTNERS

We are looking for European organisations working with young people that organise cultural events or activities in rural areas, or are interested in developing them in the future. We are particularly interested in partners who can contribute their own experiences, practices and perspectives to the project. The concept is intentionally open: the final methodology and programme will be co-designed with the partner organisations.