

Erasmus+ Celebrating Education  
Portugal

Under the coordination of teacher Teresa Rocha, the Erasmus+ project “Celebrating Education” was divided in three different but related subjects, one for each year of the total estimated duration of three years.

In 2017-2018, for our year-one part of the project, our visual arts students from the 12th grade, under the supervision of teacher Antonio Marques, developed an art project based on drawing and painting within the subject “**Visualizing Education**”. The purpose of this project was to stimulate free graphic expression of the perceived role of education and its impact on society and personal development and also to try to understand how students envisioned education in the not-so-distant future. The primary subject was then divided in two: “**The transforming power of Education**” and “**The education of tomorrow**”. Students then individually or collectively chose one of these sub-themes to build their work. The final product was based mainly on **drawing** but it also incorporated **painting** and **collage** techniques. Working surfaces measured 100x70 cm, vertically oriented; this was to ensure that the various surfaces would connect side-by-side to each other on a display stand, like traditional diptychs or triptychs.

On year-two (2018-2019), the subject of our project was in line with the environmental concerns of present day. Education for the protection of the environment is important and students of the performing arts course, under the supervision of teacher Efthimios Angelakis, developed a performing arts event based on dance and body expression called **Large Ocean**. *“Large in dimension and also in environmental problems that hurt the planet and every living creature in it, large in the capacity to make us dream and act. With our bodies we flow in a continuous movement just to draw back, die and reborn again. Water symbolizes the origin of life, fertility and transformation and so the body and the spoken words always suggest an attempt of reconstruction. It’s large, it’s grandiose, it’s life...”*

For the third year (2019-2020), students of visual arts from the 12h grade and teacher Antonio Marques will focus on another type of environment, a more specific one: the physical school environment. We will try to develop and accomplish a series of graphic interventions with the purpose of improving the quality and interest of the visual environment of the school. Color and graphic elements will be designed and applied to the walls, creating visual stimuli, hopefully improving the quality of the experience of attending school.