

# MANDARINE LAND 2024



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Agency for International  
Programs for Youth  
Republic of Latvia

Alternatīvā  
Realitāte 

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# THE AIM

The aim of the project:



- To get new skills of organizing creative events and working in big international team

- Together with local volunteers organize and lead integrational events for children from orphanages and boarding schools of Latvia

*„ Giving at least one child to feel the magic is a great value „*



# GROUP VOLUNTEERING PROJECT

## What:

ESC volunteering teams project  
“Mandarine Land 2024”

## When:

26.11.24- 03.01.25  
(travel days 25.11 and 04.01)

## Where:

Riga, Latvia

## For whom:

Youth aged 18-30 y.o.,  
10 volunteers from Latvia,  
10 from EU countries



# THE TEAM

In total 20 youngsters, including young people with fewer opportunities and disabilities.

- 100 % accomodation, food, programme are covered by co - financing of European Solidarity Corps of European Union



- 100% travel expences will be reimbursed after parcitipation in the project and disseminaion activities
- Presenting original travelling documents. Covered travel limits depends on your distance from Riga and are calculated according to Erasmus distance calculator
- No any participation fee



# WHAT IS “MANDARINE LAND”

Since 2013, the Cultural Association “Alternative Reality” has been implementing its own idea – a social project for the development of children “Mandarine Land”. Within the project, with the help of volunteers, a series of events is held every year for children aimed at promoting the social integration of children from socially vulnerable groups, regardless of social status, nationality or other affiliation.

In December of each year, we organize a series of Christmas events in which at least 300 children from orphanages, crisis centers, low-income families take part.

During events in mixed groups children with the help of volunteers perform various communicative and team tasks aimed at identifying common values: tolerance, respect, honesty, independence.

# PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Increase community awareness of the problems of the next generation, in particular the integration of children from socially vulnerable groups
- Promote the involvement of children and youth from marginalized groups in society
- Reduce discrimination and xenophobia between different social groups
- Help children understand universal and European values
- Promote the development of communication skills in children, especially in children from disadvantaged social groups



# PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Help children set positive life goals
- Develop a positive attitude of volunteers to volunteering and community service

- Contribute to the development of competencies and knowledge of volunteers

- Promote community solidarity by attracting volunteers from all walks of life to the project, regardless of origin, social or economic status, national or religious affiliation.

- Encourage volunteers to participate in the project as socially significant charitable activities with a positive effect on the perception of volunteers of life, expanding horizons of life and attracting socially significant topics



# WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

The project “Mandarine Land 2024” was created for active people who are interested in working with children, volunteering and helping people.

Our organization always encourages volunteers to develop new activities, own initiatives and ideas as long as they are in the framework of the project.

We require no specific skills, but happy to have flexible and creative people.



# We are searching for young people who:

- are 18-30 years old;
- are enthusiastic and energetic;
- are eager to learn, enjoy working with youth and full of creative ideas;

Strong organizational skills are considered very useful as the ability to communicate in English.

In addition, people with singing, dancing, playing musical instruments skills are welcomed.

Moreover, volunteers:

- should be comfortable living on their own;
- be able to adapt to new situations;
- have good problem-solving skills;
- work and live in the mixed groups of volunteers from different nationalities that will have their project at the same time at our organization.

# Allowance

Travel costs covered by the project

Travel costs according to Erasmus+ Distance calculator will be dedicated individually for every approved participant.

**What type of documents NGO will ask from You?**

- Receipt for a trip (flight receipt, bus ticket, train ticket, fuel receipt...)
- Boarding passes

You may have them physically or online.

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**Volunteer receive per day:**

- 5 euro *pocket money*
  - 8 euro *food money*
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 Green Travel is always very welcome.

# PRACTICALITIES



EU citizens do not need to make a visa for crossing the border of Latvia and can stay in the country up to 90 days. They can use passport or ID for entry to Latvia. EU citizens must have EHIC Insurance.

For Non-EU citizens for the crossing of the border volunteers will need:

- a valid international passport (data of validity not less than 6 months after the returning back home);
- the invitation from Alternative Reality (volunteers will be provided by the electronically signed invitation confirmed in Latvian Migration Department);
- Cigna Insurance – will be provided by Coordinating Organization after signing a Volunteering contract
- good mood and motivation to make a great thing for the local community

# WORKING CONDITIONS

In the office of our organization, there is a separate room where the volunteers may prepare for their activities, language clubs, etc. There is Wi-Fi there so if volunteers have a possibility we would recommend you to bring your laptop or a tablet for personal use. It is better if you have your own laptop in order to work at home.

You may use the technical equipment available at our office to prepare for your activities. The activities themselves will take place in different locations. The first week after volunteers' arrival will be an adaptation week. Volunteers will see the place of work, get to know the people and the current volunteers, get acquaintance with people from the community. The working schedule is flexible but no more than 6 – 8 working hours per day. If a volunteers are involved at weekends, they will get free days during the week. Every volunteer has 2 days free per week.

# ACCOMMODATION

There could be three possible variants of accommodation:

1. Volunteers will live in a shared apartment. This is an average modest flat which contains all necessary things for a living: a washing machine, a fridge, bed linen, kitchen utilities and kitchenware available for cooking, Wi-Fi router.

Towel and stuff of personal use is volunteers' responsibility.

2. Volunteers will live in a Students' campus with the shares rooms and common kitchen.

3. Volunteers will live in a hosting family.



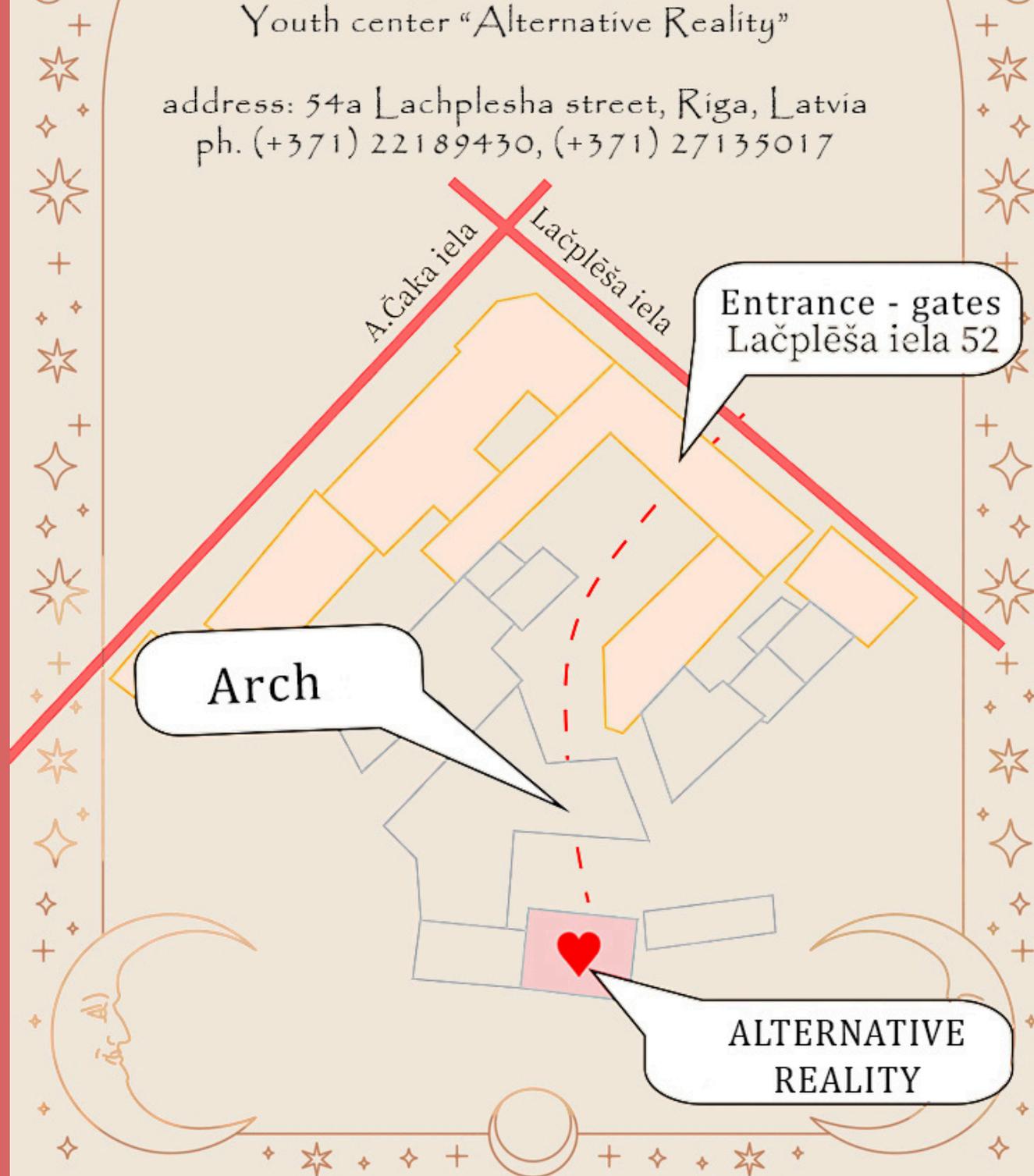
# How to get to Riga?

- You can get from Riga Airport to the city center by public bus number 22

# How to get into our NGO center?



Adress: Lacplesa iela 54a



Registration for the project at the link:

<https://form.jotform.com/240232370571346>

# Contacts



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