



# MUSELAKWAKABA

## The One Who Moves

A DIDACTIC-THEATRICAL  
PROJECT ON MIGRANT ROUTES

# THE PROMOTERS

The **Municipality of Lucca** and the **Forum for international cooperation in the province of Lucca** have designed and promoted the project "Muselawakaba - He who moves", dedicated to contemporary migrations. The project fits perfectly into the activity that the Forum has been pursuing since 2014, the year of its establishment.

The Forum, which brings together 32 subjects including associations, cooperations, operators and organizations that deal with reception of migrants in the Lucca area and of international cooperation, identifies and illustrates its existence through three main areas:

- **information:** circulate information on regional / national initiatives and projects in the participating parties international cooperation subject;
- **awareness raising:** the forum aims to represent a virtual place for discussion and work on cooperation issues international, through the establishment of special working groups;
- **implementation of projects:** the Forum can develop projects for citizenship and students from the schools of the province.

Since 2015, the Forum, thanks to the availability of volunteers from the member associations and school leaders, organizes meetings in high schools to make students aware of the issues of reception, immigration, of uneven development and to let them know some aspects of the migration phenomenon related to the different areas geographic features of the world and the ongoing wars.

# THE PROJECT

"**Muselakwakaba - The One Who Moves**" is an educational-theatrical project, inspired by the actor Marco Brinzi, who addresses the issue of migration through **theater, stories, in-depth analysis**.

## TARGETS:

- **to develop in young people** a "culture of responsibility" towards migrant populations
- **reflect, deepen and learn** in a different light the daily debated topic of migration
- **stimulate** curiosity and empathy in students and female students to leave them the desire to learn more
- **put in direct relation** the students with the protagonists of the migrations, real witnesses, that with their own experience they open a new window on a worldwide and, to some extent, dramatic phenomenon
- **provide updated and verified information and materials** (through the certainty of the sources) on the migratory routes, the causes, the numbers, the presences in the European, Italian and municipal territory
- to provide information, explanations and points of reference in the vast world of migrations, starting from the **terminologies and language**, often complex, that is used daily to talk about migrants (difference between regular immigrant and asylum seeker, concept of clandestine, difference and meaning of acronyms like Cas, Sprar, Siproimi, legislative references on the subject of migration)

# THE METHOD #1

The approach is **highly interactive**: the boys are the girls are in the first person and are placed in situations as for the problems that push migrants to leave their home and their country and a verse Europe through a painful and dangerous journey.

Through the simulation of everyday life and an **experiential theatrical-didactic methodology**, the actor does emerge the various aspects that make the migration phenomenon.

The students are constantly stimulated with questions, games, practical tests: in this way they are open active and participatory learning by teachers and students.

The project provides for the alternation of the **more directly theatrical / physical approach** to the **multimedia** one, with the support of two specially made **videos**.

What enriches and characterizes the path is the **involvement of those directly involved**, namely the girls and boys migrants living on the municipal territory.

# THE METHOD #2

"Muselakwakaba - The One Who Moves" turns to high school students in the Municipality of Lucca and has a duration of about three hours. Just before the start of the meeting, students are given a sheet asking them to write about what they expect from the project. At the end of the three hours, in the same way, a second sheet is delivered on which to write what they learned and experienced during the morning.

**The project is structured as follows:**

- institutional greeting and overall framework of the project
- theatrical approach by the actor and student involvement
- projection of the first video, followed by a collective and aloud reflection of what we have seen
- interventions to provide data and explanations, technical and documented information
- theatrical approach and introduction of the operators and mediators of the reception centers present at the meeting space for direct testimony: migrant girls and boys involved from time to time for meetings they have the opportunity to tell their own story. That is, they have the ability to bring their own voice into one free space and no judgments. What emerges is a face to face story, exciting, intimate and true
- projection of the second video, which provides data, numbers, sources, motivations, differences and statistics of the migration phenomenon.

## THE METHOD #3

Once the three hours have ended, the participating classes and teachers receive a copy of the **Atlas of Wars and Conflicts**, also containing a bibliography of the sources and the testimonies collected.

Students and professors are also invited to explore the topics covered and to produce, where inspired, free-style materials (drawings, writings, videos, photographs), which the municipal administration undertakes to exhibit and valorize on the occasion of **Treasure hunt**, an annual event promoted by the Municipality of Lucca and the Forum, open to citizenship, which takes place in the historic center with the aim of reflecting, through play, on the themes of solidarity, contamination, roots, reception, cooperation.

# STUDENT IMPRESSIONS

"Before judging the people coming from other countries we need to know their story"

"Freedom is a value that few possess and obtaining it is difficult"

"Prejudices are a loaded weapon, if fed"

"From today I will change my way of seeing things, I realized that not everything is as it seems and above all there are so many prejudices that should be dispelled"

"The topic of immigration is really important and delicate and can be better understood thanks to testimonies of people who have suffered, but now live in peace"

"There is no superior race, indeed there is no race"

"We must not read the book from the cover"

"When the power of love overtakes the love of power, then peace will reign"

# STUDENT IMPRESSIONS

"We are lucky and we do not realize it. Hearing the witness stories, I reflected on the meaning of life and on mankind"

"Conditions in Africa are critical and there are people in the world who take advantage of those who have nothing"

"To feel indifference and contempt is the worst thing a person can do"

"It is important to put yourself in the shoes of migrants to try to understand what they have been through"

"No matter the color of the skin or where we come from, there are no differences and we are all the same. Today in the world so many people need help, live badly and face difficulties. And then I wonder: if I were in their place?"

"Every person is rare and different from others and the human being is wonderful for this! Diversity is a value, not a cause for pain and death"

"We have to break stereotypes towards migrants; we cannot judge a person before having heard his story.

P. S.: Tell the girls who spoke that they are strong and beautiful women"

# **VIDEO**

## **Video 1**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCo\\_NF0zvSM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCo_NF0zvSM)

## **Video 2**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkuw0oFHa44](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkuw0oFHa44)

# CONTACTS



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