

Masterpiece

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About the idea

The idea is based on a cooperation between seniors who survived Nazi persecution and the charges of youth social therapy centres in the stylization and renovation of furniture. The work on the furniture is to be inspired by stories and photos from the lives of the elderly from their youth.

„Masterpiece” is an idea for the integration of young people with seniors, in which the joint creation of stylized furniture is a pretext to meet and listen to the life history of older persons. Each piece of furniture that is built leaves a visible trace of the relationship tied between generations. It is a witness of their conversations, cooperation, learning from each other and friendships being made.

The idea responds to the needs of seniors who want to share their life experience with others, and at the same time teaches young people to enter into social relations.

Benefits of the idea

Working on a piece of furniture makes the elderly feel important, needed and heard. Talking about the senior’s youth, their experiences, reflections and difficult memories related to the war can give respite and relief.

Making a piece of furniture “with a piece of history” together with young people brings new contact opportunities and relationships to seniors, improves their well-being, and increases the sense of agency and importance to others. The effects of working together, in turn, give rise to pride.

The real value of „Masterpiece” does not lie in the new version of the table, cabinet, and chairs, but in the reactions they cause in people who create them, i.e. seniors and young people

Aleksandra Mueller and
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Do you want to know more about this idea? Go to the website:
www.inicjatorpomocy.pl/en

„Inicjator PoMocy”

The „Inicjator PoMocy” competition (eng. „emPOWERment Initiator”) is part of the „PoMoc. Together, we can do more” implemented by the Shipyard Foundation on behalf of the EVZ Foundation (Remembrance, Responsibility and Future). In the competition, we were looking for innovative ideas aimed at improving the quality of life of Nazi persecution survivors.

The competition is funded by the EVZ (Remembrance, Responsibility and Future) Foundation.

In remembrance of the victims of National Socialist injustice, EVZ Foundation works to promote human rights and understanding between peoples. The Foundation is thus an expression of the continuing political and moral responsibility of the German state, the private sector and society as a whole for Nazi injustice and towards the victims.

More at www.stiftung-evz.de.

The organizer of the „emPOWERment Initiator” competition is the Shipyard Foundation.

For over 10 years, we have been creating and supporting effective solutions to social problems, involving citizens in deciding on public matters as well as helping other organizations and institutions to better plan and conduct their social activities.

More at www.stocznia.org.pl.