

## **Biber-NEWCOMER**

### **Austria's largest student editorial office**

For three years, we, the editors of Biber magazine, have been visiting children in their schools to work with them on topics that are important for them – all this happens in the course of the Newcomer-project. Thus we form Austria's largest student editorial office.

## **FAQ**

### **1. What's the projects goal?**

A lot of students from socially disadvantaged families have little confidence in themselves and little perspective.

During our project we teach the students that each one of them has a story or opinion worth publishing. We help the teenagers to articulate their thoughts and deal with the topics that are important for them and engage in them journalistically. At the end of the week every teenager has one contribution that is published and of which they can be proud.

### **2. Which schools does the project aim at?**

The project is majorly aimed at schools with students from socially disadvantaged families and a migrant background. All school forms can participate, whether AHS (\*Grammar School) NMS (\*new Secondary School, a new model project of middle school in Austria) or BHS (\*vocational schools with higher education entrance qualification) .

### **3. How old do the students have to be?**

The students have to attend at least the 8th grade (4th grade NMS or AHS). As a rule, students are between 14 and 19 years old.

### **4. How many students have already participated?**

So far, about 500 students have participated.

### **5. How many days and hours per day does the project take place?**

The project lasts one school week - from Monday to Friday. We start at 9AM and do 4 periods a day with the teenagers.

**6. Does the project cost the school or students anything?**

No. The cost of the project will be covered by project partners and sponsors.

**7. Do all students have to attend?**

The goal is that the whole class participates in the project for a week.

**8. Are there any premises the students have to have in order to take part in the project?**

No. Due to our experience with many different students, we are able to work with all students.

**9. Do the teachers have to be present during the project week?**

No. But they can if they want – upon prior consultation with us.

**4. What exactly happens during the project week?**

We carry out text, photo and video workshops with the students. The workshops are led by experienced journalists and photographers. In addition, we invite interesting professionals who tell the students about their job or we organize a field trip to an exciting company / editorial office. At the end of the week, the goal is for every student to write a short text or take some photos and later publish their work on the biber-Newcomer homepage.

**5. Who are the project leaders and contact persons?**

The project leader is Melisa Erkurt. She is a trained teacher and chief reporter at Biber. She has many years of experience working with adolescents and, due to her migration background, a particularly good connection to migrant adolescents.

**12. Where is the students work being published?**

The students` work will be published on the biber-Newcomer website (<http://www.dasbiber.at/schueler/blog.>) Selected texts

are also printed in the student issues of biber, that are published twice a year (December and June). The circulation of Biber Newcomer is 85,000.

**This is an exemplary schedule of the project week:**

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
09:00-09:50	Getting to know each other	Writing workshop	Videoworkshop with Okto (*An Austrian TV channel)	Field trip to the editorial office of a big Austrian magazine	Finishing touches: producing a short text
10:00-10:55	Getting to know each other	Writing workshop	Video-workshop	Field trip	Finishing touches: producing a short text
11:05-11:55	Getting to know each other	Photography Workshop with the photographer in chief of Biber, Marko Mestrovic	Video-workshop	Field trip	Finishing touches: producing a short text
12:05-12:55	Brainstorming: Which topics are the students interested in?	Photography Workshop with the photographer in chief of Biber, Marko Mestrovic	Video-workshop	Field trip	Publishing the work on <a href="http://dasbiber.at">dasbiber.at</a>