

Newsletter 2 / 2011

Sewing course in daycare centre

Bayasgalant wants to help the parents of the daycare children to get professional qualifications. Many of them were interested in a sewing course. Therefore Anna Perrottet, a trained seamstress, volunteered to work for Bayasgalant for 2 months from February 2011. She has spent the last year in Tajikistan and Borneo working with women in textile projects. During her time at Bayasgalant she has developed new products to sell in Switzerland and Mongolia.

Her impressions

Mongolia has always been one of my dream countries. I admire the Deels (Mongolian coats) and also how the Mongolians dress in general. I also like their gers and their furniture. I never imagined I would get to be part of the Mongolian way of life or to be a sewing teacher. This has been my third time doing this in a foreign country. My task was to teach and also to improve the quality of the felt products. It was important for me to get to know the women, their situation and their needs, so for the first 10 days I accompanied project leader Alex and social worker Bogi when they went and visited the families. This gave me a deep insight into the way life in the ger districts and also how the authorities were working. I also visited doctors and then organized the sewing course.

I'll never forget the family of six members who no longer wanted to live in a ger but in a small wooden house instead. The whole house was smaller than the one room I was living in in Ulan Bator, but there was no bath, no kitchen, no central heating and it was badly isolated. I saw so many families living in extremely poor conditions but I also saw how a situation could be improved with just a small amount of support. For example this sewing course will give some of the women an income which will help provide for their whole family.



Before I arrived Alex and Bogi had already organized the sewing machines and the room, talked to the women, all of them mothers of the children from Bayasgalant daycare centre. There were two courses, an advanced and a beginner's course. The first few days we looked at different products from Switzerland and Mongolia, decided which one's are exported and which are sold in Mongolia. I showed them how to calculate a price. I wanted them to set goals for themselves and find out what they wanted to achieve. The beginners were quite easy, they wanted to sew blouses and small silk bags but the advanced kept changing their minds. Together we developed a few different products and at the end we were proud of the felt laptop cover, purses made from milk bags, improved felt slippers and silk bags. I'm really proud of what the women had achieved by the end of the course and we will support the women in future projects as well as by buying the goods from them and selling them online at www.bayasgalant.org.



Benefit concert Tamar Beraira 9th June 2011 in Basel

Tamara Beraira is playing piano for Bayasgalant at the Freien Musikschule, Gellertgut in Basel. She will play:

Joseph Haydn: Sonate D-Dur Hob. XVI:37; **Franz Schubert:** 4 Impromptus op.90 D 899

Johannes Brahms: Rhapsody g-moll; **Wagner-Liszt:** 'Isoldes Liebestod'; **Paganini-Liszt:** 'Campanella'

It's free entry, collection at Bayasgalant.

Tamar Beraira was born 1987 in Tiflis, Georgia and graduated as a soloist in 2009. She has been awarded prizes at international competitions in Germany, Russia, Latvia and Georgia. She has worked with the German Symphony Orchestra and debuted in Chicago in 2007, invited by Eteri Andzaparide. Furthermore she has held concerts in Vincenne/Paris for the music channel „Mezzo“ and in the Liszt museum in Budapest

100km race – sponsor run 17th June in Biel

The 100km night race is a famous race in Biel and Bayasgalant takes this opportunity to organize a sponsored run. Two men and one woman are running the full length and one team of five people is running the relay. Andreas Zinni from Aarberg is running for the 3rd time for Bayasgalant. Bayasgalant member and 72 year old Iris Gauckler has ran the 100km race a few years back for Bayasgalant and she wants to give it another go. Another marathon runner and racing trainer Matthias Klotz will be running for Bayasgalant.

Any financial support of the runners is much appreciated, 1km costs CHF 1.-, please send us an email or donate directly to our bank account writing „100km“ in the description. Thank you very much!

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