

The third Learning Teaching Training Activity (LTTA) for the EU-funded project “T4T - Tools4Teaching in Digital Education Settings” took place October 3-5 in Athens, Greece. MYARTIST, an organization with expertise and experience in various fields related to arts, culture, accessibility and inclusion, served as the host organization for the mobility.

The goal of the LTTA was to enhance participants’ practical skills and abilities in adapting their current online training activities to the proposed new approach and to provide a platform for discussion of ideas and viewpoints among participating adult educators and training experts.

Participants of the T4T initiative also had the opportunity to stroll through downtown Athens and view their surroundings through a different “lens” With the invaluable help and guidance of the Emfasis Foundation, our participants had the opportunity to learn more about homelessness in Athens, the various outreach initiatives that the Emfasis Foundation currently manages, and the importance of the daily work of professional street workers. Through this activity, the group dynamic was strengthened and communication within the group improved through a more vulnerable discussion of difficult topics.

On the second day, participants were given the opportunity to interact with more informal techniques taught and trained by psychologist and drama therapist Stamatis Paraskevas.

They created a six-part narrative introducing our protagonists and their goals, as well as any challenges they encounter or support they receive. They made drawings of their experiences on paper to later scan and add to our online exhibit.

After learning about automatic writing, they wrote a fairy tale together. In the process, they each had to say a word or phrase so they could come up with their own as a group. They must coordinate their efforts and pay attention to each other. Then everyone had one minute to draw a scene from the fairy tale on a shared sheet of paper.

Participants also visited EMST Athens to view the various artworks and discuss the topics they were studying. They were fortunate to visit the group exhibition "Statecraft (and beyond)," which explores themes of race, xenophobia, and nationalism. Through team discussions and visits to different sites, they got to know each other better.

On the last day of training, the trainees were given time and space to reflect on their experiences so far. They created stories with words and colors, using their bodies and the method of automatic writing. The fact that they ventured out of their comfort zone was the most important factor.

MYARTIST showed the potential of a virtual exhibition. They discussed ensuring and improving accessibility by performing basic but efficient activities. Canva served as their main digital tool. Participants uploaded their original artworks along with titles and descriptions. Finally, they recorded audio versions of the descriptions.

The fact that this event had a hybrid format is very important. It allowed the partners to explore how group dynamics are created and changed by different pedagogical approaches in mixed or hybrid learning environments. The team will be sharing the finished product of the virtual exhibition soon for you to enjoy and be inspired by!