

Project: "Culture to make sense of the world, open up your mind and connect with your history"

Non-profit organisation: "ASMAE –Association Sœur Emmanuelle", created in 1980
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Project goal

To offer access to culture to children, primarily from immigrant backgrounds, living in problem neighbourhoods in Paris. Various cultural outings are organised to help the children develop a positive view of the world around them.

Presentation of the project

For 5 years, ASMAE has been working with the non-profit organisation "Vivre Ensemble à Maroc Tanger" (living together in Maroc Tanger) to set up homework clubs and leisure activities.

The project "Culture to make sense of the world, open up your mind and connect with your history" caters for 40 children from 6 to 12 living in the Maroc Tanger district, which is classified as a ZUS² (Cambrais – Riquet – Stalingrad) in the 19th arrondissement in Paris. Over and above the difficulties these children have with their schoolwork, they live in these so-called problem neighbourhoods and rarely go on outings.

The project is organised around several phases:

- An awareness-raising phase involving cultural outings (visits to museums, the theatre, etc.) around a particular theme (1 outing per month/child)
- Organisation of evening encounters with artists and storytellers with the aim of telling stories from the countries and regions from which these children have come
- Organisation of 40 artistic workshops over 10 months with the aim of producing a "logbook"
- Producing a fresco over the two months of the school holidays.

Through their own active participation and that of their parents, the children create the conditions required for them to succeed at school.

Involvement of parents / mentors

The parents help supervise the children during the outings and organise the encounters with artists and storytellers in the evening sessions.

Support requested from the Fondation HSBC pour l'Education

Funding: The Foundation grant will be used to finance the project completely.

Grant awarded for 2007: **€13,814** (100% of the project's budget)

Human resources:

- Accompany the children in their discovery of cultural venues in Paris
- Participate in the project steering committee
- Participate in supervising the artistic workshops

² ZUS: Difficult Urban Zone