



Dear Bulletin receivers,
here comes another Bulletin full of news, ideas and pictures from all around the world. Did you know that you are one of more than 1000 people who read this Bulletin every month? I wonder if you all also stick posters, and how many posters that make in different countries...

At the Boardmeeting of Loesje International in the end of February we decided to ask those of you who receive this Bulletin per post to make a contribution for the postal costs. No matter how rich Loesje is in ideas, initiative and texts she is not so rich in money... So if you have the possibility to pay for the stamps that brings this Bulletin to you, please put in 20 Euro (or the equivalent in your own currency) into Loesje's Dutch account:

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Loesje

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Members only Page:

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Login: member
Password: IntMem#&

Account name: Stichting Loesje International
City: Arnhem
Country: the Netherlands
International Bank Account Number (IBAN): NL26PSTB0009562112
Bank Identifier Code (Swift/BIC): PSTBNL21

If you are now getting the Bulletin by post, but would prefer to read it online, you can always contact loesje@loesje.org and let us know. Also when you move, or find someone else who really wants the Bulletin, write and let us know.

For the rest, we hope to see you at the Summercamp in Latvia and before then hear from you and your wild adventures, with or without pens and brushes!
/Rola

The board meeting

The main points of the board meeting you can find here. A full report you can find on the members only page online.

The board formally accepted the resignation of Cecilia from the 1st of April 2007 and Doeko from the 1st of September 2007 and that **Rola will continue working.**

The board agrees that if the financial situations allows it a new employee will be employed for 3 days a week starting from the 1st of April 2007 and a second employee for 3 days a week starting on the 1st of September 2007.

The **aims of Loesje** have been discussed and will be adjusted so that they are more current and more clear and suitable for future fundraising

An **external fund raiser has been appointed** (Jan Verschure one of the founders of Loesje) that will raise operational (structural) funds for the international office on a no cure no pay basis.

The financial report 2006 has been approved and the budget for 2007.

There has been a discussion about when you can be part of the Loesje network. The result is, if you are writing and/or spreading Loesje texts / posters you can be part of the Loesje network. Loesje shouldn't be a cultural network where just any organisation / group can be part of but Loesje can cooperate with any group or cultural network.

If people **want to be part of the board they can contact the board** and express their interest. When the board will enlarge priority will go to members from former Soviet states and or other geographical

areas where activities are increasing so that the board will represent the whole Loesje network.

A discussion connected to decision making process inside Loesje took place. The discussion was a first step in making a structure where decision will be taken faster. The first conclusion is that decision making could be more effective and we have to think of solutions. **One concrete result is that new groups / countries want to have it more clear what their autonomous status means** and preferable have a list of what they can and can not do. When do they need to consult the international office and when not. The international office should make this information clearly available.

A G E N D A

21-31 March 2007

Training for MDG information campaign, Berlin and exhibition parth 30th of March.

3 May 2007

World Press Freedom day, Berlin

12 April 2007

Lets talk about sustainability 19:00
Loesje's office

21 July - 4 August

**Loesje's summercamp
in Latvia**

26 April - 5 May 2007

Video exchange, Berlin

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International Loesje projects
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www.creativeacts.org
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Post Your Film to Loesje Film Festival!

It is not too late! The 5:th of April is the last date for sending in films to our festival. Send it on a DVD to our office, and take the chance to display your short film in Berlin!

The only important rule is that the films should not be longer than 20 minutes. Experimental movies, documentaries, animations, feature films are all very welcome. The film should not be older than 3 years.

Please let us know by email if you're planning to send something in and include some information about the film (title, artist, language, subtitles, theme and kind of film, duration,



stills and other important info). For more information just send an email to julia@loesje.org

THE LAST PAGE.....

Black'n'White? Or White'n'Black? (announcement)

One day Loesje woke up in her black'n'white room everything seemed to be different. She couldn't distinguish what exactly was another way this day...it was just a bitter feeling close to apprehension... The world has changed but she didn't know exactly what way. She took her white porcelain cup, poured some black coffee and took a look around. And suddenly a flash crossed her mind. Everything around was just white and black! All other colours seemed to have faded! She first felt like painting 'em back but...she just couldn't remember what colour the things used to be...

And you know, she liked it that way.

Come up with your poems, pictures, drawings and etc. any free styles! Keep the black'n'white colour palette. And attach a text about your vision of colours! This is the project about all walks of life coming in white and black.

Deadline extension: march 13th

And join loesje's release party. dress code: you know... just that way, black.and.white

lena



MY LIFE IS MY DAILY ART

Loesje

Name: sajju
Date Posted: 21:04, 02 03 2007

Message: i am from nepal .. u have no idea how i copied your link today .. " there are better ways to rule a country then performing a political opera" was the theme which glued over my goofy brainhow can i make a difference to this organization ... r u setting up in my country ...what ever it is.. i wish you luck ...and by the way what is the meaning of your name.. i don't understand germany.. o k.. keep rocking guys... meet the challenge make the change wala...!!!!!!!!!!!!

JOB VACANCY

News

Who are we looking for?

You have affinity with Loesje and have taken part in and organized activities, on international or local level. You have ideas that you want to realize, and just as well want to support the ideas of others and develop vision and concrete projects together as a collective. You like to take the initiative to make things happen, and can work independently.

Stress doesn't have too bad influence on you; on the contrary you can take a step back and overlook situations. You have experience in planning, implementing and managing projects, and already wrote a grant application. You have a talent for administration and bookkeeping doesn't scare you. You are creative and that keeps you busy, and you like being busy. Maybe you have a drivers' license or know some German, knows how to fix a computer or build a website?

What does the work include?

You will run international activities and the international office together with Rola (SE) and Doeko (NL, until September) and most likely one other new employee that will start in September and 3 EVS-volunteers. You will take part in the overall management of the organization, set up and coordinate international Loesje activities and plan, search funding for and implement international projects. Together with your colleagues you will also carry out the basic activities of the international office: give support to starting and existing Loesje groups worldwide, publish the monthly bulletin and poster series, organize the yearly summer camp. You work from Berlin but every now and then go out in the rest of the world to visit members or take part in a project.

What can we offer?

An inspiring job, a great city to live in and friendly enthusiastic colleagues. A lifetime experience with the possibilities to gain new skills. 24 hours/week with a salary of ca 650 euros after taxes, including health insurance and costs for local travel expenses. Possibilities to bring your ideas into practice.

What do we want from you?

An exhaustive motivation letter that includes your vision on where you want to go with Loesje, where you have been and where you are now standing with Loesje. In this letter we also want you to mention what you see as your weak points.
A CV , A Creative CV

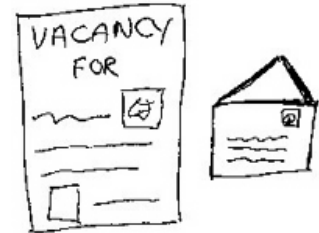
We are looking forward to your application!
Please send it before the 15th of March 2007, to rola (@) loesje.org

Before the 21st of March you will hear if you have come through the first selection. If it's needed, a second round will come with personal talks.

Please note! The finances of Loesje International for the coming year aren't secured yet, which also counts for this job vacancy. By the time we take the final decision we will know for sure.

The selection criteria we will take into account are:

- Motivation letter
- CV
- Creative CV
- Experience inside Loesje
- International working experience and experience of being abroad for a longer period
- Experience in working with groups
- Experience in coordinating, organising and implementing projects
- Educational background / work experience
- Administrative skills / abilities
- Language skills
- Geographical background (though personal qualities weigh higher)



Loesje International

FLEX Alumni Association of Kazakhstan

FLEX Alumni Association of Kazakhstan is a non governmental organization created by outgoing young persons of Kazakhstan. The members of FSA FLEX Alumni Association are alumni of Future Leaders Exchange program, educational exchange program providing scholarships for best students administered by US Government since 1992.

Though only in 2001 alumni of this program who studied in the US high schools during one year had created a registered legal entity. All alumni of FLEX exchange program automatically become the members of the association. Currently, the youngest member of Association is 16, and the oldest one is 30 years old.

De jure we have about 900 members, though de facto, there are about 60-80 active members in Kazakhstan who work and try to organize different events through out the year. The rest become just the participants of different projects. We also attract different volunteers and various organizations to join our projects.

FLEX Alumni Association of Kazakhstan is responsible for organizing and executing of various projects that responds to such goals as: Community service/Volunteerism promotion; english language knowledge promotion and understanding of others nations culture; professional development, and other. Most events are annual, and they are known and recognized among Kazakhstani citizens.

One of the last events organized by our association were projects called We Are For A Beautiful City! and We Care!. The first one was ecological campaign, cleaning the main streets of one of the cities of Kazakhstan plus beautifying the streets by mounting the benches and trash cans along the streets. More than 100 people participated there from Almaty.



He actually likes to work more for that magazine. But he acknowledges that there is not so much to do. He has to get in the business. "I have to work my way," he says and looks on the ground as he was searching for something infinitesimal. I give him time to think.

"I found this job by a word of mouth. It was a tip of a friend. Every fourteen days I pick up the magazines on the "Ostbahnhof". It is a difficult but very important task to calculate, how many magazines to buy. I can't give them back if I don't sell them. It is always dependent on your experience. You meet people and make conversation with them. You know who buys and who not...in some weeks you find out how much you need on averagehello!" he breaks his sentence to greet a woman passing by. She stops, turns her face and pulls the leash in the hand. "I take care of her dog, while she is shopping."

He goes on. So I notice that he estimates his social position as a good opportunity to come to contact with other people. "I drink sometimes too... of course it's not a really good idea for the job to drink at work... they would think I am an alcoholic and that I would spend the money for beer... I rather do it somewhere else, during my midday break. "He smiles thus I see a hole in his front tooth. I realize the vacancy, which captures him. I stand beside him and am so far away at the same time.

He returns in himself and whispers, what I don't understand correctly... something about our society... about the rich, who get richer and repress the poor, who get needier...our Americanized German society... classification... his depression... his mother's death and the divorce coming next in twelve years ago... his denial...

I notice that his eyes are filled with tears; I feel ashamed. Suddenly an old woman comes and deflects us. He put on a smile and begins a conversation. The woman speaks about Merkel. I leave them...



Portiya Rezaimanesh

Check out the project website www.loesje.org/mdg

THE FORGOTTEN VENDORS

We all know them. Probably one time in the train station as you rolled a cigarette while you were waiting for the next train. Or another time in the shopping arcade in the corner.

Maybe you were buying a pair of earrings for your girlfriend's birthday. Yeah, it was this tattered person, who followed you some Meters and whispered something, which you actually did not understand. Of course, it's not like that you ignored him consciously; fairly you were just too deep in the discussion with yourself to decide between the cyan and turquoise ones.

Something like that goes on everyday. Our social instability -not to feel responsible for humankind, who "does not belong to our own lives"- distributes more ignorance and intolerance in our society. We have gotten used to overlook reality, which is just happening close to us. But for the last time I finally thought about an interview with one of these guys, who now have a bitter work season.

Not so far away from Loesje's Imagination, just one block down at the corner of a discount shop, there's a man about fifty wearing black jeans, alone, with one hand in the pocket of his gray jacket and with the other holding a pack of A-4 papers.

He steps from one foot on the other to limber up. I go up to him slowly, say hello and something about, how gloomy is weather. On his first reaction I notice his kindness and interest for my superficial addressing.

I invite him to come with me to the office; there we could sit in a warm place, drink some coffee and talk a bit.



"No" - he says. - "The afternoon is the best time to work." But it is OK for him that I stay by his side and talk to him about his life. I don't want to push away Siggis costumers. But I see that he feels somehow happy to give me an interview.

He works for four years as a vendor for "Straßenfeger" from "Mob e.V". It took him long, to pool together a capital for starting. "I didn't have enough money to make a passport photograph for my vendor ID." So he began selling his stuff by a big shop. But several months ago, that shop got overtaken and he got banished from the area. "It was shitty. I lost my familiar customers and was coerced to leave and find a new place to spread. But still the worst thing is that I lost the people whom I used to know and who used to know me." He goes on and I get a fizz that he misses his old friends and acquaintances.

We Care! project was a national antitobacco campaign that consisted of several stages: national antitobacco poster competition, seminars, debate tournaments and conferences at high schools promoting the bad influence of smoking, and auction called Drop Smoking! when citizens who were walking by the campaign could drop the cigarette box, and then to get a prize with Tshirt with logos of all sponsors and organizers of that event. After collecting a huge amount of cigarette packs, participants burnt them.

The other part of projects is related to charity events like giving concerts in elderly houses, collecting funds for assisting to orphanages, making trips to some entertainment places with orphans, etc. Such activities are usually held on some special events like New Year when alumni go watch movies with about 100 orphans, Thanksgiving Day and others. Members of Association do not forget about the resolution of youth issues in the country.

Thus, up today it was responsible for numerous conferences and seminars by attracting specialists and professionals and bringing actual topics for discussion.



Ideas exchange always exists as a main source for well designed projects. So, as example, recently there was held a week training how to be successful in life for high school students of various villages through Kazakhstan. It consisted of series of workshops on job hunting, CV writing, interview skills and others.

Bright and unusual logos of the events, smart and active participants of the projects, brilliant ideas are the things that make the activities of FLEX Alumni Association of Kazakhstan to be recognized in Kazakhstan. All events organized by members of FLEX Alumni Association of Kazakhstan make people being aware of existing issues in the country, bring everyone's attention to it and encourage people actively participate in its resolution.

Such organizations as FLEX Alumni Association, in our opinion, shall assist to the development of the new liberal, democratic and prosperous way of living in the world. Since all events organized by FLEX Alumni Association of Kazakhstan aim to develop the civil society, lawful state, and stable democratic environment in Kazakhstan, we will try to continue our activity as successful as it is possible.

FLEX Alumni Association of Kazakhstan is a partner organisation in Loesje's The world is too round to sit silently in the corner project.

Can i get a right?

Loesje's Office Feb. 13th 2007

The front room was so crowded. People just kept on coming and coming. It was the 13th of February when Loesje hosted a group of Berlin Amnesty International in the front room for a special show.

The night was dedicated to Belarus and the movie "Can i get a right" was presented. The director Sebastian Heinzl was present. The movie is about a group of Amnesty international in the Netherlands which start their trip from Amsterdam up to the borders of Belarus. By hitch hiking. On the road they inform people about the situation in Belarus and ask them to sign a petition.

The weather is against them but finally after some adventures (their material is confiscated) they manage to arrive to their destination.

A
<http://www.amnesty-bb.de>



They say it's from aside where one can get the best view. True. And I say it was a nice show that Sebastian Heinzl has presented at Loesje office last week.

The film was all about Dutch guys hitch-hiking from Amsterdam to Belarusian border raising peoples awareness about the essence of the so called jeans revolution happening at this time in Belarus.

Jeans revolution is called sometimes that way due to a piece of jeans cloth used as a symbol of being against dictatorship. As you know, jeans material is associated with some tend to freedom.

Was very touchy to see the guys sacrificing their jeans any ripping those into pieces up to their knees to tie those on their way to Belarusian border. Note: it was snowing and freezing all around! Not exactly a shorts type of weather!

A fine expression of partnership!
And the answer to "Can I have a Right?" is definitely yes.

Lena



Good-Bye Dear Poster Stickers, Creative Minds & Bulletin Readers!



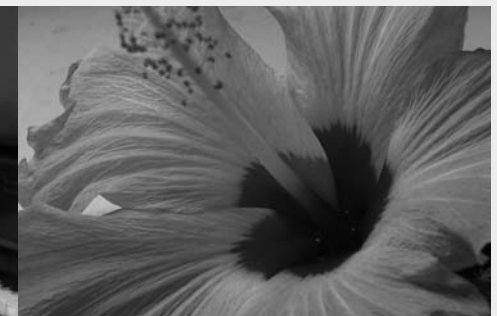
Now I stop working here at the office. Now, which is actually 3 weeks but time just moves faster every day. It's been much fun, cool projects, travels, too much ideas, loads of work and some 40 bulletins and I'll probably miss it but now time has come to realize other dreams and projects.

Walking into the office for the first time some four years ago, I found this 3,5 m² corner, two computers, a Doeko buried down a lot of papers... which was the international office. Needless to say we walked out quite a few boots and long hours of realizing good ideas, and now this office is this old library in Berlin, full of space, people, an exhibition here, an upcoming Asia- project there, one corner of grant applications and book keepings and an other of strong drinks from different corners of the world. But that's not all of course. Loesje is the greatest outside any office or computer, across the world, with a lonely poster-sticker in Czech Republic, a whole group in Nepal, or, yeah, you get it; all over the world there are people, writing texts, sticking posters or making Loesje parties. And for every day passing, the world becomes a little bit more beautiful.

I wish the best of things to Rola and her future colleges Parsla, Joep and Fleur and who knows who else is coming to the office, that they may realize the possible, grow many new flowers of creativity, projects, books, magazines, parties, posters, engage new great people to hit the streets with words and glue and action. And you know, this butterfly-effect... maybe it's not about a butterfly at all but a thought, a poster or a talk at a bus stop.

Cecilia

PS. From April on I will together with my family Frans and Gaya, tour the continent in a red bus. If you like visits, or have tips on cool festivals, alternative villages or other communities in France, Italy, Balkan, Greece, Turkey, or other parts of eastern or western Europe, tell us palmer@grassroutes.org



THE HAPPY FAMILY!

Summercamp in Latvia 2007!

If you thought Loesje camp could not be better than last year, you will have to think again. Or what about an indoor swimming pool, a sauna, two ponds and a river? (The plan is to have next Boardmeeting in, or maybe under, water...) What about two lovely wooden houses in the middle of rural Latvia, where you can have a fluffy bed indoors or a private tent in the garden? What about two big rooms for eating, drinking, workshops and parties - with a stereo in each? Or two smaller rooms with cosy sofas in?

Added to that we are promised to experience Latvian midsummer! We have heard rumours that this includes flowers, jumping into (or was it over?) fires and Latvian dancing, but you'd better come and see for yourself... The dates for this years' most promising event is 21st of July until 5th of August. You pay your travel costs yourself and then pay 160 Euro for food and accommodation for the whole two-week experience. It is also possible to come for only one week, then we want you to come (or leave) on Sunday the 29th of July.

Fill in the application form, read the answers to your questions and see even more spicy pictures on www.loesje.org/members

/The Summercamp Committee 2007



illustration made by Benoit Peyroux



Loesje "TICKLE THE POWER"

An exhibition about humor, creativity and free speech on the streets.
Opening 26th of April, Jakarta, Indonesia

It is 1983 and suddenly posters with one-liners appear on the streets of the Dutch city of Arnhem, signed by a Dutch girl's name "Loesje". The texts reflect on different current cultural and social topics in society and dare to ask critical questions. At the same time they are positive and make people laugh. More than 20 years later the posters with texts signed by Loesje have appeared in over forty countries. Loesje has become a phenomenon in the Netherlands and steals the hearts of more and more people outside her country of birth.

Who is this mysterious girl Loesje, what does she want and why does she leave her mark on the streets? During the exhibition "tickle the power" you will find out and you can even create oneliners yourself during one of the creative text writing workshops. www.loesje.org

Marc and Doeko will go for the exhibition and workshops to Indonesia. The project is financed by the Royal Netherlands embassy in Jakarta and will be in the Erasmus House (Dutch cultural center).



HEY IS ANYBODY THERE? PLEASE POST SOMETHING. YOU ALREADY HAVE THE PASSWORD. THE FORUM IS SITUATED IN THE MEMBERS PAGE OF LOESJE'S INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE. A DESPERATE ADMINISTRATOR



Son de las Barricadas



La Bella Oaxaca

Every story has different sides. The story of Oaxaca is no different.

Oaxaca is a state in the southern part of Mexico. It is blessed with warm weather, beautiful beaches, colonial cities and a people that cherish tradition. However, it is also a state that suffers illiteracy and poverty, as do several parts of the country. The teachers' movement coincided with the presidential elections in Mexico. Once again, as in most parts of the world, things were aggravated.



The political parties took sides while the acting presidency waited to pass the problem on to whichever candidate won. Teachers took over the historical downtown area of the city of Oaxaca, along with other key areas. Eventually, the movement went and established itself in the country's capital, Mexico City right in the middle of the national election.

The movement was no longer made up of only teachers. Parents had gone months without being able to send their children to school; people who were protesting the legitimacy of many of the state governor's action joined the teachers, as did political activists who were eager to get their presidential candidate into office.



Eventually, the owners of small and large businesses in the downtown areas of both Oaxaca and Mexico City added to the call for settling the strikes since their income had been severely affected by the continued protests.

At one point during the strike, the worst nightmare occurred. State and national governments ordered federal police and troops to intervene. A sight which had long been avoided in Mexico was seen in the international media; military helicopters flew over the city and armed troops walked through the city of Oaxaca.

Even though the symptoms have been diffused since then, the underlying problems still exist. There were a minimum of casualties, but we all know that one person killed is one too many. Businesses are now open and the government and media have invested millions in promoting Oaxaca's tourism, but people are still wondering if it's a safe place to visit.

Students are back in school, but they lost months of valuable time. There's a new president in Mexico, but that hasn't meant that the state's or the country's most important issues are being solved. Things are different and yet, they are the same.

In the end, Oaxaca's saving grace is its people and their limitless generosity. They're moving on with guarded optimism. They're rebuilding ties among each other; teachers with parents, commerce with tourism and state. They're looking for new ways to settle old problems, giving the presidency the mandatory opportunity that Mexicans give every six years and they're hoping they won't be disappointed again.

Guadalupe Pineda

Visit:

<http://mexico.indymedia.org/OaxacaNews>

<http://www.oaxacasolidarity.org/>

Listen:

resistencia oaxaqueña (collection)
son de las barricadas.mp3