

Intercultural parade



Brief description of the activity

The intercultural parade is a collective action that seeks to make visible and celebrate the diversity of cultures and the relationships between them. It is a plea to define a political position as an entity or group, from our youth center: a position that says that we defend interculturality and that we want to express it so that citizens listen to it and get closer to it.

Intercultural parade

Objectives:

Launch a collective statement in favor of interculturality and anti-racism.

Claiming the public space as a safe place for everyone, where all people can participate, where the different cultures that make up our context can share.

Generate an activity that invites people from different cultures and origins to interact in a festive leisure environment in order to get an efficient and fluid intercultural communication and generate a horizontal meeting space between different cultures.

Being the activity a parade, it is also an invitation to people who see us, who do not participate in the activity, to come with us, to come closer and share our claiming.

Methodology:

The methodology is to use a context of leisure and festivity where people are enjoying themselves to claim and launch

a statement that we want to be heard. We start from the assumption that the way in which our leisure, and especially leisure in the public space, is configured is political and is governed by racist dynamics and cultural segmentation. Therefore, it is a necessity in favor of intercultural relations to conquer leisure spaces and demand that they be spaces that are governed by horizontal intercultural relations, where all people feel included and can and want to participate.

Different communities, people from different backgrounds will participate in the parade. The participating group will have to design and prepare the parade together: banners, slogans, music, decorations, etc. An intercultural work space will be generated. On the other hand, the group will have to work so that the parade expresses that interculturality, so that the people who are spectators of the parade understand the message and feel attracted to it.

Duration:

The date and duration of this activity can be adapted according to the needs of each center. It can be an activity that complements or is celebrated within a local holiday, or a Youth Center party, etc. Taking advantage of the festive atmosphere that will have already been generated in the city is recommended.

You will need two weeks (more or less) to prepare the activity well. The parade can last 1h30m or 2h.

Costs:

Materials to do banners: 30 €

Poster printing (optional): 20€

Total budget: 50€

Location:

Being a parade, the location will be itinerant. Decide which route will be more suitable: which streets will be the most

crowded, in which part of the city other activities are taking place (if there are other activities taking place in specific places of the city, it is advisable to meet them in those spaces, always paying attention and respecting their schedules in order not to overlap the different activities).

If you can parade through streets that are pedestrianized, it will be much better: you will not need to ask for permits to cut the streets to traffic during the activity.

Materials:

- Space: a fixed route where the parade will pass.
- Material to make banners: tarpaulins, sticks for the ends (to be able to grab them), paint to write slogans on them.
- Festive decoration for the participants in the parade: costumes, colorful clothing, accessories, etc. This may vary depending on the preferences of the group.
- Mobile music equipment: you can use a music equipment that has a small generator (which does not need to be plugged in) and carry it on a cart.
- A printer to print posters to announce the opening of the exhibition is recommended, but not essential.
- PC to organize the group and do communication work on social media.
- Camera to record the activities.

Staff needed and eventual specific skills required:

Coordinator: no specific skills needed. Just organization and management basic skills. This person will launch the participation call for the parade and coordinate and follow the group work.

The coordinator will also make sure all the materials needed for the parade are available for the participants: tarpaulins, sticks, painting materials. If needed, he/she will also print and stick posters announcing the parade in walls of the city.

Finally, he/she will be in charge of taking photos and videos to document the activity.

Participants involved:

This activity can be approached in different ways to make it suitable for different groups.

It can be organized with regular users of the youth center, with a group with whom we work regularly and who can organize an intercultural parade as a way of participating in a

local holiday.

On the other hand, it can also be organized as an open activity, being also a way for the surroundings to get closer to the youth center and get to know it. You can organize a small call for people of your town or city to come and join a working group to set up the parade. You could, if they exist in your context, contact collectivities and groups of different origins, migrants, refugees, etc. to invite them to participate and make the group more heterogeneous.

The public that comes to see the parade will be both users from the youth center and local citizens involved in the other holiday activities.



Steps

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Step 1: You should first pick the date, being advisable to making it coincide with other celebration day in your town. As the activity is a parade, the location will be itinerant. The coordinator should decide which route will be more suitable: which streets will be the most crowded, in which part of the city other activities are taking place. Keep in mind that the route should be suitable for a two hour parade (keeping in mind that the parade will advance at a slow pace).

Step 2: If you (the coordinator of the activity) have identified the place, you can start working on the participation call. Design a simple poster where the activity is explained and make a few publications on social networks such as Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. Don't forget to mention the special characteristics of this parade: It is a way of participating in the local festivity by adding a component that in the youth center we consider essential to work on:

intercultural relations in leisure spaces and in public spaces. Make it clear that this call is to form a working group that will prepare the parade and will participate in it on the chosen day: mention the tasks that they will have to do (think of the decoration, the costumes, the banners, the music, the choreography or dances, etc).

In the call that you have launched, do not forget to clearly mention the day and time of the parade and the period of preparation of the parade previously. Also the deadline to sign up.

Step 3: When the registration deadline has ended, you can prepare the final list of participants in the parade. Set a first meeting with them to coordinate the working days and timing and decide which materials you are going to need. Now you can get all the materials needed for them to start working on the parade preparation properly. Also, make sure they can use some space in your youth center to work on the preparation of the parade. You should be around as a guide during their meetings. It is advisable to

take photos of these meetings for communication work and archive.

At this time, you can start announcing the parade on your social networks and perhaps print new posters announcing the date of the activity, aimed at the public who will come to see it, not the participants.

Advertise it as an intercultural parade, innovative compared to other activities of the celebration day, emphasizing that it is a way to celebrate the local holiday but also to raise awareness of an everyday need: spaces to promote relationships and intercultural knowledge. Be sure that the date and time of the parade is clear, as well as the duration and the route.

Step 4: the parade day. You should join the group in the location where the parade is going to start. Help them with all the materials and needs: banners, music equipment, costumes, etc. When the time arrives and the parade is started, you will be following them taking pictures

and making videos with the consent of the participants.. Also you will be there, available for them in case they need anything. If it is possible, it is advisable to present the activity, the aim and the main claims of the parade at the end of it, in the ending spot. You can do this, but it is better if the participants do it.

When the project is over, it takes time to assess how the activity went. How did the participants feel, did they learn something new, etc. Review the work done to detect what could have been done better.

It is also advisable to make a press release to send to local media, with photos and videos of the parade. Also share in your social media those photos and videos and spread the work done in your youth center.

Do's and don'ts

If you finally do the activity on the same day as another holiday, contact the committee that organizes the holiday so that you can coordinate with them what spaces are available and do a good job together.

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Innovative aspects for the promotion of interculture

This activity promotes interculturality in different ways. To begin with, it is a small project that can be carried out by a heterogeneous group of people, by a group made up of individuals from different origins and cultures, who

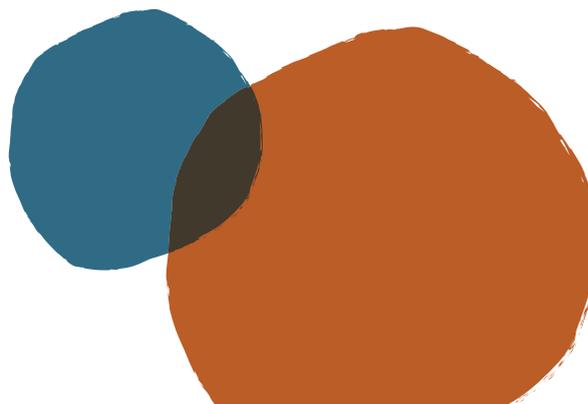
will have to work together, to design how the parade will take place, with the help of the youth worker. They will have to work to ensure that all cultures are equally represented and horizontally related throughout the activity, breaking deep-seated dynamics that reproduce the hierarchization and over-representation of some cultures over others.

In addition, this learning process will be an opportunity for people from different cultures to find a place to interact and learn about others.

Finally, the parade generates an impact on citizens, on people who are spectators: it launches a statement in favor of interculturality, a festive call to reflect on the use of public space and the dynamics we exercise on it. Reflect on who occupies and in what way the public space, and on the benefits that this reverses for the whole society.

This activity is innovative because it proposes us to understand the leisure space as a political place from which

we can generate actions that transform our environment to achieve a fairer, more egalitarian society, more aware of the value of interculturality. Festive and leisure spaces should also be considered, they are as important as many others, and have great potential to work on relationships between people. They generate an impact on the people who participate in the activity and also on the spectators, who through the festive and celebratory tone, feel attracted and get closer to what we want to claim: interculturality.



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