

Presentations in schools and new partners

Since October 2017, H.R.H. Prince Guillaume visited 5 schools to present the Mérite Jeunesse: Nordstadlycée, Lycée Classique Diekirch, Lycée Aline Mayrisch, Lycée Technique Lallange and Lycée Technique Bonnevoie.



Since the beginning of the 2017/18 school year, we are happy to welcome four new units to the Mérite Jeunesse Luxembourg: Lycée Technique du Centre, Lycée Technique Lallange, Lycée Technique Bonnevoie and Internat Sainte Anne Ettelbruck. Welcome!



Expedition October 2017

30 youngsters from 5 different units participated in an expedition in the Müllerthal from the 20th to the 22nd of October.



Despite the rain, the participants from Athénée, Lycée Josy Barthel Mamer, Lycée Michel Lucius, Lycée Nic-Biever and the FNEL scouts had a good time together. After hiking in small groups, they spent the first night in Beaufort and the second night in Nommern.



Award Leader Training

14 new Award Leaders successfully completed their training, which was held at the Forum Campus Geesseknäppchen on the 21st and 22nd of October. It has been the second Award Leader Training in 2017. Welcome and congratulations to all new Award Leaders!



Award Leaders evening 2017

It was that time of the year again, when Award Leaders from all over the country meet to spend a cheerful evening together. The event took place at the Forum Campus Geesseknäppchen on the 25th of October. After brief introductions, H.R.H. Prince Guillaume gave a speech dedicated to the Award Leaders: He thanked all Award Leaders who are active for the Mérite Jeunesse.



Danièle Flammang (ZAK) and Paul Galles (Young Caritas) presented volunteering opportunities for award participants. Then, Patrick Krier presented the new cooperation between GLCR (sailing club) and Mérite Jeunesse which allows young people to go on a sailing expedition for their Adventurous Journey.



After a welcoming aperitif the Award Leaders and the members of the board enjoyed the rest of the evening together at the restaurant *Come à la maison*.



Finalists of the *Prix du Mérite*

Three projects have been selected as finalists for the *Prix du Mérite* 2017. The winner will be announced at the Award Ceremony on April 18th. Here are the three finalists:

- **Your Juki**

At the youth centre in Kehlen (called "Juki") 10 youngsters aged between 12-15 years created a video to show what is most important to them about their youth centre. Their video is the basis for Juki's new pedagogical concept.



Proud to be

- **Nepal Village Project**

12 young people aged between 16-18 years from the European School in Kirchberg went to Nepal from 20th-26th of July to help out in the Shree Jana Jagriti primary school in Makaising. The village was badly affected by the earthquake of April 2015. The award participants' goals were to provide material and support to the school and its pupils that would not otherwise be available to them.



- **Ausfallschritt**

"Ausfallschritt" means sidesteps and in this project 'side' stands for non-compliance with the norms and 'steps' for the fact that life still goes on. 200 students aged between 12-16 years from Lycée Nic-Biever Dudelange created a play dealing with the daily life of young people. The play was performed twice at the cultural venue 'op der Schmelz' in Dudelange in June 2017.



IGE - International Gold Event

Report by John May – Secretary General, International Award

This triennium's International Gold Event was a great success, thanks to the exceptional hosting of the team at The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Czech Republic, led by Tomáš Vokáč, National Director, Jiří Zrůst, National Chair and Jitka Zrůst, the event's co-ordinator. They worked in partnership with colleagues from Award House to produce a programme that truly took people out of their comfort zones and helped to develop the next immediate generation of leaders and influencers in the Award.



Just fewer than eighty participants from more than 35 countries learned about leadership, team work and project management. They visited a range of organisations throughout the Czech Republic and Slovakia, worked up project proposals that could help to engage these organisations as Award partners and then delivered these proposals to a panel of social entrepreneurs and funders, in the presence of HRH The Earl of Wessex and the members of International Council. A number of these proposals were so implementable that they are being taken forward for further development by the Czech and Slovak Awards.



Ramona Feidert, Gold Award holder and assessor, represented Luxembourg at the International Gold Event.

Agenda

24.+25.02.18	Award Leader training (language LU)
10.03.18	Expedition training (language LU)
31.03.18	Expedition training Netherlands (language EN)
13.04-15.04.18	National practice expedition
18.04.18	Award Ceremony
21.04.18	Award Leader training Netherlands (language EN)
04.05-06.05.18	National qualifying journey



Dear Participant...

Testimonials

If you have written something about your experiences with the Mérite or activities you did, please feel free to share them with the national office and it will be published on the website. You can also just send a short quotation and a photo of you to monique.kellen@youth.lu



Dear Award Leader...

Deadline Recordbooks

To make sure that every participant who finished his level receives his certificate at this year's Ceremony on the 18th of April, please hand in the Recordbooks by the first week of February.

Trainings

In cooperation with the Dutch Award you have the possibility to join the following trainings in English:

- 31st of March expedition training
- 21st of April Award Leader training

If you're interested in one of the trainings, then contact the national office as soon as possible.

Proud to be