

**'Banda Senza Frontiere 2013-14'**: National Institution for Social Care and Vocational Training 'Beit Atfal Assumoud', Lebanon; Ulaia Artesud Onlus, Rome; ass. Prima Materia, Montespertoli (Fi); Tavola Valdese; Assopace Mola di Bari;

**'Music and Resilience 2013-15'**: National Institution for Social Care and Vocational Training 'Beit Atfal Assumoud', Lebanon; ass. Prima Materia, Montespertoli(Fi); Ulaia Artesud Onlus, Rome; Region of Tuscany; Province of Florence; Municipality Union Empolese-Valdelsa; Municipality Montespertoli; Municipality San Casciano Val di Pesa; ARCI Empolese-Valdelsa; ERAM Music Therapy Florence; Finnish Psychologists for Social Responsibility; Assopace Mola di Bari

## MUSIC THERAPY

### Scholarship for Assumoud employee for professional training at the School of Music Therapy, Assisi, Italy

#### Report

The Palestinian psychologist Mohamad Orabi, who works in Assumoud's Family Guidance Center, Saida, has completed the first of the four years of professional training in the School of Music Therapy run by the Center for Adult Learning "Pro Civitate Cristiana" in Assisi, with a residential course from 12<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015. Liliane Younes, Lebanese psychologist and coordinator of mental health services for Assumoud, also attended the training.



*Workshop group with teacher Leonello Conficoni*

The course is held annually and entails 15 days of intensive training, 8 hours a day, covering medical subjects, musical training and music therapy theory and techniques, by means of lectures and workshops. The programme of the 1<sup>st</sup> year comprises:

- Music Therapy Theory I
- Relational Psychology
- Acoustics
- Composition
- Music workshop: "Reliance: music between processes of human relations and disciplinary interactions"
- Music Therapy workshop: "Improvisation in Music Therapy"



*Music workshop*

The 40 first year students follow lectures in plenary, but are divided into 3 smaller groups for the workshop activities. The workshop groups remain constant during the 4 years of the course, favouring the development of solid relationships between the group members, an important support factor during the formation course, which necessarily induces particular attention to intra- and inter-personal dynamics.

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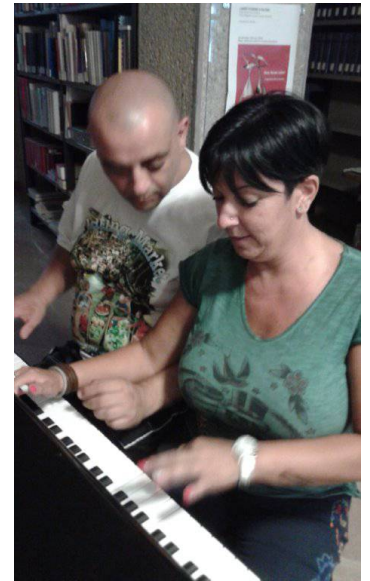
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Mohamad and Liliane attended all of the lessons; (the school accepts up to 8 hours of absence). Their entry into the workshop group was facilitated by the Italian students, who welcomed them warmly, demonstrating friendship, respect, solidarity and considerable curiosity with respect to the cultural exchange offered by their presence. Similarly, the school's teaching and administrative staff showed great flexibility and spirit of adaptation, in particular regarding my presence as translator and tutor. Dr. Paola Baracchi, director of the Adult Learning Centre, welcomed Mohamad and Liliane during the course's opening ceremony, declaring full support from the school for this initiative, in solidarity not only with the exiled Palestinian community in Lebanon, but also with the country that has hosted it for 66 years.

Like their fellow students from Italy, Mohamad and Liliane will continue the course autonomously during this year, studying the bibliographies for each subject, researching and elaborating on the course contents, and preparing for the examinations which will take place during the 2<sup>nd</sup>-year residential course, in July 2016.



*Music therapy workshop*



*Music therapy workshop*

In conclusion we would like to underline the success and importance of this first phase in reaching the objective of the qualification of the first 2 music therapists in Lebanon, to support our partner Assumoud in the development of music therapy resources for the refugee communities, Palestinian and of other nationalities, in Lebanon.

Sincere thanks to the leading partner for this project, Ulaia Artesud, to the Waldensian Church Foundation for the full scholarship awarded to Mohamad Orabi, and to the 'Pro Civitate Cristiana' Assisi for the didactic cooperation and the contribution to expenses for Liliane Younes.

Montespertoli, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015

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