

T.A.C.K.E.D.

“Traditional Arts and Crafts to Keep away Early Drop-out”



This presentation will shed some light on the situation on Rhodes concerning the traditional Arts and Crafts on this Island.

From the start of the program we collected information on artists and craftsmen, traditional professions and folklore.

In order to get an idea of what is going on in that field here in Rhodes.

These findings can be of help to the educators of the schools to find inspiration and ways to get these artisans and craftsmen involved in the realization of the program.

To support this effort other Erasmus+ programs could be added,
for example the projects presented at the
Transnational Cooperation Activity in Nafplio, 9th-12th June 2019
Organized by IKY with the theme of
“Social Inclusion Revisited: Role Modeling in Education.

<https://www.iky.gr/en/>

<https://www.iky.gr/el/rolemodel>

The first paragraphs from the TACKED program letter number 1 , highlighting a few lines that are the leading factor for this presentation and the quest for information done in 2018-2019 .

Summary

The project intends to impact on the problems related to lack of literacy, of early school leaving and dropout which are interlinked to schooling problems that obstacle a full and effective integration of teenagers into the educational and training systems, **using Traditional Arts and Crafts as a powerful tool.**

The revival story of each traditional craft, material or tool, began with the passion of dedicated individuals and communities. In order to pass on this craft's heritage, it's **important to preserve the quality materials and tools** that are so essential to its survival, as well as support the **next generation of craftspeople**. Paying efforts to revive craft traditions and rediscovering each product as a symbol of the area from which it originated offers great potential for reaching the Erasmus+ transversal key competences as set out by the Reference Framework: learning to learn, social and civic competences, **sense of initiative and entrepreneurship and cultural awareness and expression.**

These are the highlighted sentences. From the letter 1.

In the presentation are pictures of these materials and tools used by the craftsmen.
As well as some of the next generation craftsmen and young entrepreneurs.
Who added their own input for the future of the craft.

- **“ In order to pass on this craft's heritage, it's important to preserve the quality materials and tools that are so essential to its survival”**
- **“as well as support the next generation of craftspeople.”**
- **initiative and entrepreneurship and cultural awareness and expression.**

Before continuing this presentation bear in mind the following questions, food for discussion later on.

- 1. what , in fact, are traditional arts and crafts ?
- 2. which are the traditional arts and crafts in your region ?
- 3. Do we all have the same arts and crafts ?
- 4. how? and why? and where? do these arts and crafts differ?
- 5. how much of these arts and crafts are mainly folklore, in comparison with the daily use and involvement in your community ?

Rhodes



- The traditional arts and crafts are many.
- In the schools however, the students are introduced to them mainly for the purpose of the 2 big celebrations on 28 October the OXI day and 25 of march, Liberation day. These days are celebrated with theatrical performances, traditional poems, songs and folk dances.
- On these days big parades are held and apart from the army and schools marching ,many groups of citizens are contributing to the parade in their local costumes.

When do Rodians enjoy local folklore heritage ?

Festival in Pastida



Malona Orange festival

- On Rhodes are many different cultural associations involved with the safeguarding of the local traditions. Organizing events and providing lessons in folk dancing, choirs, cooking and traditional music
Almost all villages have their own festivals presenting the local produce and traditions and an other one when the village celebrates their patron Saint.

These activities are very well visited by both the village community and all citizens from the island.

Local associations involved in preserving traditions :

1. The women groups
X.E.N. and Lykio Ellinidon
2. The village associations
3. The associations of other islands and mainland of Greece.
4. Some Villages have a traditional house, with historical collections.



Each village has its own association with active locals. A wide range of festivals occur during the summer months. These festivals are very well attended by interested citizens from all over the island.

The village is buzzing with activities and dance groups from other villages are performing as well, providing an interesting few days for all.

On this local level , schools could easily tap into the knowledge of these associations to create an education program of interest.

Some of the Village Festivals

Celebrating Local produce

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| • Malona | orange festival |
| • Afandou | apricot festival |
| • Paradisi | strawberry festival |
| • Arnitha | potato festival |
| • Apolokia | watermelon festival |
| • Salakos | yiaprakia festival |
| • Dimilia | walnut festival |
| • Platania | bread and olive festival |
| • Embona | wine festival |
| • Sianna | Honey and Souma festival |

Village Associations

- Paradisi «VILLANOVA»
- Kremasti «PROODOS»
- Soroni «TO AMBERNALI»
- Kallithies “TERPSICHORY”
- Sianna « BRASIA»
- Afandou «PANAGIA KATHOLIKI»
- Etc.

Folklore and traditional Arts and Crafts



cultural ASSOCIATION
from the Village
Embona.

Let's talk about the arts and crafts needed to realize an event like this.

Is this a path to follow for TACKED ?

- The costumes have to be created and maintained.
- The dancers need an educator
- The choir, a Maestro and repertoire
- The musicians need a repertoire and traditional instruments
- Local produce need farmers
- Local produce needs processing
- Etc.



Part 2

The situation on Rhodes Island:

Can we answer these questions :

- Where do we find the traditional Arts and Crafts ?
- Where are they being used ?
- who is using and working with them. ?
- Is there a future for them?

Rhodes



Traditional
Arts and Crafts
in Rhodes

By RICHES

Rhodes International Culture
and Heritage Society

Traditional Arts and Crafts still being practiced on the Island of Rhodes are in the fields of ?

To get an answer you have to have a look at Rhodes Island and its history.

Rhodes is an island with 43 Villages scattered around along the shore line and in the mountains. Main source of income by tradition is the agriculture activities and, being an island, the sea.

The City of Rhodes,, from ancient times and onwards was a trade oriented city, due to the geo- position and natural harbors.

At this point in time Rhodes Island as a whole is dominated and relaying on the tourist industry.



Traditions and Religion

Some of the arts and crafts still practiced are based on village life. Partly because the traditions are still alive and partly because tourists are appreciating the authenticity and always seeking to experience the “couleur locale”.

Folklore is found in the traditional dresses, music, food and housing .

Also Religion is important because it provides jobs maintaining, decorating and building churches and chapels.



architecture



Town house in the Marasia

Some of the arts and crafts still being practiced come from the fact that Rhodes has an interesting history with a big variety in building styles. The reality of protecting this heritage leads to the need of traditional building techniques used to maintain the original style and atmosphere of the historical centre's of the villages and of course the medieval Old town with the surrounding walls and what is left of the 18th century houses in the Marasia.



Entrance gate to the Old town



Traditional house in Koskinou

The traditional village Lindos



The walled medieval town of Rhodes

Professions based on tradition, agriculture and architecture

- Ceramics
- Sandals and boots
- Traditional costumes
- Gold and silversmiths
- Music instruments
- Bee keeping
- Coffee grinding

- Wine factories
- Olive oil factories



- Stone mason
- Wood carver
- Carpenter
- Iron forger
- Icon painter
- Pebble floor maker
- Stained glass worker



**Folklore fair: demonstrations and showcasing :homemade pasta, wicker baskets, leather boots, pottery, music instruments, homemade cheese, donkey saddles basically , lost professions and technics ... the question is this: how to revive these when use is only on folklore level?
And mainly ... when LOST ... it is too little , too late ! most craftsmen are really old.**

Introduction:

Active artists and craftsmen on the island at this moment



introducing some of the local Artisans and craftsmen, working and making a living with their traditional art and craft.

Bear in mind: a skilled craftsman, learns his profession, not from school and study, but by many hours - for years practicing his profession.

This is a practical education in contrast to a theoretical education.

This again is food for thought..... How we translate this towards the school education – versus - apprentice education

Lefteris Skarpetis

Gold smith



- Lefteris was from a young age always around his father in the workshop.
- Watching and learning the craft by observing his father and his father letting him do the easy things like polishing for hours and hours.
- Now that he has mastered the skills he need, he feels free to be creative with the materials of the trade. Based on the traditions of the Rodian techniques he continues on creating his own style.
- At this moment about 4 workshops are still active in the old town of Rhodes

The tools of a gold smith



Diagoras Pambidis and Michalis Sachpazis



Although learning on university level both decided to quit their studies for other interests, deciding that making traditional music instruments was their thing to do! They have been traveling abroad to study the craft and to learn from the masters. They reached a point in live to start their own workshop, making Greek instruments, bouzouki, lout and the Baglama.



Music instrument makers



Stefanos N. Yassiranis Maker of Ceramics



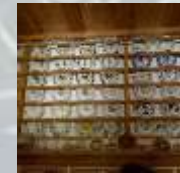
One of the oldest ceramic workshops of the island starting from the generation that learned the craft at the ceramics factory ICAROS started by the Italians in 1928.

His son, 4th generation is learning from his father to take over the workshop.

This workshop is based in Archangelos, the village that is traditional connected to the pottery craft, starting from the production of the local raw material the clay to the final product.

Once more then 11 workshops were active on the island, nowadays all but a few are still thriving.

Ceramics maker workshop



Savvas tamvakas traditional sandals shoemaker



Savvas is the classic example of the son taking over the business and craft from his father. Being around him learning the craft almost without knowing it as he said himself.

He is a musician, but when his father got older he needed more and more his help in the workshop. Gradually Savvas took over and is now full time responsible for the business. Using all the techniques and knowledge his father thought him.

It looks like it that his son will follow the same path, he came back from Scotland where he was studying, working and living the past 10 years. Now helping his father in the shop.

Shop and workshop in one



Marios Tsimpidakis



Marios learned the craft from his father George and that name is still proud on the door of the workshop that opened in 1958. Core business; the reparations and changes that are needed for the many jewelry shops in the old town. Apart from creating his own designs as well.

Silversmith



The tools of a Silversmith



Stavros Segounas wood sculpture



Stavros from small child on was always around his father watching him work and helping out. He went to school in Athens to learn more techniques. Later on he specialized in the woodwork needed in the church.

Unfortunately his 3 children are not interested to take over

Work shop



Moustafas



Blacksmith



Also Moustafa learned all he knows from his father. He only uses the traditional techniques to assure the authentic look needed for the buildings of the old town.

Gate's, lamps, fence's. etc.

It's hard work, nobody is interested to learn it, he said

Work shop



Aretaios Moraitis NASSOS Ceramics

Tota Salpigidi

Aretaios Moraitis, worked in the family business ; the factory of his father-in-law Nassos Ceramics. This name is equivalent of quality produce and proudly used. Tota started to work as decorator – painter when she was a 12 year old and stopped just over 5 years ago. Especially for the winter workshop she came back to instruct the students and teaches them the refined techniques needed to create the decorations of the classic designs Rhodos and Nassos Ceramics are known for.

With the workshop they hope to revive the interest in this art of pottery decorations that is a famous trademark in Rhodos history.



NASSOS Ceramics Decorators



Savvas Savoulis



Beekeeper



Savvas is the <outsider> in this list. He is from the village Kallithies, was working with tourists , renting sunbeds on the beach and owner of a bar. As a hobby he started with one bee hive. After 10 years of self- study and courses in Athens he is now the Keeper of 400 bee hives. With enough production of honey to be full time beekeeper. It is going so well that his son Timo decided that being a beekeeper is going to be his profession.

Bee keeper



Anna Kamberis Coffee blender



Anna Kamberis is 3rd generation, her grandfather started the coffee shop in 1920. The coffee is traditionally roasted with the same machine's of her grandfather. Using the finest fresh beans imported straight from their old connections.

Also the shop is famous for the wide range of local and imported herbs and spices.

A fine example of a trade –business in the old town. That is still active after almost 100 years on the same location.

Coffee Blender shop and work space



Stelios Greco chochlakia floor creator



Stelios Greco is one of the few craftsmen left to use the traditional techniques and raw materials to make a floor that is indestructible for ages. Besides craftsmanship he is also a very creative man turning a floor into a piece of art.

He is highly sought after to make floors for gardens, traditional village houses and church interiors.

Although he is wanted very much he can't find people who he can teach, because it is a heavy job and it needs a lot of patience. Hard to find in these modern times.

Creation of a floor



<https://youtu.be/BI-YRPx5KKs>



George Triantafyllou Icon Painter



George Learned to paint icons from members of his family.

Traveling to learn and improve techniques from the monasteries on mount Athos.

His main job is painting the walls and ceilings of the chapels and churches on the island. A lonely job, he said. He works on his own.

In his corner of the old town close to the red gate, he persuade other artisans to open workshops in the same area hoping to stimulate the artistic atmosphere in the area.

Workshop





**MARIOS
TSIMPIDAKIS**

MOUSTAFAS

ANNA KAMBERIS

SAVVAS SAVOULLIS

**LEFTERIS
SKARPETIS**



**STEFANOS N.
YASSIRANIS**


**DIAGORAS PAMBIDIS
AND MICHALIS
SACHPAZIS**

STELIOS GRECO

SAVVAS TAMBAKAS

**STAVROS
SEGOURAS**

THE FRIENDLY CRAFTSMEN THAT WELCOMED US IN THEIR WORKSHOPS



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION