



Notes on contributors

Kristof D'hanens is responsible for communication and new media at Jeugdwerknet, a Flemish youth work organisation that gathers useful information for youth workers on one website: www.jeugdwerknet.be. Every two years he and his colleagues organise a huge conference about youth and new media for youth workers in Flanders. He also coordinates 'VER-kijker' (which means 'binoculars' in Dutch); a team of young volunteers who write articles about Flemish youth work.

Filip Coussée is a researcher at Ghent University. His focus is on social pedagogy as a perspective on social work and youth and community work. He studied the history of youth work in Flanders and its connections to developments in the other social professions and in other European countries.

Ildikó Ferencsik is an economist and full-time student, currently working on her two masters degrees, in Hungary and Belgium, in the field of business management. She is the National Youth Delegate of the Hungarian EU Presidency and represents Hungarian Youth Organisations in several forums including the European Steering Committee of the Structured Dialogue. She has a volunteer background in AEGEE-Europe (European Students' Forum) where she co-ordinated a great variety of projects.

David M. Hansen is currently a researcher focused on adolescent learning and development, particularly in settings that support "real-world" learning. He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Kansas. Before moving into academia, he helped found a non-profit organisation committed to 'youth work' (American style) in a low income neighborhood of Chicago's west side, so issues of youth work and of youth in general are a part of his passion. Among other things, he is on the Next Generation Youth Work Coalition (a diverse group of national leaders in the youth work field) that is working to develop the youth worker workforce in the United States.

Karen Jacobs has a brilliant background in local youth work, archaeology and museums, arts, culture and heritage education. In 2001, she was part of the Belgian EU Presidency Youth. Ever since, she has worked for the Flemish Ministry of Culture, Youth, Sports and Media. Thanks to job rotation in the Division of Youth she gained a wide range of experience in local and national youth (work) policy, funding of projects and organisations, publishing a magazine, etc. In 2009 she happily joined the project team of the Belgian EU Presidency Youth and has been active in drafting policy papers and co-organising presidency events.

Darko Markovic comes from Belgrade, Serbia. He is a trainer, psychologist and psychodrama therapist, one of the founders of Grupa "Hajde da..." (www.hajdeda.org.rs) and owner of Inn.Side – people and training. His main areas

of interest are training of trainers, emotional intelligence, European Voluntary Service and developing strategies for better recognition of non-formal education/learning at national and European level. His training motto is: Training with passion - Learning with smile. A *Coyote* editorial team member.

Gülesin Nemutlu Ünal is a freelance trainer and consultant currently working from her learning-design office called tekne based in Istanbul. She has worked for a variety of organisations, institutions and enterprises throughout Europe and Turkey. Major areas of work include: training of trainers, human rights education, volunteerism, civil society development and youth work. Her recent work involves educational game design. She is passionate about pirate stories. A *Coyote* editorial team member.

Giuseppe Porcaro has been the Secretary-General of the European Youth Forum since June 2009 and he has been involved in youth policy development both as a young volunteer and as a professional. Giuseppe has a PhD in Political Geography and likes indie music.

Marlies Pöschl is a visual artist currently based in Vienna. Just having completed her studies in Art and Communicative Practices and German in Vienna and Utrecht, she is now looking forward to realise a collaborative video project on processes of education in different historical and contemporary formats. She also works as freelance media designer and film operator. A *Coyote* editorial team member.

Tena Prelec is a freelance journalist and interpreter. She is currently finishing her MA in European Studies at University College London, after having graduated *cum laude* in translation and interpreting from the University of Trieste. During her YNGO activity, she has been member of the European Board of AEGEE – European Students' Forum, and is currently a correspondent for the European Youth Forum. A *Coyote* editorial team member.

Mark Taylor is a trainer and writer and is grateful to be part of both the Unique network and via Experientia (the International Academy of Experiential Education) as they make life challenging and even a joy. He is a recent convert to the ukulele and intends to make his own thick cut marmalade in the years ahead. A founding member of the *Coyote* editorial team, he has yet to meet Spiffy. A *Coyote* editorial team member.

Stijn Vlasschaert lives in Brussels and has been working for JES vzw for almost ten years. He fell madly in love with big cities and their urban culture. For the last four years, Stijn has been responsible for youth work training in Brussels, Antwerp and Ghent. He is a proud dad with two kids and passionate about every vehicle with at least two wheels under it!



The Adventures of Spiffy

Mark Taylor • The Big Family

N° XXI
[sic]

Spiffy gets "conventional"

How do you feel, Spiffy?

Great! Double strength!
Now I'm off to discover who I really am!

THE RE-ENERGIZER

KERPLUNK
KNOCK KNOCK

Spiffy arrives in Ghent...

Vooruit is ready for Spiffy, but is the opposite true?

VOORUIT

What an amazing building! What a place to construct my new identity!

Spiffy gets buttoned up!

Aaagh!
The choice is so massive!
What am I?

ahaha!!!

Haha haha!!!

Hahahaha!!!

For sale!

Ex-convention lunch bags! Ideal for storing used metaphors about youth work.

Warning:
may contain closed pistachio nuts, damp dogs and angels with spotty faces.

You are a sociocultural facilitating animator, Spiffy!

NO! You have a wider range of key competences, don't limit yourself!

Make things easier for yourself, become a youth leader!

Advice is not always so easy to take...

Spiffy Pro-Dialogue partners offer new service:

automatic working groups, buzz groups, question sessions, etc. to be inserted into research presentations. No need for undiplomatic facilitation!

Spiffy, relax! We have the answer! We are ALL youth workers here!! Youth workers! Youth workers! Youth workers!

Convinced?

Oh look, I'm a "youth worker", but can I still be a trainer too? Do I have to be a bit more specific?

Aha! The journey continues...