



CREATIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Highlights from the "Handcrafting the Future – Modelling the Future" weekend

How do you think it is easy to create your own ship? Even if you're young enough and not experienced? Yes, it is. The only thing you need was just to visit the two days event "Handcrafting the Future – Modelling the Future" that took place at "Dunărea de Jos" University on February 22-23.



This creative weekend was organised by Rotary Club Galați Donaris in partnership with "Dunărea de Jos" University with participation of MDEG (Marine Design Engineering Galați), Help Ukrainians Association and other sponsors and volunteers. It's incredible but true - digitalisation and modern technologies haven't made handcrafting less attractive for children and their parents. You may say that traditional handmaking has been replaced by computer modelling and other digital technologies, and modern children just spend much time exploring the computer science. But despite all these all the time visitors came to choose whatever they like to do in the relaxing environment with the smell of plywood and glue, paints and sweets. Was it boring? Not really!

Young enthusiasts dived into a wide range of activities provided by experienced ship modelers, amateurs, and volunteers. They handcrafted sailing vessels of plywood, assembled motorboats from cartoon, experienced first aid crash course, painted pictures, enjoyed aqua makeup and body art, attended presentations of Damen companies followed by comments of MDEG experts. And that's not even the full list of what has happened in the hall of University.

For two days hundreds of Romanian and Ukrainian children had a good time full of friendship, crafting, creativity and art. This unbelievable combination of old-style handmaking, modern digital technologies, art and medicine let every child and adult find activities they liked, getting new knowledge, positive emotions and generally having fun.

For the organisers, that have been living and breathing ships since their teenage years, it was a great pleasure to see the happy faces, talk about shipbuilding and modelling, and feel that all these will influence their young lives and will be continued into their careers. For those who are in love with ships.

Amusement and handicraft is all nice but what about the career prospects? You might get it there as well. During the all two days everyone could see the presentations about Damen and its vessels, watch the movies about the engineering projects and had a talk about the modern way of ship design and building a real vessel. It was funny to see the children, teenagers and their parents switching from the wooden models to the serious world of shipbuilding, dreaming of their own career and future achievements.

At the end of the day the most important thing that we've got out of this weekend is the sense of continuity. No doubts that those children busy with painting the pictures and assembling the tiny boats will become brilliant engineers, daring explores, skilled workers and dedicate their lifetime to the marine industry. Because they are our successors and they are already contributing into shipbuilding by being with us, learning together and enjoying it.

Thanks to the organisers, partners, and everyone who joined us for this remarkable event! <<

