

Name: *Pavarotti Music Center*

Country: *Bosnia*

Artistic Medium: *Music*

Dates: 1997-2003 when it was converted into a NGO Educon

Thematic: youth

Contact & Sources:

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http://www.warchild.org/news/News_archive/1998/1998.html

<http://www.ddh.nl/org/poo/uk/culture/pavarot.htm>

The Pavarotti Music Center was created as a way for children to reconcile their war experience through the music therapy department, the first of its kind in Bosnia. The staff is made up of local musicians and international post graduates from Hanover and Edinburgh who provide music education for children in 12 primary schools, 7 kindergartens and several special schools as well as the Sarajevo Blind School. The music therapy department gets constant referrals from medical, social and educational authorities in the country and performs community outreach in the form of refugee camps visits as well as the Sarajevo special school visit.

Along with music therapy workshops for children, the school offers music classes, dance a ballet classes, a recording studio, expositions, film centers as well as musical exchange programs with cities like Dubrovnik and Gorazde. When the center became the NGO Educon, it invested more time into sustainability of its programs in accordance with the educational reforms in Bosnia. It also focused more generally on “peace building” activities such as “The Old Gymnasium” project in Mostar in November of 2003. Muslim and Croat children cannot attend this school together any longer and Educon is trying to bring the two groups together through musical activities.

