



7 August 2017

500 children from 22 countries capture photos of peace

Over the past two weeks, around 500 children at the VIG Kids Camp produced photos on the subject of peace together with star photographer Lois Lammerhuber. The pictures have been submitted for the Alfred Fried Photography Award, which will include a separate category for children for the first time in 2017.

Around 500 children of VIG employees from Austria and Central and Eastern Europe (from Ukraine to Poland and Slovakia to Bulgaria) spent two action-packed weeks at the VIG Kids Camp 2017. As well as hikes, voyages of discovery, sightseeing in Vienna, Salzburg and Klagenfurt, and plenty of opportunities for sports and games, the youngsters took part in a photography workshop on the topic of peace held by well-known photographer, author and publisher Lois Lammerhuber. Some of their photos were entered in this year's Alfred Fried Photography Award. On Lois Lammerhuber's initiative, the 2017 Award includes a separate prize for children, with prize money of EUR 1,000.

Bringing together generations

"This year, we invited children of Group company employees to Austria for the VIG Kids Camp for the eighth time," explained **Günter Geyer, Chairman of the Managing Board of Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein**, and initiator and patron of the Camp. Besides the photography workshop, the children again visited facilities for the elderly during their stay. *"These activities are designed to give the youngest members of our society an insight into the value of diversity, solidarity and commitment to social causes,"* Geyer said.

Children from Albania, Romania and Macedonia went to the **Kolpinghaus Gemeinsam leben facility in Vienna's Leopoldstadt district**, where they delighted residents with ballet and songs, as well as a magic show and piano music. In Upper Austria, youngsters from Ukraine and Poland put on an entertaining show featuring folk dances and samba moves at the **Evangelisches Alten- und Pflegeheim retirement and care facility in Bad Goisern**. Residents of the **Seniorenresidenz Mirabell retirement home in Salzburg** enjoyed spending time with children from various countries, among them Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia and the Czech Republic, who staged a captivating show that included folk dances and songs. Finally, Camp participants from Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia put together an enthralling performance of poetry and traditional songs for residents of the **AHA Seniorenzentrum Seeboden care and retirement facility in Carinthia**.

About the VIG Kids Camp 2017

The 500 children from 22 countries spent the fortnight at four camps: the City Camp in Vienna's Strebersdorf district, the Country Camp in Wagrain, the Mountain Camp in Bad Goisern and the Lake Camp in Seeboden. In order to take part in the VIG Kids Camp, the prospective participants were asked to show off their creative flair in an art competition themed "Paint a picture of peace", which was held at the start of 2017. The competition was open to 9 to 13-year-old children of VIG employees. The most creative entries were rewarded with an invitation to VIG's Kids Camp 2017.

Photos are available at

<http://www.wst-versicherungsverein.at/en/vig-kids-camp/>

© Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein/Robert Newald

Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein is the main shareholder of the Vienna Insurance Group (VIG) and provides support for the Group's cultural and social activities, with a focus is on enhancing cross-border, intercultural exchange. The emphasis is also on creating an environment in which individual cultures can thrive. Partnerships and initiatives are geared towards supporting the activities of social organisations, especially in the Central and Eastern European countries in which the Vienna Insurance Group has a presence.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein
Public Relations
Schottenring 30, 1010 Vienna

Romy Schrammel
Phone: +43 (0)50 350-21224
Fax: +43 (0)50 350 99-21224
E-mail: presse@wst-versicherungsverein.at

A copy of this press release is available at www.wst-versicherungsverein.at