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Interview:

Noémi Vajda, from Hungary, studied at Andebølle in 2010. Now she is studying Civil Engineering and dreaming about becoming a writer.

“ I miss my teachers, my friends, Music class... I miss everything! I think I miss the Andebølle feeling. ”

Noémi Vajda

by Lucia D'Addezio

Noémi Vajda, from Hungary, was a student at Andebølle Youth College in 2010. She stayed for one semester, studying Music and Theatre. Then she went back to her Country to study Civil Engineering at the University,

Why did you choose to study at Andebølle Ungdomshøjskole? How did you hear about the school?

Why not? I've heard about it from Bandi (everyone knows him there). We live in the same city and he told me about the school. I also had the opportunity to come to visit Andebølle for one day and I thought that's something I would like to do. And well, I also needed some break after the high school and before the university. I was tired of always learning and learning, and there we didn't have to learn (I mean, not like that way I used to do it - sitting in front of a book and trying to memorize stupid stuff). So it was something completely different and that's why I could feel free.

Was it hard to leave your home Country to go to Denmark, alone and without knowing the language?

It was a strange feeling standing at the airport with my mother, and knowing that I wouldn't see her for half a year. I thought: "Oh damn, what did I do???" But there was no way back (fortunately). Moreover my plane was delayed, and I arrived



Noémi playing a role in the musical "Twister", written and performed by the students.

in the middle of the night, so the journey was twice as exciting as I have planned before.

Did you feel yourself at home in the school, with the other students and with the teachers?

Sometimes it was a bit difficult, because I was the oldest girl in the group. People think it's only one year, but one year can be a great difference at our age. But I made a few great friends!! So, always being together sometimes causes problems and arguments, but at the

end we looked at the others as fellow "Andebøllers", our big family. And the teachers were fantastic! I have never met anyone who was more amazing than Andebølle teachers! Of course it was my home!

What did you like/dislike about Andebølle?

What I disliked in Andebølle? There were a few people I couldn't find the "same voice" with, as we say in Hungarian. I thought Andebølle would have been a place where everybody

liked everybody, but at the end I found out that there is no place like that, not even there. But that one isn't the school's fault, it's a mistake created by human personality, as I have learned about that. The other big problem was that we couldn't talk about our problems normally. Although we had a meeting every Wednesday. But people got bored instead of paying attention of our common problems. For example, we said that it was very tiring to have kitchen duty for 2 days, we would have liked to have it for 1 day and twice in a month. But nothing happened. So when problems weren't solved on these meetings, we began to lose our attention.

What I liked: everything else! I really enjoyed Music classes, but sometimes I felt I would need more of them!

What do you miss the most of Andebølle and what do you remember most about this experience abroad?

Is there an answer for that question? First of all I really miss my teachers and my friends! I miss the Andebølle feeling, Music classes and everything else. Really, everything.

Was your semester at Andebølle important for your life and for your cultural and personal development? If yes, in which way?

Sometimes when I saw a picture on Facebook of the new students I

feel like: "oh no, that hurts... I would rather close the Internet." Because it reminds me great times, and I know somebody is using my room, my bed, and they are doing those great programs. But I think now I understand... I couldn't live there for the rest of my life: I have to find happiness wherever I am, whatever I do... The memory of Andebølle will always help me to think positively. I got a new way of thinking there, the "always-smiling" life... I am not smiling all the time, but now I know it worthy to try it at least. To try it all the time.

What are you doing at the moment

and what are your plans for the future?

I am studying Civil Engineering at the University. My plans are to finish University one day, start to work as a civil engineer, have a husband and 2 children... And I would like to become a writer one day and write a bestseller (or more). And my biggest plan: being happy!



Noémi playing drums in one of the school live concerts in Latvia.

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