

ISYY INTERNATIONALISATION GRANT 2025

FINAL REPORT

Name of the project: The World Flavor Feast 2025

Organizers: Kassos ry's Internationality Team

Time period: Project planning period: 1.2.2025–30.8.2025, Implementation period: 26.9.-30.11.2025

Budget

The funding was 400 € which was distributed to the organization of the three events of the project: Cultural series, Theatre Series and Skills series. The budget was used primarily for decorations, materials, equipment and catering. All of these were essential for creating an engaging and welcoming atmosphere for participants. Each of the events had its own cost structure based on its specific needs. The Cultural series required decorations and culturally themed catering to support intercultural exchange. The Theatre series involved creative materials and refreshments to encourage participation and interaction. The Skills series had the highest expenses, as it included practical materials, equipment and catering to support hands-on learning activities. In total, the expenses amounted to 402,78 €, slightly exceeding the original funding. All costs directly supported the project's purpose: fostering interaction, cultural awareness and community building among international and Finnish students.

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Project funding	400€	Cultural series (decorations and catering)	117,10 €
		Theatre series (decorations and catering)	110,91 €
		Skills series (materials, equipment and catering)	174,77 €
TOTAL	400€		402,78 €

Implementation of the project

The purpose of the project was to promote meaningful interaction and integration between international and Finnish students, and to showcase the diverse cultures represented within the UEF community. The project aimed to strengthen respect for diversity both within the university and globally, while providing opportunities for skill development, identity building, and cultural learning.

A core objective was to integrate international and Finnish students by creating a safe and supportive space for intercultural dialogue. The project also sought to help students, especially newcomers, get to know one another, build a sense of community, and develop connections across cultural backgrounds. Through these activities, participants were encouraged to explore each other's cultures more broadly and to deepen their cultural awareness.

During spring, we began by planning the overall structure of the project and collecting group suggestions for the types of events we wanted to organize. We documented our initial ideas and explored different approaches. As the planning progressed, we faced copyright-related limitations, which required us to revise our original plans. After updating the project plan, we applied for and received the grant. Following this, we started preparing for the first event scheduled for September and decided to organize one event each month throughout the fall semester.

In August and September, we moved into more detailed planning of the events. We communicated regularly with our teacher regarding participation of the staff, the use of facilities, and coordination with the EMI project. We also scheduled the events and the intervals between them to ensure smooth implementation. To strengthen cultural diversity and representation, we included most continents to reflect the wide range of cultures within the community. Responsibilities were divided among our team members so that each person had a clear role, contributing to the effective organization of the events. The project was organized through monthly, alcohol-free events that focused on culture, creativity, and skill-building. Planning began in spring and continued throughout the fall with detailed preparation, coordination with staff, and division of responsibilities among team members. Each event included structured activities and opportunities for interaction, ensuring consistency while keeping the program flexible and student-centered.

Although the project was not specifically marketed as interdisciplinary, it naturally brought together a wide variety of participants. Finnish students, exchange students, and international students from different faculties all took part in the events. In addition, staff members also participated, allowing for interaction across different groups within the university community. International students were considered at every stage of the project. All events were held in English to ensure accessibility, and the activities were designed around internationality and cultural exchange. Students were invited to voluntarily share aspects of their own culture, whether through presentations, food, or creative contributions. This provided meaningful opportunities for cultural exchange and helped participants learn from one another in a welcoming environment.

Environmental sustainability was taken into account by minimizing unnecessary purchases and encouraging resourcefulness. Decorations and materials were often brought from home rather than new ones. Leftover food from events was given to participants so nothing went to waste, and when disposable items were needed, more environmentally friendly options were chosen over plastic. Local small businesses were also supported by catering.

All project goals were successfully achieved throughout the implementation of the event series. The project promoted meaningful interaction and integration between international and Finnish students by creating a welcoming, accessible, and culturally rich environment in every event. Participants had

opportunities to showcase their culture, which contributed to highlighting the diverse backgrounds within the UEF community and increasing cultural awareness. The events encouraged open dialogue, and cross-cultural learning. In addition, the Skills Series provided valuable opportunities for skill development, and cultural learning. The project was highly successful and met all its intended goals. Participants reported positive experiences and some were even inspired to continue new hobbies, such as crocheting, after the events. Cultural awareness increased throughout the series, supported by multicultural activities and food from different regions. Feedback collected from students highlighted the welcoming and inclusive atmosphere. The events were free of charge and open to everyone, which encouraged broad participation.

Communication and marketing

The events were marketed through a combination of personal outreach and social media communication. Individual marketing played an important role, as team members actively approached students on campus and introduced the project directly, which helped create a welcoming image. The events were also promoted through social media platforms, including Instagram, WhatsApp groups and Viva Engage. These channels allowed us to reach both Finnish and international students efficiently and provide clear event information. The combination of personal interaction and online communication ensured that the events were widely accessible and attracted diverse participants.

Repeatability of the Project

The project is highly repeatable, as the structure, planning process, and event concept are clearly documented and easy to reproduce. With this report the series can be organized again with minimal additional preparation. Feedback from participants also showed strong interest in similar events in the future, which indicates that the concept is relevant. While the main idea can remain the same, the skills or activities included in each event can be varied, making it easy to refresh the project without changing its overall purpose.

Project Development

In the future, the project could be developed by increasing interdisciplinarity and conducting wider marketing to reach students from a broader range of faculties. The events could be promoted more widely, for example in ISYY's weekly feed or on different Viva Engage channels. Larger event spaces would also allow more participants to join. Having a registration system, such as Kide.app or Google Forms, would help manage participant numbers, gather dietary information and improve planning. Additionally, expanding collaboration with other associations could increase resources and visibility. The concept of the project could stay the same, but new activities or developing the events further could be introduced. For example, offering weekly sessions of certain themes could build a stronger community and bring even more awareness of different cultures. In addition, more systematic participant feedback would support continuous improvement. Future events could be expanded to include, for example, relaxation, creative writing, drama, literature, or other culturally engaging activities.

Free comments

The grant provided significant support for the project and encouraged us to deliver the best possible events. With the funding, we were able to create activities that genuinely benefited participants. Throughout the process, we developed valuable skills in problem-solving, planning, time management, and collaboration. One of the key achievements was successfully integrating Finnish and international students, which created a strong foundation for even larger events in the future. The project also helped us expand our networks, learn from one another, and experience different cultures in a meaningful way. Additionally, it strengthened our connections with tutors and student associations and encouraged us to engage with new students whenever possible.

GALLERY

1 Kassos ry's Internationality Team 2025: Nisha Rathnayaka, Saroja Kodithuwakku, Eveliina Liimatainen, Minni Roos and Alina Achourbekov

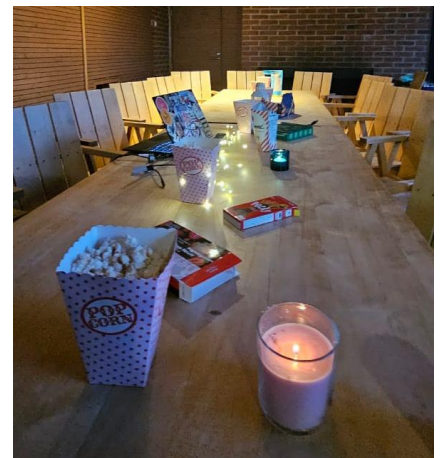
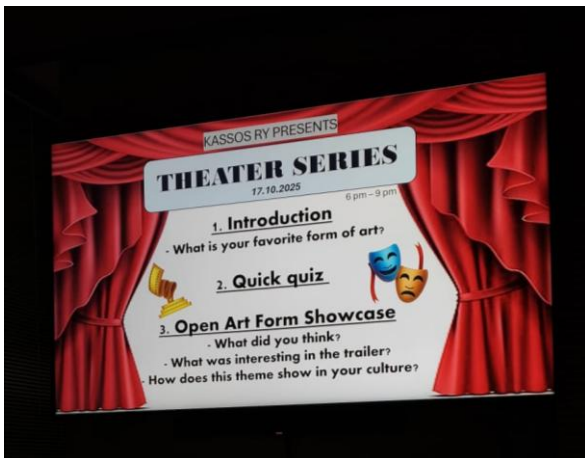


2 Pictures of the Cultural series event:





3 Pictures of the Theatre series event:



4 Pictures of the Skills series event:



1 Examples of the marketing of the events:

