

# Activity Report 2022

identity.  
education

# table of contents

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| <b>1. us</b>                  | 3  |
| [foreword]                    | 6  |
| [us in 2022]                  | 7  |
| [main areas of work]          | 9  |
| <b>2. art and culture</b>     | 11 |
| [pridetm 2022]                | 13 |
| [LGBTQIA+ history month 2022] | 15 |
| <b>3. education</b>           | 17 |
| [safe spaces]                 | 19 |
| [campus pride]                | 20 |
| [organising for change]       | 21 |
| [erasmus+]                    | 23 |
| <b>4. community work</b>      | 25 |
| [pridetm center]              | 27 |
| <b>5. others</b>              | 29 |
| [workshops we've held]        | 31 |
| <b>6. the team</b>            | 33 |
| [executive team]              | 35 |
| [volunteers]                  | 36 |
| <b>7. finances</b>            | 39 |
| <b>8. our partners</b>        | 43 |

1. US

# foreword

**Andre Rădulescu**

*Identity.Education Founder*

In 2022, Identity.Education has already been in existence for 4 years; 4 years since I unleashed an idea that was born even earlier. We've overcome the infamous 2018 referendum, various acts of vandalism against our events and initiatives, and we've reached a point where we can articulate the impact we've had and where we're aiming.

2022 was a year in which many things happened, but for Identity.Education, the most important aspect remains the team. In 2018, we started with a team of a few individuals, no financial resources, but with many ideas and enthusiasm. Four years later, we are a team of over 20 volunteers, part of international initiatives, with a physical space (which we call a center, office, and another home), even more ideas, and plans for the coming years.

We've always known that we want big things for Timișoara, but to see them in front of your own eyes, as a result of the direct work we put in, is an entirely different feeling.

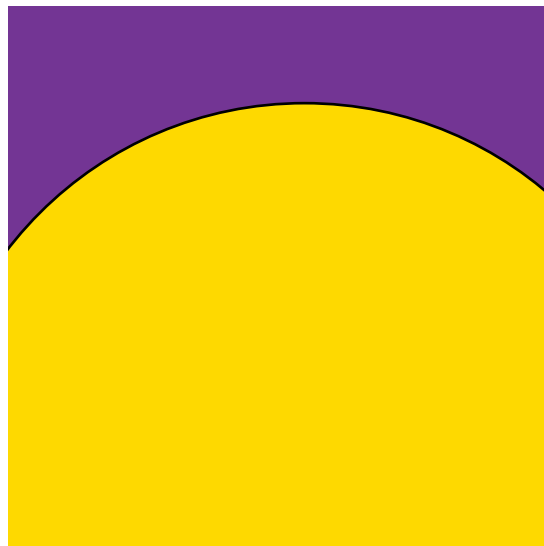
All of this has been possible thanks to the work of our volunteers and the individuals who have been there for us in various forms, thanks to other LGBTQIA+ organizations in the country, but especially thanks to the stories shared with us and the trust we have received from the local community that has been and continues to be close to us.

**We still have work to do. Together.**

# US in 2022

**Vision:** A world in which the LGBTQIA+ community is an integral part of society: a legislative framework that considers the needs of the community, a language adapted to diversity beyond the binary, adapted institutions, and safe spaces.

**Mission:** Representing, promoting, and supporting the LGBTQIA+ community in western Romania through art, culture, education, and community work.



**Purpose:** We are here to provide formal representation for the LGBTQIA+ community and, consequently, to address the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community in western Romania.



# main areas of work

**Art & Culture:** For us, art and culture are instruments that amplify voices and stories, that point fingers at caricatures of society, and that facilitate rewiring. Art and culture reflect us, show us, make us vulnerable, provide answers where we may not know how to ask questions, and help us understand concepts and experiences that may have never belonged to us.

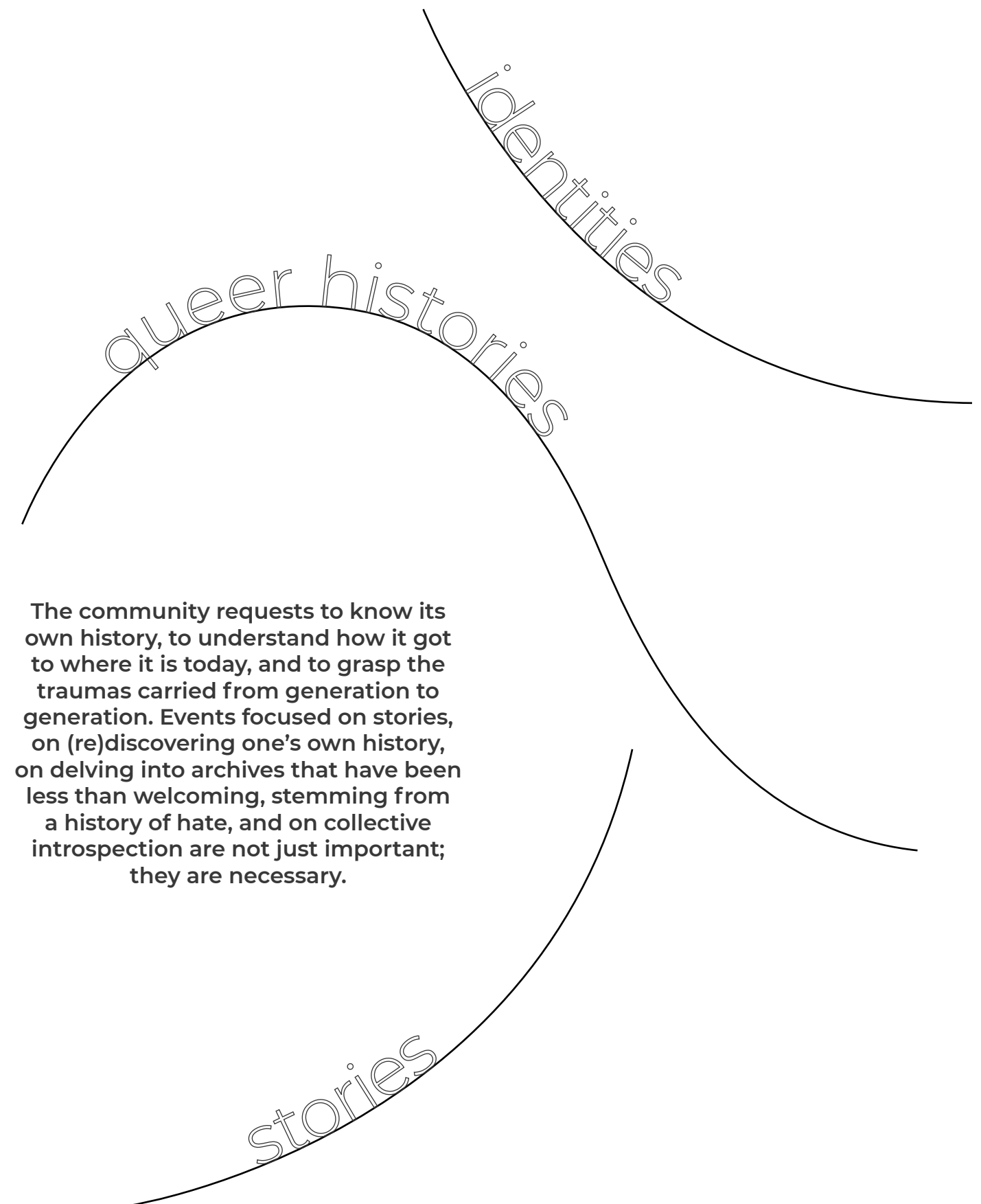
**Education:** Through education, we transmit, seek solutions, learn ourselves, and help others learn.

We create meaningful projects designed by and for the LGBTQIA+ community in western Romania. We look where we know it hurts and bring solutions. We collaborate with stakeholders from the public, private, and civil sectors.

We do not believe in education as a one-way process; rather, we believe in education as a communal process in which everyone has something to contribute, and where everyone can learn from others and with others.

**Community Work:** We understand how important a sense of belonging is, and we know how challenging it can be to find people who truly understand you.

Therefore, we create safe spaces for the local LGBTQIA+ community, where we organize events, discussion forums, or simply provide a place where the LGBTQIA+ community can feel safe.



2. art

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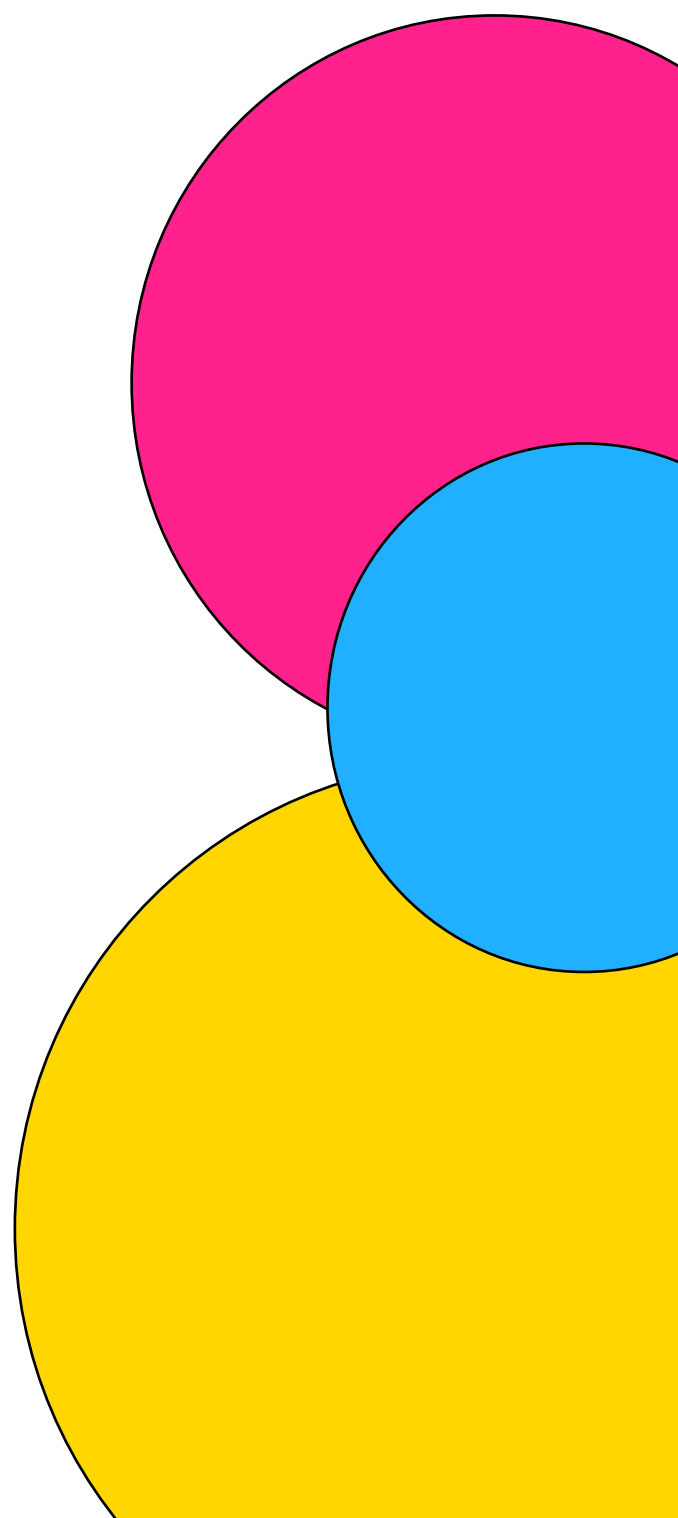
culture

# pridetm 2022

Between June 25 and July 3, 2022, we proposed a program that served as an exploration of all dimensions of queer identity through events designed for and by the entire community.

In 2022, we also organized the first Pride TM march in Timișoara.

**On social media, we reached over 55,000 people, gained coverage in national and local media, and had over 1,000 participants at our events, with more than 800 attendees at the Pride march (the first one in Timișoara).**



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**corp fluid:** it serves both as a queer manifesto and an invitation to introspection. The show questions our relationship with our own body, self-image, and the societal models that influence it. The performance is based on personal stories of growth and development, touching on themes such as bullying, discrimination based on sexual orientation, fat-shaming, and colorism.  
*/performance*

**queer repertoire:** a cultural representation of a community accused of undermining norms, traditions, and values. In the face of attacks that can jeopardize fundamental rights and freedoms, Queer Repertoire claims marginalized histories and publicly expresses identities, values, and the direction in which we are heading.  
*/exhibition*

**povestea mea:** a multimedia exhibition that combines a structured storytelling method with images obtained through AR (augmented reality). This way, when listening to the 11 stories, visitors will be able to interact with them.  
*/exhibition*

**pride in the park:** we reclaimed Queen Maria Park, and now we have hours spent together, in nature, and with music.  
*/community event*

**about safe spaces:** we presented our findings gathered from research

conducted over the past few months with the aim of defining behaviors and pillars that create a safe space.

*/conference*

**rafiki:** the first official screening in Romania can be viewed as a revolutionary act because the film had been banned in Kenya “due to its homosexual theme and clear intent to promote lesbianism in Kenya, contrary to the law,” as explained by the Kenya Film Classification Board.  
*/film, R: Wanuri Kahiu*

**health care awarness:** the event addressed frequently asked questions (FAQ) about BTS and HIV testing, prevention, the importance of pre and post-testing counseling regardless of HIV status, and provided information about where, when, and how to get tested. It also shared details and contacts for LGBTQIA+ friendly doctors.

*/community event*

**pride tm march 2022:** For the first time in Timișoara, on July 2, 2022, we celebrated love, demanded our rights, and enjoyed the energy of the LGBTQIA+ community and allies.

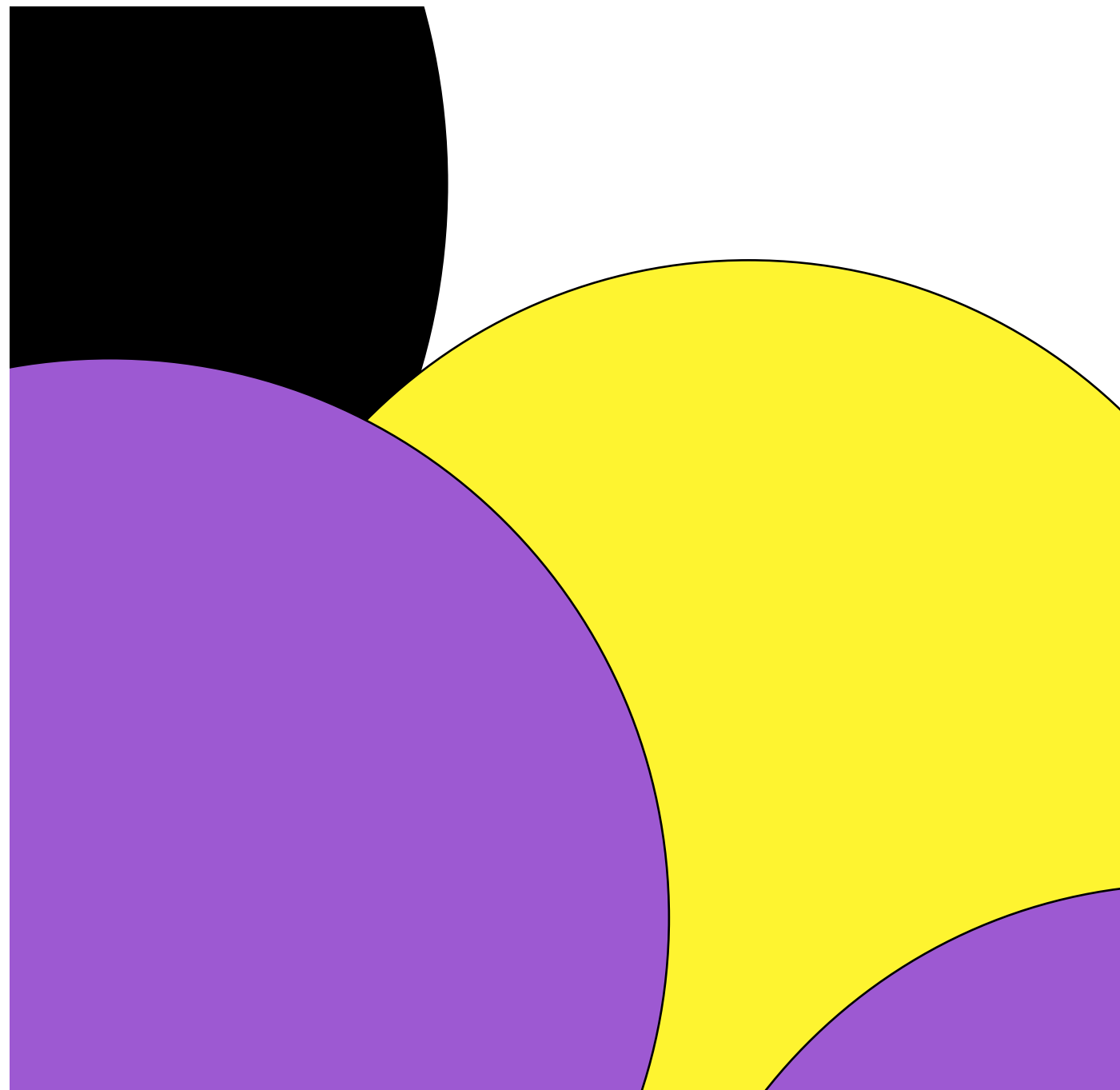
**There were 800 of us.**

*With the exception of the PrideTM March and the Health Care Awareness event, the program was funded by the Project Center through the Fluid Views route.*



# LGBTQIA+ history month 2022

For the LGBTQIA+ community in Romania, the month of October represents a month of events that celebrate our culture and history. Year after year, we strive to reclaim lost fragments of invisibility.



**băiatul văduvă:** “after ‘Tom at the Farm’ by Michel Marc Bouchard, directed by Eugen Jebeleanu,” brings to the forefront the story of young Tom and his journey to the small countryside town where his deceased lover’s family resides. The play offers a bold perspective on the intimacy of human relationships and the stigmas that still exist in society.

*/theater play, D: Eugen Jebeleanu*

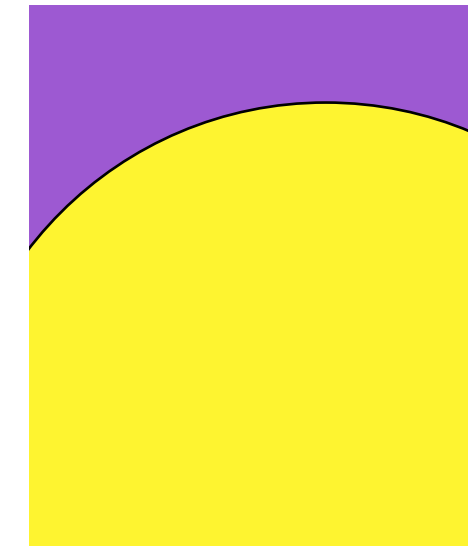
**queer joy:** „according to the canons, art matters when measured on a scale invented to gauge the degrees of suffering, with joy being placed at the lowest point. Much of what we see and admire is devoid of joy. The canon has long decided against joy. Vulnerability has become a key element in the methodology of understanding, capturing, and visually dispersing the concept of joy, and by extension, that of anti-cynicism. This includes humor, pleasant actions, entertainment, play, and the rejection of norms in favor of innocence..” / *exhibition*

**se\*, pauză și idei:** a grand cabaret performance with Zarug! Against a jazz backdrop, to the notes of Radu Dumitru, with an imagined pipe aroma and a glass of bubbly, Zarug sang and talked about dating in a world where the norm is hetero and cis, or in his own words, “living life when you’re triple-minority,

fat, short, and gay.” / *performance*

**legislative theater:** the legislative theater performance explored various situations inspired by the everyday realities of LGBTQIA+ individuals, individuals who shared these lived experiences within educational institutions.

*/nonformal theater*



*A program funded by the Project Center as part of the Fluid Views route.*

3.

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# safe spaces

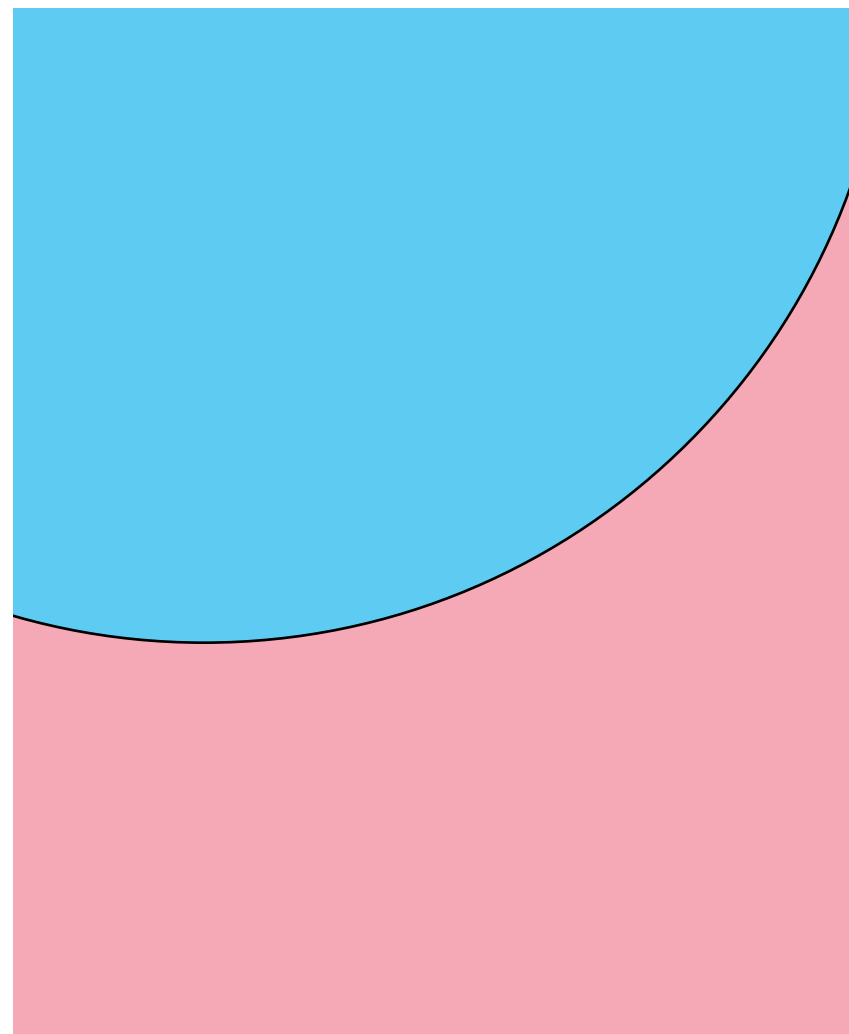
Safe Spaces has contributed to increasing the safety and inclusivity of public spaces for LGBTQIA+ youth, ensuring that events and projects (regardless of the field: academic, artistic, cultural, educational, sports) can take place free from discrimination and bullying.

The project has addressed both the need to encourage young members of the LGBTQIA+ community to participate in projects and events dedicated to them and the need to discuss the LGBTQIA+ community in a historically restrictive Romania when it comes to the visibility of minorities and vulnerable youth groups.

*Funded through the Active Citizens Fund - Romania program.*

**Through Safe Spaces, we have brought non-LGBTQIA+ organizations closer to learning together how to create safe spaces for everyone—whether for team members or beneficiaries. We've worked with student organizations of young psychologists, doctors, lawyers, talked about safe spaces, asked the community what a safe space is, written guides, and examined the concept from all angles. We are still learning, and we continue to be taught.**

We organized **8 workshops, 10 support meetings (4 online and 6 offline)**, with **over 130 young people participating**. We reached over **150,000 people online**, conducted **4 social media campaigns** where we discussed what a safe space means. We wrote **a guide** on how organizations, spaces, and schools can create safe spaces, and we launched **a research report** where we showed that queer individuals feel less safe than cis-hetero individuals. We also spoke about safe spaces at **5 youth conferences**.



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# campus pride

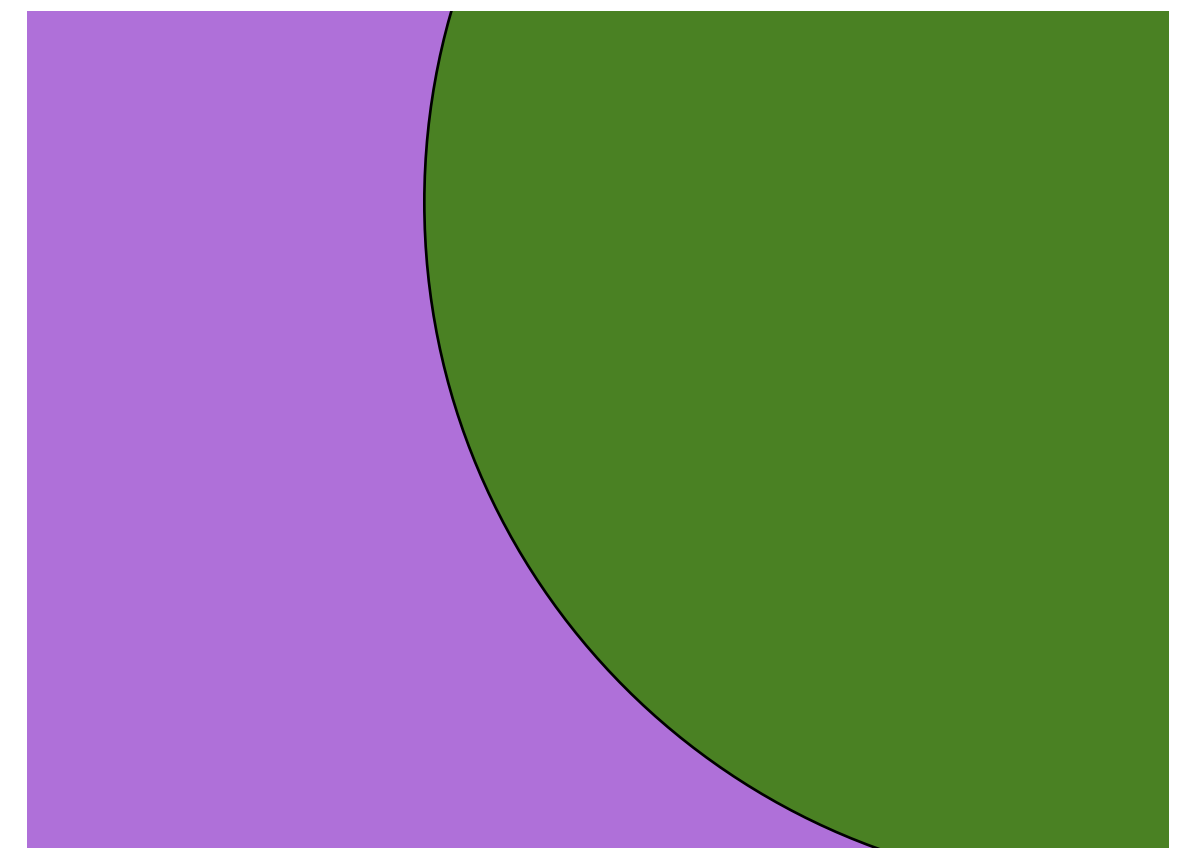
Campus Pride – Community Advocacy Campaigns for Safe Universities” is a project aimed at creating a welcoming and safe space and a climate of acceptance for LGBTQIA+ students in Romania.

*The project was carried out by the MozaiQ LGBT Association in partnership with the Pride Romania Association, Identity. Education, and Samtökin '78, and it was funded through the Active Citizens Fund - Romania program.*

Through Campus Pride, together with our partners, we have collectively learned about the realities of LGBTQIA+ students in Romanian universities through an extensive consultation process that brings together activists, students, professors, experts, and decision-makers. We have carefully examined, together, the inclusion policies in the Romanian higher education environment.

As part of the Campus Pride project, we also opened the Campus Pride Center, a space where we operate administratively and organize events.

**The space, which has since become the Pride™ Center, is still open for community meetings.**

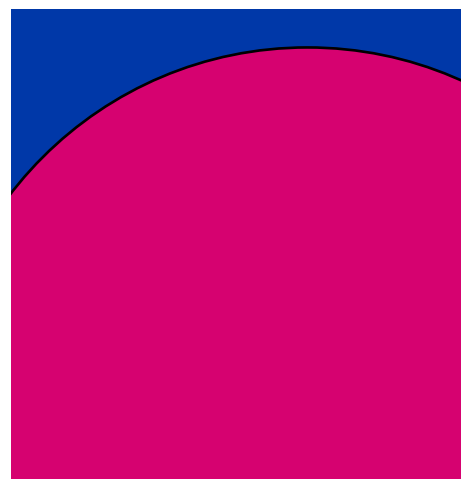


activity report

# organising for change

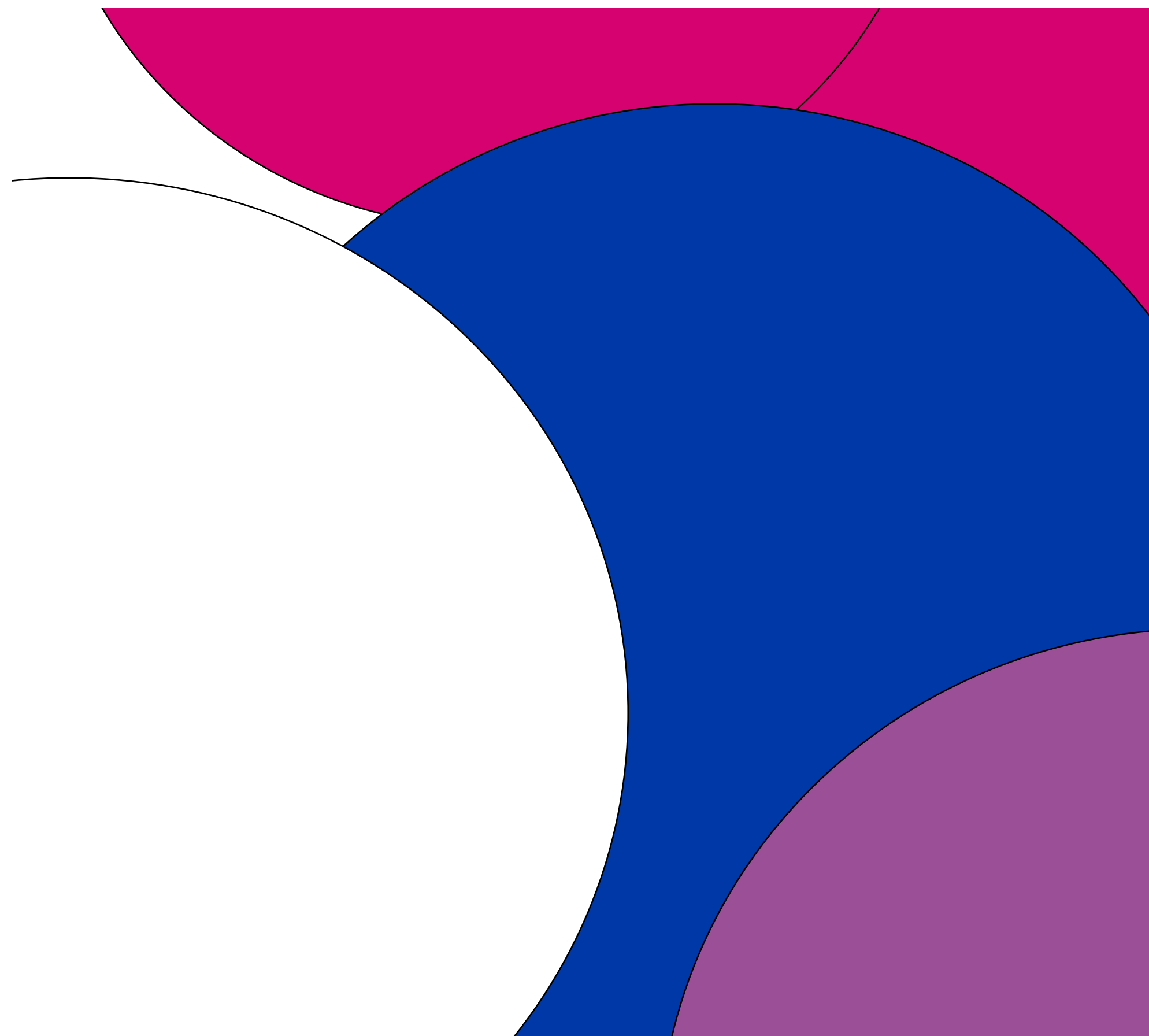
The project has renewed its commitment to combat HIV/AIDS through advocacy, mobilization, and community training, providing support for the treatment and well-being of men who have sex with men, transgender individuals, sex workers, and HIV+ individuals.

*Organizing for Change” was funded by the Elton John AIDS Foundation and implemented by the Accept Association in partnership with ECPI, Sens Pozitiv, Rise OUT, Identity.Education, and PRIDE Romania.*



We organized support groups and provided psychosocial counseling in Timișoara. Additionally, we contributed to conducting in-depth research that analyzes the challenges faced by individuals living with HIV in Romania.

**Currently, we still provide a limited number of psychosocial counseling sessions from our own resources.**



## Gender Enders

The Gender Enders training course fights against gender inequality and violence against LGBTQIA+ individuals in our societies.

Following the principles of non-formal education, participants learn while having fun using various methodologies, including theater techniques. The methods provided and their diversity give participants the opportunity to be part of the learning process, learning from the emotions experienced as a group and individually.

The project included a workshop to which we sent 2 volunteers from our organization. These individuals learned how to organize various workshops for the extended team and beyond, how to use non-formal education-based exercises, and how to address different discussion topics within the community. They also learned how to organize an Erasmus+ project of this kind, how to handle unforeseen situations, and how to impart valuable lessons to participants through group activities.

**The volunteers then organized various workshops in our local center.**

## RALYO

RALYO is an Erasmus+ project through which we contribute to increasing audio-visual literacy, raising awareness, and practicing digital storytelling in the field of youth organizations. At the same time, we explore the positive impact that this method has on young queer individuals. Furthermore, our goal is not only to facilitate the personal development of LGBTQIA+ youth but also to help create local and international communities while increasing awareness among the general population about the situation of queer youth through the sharing of their personal stories.

Within this project, there were 3 training sessions attended by 3 volunteers from our organization. Additionally, 4 workshops were organized, 3 online and one in person. The first workshop was designed for a small group of 9 individuals who shared their stories in written and audio form, which were then transformed into illustrations using AR technology, called "My Story."

Furthermore, one of the volunteers curated and organized a photo

exhibition with written stories told by queer students from Romania, titled "Studentx in Romania" The same person held a workshop for another project, the workshop being "Songwriting for change," using the knowledge gained through RALYO to create the workshop as an alternative instrument and a medium to tell our queer stories.



4.

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work

# pridetm center

Just three years after our organization was founded, in 2021, we opened the PrideTM Center. We call it a center and an office and (another) home. In 2022, we continued our activities in the center, creating a community of young individuals who come regularly.

With volunteers, and with the help of our friends at Identity. Education, we managed to arrange it, fix it up, and transform a room into a home, into a real home.

**It's our logistics center, our office, but most importantly, it's a meeting space for the LGBTQIA+ community in Timișoara. We regularly organize hangouts and workshops focused on the community's needs.**



5.

others



# workshops we've held

## Companies:

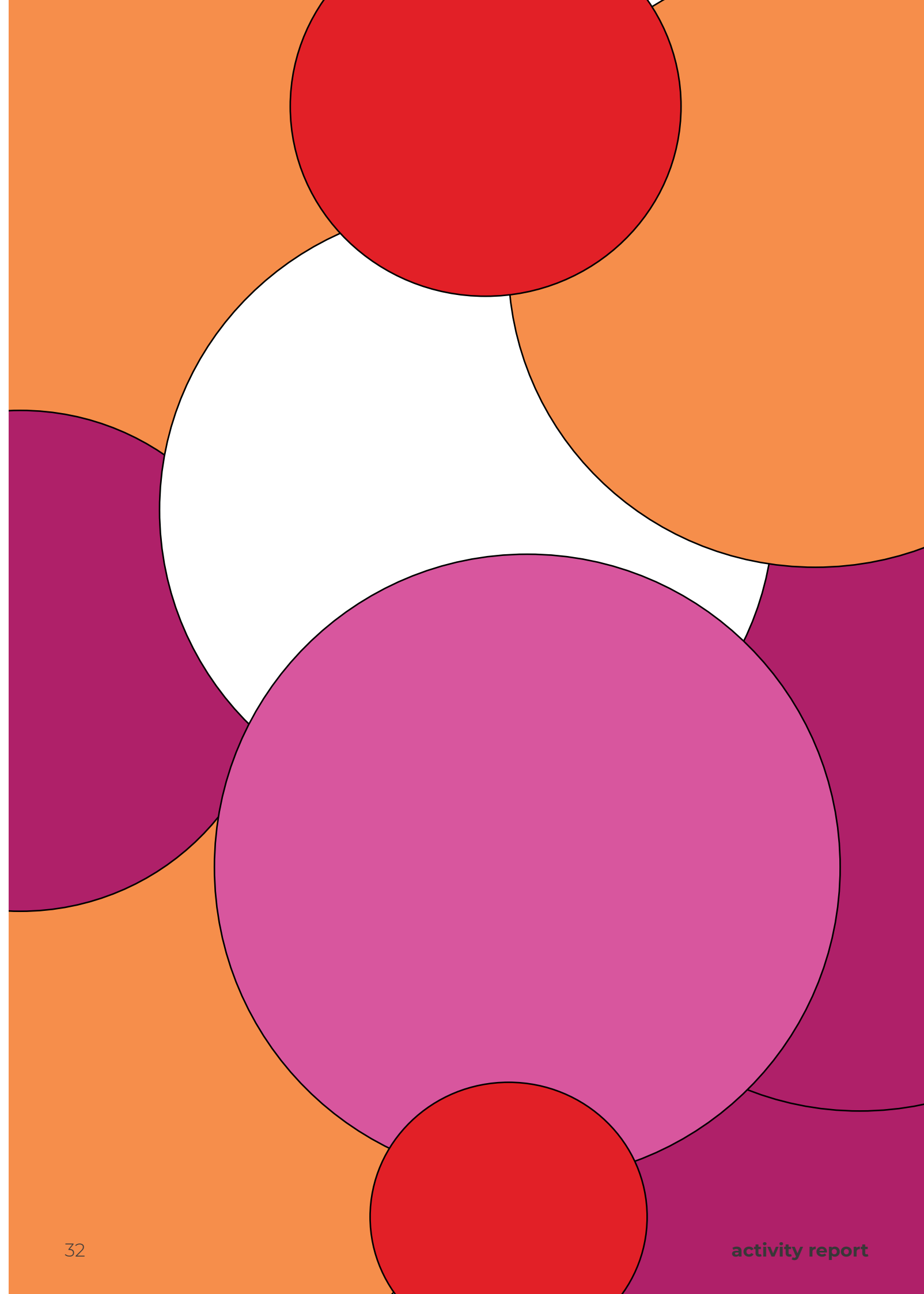
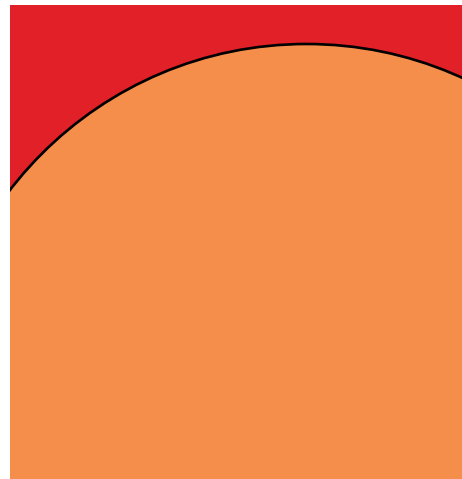
- **Steelcase** - "Gender Inclusion in the workspace"

## Mediul academic:

- **West University of Timișoara** - presentations in the courses 'Gender Sociology' and 'Sex and Gender' within the Faculty of Sociology
- **West University of Timișoara**, Faculty of Letters - 'About Neutral Language.'
- **West University of Timișoara**, Faculty of Psychology - part of the Advisory Council within the project 'Social Inclusion of LGBT Individuals: Public Attitudes and Evidence-Based Interventions to Improve their Quality of Life.'

## Non-profit:

- **SCORA - HIV/AIDS Conference** - 'Inclusive Communication: LGBT Medic-Patient Relationship'
- **Youth Summit in Rural Areas** - workshops on Discrimination and Inclusion
- **UnLoc (deinstitutionalized adults)** - customized workshop on discrimination
- **International Student Week in Timișoara** - workshop on diversity and inclusion



6. the  
team

# executive team



**Andre Rădulescu**  
Identity.Education President



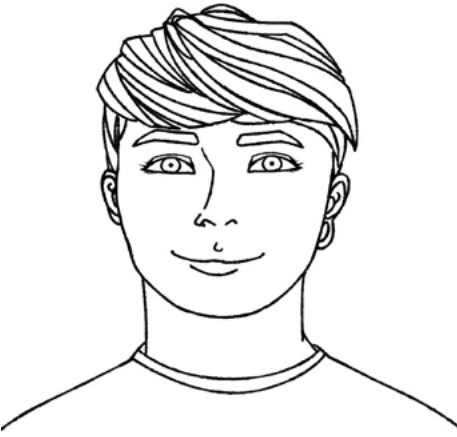
**Lexi Caraman**  
Communication Coordinator



**Iulia Răileanu**  
Project Manager



**Lia Burg**  
Community Manager



**Alex Meszaros**  
Project Manager



**Teo Hovorka**  
Campus Pride TM team



**Andrea Hermann**  
Project Manager



**Andrea Călinescu**  
Educational  
Program Coordinator



**Andreea Coman**  
Research  
Program Coordinator

# volunteers



**Sofia**



**Gabriel**



**Oana**



**Marius**



**Karina**



**Jacklin**



**Georgiana**



**Gabi**



**Diana C**



Deiu



Cora



Ciel



Ana Maria



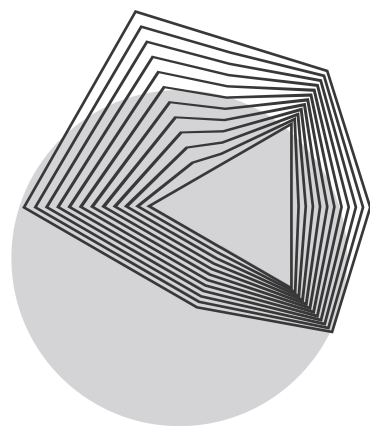
Alex



Adina



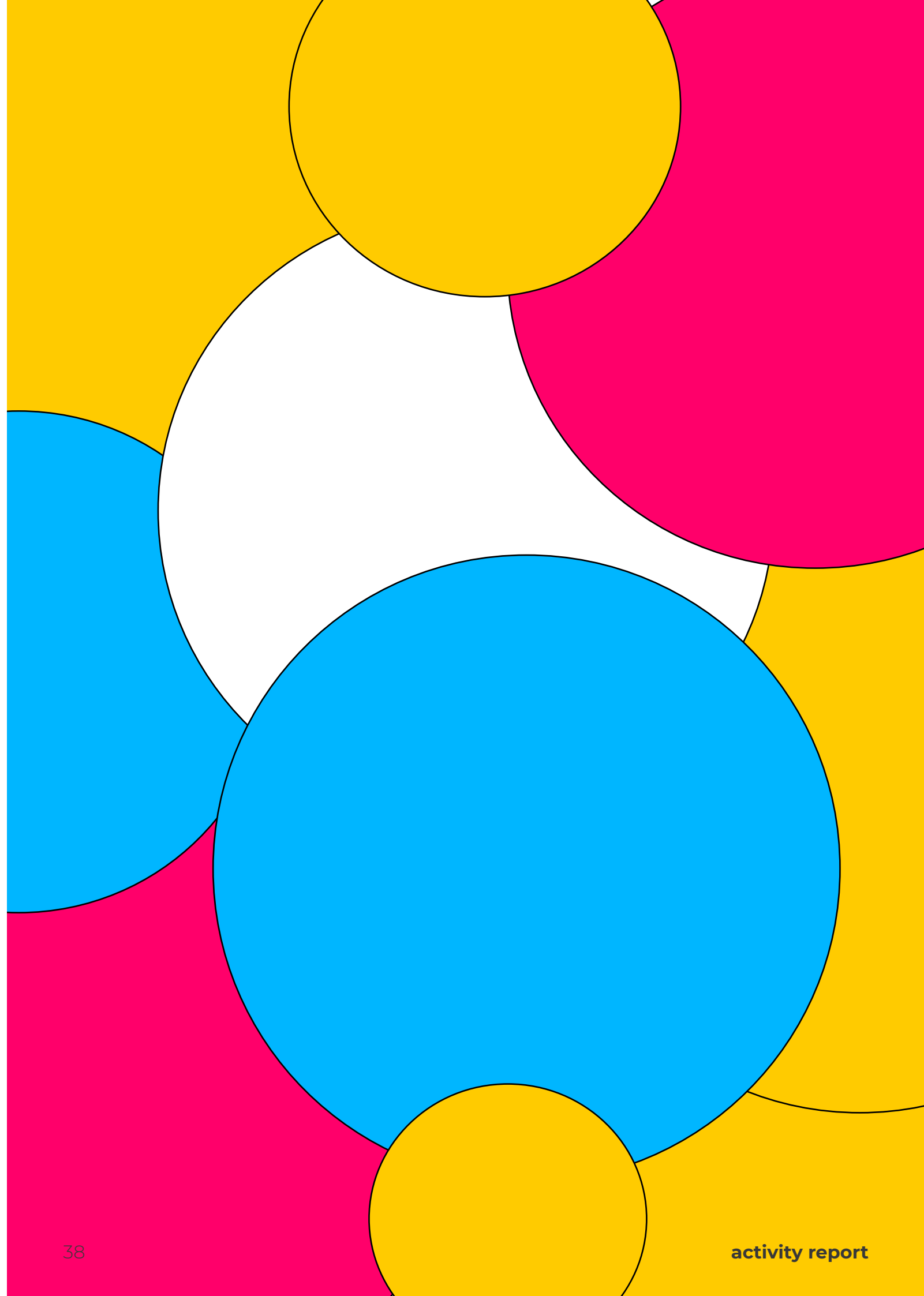
Antonio



Dima



Ovidiu



7. finan  
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## Incomes 2022

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Campus Pride  | € 24,157    |
| Safe Spaces   | € 26,431    |
| Erasmus+  | € 14,869    |
| EJAF  | € 3.745,98  |
| Center for Projects TM*                               | € 72,178.31 |
| Private funds   | € 2,000     |
| Others (direct donations, 3,5%, reenues from tickets) | € 2,665     |

*\*local funder for cultural projects.*

## Expenses 2022

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Campus Pride                               | € 18,452    |
| Safe Spaes                                 | € 30,431    |
| Erasmus+                                   | € 2,500     |
| EJAF                                       | € 3.745,98  |
| Culture and Arts Events                    | € 72,178.31 |
| Services Counseling                        | € 366.15    |
| Pride TM Center (rent, maintenance, staff) | € 10,803.36 |

8.

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**Strategical**

Asociația Accept  
Mozaiq  
Pride România  
RiseOUT  
Transcore  
Gender Talk  
HLGBTQI United  
ASPST  
SCORA  
SSMT  
Liga AC  
eQuiVox  
Asociația GoFree  
Asociația pentru Dezvoltare Activă



**Funders**

Active Citizens Fund România  
Centrul de Proiecte Timișoara  
Elton John AIDS Foundation



**Collaborators**

ambasada  
PLAI  
Indecis  
British Council Romania  
FITT  
Institutul Francez de la Timișoara  
Teatrul German de Stat Timișoara







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