



ESC in a House of Butterflies in Bordano (UD), Italy



Hosting Organization: Farfalle nella Testa

Website: <http://www.farfallenellatesta.it/>

When: March 15 2019 – November 15 2019

Who: 2 Volunteers

Where: Bordano (Udine), Italy

Who we are and what we do

Farfalle nella Testa is a cooperative society that deals with **communication of science**. It was born in 2013, bringing together various fields of professionalism (management, scientific advice, research, exhibitions, educational projects, technology, communication) with a great experience in science museums, science centres, zoos, aquariums, research groups and/or experience in the dissemination.

We wanted to have a working group with all the skills needed to create, implement and/or manage exhibitions and didactic paths with live animal and plants.



Farfalle nella Testa since 2015 has been managing the **House of Butterflies** in Bordano (UD), the biggest structure of this kind in Italy, owned by the Municipality of Bordano. The cooperative has also designed, created and managed the **Naturama Science Center in Martignacco** (UD), a model of a science museum new for Italy, located within the City Trade Fair area (Città Fiera).

The activities of Farfalle nella Testa cover many different areas, but they are focused in three specific fields.

Greenhouses and animals: The cooperative is one of few realities in Italy which specializes in the realization and management of open-air exhibitions with live animals. It deals with every aspect of the process, from the choice and supply of structures (mobile or fixed) to the design and installation of the interior (plants and animals), to the training of technical and scientific staff, to the didactic offer for children, young people and adults. It can act as a management entity or a consultant for the entire process or specific phases.

Exhibitions: It deals with the creation of temporary or permanent exhibitions on scientific themes, with particular expertise in the field of natural sciences. In this case too, it can take care of the whole process, from the initial idea to the inauguration and management, marketing and promotion, or it can be a consultant on specific aspects: exhibition concept, executive design, writing content (texts, images, videos), suppliers and partners selection, communication campaign management, design and implementation of multimedia software.

Didactics: It designs and implements didactic activities for the general public or on specific targets (children and teenagers in various school cycles, people with disabilities, elderly people). The offer mainly covers the fields of earth sciences, natural sciences, biology,

chemistry and physics. The cooperative proposes thematic demonstrations, informal talks, laboratory activities, lessons in the field, front lessons, conferences, educational and entertainment activities. It provides complete packages, specific interventions or consulting activities.

Farfalle nella Testa collaborates with several museums and many zoological gardens in Italy.

Every year at the House of Butterflies in Bordano there are about 40,000 people, 8/9,000 of whom are groups of students, a considerable percentage of them are foreigners; in fact, the exhibitions and didactic activities are realized in Italian, English and German languages and a great part of the staff speaks at least two languages. Farfalle nella Testa is also included in the local community of Bordano: every year events in collaboration with the Mountain Community and the Ecomuseum are organized and the participation in the outside events of the inhabitants of the area and especially of the youngest ones is very high.

Project Context

Bordano is a small community of around 800 inhabitants, a few kilometres to Gemona del Friuli and around half-an-hour distance to the capital city of the province Udine by car. It's also very close to the highway A23 which connects Italy to Austria passing through the borders of Tarvisio. Its possible to go to Gemona del Friuli with daily transportations, where there is a train station with connections to the entire region. **Bordano is connected to Udine with daily non-urban transportations.**



Bordano stands to 224m of altitude, right of the Tagliamento River, between the mountains Brancot at sud and San Simeone at Nord, and this creates a little open valley towards the river. Furthermore, the community has in itself Interneppo, which overlooks the Lake Cavazzo around 2 km-an-half from Bordano.



Bordano is known as the “town of the butterflies” because of the various species of Lepidoptera presence in late spring.

Around the town on the walls, there can be seen **numerous murals (231) representing diverse themes, especially butterflies** which practically became the mascot of the town.

The making of these murals started in masse in the year 1996 and reached its peak with the opening of “Casa delle Farfalle” (The Butterfly House) in 2003. Casa delle Farfalle of Bordano is the main turistic attraction of the area and the most important butterfly house in Italy. It’s visited by around 40.000 people each year and its up to the top 10 touristic attractions of Friuli Venezia Giulia. The guests, apart from the Friuli Venezia Giulia region, come from Venetian and also from near parts of Austria and Slovenia. Other tourists come from Nord Europe. During summer, around the area of the Lake Cavazzo, there are many events, festivals and activities. In the Bordano Community also exists important sports activities tied to athletics and paraglider. Around the Lake Cavazzo are done aquatic sports like windsurfing and canoe etc. Bordano, by standing in the centre of Prealps Carniche and Prealps Giulie, is also seen as an excellent starting point for trekking and cycling.



Main activities in which volunteers will be involved

The volunteers will be involved in the management of the house of butterfly and in the environmental education activities as follows:

- Support during guided tours, educational workshops and events organized especially during the summer season (hikes, theme days etc.);
- Participation in the creating, planning and realization of such events;
- Creation and realization of activities, events or workshops: after an initial phase of adaptation, the volunteers will be encouraged and supported to enrich the Butterfly House with their ideas and experiences;
- Assistance to the staff during the ordinary and extraordinary management of the Butterfly House: management and maintenance of tropical greenhouses and more in general of the museum structure;
- Help during the breeding and care of insects and other invertebrates and vertebrates;
- Assistance to the staff for the care of plants and outdoor gardening activities;
- Participation in staff meetings and specific meetings on various aspects.



The programming of these activities and work division will be deeply tied to the interests and inclinations of the volunteers in a way that each one will have space and time to express their ideas. The volunteers will be encouraged to propose, personalize and improve the activities inside the greenhouse and protocols for the animals both through personalizing daily work and through specific focus and proposals aimed at deepening specific interests.



Furthermore, they are also welcomed to enrich the public with their ideas, and experiences by proposing activities and events, by helping during the existing activities to the best of their abilities.

The volunteers will be working for a total of 35 hours per week, 5 days a week with around 6-7 hours a day. For the consecutive 2 days rest the volunteers will be put in the roster along with all the personnel, this way one weekend will be free every month while in the other weeks the rest days will be during the week. The volunteers will monthly receive the work programme and the free days they have.

Accommodation & Financial Support

The **ESC volunteers will be hosted in an apartment in Bordano**. The Butterfly House is waiting for the Communal Administration to grant an apartment with two bedrooms, a living room, bathroom and kitchen. In case this does not happen, the volunteers might have to share a double-bed bedroom.

- For the food, the volunteers can take advantage of the “chiosco” near The Butterfly House when it’s open (il chiosco also serves traditional hot dishes). The days it’s closed, the volunteers can shop, using the economic support that will be given to them monthly with the pocket money and cook in the apartment they will be living.
- Every volunteer will be given **monthly a pocket money of 5 euros a day**.
- For the **transportation**, should the volunteers request, The Butterfly House can give them a bicycle for the duration of their ESC.
- The **travel expenses** will be refunded on the basis defined by the European Commission.

How to apply

Send the **CV and the application form** to candidature.sve@associazionejoint.org with the subject line “Application for Farfalle nella Testa” **as soon as possible**. Only shortlisted people will be contacted to arrange a Skype interview.

Thank you, everybody, for your interest and time and... GOOD LUCK!

