

EducationUSA Newsletter 10/2023 -- Special Edition

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Our ETAs say farewell

It seems like just yesterday our ETAs — Ella, Michael, and Amethyst — arrived to Hungary. Throughout their time here, they have worked with over 6,000 students, taught over 10 university courses, and delivered countless presentations in each of Hungary's major cities.

Each year the time seems to move even quicker, and this year is no exception. We had the largest number of ETAs we've ever hosted, and the work that they have done throughout their grant period is a testament to their impact.

So, we wanted to make sure that we gave them an opportunity to sign off themselves...



Wow! It feels like weeks ago I had arrived to Budapest with too many suitcases and trepidation swirling in my get. Now, replacing the trepidation are bittersweet thoughts about returning to the US and leaving this place I have called home for nine months. From learning how to make teaching curriculum to traveling to every major city in Hungary to tutoring brilliant Hungarian students — Fulbright has been immensely fulfilling. I've fallen in love with the pace of life here in Budapest, and the people here have shown me endless kindness. It's been an awesome year. Thank you to Annamária and the rest of the Fulbright

commission for making this year possible for me. I'm forever grateful that I had the opportunity to be the 'third eta' this year.

All the best,

Ella



During my time living in Veszprém, I learned very much about others and about myself. I met all sorts of people, including Hungarians and other foreigners from around the world, who exposed me to new ways of living and thinking. I developed myself not only as a teacher and as a cultural ambassador, but also as a person navigating a wide and often confusing world. I have only gratitude for the connections I built and the experiences I underwent in Veszprém. I will carry them with me wherever I find myself next.

-Michael



It is truly wild how quickly these past nine months have flown by. When my husband and I moved here in the fall, we didn't have any idea of the adventures that laid ahead. During my time as an ETA in Hungary, I have been able to work with first year students at Pázmány, present at high schools in Hungary's biggest cities, work with students in smaller villages, dream up a brand new Competitive College Club, and create programming for the EducationUSA advising center. (I also broke my hand and had *two* surgeries during my time here... oops!)

I have been so grateful for Nelly, Annamária, and the rest of the Fulbright Commission and American Corners staff for their constant support. I leave my time in Hungary confident that the relationships I formed will last a lifetime and the work that I have done will have a long term impact. I know that the new ETAs will do an *amazing* job and I am excited to see what their unique contributions bring to the students we serve.

Now, this is your newsletter curator officially signing off!

Have a great summer.

Warmly,

Amethyst









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