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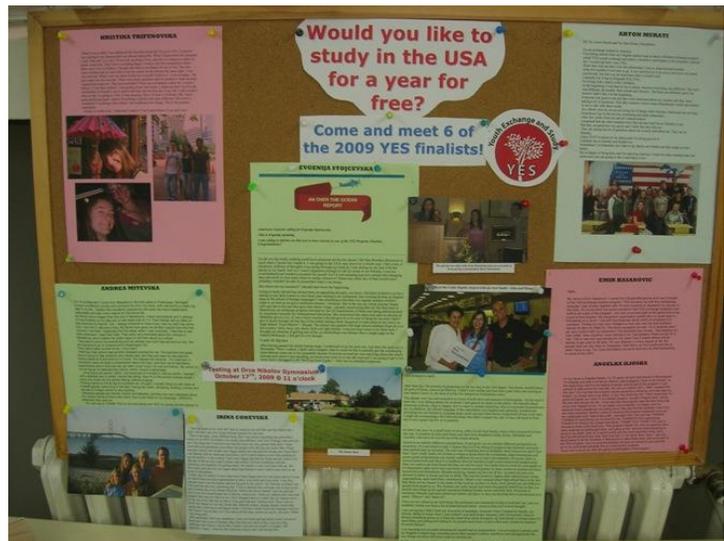
Youth Exchange and Study Program: YES
With Velika Angelkova, American Council's HUB Coordinator
October 1st, 2009

"Besides studying, classes can be a lot of fun - at some you are even allowed to listen to music and eat or drink. The real fun however, begins after school hours: clubs, organizations, sport activities, volunteerism. What's very unusual about high school here is the fact that there are no classes in the sense of the word as we know it, here, every period you see different people from grade 9-12. The clothes are really casual since the general belief here is that you should only dress up for special occasions. Making friends comes naturally here. Everyone is extremely friendly and extroverted and before you know it, they are learning how to pronounce your name, "Zdravo" and "Kako si?"

Here you are valued as an individual, the professors are constantly trying to motivate you and you suddenly realize you have a lot of potential and talent - more so than you've ever thought before."

- Evgenija Stojcevska, 2009-2010 YES Finalist

This is the excerpt from the essay Evgenija Stojcevska wrote for the American Corner, along with other six 2009-2010 finalists of the American Council's YES program. Their essays were read by the 73 attendees who came to the American Corner Skopje to find out what this program is about and meet with the coordinator of the program – Velika Angelkova. After having explained what the selection process is like and what the finalists can expect upon their arrival in the US, Velika opened the Q&A section of her presentation. The parents were those whose questions needed to be answered the most and they stayed long after the presentation was over to talk to Velika in person. The students read the display of success stories written by the 2009-2010 finalists we had displayed at the corner, also available at the American Corner Skopje Facebook fan page.



We all hope that the turnout this year will be even better than last year and that many students will grab this life-changing opportunity and say YES to the program!

