

Dutch kids make & sell their art for the kids of Casa do Caminho

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I, Bart the new manager of Casa do Caminho come from Beek a small town in the south of the Netherlands. Dany Pirson and Nico Verwer, two popular characters of this town gave me a few hundred dollars a few years ago to organize something nice for the children of Casa do Caminho. With this money Tom and me organized a Dutch Party for the children and brought home pictures. Dany & Nico promised me to organize a large event in Beek for Casa do Caminho in case I would be doing the same work 4 years later.

Now 4 years later I am managing Casa do Caminho so Dany and Nico kept their promise. They decided to organize "The Year Casa do Caminho" with the objective to connect the children of Beek with the children of Casa do Caminho: An exchange of cultures, an eye opener for children.

The first big activity ended last Saturday in the theatre building of Beek. Involved were: 6 schools, 8 artists and over 50 volunteers to make this event a fantastic happening. First there were presentations in the classrooms where children were informed about the children's life at Casa do Caminho. Then there was a monthly leaflet for all children where the differences between the Casa do Caminho children and Brazilian children was underlined. Followed by artists in the class rooms making art with the children. Children had to demonstrate the connection between the Netherlands and Brazil or fantasize about the Brazilian life style.

Many beautiful paintings and sculptures were produced. Last Saturday the end of this first big event was celebrated in the local theatre with over 500 visitors. A spectacular event with music, dance, film and acts were performed by children and local artists to expose the objectives of the project. Next, there was a large auction where the best art works were sold. The auction raised 4000 euros for Casa do Caminho.