

Somewhere in the beginning of June it was finally possible to organize public events, so the previously canceled notebook workshop from March was realized. Ania and I were working in Aparaaditehas with the Tartu2024 team, and it was a good start to the upcoming season of various events.



During the month of July, in the central part of Tartu was held a big event - **Autovabaduse puiestee (Car-Free Avenue)** for entertaining purposes, gathering different generations of people and bonding them in a thoughtful manner. In the open and safe area there were food trucks, swings and comfortable places to sit and relax. I noticed how children were mostly playing around the water area. I was a bit jealous of having that freedom to simply take the shoes off whenever, soak the feet in water and play. Additionally, there were different kinds of interesting activities curated by various centers, museums, youth centers etc.

Main organizer of the event was Tartu 2024 Foundation, so ESC volunteers were all involved and were helping their core centers. I was assisting my supervisor Aili on the Nature House stand and I instructed a notebook workshop with TYPA volunteer. Yet, the best task was to help Kati from the Tartu2024 team to hide the clues for the giveaway game, prepared for the opening day. We were going along the street, trying to find cool places to hide the numbers. It was a tricky thing! I hid some of them very well, I still wonder if people manage to find them at the end.



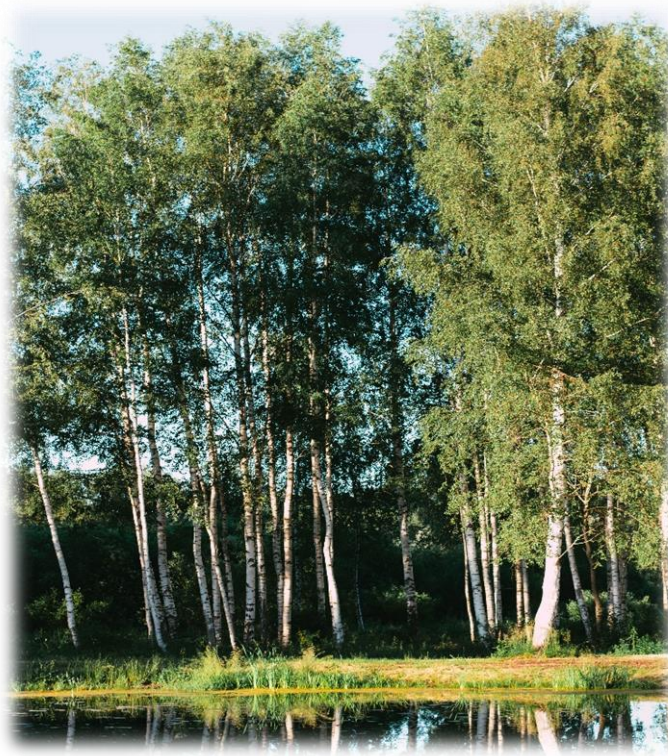
Moreover, ESC volunteers presented their collaboration project for the first time to the public audience. We are creating an alternative city map - **Tartu Made Out of Memories**. We were gathering peoples stories and their personal favorite places in Tartu, in order to provide a different approach to the city life of Tartu.

Look, I feel like Tartu has some magical wonders and an unique charm. In my free time I love to rent a bike, ride around the city and discover its quartiers. Each house is different from other, like they have their own personality and energy. I love to imagine stories of its habitants. It is very interesting how people place different plants, books and decorations on their windows. I see those artifacts as small personal statements. Then there is amazing street art, cool stickers, gardens... I have a very peculiar eye for details.



Ah yes, and the forest is quite close, Emajõgi river next to it, so what is more to ask for? I never liked public concrete places crowded with people and my eye doctor told me that the best way to rest eyes is to look at greenery. Our eyes are at the peak of their perception to detect the wavelengths corresponding with the color green. With less strain to perceive the colors, our nervous system can relax. Also, another bliss is how whenever I am strolling down the city, there is a high chance to meet a friendly face and share some

laughs, without having a feel like I am cornered in a small town where everyone knows each other.



Next, I would like to introduce a new member of the ESC volunteer group - **William Lagache**. He is coming from France, which is so convenient for me, since I always seek an opportunity to practice my french language. He will be working mainly in Tartu 2024, but of course, he will be there for all the other centers. He already proved himself during Autovabaduse puistee festival.

The highlight of summer 2020 is for sure sailing trip. Thanks to Gedy and her initiative, we (her hiking class from Nature House and I) were provided with the opportunity to go on a sailing trip across the Finnish Archipelago. That was a true adventure and an experience for life I never imagined I would ever have.

For the first whole night we were sailing across the open Baltic sea. It was cold, windy, rainy and I got an awful sea sickness. I threw up to that point where I was simply disgusted with myself. I remember looking at the sky and huge moon; everything felt a bit surreal. I was not afraid, I wanted for the ugly sensations to stop. Oh, and I was also thankful to the Universe that none of my friends agreed to come; I would not want

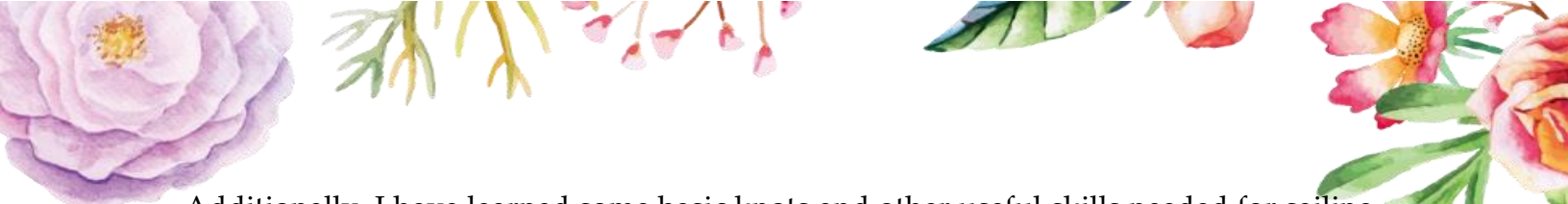
anyone to see me in this kind of situation. I was ashamed of myself.

On the other hand, the scenery of Finnish islands is mesmerizing. My words cannot describe the beauty of nature, the smells, and the whole energy of those hidden places.




My favorite writer was right – **All futures have one advantage, they never look how you imagine them.** Each night, I was with my camera, taking photographs of the sunsets, thinking to myself „How on Earth have I ended up here? I do not even know where am I, but how truly lucky I am to be here.“ This was the moment when I wished that some of my friends were with me and to see those magical wonders of raw nature.





Additionally, I have learned some basic knots and other useful skills needed for sailing. If I ever get into a similar situation, I would know what to do and how to behave. Also, as in a true sailing trip, I have found a treasure - book in English about Turkish cultural heritage sites. I think there are some clues for where to go next in life. You can see more of my photos [here](#).



“ 'One day,' you said, 'I watched the sunset forty-three times!'
And a little later you added:
'You know, when one is that sad, one can get to love the sunset.'
'Were you that sad, then, on the day of the forty-three sunset?'
But the little prince made no reply.”

