

Mu.SA Specialization Training helps museum professionals enhance their skills and competences in a real working environment



Emmanouil Smpokos

I have been working for the past nine years at the Historical Museum of Crete as a security guard. Protection of artifacts, organization of events and setup of exhibitions are some of my daily responsibilities in the museum.

The MU.SA project provided me with useful tools so as to gain knowledge to become a competitive **Digital Interactive Experience Developer** in my museum.

The practical experience alongside with the advanced knowledge of the program, helped me to create a complete professional profile. I had the unique opportunity to use my Mu.SA experience in a real working environment.



Chrysafo Tsonou

I work at the Nautical and Historical Museum of Galaxidi. I am in the secretariat (recording objects, electronic documentation of the objects, for the organization of events and educational programs, organizing exhibitions, attending conferences and events, communication with museums and organizations, on guided tours).

The Mu.SA training project is an appropriate programme that improved my essential skills in the digital world in relation to the museum where I work.

This training course gave me the opportunity to develop a useful work project for the place where I work, in a satisfactory level. As a **Digital Collections Curator**, I learned to use digital innovative practices which help me to work in a more methodical way and achieve the best possible results quickly and easily, especially cataloging, doing digital documentation based on international standards.



Eleni Vasilaki

I am collaborating with the Acharavi Folklore Museum which is settled in Acharavi village in the north part of Corfu Island, Greece. It is a small private museum with a variety of exhibits (more than 4000) that represent every aspect of locals' life, dated two to three centuries ago. As the only employee, I worked as the person in charge for every task and every activity. My main roles were Curator, Content Creator Manager & Digital Strategy Manager.

I am very thankful for the opportunity to be part of the Mu.SA project as it helped me gain new skills as a professional in the cultural sector. I was educated in so many different areas from professionals all over the Europe, who shattered their expertise to us (learners). The modules uploaded

on the MOOC platform of the project covered every aspect & every task that a museum professional may need to address, specifically, business administration, digital skills, service management, sustainable development, mentoring, security protection, entrepreneurship, negotiation skills, risk management and much more. I have to underline that the specialization course and the Work-Based-Learning was a unique experience for me. A unique opportunity to learn and be able to implement this new knowledge in the most creative and informative combination! I strongly believe that my responsibilities as a museum employee were related to the theories that I have learned during the Mu.SA specialization course and that my working performance has greatly improved thanks to the project.

During my WBL as a **Digital Strategy Manager** I managed to:

- Design educational museum programs for ages 6-12 years old
- Make all the requirements to list my museum as a Cultural Institution in the archive of the Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports
- Make two scientific publications about the museum's activities in respectful publications in cultural and educational field
- Establish contact between the museum and a national university with a Museum Studies Department
- Increase the digital followers of the museum about 275% and have excellent reviews
- Increase visitors around 300% and as a result increase the museum's income
- Make the prototype of an augmented reality application that could allow visitors a free, self-guided, self-paced tour in the main exhibition
- Establish contact with artists and other institutions to collaborate in a new project to celebrate the European Heritage Days 2020

I am so happy that Mu.SA project enabled me to be so creative and learn how to combine those elements that make a museum successful. Thanks to the project my little museum in providence of Greece has now many ongoing projects and collaborations which are more that we could wish for!



Maria Dimou

My practical training took part in the Centre for the Study of Modern Pottery in Athens, Greece. I wasn't an employee of the Museum prior to the Work Based Learning. Being a **Digital Collections Curator**, my task was to digitize the images of the objects in the collection.

I didn't know what to expect from the Mu.SA training project, but I was surprised by the variety of the courses and the many different fields they covered. I gained knowledge and developed new skills and competences, which are useful for any future work environment.

I'm not currently working in any museum, but I believe that with my new skills I can have a better chance when applying for a job in the cultural sector.