

[View this email in your browser](#)



EA News

Essaim d'Accueil

01.05.2018

Here is the third newsletter of Essaim d'Accueil! It is available in French and English, thanks to the translation made by Michael! If you wish to receive the newsletter only in one language or if you want to unsubscribe, send us an email.

Voici la troisième newsletter d'Essaim d'Accueil! Elle est disponible en français et en anglais, grâce à la traduction de Michael! Si vous souhaitez recevoir uniquement la newsletter dans une des deux langues ou si vous souhaitez ne pas la recevoir, merci de nous écrire un email.

Bonne lecture!

Prix Jeunesse 2018

Essaim d'Accueil was nominated alongside 9 other initiatives in the category "Une jeunesse qui s'engage" of the Prix de Jeunesse. Two initiatives will be awarded, one by a jury and one by a public vote online, so to win this thing we will need your support! [Follow this link](#) and vote for us until the 13th of May. The award [ceremony](#), to which you are all cordially invited, will take place on the 16th of Mai. The informal part of the evening will be

an aperitif followed by the musical comedy “Meurtres et Marinières”, presented by the association of musical comedy of the university of Geneva

Vote for us online and share this link with your friends on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and send an E-Mail to your grand parents 😊 Thank you very much for your support!

Looking back on the past months

Essaim d’Accueil's first anniversary !

In February, Essaim d’Accueil celebrated it’s first anniversary! One year ago, we officially founded this association, and for many, this anniversary was a very emotional moment, for it showed that our work has already borne fruit and that we are taking the right path towards a more open minded and connected society. To celebrate this occasion, we organized a party for all friends and members of the association. If you would like to have a memory of the evening or have a look at how Essaim d’Accueil parties look like, check out this [video](#) created by our friend Osamah.





Anniversaire d'Essaim d'Accueil - par Osamah Shakir

Workshop on Asylum and Horizontality

In collaboration with the working group “Migration” of Amnesty International UNIGE, we organized an open workshop with two parts: first, on the 5th of March, Martina Ambruso held a presentation on the asylum procedures in Switzerland, followed by an open discussion. In the second part, on March 19th we held a workshop on horizontality, where we defined in smaller groups the meaning of horizontality. We discussed its importance in the context of the accommodation and integration of refugees and thought about its concrete applicability.

We are going to organize these workshops on a regular basis for our members and everybody else interested in these topics. We will keep you posted on future workshops and you're welcome to follow our Facebook page for further information about this and other activities!



Film screening - Bakhti

Our friend and member Bakhti produced a short film in collaboration with the IRIS project (“Intégration: récits en images”= “Integration: tales in images”). It was shown several times at the FIFDH (Festival du film et forum international sur les droits de humains). This magnificent initiative gives the floor –and the camera –to the residents of the refugee centres here in Geneva. The short film will be shown again at Uni Mail, on the 3rd of May. Here is the link to the [event](#).

General Assembly

On April 18th, we held our periodical general assembly. Members of the committee and other members of the association in general got together to adopt amendments to our [statutes](#). We also elected two new members to the committee and shared and exchanged remarks, open questions, ideas and propositions.



Presentation of Essaim d'Accueil to the residents of Gavard

Currently, Essaim d'Accueil is active in two refugee centres (Malagnou and Frank Thomas), and soon there will be a third one: the centre of Gavard. On the 26th of April, we introduced ourselves and the association to the residents of Gavard. At this occasion to make new connections and ask people about their preferences and ideas for future activities. Ahead lays the start of a new adventure for Essaim d'Accueil!



Plaine de Jeunes

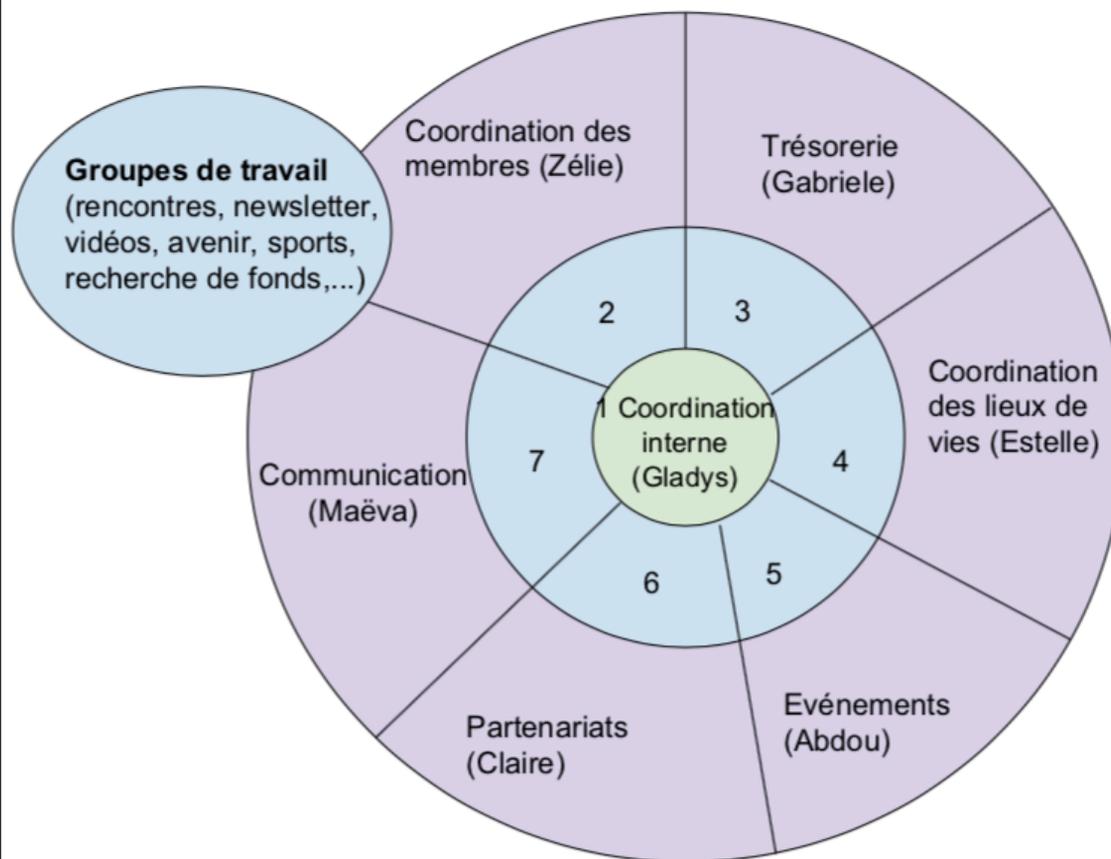
Essaim d'Accueil was with the GLAJ-GE on Sunday 29th of April in Plainpalais, for the "Plaine de Jeunes" fair. We had the chance to present Essaim d'Accueil to wonderful people and to meet other associations working for the youth!



Stand à la Plaine de Jeunes - Plainpalais

The Committee

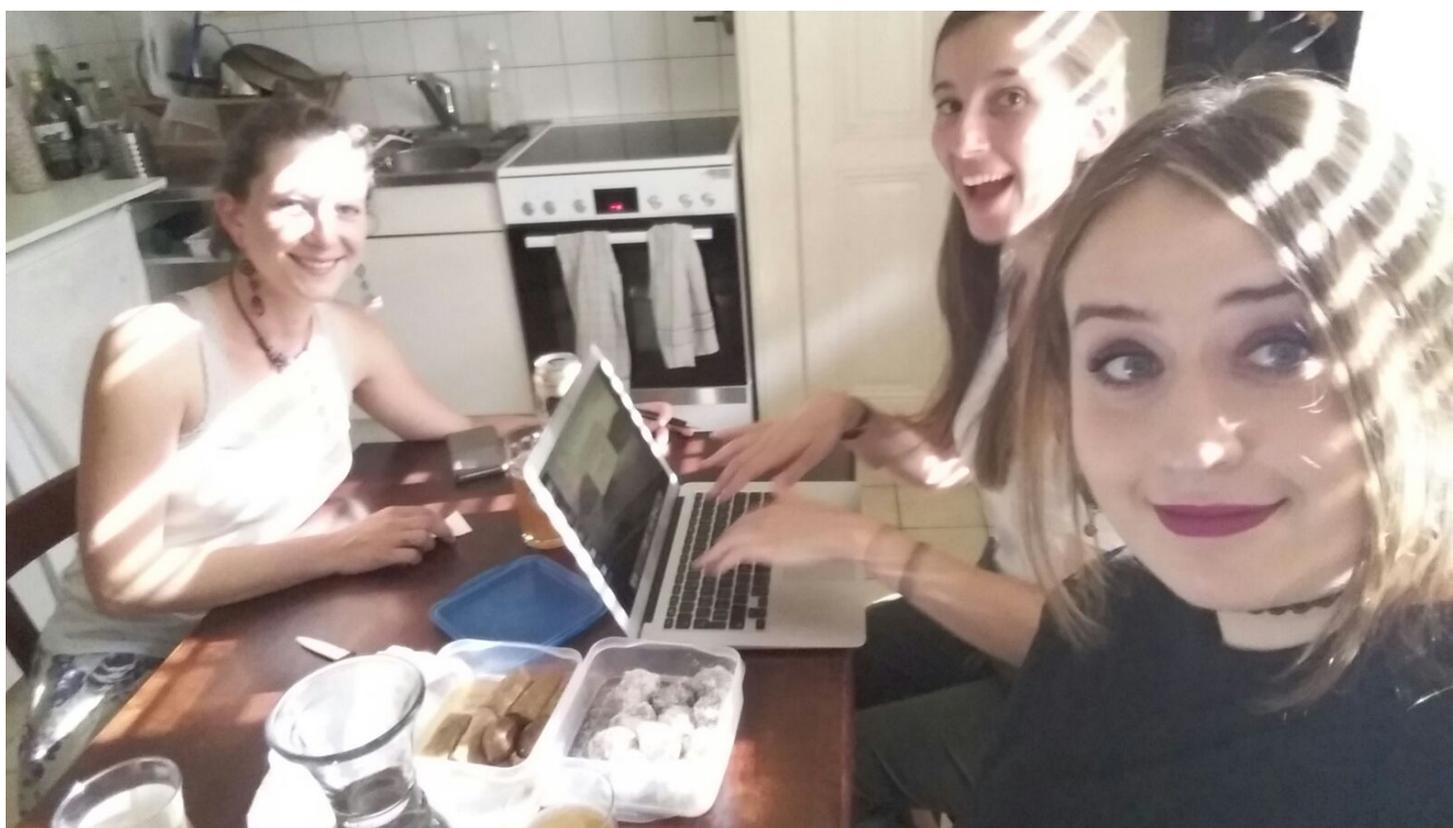
Eight young people created Essaim d'Accueil in 2016. The Committee is the administrative and logistical organ of the association. When the Committee needs a new member, the General Assembly elects one person amongst all the members of the association. Each member is in charge of an "area" and its task are defined beforehand. The Committee is non-hierarchical: our motto is horizontality. The Committee meets once a week. There are also working groups (groupes de travail), composed of diverse members, who work on specific projects, such as the creation of a new website, or fundraising.



Changes in the Committee

Goodbye dear Ajla and Raya!

Ajla and Raya both left the executive committee in order to pursue new professional projects. Both co-founders, they've had an absolutely priceless influence and impact on the association for more than a year. They've invested time, hard work and dedication to create and develop our project. Luckily though, they will remain members of the association and continue to participate in our activities. We're looking forward to accommodate them in the future and continue to share laughs and experiences.



Ajla (on the right):

"I was asked to write a few sentences about Essaim d'Accueil...It's hard to summarize so briefly an adventure that had an impact on the last two years of my life. Armed with nothing but a beautiful idea, as young graduate and undergraduate students, we embarked into a project bigger than ourselves. Back then, we didn't understand much of how the entire system works, our first steps were rather clumsy and we've learned a lot in the meantime. But in spite of our lack of experience, I doubt that we've ever been naive. If this was the case for one of us every once in a while, the others were always there to bring him/her back on track and back to reason.

Then, the social meet ups started. Amazing people on both sides. I suppose it's this kind of experience that attracts a certain type of people: Open minded, always with a glimpse of a smile in their eyes, rich in experiences and stories to tell that will widen your horizon. The formula was quite simple: just organize the social get-togethers. Of course, these are sometimes a little bumbling at first, but it is remarkable how fast the prejudices collapse once you engage with the other, once you see the differences –because there are differences –but you try to see the world through the eyes of your counterpart and try to understand (even though our own experiences, views and knowledge often complicate this task). I think I can say that my work helped to smash certain prejudices: the ones that others might have about my identity as well as the ones I've had myself, sometimes even without being aware of them."

**Raya:**

"My time in the executive committee of Essaim d'Accueil passed very quickly. Maybe too quickly, should I have stayed? That's a question I sometimes find myself wondering about before I hurriedly remember how beautiful and rewarding it is to see something that you've co-created flourishing thanks to the motivation and (yes, I'd go as far as to say) love that the next executive generation gives to what used to be an idea. I'm proud of what we've created and endlessly thankful for the friendships that will accompany me forever. So maybe my time in Essaim d'Accueil isn't up after all?"

New members

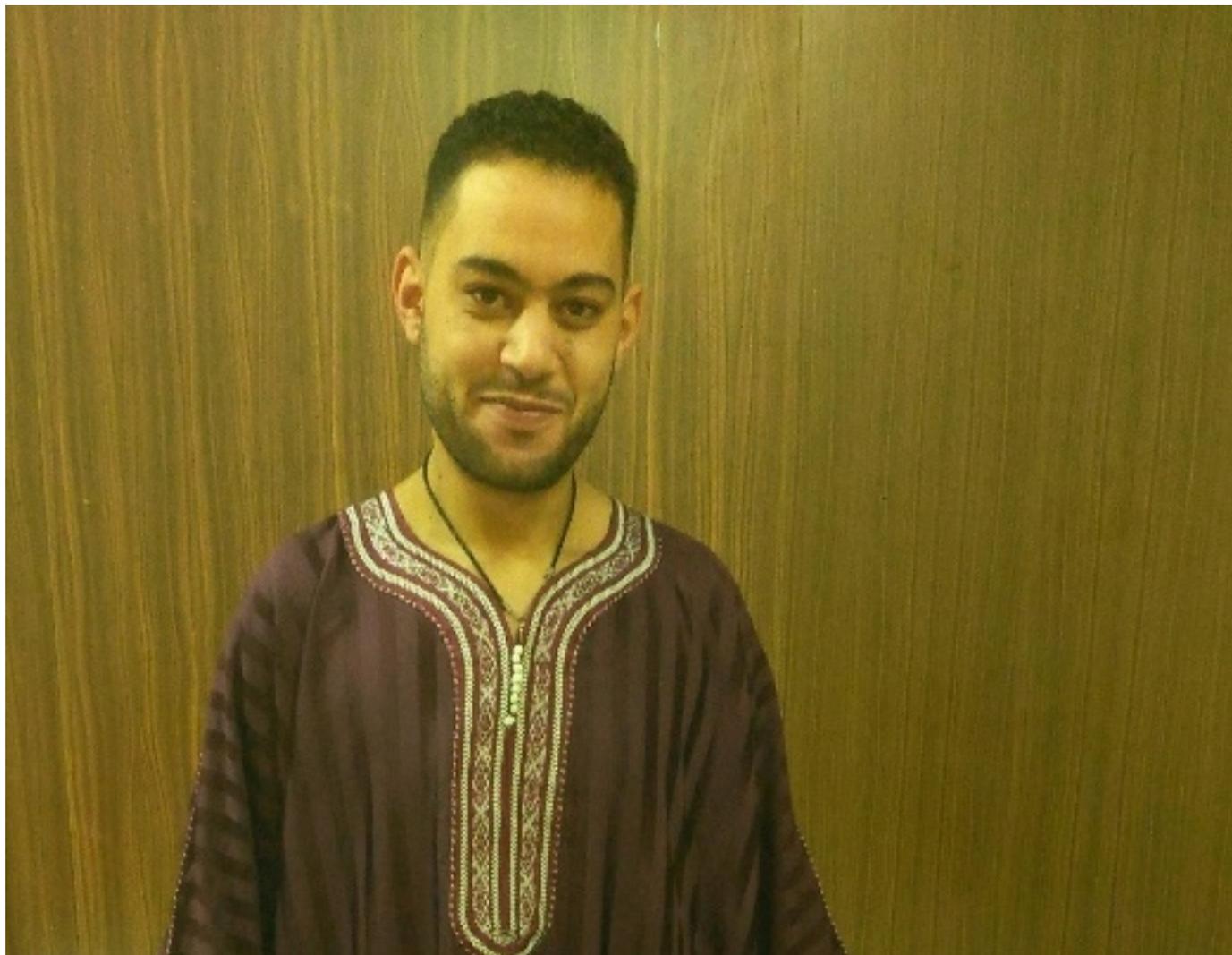
Abdou and Estelle were elected as new members to the committee. Abdou is going to be

in charge of the branch “Events” and Estelle will take over “Coordination with the centres”. We welcome both of them as new members of the committee and are looking forward to work with them!



Welcome Estelle!

Estelle, a student, replaced Raya in the Committee. She takes over the management of the area of the coordination with the accommodation facilities for asylum seekers. She joined the Committee officially in April 2018 but has been helping us for several weeks now. She has many ideas for the association and is fully motivated to manage the working group organising the informal meetings.



Welcome Abdou!

Abdou replaced Ajla in the Committee. He is in charge of the organization of the various

events. He was elected in April 2018 by the General Assembly, together with Estelle. He has been helping Essaim d'Accueil since its beginnings. He is ready to organise incredible events and parties!

Become a member of our association



We are constantly looking for new members! As a member of the association, you can organize get-togethers yourself, participate in our events, be informed about our activities at all times and participate in workshops on the swiss asylum system and horizontality. We are also at all times looking for support in logistics, organisation, fund raising, communication and so on...

Follow [this link to subscribe online](#)

We are looking forward to meeting you and welcome you to the big Essaim d'Accueil's family !

Upcoming events and activities

Events with “Interactions”

Every second Thursday, we organize, together with Interactions, an evening of dancing classes, workshops and get-togethers. So far, we've had Salsa, a percussion workshop and a Nia workshop on the program. These workshops are always followed by a shared aperitif to get to know each other and catch a breath after the activities.

10-km run

On the occasion of the Harmony Marathon in Geneva, there will be a small group of runners representing Essaim d'Accueil in the 10km race. They currently exercise every weekend in order to be ready for the race, which will take place in less than one week!

Picnic on the 6th of Mai

Sunday, the 6th of Mai we will organize a **big picnic** in the Bastions park at 4pm. Sharing is caring, so bring some drinks, snacks or self-made dish with you so we have a nice big buffet to enjoy. We will also provide some games to play outside. Of course, everybody is more than welcome to join us, whether you are already part of Essaim d'Accueil or you're just curious and want to have a look at how these get-togethers work. We're looking forward to meeting all of you and hope that the sun will play in our favour!



Copyright © 2017 Essaim d'Accueil

Our mailing address is:

comite.essaimdaccueil@gmail.com

Want to change how you receive these emails?
Send us an email to unsubscribe

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Essaim d'Accueil · Chemin de la Brotte 2 · Etoy 1163 · Switzerland

The MailChimp logo, featuring the word "MailChimp" in a white, cursive script font, set against a dark grey rounded rectangular background.