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*Lively presentation of MIMO workshops during MIMO in Action! seminar.  
(Photo by: Tatu Gustafsson)*

**The online version of the 1<sup>st</sup>  
MIMO Publication  
*Moving In! Art-Based Approaches to  
Work with the Youth***

**can be downloaded for free from:  
<http://julkaisut.turkuamk.fi/isbn9789522162267.pdf>**

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### MIMO IN SHORT

MIMO is a three-year research and development project with EU funding from the Central Baltic – program (Central Baltic INTERREG IV A 2007–2013). The project develops multi-professional teamwork models and art based methods for the use of social and youth work by carrying out various workshops for the target group of 13–17 year olds.

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## First MIMO Publication out

The first MIMO publication *Moving In! Art-Based Approaches to Work with the Youth* was released in the MIMO seminar in March. The article collection – which is the first one in the series of several publications of the MIMO project – was also handed out to all seminar participants.

The idea of the publication is to introduce viewpoints from the different fields of MIMO. It gives an overview on youth as a phase of development and introduces what has earlier been done in Finnish youth work. It also offers some first insights to art-based methods that can be used with the youth and a taster to further discussion on multiprofessional teamwork. The publication also contains key concepts defined by the writers.

*Moving In! Art-Based Approaches to Work with the Youth* is targeted both at professionals and future professionals who work with youth or are interested in working with them. The writers of the publication are professionals with long experience from different fields of studies (art, social services, youth work and health care). Many of them are MIMO staff and some are external experts related to MIMO.

In the printed publication, all eight articles and key concepts are in English, whereas in the online version some of the articles and key concepts are available also in Finnish. The online version can be downloaded for free from <http://julkaisut.turkuamk.fi/isbn9789522162267.pdf>.

Written by: Anna Tonteri  
Editor of the publication  
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## MIMO seminar in Turku – Participation in Theory and Practice

The second MIMO seminar offered an interesting experience for a large audience representing various professional backgrounds. This one-day seminar included both guest lectures and workshops, as well concrete examples on MIMO activities in the “Circuit” session.

In her opening words, R&D Manager Liisa-Maria Lilja-Viherlampi mentioned that in MIMO, the theoretical aspects and concrete actions are put together in an innovative way. *“In developing a project like MIMO the results are not only seen in the end, but also during the process along with all kinds of activities.”*

Possibilities in our hands – Jaana Vasama reminded us of the meaning of personal aims: *“Everyone of us has all the possibilities in our hands.”* Creativity needs room for experimenting and openness to grow, as well opportunities to fail safely. Based on her wide experience covering various tasks on the cultural field both in Finland and Estonia, she highlights the essential part of traditions as a base of identity. She also reminds us of the reality in these countries: *“Are young people safe and welcome in the society where they live in?”*



*Working with potatoes in a workshop was creative and fun! (Photo by: Tatu Gustafsson)*



*MIMO in Action seminar was a success with nearly 200 participants.  
(Photo by: Tatu Gustafsson)*

Participation, voice and agency – Researcher Tomi Kiilakoski challenged the participants to think about their own attitudes and ideas concerning the rights of young people. He reminded us of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as the basis for the participation, provision and protection of children and youth. *“Young people should have voice and agency. The young should have an active role in creating better conditions for themselves”*, says Kiilakoski.

In eight different workshops, the audience had an opportunity to participate in various activities: Creative potatoes, Street dance and Digital storytelling. The Estonian partners also arranged some of the workshops. The feedback was very positive, and this part of the seminar was seen both useful and fun.

Written by:  
Sari Vanhanen  
Responsible organiser of the seminar  
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## Moving In, Moving On! at Tarvastu Secondary School

We started our MIMO adventure at Tarvastu Secondary School in September 2011. Our multiprofessional team of nine students (all from UT Viljandi Culture Academy) involves leisure time managers, light designers, a multimedia specialist, actors and a dance pedagogue. The youth group we are working with consists of max. 15 people aged 15–19. Our mentor in MIMO is Ele Viskus, choreographer and dance pedagogue, and our local coordinator at Tarvastu School is Romet Koser. We met with the youngsters in Tarvastu twice a month, and had sometimes also longer and more intensive workshop days.

The aim of our work with the youngsters was to introduce them to the basics of performing arts and to have in the end a kind of “artistic output”. The first half of the school year was conducted in an exploratory manner. In the beginning we defined among ourselves (the students), what is the subject of each of us to teach considering our abilities and the profession that we are studying. Then we proposed all the different subjects to the youngsters and they chose what workshops they wanted to attend.



*Light design workshop in the basement of  
Tarvastu School.  
(Photo by: Kerttu Kruusla)*

We have done different workshops such as acrobatics and partner work; voice and speech; forum theatre, dancing, lighting and multimedia. Creativity games, improvisation and team-work were often practiced during the workshops.

The main goal for us was to show the youth the tools available in performing arts, and to equip them with creative thinking, teamwork tools and get them to open up to us and to our ways of making art. For ourselves, as students who are only learning to teach others, the workshop method we chose gave the opportunity for experimenting with our skills in our profession while also putting our teaching abilities to test. It was hard to get the youngsters to open up to express themselves in the workshops. Mostly they waited to be served what we had to serve. On the other hand on our Facebook page, shared with all the participants at Tarvastu MIMO group, they do bring out their ideas and explore on those, they organise themselves and show their interest in the subject.

During this spring we encouraged the youngsters to not only take part but also to analyse and synthesise the material among them. The material we are working with is "The Selfish Giant" by Oscar Wilde. In group work with the youngsters we changed the story

in order to bring it to their context – the performance is about a worker of Tarvastu High School, a man who is known as a mean and closed person, teased by the pupils. The piece is put together by youngsters themselves using different tools practiced in our workshops. Their courage, commitment and motivation have risen when having a clear aim.

The most important thing in MIMO is that youngsters can create something by themselves and broaden their understanding about performance and art. The process has made them think about their own problems in school or in the community and to define the reasons. For me it has been a good experience on how to guide the young people – to see them and to take them into account.

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Leisure-time manager-teacher



*First MIMO workshop in Tarvastu School –  
introduction round. (Photo by: Romet Koser)*