

ROOF-tops



Newsletter from the Russian Orphan Opportunity Fund

July 2010

PROVIDING SUPPORT AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR ORPHANED YOUTH IN RUSSIA

With thanks to St. Andrew's Anglican Church, the companies Campbell's, Clifford Chance, Cushman and Wakefield, Deloitte, Global Fund for Children, Globus International, Linklaters, Mercers, Minnesota Children's and Home Society, Nestle, Partners in Hope, Pfizer, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Raiffaizen Bank, Starbucks, St. Andrew Society of Russia, Tchibo, Troika Dialog, Vegas Lex, as well as numerous private sponsors for their help and support of our Education Center and ROOF's other programmes .

www.roofnet.org

From the orphanage to the diploma in law. Graduate success story

During a 10 year time that ROOF's Education Centre exists hundreds of orphans and orphanage graduates who wanted to change their life became its students. Among the EC students were those who understood that "new" life was impossible without high-quality education.

With the help of EC teachers our students graduated from 9th and 11th grades, passed their final exams successfully, received their secondary education diplomas, entered colleges and universities and continued to study there. At our Education Centre graduation party in June 2010 we offered our congratulations to five our students who graduated from colleges and universities and received the specialist diplomas. After ten years of hard and intensive studies their dreams and aspirations came true. These young people are a living example for the other students, and their stories are stories of true success of ordinary orphans.

The next story is a true success story of our student, an orphanage graduate, who achieved his aims and reached the top through his strong desire to get an education, through his will and confidence.

Studies at ROOF 's EC

I started studying at ROOF's Education Centre in spring 2000. Before this I was studying at the training school and getting ready to enter an evening school.

I enjoyed my studies at ROOF. It was time when I lived life fully, time of new hope, aspirations and discoveries. It was wonderful, very «true» time.

Entering University

In 2003 I graduated from the 11th grade at ROOF 's EC and received the upper secondary education diploma. In summer I tried to enter the history department but wasn't admitted upon competitive examination. Then I entered the pre-study courses, and the next year I was a student of Moscow State Law Academy named after O.E. Kutafin.

Studies at Law Academy

I had a very strong wish to study exactly at Law Academy. I think that a wish is the main thing. If you don't have a wish everything is absolutely useless.

Difficulties

During my study at the Academy I faced many difficulties. There were some gaps in my education, I didn't have enough knowledge despite the fact that before University I read a plenty of classic and special literature. I had to combine work and study. It was quite difficult to work at the daytime

Continued at Page 2

ROOF 's EC 2000—2010 in photos



Picnic. The end of the first academic year (2000—2001) at ROOF's EC.



In front of St. Andrew's Anglican Church. The 2001—2002 academic year.



Sergiev Posad. Traditional picnic. The 2002—2003 academic year.



St. Andrew's Church 2003—2004.

and study in the evening. I didn't have enough time. It was rather difficult to find time to attend all the lectures and tutorials. During this hard time my colleagues support helped me a lot. They all knew that I study in the evening, and treated me with respect and understanding.

The attitude of the professors and the university itself towards the students also helped me in my studies. When someone wants to get a good education it is very important that there is a quality education at the educational establishment. In our academy it was like this: if a student missed some tutorial he or she had to come and answer all necessary questions some other day, if he/she failed to do this they were not admitted to the exams.

Getting a Diploma

This, 2010 year I graduated from the academy and received the specialist diploma in jurisprudence (specialization— civil law). The first thought I had after my diploma paper defense was «Thank God, everything has finished». Now, when my studies at the academy have finished, when I have got my diploma I feel great relief and joy. Still, on the other hand, I cannot believe that everything has finished. Sometimes it seems to me that I have to go to some lecture or tutorial, to write something, to pass some exam.

Interests

I like different types of sports. In childhood I engaged in professional swimming. Now I dream to go in for alpine skiing and snowboard. Also I am planning to learn to drive a car. I collect old movies and classical records. Lately I've also noticed I have some signs of Internet addiction.

Plans for the Future

Right now I cannot think about my plans for the future. The nearest plans are to get enough sleep and relax.

I have the diploma, and feel confident and secure. The diploma in law is a golden key that can open various doors for you, the main thing is to find out which of the doors is yours.

Some advice for the EC students

***School study alone will not prepare you to enter the university. You have to read a lot of supplementary and special literature on your own. Only after that you will be able to pass your entrance exams successfully.**

***Do not forget that one thing is to enter the university, another to study there.**

***You'd better study at the evening department. Teaching at the correspondence department is rather weak. The student cannot, is not capable to study independently. There will be a lot of things that he will not understand. Laziness is in our nature, so we always need strict control.**

***Don't be afraid of difficulties. It is very difficult to study at the evening department, but you can see your own level and the level of other students. All the time you strive for something, work hard, grow personally, and, as a result, you receive not only a diploma, but also knowledge, confidence and professionalism. Besides, you make lots of new friends.**

***Education is something you have to invest money in. Most of free textbooks you'll receive at the university are out-of-date. You will have to buy new textbooks, special and supplementary literature, make printouts.**

***During your study at the university listen to yourself and the others. If you can listen to and hear other people you will be able to better understand yourself, show your worth to the utmost, and become true professionals.**

***Make sure you can set priorities.**

***Do not forget your friends. Your friendship is the most precious thing you have ever obtained.**



Zvenigorod.
The 2005—2006 academic year.



Picnic. Borovsk.
The 2006—2007 academic year.



Malye Vyazyomy. ROOF's birthday.
The 2007—2008 academic year.



ROOF's EC 2008—2009. St. Andrew's Church.



Suzdal 2009—2010.