

**Hearts Announces the
Winner of the 2018
Adriana Serbanescu
Educational
Scholarship**



Vlad Burlacu

Congratulations to the 2018 Adriana Serbanescu Scholarship recipient, **Vlad Burlacu**. Vlad was one of our sponsored college students and is a senior in the nursing program at Transilvania University (UTBv). He would like to continue his education upon graduation by pursuing a master's degree, as well as a doctorate in nursing.

Vlad works very hard at his studies and maintains a high grade point average, but he always finds time to volunteer, both at a nursing home and a hospital. He also participates in Hearts' activities and works with our volunteer teams to help the families and children we are serving.

Vlad's high academic standard, along with his passion for giving back to others, makes him an excellent choice for our scholarship award.

HEARTBEAT

FALL 2018 Newsletter Hearts Across Romania

THE JOY OF GIVING

Our sponsored children find Hearts in different ways, and sometimes it is simply a matter of coming into contact with the right person. Mariana Achiriloaie, a co-founder of Hearts, met a young 14-year old Romanian boy last year through Claudia, a friend and former teaching colleague, who knew about our work in Brasov.

Adrian and his younger sister were living with their mom in the rural village of Augustin. Adrian was ready to attend high school with a dream of becoming a dentist, but educational opportunities in his village were very limited. The school did not even have a math teacher. Claudia knew that Adrian had the academic potential to succeed if given the opportunity.

Hearts relocated Adrian and his family to Brasov and rented them an apartment so he could enter high school. His mother found part-time employment, and the family now has two U. S. sponsors, whose financial support helps cover living and school expenses.

At the same time, Hearts began a collaboration with Fundatia Bucuria Darului, a non-profit organization in Brasov, operating a soup kitchen and providing services to needy families. Fundatia Bucuria Darului, when translated means the joy of giving, also has an outreach program to children in poor, rural villages, who receive very little help.

Adrian's village of Augustin is now a recipient of their services because of our sponsorship of his family and our partnership with Bucuria. Adrian's family, his village and Bucuria were connected through Hearts Across Romania. It's a small world after all.



OUR SINCEREST THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 DONORS!

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2016 ADRIANA SERBANESCU SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT GRADUATES



Hearts Across Romania is proud to announce that Cristian Madalin Drumes, our first recipient of the Adriana Serbanescu Educational Scholarship, graduated from Transilvania University (UTBv) with a degree in Mechanical Engineering in June.

Cristian consistently exhibited high academic success in his degree plan, as well as serving as a leader in our college sponsorship program and mentoring students in our "Sponsor a Child" program. We wish him the very best going forward.

A letter from our graduate:

Dear HAR,

I want to thank you for all your support, and for everything you did for me, the other students and kids! College was a long journey, and I am really grateful you were by my side. Your help was a blessing; it made my life easier and it helped me to stay focused on studying, by not having to take a part time job. This way, I was able to attend to all my classes and have much more time to study for exams, and most importantly, to complete my diploma project and graduate on time. The scholarship money was used for rent, food, books, clothes, transportation and a better laptop, which was necessary to do my projects. It would have been very difficult for my parents to cover all these expenses without you; a part-time job would have been the only solution to pay for it. My results in college would have been very different. Because of your help, I have managed to find a job as a mechanical engineer right after I graduated.

Another important aspect of this scholarship was the opportunity to go for the first time to an orphanage, and to understand the importance of helping others in need. I still like to visit the kids as much as I can, and to convince others to do the same.

I managed to graduate with a final mark of 9.5, and this was possible because of your effort! I will always be grateful, and I promise that someday I will return the favor for somebody in need!

Wish you all the best!

*With love,
Madalin*

To learn more about the Adriana Serbanescu Educational Scholarship, please visit <https://bit.ly/2A1vmj3>.

