

Carver from the Friedrich-Weinbrenner-Gewerbeschule Stonemasonry and Master College in Freiburg successful at the European Stone Festival 2017 in Hungary

From 19 – 21 May the European Stone Festival 2017, which had been due to return to Freiburg again this year, took place in the Hungarian town of Kiskunfélegyháza, in the heart of the Puszta, the Hungarian plain, where examples of Art Nouveau are very much in evidence. Natascha Otterbach from Schwäbisch-Hall numbered among the 100 participants from all over Europe who gathered here for this year's event. She is currently doing her practical training at the family business in Obersontheim and is in the second year of her apprenticeship at the Friedrich-Weinbrenner-Gewerbeschule, Stonemasonry and Master College in Freiburg.

The theme for the festival "Secession and Life in the Puszta" was the inspiration for Natascha Otterbach's relief of the secessionist façade of the town hall. The relief depicts the Hungarian secessionist style with its floral motifs, which are characteristically found in Kiskunfélegyháza. She won third place in the apprentice category and was presented with a cup and tools of the trade.

The Stone Festival was organised by the Hungarian National Trade Association of Stone Carvers and Producers of Cast Stone together with the Kiskunfélegyháza Town Council. János Kampfl, the President of the Trade Association and his Deputy, Gabriella Csanádi, have given their support to the European Stone Festival since it was first held in 1999 when it was initiated by Bernward Fiedler and the Friedrich-Weinbrenner-Gewerbeschule Freiburg

Since this time, the Festival has enjoyed success each year touring around Europe and returning to Freiburg every third year where it will take place again in 2020. The visitors can already look forward to a similarly exciting atmosphere as the thousands of visitors enjoyed in Kiskunfélegyháza this year - beautiful sunshine, the sound of chisels, music, song and dance from Hungarian folklore and the opportunity to get into conversation while observing the participants at close quarters.

Photos and further information about the European Stone Festival 2017:

www.stein-festival.de

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