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## **Kristel Kallau: "Youth work is a lifestyle"**

**Introduce yourself and your organisation (incl. the structure in which you operate in the youth field).**

I am the director of Pärnu Art School. Pärnu Art School provides extracurricular art education and brings together people that wish to create art. I have been a member of the organisation for 17 years, 11 of which as the director. We have created a cosy and comfortable place which we can call home.

**What makes your job exciting?**

The new and interesting challenges that I face every day, working with young and interesting people, and the opportunity to initiate and manage processes are what make my job exciting.

**What are your dreams as a youth worker?**

As a youth worker, I dream of youth work being recognised and valued more than it is today. I wish that people would be more aware of its impact to young people's lives and how much responsibility is required in this work.

**Why did you choose youth work?**

I feel that youth work chose me ... I have always been surrounded by young people, art has always been part of my life, and these two areas have come together in my life.

**How has youth work / being a youth worker influenced you? (What have you learned from it?)**

Youth work is part of my life and it is not just a job, it is a lifestyle.