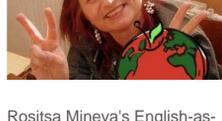




## Many Reasons for Optimism



**The Teacher Who Dares to Move Things Around**



Rositsa Mineva's English-as-a-second-language classroom does not feature rows of desks. Instead, portable modular tables offer flexibility in the classroom layout, and seating can be rearranged to suit the class activity for the day.

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**An Opera Diva Is Made: Aleksandrina's Story**



"Who's that girl?" The audience's whispers are directed at the beautiful black-clad young woman who has just come onstage. They quickly subside as the gentle soprano picks up the aria of Leonora, who is waiting for her beloved troubadour...

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**What's in a Name? How Dabrava Became The Brava**



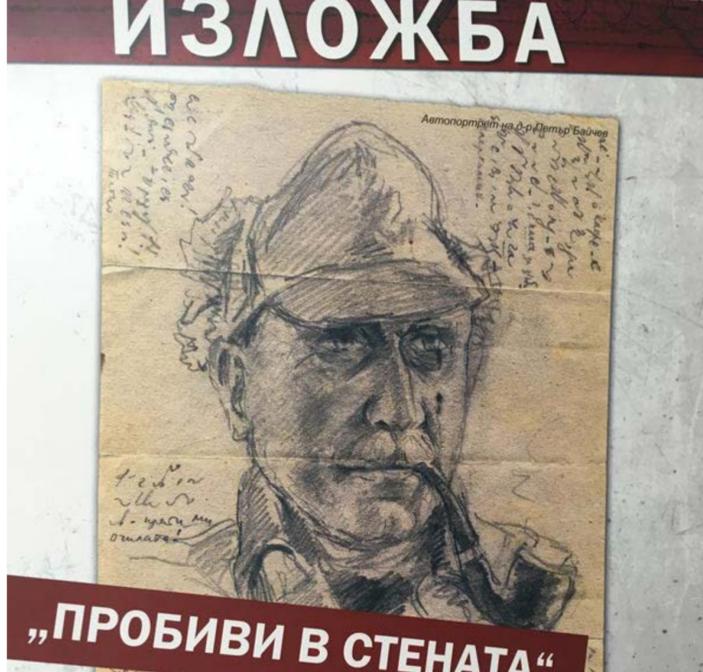
In 1891, Bulgarian historian Georgi Strezov provided the following description of the village of Dabrava: "It is located at the foot of Arisvanitsa, stretching to Bistritsa, a quarter of an hour to the border [with Macedonia]."

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## A Summer School Transforms Attitudes about Bulgaria's Socialist Past

High school senior Martin Dimitrov signed up for the summer school on Bulgaria's socialist past to make up for the lack of information on the topic in textbooks and in the public discourse. Martin wanted to understand the almost universal nostalgia for the period among older generations. Bilyana Valkova heard about the program from her high school history teacher and enrolled because she wanted to know more about the country's communist concentration camps.

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## The Month at a Glance



**Who Protects Your Right to Access Information?**

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**Healthy Children Create Healthy Communities**

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## Withstanding the Test of Time



### The Transformation of America for Bulgaria's Home

When renowned merchant Andrey Arsov tasked Austrian architect Karl Heinrich to design his family home in 1910, the latter had more than 20 years of experience as architect and designer of key buildings in Sofia. These included the house of Petar Sarafov, the famous engineer, (at 9 Khan Krum Street) and the house of Gen. Kalin Naidenov (at 53 Vasil Levski Boulevard).

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### Sofia's Oldest Cinema Is the Work of... A Teacher

Time in Vlaykova Movie Theater seems to have stood still since it opened in the 1920s, and nowhere is this clearer than in the photos hanging on its walls. Maria Vlaykova, who purchased the site for the theater and built it with her own money, can be seen in some of the yellowing images.

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## Save the Date

**04 JUN  
10 AUG**  
Sofia

### Experience an Exciting Science Holiday at Muzeiko

Education  
Children's Science Center Muzeiko has an exciting science summer program for 7-11-year-olds featuring sc...

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**04 AUG  
18 AUG**  
Maryan

### Summer Ballet Academy in the Heart of the Balkan Mountains

Ballet  
The summer ballet academy will focus on ballet and character dance. The academy will feature beginner, ...

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**10 AUG  
26 AUG**  
Berkovitsa

### Attention All Teens from Berkovitsa: restART Fest Kicks Off in 10 D...

Multigenre  
restART Fest provides a platform for children and teenagers from Berkovitsa and the region to express th...

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To go to the ABF event calendar, [click here](#).

## Who Gave Ilker Wings?



Fourteen-year-old Ilker can't walk, but his dream to fly came true in early July thanks to his school principal, the community in his native village, flight instruction company SkyVision, and the Centre for Inclusive Education. Their combined efforts proved that by working together, society can really give wings to Bulgaria's children.



[Watch the Video](#)

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