



European Network of Cultural Centres

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ENCC NEWSLETTER #3, April/May 07

Dear network members and network interested,

In this newsletter you will read:

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I. General news:

1. Europe's Creative Industries and DG EAC's Communication on Culture

Today, 5.8 million employees are working in the cultural and creative industries in Europe, which represent 3.1% of all European jobholders. With sales of more than 650 billion EUR, the creative industries are tertiary on the economic sector ranking of the EU (more information: www.culture-economy.eu). These tremendous figures underline the importance and the strong need for the first cultural policy guidance document of the EU – the Communication on Culture of the DG Education and Culture – that is expected to be published within the next days. In its last newsletter, EFAH appeals: "If the Communication is as promising as it sounds, we should engage fully in the process of implementation, and ensure that the efforts of the Commission find an echo in our own strong desire for an enhanced recognition and a greater role for cultural action in Europe". ENCC amongst all the other actors and stakeholders working in the cultural field are now waiting impatiently for the publication of the 2007 Communication on Culture.

2. Conference "Cultural Diversity – Europe's Wealth. Bringing the UNESCO Convention to Life", organised by the German Commission for UNESCO in Essen/Germany, 26-28 April 2007

Andreas Kämpf, president of ENCC, Christiane Ziller, managing director of ENCC and Günter Chodzinski, project coordinator of ENCC, participated to the very promising conference, which was the first one of three large-scale international congresses on cultural

policy in the context of the German EU Council Presidency in the first half of 2007. Around 500 people from 60 countries came to Essen/Germany to debate on the concept of Cultural Diversity – obviously a most challenging aim. Apparently, the potential of the meeting, where so many high-ranking politicians and actors from the cultural area came together, has not been used substantially. Critics say that the subtitle “Bringing the UNESCO Convention to Life” unfortunately did not lead to the exchange of people directly involved in culture and arts but to the presentation of numerous papers on numerous theories – an admittedly widespread difficulty of conferences in general. We will inform you as soon as UNESCO has published the conference documentation. Meanwhile read a comment about the conference from the recognized German radio broadcast station “Deutschlandfunk”, transmitted in “Kultur heute” on 29 April 2007: <http://www.dradio.de/dlf/sendungen/kulturheute/621194/> (German only unfortunately).

II. Current ENCC activities

1. Shortcut Europe 2007 “The European Cultural Centres in the Experience Economy” in Copenhagen/Denmark, 9-11 May 2007

We are very much looking forward to this year’s Shortcut Europe taking place already next week. More than 80 people from 11 European countries are registered!

Theories of experience economy are continually being developed, and there is much to indicate that experience as a product can be a dominant factor in European cultural policy. This development presents several new opportunities for locally based and participant-based cultural institutions, as culture houses are. This is because cultural centres can be seen as experts when it comes to engaging and developing experiences on the basis of the citizens’ own activities and the citizens’ own engagement. In this light, one can say that the cultural centres are holding their own in the competition with private interests on the market.

The Shortcut Europe 2007 seeks to investigate and to create the frameworks for debate about the significance of this development with the help of presentations from several experts in the area of cultural policy and cultural development. We therefore invite all those interested in the developmental potentials of cultural centres to spend three professionally challenging and experientially inspiring days in Copenhagen.

More about Experience Economy from the European Centre for the Experience Economy: www.experience-economy.com

2. ENCC General Assembly in Copenhagen/Denmark, 11 May 2007

In the afternoon of May 11th, the ENCC will hold its General Assembly 2007 in order to evaluate the ENCC activities of 2006, to coordinate the actions of this year and to prepare the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue in 2008.

III. EU Funding opportunities

1. European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 – EC Call for proposals

On 11 May 2007, the DG EAC launched two calls for proposals to co-finance projects in support of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 both on a European and on a national scale. The open call on a European scale, with a budget of 2.400.000 EUR, supports “emblematic actions” that are addressed to a wide public and that reach as many people as possible. “These actions may consist of specific events and activities which will raise awareness of the objectives of the European Year and underline the meaning and importance of intercultural dialogue, illustrating various areas, methods and dimensions of intercultural dialogue in the European Union in a manner which is visible and attractive in

particular, but not exclusively, to young people.” Grants, awarded to 8 to 10 projects, will cover up to 80% of the total expenses.

The call on a national scale is restricted to the national coordinating bodies responsible for the coordination and implementation of the Year 2008 in each of the 27 EU Member States.

Deadline for applications: **31 July 2007**

Full information: http://ec.europa.eu/culture/eac/dialogue/calls_en.html

2. EC programme “Youth in Action”

In the frame of the programme “Youth in Action” the European Commission has launched a call for proposals that might be interesting for cultural centres working with young people. Concerning Action 4.4 of the Youth in Action programme “Youth Support Systems – Projects encouraging innovation and quality: annual call for proposals”, the call seeks to co-finance projects that support and implement innovative and good quality approaches – mainly regarding content, objectives or the applied methodology of the project – in the fields of non-formal education for young people and youth work.

Deadline for applications: **30 June 2007**

Full information: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/calls2007/action44/index_en.htm

IV. Upcoming dates

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| 9-11 May | Shortcut Europe 2007 “European Cultural Centres in the Experience Economy” in Copenhagen/Denmark: www.hid.dk |
| 11-12 May | 24 hours interview marathon on “Cultural Diversity” in Berlin/Germany: www.culture-counts.de (German only) |
| 12 May | World Day of Cultural Diversity in Berlin/Germany: http://www.lichtburg-stiftung.de/index.php?id=137 (German only) |
| 31 May-1 June | Conference “CREATIVE EUROPE – The Power of Culture in European Cities” in Hamburg/Germany: http://creativeeurope-eu2007.de |
| 7/8 June | Fourth Federal Congress on Cultural Policy “culture.powers.europe – Foundations and Prospects of European Cultural Policy” in Berlin/Germany: http://www.kultur-macht-europa.eu/?L=1 (<i>Deadline for registration: 18 May 2007</i>) |
| 13 – 14 June | Conference “UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Europe – A Network for Cultural Dialogue and Cultural Tourism” in Lübeck/Germany: www.unesco.de |
| 28-29 June | KINDER ZUM OLYMP! Communicating the Arts – The Educational Role of Culture in Saarbrücken/Germany: www.kinder-zum-olymp.de |
| 30 June | Deadline for applications: Youth in Action programme |
| 31 July | Deadline for applications: Call for proposals for actions in the frame of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 |