



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 24, 2014, VOLUME 10, NUMBER 15

Annual Meeting of Slovenian Economic Attaches

At the annual meeting of Slovenian economic counselors, which took place on Tuesday April 22 and Wednesday 23 in Ljubljana and Laško, Slovenian Foreign Minister Karel Erjavec outlined that the economic diplomacy continued to be a top priority of the Foreign Ministry. He stressed that Slovenia would further endeavor to stay an export oriented economy and continue to invest its efforts in attracting foreign investment.



The meeting took place in Tuesday and Wednesday in Ljubljana and Laško.

The Foreign Minister stated that the ministry is dedicated to the pursuit and promotion of the interests of the Slovenian economy abroad through its network of diplomatic missions and consular posts, and committed to invest in bilateral economic cooperation and economic promotion.

Mr. Gorazd Renčelj, economic counselor at the Washington Embassy of Slovenia, also attended the meeting, where he participated in various workshops and met with representatives of Slovenian companies that are interested to enter the U.S. market.



18th Youthcamp for Teenagers of Slovenian Origin from Abroad

Slovenian World Congress organizes 18th Youthcamp for Teenagers of Slovenian Origin from Abroad from July 26 to August 2 in ČŠOD Trilobit Centre facility, close to the town of Jesenice.

The main purpose of the Youthcamp is to bring Slovenia closer to minds and hearts of youngsters who live abroad. Divided in small groups of 6 teenagers and one group leader – animator, children of Slovenian ancestry living abroad will discover the beauty of landscapes and various cultural monuments, culture and national identity of Slovenia, and also learn the Slovenian language in a relaxed atmosphere. The organizers and group leaders encourage the use of the Slovenian language among the participants; however, teenagers with no previous knowledge of Slovenian are also most welcome to the camp. Making new friendships with peers who share a common bond and come from all around the globe is an adventure and a great life experience.

Activities include lessons of the Slovenian language (in groups formed according to their



knowledge of the language); discovering the natural and ethnological beauty of the vicinity and the town of Jesenice; practical workshops (art, archery, climbing, discovering fossils); meeting the modern craftsmen; discussions with guest speakers about youth problems; sports, games, and outdoor camping in tents.

Participation in the camp focuses on young Slovenians from abroad aged from 10 to 15.

However, please, send an e-mail to the contact below if the child is over or below this age-span, and the organizers will try to find a suitable solution.

Attendance fee per participant is 160 EUR (about \$220) and includes full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner), entrance fees, transportation, workshop materials and accommodation in youth hostel. We expect parents, relatives or representatives of the organizations to bring children to the hostel where the camp is taking place. Please, send the application forms by May 20, 2014 to: Slovenska konferenca SSK, Cankarjeva cesta 1/IV, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia. For more information, please contact: luka.klopcic@slokongres.com or see: <http://www.detelca.ie/media/18tabor2014.pdf>



SVETOVNI SLOVENSKI KONGRES
SLOVENIAN WORLD CONGRESS

33rd Summer School of Slovene Language 2014

The Center for Slovene as a Second/Foreign Language at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana invites you to visit Slovenia this summer and take a course in Slovene while enjoying an unforgettable Slovene holiday. Various Slovene language courses are scheduled for the period June 30 - July 25, 2014 at the Faculty of Arts, Aškerčeva 2, Ljubljana.

Four-week course: 30 June–25 July 2014

Two-week course: 30 June–11 July 2014 or 14–25 July 2014

Morning course: You can choose between a two-week (40 hours) and a four-week course (80 hours)

4 lessons each day for a total of 20 lessons a week; Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Elective afternoon course: If you want your studies to be more intensive, you can decide to attend an optional course, i.e., two additional language classes a day. The courses are scheduled for July 1–11, 2014 and/or July 15–25, 2014, Monday to Friday from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. (2 lessons each day for a total of 18 lessons in 2 weeks).

Depending on your level of knowledge of Slovene, you can select from among the following courses:

Beginners' level: Conversation and phonetics.

Intermediate level: Conversation, Slovene literature and culture, grammar.

Advanced level: Conversation, Slovene literature and culture, preparation for the exam of Slovene at the intermediate and advanced level.

Individual elective courses will be held if at least five students enroll.

At the end of the Summer School, you will receive an official **Certificate** of Attendance at a Slovene language course at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana. After successful completion of the course, the participants are awarded ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) credit points: 3 credits for a 60-hour course, 4 credits for an 80-hour course, 6 credits for a 120-hour course. If you want to obtain an official certificate of Slovene, you can take the Exam of Slovene at the Intermediate or Advanced Level at the end of the first 2-week course. Applications will be collected during the Summer School.

In addition to learning the language, there is also a **varied social program**, where participants can become acquainted with Slovene culture, history and contemporary reality. In workshops, they will learn about cultural practices and customs, meet famous and interesting Slovenes, see a Slovene film or a theatrical production, go to a concert, and do some sports. The activities of the **accompanying program** are held in the afternoons and in the evenings, and are covered by the tuition fee. Parts of the accompanying program are translated into English, which enables beginners to follow those activities as well; other activities are held only in Slovene and are meant as a direct complement to the language

courses.

You can apply for the course using the application form on the web site: http://www.centerslo.net/I2.asp?L1_ID=1&L2_ID=1&LANG=eng no later than **June 16, 2014** (June 30 for the course of July14–25). Tuition fee must be paid in full no later than June 20, 2014 (July 4 for the course of July14–25).

Members of Slovene ethnic minorities in other countries and descendants of Slovene expatriates and emigrants can apply for a **scholarship** (2-week morning course). **The deadline for applications is May 15, 2014.**

Candidates who do not have Slovene background, but are actively engaged in Slovene culture or in some other way contribute to the promotion of Slovenia in the world can apply for one of the **scholarships of the Jana Zemljarič Miklavčič Scholarship Trust**. The deadline for applications is **May 1, 2014.**

For more information see: http://www.centerslo.net/I2.asp?L1_ID=1&L2_ID=1&LANG=eng

In addition, The Center for Slovene as a Second/Foreign Language at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana is this year organizing the ninth **Slovene Language Summer School for teenagers** aged between 13 and 17. The course begins on Monday June 30, 2014 and ends on Friday July 11, 2014. For more information see: http://www.centerslo.net/I3.asp?L1_ID=8&L2_ID=143&L3_ID=403&LANG=eng

Landscape Architect Ana Kučan

Slovene artists have an opportunity to spend a month in the artists' residence in New York sponsored by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia. Artist-in-Residence in April is Ana Kučan, Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Ljubljana. Kučan discussed her work and the work of Studio AKKA that she established together with Luka Javornik in 2006, on April 9 within the "Beyond New York" series. The program was organized by the Architecture Dialogue Committee of the American Institute of Architects New York Chapter, and co-hosted with The American Society of Landscape Architects--New York.

At the evening event, titled Playscape As Landscape,



Dunajska Street project conceived by Studio AKKA.



Villa White Mansion at Bled, conceived by Studio AKKA, Peter Koštrun.

Kučan presented AKKA Studio's design approach through projects, which realized the theoretical framework. Studio AKKA is dedicated to the public domain and design landscapes using what are generally considered low budgets. The studio's effort is oriented towards the creation of what is described as "open work." AKKA has focused its designs on principles derived from the concept of "how a landscape looks is how it functions." For them, landscapes are inherently conceived from within and are informed by three theoretical issues—the social construction of nature, the human idea of play, and the intrinsic and the created character of the site. Their approach to design is simple and straightforward. It is achieved through the repetitive

discipline of their method, applied consistently and methodically each time. But it inevitably and always leads to different and non-repetitive results. To create lyrical spaces, ones yet unknown, is AKKA's mission. They believe people fundamentally need to play—a belief that is the moving force behind their creation. They too play when they design, while combining all required prosaic rationalities and objectives in the process of making legal, usable urban spaces. Landscape design gives shape to the material world that surrounds all of us. Professor Kučan paid special attention to the role of nature—specifically, nature designed by humans, in humanizing urban environments.

Bovec



Located in northwestern Slovenia close to the border with Italy, Bovec is a small town in the Upper Soča valley in the Julian Alps. The earliest mention of Bovec dates to 1174, but the history of this area stretches much further back in time – to the Roman road over Predel and even further back to the finds from the early Iron Age. Important for Bovec in the past was the trade route between the port of Trieste and Vienna that passed through the town. In the early 20th century, the Bovec area was affected by First



Great Soča gorge.
(Photographer: David Štulc Zornik)



Bovec valley. (Photographer: David Štulc Zornik)

World War battles. The battles of the Isonzo, which almost totally devastated the region, were fought in this area between the Austro-Hungarian forces and the Italian Army from June 1915 to November 1917.

A visitor can discover the area's culture and folklore through thematic routes. The history that shaped the life in the valleys and on the slopes of Bovec is presented by the collections of the Ravelnik Open-Air Museum, the Čelo Open-Air Museum, the Trenta Museum, and the Triglav National Park Museum as well as by the Kluže fortress and other monuments. One such, in the very heart of the town, is the church of St. Ulrich, which was originally built as a small medieval church in 1192, but later expanded into a Baroque church, and finally renovated with Neo-Romanesque elements.

Next to its historical significance, Bovec and its surrounding area today attract especially with a wide array

of sports activities. The town's upbeat rhythm is maintained by numerous sports agencies. The Soča river, which flows through Bovec, attracts nature lovers, who are taken by its magnificent emerald color, as well as by adrenaline seekers who enjoy kayaking, rafting and canyoning. The river with all the inflowing streams is also fishermen's paradise.

From springtime to autumn, the area offers several biking, hiking, mountaineering, horseback riding, and golf opportunities. In winter, the main attraction of the area is the Kanin – Canin ski center, but, around Bovec, there are also many routes for cross country skiing, and various sports agencies can take a visitor on snow-shoe trips and sledding. The small sports airfield just close to Bovec is interesting for paragliders and gliders all year round.

In Bovec and in the surrounding valleys, many

traditional customs are linked to the Bovec shepherding. Sheep-milk cheese and cottage cheese can often be found in the local cuisine. Some typical dishes are »čompe with cottage cheese« (potato with cottage cheese) and the »Bovec frika« (potato with cheese and minced bacon) with polenta on the side. Gourmets love »Bovec krafi«, a type of dumplings filled with dry pears, applesauce, raisins and walnuts, which make an excellent dessert.

Bovec is also the venue for several traditional events and festivals. To mention just a few: the Kluže festival is a festival of performing arts that takes place in July and August in various places around Bovec, but especially in the Kluže fortress: Bovec



Military cemetery from WWI east of Bovec.

Thursday Evenings and Folklore Evenings begin in July, after the International Folklore Meeting, which takes place in late June; an entertaining event, Čomparska noč (»potato night«), takes place in Bovec on the weekend nearest to August 15.; the Bovec Outdoor

Film Festival is all about (extreme) sports and nature. Along with the Film Festival takes place also the Festival of snow sculptures, usually in the last week of December. More information is available at: www.bovec.si

ANNOUNCEMENT

E.U. Open House -- Volunteers Needed

On **May 10, 2014**, diplomatic representations of Member States of the E.U. and the E.U. Delegation to the United States in Washington will celebrate Europe Day by organizing the eight annual E.U. Open House day. The embassies of all 28 member countries and the E.U. Delegation will open their doors **from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** showcasing their art, culture, and food, and introducing the European Union to the public. Last year, over 3400 people visited the Slovenian embassy, and this year



even more visitors are expected.

Since the event has gained extreme popularity and success, we are looking for volunteers to help us welcome the guests and to direct visitors to the embassy at the nearby bus stop.

To register and for more information, please contact nuska.zakrajsek@gov.si.

Orientation and training session for first time volunteers will be held at the Embassy of Slovenia on Thursday, May 8 at 5:30 p.m.



Slovenia at GLOBAL FEST on April 26

For the second time, the Embassy of Slovenia will participate in the annual Global Fest, organized by Global Language Network and New York University in Washington DC.

When: Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Where: Constance Milstein and Family Global Academic Center, 1307 L Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.

For more information and registration see: www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/washington-dc/nyu-washington--dc-events/global-fest-2014.html

Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation Lecture Series: Tom and Marge Luzar

The Foundation is extremely pleased that Tom and Marge Luzar will present a discussion on their experiences hosting over fifty exchange students from Slovenia in their home. Tom and Marge Luzar in 1992/93 they hosted a French foreign exchange student for one school year through AFS, a widely known foreign exchange program. It was a fulfilling experience so, in 1994, they wanted to provide an opportunity for a Slovene student to have this experience. Tom and Marge developed a relationship with a distinguished English teacher at the Catholic Slovene High School (Skofijska Klasična Gimnazija) located in Ljubljana to help with the selection of students. The stay for each student varied from one school year for individual students to a one month summer program for a group of students. Over the past 20 years, over 50 students have stayed at their home.

When: **Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 7 p.m.**

Where: **Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue, Euclid, Ohio**

More information: **Anthony W. Hiti, President, Slovenian American Heritage Foundation at (216) 696-3460**

A Lecture by Dr. Luka Vidmar

The Slovene Studies Initiative at Ohio State University will be hosting Dr. Vidmar from the Research Center of the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Art, the first visiting scholar of the Initiative. As part of the Initiative, Dr. Vidmar will give a public lecture on his research on forbidden books in the 18th century.

Where: **The Center for Slavic and East European Studies, 1712 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43210-1219, University Hall 143**

When: **Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

RSVP: **csees@osu.edu by **May 5.****

Light refreshments will be served at the start of the lecture.

Jasmina Cibic: Fruits of Our Land

The film Fruits of Our Land was shot specifically for For Our Economy and Culture, Jasmina Cibic's project for the Slovenian Pavilion at the 55th Venice Biennial, which explored issues around national representation and its framing. The film presents a recreation of a 1957 parliamentary debate between politicians, architects and art historians, set up to decide which artworks might be suitable (i.e., nationally representative enough) to 'decorate' the newly built People's Assembly. The exhibit is made possible with the support by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia.

When: **April 10 – May 11, 2014**

Gallery hours: **Wednesday – Saturday from 11:00 a.m – 6:00 p.m., Sunday from 12 noon – 600 p.m., and by appointment**

Where: **LMAKprojects, 139 Eldridge Street, New York, NY 10002**

More information: **<http://www.moving-image.info/artistjasminacibic/>, <http://lmakprojects.com/>**

SLOVENIA in E.U. Month of Culture

The Delegation of the European Union and the 28 participating embassies of the E.U. member-countries are presenting the second annual "European Month of Culture." The month-long program highlights the diverse cultures of the European Union member states. Musical performances, art exhibits, dance, film screenings, and lectures are to take place at the National Gallery of Art, the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, the Library of Congress, the Phillips Collection, American University, E.U. members' embassies, E.U. Cultural Institutes, and other venues.

Featured (free!) Slovenian events include:

E.U. OPEN HOUSE

Insider's view of the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia. Presentation of Slovenian food, wine, music, and art.

May 10, 10:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.; Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia

CITY SCENE / COUNTRY SCENE: 4 SHORT FILMS

"Experimental Cinema in Eastern Europe, 1960-1990", NGA series.

May 10 at 1:00 p.m.; National Gallery of Art (East Building)

BOOK PRESENTATION: "NECROPOLIS"

The novel "Necropolis" was written by the centenarian, Holocaust survivor and Nobel Literature Prize nominee Boris Pahor. Presented by Luka Zibelnik of the Center for Slovenian Studies, Cleveland State University.

May 13 at 12:00 noon; Library of Congress

SLOVENIAN LANGUAGE CLASS FOR BEGINNERS

Taught by Luka Zibelnik; assistant: Erika Zibelnik.

May 13 at 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.; Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia

"THE STUBBORN MEMORY" (TRMASTI SPOMIN)

Documentary on Boris Pahor, Holocaust survivor, Nobel Literature Prize nominee, and winner of European Citizens' Prize.

May 14 at 6:00 p.m. Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia

SOPRANO IRENA PREDI AND PIANIST NEJC LAVRENČIČ IN CONCERT

Music by Ipavec, Skerjanc, Simoniti, Lajovic, Puccini, Massenet, Cilea, and Verdi.

May 25 at 6:00 p.m., Kennedy Center

MUSIC BY COMPOSERS FROM BULGARIA, THE CZECH REPUBLIC, MALTA, AND SLOVENIA

National Gallery of Art Chamber Players perform music by Stedron, Psaila, Dikov, and Kuhar.

May 28 at 12:10 p.m. , National Gallery of Art (West Building)

EMBASSY ADOPTION PROGRAM'S E.U. CELEBRATION

The EAP students at Washington's Beers ES, Capitol Hill Montessori EC, Eliot-Hine MS, Garfield ES, Houston ES, and Janney ES offer performance art, alongside professional artists. In cooperation with Washington Performing Arts Society and the embassies of Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Slovenia.

May 31 at 3:00 p.m., Embassy of Austria



[3rd Avsenik Music Workshop](#)

The 3rd annual Avsenik music workshop for Slovenians abroad will take place in Slovenia **July 2 - 4, 2014**. Airfare for people living overseas is covered. That's a pretty good deal! Be quick to sign up for limited spaces. You need to be able to sing or play one of the following instruments: accordion (keyboard, diatonic or chromatic), clarinet, trumpet, guitar, tuba, double bass, bass guitar. This workshop is not for beginners as you will be performing at the famous Avsenik restaurant with other musicians.

More information can be found at: <http://shop.avsenik.com/sl/glasbena-sola/258-glasbena-delavnica-za-glasbenike-iz-izseljenstva>

[Živio, Zarja! Slovenia tour](#)

The two week tour is organized on the occasion of the 85 anniversary of Zarja – The Dawn. Slovenian magazine Zarja is one of the oldest ethnic magazines in the United States. On the occasion of the milestone, you are invited to join a spectacular trip to Slovenia titled Živio, Zarja! The tour will take you back in time as you will board a steam train along the picturesque Bohinj railway, or descend on a 120-year-old elevator to the Velenje coal mine. You will visit the beautiful cities of Slovenia, such as Bled, Portorož, Piran, Izola, Ljubljana, and Kamnik. You will explore the little villages, partake in the various culinary chores and feast on fresh fish from the Adriatic Sea while onboard a private cruise boat with stops at medieval coastal towns.

When: [September 17-28, 2014](#)

More information: KOLLANDERWORLD TRAVEL, 761 East 200th Street / Euclid, Ohio 44119 (800) 800-5981 / (216) 692-1000, Ext #3 for Judy, www.kollander.com

For more details you can also call Ms. Bonnie Pohar Prokup, National President, Slovenian Union of America at (815) 223-9596 or email wprokup@aol.com.

[Emil Memon Concert in Spectrum in NYC](#)

Yogi Sartorialist (Matt Luczak), Luciernaga, John Boyle, Emil Memon/Blue Movie will perform in New York City. See Emil's music video at: <http://youtu.be/XaJ87jbxrAg>

When: [Wednesday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m.-11 p.m.](#)

Where: [121 Ludlow St., Lower East side, NYC](#)

More information: <http://avantmusicnews.com/2014/03/31/the-spectrum-in-april/>

[Navihanke Concert in Franklin](#)

The UWM Slovenian Arts Program and the Frank and Mary Ermenc Memorial Fund proudly present the five-girl vocal/instrumental group Navihanke Polka Gals from Slovenia.

When: [Sunday April 27, 2014, at 2:00 p.m.](#)

Where: [Polish Center, 6941 South 68th Street in Franklin, Wisconsin.](#)

Tickets: \$15.00 General Admission, \$10.00 for seniors and UWM SAP Friends

To order your tickets contact: Dolores at (414)529-2918 or MaryCay at (414)778-1464