



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
EMBASSY OF REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
WASHINGTON

NEWSLETTER

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Visit of the Deputy Prime Minister Koprivnikar in Colorado



Meeting at the Office for Economic Development and International Trade of CO.

The government delegation led by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Boris Koprivnikar, paid a visit to Colorado September 20 – 21. The purpose of the visit was to deepen

cooperation between Colorado and Slovenia in cybersecurity and other areas, as well as to focus on the challenges of digitization and to present Slovenia as a green reference country.

During his visit to Denver, Minister Koprivnikar met with the Executive Director of the Office for Economic Development and International Trade of Colorado, Mrs Fiona Arnold. The aim of the visit was mostly to strengthen economic collaboration between Slovenia and the State of Colorado. Both interlocutors agreed that due to similarities and already established cooperation between Colorado National Guard and Slovenian Armed Forces, the cooperation could expand in the fields of tourism, sports equipment, renewable energy as well as IT, education, and science, biotechnology and pharma green economy, wood industry, and waste management.

Minister Koprivnikar also paid a visit to the National Guard of Colorado, with which the Slovenian



Gathering with the Slovenian community at the Consulate's premises.

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The government delegation headed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration of Slovenia, Boris Koprivnikar, met with the representatives of the Colorado National Guard.



The collaboration of Slovenian Army with the CONG has been successfully going on for 23 years. The objective of the visit was to strengthen the cooperation in the field of cyber security.

Army has been collaborating successfully for 23 years. The focal point of the visit was effective participation of the National Guard of Colorado in cyber security system. Both parties agreed on exchanging experience and good practices in big data, formation of the regulatory environment in cyber security, transfer of new knowledge and skills to security and cyber engineers. This knowledge and skills will be very useful when Slovenia establishes its own modern and effective cyber security system.

The delegation also met with the Executive Director, Ed Anderson, and other collocutors of the National Cyber Security Center in Colorado Springs. The National

Center cooperates closely with the University of Colorado, as well as the military and business community. The National Cyber Security Center is devoted mainly to research management, offering support to businesses and education institutions in relation to cyber attacks and at the same time, trainings on how to protect the infrastructure, and how to react and respond to cyber attacks. The focus of the discussion between Minister Koprivnikar and the Executive Director Andersen was on how to efficiently organize cyber security at the national level.

The minister presented Slovenia's successful projects in digital transformation, in particular in the field of big data, in which cyber security plays a major part.

Slovenia's success can be verified by different projects, such as projects of the Jozef Stefan Institute, among which the Flapax project should be mentioned as a platform of smart communities. Both parties agreed on establishing the cooperation and sharing knowledge and expertise.

The Minister also met with Ron Šega, a former NASA astronaut and Dean of the Faculty of Physics at the University of Colorado, with whom they examined the possibilities for enhanced cooperation between Slovenian universities and the University of Colorado in digital transformation projects. The minister also met with the Slovenian community in Colorado at an event hosted by Honorary Consul Lucky Vidmar and his wife Aubrey Ardema.



Delegation headed by Minister Koprivnikar met with the representatives of Cyber Security Center in Colorado Springs.



Meeting with former NASA astronaut and Dean of the Faculty of Physics at the University of Colorado Dr. Ron Šega.

Slovenian Business Development Delegation to Silicon Valley



Visit at TESLA.



Minister Koprivnikar and the delegation at Facebook headquarters.

Slovenian Business Development Delegation organized by AmCham Slovenia with the support by SPIRIT Public Agency for Entrepreneurship, Internationalization, Foreign Investments and Technology, and the embassy paid a visit to Silicon Valley between September 20 and 24. With the support of the Prime Minister, Dr. Miro Cerar, who visited San Francisco in December 2015, this year's Government Representative, joining the Delegation, was Boris Koprivnikar, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration. Minister Koprivnikar is also coordinating government efforts in the field of digital transformation under the "Slovenia - a green reference country in digital Europe" initiative.

During five days of the visit, the government delegation and the representatives of 26 companies from various industries as well as research and academic institutions from Slovenia gained an insight into the thinking and functioning of the leading development centers and companies, which are establishing the key platforms for digital transformation.

The delegation started the program with the visit of the IBM SW Executive Briefing Center, where the participants were given a presentation on

the prospects for societal transformation, fostered by the fourth industrial revolution. Emphasis was placed on Industry 4.0, cognitive solutions and on the Internet of Things. On the second day, the Slovenian Business representatives visited Cisco, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, NASA Ames Research Center and BCG Digital Ventures Center. The presentation of Hewlett Packard Enterprise included the latest achievements of their experts, which are enabling better, more efficient and higher quality business operations. Two Slovenians, namely Zvonko Fazarinc and France Rode, who had a significant influence on the development of HPE, also joined the meeting.

On the third day, the delegation visited Microsoft Technology Center, where the participants were given a presentation on the future - touching upon all the main aspects of digital transformation, such as the Internet of Things and large data. Microsoft Technology Center also presented its holographic computer HoloLens as well as Surface Hub. At the Salesforce, the delegation got the opportunity to meet Peter Schwartz, Senior Vice President, Strategic Planning, a futurist and innovator. In the afternoon the businessmen visited Uber headquarters,

where company representatives introduced to the group insights into future mobility. At the same time minister Koprivnikar and Uber signed a joint letter of intent to bring the platform also in the European Green Capital 2016: Ljubljana. The program for the day concluded at Celtra, founded by Slovenians Miha Mikek, Matevž Klajnšek and Maja Mikek. The company offers mobile advertising solutions with its product AdCreator.

On the fourth day, the delegation visited manufacturing facilities at Tesla Factory. The delegation also visited two giants in the field of social networks. At LinkedIn, the participants were greeted by Igor Perišič, an American with Slovenian roots and VP of Engineering, and Guy Berger, an Economist, who presented LinkedIn's Economic Graph. At Facebook collaboration on future projects was discussed.

During its visit to Google, the delegation learned that the Slovenian Government is the first Government to take the initiative and effectively implemented Google's Digital Garage training. To showcase the importance of Digital Skills, the Slovenian Deputy Prime Minister Koprivnikar opened the first Digital Garage training for 50 employees of the Ministry of



Maja Mikek introducing Celtra.

Discussion at Google.

Public Administration, using Google online platform to train employees on relevant topics as part of their Public Administration Academy. This was the first time that an initiative came from the government, which is acting on it and not just verbally endorsing and praising, but actually using it.

initiated by Dr. Jure Leskovec, Dr. Peter Rožič and Honorary Consul Tom Brandi some 3 years ago, signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The aim of the MoU is to begin cooperation and to connect exceptional individuals, whose achievements can contribute to developing business environments in Slovenia and at the same time enable a better understanding, exchange and transfer of best practices in business and education in both countries.

VIP reception in the San Jose City Hall. Among speakers were Vice Mayor of the City of San Jose, Rose Herrera, Director of Economic Development and Deputy City Manager for the City of San Jose, Kim Walesh, Minister Boris Koprivnikar, ABC San Jose Managing Director Ana Lukner, and Dejan Roljič, ABC Founder & CEO.

On Saturday, at the Stanford University, the Business Development Delegation participated in a discussion with the most successful Slovenians in the Silicon Valley. Simultaneously, an event named 'Playground of the Future' took place at the ABC Accelerator in Ljubljana, with a direct on-line link to what was happening at Stanford. The event in Slovenia was organized by Simbioza and its partners, and emphasized the opportunities in the country. In the spirit of making Slovenia more open and globally active, AmCham Slovenia and American Slovenian Educational Foundation,

Opening of Business Offices - ABC Accelerator in San Jose

First ABC Acceleration Business City was established in Slovenia two years ago and already ranks among top 25 in the world. The San Jose's ABC's goal is to be a global home to the best start-ups that have already raised investments and gathered market traction, and are ready to become international unicorns. Spreading on more than 13,000 sq.ft., ABC also offers its accelerated companies a wide network of potential partners, mentors, investors and venture capital. More information can be found at: <https://abc-accelerator.com/silicon-valley/>

The Slovenian delegation concluded its visit at the opening of ABC Global Home in Silicon Valley, a Slovenian Accelerator, led by Ana Lukner. The launching ceremony of the ABC offices in San Jose on September 24 started with tape-cutting ceremony and was followed by a program and



Stanford University.

Opening of ABC Accelerator offices.

President Pahor and Minister Erjavec Attend the 71st U.N. General Assembly Session General Debate



President Pahor and Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

Minister Erjavec and Secretary Kerry.

The General Debate of the 71st Session of the U.N. General Assembly took place from Tuesday, September 20 to Monday, September 26, 2016. The delegation led by Mr. Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia, also included Mr. Karl Erjavec, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

On Monday, September 19 2016 President Pahor delivered a statement at the High-Level Meeting on Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants and co-chaired roundtable two, titled Addressing drivers of migration, where he advocated enhanced cooperation of the international community on all aspects of migration, particularly by addressing the root causes of migration in the countries of origin. Meanwhile, Minister Erjavec had a bilateral meeting with the foreign minister of New Zealand, Murray McCully, jointly with whom he highlighted the friendly relations between the two countries and voiced the willingness to increase political and economic cooperation. The situation in Turkey, the Western Balkans and Ukraine was the focus of

the minister's meeting with the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, Victoria Nuland. Both expressed satisfaction that bilateral relations are good, and committed to further enhance economic cooperation. Minister Erjavec met GCC Secretary-General Al Zayani and invited him to the first Gulf Day international conference to be held in December in Ljubljana. He also participated in a meeting of E.U. foreign ministers, who primarily discussed the situations in Turkey and Syria, and migration.

On the second day of their visit to New York, September 20, Minister Karl Erjavec and President Borut Pahor participated in the ceremony marking the first anniversary of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in the General Debate of the 71st Session of the U.N. General Assembly on the central topic "The Sustainable Development Goals: a universal push to transform our world". President Pahor also gave a speech on behalf of Slovenia in the general debate. On the sidelines of the General Debate, Minister Erjavec met Yves Leterme, Secretary-General of the International Institute for Democracy and

Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), who presented the role of the Institute in international democracy assistance. Minister Erjavec also held a bilateral meeting with the foreign minister of Angola, Georges Rebelo Chikoti and with the Senegalese Foreign Minister, Mankeur Ndiaye, as well as the Secretary-General of the Arab League, Ahmed Aboul-Gheit, whereas President Pahor held bilateral talks with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Peter Thomson, President of the 71st Session of the U.N. General Assembly. Afterwards, both Slovenian high representatives attended a reception at the E.U. delegation to the U.N..

On Wednesday, both high-level representatives attended a reception hosted by the Slovenian Ambassador to the U.N. Andrej Logar, recognizing the centennial of the Slovenian church in New York City's East Village and the work of its pastor, Father Krizolog Cimerman. On the occasion and in presence of the President and the Minister, Ambassador Logar also conveyed to the parish recognition for the 100th anniversary by the Minister for Slovenians Abroad.

Establishment of Mexico–Slovenia Friendship Group

The Mexican-Slovenian Friendship Group was established in the Mexican Congress on September 13. The ceremony was attended by members of the group, some other MPs and parliament staff, representatives of the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the media. The event was joined by Ambassador Dr. Božo Cerar and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Slovenia in Mexico City Mr. Ariel Lopez.

The audience was first addressed by MP Alma Lucia Arzaluz Alonso, the President of the Friendship Group. After her, Ambassador Dr. Božo Cerar conveyed to the MPs remarks by the chairperson of the Slovenian-Mexican Friendship Group in the Slovenian parliament, Mrs. Vesna Vervega. The group had already been founded in the Slovenian National Assembly in 2014.

At the end of the program, MP Victor Giorgana, who serves as the president of the Committee on International Relations, delivered a speech, followed by the solemn signing of the document constituting the group. During his visit in Mexico City, Ambassador Dr. Cerar also met with Alejandro Macías Ortega, Deputy Director General for Europe in the Mexican Foreign Ministry.



EDUCATION

High School Students from Gimnazija Ptuj Visit Washington

A group of high school student from Gimnazija Ptuj visited Washington, D.C. from September 25 to 30. The group and their mentor and teacher Ms. Nataša Kostanjevec annually organize a U.N. model competition in Slovenia, so prior visiting Washington the students flew to New York City and got acquainted with the work of the Slovenian mission to the U.N.

During their stay in the nation's capital, the students visited

the Pentagon, the office of Senator Amy Klobuchar and the U.S. Congress as well as attended briefings at the U.S. Department of State, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the Delegation of the European Union in Washington. They also attended panel discussions in various think-tanks. They group also met with their peers at the Theodore Roosevelt High School and concluded the one-week program with a visit at the embassy.

There, the students were first acquainted with some facts about the mission of the embassy and its range of activities. After the welcoming remarks by cultural and public diplomacy officer, Ms. Nuška Zakrajšek, Defense Attaché Col. Ivan Mikuž presented the main features of the defense cooperation between Slovenia and the U.S. Ms. Tjaša Tanko explained to the students what kind of assistance the consular department can offer to Slovenian



Discussion at the embassy.



The group annually organizes a U.N. model competition in Slovenia.

citizens, whereas Mr. Borut Žunič and Mr. Damir Devčič described their work as political counselors.

The discussion was also joined

by the Ambassador, Dr. Božo Cerar, who outlined basic features of work in the field of diplomacy, and answered questions about the Slovenian and

American foreign policy priorities and bilateral relations between the two countries.

EDUCATION

Ambassador Dr. Cerar Lectures at the University of Nebraska



Ambassador Dr. Cerar.

Ambassador Dr. Cerar traveled to Nebraska on Monday and Tuesday, September 26-27 to attend the 2016 James E. Smith Midwest Conference on World Affairs. This year's event at the University of Nebraska Kearney was titled: Migration, Borders, and Identity: Building Bridges or Walls. The Ambassador offered Slovenian

insight of the migration flows Slovenia has experienced from mid-October 2015 to April 2016, when almost half a million refugees and migrants crossed the country. This was by far the biggest humanitarian crisis Slovenia had to deal with, not only since its independence in 1991, but also in the written history of the land.

Over the past two and a half years Slovenia has been steadily increasing humanitarian assistance abroad, spending about 2 million US\$. The funds were mainly allocated for refugees and internally displaced people through contributions to international aid organizations, bilateral projects and activities mainly focused on psychosocial well-being of children and mine awareness and in-kind assistance, which was provided in terms of shelters, tents, medical supplies etc. For the period until 2019, the Slovenian government already pledged around 7 million US\$ for humanitarian assistance in developing countries. To date over 700 refugees sought international

protection in Slovenia. To address their needs almost three and a half million US\$ were used last year on the housing, assimilation programs and education.

The ambassador also elaborated that since the start of the crisis, Slovenia pushed for a common European approach to better respond to the complex challenges of migration regionally. The E.U. has in the last two years allocated well over 15 billion US\$ to migration management, however, there are still serious challenges in the sense of long-term sustainability and absorption capacities. In this regard, President Obama's September meeting on this topic created a major shift from regional approaches to dealing with migration management on the global level. The ambassador outlined that this approach leads in the right direction. He stressed that the international community as a whole has a moral obligation to manage migration comprehensively and effectively by applying long-term strategies for sustainable solutions.

XIV. Bachelor's, Master's Theses and Doctoral Dissertations Competition

The Government Office for Slovenes Abroad has announced The Award-Giving Competition for Bachelor's and Master's Theses and Doctoral Dissertations on topics:

- A: Slovenes in neighboring countries
B: Slovenes in emigration/abroad.

The aim of the competition is to promote research studies by undergraduate and postgraduate students on issues related to Slovenes in neighboring countries and abroad. The ultimate goal is to raise awareness of the importance of preserving Slovene identity in the mother-country as well as outside its borders.

The competition is open to candidates from the Republic of Slovenia as well as abroad. Authors of Bachelor's and Master's theses or Doctoral dissertations dealing with the topics related to Slovene communities outside the borders of the Republic of Slovenia that have been successfully defended at any university within or outside Slovenia may apply to this competition.

Accepted will be submissions in any of the following languages: Slovene, Croatian, Bosnian, Serbian (in Latin script), Italian, German, English, and Spanish. Works in a language other than Slovenian must have attached an abstract in Slovenian (60 to 150 lines).

As an exception, the Commission may award a special prize in the amount of 400 euros for the best undergraduate paper within the framework of a lower step of the Bologna study program.

The authors of theses or dissertations that have been entered

in other similar competitions may also apply. Into account will be taken theses or dissertations that were/will be **defended in the period from November 1, 2015 to October 31, 2016.**

The awards will be distributed in the following way: three for theses or dissertations dealing with the topic of Slovenes living in neighboring countries and three for theses or dissertations dealing with Slovenes living abroad: the award for the best written paper in either field in the amount of 800 euros (approx. \$900), and two awards in the amount of respectively, 600 and 400 euros (resp. approx. \$675 and \$450) will be given to the second and third best paper. Upon the expert committee's proposal, the Office may decide to increase the number of the awards in one of the categories, but the total number of awards should not exceed the total number of the awards to be distributed (i.e. 6 awards) or the total amount of the fund of 3,600 euros.

At the winners' request, the Office will issue a recommendation for the best theses or dissertations to be published.

The expert committee will evaluate the Bachelor's and Master's theses and Doctoral dissertations dealing with various topics in relation to Slovenes living in neighboring countries and abroad, based on the following criteria: the originality of the topic, the approach, the applicability of papers in relation to the preservation of Slovene identity outside the borders of the Republic of Slovenia and its connection with

the motherland, professionalism, complexity and interdisciplinarity of papers.

By participating in the competition, the authors are deemed to have given their consent for the papers to be kept in the archive of the Office.

Method of application and deadline:

The candidates should send or deliver one copy of their papers bound and with hard cover, the certificate of successful defense of the respective paper (the date of its submission must be evident) and a short curriculum vitae (including personal data, phone number and e-mail contact) to the **Government's Office for Slovenes Abroad address: Urad Vlade RS za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu, Erjavčeva 15, 1000 Ljubljana, SI.**

From the application it must be clear what type of work is involved – a diploma at the lower, higher step of the Bologna study program, a Master's degree, a scientific Master's degree...

Only papers sent or **delivered by December 9, 2016** (inclusive) will be accepted; the results of the competition will be announced by the end of April 2017. The award-giving ceremony is expected to be held in spring/summer of 2017.

Additional information may be obtained at the following telephone number: (001)(386) (1) 230-8011 (every business day between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., CET) or by e-mail: zvone.zigon@gov.si

Scholarships from Kerže Trust Funds for Students at the Thornton School of Music, University of Southern California

The Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles offers scholarships to students at music schools in Slovenia. These scholarships are from the following Trust Funds:

- 1) **Therese Kerze Cheyovich Endowment Fund and**
- 2) **Frank Kerze and Florence Kerze-Dunphy Scholarship Fund for the Study of Music.**

Both funds were established by the members of the immigrant family Kerže who were extremely proud of their Slovenian origin and wanted in this way to honor their ancestry. The goal of the funds is to provide an opportunity for Slovenian students to receive education and training at the USC Thornton School of Music, to familiarize them with U.S. culture and to provide opportunities to gain U.S. exposure of their musical talents.

The scholarship(s) from Frank Kerze and Florence Kerze-Dunphy Scholarship Fund for the Study of Music will be awarded to one or more qualified students of music to support their graduate-level studies leading to a certificate, Master's and/or doctoral degree in the field of music. Once awarded, a returning candidate may continue to receive the scholarship each year until s/he completes his/her academic program. Scholarship funds may be awarded for tuition, fees, and other expenses.

The scholarships from Therese Kerze Cheyovich Endowment Fund will be awarded to one or more qualified students of music to support their undergraduate or graduate studies leading to a certificate and/or a Bachelor's, Master's and/or doctoral degree at the USC Thornton School of Music. Once awarded, a returning candidate may continue to receive the scholarship each

year until s/he completes his/her academic program. Scholarship funds may be awarded for tuition, fees, and living expenses. The donor of this particular scholarship preferred that the recipients play the cello as their primary musical instrument.

In order to be granted a scholarship, candidates must apply for and be accepted into the applicable degree and/or certificate program pursuant to the policies of the USC Thornton School of Music.

The application deadline to be considered for admission to the fall semester of 2017 is December 1, 2016.

Please note that the application and audition requirements differ from program to program. For specific department application and audition requirements, please select the appropriate program. You can find all requirements by program at the USC website: <https://music.usc.edu/admission/appreqs/>

In general, the requirements include:

- online application for admission
- prescreen recording
- resumé which should list musical, professional and academic experience
- repertoire list – to be submitted with online application
- supporting documents (e.g. academic transcripts, SAT scores for undergraduate students etc.)
- statement of purpose – motivation letter
- letters of recommendation

The undergraduate application fee is \$80, with an additional \$25 upload fee for the prescreen recording.

The graduate application fee is \$90, with an additional \$25 upload fee for the prescreen recording.

The following additional application materials are required from international

applicants:

- Confidential Statement of Financial Support (please refer to the possible funding from the Kerže Trust Funds)
- English Language Test Requirement- TOEFL/IELTS
- Transcripts and Certified English Translations from all schools attended
- Certified copy of English translation of all relevant documents
- certified copy of passport

For accurate list of requirements and department applications please double check the USC website at: <https://music.usc.edu/admission/>

The first selection done by the Selection Committee will be based on the prescreen recording submitted by the applicant **by the December 1, 2016 deadline**. Following this initial review, an invitation will be extended to a select group of applicants to perform a live audition on the USC campus in Los Angeles; Live auditions typically take place in late January and early February. The successful applicants may be offered a scholarship in the spring.

For any additional queries you may contact Ms. Darinka Trček at at the Slovene Human Resources and Development Fund: EducationUSA@sklad-kadri.si or Ms. Nuška Zakrajšek at the Embassy of Slovenia in the U.S.: Nuska.Zakrajsek@gov.si or contact USC directly: Ms. Kit Bellamy, Associate Director for Graduate Admission at keb@thornton.usc.edu or Ms. Brittany Seits, Associate Director for Undergraduate Admission at seits@thornton.usc.edu. We also kindly ask to inform the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia in Washington about the submitted application at: Nuska.Zakrajsek@gov.si.

KSKJ Life Historical Artifacts and Photos

We often lose the history and connection to our past when loved ones die or organizations dissolve. KSKJ Life is making a priority to gather photographs, artifacts, articles and historical memorabilia in an effort to preserve the history of KSKJ Life rich in its Slovenian heritage.

The home office recently took on the ambitious task of cataloging all

of our historical photos and artifacts retained over the years, many of which are from previous national conventions. We are planning on having a history exhibit once again at our next convention in 2018. While taking inventory, we discovered a few convention years that are sparse on pictures and/or artifacts. Two years in particular are 1914, which was held

in Milwaukee, WI and 1954, which was held in Joliet, IL.

If anyone has photos or artifacts from these particular years or any other interesting historical KSKJ Life items, please contact Lauren Baltz at the home office at 1-800-843-5755 or email lauren.baltz@kskjlife.com or fraternal@kskjlife.com.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Slovenian Award for Social Responsibility Horus 2016

You are invited to nominate eligible persons for the Slovenian Social Responsibility Award - Horus 2016. The call is aimed at enterprises (micro, small, medium, large, and social enterprises) and institutions, entrepreneurs with Slovenian roots, doing business outside

Slovenia, and journalists, as well as other organizations and individuals who practice social responsibility.

The Call was published by IRDO - Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility, PRRS - Slovenian Society for Public Relations

and Office for Slovenians Abroad. For more information, please see the following website: <http://www.horus.si/ang-index.html> or in Slovene <http://www.horus.si/razpis.html>

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Training for Teachers of the Slovene Language

Government's Office for Slovenians Abroad together with the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, and in co-operation with the National Education Institute, is organizing a training course for

teachers of the Slovene language from the U.S. and Canada. The course will take place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from January 24 to February 2, 2017.

The organizers will cover the cost of accommodation as well as

reimburse 85 % of the airplane fare.

Application to the following e-mail address: urad.slovinci@gov.si or suzana.martinez@gov.si. Application form in Slovene is available at: <http://www.uszs.gov.si/>

ANNOUNCEMENT

Consular Hours in New York City

The consular officer from the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia in Washington DC will be holding consular hours and providing consular services (authentications, certifications, passport applications, etc.) in New York City on Friday, October 14, 2016 and Friday, October 21 at the premises of Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations, located

at 630 Third Avenue, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10017.

To schedule an appointment please send an e-mail at sloembassy.washington@gov.si. Please suggest a time for your appointment. The Embassy will give you further information on the documentation you need to bring. You may also visit the Embassy website <http://washington.embassy.si/>

<http://washington.embassy.si/> (Consular Affairs, Visas) for documents required for most consular services. Please note that the consular fee must be paid with a Money Order addressed to "Embassy of Slovenia". Cash, personal checks or credit cards will not be accepted. Prior appointment is needed to enter the premises of the Mission.

Learn Slovenian Online

If you wanted to learn Slovenian language but didn't have time for the set times of the class or you lived too far, there is an option for you. Mr. Luka Zibelnik, a teacher of the Slovenian language at Cleveland State University in Ohio created a new program for learning Slovenian language online. In the past two years, over 170 students learned the language through the program under the guidance of Mr. Zibelnik.

The course will provide you with the structured learning of a classroom with all the online flexibility that you need. It doesn't matter where you are, as long as you have the Internet you can access his

courses from any computer, laptop, tablet or mobile device. The classes are offered throughout the U.S. and even worldwide, and are ideal for people of Slovenian descent, spouses and friends of Slovenians, and for all who are unable to attend the regular classes.

The lectures are prerecorded in the program Tegrity, and students can watch them anytime in the week in which the unit is published. Accompanying the video lectures are PowerPoint presentations (textbook), a Word document with new words, an Online tool for easier pronunciation and a Fun and Trivia folder with cultural and historical facts. Also, many of the units include Youtube videos, music and literature.

Each semester is 16 weeks long and is concluded by a final examination. Both beginner Slovenian (SLN 101 and 102) and intermediate Slovenian (SLN 201 and SLN 202) are two semesters in length (Fall semester starts in the end of August and Spring semester starts in January). The lectures are in English, and Slovenian is spoken by a native speaker and an American speaker.

For the non-credit students (Continuing Education) the price of a semester is \$425; however, if you are taking it for credit points, you need to consult with Cleveland State University's Admissions and Registrar's office. For more information visit: www.onlineslovenian.com

NEW BOOK

Slovenian American Inventors and Innovators

Edward Gobetz, PhD, has made it his life's work to record stories of Slovenians who have helped to shape our world. His latest work focuses on Slovenian Americans and their contributions to the science and technology. The book titled "Slovenian American Inventors and Innovators" has been published by Družina publishing house and provides information on over 100 innovators of Slovenian origin who have pursued - and in many instances captured - the American Dream and in the process substantially contributed to prosperity and progress of the country

and also of the entire world.

The hardcover bibliophile edition of the 408-page volume very convincingly depicts how much Slovenian Americans influenced the research and development of science in the 20th century, from the first pocket-sized calculator to the manufacture of the jumbo-jet.

Dr. Gobetz is professor emeritus of Kent State University and founder of the Slovenian Research Center of America (SRCA). Together with his wife, Milena, he has been collecting for well

over 60 data on various ground-breaking inventors and innovators of Slovenian heritage in the U.S.

The book can be ordered online at amazon.com or directly from the publisher at the e-mail address: barbara.brajer@druzina.si or druzina@narocila.si. The book is also available for personal pick up at the Slovenian American Times' Office, 33977 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills (tel. 440-833-0020) and at Slovenska Pisarna, St. Vitus Village, 6114 Lausche Ave., Cleveland (Felix Gaser, tel: 216-381-2602).

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MINNESOTA

EXHIBITION: FARMERS, MINERS & REFUGEES, SLOVENIAN IMMIGRATION IN MINNESOTA SINCE 1855

When: [October 16 - January 11](#)

Where: [Stearns History Museum, 235-33rd Avenue South, St. Cloud, MN 56301](#)

Hours of operation: [Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.](#)

Admission: \$7 Adults, \$3 Children.

More information: <http://www.clevelandslovenian.com/akaCLESLO/2016/10/03/slovenian-immigration-in-minnesota-since-1855/>, <http://stearns-museum.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NYC, DC & MARYLAND

PROKOFIEV GUITAR DUO: MAK GRGIĆ AND NEJC KUCHAR PERFORM IN MD

Nejc Kuhar and Mak Grgić, both former students of the revered guitar master Alvaro Pierri at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna, live now on completely different sides of the world. Mak is on the faculty of Mount Saint Mary's University in Los Angeles and, in addition to curating festivals both in the U.S and Europe, spends a distinct portion of his time on the road performing. Nejc holds professorship at the Vienna Music Academy and Frankfurt Music School and is, as Mak, an active performer. When their paths meet they enjoy performing together as Prokofiev Guitar Duo, a collaboration that was established already during their times in Vienna. After their last U.S. tour, which took the duo to the National Gallery of Art, it has been almost three years since they performed in the D.C. area. Prokofiev Guitar Duo is returning with a program consisting of original music, intricate arrangements and Spanish classics.

ALL PERFORMANCES ARE ENTRANCE FREE; NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

When: [Saturday, October 22 at 7:30 p.m.](#)

Where: [St. Cyril's Church, 62 St Marks Pl, New York, New York 10003](#)

When: [Tuesday, October 25 at 7:30pm to 9:00pm](#)

Where: [Pealer Recital Hall, PAC 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD](#)

More information: http://events.frostburg.edu/event/prokofiev_guitar_duo_-_guest_artist_series_recital

When: [Wednesday, October 26 at 7 p.m.](#)

Where: [Avalon Theatre, 40 E. Dover St. Easton, Maryland 21601](#)

More information: <https://www.avalonfoundation.org/events/free-show-prokofiev-guitar-duo-nejc-kuhar-mak-grgic>

When: [Thursday, October 27 at 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm](#)

Where: [Bowie Center for the Performing Arts, 15200 Annapolis Road, Bowie, Maryland 20715](#)

More information: <http://www.bowiecenter.org/calendar.html> , <https://www.facebook.com/events/284032635312735/>

SLOVENIAN FILM "GOING OUR WAY/GREMO MI PO SVOJE" AT THE KIDS EURO FESTIVAL

The screening of the film *Going Our Way/Gremo mi po svoje*, directed by Miha Hočevar, is part of the Kids Euro Festival, a two-week festival of free family events and performances throughout Washington, D.C. presented by European Union Members and local arts organizations. To learn more and register visit: <http://kidseurofestival.org/>

What it is about...

Alex and his teen friends are at summer camp by the river. The camp leader is quite annoying – he takes scouting much too seriously, while the boys would rather have fun, try their luck with the girls and swim rather than learn scouting skills and take part in competitions. The situation in the camp keeps disintegrating, but parents' visiting day is drawing near. The camp leader makes a cunning move, organizing a camping competition, where small groups of scouts spend a night on their own in the wilderness in improvised shelters. Naturally, to escape the monotony, Alex volunteers. Jake, the camp leader's hypochondriac son, and Sleepyhead, a philosopher type, join him...

Presented in Slovenian with English subtitles.

Age: 9-13

Duration: 97 mins.

When: [Sunday, October 30 at 11:00 a.m.](#)

Where: [AFI Silver Spring, 8633 Colesville Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20910](#)

Free admission.

Register at: <http://silver.afi.com/Browsing/Movies/Details/m-0100001060>

More information: <http://kidseurofestival.org/going-way-gremo-mi-po-svoje/>

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OHIO

LECTURE BY DRAGO KUNEJ: HISTORICAL SOUND-RECORDINGS OF TRADITIONAL SLOVENIAN MUSIC AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLKA IN AMERICA

When: Monday, November 14, 2016 - 4:00pm to 5:30pm

Where: Music and Dance Library 205, Ohio State University, 140 Enarson Classroom Building, 2009 Millikin Road, Columbus OH, 43210

More information: <https://slaviccenter.osu.edu/events/historical-sound-recording-traditional-slovenian-music-and-development-polka-america>

Record companies in the early 20th century quickly realized that in order to increase the sales of phonographs and records they needed ethnic music, which would sound familiar to local consumers and help them to identify with these new musical commodities. The most comprehensive and systematic ethnic music marketing campaigns were undertaken by American record companies, with the aim of addressing the desires and interests of a growing immigrant population, a potentially lucrative new market demographic. Thus, it is not surprising that much Slovenian music was recorded in the United States between the two World Wars, performed by the emigrants as well as touring artists from the motherland.

This lecture will focus on recorded dance tunes from the 1920s and '30s. Such recordings represent invaluable ethnomusicological and ethnochoreological materials, are the oldest sound recordings of Slovenian instrumental traditional music, and have an enormous cultural and documentary value. By mixing elements of Slovenian traditional music and various popular American genres of the time, Slovenian emigrants contributed to the development of polka music, the appeal of which crossed ethnic boundaries and later achieved more widespread popularity. Most of early polka tunes have been recorded on phonograph records, which give us insight into the history of Slovenian music in the United States and the activities of its artists and audiences.

Drago Kunej is head of the Institute of Ethnomusicology at the Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts. He is also head of institute's Sound Archives and Assistant Professor at the Academy of Music and at the Department of Musicology at the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana, Slovenia. He is actively involved in the technical and methodological aspects of sound recording for research purposes, particularly in ethnomusicological field recordings and the problems of sound preservation, restoration, re-recording, digitization, and archiving. His research focuses on the history of sound recordings and early ethnomusicological sound recordings in Slovenia. He has been actively involved in several European and national projects, has presented his research work at many international conferences, and published several scientific papers and two monograph books (*The Phonograph has Arrived! : The First Sound Recordings of Slovenian Folk Music*, 2008 and *Music from both sides: Gramophone Records Made by Matija Arko and Hoyer Trio*, 2016). As editor and sound engineer, he has been involved in numerous publications of sound recordings.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the School of Music, the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, and the Slovene Research Initiative.

EXHIBITION BY EVA PETRIČ IN OHIO: IN BETWEEN UNIVERSES

In this exhibition, Eva Petrič creates an interplay of light and shadow by composing a “lace assemblage” from found, donated, and inherited hand-made pieces of lace collected from all over the world, and combining them with sound and video projections. It is her homage to the delicate webs that tie us together and unite us in this world.

When: October 2, 2016-December 31, 2016

Where: Butler Institute of American Art, 524 Wick Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44502

More information: <http://butlerart.com/eva-petric-universes/>



Eva Petrič, LIEBE: lace assemblage installation, St. Stephan's Cathedral, Vienna, Austria Photo Credit: Andreas Scheiblecker

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NEW YORK

FILM SCREENING: HORROR MOVIE 'IDYLL' BY TOMAŽ GORKIČ

After a night of carousing, the amateur photo model Zina heads for a fashion shoot in nature, accompanied by the ambitious Mia, apathetic Dragica and snobby photographer Blitz. On their way to the location, they come across some odd locals, but pay them no attention. On an idyllic meadow that they chose as their location, they are violently attacked by its supposed owners Francl and Vintlr. Thus an ordinary fashion shoot in nature turns into a fierce fight for survival...

'Idyll' plays with the genre pattern of a horrifying confrontation between rural and urban. Underneath the basic story structure there are some subtly positioned problematic themes that modern-day Slovene as well as general society faces nowadays. It is a dark reflection of the world we live in.

When: **Saturday, November 12, 2016 at 12:00 pm-2:00 pm**

Where: **CINEPOLIS CHELSEA, NYC, THEATER 8, 260 W 23rd St., New York, NY 10011**

More information: <https://nychorrorfest.com/movies/idyll/>

IN SHORT

- For the third time, Kabaj is, in 2016, one of Wine & Spirits Magazine's Top 100 Wineries, an honor the winery also received in 2015 and 2013. Kabaj is listed with many prestigious wineries from all over the world including Stag's Leap Wine Cellars from Napa Valley, Ridge from the Santa Cruz Mountains, Marchesi Antinori from Tuscany, Joh. Jos. Prüm from Mosel, Krug from Champagne, Joseph Drouhin from Burgundy, and E. Guigal from Rhone Valley. Kabaj's Luisa 2011, a white blend named after Jean Michel Morel's grandmother, is one of the magazine's highest-scoring wines, getting 94 Points: "Like many Kabaj whites, this 2011 is reticent at first, the flavors masked by a meaty texture and lactic notes that recall washed-rind cheese. The wine raised some controversy among our panelists, yet it emerged over several days of re-tasting as one of this issue's most compelling white wines. Winemaker Jean-Michel Morel changes the composition of Luisa depending on the vintage, this one a blend of co-fermented friulano, pinot bianco, sauvignon blanc and ribolla that macerated on the skins for a full month. Exposure to air transforms it into a gorgeously expressive wine with scents of fresh pineapple, lemon and tangerine and flavors of peach that warm into rich baked pear, ginger and honey. The texture is chewy and dense, cooled by a stream of acidity that keeps the flavors juicy and bright. Decanted and served at cellar temperature, it's a dynamic match for the gamey flavors of roast pheasant or guinea hen." Source: <http://www.wineandspiritsmagazine.com/top100/wineries>

- Chef Ana Roš channels the beauty and bounty of real-life Narnia at Hiša Franko writes the Food and Wine Magazine: <http://www.foodandwine.com/chefs/chef-ana-ros>

- Oscars: Slovenia selects 'Houston, We Have a Problem!' for foreign-language category: <http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/oscars-slovenia-selects-houston-we-931421>

- Slovenia is (burgeoning) Fairy Tale of a City writes Bianca Bosker in the New York Times : http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/22/t-magazine/travel/ljubljana-slovenia-guide.html?_r=0

- This former Slovenian prison is now a beautiful hostel with uniquely furnished cells: <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/news/2016/09/07/former-slovenian-prison-now-beautiful-hostel-unique-furnished-cells/#ixzz4Jhi0paYQ>

- Congratulations to Slovenian violinist Lana Trotovšek - the Global Music Awards gold-medal winner: <http://www.globalmusicawards.com/> , <http://www.delo.si/kultura/glasba/violinistka-lana-trotovsek-nagrajenka-global-music-awards-2016.html>

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