Annual General and Honorary Consuls’ Meeting

On October 7, the Embassy of Slovenia hosted the 3rd annual meeting of Honorary Consuls of Slovenia in the U.S. and Mexico. Consul General from Cleveland, Mr. Jurček Žmauc, and Consul General a.i. from New York, Dr. Melita Gabrič, also attended the meeting.

In his welcome address, Ambassador Kirn presented current political and economic situation in Slovenia and the EU. Deputy head of the European Union Delegation to the U.S., Mr. Francois Rivasseau, briefly described the delegation’s role in the United States, its main projects and future plans of cooperation with consuls around the U.S. The meeting included a presentation of bilateral relations between Slovenia and USA/Mexico, economic and scientific cooperation, military cooperation, consular assistance and organization of cultural events. The key
A discussion point was the promotion of Slovenia as an interesting business and trade partner as well as an ideal tourist destination.

Honorary consuls in their respective states provide valuable assistance to both general consulates and the embassy. We would like to thank the honorary consuls who attended the meeting: Mr. Thomas Brandi, Dr. Gregory S. Chan, Mr. Ariel López, Mrs. Barbara K. Nelson, Dr. Lydia M. Pulsipher, Dr. John P. Vidmar, Mr. Lucky Vidmar, Mr. Richard B. Wilkens, III and Adm. R. J. Zlatoper, for providing a variety of useful ideas and recommendations.

**CULTURE**

**Opening of the Exhibition in Cleveland**

On Wednesday, October 12, 2011, the Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia, together with Dr. David Perse, President of St. Vincent Charity Hospital, opened a month-long art exhibition with a reception that included guests from the Slovenian, civic, educational, and medical communities in Cleveland.

The featured artists include Gorazd Jordan from Maribor, Slovenia, Lynn Miller of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and Meta Zobec Novak of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the latter two of whom were in attendance to speak about their work.

The jointly organized exhibit is the last of a series of events to celebrate Slovenian culture and artistry in conjunction with the 20th anniversary of Slovenia’s independence. The exhibit can be viewed at St. Vincent Charity Hospital through mid-November. On Sunday, December 11, it will open at the Slovenian Cultural Center in Lemont, Illinois, in conjunction with the annual wine-tasting event there.

St. Vincent Charity Hospital is located at 2351 East 22nd Street, Cleveland, OH 44115. For more information, contact the Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland at (216) 589-9220.
Kids Euro Festival 2011

Kids Euro Festival 2011 is officially open! A distinguished Slovenian artist, Melita Osojnik, has already cheered up little patients and their parents today in the Children’s Medical Center with her interactive Story of the Golden Flower. Melita will entertain her audience again this weekend and we warmly invite you to attend her public performances and enjoy yourself on Friday, October 14 at 6:00 P.M. on the Kennedy Center’s Millennium stage; on Saturday, October 15 at 1:30 P.M. in the Library of Congress (Young readers center, LJ-629); and on Sunday, October 16 at 2:00 P.M at the Strathmore.

Reservations for these FREE performances can be made at: www.kidseurofestival.org

Left above: Melita Osojnik performing at Children’s Medical Center. Left down: Melita making funny faces after the performance with some of the children.

Pile-dwellings in the Ljubljansko Barje on UNESCO List

Ljubljansko Barje, moor which lies in the immediate vicinity of the city of Ljubljana, is an incredible treasury of natural and cultural heritage. This idyllic landscape is home to a number of species of fauna and flora, as well as to archaeological sites.

The area’s prehistoric pile-dwellings received a unanimous vote for entry in the World Heritage List at the annual session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Paris on June 27.
They were listed in a serial nomination of “Prehistoric Pile-Dwellings around the Alps”, which contains a selection of 111 out of a total of 1,000 archaeological sites in six countries in the Alpine area (Switzerland, Austria, France, Germany, Italy and Slovenia). Slovenia has thus been given its first designation on the list as a cultural property, coinciding with the 25th anniversary of the entry of the Škocjan Caves on the list of natural heritage monuments.

Prehistoric pile-dwellings in the Ljubljansko Barje are represented by those existing in two locations near Ig, in the surroundings of Ljubljana. Their complexity demonstrates the richness and diversity of pile-dwelling heritage in this part of the Alpine area.

Under the UNESCO World Heritage List, the pile-dwellings in the Ljubljansko Barje Landscape Park offer an extraordinary universal value and a contribution to the knowledge of prehistoric pile-dwelling civilizations, which existed in the region for over 4,500 years, from 5000 to 500 BC. Their archaeological remains were found mostly on lake shores, under the water, along marshes and rivers: at locations assuring their extraordinary preservation. These pile dwellings give a clear and detailed image of the world, life and inventions of the original farmers in Europe.

Since the remnants were sunk in grounds that were constantly wet, their wooden structures, food remains, wooden tools and even clothes remained excellently preserved, and thus afford an in-depth insight in the life of those times. Pile-dwellings and moor settlements from the prehistoric period are a special phenomenon typical of Alpine lands. Nowhere else in the world is the development of settlement communities from the Neolithic and Metal Ages so clearly visible and, at the same time, makes possible extremely thorough research. The findings in the Ljubljansko Barje are one of the most significant archaeological sites in both Slovenia and the world. It is a precious part of the human past and, at the same time, an inexhaustible archaeological source in the mosaic of common human memory.

For more information, please visit: www.slovenia.si.
Crystal Palace – Slovenia’s new tallest building

Crystal Palace is a new business, commercial and community center in Ljubljana. With its 295 ft., it is the tallest high-rise office building in Slovenia, while its modern architecture, first class technology and ecological construction materials impart the building an added value. Crystal Palace is located in BTC City, the largest shopping center in Slovenia. Once an outskirts warehouse area, BTC City has turned into the busiest shopping, business, commercial, recreational, entertaining and cultural center in the country and one of the largest in Europe with over 21 million visitors per year.

The new building offers 20 floors of business premises, a heliport, an upscale shopping gallery, a multifunctional park on the roof, two panoramic elevators, culinary treats in luxurious restaurants and a scenic roof-top café, a business and congress center, a medical beauty and wellness center, a parking area, and much more, which makes it the hippiest place in Ljubljana.

EURAXESS Links USA News – Monthly Newsletter

EURAXESS Links is a networking tool for European researchers working outside Europe under the European Commission, launched in the United States, Japan and China. The organization provides information on research in Europe, European research policy, opportunities for research funding, international collaboration and transnational mobility. Membership is free.

Since November 2007, EURAXESS Links has been publishing a monthly newsletter, EURAXESS Links USA News, with information about relevant research and reports, ongoing projects, forthcoming events, funding opportunities and fellowships, and much more.

We have gathered some of the topics in the September issue, which is available on its

The Government’s Office for Slovenians Abroad announced a public tender for co-financing programs and projects for Slovenians living abroad. Primary objectives are the promotion of activities of Slovenians abroad to preserve ethnic, linguistic and cultural identity, strengthening cooperation in science and economy, provide activities for young people and maintain ties with Slovenia.

Applicants are required to send sealed and clearly marked applications directly to the Government’s Office for Slovenians Abroad by October 28, 2011. Postmark from the post office will count as proof of timely application. Please visit the homepage of the Government’s Office for Slovenians Abroad (www.uszs.gov.si) for the application form and tender documentation.

We encourage Slovenians living in the U.S. to carefully evaluate the tender documentation and apply if they comply with the requirements.

Due to the upcoming parliamentary elections on December 4, 2011, we urge all Slovenian citizens who have recently moved and have not yet updated their permanent or temporary address in the United States with the Slovenian authorities, to do so.

Please, contact the Embassy of Slovenia by e-mail at vwa@gov.si (include your full name, date of birth and current address) to obtain the appropriate forms.
List To Do

1. Kids Euro Festival: Slovenian Melita Osojnik with Golden Flower

The French-American Cultural Foundation in collaboration with 16 cultural institutions of the Washington, D.C. area and in cooperation of 27 EU embassies will organize the Kids Euro Festival 2011. Between October 14 and November 10, 2011, 150 performances, 75 workshops and 16 movies will take place free of charge.

Slovenia will be represented by Melita Osojnik, who will participate with the Story of the Golden Flower. Melita’s public performances will take place on Friday, October 14 at 6:00 P.M. on the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage; on Saturday, October 15 at 1:30 P.M. in the Library of Congress; and on Sunday, October 16 at 2:00 P.M. at the Strathmore. Reservations for these performances can be made at:

Where: Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, Library of Congress and Strathmore theatre
When: October 14 to 16, 2011

For more information about the KEF and Slovenien performances please visit: http://www.kidseurofestival.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=74&Itemid=63.

3. New Exhibition “River”

Slovenia, with its beautiful rivers, is a paradise for everyone: those looking to relax and the ones seeking more challenging outdoor adventures. Exhibition features a set of photographs by Jaka Vinšek, a young but very successful Slovenian photographer.

When: Ongoing - December 31, 2011
Where: Embassy of Slovenia, 2410 California St., NW, Washington, DC 20008
More info: (202) 386-6601