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CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2023

“Access to Cultural Heritage: Inclusivity and Development”

“Place of Heritage in Interdisciplinarity” (Study Circle 1), Nordic Summer University

Summer Session: 27 July – 3 August, 2023; Palanga (Lithuania)

Invitation

The Nordic Summer University (NSU) Study Circle 1 “Place of Heritage in Interdisciplinarity” is pleased to invite proposals for our second session “Access to Cultural Heritage: Inclusivity and Development”, which will be held between 27 July and 3 August, 2023, in Palanga (Lithuania).

The Summer Session of the Study Circle will happen in a collaboration with New York Art Forensics, a team capable of covering all aspects of art authentication and appraisal, from title and provenance research to scientific material analysis. They will perform equally with other participants, sharing their expertise and conducting several workshop for participants.

Theme of the Session

In the thematic report, submitted to the Human Rights Council in 2011, the Special Rapporteur Farida Shaheed emphasised that the importance of cultural heritage is not only in itself, but also in usage of it for individuals and communities, in terms of both their identity and development processes. On the grounds that the need for a human rights based approach to cultural heritage was raised. The human rights issues related to cultural heritage to be found, inter alia, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These rights include the right to self-determination, the right to take part in cultural life; the cultural rights of persons belonging to minorities; the right to education; freedom of opinion and expression; freedom of religion and belief, as well as the right to take part in the conduct of public affairs. The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples must also be mentioned because it recognises the rights of indigenous peoples, particularly the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage.

The Summer Session “Access to Cultural Heritage: Inclusivity and Development” addresses the need for the human rights based approach in the understanding of heritage. Questions addressed in the symposia include, but are not limited to:

- What is a right to heritage about? What are the criterias of representativity to claim a right for heritage? What kind of body can claim heritage? What is the lifespan of heritage?
- Do new heritage practicies become “another identity”, complement or coexist with the original identity? What are the practices that facilitate the process of existing in between different heritage fields?
- How does heritage work in the context of migration? How can an individual transfer heritage with him/her/them? Is it possible to give equal place for different heritage practicies if a new person is expected to be assimilated?

The encounter is going to gather together people who seek to understand heritage related issues, search for a network of people working with heritage on different levels and educate themselves. We invite both people with an academic background, as well as activists and practitioners who work with heritage on different levels.

Format of the event

The week-long Summer Session is the yearly culmination of NSU's activities where all circles hold their sessions at a shared location. The program comprises of presentations, discussions, keynotes, workshops, readings, performances and a general assembly where every participant can take part in the democratic functioning of the organisation. There is also swimming, walking, and enjoying each other's company, and participants can bring their family. There is a children circle with activities for children aged 3-13.

The program of the Circle "Place of Heritage in Interdisciplinarity" will be composed out of the topics suggested by participants during the application period. Aiming at building a network of practitioners and academics able to challenge the existing dominant discourse on heritage, we will create a space where participants would be able to share their interests and/or expertise in interactive formats. During the event we will not only explore the topics of the participants but also explore the territory around in order to connect theoretical discussions with a practical point of view.

To apply

Please fill out the application in google form by **15 May, 2023**: <https://forms.gle/xyzbkhSTphEeuAEt8>

In your application, please indicate the following:

- Short background and your interest in the topic.
- What do you hope to get out of (and contribute with) at the symposium?
- Whether you need a scholarship/grant or not.

If you have any questions regarding the application and/or session, you can reach us by e-mails alina.kalachova@nsuweb.org and elena.bogdanova@gu.se.

Accepted participants will be notified by **17 May, 2023**, including all the relevant details regarding the registration. The last confirmations and payments are expected to be received by **1 June, 2023**. The preliminary programme will be announced on Circle's webpage <https://www.nsuweb.org/study-circles/circle-1-place-of-heritage-in-interdisciplinarity/>, where you can also find more information about NSU and sign up for the newsletter.

Participation fee

The costs of the summer session are as follows:

- Single rooms for 575 euros per person;
- Double/twin rooms for 425 euro per person;
- Family rooms for 950 euros (family of 4);
- Scholarship and grant recipient in a twin room: 175 euros.

The cost include membership of the Nordic Summer University, accommodation for the week, 3 meals and 2 coffee breaks a day, and access to the full NSU program during the summer session.

Scholarship and grant options: application process

The Study Circle "Place of Heritage in Interdisciplinarity" has three funding options for the participants:

- 2 scholarships from the Nordic Summer University: exclusively for Nordic/Baltic students;
- 2 grants from the Nordic Summer University: inclusive for all other students and people in need, also non-Nordic and Baltic participants;
- 2 scholarships sponsored by New York Art Forensics: exclusively for those who participated in the session between 17-21 July in Vilnius (Lithuania). Details how to apply for the event will be published as soon as they appear on the page of New York Art Forensics.

In order to apply for the scholarship or grant, please, fill in all the relevant fields in the common application form. Criteria of evaluation to be found here: https://www.nsuweb.org/support_pages/arrkom/scholarship-and-grant-program/?fbclid=IwAR3uzzy-0NQRuqTBi22SqR_kJb2WZimJfjawnWiOhyXsFzQwhqeTT44rueo

Academic credits

For those interested, we can provide a certificate of participation: 3 ECTS point for taking part in the Session and 2 additional point for contributing with a topic.

About Study Circle 1: “Place of Heritage in Interdisciplinarity”

Study Circle 1 focuses on interdisciplinary discussion of contemporary understandings of heritage and its practices in different cultural, organisational and social contexts.

This Circle will provide opportunities for discussions around democratic heritage discourse by investigating how top-down and bottom-up practices differ in scope of interpretation, representation and participation; because we believe that certain heritage practices are exclusionary and dominant and we would like to explore more inclusive and ways of addressing heritage. We assume that it will can bring heritage practices and ordinary citizens closer, enrich understanding of care as an inclusive field, and establish better communication between experts, practitioners and different users of heritage.

In practical terms, the circle will foster encounters and interdisciplinary discussions of contemporary understandings of heritage and its practices in different cultural, organisational and social contexts, with the aim to create understandings of heritage as a field of inclusion and active participation.

About NSU

Nordic Summer University (NSU) is a Swedish non-profit organisation. Since 1950, NSU has been an independent academic institution, which organises winter and summer symposia that draw international participants across disciplines in the Nordic and Baltic regions. Particular attention has been paid to cross-disciplinary areas not yet targeted by larger research institutions. The practice of NSU addresses two fundamental premises of a knowledge-based welfare state: production of knowledge based on academic freedom and democratic practice of self-governance.

References

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