The Slovene Museums Association report 2007

About the organization

The Slovene Museums Association was founded by 12 museums in 1970 as museum society with mission to support and coordinate the common interests and actions of its members addressing certain professional and status issues.

Its mission today is to promote Slovene museums and to attach an even greater importance to the preservation of cultural and natural heritage and to reach as large public as possible through a wide range initiatives and events.

The Slovene Museums Association currently has 64 members: museums, museum collections and galleries. Comprising all museums in the Slovene museum network /42 national, regional and local museums with public status financed by State/ and some, mostly private museums, working outside of it.

In its new Statute Association is organized as public institute run by the Board that consists of 11 members and is lead by president. They are all elected for the period of 2 years.

Association sets its goals and priorities according to the cultural policy of Slovenia in cooperation with the Museum Society of Slovenia and ICOM - Slovenian National Committee. It works on voluntary basis, receiving financial support for program from the Ministry of Culture, from membership fees and projects.

The Slovene Museums Association is member of the NEMO.
Program and activities in 2007

1. General program:
- General Assembly in Izola,
- 5 board meetings and some correspondent meetings,
- active participation in the legislative activities on the new law of preservation of cultural heritage in Slovenia
- organizing professional legal support for members
- supporting active individual and institutional participation in international activities (NEMO meetings, The Best In Heritage in Dubrovnik, conferences and workshops)
- traditional pre New Year join reception for members of 3 museum organizations.
- participation in the International Museum Day (18th May), in the European Cultural Heritage Days (Sept.-Oct.), in the This Merry Day of Culture (3rd Dec.), in the Slovene Day of Culture (8th Febr.)

2. Qualification and education program:
- coordinator in 2 year long join program of 7 partners from Italy, Austria, UK and Slovenia »Volunteers for cultural heritage in museums«(Lifelong learning – Grundtvig)
- partner in a 2 day program of Annual Meeting of Museum Society of Slovenia in Slovenj Gradec with 2 modules run by section of museum pedagogues and curators
- partner in Summer Museology School in Piran - additional qualification program for students and probationers
- running basic and advanced workshop of project management – MATRA, based on the Dutch model
- running 3 day long seminar of work with media in museums
- presentation of international activities for members and public organized with ICOM, Slovenian National Committee

3. Publishing activities
- preparing the new Guide to Slovene Museums in Slovene and English version as basic information about Slovene museums for Slovene EU presidency
- one of 3 partners in publishing of ARGO, the Museum Journal
- published the 7th Manual for Conservation and Restoration

4. **Promotional activities:**
- partner in organization of Annual Spring Meeting of Conservators and Restorers with exhibition of posters and leaflets
- participation in Culture »bazar« in Portorož to promote educating programs of museums for schools.
- organization of Summer Museum Night as the biggest promotion action of Slovene museums
- organization of 5 day long 1st Museum Book Fair to promote museum publishing activities, publications and museum libraries
- running the only one Slovene museums portal: http://www.museums.si

Metka Fujs
President of SMA

Metka. Fujs@guest.arnes.si