



BRIDGING AGES

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IN
APPLIED HERITAGE AND TIME TRAVELS

NEWS LETTER

No. 1 February 2017



Time Travel at the International
Conference



Launching of Bridging Ages Kenya



Bridging Ages International Conference in Vaasa, Finland 12-15.9 2017

WWW.BRIDGINGAGES.COM • FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK • INSTAGRAM @BRIDGINGAGES

President's corner

There's a lot going on

2016 was an active year for Bridging Ages International! A fantastic conference in Kalmar, Sweden where the role of the Time Travel method in social cohesion was discussed in many interesting sessions. The practical side of matters was reflected in a Time Travel to 1945.

There was also a new national chapter, when Bridging Ages Kenya was launched 1 November. Welcome on-board! At Maseno University in Kisumu, Kenya, there was also formed a Bridging Ages Maseno University by students. I believe this is the first chapter of Bridging Ages, which is formed by engaged students. Several countries are active in different projects, where the Time Travel method is a central part.

And finally, on the 12-14.9 2017 we welcome you all to Vaasa, Finland for the Bridging Ages conference. Finland is celebrating 100 years as an independent state this year and we are happy to invite you to be a part of the celebrations.

The week before the conference 4-8.9, there will be an international training week in Time Travels and applied heritage in Vaasa, more information on this and other matters on the conference, please check the conference website; bridgingages2017.obotnia.fi.

Annina Ylikoski

Regional Council of Ostrobothnia, Finland

Photo by:

Regional Council of Ostrobothnia.



At the Time Travel to 1945



Bridging Ages Kenya Launch

Bridging Ages Kenya was launched at a fun filled ceremony at Uhuru Gardens, Nairobi on Tuesday the 8th of November 2016 at a function presided over by the Vice Chairperson of National Cohesion and Integration Commission, Mrs. Njeri Wanyoike and the Director General, National Museums of Kenya, who was represented by Alice Mwololo. The ceremony was witnessed by the Bridging Ages International presidency. The ceremony was also attended by members of Bridging Ages Kenya from the following chapters: Maseno University Chapter, Kenyatta University, National Museums of Kenya, Western Kenya, TICA youth and Marsabit County.

During the occasion, Bridging Ages Kenya logo was unveiled. The elected officials to the Board of Management included Dr Mildred Ayere, president; Beatrice Okoth, secretary; Grace Mitambo, treasurer; and David Mbuthia, organizing secretary.

Members of Bridging Ages Kenya and the public later engaged in a Time Travel event at Uhuru Gardens, a heritage site where the inaugural Independence Day celebration was conducted on 12th December 1963. The theme of this Time Travel was cohesion and integration. The activities included painting of the flag, the making of beads and a lot of cultural dances. The dreams and hopes for the Kenya were written in poems and illustrated in paintings. The key question was the hopes and dreams of the new country. What are our fears and threats? What unites us?

This activity was very timely as it comes a few months before a general election next year that many fear may be marked by ethnic divisions and conflicts. Kenyans still freshly remember the post election violence of 2007/2008.

The chief guest, the vice-chair from NCIC was so impressed with the Time Travel method that she urged members to embrace it by using more of the local history and heritage to gain understanding of current issues and to solve emerging problems for a more cohesive society. She applauded the National Museums of Kenya for being part of this innovative method.

Jane, a teacher from Western Kenya, said that she would adopt the method to teach her students because "it makes learning history fun and memorable". Kinuthia, a student from Uhuru Gardens Primary said that the event was "fun and I was free to participate in activities and learn the importance of unity".

Beatrice Okoth,
secretary, Bridging Ages Kenya

Photo by:
Annina Ylikoski



What do we want for Kenya expressed in a song.



Bridging Ages International Conference 2016 in Kalmar, Sweden

230 delegates from 18 countries in Europe, America, Africa and Asia. gathered for three days in a warm and sunny Kalmar, making it the biggest Bridging Ages ever. There were more than 70 presentations, several workshops, evening programs and of course a fascinating Time Travel event to 1945.

The Deputy Minister of South Africa, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi, opened the conference together with the Swedish Minister of Culture and Democracy, Alice Bah Kuhnke (video). Key Note Speakers were Dr Andrew Wingate, Anglican Priest, UK; Dr Mzalendo Kibunja, Director General National Museums of Kenya and Professor Paloma Gonzales, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain.

Several sessions were connected to projects, for example Health and Culture, Innovative Archaeology, Meeting places for issues of Life and Faith, Sites and Stories two, Mathematics in the Historic Environment. At the conference Kalmar läns museum, Sweden and Freedom Park (Department of Arts and Culture), South Africa signed an agreement on a joint three-year plan "Social Cohesion and Community Building through the Time Travel method".



The Deputy Minister of South Africa, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi held an inspirational opening speech



Mingling at the break

Photos by:
Mats Neander



BRIDGING AGES
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IN
APPLIED HERITAGE AND TIME TRAVELS

The Time Travel event was focused on our responsibility to take care of refugees and integration. It was held outside a former epidemic hospital on the island of Lindö in Kalmar, where lots of refugees were received in June 1945, both former concentration camp prisoners and deserted soldiers. The discussions and engagement were strong and vivid. It was a magical Time Travel event on an important topic of today.

The conference was organized by Kalmar county museum, Linnaeus University, Regional Council of Kalmar County, Church of Sweden and Bridging Ages.

For more on the presentations and pictures, check www.bridingages.com!



Time Travel to 1945.

Photo by:
Stefan Siverun

Welcome to the conference in Vaasa, Finland 12-14.9 2017

Preliminary Conference program

Tuesday 12th of September

8.30 Registration, tea/coffee/opening, mingling
9.30 Conference opening
10.00 Keynote speaker
11.30 Lunch
12.30 Parallel sessions
14.30 Tea/Coffee break
15.00 Parallel sessions
17.00 End of sessions
19.00 Evening program

Wednesday 13th of September

9.00 Time Travel to 1917 in Old Vaasa
12.00 Lunch
13.00 Parallel sessions
15.00 Tea/coffeebreak
15.30 Parallel sessions
17.30 End of sessions
19.00 Conference dinner

Thursday 14th of September

8.30 Parallel sessions/workshops
10.30 Tea/coffeebreak
11.00 Keynote speaker
12.00 Lunch
13.00 Parallel sessions/workshops
14.30 Tea/coffeebreak
15.00 Plenary session and discussions
17.00 End of sessions

Friday 16th of September

Excursion day (separate fee)

Conference fee

Early bird (until 15.6 2017): 230€
Late bird (after 15.6 2017): 250€
"Non Western" 180€

Registration starts on the webpage in April.



The Time Travel at the Bridging Ages International Conference 2009 in Finland had some intense parts. What will happen in 1917?

Photo by:

Regional Council of Ostrobothnia

Accommodation

Every conference guest books their own accommodation. For all hotels, the booking code is “Bridging Ages”.

HOTEL TEKLA, <http://www.hoteltekla.net/>

Single room 68 € / night
Double room 78 € / night
For 4 people 120 € / night

ORIGINAL SOKOS HOTEL ROYAL VAASA,
www.sokoshotels.fi/en/vaasa/original-sokos-hotel-royal-vaasa

Single room 98€ / night
Double room 113€ / night
An extra bed 20€ / night

CUMULUS RESORT TROPICLANDIA,
www.resort.cumulus.fi/en/hotels-and-spas/tropiclandia

Single room 79 € / night
Double room 89 € / night

HOTEL ASTOR, www.astrovaasa.fi

Single room 100€ / night
Double room 120€ / night
Extra bed 32€ / person / night

Please check the conference’s webpage,
<http://bridgingages2016.obotnia.fi> for updated information.



Parks in Vaasa.

Photo:

The Regional Council of Ostrobothnia.



Call for papers

Bridging Ages International Conference in Vaasa, Finland 12-14.9 2017

Together for the future

- the heritage education and applied heritage as a bridge between the past and the future

Finland celebrates 100 years as an independent state in 2017. As it was in 1917, the question of nationalism, ethnicity and identity is presently a hot topic. The question of how to create an equal world is as current now as it was then. What does democracy mean? Can it be understood in different ways? What is the role of history and heritage in this? Can we attempt to use the past in order to make sense of our present circumstances? In many countries, the question of an equal and democratic society for all is a very current subject and Bridging Ages have worked with the theme from different angles. At this conference we are looking at new openings to and reflections of what these themes can mean. **We welcome innovative examples of how to discuss and reflect on democracy, nationalism, identity, ethnicity and unionism through heritage education and the Time Travel method.**

Bridging Ages is an international organization working with heritage education and applied heritage through the Time Travel method. The organization works with museums, schools, universities and cultural and social institutions in more than 20 countries.

The conference will host regular paper sessions and workshops. Paper sessions contain three or more 20-minute papers, which draw on recent research, practices or educational findings. They address a theme from a specific angle. Each session is led by a moderator and concluded with a discussion. We welcome examples of new practical approaches.

Workshops are hands-on training sessions, offering participants the opportunity to learn and evolve their approaches to the Time Travel method.

Please submit an abstract of your presentation or workshop, not more than half a page, and a short description of yourself, by 31.3 2017 to annina.ylikoski@obotnia.fi

If you have further questions, don't hesitate to contact our conference manager, seija.punnonen@obotnia.fi.

Contact

Annina Ylikoski, Regional Council of Ostrobothnia, Finland, President of Bridging Ages International
annina.ylikoski@obotnia.fi

*To be part of the mailing list or subscribe to the newsletter, please send an e-mail to:
annina.ylikoski@obotnia.fi*