**OWHC YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FORUM**

**“Heritage & Tourism”**, **1–6 June 2019**

**Krakow, Poland**

Call for Participation

The Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC) and the City of Krakow are organising the Young Professionals Forum under the theme “Heritage & Tourism”, as part of the 15th World Congress of the OWHC. The event is dedicated to young professionals in heritage management from the member cities of the OWHC. The Forum will focus on the relations between the needs of heritage preservation and growing number of threats provoked by the global tourism. Visits to the World Heritage Sites such as the Historic Centre of Krakow as well as the neighbouring Wieliczka Salt Mine and Auschwitz Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945) will enable the participants to reflect upon the complexity of preserving heritage in a constantly evolving world.

Dates: 1–6 June 2019, a parallel event of the 15th World Congress of the Organization of World Heritage Cities

Venue: Krakow, Poland + field trips to Wieliczka and Oświęcim

Working language: English

WHAT?

OWHC Young Professionals Forum, to be held from 1to 6 June 2019, will provide an intensive training for young professionals dedicated to impact of tourism on heritage preservation and management. It will also give a space for a dialogue between Forum participants and the representatives of the OWHC member cities presenting innovative actions taken by the cities’ authorities in cooperation with local communities in order to preserve the World Heritage Sites. The Forum will focus on different impacts that tourism may have on heritage:

* effects of boosting economies of popular tourist destinations,
* strengthening the legal frameworks of heritage protection,
* involving global community in conservation actions,
* transformations of sites in line with tourism demands,
* “Disneylandization” of heritage.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

Programme of the Forum will comprise:

* visits to selected World Heritage Sites: Historic Centre of Krakow, Wieliczka Salt Mine, Auschwitz Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945),
* meetings with heritage experts,
* workshops and discussions on different aspects of the World Heritage Sites,
* participants’ presentations,
* drawing up the Declaration of the Forum for presentation during the Closing Ceremony   
  of the 15th World Congress of the OWHC.

FOR WHOM?

The City of Krakow and the International Cultural Centre in Krakow are pleased to invite 20 young people interested in issues related to World Heritage who are:

* coming from OWHC member cities,
* aged between 20 and 35,
* fluent in English (please note that no interpretation will be provided; English will be   
  the only working language of the Forum),
* graduates from / involved in heritage-related fields such as: architecture, urban planning, constructional engineering, archaeology, sociology, cultural heritage, anthropology, ethnology, ethnography, economy, history, art history, communication, law, tourism, natural and cultural heritage, geography, international relations,
* researchers, activists, young professionals in NGOs, associations, cultural and natural heritage organisations, museums, heritage sites,
* experienced in the field of heritage, in particular in the area of heritage conservation and restoration,
* motivated, committed to bring in their own expertise, active individuals interested   
  in implementing the outcomes of the Forum in their respective countries.

**The group of 20 will comprise 5 participants from Poland and 15 from the other countries.**

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Young participants who fit the above profile and who are motivated to actively participate   
in the OWHC Young Professionals Forum 2019 are invited to approach the authorities of the OWHC member cities in order to become the officially recommended candidates allowed to send an application to the International Cultural Centre in Krakow. Each OWHC member city is entitled to recommend three candidates.

The application consists of:

* an application form (see attachment)
* a short biographical note (including a photo),
* letter of endorsement from the municipality stating that the candidate is officially supported by the OWHC member city’s authorities.

The applications should be sent by the OWHC member city’s authorities via e-mail to the International Cultural Centre in Krakow: [sekretariat@mck.krakow.pl](mailto:sekretariat@mck.krakow.pl)

**The deadline for submitting application is 15 March 2019.**

SELECTION CRITERIA

The organizers will select 20 participants (5 from Poland and 15 from the other countries) from among the submitted applications. No more than one candidate from any of the OWHC member cities can be accepted. The candidates are expected to be familiar with the concept of UNESCO World Heritage. The selection will be based on the applicants’ compliance with the required profile and will take into consideration such criteria as diversity and mutual complementarity of experiences, gender balance, as well as certified English language proficiency. The recruitment results will be provided by the selection panel organised by the City of Krakow and the International Cultural Centre in Krakow. The announced selection is final.

CONDITIONS

The attendance and active participation throughout the event (arrival on 1 June, departure on 6 June 2019) is mandatory.

Participants should be committed to invest their time to prepare and offer a follow-up activity to the Forum.

Each participant is required to make a 5-minute-long presentation of a case of a tourism impact on a historic city in their respective country (in line with the theme of the Forum “Heritage & Tourism”).

The organisers will provide board and accommodation during their stay in Krakow. The flight tickets and visas are to be purchased by the participants themselves and their cost will be reimbursed by the organisers upon arrival in Krakow.

In case the participants would like to extend their stay in Poland beyond 6 June 2019, all the related costs should be covered by themselves or by relevant OWHC member cities. In order to make all of the necessary preparations, participants are kindly requested to inform the organisers of their plans in advance.

Successful applicants will have been informed by 31 March 2019 at the latest.

The organisers guarantee full board meal plan (three, European-cuisine meals per day) at the respective hotels, restaurants or sites, as specified in the programme. Special dietary requests will be taken into account. Please, kindly inform the organising team of the Young Professionals Forum if you have any dietary restrictions or allergies before your arrival.