

March, 2015

NEWSLETTER

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Dear NSCF Member

You will find this newsletter a bit shorter and therefore easier to read. However, you will not miss any news from the members, as we are going to release the newsletters more frequently from now on! The next issue will be published in June. Please be prepared and send us the news from your museum or science centre as soon as they appear. The news can be about your newly renovated buildings, permanent exhibitions and events. Our members are more than eager to hear from you! Also, if you have ideas about what you would like to read in newsletters, please let us know as well.

NSCF is getting more lively. For the first time in association's history, the NSCF board met in Latvia in January. We thank Mr Pauls Irbins from Zinoo science centre for the warm welcome. Latvia is the newest country that joined NSCF. During the last Board meeting we accepted two new members: Norrköping Visualisering AB and The Danish National Centre.

The co-operation between our members depends largely on your own initiative. Recently, I had a meeting with Mr Madis Kanarbik, Head of Branch Office of Nordic Council of Ministers' Office in Tartu, Estonia. This organization is in many ways similar to our NSCF. Cooperation is one of our priorities (and theirs as well!) and we act in the same Nordic and Baltic Countries. This meeting gave us in Science Centre AHHAA an idea of writing a project together with two of our member organizations in order to apply for the grant from Nordic Council of Ministers. The same is possible for every member in our organization. Also, they support the exchange of the employees. Take a look - and maybe a visit—to your local office!

Pilvi Kolk

Chairman of NSCF,
Science Centre AHHAA, Estonia



NSCF Board 2013-2014:

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Scholarships chosen!

The NSCF Board has decided to divide this years NSCF scholarship. The first scholarship will go to **Linda Lindberg** from Sweden, Molekylverkstan Science Centre who will visit Experimentarium in order to study closely students programs. The second scholarship will go to **Camilla Larsen** from Norway, VilVite Science Centre. She will visit Universeum, Navet and Experimentarium in order to study summer-programs. We will learn more about their trips in later issues of the Newsletter.



NSCF Annual Conference

2-4 November, Økolariet Denmark

We are happy to announce that the Explainers seminar and NSCF Annual Conference 2015 will take place in Denmark. This year we are having Annual General Meeting and therefore we are expecting larger attendance.

Save the dates!

We will announce the preliminary program in the next Newsletter.

See you in Denmark!



News from members

Norway Makers receives funding for establishing makerspaces in Norway

By Jon Haavie



Map of the science centers in Norway

A large funding has been given to the organization Norway Makers for establishing up to 10 makerspaces in Norway. The Norwegian foundation, DNB Savings Bank Foundation, donated 430 000 USD for the project. The makerspaces will be established in science centres around the country in the next two years to come.

Roger Antonsen and Jon Haavie in Norway Makers are saying that the funding will spark the maker movement in Norway. "This funding gives us the opportunity to build a national network of public makerspaces and inspire new generations. Our mission is to make more makers", Haavie says. "The makerspaces will have open activities and educational programs where kids can get their hands dirty and get inspired by art, technology, and science. By doing this in a science centre network, we can have a great impact", Antonsen says.

The Norwegian science centres have about 1 million people visiting each year and 200 000 of them are pupils. "We also aim to get makers and makerspaces to use the science centers

as place where they show people their projects, inspire makers, as well as recruit members to their organizations", Haavie says. "We are proud to support their work and hope it will inspire many new inventors, Birthe Mørreaunet Selvaag from DNB Savings Bank Foundation says.

Antonsen and Haavie have previously arranged Maker Faire Oslo and the first MakerCon in Europe. The idea came after a discussion with Dale Dougherty, founder of Maker Media/ Maker Faire, at Maker Faire Oslo in January 2014. "We had a discussion on how we could make the spirit of Maker Faire live for the other 363 days of the year. Dale suggested that a natural next step could be to create a makerspace", Haavie says. "We created the non-profit organization Norway Makers in order to strengthen the maker movement in Norway, we got the approval from the science centres and wrote the application. Maybe this could be an inspiration for others to create similar networks", Antonsen says.



Birthe Mørreaunet Selvaag from DNB Savings Bank Foundation gives Roger Antonsen and Jon Haavie from Norway Makers the funding for establishing makerspaces. Present are all the directors of the science centers in Norway

News from members

Space exhibition opens at Energy Discovery Centre

By Kertu Saks

How does the Universe sound? How does a rocket start sound in a space capsule? How can we listen to northern lights? Why does a pulsar work like a radio station? How do the astronauts' training and education sound?

You will find answers to these questions in Energy Discovery Centre's new seasonal exhibition, „Sounds of Space“, that will be opened on February 27th 2015.

With that exhibition, Energy celebrates the fact that Estonia became a member of European Space Agency on the 4th of February this year.

The exhibition is complemented by a planetarium film „Stardust and the Family of the Sun“. Besides being available in Estonian and Russian, starting from February, the film can also be watched in Finnish and English.

„Sounds of Space“ exhibition will be open until September 2015.



New physics workshop at Energy

„Picture Physics“ is a new workshop in the programme of Energy, where visitors are taught how to make music of pictures and patterns. The best beat comes from Estonian national patterns and that is why the workshop is sometimes referred to as a workshop of ethno-physics. To find out what that means exactly, you have to visit this workshop yourself! It is suitable for children from 7 to 18 and is also offered to grown-ups at Energy's after dark events.

News from members

Success for AHHA's SSIC15 Call for Participation!

By Helin Haga



Science Centre AHHA that will be carrying out the Science Show International Cup 2015 (SSIC15) this coming September, received many intriguing applications for participation.

The organizers are happy to announce that the call for participation at the very first international competition for science show performers in the Baltics to take place in Estonia from 23 till 25 September as part of the 10th Researchers' Night Festival was so popular that the 8 open spots for potential participants were filled quickly. The competitors will come from a variety of institutions and from all over the world, including Scotland, Finland, Poland, Israel, the Ukraine, the USA and Estonia.

Updates about the participants will be posted on <http://www.teadlasteoo.ee/ssic2015> and a fun video introduction will be coming soon to the festival's social media sites (such as <https://www.facebook.com/teadlasteoo>).

Stay tuned!

Star Competition: It's Your Time to Shine!

How many constellations do you recognise? Which one is our star? Can you reach another star in a spaceship? Why do you think some stars twinkle?

Now is your chance to share all your favourite things and most baffling questions about the stars with us! The European Space Agency is inviting anyone aged 12 or younger to write a story about the stars. The top ten winners will get a brand new Stargazer Lottie doll! Lottie is the perfect companion for a budding astronomer; she comes with her very own telescope for exploring the space, plus a list of famous female astronomers. The top three stories will also be posted online for everybody to read and enjoy.

Your story can be about anything as long as you link it to the stars. You could ponder why stars, when observed closely with a telescope, have different colours, or tell us if you think stars all have the same size. You could even write about a hardy species of alien that can survive on the scorching surface of a star!

You can write your story in any language, so don't worry if English is not your first language. Finish your story by 31 March and email it to us at kids@esa.int !



Upcoming events

Nordic Baltic Bioenergy,

14-16 April 2015 in Riga,
Latvia



The Nordic Baltic Bioenergy Conference Riga is this year's largest regional conference in the bioenergy sector. Nordic Baltic Bioenergy Conference is an associated event of the Latvian Presidency in EU Council and takes place adjacent to the EU Energy Ministers' Council

At the Nordic Baltic Bioenergy Conference we will share experiences and present state-of-the-art technologies, e.g. in the fields of biobased combined heat and power, pellet production and use, and biofuels production from cellulosic feedstocks. We will discuss market development and policy instruments. But above all, we will meet, talk and do business.

More information:

<https://nordicbalticbioenergy.eu/>

MuseumNext,

19-21 April 2015, Geneva
(Switzerland)



Since MuseumNext was founded in 2009, the event has acted as a platform for asking 'what's next for museums?' showcasing the best museum practice today to shine a light on the museum of tomorrow. It serves as an international platform to discuss what's next for all aspects of the museum, including architecture, exhibitions, technology, skills, collections, conservation, purpose and leadership.

More information: <http://www.museumnext.com/>

2015 Ecsite Annual Conference

The conference will be taking place in Trento (Italy), on 11-13 June and is hosted by MUSE. Online registration is open. The "Food for curious minds" theme offers room for countless metaphoric interpretations but also invites to tackle the concrete topic of food and energy, a burning global challenge. It has been chosen to echo the theme of Universal EXPO 2015 in Milan: "Feeding the Planet - Energy for life", 1 May - 30 October.



Science museums and science centres are proud to provide their visitors with food for thought. To feed savvy audiences delightful and novel flavours, science engagement professionals need to nurture their own curious minds! Come to Trento to get plenty of food - for body and mind.

More information:

<http://www.ecsite.eu/annual-conference>

Science museum and school: a cooperation to improve teaching, learning and discovery (SMEC course),

28 June - 4 July, Milan (Italy)

The SMEC course is a unique training experience bringing together participants from all over the world and a group of expert tutors in a joint highly interactive experience using the exhibitions, labs and resources of two of the most important science museums internationally. After 10 successful editions and having trained 250 professionals from 29 different countries, the SMEC course continues. From 2015 onwards, it will take place at the National Museum of Science and Technology in Milano every summer, and at the Deutsches Museum in Munich every winter.

More information:

http://www.museoscienza.org/smec/courses_11_eng.htm

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