

#MuseumsChangeAthens2017

Museums as agents of change

DIVERSITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

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Museums as agents of change

30.11.2017 BENAKI MUSEUM 138 Pireos st, Amphitheater

DIVERSITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Museums and cultural institutions can change people's lives. They are pillars of healthy communities and ideal spaces to connect people. While communities around the globe address issues of immigration, religious expression, cultural diversity, discrimination, gender identity, and equality, the commitment of museums to diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion has never been more important.

At the seventh edition of the Museum Conference, museum and cultural professionals from the U.S., the UK and Greece examine the social impact of museums, their role in promoting social inclusion and cohesion, and how diversity and accessibility programs are directly linked with audience engagement, funding sources, resilience and sustainability.

The Museum Conference explores how cultural institutions can reach and retain diverse audiences beyond race, ethnicity, age, class, ability, language and gender; how can museums give voice to underprivileged groups and become places for creative exchange and open dialogue.

The conference will also examine how arts professionals can make accessibility a lifelong process for museums and cultural organizations and how cultural organizations can approach wellbeing and become central elements of their communities.

PROGRAM

9:00

Registration

9:30-10:00

Welcome Remarks

10:00-10:30

Sarah Plumb

Research Associate, Research Centre for Museums and Galleries, University of Leicester (UK)

The Role of Museums in Nurturing More Equitable and Inclusive Societies

10:30-11:00

Georgia Krantz

Independent Accessibility Trainer and Consultant (USA)

Small Steps: A Practical Guide to Accessibility
in Museums

11:00-11:30

Dr Nicole Ivy

Director of Inclusion, American Alliance of Museums (USA)

The Futures We Create: Museums as Agents

of Social Change

11:30-12:00

Coffee Break

12:00-12:30

Jess Turtle and Matt Turtle

Co-founders, Museum of Homelessness (UK)

Changing our Lives: What can Working with Socially
Excluded People Offer your Museum?

12:30-13:00

Case Studies on Inclusion

Maria Papadimitriou, Artist, Professor of the University of Thessaly, Department of Architecture (Volos)

Victoria Square Project

Navine G. Khan-Dossos, Artist

I Can't Make Love To You Unless I Imagine A Palm Tree

13:00-15:30

Break

15:30-17:00

WORKSHOPS

(Working language English – participation upon registration)

1. Opening the Doors

Jess Turtle and Matt Turtle

2. Creating a Space Where All Voices Can Be Heard

Sarah Plumb

3. Next Steps: A Practical Guide to Accessibility in Museums

Georgia Krantz

4. Forecasting Inclusive Museum Futures

Dr Nicole Ivy

Conference Coordinator:

Dr Sophia Handaka, Benaki Museum