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# IDEA Quarterly Newsletter

## May 2022

Focus: IDEA World Congress in Iceland and  
Arts Education for Peace

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**International Drama/Theatre and Education Association**

**Associação Internacional de Teatro Educação**

**Association Internationale Théâtre et Éducation**

**Asociación Internacional Teatro y Educación**

**国际戏剧/戏剧和教育协会**

This e-bulletin contains important news and updates about our work at the International Drama/Theatre Education Association, as well as our activities and invitations to IDEA events.

# IDEA Congress 2022: Drama 4 All, Tall and Small

In less than seven weeks, DRAMA 4 ALL, Tall and Small, the IDEA Congress 2022 will begin in Iceland. We, the organizers, are already looking forward to meeting all those who are coming. It's very important for the IDEA community to finally have the opportunity to meet in person after all this time in confinement because of Covid. It's also been a long time since the last IDEA Congress in Paris in 2013.



In Iceland, we will focus on creating a good and intimate atmosphere. We want to emphasize that conference guests will have the opportunity to meet in person, exchange ideas and learn from each other, and also simply be together. If drama and theatre education has ever been important, it is now in the age of computers, the internet and social media. It is therefore

very important to be able to meet and be together in physical space. What drama and theatre primarily can offer is the sharing of space with each other and giving us the experience of being together as emotional human beings.

Preparations for the Congress are in full swing. The Congress program is being designed these days and will be put on the [Congress website](#) at the end of May. You will have the opportunity to join interesting and meaningful Special Interest Groups (SIGs), various workshops, paper presentations and a gala dinner celebrating the 30 years of IDEA. Already many people have registered and bought their flight tickets to Iceland. We encourage everybody who is going to go and has not yet registered to do it soon.

In Iceland, there are many things to see, such as the new volcano that was born last year and the lava from it. In addition, it is fun to travel the so-called Golden Circle which takes one day. Many other tours and short trips around the South Western area of Iceland and around the country as a whole are available from tour companies. Here is a link to information about your trip to Iceland on the congress website:

<https://ideaiceland.com/arriving-in-iceland/>

FLÍSS and the University of Iceland look forward to receiving all the Congress guests. It is still possible to register, but don't wait too long, as many hotels and guesthouses in Reykjavík will fill up soon.

On behalf of the Congress Committee

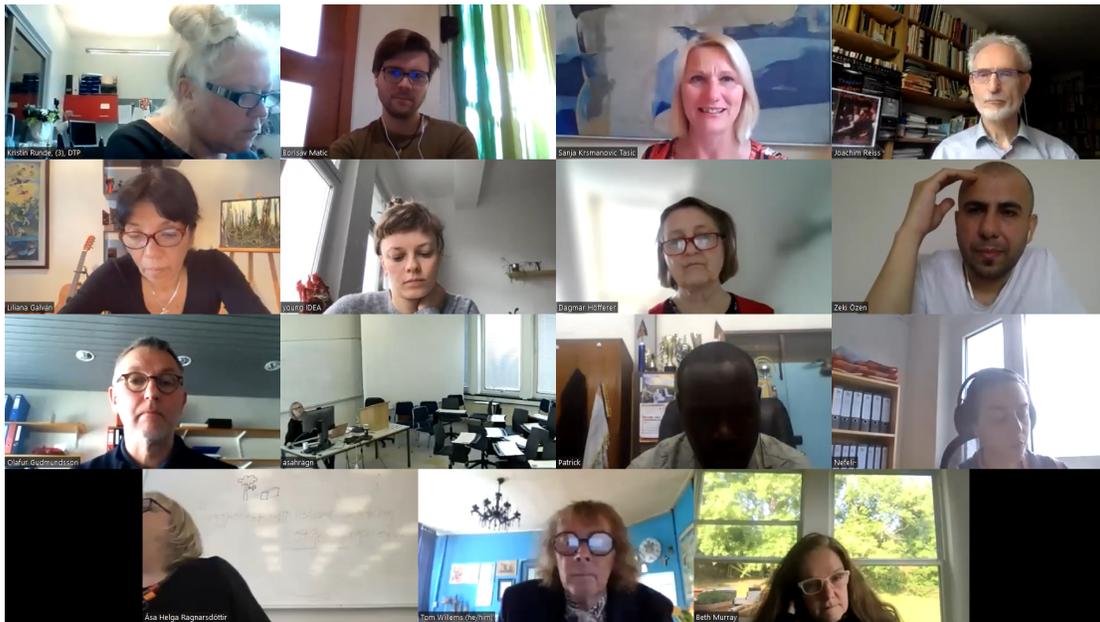
Ólafur Guðmundsson, Congress Director

## Elected Officers of IDEA

IDEA's monthly activities and the diverse online program are being organized by IDEA's elected officers in collaboration with members. The efficacy of collaboration is provided by the following working groups: IDEA Communication Working Group, IDEA Online Working Group, IDEA Finances and Accountancy Committee Working Group, IDEA Membership Working Group, IDEA Translation Working Group, IDEA Congress Working

Group, IDEA Congress Solidarity Funding Working Group and IDEA 30 Years of Celebration Working Group.

The General Meeting Committee is organizing the 2022 IDEA General Council Meeting that will take place during the IDEA World Congress in Iceland from 4-8 July. Registrations for the GCM are open and members are encouraged to register their delegates by 6th June. Find the invitation letter, the preliminary agenda and the registration forms for the GCM on [IDEA's website](#).



*Elected Officers meeting in May 2022*

## Welcome to New Members

IDEA would like to wish a very warm welcome to two new members who joined us in the past three months: the [Estonian Theatre and Drama Education Association](#) (ETDS) and **Mercedes Villasana Terradillos**, an individual member from Spain.

# IDEA ACTIVITIES

## Towards the IDEA World Congress

### Presentation of Special Interest Groups

The activities of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are an important part of every IDEA congress. Many issues concerning the progress of theatre in school work and the social context are discussed and dissected. These groups often continue to work after the congress ends, and sometimes they live from one congress to another. By working in a SIG, it is possible to be influenced by others and promote progress in acting in society.



*Liliana Galvan presenting her Special Interest Group*

IDEA and the Congress Committee organized a webinar presentation of SIGs that will take place at the IDEA World Congress in Iceland. The webinar was held on 20th April when leaders of the SIGs introduced themselves and the issues they will address.

The following 8 SIGs will take place at the Congress in Iceland:

1. Drama and theatre in a multicultural world – Wendy Lathrop Meyer and LI Dequan
2. Drama and theatre in kindergarten and primary schools. – Merete Sörensen and George Belliveau
3. Youth: Drama and theatre in secondary education – Annemari Untamala and Hanna Saari
4. Strategies, tactics, steps for drama/theatre as a school subject – Joachim Reiss and Nancy Stella Franco Rendon
5. Teacher Training in drama and theatre – Larry Schwarts and Monica Prendergast
6. Theatre for community development – Silvia Vammaro and Marianne Nødtvedt Knudsen
7. Drama for peace education – Tintti Karpinen and Zeki Ozen
8. Drama and theatre in Science, Technology and new Media – Liliana Galvan.

You can watch the recording of the webinar at the [following link](#).

## **IDEA Members Forum: Toward the 2022 GCM in Iceland**

Save the date!

IDEA Online Working group, with the subgroup dedicated to IDEA forums, consisting of Liliana Galván, Sanja Krsmanović Tasić, Joachim Reiss and the members of the General Meeting Committee Kristin Runde, Ása Helga Ragnarsdóttir and Patrick Ogutu invite all IDEA members to join:

**IDEA Members Forum: Towards the 2022 GCM in Iceland**

Date: June 9th, 1 pm UTC via Zoom

We would like to find more time for dialogue, trust-building and members' engagement concerning the forthcoming General Council Meeting that will be held in Reykjavik during the 9th IDEA Congress in Iceland.



To consult with all members who are interested to join our forum on the structure of the GCM, the points to be discussed will be suggestions of motions and how to make the GCM an open, democratic and interactive place where we can creatively contribute to the work of our association.

We remind you of the points that came as conclusions of the IDEA Forum organized in September 2021, which was a reflection of the 2020 first Online GCM of IDEA.

- Better means of digital communication
- Simultaneous translation for inclusivity
- Translation of culture
- Someone neutral to oversee election processes
- Explore co-candidacy more
- Not to become too technical
- Less complexity in the procedures
- More delegation of responsibilities
- Equal continental representation and leadership
- Transparency in organizational knowledge– easier for newcomers to step in
- At the next congress: put forward motions to change the Constitution

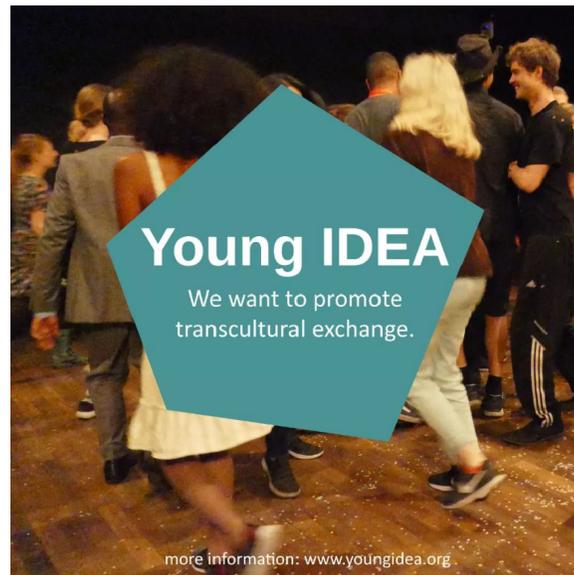
- Address the deeper issues of inclusivity and equality
- Continue the talks and the evaluation of the meeting in more meetings like this.

More details and the Zoom link to the forum will be sent to all members.

We are counting on you to join us!

## Support the Young IDEA Lab 2022!

The Young IDEA Lab 2022 aims to bring together a cross-cultural group of young theater educators, theater makers, other artists and students in those fields of art education on the occasion of the 9th international IDEA Congress in Iceland. The exchange will start on 26th June and end on the 6th July with a devised theatre performance as a result of the exchange being presented at the Congress.



The Lab 2022 will be a place to meet, work and learn from each other, while artistically researching the topic of "Theater for all: Reclaiming our physical body: How can we make theater for all possible in times of a crisis?"

In order for the Young IDEA Lab to truly embody the slogan "Theatre for all" and to be truly accessible, we need your support! Not all young people

who would like to participate in the project have the means to support their travel costs. Please, consider making a donation, so that young theatre-makers and educators from Togo, The Philippines and South America can travel to Iceland and experience a cross-cultural exchange, create a performance and make their voices heard through their art!

Donate now: <https://gofund.me/f790a5c0>

More information about the project: [www.youngidea.org/projects-3](http://www.youngidea.org/projects-3)

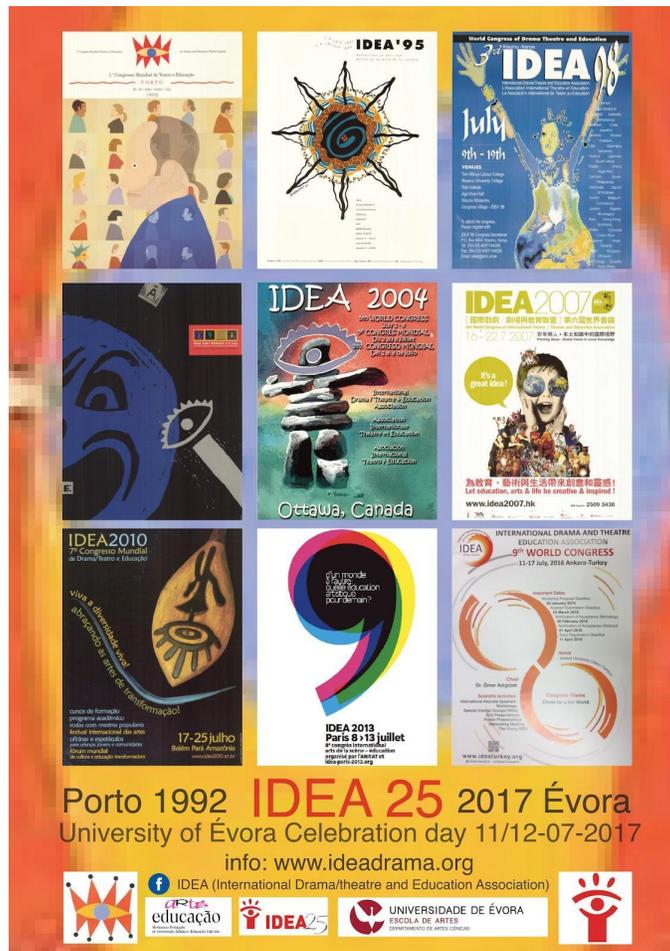


*Participants of the Young IDEA Lab in Togo 2020*

## ***30 Years Navigating - A New Book Celebrating 3 Decades of IDEA***

To mark the 30 years of IDEA's existence, the IDEA 30 Years of Celebration Working Group is preparing a coffee table book *30 Years Navigating* that will present main points of our association's history and activities through a distinctive visual style, based heavily on photographs from our archives. The book will have the following thematic sections: 1. Introduction by the

IDEA President; 2. Structure of IDEA 3. IDEA Congresses; 3. Projects & Concepts; 4. Research & Publications; 5. Advocacy.



*Posters of IDEA Congresses from 1992, ending with the 2017 GCM in Evora*

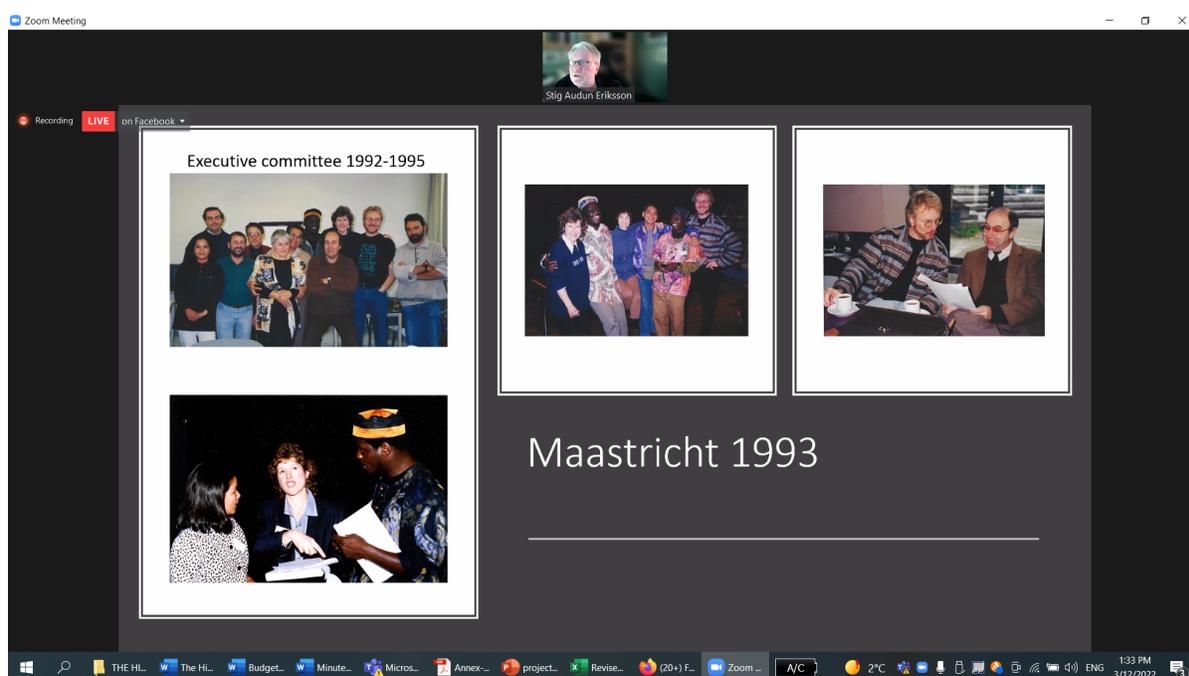
The book is a multilingual project written in four official languages of IDEA: English, French, Spanish and Chinese. *30 Years Navigating* is a highly collaborative project based on contributions from past and present elected officers and members of the working groups, but also from IDEA members who have generously contributed statements and visual material.

Everyone interested can acquire the book at the IDEA World Congress in Iceland.

# IDEA ONLINE ACTIVITIES

## THE (HI)STORY OF IDEA Webinar

THE (HI)STORY OF IDEA webinar series is organized as an intergenerational and intercultural dialogue that is taking place at the end of each month in 2022 in order to celebrate the 30 years of IDEA's existence and to critically analyze IDEA's history but also to map the possible future of our association.



*Stig A. Eriksson presenting the early history of IDEA at the 12th March event*

The February session (moved to 12th March because of unavoidable circumstances) saw as one of the feature guests Stig. A. Eriksson, one of the founders of IDEA and a Professor Emeritus in drama and applied theatre at Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, at the Institute of the Arts in Bergen, Norway. He talked about the history of the early years of IDEA and about organizing the Congress in Bergen in 2001. He was joined by Anj Huruela, a drama/theatre teacher from the Philippines and the director of Young IDEA from 2013 to 2017, who talked about her

methods and experience of working with young people and as the director of Young IDEA. The session host was Sanja Krsmanović Tasić, the IDEA President.

The session on 26th March was in the form of a dialogue between Larry O' Farrell, a two-term President of IDEA and Professor Emeritus and past holder of the UNESCO Chair in Arts and Learning, Faculty of Education, Queen's University, Canada, and Nefeli Angeloglou, a Greek theater maker and pedagogue working in Germany and the current co-director of Young IDEA. The featured guests engaged in a free conversation, with a special focus on Larry O' Farrell's advocacy for more research within IDEA during his presidency and Nefeli Angeloglou's current work, such as the Young IDEA Lab in Togo in 2020 and the upcoming Lab in Iceland, July 2022.



*Adriana Nichtig's drawing of the 26th March session*

The guests of THE (HI)STORY OF IDEA webinar on 30th April were Dan Baron Cohen, a community performance educator, eco-activist from Brasil

and the past President of IDEA, and Andreea Jicman, a theatre pedagogue and associate professor at UNATC "I.L. Caragiale" in Romania. Among other important topics, Dan Baron Cohen talked about his involvement in the foundation of the World Alliance for Arts Education in 2006 and about organizing the IDEA Congress in Belem, Brasil in 2010, while Andreea Jicman spoke about the current prospects of drama/theatre education in Romania and about challenges and opportunities of working in a multicultural environment.

The moderator for the sessions on 26th March and 30th April was Zeki Özen, the IDEA Director of Research.



The fifth session of the webinar will take place on 21st May at 7.30 am UTC. The feature guests will be Prof (Dr) Samuel Leong, the inaugural Director of Research at IDEA and the former Director of the UNESCO-RLCCE Observatory in Hong Kong, and Dr. Zeki Özen from Ankara

University, Turkey, the current Director of Research at IDEA and the General Secretary of the Contemporary Drama Association in Turkey. The session moderator is Sanja Krsmanović Tasić. Read more about the upcoming event and find the Zoom link for the webinar on the [IDEA website](#).

The sixth (HI)STORY OF IDEA webinar will take place on the 18th of June, where the invited speakers will be Mok Chiu Yu and Dr. Cheung from TEFO, Hong Kong who organized the 2007 IDEA World Congress, in dialogue with Tomas Leijen from The Netherlands, the current IDEA Co-Director of Projects and Concepts.

Recordings of the sessions of THE (HI)STORY OF IDEA are available on [our Facebook](#).

## Stop Ecocide, Start Good Living! Webinar

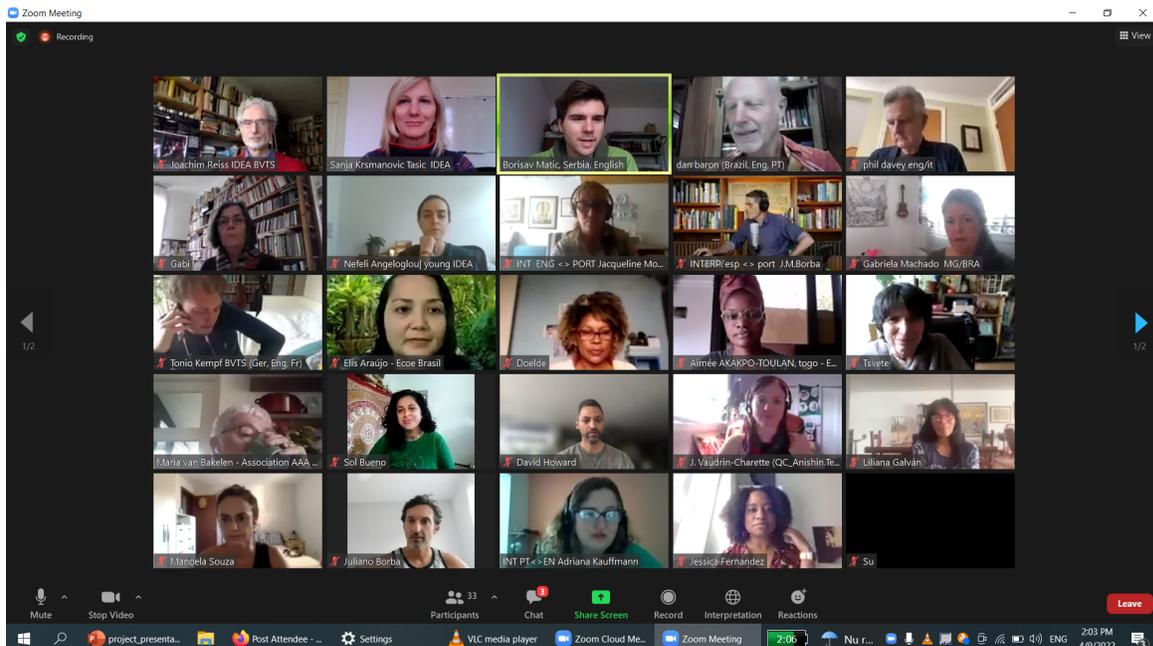
Theatre education in schools and communities enables us, students and teachers, to create, produce and perform the futures we envision. Can we each act, together, on time, to save our world?



This series of three webinars places performance at the heart of South-North dialogues to achieve three aims in times of ecocide and climate collapse:

- To view an Amazon-German students-theatre project collaboration as an example, to see how we might work in the space between Ecocide and Good Living.
- To view a Global project collaboration and six communities in crisis to see how students' theatre projects in schools might act globally in our local place, between Ecocide and Good Living.
- To identify diverse strategies and develop plans for theatre education for Good Living through collaborative projects in and between different regions across the world.

This webinar series, proposed by Joachim Reiss and Tonio Kempf (former and actual presidents of BVTs), has emerged from a long collaboration between Brazilian (ABRA) and German national associations of theatre educators and drama in school, inspired by Amazonian projects (coordinated by former IDEA President, Dan Baron Cohen).



*Screenshot from the April edition of the Stop Ecocide, Start Good Living! Webinar*

The first two editions of the webinar were held on 9th April and 7th May under the title **Context and Example of Global South-North Collaborative Projects**, while the third and last edition will take place on 4th June at 12 pm UTC with the topic **Translating Dialogues into Project Collaborations at Home and between Regions**.

After the end of each webinar, there is an open space of 30 minutes when participants can continue the conversation in the chat if they wish.

## African Theatre Webinar in February and March

For more than a year, the African Theatre Webinar series - an IDEA Project in cooperation with the Department of Performing Arts and Film, Makerere University Kampala, Uganda, and Hochschule für Musik und Theater Rostock, Germany - gathered theatre practitioners, researchers and educators from Africa and beyond to speak about both traditional and contemporary theatrical and educational forms from their countries.



*Graphic for the African Theatre Webinar*

The series came to an end in the first quarter of 2022 examining collaborative practices. The February session was held under the title Towards Sustainable Communities - Afrosocenology Manifesto: The Theatric Theory of African Theatre. The featured guest was Prof. Samuel Ravengai (Senior Lecturer, Department of Creative Arts, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania). The March session was centered on the topic Creating New Spaces Together: Ways of Collaboration in a Multi-Perspective World, with Prof. Mercy Mirembe Ntangaare and Prof. Marion Kuester, the organizers of the webinar, closing the session and the series.



Adriana Nichtig's drawing of the African Theatre Webinar on 23rd March

# International Arts Education Week

## 23-29 May

International Arts Education Week is designated by the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to be on the last week of May every year, this year 23-29 May 2022. The World Alliance for Arts Education, with IDEA as its founding member, will organize a series of online events. Help us promote the week on networks of arts/culture and education stakeholders. This year, the topic of the international week of arts education is PEACE! We wish to collect the voices of art educators to spread out during the celebrations of the International Arts Education Week during May 23-29, 2022.

## Arts Education for Peace

#ArtsEdWeek  
#ArtsEducationForPeace

May 23-29, 2022

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International  
**Arts Education**  
Week

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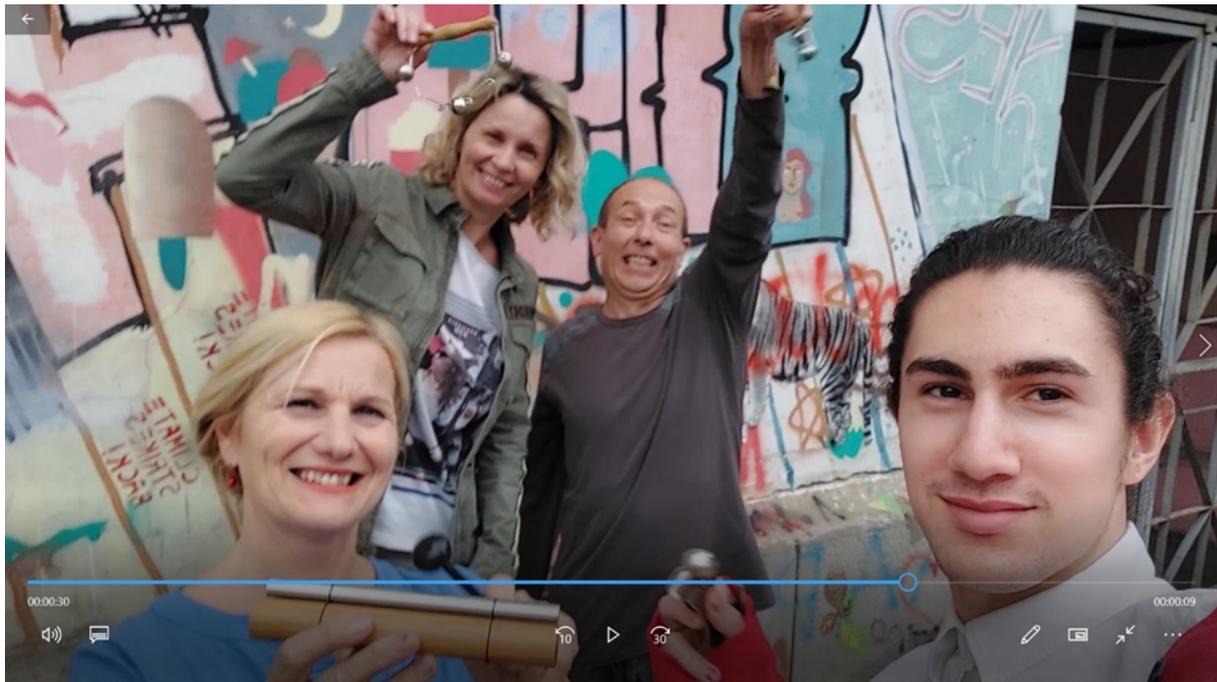
WAAE  
World Alliance for Arts Education

# Call for Action: Ring the Bells for Arts Education

**The Ring the Bells for Arts Education action** will take place again, this time as a WAAE initiative. We ask you all to join us on Monday 23rd of May at noon, by ringing bells or sounding other instruments as a sign of support for arts education. It will be a 24-hour world action, as we pass the time zones at noon.

We also ask you to record a short video, or take a photo of the action and post it on your Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or LinkedIn account, with the hashtags:

#BellsForArtsEd    #ArtsEdWeek    #WAAE    #IDEA    #INSEA    #ISME  
#WorldDanceAlliance



*Members of CEDEUM, the Serbian Association for drama/theatre education, and Hleb theatre ring the bells for arts education*

# Save the Dates: WAAE Webinars

23 May| 8 am UTC

Ring the Bells

**Opening Webinar: Arts Education for Peace**

24 May| whole day

**Featured Film:** [Devaradiyaar in Sadir: The life and Art of Muthukannammal](#)

25 May| 5 pm UTC

["A Life Dedicated to Peace Education"](#), **webinar with Tintti Karppinen from Finland**

26| 6 pm UTC and 27 May| whole day

**Open House** - arts educators from all over the world sharing their stories and experiences on how to advocate for peace through work in our field

28 May| 6 pm UTC

**Stories about the Alliance!** A webinar with the founders of the World Alliance for Arts Education.

29 May| 8 am UTC

**Closing session/reflections ...with WAAE leaders**

[Register here to attend the webinars.](#)



Related: Yuan Yuan, an IDEA member from Chengdu, China and a drama teacher at Tianfu No. 7 High School Primary Section, has a message regarding advocacy for peace:

"I would like to submit a video for the advocacy for peace from my dearest body percussion team in our school. Our students show great empathy for the ongoing conflicts that cause such havoc and pain for human beings, hence I direct a body percussion together with my students. All the body percussion rhythms are created by my lovely students."

Watch the students' body percussion video [here](#).

## News from the Drama/Theatre Education Community

### Addressing Anti-Black Racism in the Drama and Dance Classroom

The Council of Ontario Drama and Dance Educators is proud to announce the upcoming release of their equity document, ***Recognize, Reflect, Refocus - Addressing Anti-Black Racism in the Drama and Dance Classroom***. This document is a culmination of work stemming from a CODE Conversation panel discussion on our YouTube Channel published May 19, 2021, moderated by Dr. Seika Boye, and featuring panelists: Michelle Rodney Bartalos, Wallis Caldoza, Ayesatta Conteh, Dr. George Dei and Debbie Nicholls-Skerritt.



## Provocations: Drama and Dance in Education

Provocations: Drama and Dance in Education is a new publication with a mandate to celebrate, problematize, and inquire into drama and dance in diverse educational settings. This venture aims to connect drama and dance educators by providing a vibrant platform for sharing professional knowledge, pedagogical practices, and research. The centering of teacher, student and arts educators' voices and experiences will be a hallmark of the publication.

For our very first issue of Provocations: Drama and Dance in Education, we invited contributors to reflect on the power and limitations of words. Here is a sampling of the provocations that inspired teachers, artist-educators, and students to share their work with us: *How does your practice redefine words, look for the truth behind words, and explore the limitations of words? Whose words are heard? Whose words are not heard? Can we speak without words? How might new words, new voices, and new platforms for words disrupt and reframe what we think we know?*

To check out the first volume, visit: [www.provocationsjournal.com/](http://www.provocationsjournal.com/)

See the call for submissions for Volume 2, *Holding Space and Bearing Witness through Drama and Dance* [here](#).

Editorial Board: Matthew Sheahan, Jan Buley, Jane Deluzio, Jessie Kennedy, Brendon Allen, Anastasia Lainas-Hayward and Christine Jackson (Managing Editor).

## 2022 Drama New Zealand National Conference

Drama NZ Otago Southland Branch invites drama/theatre educators to the Drama New Zealand National Conference Tīmatanga Hōu | New Beginnings, Ōtepoti Dunedin from the 1st to the 3rd of October 2022.

The theme of Tīmatanga Hōu | New Beginnings examines a fresh new start within the arts as we negotiate education during and beyond the pandemic, beginning with our new curriculum. Our logo represents our

experience as a collective group, nurturing the new. Our conference will focus on:

- The curriculum review and NCEA rewrite
- Mātauranga Māori and cultural contexts
- Recreating ourselves in a Post-Covid world
- The weaving together of arts with health and wellbeing aspects to function well as arts educators



Registrations are now open as well as applications for people wishing to present at the conference. Find out more information on [Drama New Zealand's website](#).

## Two Students' Performances from Chengdu, China

Based on the two stories in Chinese Mythology, the students of Zhiren Theatre Group in Tianfu No. 7 High School created two theatrical performances *Jingwei Filling Up the Sea* and *The Nine-colored Deer* with their drama teachers Miao Bin and Eley Yuan who are members of IDEA. Miao Bin is also a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Theatre Studies, University of Peloponnese in Greece. These two productions were

generated in their drama classes every week. Tianfu No. 7 High School is one of the few schools in Chengdu, China that has officially listed drama courses as a compulsory discipline. The children are 6 and 7 years old and have had experience with drama classes for almost one year. For more information, please go to the [following link](#).



Jingwei Filling Up the Sea *performance*

## News from Argentina by Silvia Vammaro

I've been working very hard with people at Mental Hospitals and gathering information from them. Everybody, drama trainers and patients have come to the conclusion that drama and theatre have saved them.

I have attached a flyer from one of the plays they put on stage and they have also won a prize! This play was written by one of the patients. Some of them are living outside the hospital and even one of them is working on a Netflix series! I am about to have an interview with her! Not settled yet but I think I will get it!!!

On the other hand, I am working with another drama trainer who is working with teenagers from very poor places, some of them are drug addicts and some of them were abused, and some others are alcoholics...

Yet they put on stage a Shakespeare play and some of them are now away from drugs, and alcohol and spend hours rehearsing, and training.



*A drama group from the Mental Hospital working on a performance*

This place is some kilometers away from the big city Buenos Aires and I think this is relevant because they feel nobody pays attention to them, they are invisible, or at least they were.



On Sunday I will have an interview with their teacher.

As regards in three months' time, we are thinking of getting together and opening up a Drama School, it is just a project...

More news as soon as I have!

Seeu!

For further information visit the IDEA website:

[www.ideadrama.org](http://www.ideadrama.org)

Contact: IDEA Administrator Borisav Matic: [ad.ideadrama@gmail.com](mailto:ad.ideadrama@gmail.com)

This message was sent to you by IDEA International Drama/Theatre and Education Association