



Reykjavík 19. October 2020

IDEA, General Council meeting 2020

### **Congress Bid**

FLISS – The Icelandic Drama in Education Association, in cooperation with The University of Iceland (UI) School of Education, puts forward with this letter a proposal to host an IDEA world congress 4.-8. July 2022.

The congress will be held in Reykjavík the capital of Iceland at the University of Iceland, School of Education. Reykjavík is well connected to all major flight destinations and there is easy transport to and from the airport. Reykjavík is one of the safest capitals of the world, within short reach of beautiful nature. At the beginning of July, the midnight sun still shines, and the congress guests can enjoy the bright light until the early morning hours. Even though Icelandic is an ancient language majority of the nation speaks adequate English.

Iceland is a relatively safe country, it is an island with just over 360.000 inhabitants. The infrastructure is strong, FLISS is in close cooperation with the University of Iceland which supports and promotes drama and theatre education. Iceland is a spectacular country, with low pollution, and it is likely that participants will want to use the opportunity to explore the country along the way. Iceland as a host welcomes you all.

In 2013 Iceland was among the first countries in the world to have drama as an art subject in the curriculum. By hosting the congress FLISS and the UI aim to celebrate drama as a subject in its own right in compulsory education, as part of the curriculum. FLISS and the UI want, by holding the congress, to draw attention to this fact and shed a light on the importance of Drama in educational contexts.

In 2012, FLÍSS and the UI hosted Drama Boreale, a Nordic network conference in Reykjavik. Around 300 people attended this four days conference and it was considered good a success.

The IDEA congress in Iceland is intended to get people from the field of drama and theater education all over the world to talk about drama and theater in education. We hope that by the end of the congress we have seen things from different perspectives, experienced new trends and solutions related to their work, and taken steps forward in the development of drama and theater education.

The proposed title for the congress is:

## **DRAMA4ALL**

**- drama for tall and small -**

## **Celebrating drama in a changing world**

**The Icelandic Drama and Theater in Education Association – FLISS**



The Association for Theater and Drama Teaching in the Icelandic School System, FLISS, was established by Icelandic drama teachers in 2005 as a response to increased interest in the teaching of drama in Icelandic schools.

In the beginning, the aim was to strengthen and augment the use of theatre and drama in schools, with the idea of drama becoming an independent subject in the curriculum of basic education (6 years to 16 years). The association was to be a forum for all teachers interested in theater and drama in education; a place where they could strengthen their visions and contribute to their common interest of creating more space for drama in the schools.

In 2013 drama was accepted as an independent subject into the Icelandic curriculum. By that it was secured a place among the other arts and crafts subjects and a dedicated time on the regular course schedule of the school system. Today, the main goal of the association has shifted towards further establishing the subject of drama in the educational system.

Today FLISS has become a professional association, one of several associations of teachers forming the umbrella organization of The Icelandic Teachers Union.

The aim of the association today is to work for the strengthening of theater and drama teaching at all school levels in the Icelandic school system. It also aims to increase the teaching of drama as an independent subject of arts and seeks continuity between school levels, from primary school to university. The association also runs workshops and disseminates information about theater and drama teaching among its members and to society at large.

### **The University of Iceland (UI)**

The University of Iceland, School of education, is centrally located and in walking distance from all major hotels, guesthouses and other accommodations, as well as restaurants, swimming pools and other attractions. The UI is a progressive modern university well suited for a big congress with a variety of workshop spaces and lecture halls. It is well equipped with technology and wi-fi.

The University of Iceland (UI) is the leading institution of research and higher education in Iceland; it is a progressive educational and scientific institution, renowned for research in the global scientific community. The University of Iceland is a state university, situated in the heart of Reykjavík, the capital of Iceland. A modern, diversified, and rapidly developing institution, the UI offers opportunities for study and research in 400 programs, spanning most fields of science and scholarship. The UI is organized into five schools: Social Sciences, Health Sciences, Humanities, Education, Natural Sciences, and Engineering. About fourteen thousand students are enrolled and around thirteen hundred staff and faculty are in its employ.

The School of Education at the UI, educates teachers for preschools, primary schools, and upper secondary schools, sports and health sciences, social educators, and leisure professionals. All academic programs at the School of Education are strongly linked to the workplaces of those professions the school educates, such as schools and other societal institutions. The programs provide a wide range of professional options and serve as a good foundation for further studies. The School of Education is divided into four faculties: the faculty of Education and Diversity, the faculty of



Education and Pedagogy, the faculty of Health Promotion, Sport and Leisure Studies and the faculty of Subject Teacher Education.

The School of Education is the principal institution in the fields of education and training in Iceland, and has around 1.333 students enrolled in undergraduate programs, and an increasing number of master's and doctoral students. In the year 2019, there were 54 doctoral students and 1.089 master's students doing their graduate degree training at the School of Education, many from other European countries.

### **Congress Committee**

FLÍSS and the UI have already established a congress committee. It has not been decided yet who the congress director will be. All members of this committee are members of FLÍSS and three of them hold posts at the UI:

- Anita Ómarsdóttir, Drama teacher and board member of FLÍSS
- Ása Helga Proppé Ragnarsdóttir, Chairman of FLÍSS and adjunct emeritus in drama and theatre education at UI
- Jóna Guðrún Jónsdóttir, Adjunct in drama and theatre education at UI, member and former chairman of FLISS
- Ólafur Guðmundsson, Drama teacher, treasurer and former chairman of FLISS and vice president of the accountancy committee of IDEA
- Dr. Rannveig Björk Thorkelsdóttir, Associate Professor in drama and theatre education at UI, member and former chairman of FLISS and former treasurer of IDEA.

### **Marketing and public relations campaign**

Marketing and public relations campaign will be in collaboration with the conference department of The University of Iceland (UI). We expect around 500 guests in our plan.

#### **Location of the congress:**

The congress will be held at UI which has very good facilities for congress and workshops (25 classrooms). The University has very good technical facilities.

#### **Keynote speakers:**

The preparatory committee has not yet decided who will be the keynote speakers but are working on it.

### **Draft budget**

The congress committee will work with the conference department of the University of Iceland, Department of Education on all costs.

#### **Conference fee**

- Early bird: 440 Euros
- Later registration: 470 Euros
- Gala Dinner will be paid separately by participants: 80 Euros pr. pers.



- Selected entertainment will be paid by participants like Theatre performances or Sightseeing Tours.

**Conference costs:**

See accompanying Excel document.

**Accommodation:**

Accommodation for keynote speakers will be arranged by UI and the congress committee, in cooperation with the Nordic House in Reykjavík.

Accommodation for participants: Contracts will be made with hotels and hostels near the UI.

**Funds:**

The congress committee will apply for funding from the following parties:

- The University of Iceland (Bakhjarlasjóður): 2.443. Euros
- Special application by the Rector of UI: 3054 Euros
- RANNÍS: The Icelandic Centre for Research: Not yet known
- KÍ - Icelandic Teachers Union: not yet known
- FLISS: Not yet known
- Reykjavik municipality: Not yet known
- Other Funds: Not yet known.