Ecsite 2024 Conference: The European Conference for Science Engagement professionals

Ljubljana, Slovenia – June 5-8, 2024

Ecsite, the European network of science centres and museums is proud to announce the commencement of the 2024 Ecsite Conference, hosted by Kersnikova Institute in the vibrant city of Ljubljana, Slovenia, from June 5 to June 8, 2024.

This prestigious event brings together +900 professionals and enthusiasts from 400 organisations in over 50 countries around the world to celebrate and advance the field of science engagement. The Ecsite Conference is renowned for its dynamic and interactive format, offering a diverse range of activities including keynote speeches, workshops, panel discussions, and networking opportunities. This year's conference promises to be an extraordinary gathering, fostering collaboration and innovation among science communication professionals.

Highlights of the 2024 Ecsite Conference:

Ministerial Welcome: Slovenian Prime Minister Robert Golob will welcome participants to Slovenia

Outstanding Keynote Speakers:

Art and Science Keynotes **Dr Hugh Herr** and **Dr Ana Rajcevic** who work together at **MIT**. Ana is an artist, designer, lecturer and researcher, working at the intersection of sculpture, prosthetics and technology. Hugh is a Professor at MIT, coined by Time Magazine as the 'Leader of the Bionic Age' because of his revolutionary work in the emerging field of Biomechatronics - technology that marries human physiology with electromechanics. Ana and Hugh will welcome participants to the age of body alchemy, where the visionary creations of artists and the pioneering innovations of scientists converge to redefine what it means to be human.

Jill Walker Rettberg is a professor of Digital Culture and co-director of the Center of Digital Narrative (CDN) at the University of Bergen, Norway. In her Keynote speech, Jill will argues that art, culture and social factors deeply influence the development of technology, including generative AI. Drawing upon her research funded by the Europe Research Council (ERC), Rettberg will show us how artworks, video games, novels and movies shape and explore societal hopes and fears about AI-powered machine vision technologies like facial recognition, smart surveillance and image generation.

86 parallel learning sessions: Created and delivered by conference participants, over 300 speakers will cover a wide range of subjects concerning science engagement, science centres and museums. With topics from AI to accessibility, fundraising to research & evaluation and creating a new science centre, attendees can enhance their learning from peer group specialists.

Networking Opportunities: Attendees will have numerous chances to connect, share ideas, and build partnerships with peers from around the globe.

Ecsite Trade show: 42 exhibitors will be showcasing their latest products and services at the buzzing Ecsite Trade show

Kersnikova: A Hub of Creativity and Innovation

Hosting this year's conference, Kersnikova is a renowned cultural institution in Ljubljana, celebrated for its commitment to merging science, art, and technology. With its cutting-edge facilities and vibrant atmosphere, Kersnikova provides an outstanding partner for the Ecsite Conference, ensuring a stimulating and inspiring environment for all participants.

A Global Gathering in the Heart of Europe

Ljubljana, the picturesque capital of Slovenia, offers a perfect backdrop for the Ecsite Conference. Known for its rich history, charming architecture, sustainable approach and lively cultural scene, Ljubljana invites participants to explore its beauty and hospitality while engaging in meaningful professional development.

Contact Information:

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About Ecsite:

Ecsite is the European network of science centres and museums, representing over 350 organizations committed to inspiring people with science and technology. Founded in 1989, Ecsite fosters creativity and learning through interactive experiences, promoting public engagement with science across Europe.

About Kersnikova:

Kersnikova is a prominent cultural institution in Ljubljana, Slovenia, dedicated to blending science, art, and technology. Through its innovative programs and exhibitions, Kersnikova aims to inspire curiosity and foster creativity among people of all ages.