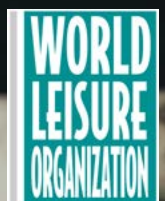


WL NEWS

ISSUE 26

JOIN GLOBAL
CONVERSATIONS
ON LEISURE!

JUNE 2020





**Are you a
WLO Premium
member?
Submit your
news here!**

Editorial

Dear members, dear colleagues,

In this issue of *WL News* we want to keep you updated, as usual, about what is going on at the WLO Secretariat and Board of Directors. A new initiative presented in this issue invites you to online conversation groups to discuss with peers from different parts of the world about the current role of leisure in society and the impacts to our field. Make sure to scroll down for more information and make your voice heard! Significant efforts have been also made lately to connect with others and develop new synergies for the benefit of our members and extended network. In this issue, we present some of these activities, like the series "Meet a professional around the world", put together by the WLO Youth Ambassadors Committee and offering young people an opportunity to connect with experts on diverse leisure-related topics.

Another highlight is the publication of a new Case Studies Volume by the WL Center of Excellence (WLCE) at Vancouver Island University (VIU). More publications and opportunities are announced in the corresponding sections below.

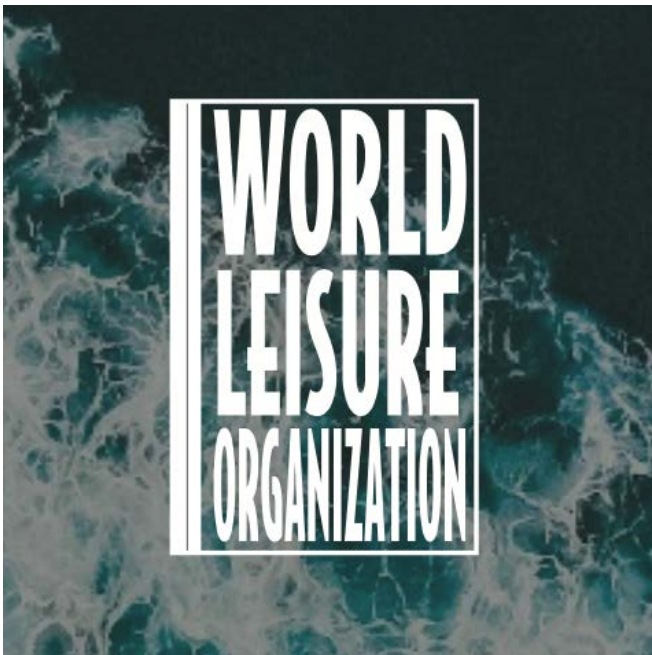
We hope you enjoy this new issue, and remind you that, if you are a WLO Premium member, you can share your news in this space by sending them to media@worldleisure.org or using the submission button above.

Yours truly,

Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere
WLO Chief Operating Officer



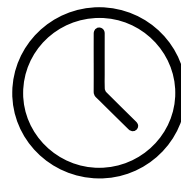
WLO News



Looking for new knowledge-sharing and networking experiences about leisure?

Never has the world needed new ideas more than at this time of a global pandemic. WLO is willing to take on this challenge and create a new knowledge-sharing open space which our members and other leisure stakeholders can use as an instrument of change supported by evidence-based discussions. In so doing, we aim to lead the conversation amongst practitioners, researchers, scholars and students regarding the current role of leisure in society and the impacts to our field. This initiative is open for all the leisure community. We are happy to welcome leisure academics, professionals and graduate students who are willing to contribute to the WLO and to our belief that well selected leisure experiences improve quality of life for all.

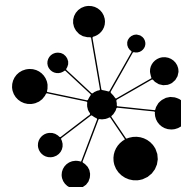
Learn more about this initiative and fill in the [participation form!](#)



60/90
MINUTES



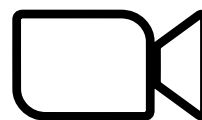
LIMITED TO 20-25
ATTENDEES



THEN DISTRIBUTED
INTO SMALLER
GROUPS SO
THAT ALL VOICES
ARE HEARD



JULY, AUGUST
AND SEPTEMBER



ONLINE FORMAT (VIA
ZOOM ONLINE
PLATFORM)



“Meet a professional around the world”: a learning and networking opportunity from the WLO’s Youth Ambassadors Committee

The “Meet a professional around the world” initiative from the WLO’s Youth Ambassadors Committee has provided a series of online forums on leisure related matters (theories and practices) for interested young people, with invited leading scholars and professionals from around the world. Starting on the 6th May and for eight consecutive weeks, this project has gathered professionals and students from a wide range of countries like, Canada, Hungary, Nigeria, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, United States of America and other. Topics discussed were related to arts and culture, festivals, parks and recreation, physical activity and wellbeing. This initiative, which has been promoted through our social media channels, will be taking a couple of months break and will return by next autumn (dates are still to be confirmed). This project is a starting point as the WLO is already working towards providing further opportunities in collaboration with partners to raise the voice of the importance of leisure in these challenging times. To learn more about this and other related opportunities we encourage you to visit WL Youth Ambassadors webpage at: <https://www.worldleisure.org/youth-ambassadors/>



Serviço Social do Comércio (SESC) becomes the first Institutional member of WLO!

WLO is honored to welcome [Serviço Social do Comércio \(SESC\)](#) as WLO institutional member. The collaboration between WLO and SESC goes back to the World Leisure Congress in 1998, and the experience of joint forces repeated for the organization of the successful World Leisure Congress in 2018 in the city of Sao Paulo. Having SESC as an institutional member becomes a great asset to advocate and develop new projects related to leisure in its widest understanding. From WLO we are inviting organizations worldwide to join our network and benefit from a large number of opportunities and benefits. More information about institutional membership can be found [here](#).



Keqiao, China, to host the first World Leisure Festival in 2021

The WLO Board of Directors has unanimously approved Keqiao's application to host the first World Leisure Festival in 2021. WL Festival is an event designed to celebrate the unique leisure aspect of its hosting community and has, as a long term goal, the participation in leisure in all its many and varied forms. Keqiao, China, is a WL Community of Excellence, with a strong focus on creativity in the field of fashion and textiles. In 2017, Keqiao District also won the World Leisure International Innovation Prize with the project "Leisure for All: Leisure Sports Booming in Keqiao District". Stay tuned for more information and dates to be announced soon!



Ongoing consultations with WLO members and stakeholders: do you want to be next?

WLO Chair, Joanne Schroeder, and Chief Operating Officer, Cristina Ortega, have initiated a series of talks with members and stakeholders in different world regions, to understand how the WLO can serve them best and to establish synergies for the benefit of WLO members and the wider leisure sector and field. So far, conversations with Sesc Sao Paulo, as well as with WLO Board members Dr. Marie Young, South Africa, and Dr. Arianne Reis, Australia, have been very enlightening for learning about national and regional contexts and needs, and some specific ideas for cooperation emerged, which will be further explored in the near future. If you would like to discuss on potential collaboration opportunities or just learn more about the WLO and what we can do for you, contact us at secretariat@worldleisure.org



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES GRANTS (SPGs)

OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Deadline: 30th September, 2020

Research



Understanding soundscape and tranquility

By Lawal Marafa,
Professor, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Soundscape is an important part of the phonic identity of a place just like landscapes provide visual information. Scholars have indicated that soundscape is an environment of sound with emphasis on the way it is perceived and understood by individuals or by a society. This has mostly been studied in the context of person-environment interaction.

Nowadays, the sonic environment or the acoustic environmental quality is threatened. Negative sound or noise predominates the traffic systems, construction and social activities and other human interactions. This trend becomes worrisome when it becomes unwanted resulting in annoyance. This interaction in places where

there is positive soundscape tend to have restorative effects on people. This is often as a result of the interrelationship between person, place and activity in a given area.

In this context, research has continued to indicate that sound forms an integral part of the environment and there is growing awareness that it should be considered at the same level of importance as visual aesthetics. As people became aware of the noise and sound around them, they noticed that it can bring succour to people and the community and could interfere with health and well-being as they engage in leisure, while at home or even at work in different exposures. Some prefer sounds that are active and dynamic, others prefer subtle with acoustic comfort while many others prefer calm, quiet and tranquil. In this regard, tranquillity that is related to noisiness and pleasantness of a given environment mostly depends on the soundscape of the place and the visual elements that adds to the aesthetics according to the people in the vicinity.

[READ MORE...](#)



Update note from the WL Special Interest Group (SIG) on Leisure and Ageing

Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheva, Israel, published a COVID-19 related report on internet activity based on the research of one of its faculty members, Dr. Galit Nimrod, who is a Leisure and Ageing SIG member. The full report can be found at https://in.bgu.ac.il/en/pages/news/older_adults.aspx, but among the findings was that internet use had spiked dramatically, especially internet-based communication technologies such as Zoom, Whatsapp, Skype etc., since the beginning of directives to socially isolate, and significant positive associations were found between COVID-19-related stress and increase in internet use for interpersonal communication and online errands.

Join the SIG for regular updates on the topic of Leisure and Ageing!

Read more and join the SIGs here!

Industry



EuropeActive launches online learning programme for re-opening gyms

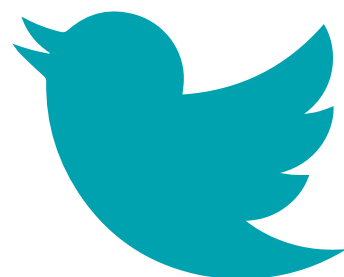
By Tom Walker

EuropeActive has launched an online practical learning programme to guide operators in the **re-opening** and operation of fitness facilities during the **COVID-19 pandemic**. Targeting club owners and operational staff, the programme covers best practices and helps guide procedures for re-opening and running clubs – with a focus on coronavirus-related restrictions and limitations.

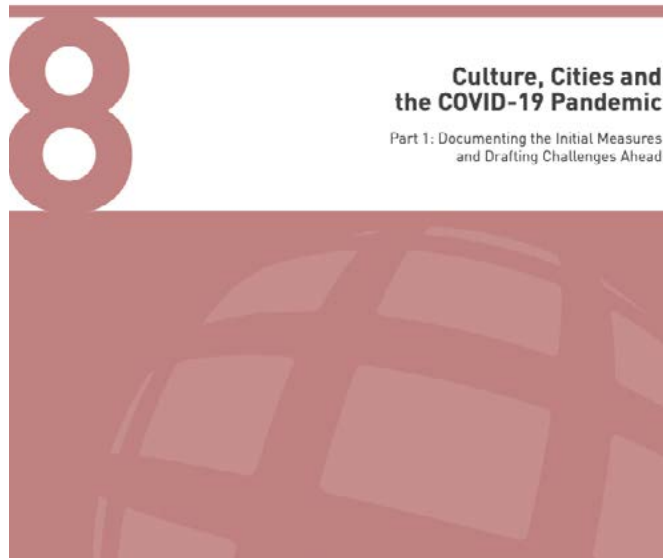
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Sign up for free magazines and ezines at
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The World Leisure Journal is now on Twitter. Follow @WorldLeisureJ and stay updated!



Policies



Culture, Cities and the COVID-19 Pandemic

Part 1: Documenting the Initial Measures and Drafting Challenges Ahead

Agenda 21 for Culture: Report on "Culture, Cities and the COVID-19 pandemic"

Source: [Agenda21 for Culture](#)

COVID-19 crisis has affected the cultural life in cities extraordinarily, with implications for the existing inequalities to access, participation and contribution to culture, access to public spaces, and the financial sustainability and the flow of cultural goods and services. The impact of the crisis on the values that constitute our societies are impossible to calculate at this stage. This crisis has led to the mass closure of libraries, community centres, museums, galleries and cultural venues, and the cancellation of concerts, shows, festivals, exhibitions and many other cultural activities. Similarly, due to physical distancing and travel restrictions, cultural events and

performances have been suspended and projects have been put on hold. This report is an attempt to document the actions and measures initiated and implemented by cities and local governments in order to address the impact of the crisis in cultural life, and to draft some of the main challenges that are being considered to ensure culture is at the heart of the response to the COVID-19 crisis.

[READ MORE...](#)

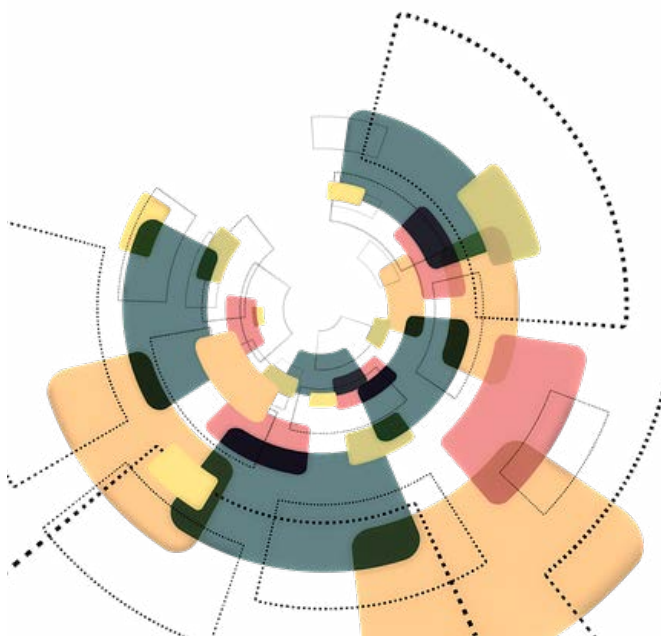
“ ”



“I am particularly interested in the role that leisure plays in positive human development in the context of global challenges as climate change. Becoming a member of WLO at this demanding time is a unique opportunity to connect, work with and learn from practitioners and researchers with different backgrounds, in a collective commitment to reinforce leisure contributions to well-being, quality of life and sustainable development”.

Teresa Raquel Pereira, Ph.D candidate, Applied Psychology, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal

Network



WLO supports the Joint Charge Statement – “On moral imagination during these times”

By Ms. Joanne Schoeder, WLO Chair and Co-Director of the World Leisure Center of Excellence (WLCE) at Vancouver Island University (VIU), and Dr. Suzanne de la Barre, Co-Director of the WLCE at VIU

On June 15th 2020, The Academy of Leisure Sciences (TALS), the Association for Event Management Education (AEME), the Academy of Leisure Sciences Africa (ALSA), the Australian and New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies (ANZALS), the Canadian Association for Leisure Studies (CALS), the Leisure and Recreation Association of South Africa (LARASA), and the Leisure Studies Association (LSA) issued a charge statement. The WLO is inspired by the charge put forward by its sister organizations. Building on the three approaches set forth in the charge – advancing critical discussions on

power in forums, scholarship and publications, teaching and research – the WLO feels compelled to commit to incorporating into its work consciousness raising and reinvigorated institutionalized practices that respond to the question: *with what actions do we disrupt the paths to power?*

To that end, the WLO supports widespread and critical discussion on issues entangled in the “greater need to tackle the complicated and apparent ways that leisure conscripts oppression onto the Other”. Systemic forces also need to be identified and scrutinized as these shape, guide and direct our ability to make impactful change. If there is a path to deconstruct power and privilege, than surely knowing how to increase ‘institutionalized’ access to roles that challenge where and how privilege is protected must shape that path. Creating strategies to showcase lesser known points of view and subjectivities/ experience and determine how to honour and promote them, and disengage them from their ‘othered’ layers, must also form part of how we engage with creating change.

To start, the WLO asks: How does what we consider to be required ‘experience,’ let alone post-secondary education, foster the institutionalized nature and make up what we, more than ever, right now, are at this very moment in history, collectively identifying as a systemic barrier? Where are the seats of decision-making located? What is the demographic make-up of editorial boards of sector journals, and of leisure organizations and associations? What are defined as prerequisites required influencing leisure understandings and impacts, and how are experience and education upheld in ways that exclude unlikely decision-makers?

Since 1948 leisure has been affirmed, at least in theory, as a human right (Article 24, Universal Declaration of

Human Rights); yet in 2020 the right to rest and leisure, still remains largely accessible to those who convene the most privilege and power. The COVID-19 pandemic has stimulated significant conversations that highlight some of the most obvious persistent discrepancies involved in our access to leisure, and by extension, to human well-being. For example, in urban areas we have witnessed movements demanding access to green and public spaces which became coveted necessities during lockdowns, quarantines and self-isolation. Meanwhile, conservation initiatives which lie at the heart of green spaces in the global south have been exposed under COVID as increasingly associated with the protection they garner through luxury travel. Under travel bans these green spaces have been identified as being newly at risk – with no Plan B given the lack of diversified economies, green spaces in socio-economic and politically fragile protection settings depend on tourism dollars that are in turn contingent upon foreigners being able to enjoy that green space.

This Joint Charge has been supported by the identified group of global, national, and regional leisure and leisure-related learned societies from around the world, “On moral imagination during these times”, collectively calling for action before racism and injustice. As a global organization encompassing a wide range of life experiences, trajectories and sensitivities within its own membership, the WLO encourages its members to read, share and commit with the proposed positioning. Debates about the questions posed in the Joint Charge Statement are of course more than welcome.

Read the full Joint Charge at: <http://leisurestudies.org/news/chargestatement/>



WLO to contribute as association partner of Qatar Travel Mart 2020

The WLO will be contributing as an association partner of Qatar Travel Mart 2020. Undoubtedly, this will become a great gathering opportunity to support knowledge sharing among different stakeholders in the leisure and tourism industry. As an association partner, WLO will be supporting and advising on the Tourism & Travel Conference program objectives and content. Qatar Travel Mart will be taking place between 17th.-19th. November 2020 at Doha Exhibition and Convention Center. More information about the show can be found [here](#).

**Qatar Travel Mart team is monitoring any necessary precautions and preventive measures during these challenging times by closely working with government and health authorities and evaluating the current November event dates to it is safe and healthy venue to meet.*



WLO takes part in the 2020 UN Global Compact Leaders Summit

This year's [UN Global Compact Leaders Summit](#) has marked 20 years of uniting business for a better world. This edition of the Leaders Summit integrated existing content with new programming to provide an accessible event for all UN Global Compact stakeholders, allowing an unlimited number of representatives from over 10,000 companies and 3,000+ non-business participants to join. Being WLO an affiliate member of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), our Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Cristina Ortega, participated in this year's edition. Under the slogan "Recover better, recover stronger, recover together", the 2020 UN Leaders Summit addressed some of the most recent and relevant global issues (check [here](#) the full agenda of the 2020 Summit), all of them covered from the perspective of Sustainability, SDGs and the present COVID-19 crisis, which UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, considers "the greatest test that we have faced together since the formation of the United Nations".

[READ MORE...](#)



Sesc São Paulo – IDEIAS: Reflections on the documentary "Ócio, lazer e tempo livre"

Sesc São Paulo has launched an initiative called IDEIAS, with the aim of encouraging debate discussions. On this particular session [Reflections on the documentary "Ócio, lazer e tempo livre"](#), the main issues intending the contemporary socio-cultural and educational agenda are presented, daily, in the form of dialogue between researchers, thinkers, actors, doctors... In short, active social articulators. The debate was moderated by Simone Rechia, professor at Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFP) and counted with the participation of public figures of high relevance in the leisure field like Danilo Miranda (Director of Sesc São Paulo), Marcelo Machado (filmmaker and director of this documentary) and Ricardo Uvinha, professor at University of São Paulo (USP). More documentaries – with free access – are available at [SescTV](#).



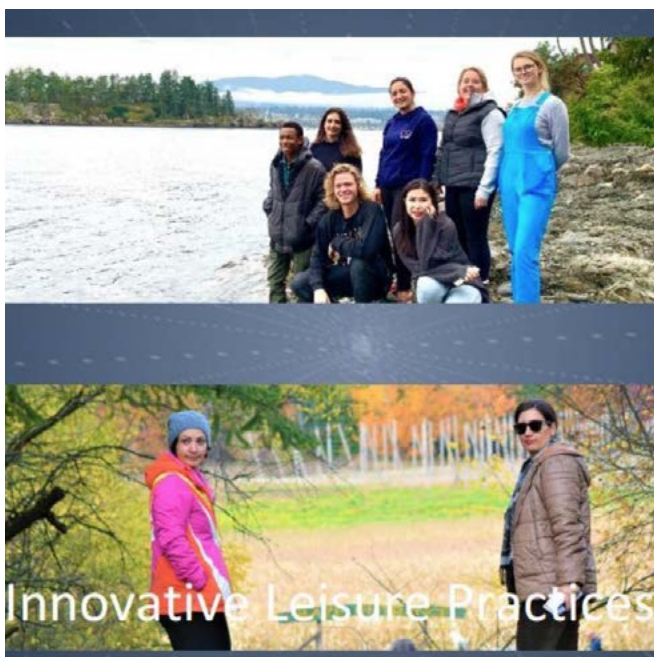
UNWTO – “Sustainability as the new normal” A vision for the future of tourism

Source: [UNWTO](#)

To mark World Environment Day, the One Planet Sustainable Tourism Programme led by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) announces its new vision for global tourism – growing better, stronger, and balancing the needs of people, planet and prosperity. The *One Planet Vision for the Responsible Recovery of the Tourism Sector* builds on the UNWTO Global Guidelines to Restart Tourism, with the aim to emerge stronger and more sustainable from the COVID-19 crisis. This combined effort comes at a time when several destinations around the world begin to ease restrictions on travel and mobility and the tourism sector is getting ready to resume its activity with the lessons learned from the pandemic. UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili said: “Sustainability must no longer be a niche part of tourism but must be the new norm for every part of our sector. This is one of the central elements of our *Global Guidelines to Restart Tourism*. It is in our hands to transform tourism and that emerging from COVID-19 becomes a turning point for sustainability”.

[READ MORE...](#)

Publications



the Curtain: At the Intersection of Education, Art, Health Care and Lived Experience of Dementia"; and "Improving Communities Through Innovative Financing: A Case Study of the Baileys Trail System". Access the volume now and learn from these wonderful case studies!

[READ MORE...](#)

New case studies volume by WLCE at Vancouver Island University – Innovative Leisure Practices: Case Studies as Conduits between Theory and Practice

World Leisure Centre of Excellence (WLCE) at Vancouver Island University (VIU) has recently published their latest Case Studies Volume! This edition, *Innovative Leisure Practices: Cases as Conduits between Theory and Practice (Volume 4)*, includes five cases which highlight a diverse range of praxes relating to leisure. The cases are as follows: "Leisure Education for youth with a lived experience of mental illness, development of the FRESH [Fun Recreation Exercise and Skills for Health] program for a Youth Cohort in Western Sydney, Australia"; "Kink as a Form of Leisure: Kinky Events and the People who Love Them"; "Measuring Community Engagement: A Case Study of Livingston (Calgary, Alberta)"; "Raising



FREE ACCESS WL Journal articles on leisure and participation

From webinars to cultural activities bringing closer communities in confinement, during this crisis we are witnessing how new leisure participation activities flourish all around the world. It is a time for listening, but also one for making your voice heard, and leisure can certainly provide a means for expression. In this context, we delve deeper into the issue of leisure participation, and for that we bring you a selection of *World Leisure Journal* articles on the topic, available with free access until the end of July. The selected articles are: [“Life Satisfaction, Acculturation, and Leisure Participation Among Older Urban Korean Immigrants”](#) by Maeng Sun Kim (2000); [“Meanings of participation in a leisure arts pottery programme”](#) by M. Rebecca Genoe and Toni Liechty (2017), and [“Preschool Children’s Emerging Participation in Leisure and Recreation Activities”](#), by Carl J. Dunst Ph.D. , Debbie Hamby M.P.H. and Donna Snyder B.A. (2009). We thank our publisher Taylor and Francis for their generosity.

[READ MORE...](#)

Opportunities



Call for Manuscripts: Special issue on "Leisure and Time Management in Fostering Wellbeing and Health: Current Issues and New Trends" – *International Journal of Environmental and Public Health* (Deadline: 31st. December 2021)

Leisure has the potential to promote well-being and health more than other areas of human activity. In this sense, it is important to promote the visibility of the incidence of leisure in general, leisure experiences and leisure activities – practicing from physical activity to cultural consumption, hobbies, music, sports, and intergenerational activities – in the physical and mental health of people (of any age, social condition, cultural capital, and changing sociocultural and

personal contexts). Moreover, due to the link between a predominantly autonomous use of time and the enjoyment of leisure time, possibilities, capacities, habits, and attitudes (personal, social, cultural) regarding time management are of special importance too. Based on this broad spectrum of analysis, this Special Issue will present advances in psychosocial knowledge about current issues and new trends in leisure and time management. Contributions based on strong theoretical frameworks that bring novelty to the topics covered, as well as qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method research are welcome. The deadline for manuscript submission is the 31st. December 2021.

[READ MORE...](#)



Check the open call for nominations for 2020 WLO Awards!

Call for experts to support the European Capitals of Culture

The "Capacity Building for European Capitals of Culture" project is seeking professionals from a variety of disciplines to join its pool of experts. This expert group will help bridge gaps in skills in the implementing teams of European Capitals of Culture. The project consortium is looking for experts in different fields to help meet key capacity building needs of the [European Capitals of Culture](#) (ECoC) action. Organising teams of each ECoC will be able to tap into this expert pool when searching for specific knowledge and skills. In particular, experts are sought in the areas of audience development, conflict resolution, change management, legal (including intellectual property rights and licensing agreements for culture) and monitoring and evaluation in the cultural sector. Experts in management, communications, coordination and international relations are also needed. The call for experts will remain open throughout the project.

[READ MORE...](#)



WORLD LEISURE
INTERNATIONAL
INNOVATION PRIZE



THOMAS & RUTH
RIVERS INTERNATIONAL
SCHOLARSHIP



CORNELIS
WESTLAND
HUMANITARIAN
AWARD



HILLEL RUSKIN
MEMORIAL SCHOLAR
LECTURE AWARD



WORLD LEISURE
DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE AWARD



GEORGE
TORKILDSEN
LITERARY
AWARD

Upcoming events



pandemic through universal public service delivery and share examples of how they can act as the catalysts in the bottom-up transformation towards sustainability and resilience after the pandemic; emphasizing the importance of multilevel governance, sound local finances, and territorial cohesion in the aftermath of the outbreak. The event will be organized fully online (register [here](#)). Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish.

[READ MORE...](#)

Third Local and Regional Governments Forum on the 2030 Agenda to be held on the 13th. July 2020

Source: [Sustainable Development Goals knowledge platform](#)

As the COVID-19 pandemic is making clear beyond any doubt, the development agendas need to be addressed as one and supported by strong multilevel governance, solidarity and international cooperation. There exists a growing consensus in the international community that it is in urban areas where the opportunities to reinforce resilience strategies and to achieve the transition towards sustainable societies are highest. [The third Local and Regional Governments Forum](#) will highlight the rapid actions local and regional governments have taken in preventing and responding to the COVID-19

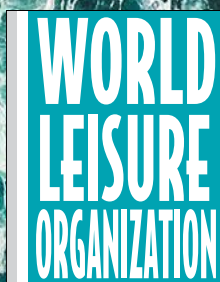
Encounter



Encounter with... Dr. Jason Bocarro, on the Health Matters project and how leisure service interventions can play a critical role in the work with under-resourced communities

In 2016, through funding from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), North Carolina State University created Health Matters, a project designed to strengthen community coalitions, enhance healthy food access, and provide leisure opportunities to increase physical activity in four of North Carolina's most under-resourced, rural counties with obesity rates greater than 40%. Health Matters was designed to affect change on multiple levels of the socio-ecological model and to work with communities with leisure service interventions playing a critical role. Health Matters was one of the shortlisted projects at the last edition of the World Leisure International Innovation Prize. Jason traveled to the WL Expo and Forum in Hangzhou, China, to pick up this distinction and present the project to an international audience. This interview was recorded then, to learn more about him and the Health Matters project.





WORLD LEISURE ORGANIZATION (WLO)

World Leisure Organization is a non-profit organization registered in the State of New York in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council since 1990.

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