

BISYOC

Intercultural Youth Orchestral Exchange

BISYOC News July 2018



The 2013 BISYOC Symphony Orchestra. Where are you now?

Dear friend of BISYOC

As promised recently, we now bring you all the latest news from BISYOC. This letter is relevant to all participants, alumni and supporters of BISYOC.

BISYOC 2019

As many of you will know already, BISYOC is taking a break in 2018, but the provisional dates for BISYOC 2019 are 21st July to 5th August 2019 and the location is [Struga](#) in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. A group of participants came from Macedonia to BISYOC 2017 and they are now helping us to organise the 2019 Exchange, and Julian his taking his wind band on tour there this summer which will strengthen the links we already have. Struga is an attractive lakeside town on the shores of Lake Ohrid, very close to Ohrid airport and 3 hours from Skopje airport. Book the dates in your diary and start saving up! Orchestral repertoire for 2019 includes music by Bernstein, Mussorgsky and Prokofiev – a Macedonian composer whose name should not be confused with the name Prokofiev! You can find full details of the repertoire [here](#).

BISYOC TRUSTEES

An exciting opportunity has arisen for friends of BISYOC and past participants throughout Europe to become involved directly in the governance of BISYOC. We are looking for new people for the Board of Trustees – one of whom may become the new Chairperson, as Peter Gibbons retires in August after 18 years. To be a Trustee you need to be a person with a long-term future interest in keeping BISYOC alive for the benefit of future generations of young musicians. We know that there are many of you out there who think BISYOC is a great concept – well, now is the time for you to get involved in steering the organisation! Being a Trustee is a voluntary role. You contribute your beliefs, enthusiasm, ideas and decision-making skills more than anything – there are meetings four times a year via online conferencing, and sometimes you may be asked if you can help with research, for example identifying new funding opportunities. You should also be a good networker – helping to promote BISYOC in a good way to keep on building its international profile. Sometimes certain Trustees contribute additional time and expertise if there is a particular skill or area of knowledge they can offer to support BISYOC. If you are interested in finding out more about how to become a Trustee, please write as soon as possible to info@bisyoc.com for information.

BISYOC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

As the BISYOC family grows year-by-year, we want to harness the collective power of past participants to help us build the organisation's future. This could involve many activities including arranging reunions, sharing of memories, stories, old photos and videos, organising fundraiser concerts, or networking with your current colleagues and friends to promote BISYOC. Please contact us on info@bisyoc.com if you would like to be part of the organising team of the alumni association. We would love to connect with you all more via social media. Please feel free to tag @bisyoc through Twitter and we will happily retweet you to help promote your concert or project (or anything really!) if it might be relevant to others who follow @bisyoc.

You can also use #bisyoc, #bisyocreunion, #bisyocforever or #bisyoc2017 (or whichever year) via Twitter and Instagram to share memories and news, great videos or whatever! We will be looking out for these and will try to link to the posts with our blog and newsletter.

Our new web page dedicated to the Alumni Association is [here](#). We want your stories!

NEW LOCATIONS FOR BISYOC – 2020 and BEYOND

We are always searching for new locations to hold BISYOC. Many of you will have great memories of Moor Park School in Ludlow where BISYOC was held 10 times. Recently Moor Park told us that the school will no longer be available to BISYOC during the summer holidays as they need time with the place empty to carry out essential annual maintenance and repairs. At the same time, Peter and Jenny Gibbons are moving away from Presteigne. This means that we will be looking for new venues for BISYOC from 2020 onwards, including a "home venue" like Moor Park which we can return to regularly for many years to come. This could be anywhere in Europe. If you think you know a place BISYOC could go, please write to info@bisyoc.com to ask us for a detailed list of the requirements that a BISYOC venue must meet in order to be suitable. If the place you suggest looks viable we will follow it up.

PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISER

We are looking for an experienced professional fundraiser with a broad knowledge of funding for the Arts, Youth and Cultural Exchange sectors. This post will be advertised later in the year but if you know someone with knowledge in this area and a good track record please ask them to contact us for more information. We are looking for new funding sources for the future to enable us to keep BISYOC at a price participants can afford.

YOUR INFORMATION OPTIONS

You receive information from BISYOC because you have participated, applied to take part or supported us at some time during the past. If you have not agreed or no longer wish to receive emails from BISYOC, please unsubscribe from the mailing list or contact us via info@bisyoc.com to request your details to be removed. You can read more information about our new [Privacy Policy](#).

If you or someone you know would like to receive this newsletter automatically, you can subscribe. This can be done easily by following a link at the bottom of our home page on the BISYOC website: www.bisyoc.com