European InSEA Congress 2018 in Aalto University, Finland

The European regional InSEA Congress will be held June 18-21, 2018 at Aalto University in Finland. The congress will concentrate on European and global issues around art education and its connections to societal and scientific topics. Aalto University’s main campus, originally designed by Alvar Aalto, will offer interesting sights and new possibilities to explore art education in interdisciplinary contexts. Art and its education meets with Eco/Bio/Tech/Digital/Societal connections in Aalto University, on many levels. Workshops and excursions will open doors for laboratories, design environments, and nature. Participants can learn from the strong Finnish art education structures and practices through the conference program, developed together with local art and art education professionals. The venue and location nearby Helsinki, the Baltic Sea, and national parks offer the possibility to experience the Northern summer light in nature and in the urban area, with many museums and other sites.

In the congress presentations, art, education, science, and society might be approached through the following themes:

- digital artistic and art educational practices
- scientific approaches to art and/or art education practices
- artistic and art educational approaches to scientific practices
- artists and scientific collaborations and integrations
- experiences in the culturally changing Europe
- contemporary approaches to diversity and immigration
- post-humanism
- eco-justice
- gamification, digitalization, and the connections of games and learning in art
• research and practices on cultural sensitivity in art education
• design education
• new materialism
• public art interventions
• local / global perspectives to climate change
• Arctic and Northern views to current global issues and challenges
• biotechnological, biological and other new media and new materials in arts and art education

The InSEA Congress 2018 welcomes diverse contributions. In addition to traditional academic paper and pedagogical project presentations there will be the possibility for:
• artistic participation in a curated exhibition
• round table presentations for more inclusive conversations
• “brainstorming” presentations to develop new ideas
• PechaKucha presentations for visual perspectives
• workshops for art making activities

These different types of presentations will make it possible for the audience to enjoy academic “battles” as much as visual based presentations. Debates, round table conversations and “brainstorming” sessions will offer room for new ideas to appear among researchers, teachers and project workers. Throughout the Congress, the audience will actively engage in conversations. Keynotes will be offered, as well as invited talks and debates between internationally well-known art educators and/or artists.

The Congress organizing team’s passion is to create a forum for fruitful discussions, dialogical encounters, and interventions to astonish. The goal for this InSEA congress is to offer possibilities for intercultural conversations on most current and burning issues in contemporary art education. If art education will have even a slightly renewed meaning for the participants after the congress, we have reached our target!

The call for presentations will open in August 2017. For more information, contact Mira Kallio-Tavin (mira.kallio-tavin@aalto.fi) or Tiina Pusa (tiina.pusa@aalto.fi).