

The first year of World Council 2019-22

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The worldwide community of education through art: Official partner of UNESCO



What a difference a year makes!
The first year of World Council 2019-22

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Thanks also to Sirine Abdelhedi for the photographs!

Dear InSEA member,

It is now one year since this photograph was taken of the new World Council at the InSEA World Congress in Vancouver, July 2019! I want to take this opportunity to thank you as an InSEA member, for the commitment and patience you have shown in the challenging circumstances we have all faced during the past year. As a community of arts educators, we are very fortunate to have such a vibrant community of learning, teaching and research connecting all parts of the world. Since July 2019, and despite the huge problems caused by the pandemic, we have achieved a great deal, but there is more work to do. It is this extraordinary commitment shown by the Executive Officers, World Councillors, Editors and Working Group chairs that help make our organisation such a strong and positive forum for the promotion of education through art in all its manifestations. However, the real strength of our community is in our members - you make the organisation what it is.

The pandemic has changed all our lives and InSEA, in concert with many other organisations, has really felt the impact of the global crisis. The World Council, has been working hard to find even better ways to serve our members. Congresses and seminars have traditionally been a key dimension of our work but with travel severely restricted for the foreseeable future, we need to find new ways of connecting people and providing services for our members. We have made a great start on this work and I look forward to developing it further with you – please help us by keeping in touch with your elected world councillors. As a reminder, we set out the three aims for this World Council in the strategic plan as follows:

o promoting small-scale, local, events such as seminars artistic interventions and workshops;

o motivating new and especially younger, artist-educators from all parts of the world to join the Society;

o Encouraging members to publish with us.

Given the conditions and limitations imposed by the pandemic we will need to do a lot of this work online but, as we refresh and develop our website, that should be possible. The second bullet point, new and younger members, will be a major focus for the remainder of our term as a World Council. We will target those who work in education through art in the broadest sense, beyond the University and higher education sector – this will be a major undertaking as we reach out to art educators who are doing great work but are not currently members. One step in that direction is the call for the third book in the Learning through Art series that will concentrate on education through art in **schools, communities, families and museums**. We need you to help in this drive to widen membership, please identify those people in your networks who will be interested in joining our worldwide community of education

who will be interested in joining our worldwide community of educators through art, make suggestions to your local World Councillor, or any member of the InSEA Executive Board; email addresses are on the website. The more connections we make, with as diverse a constituency as possible of art educators, the stronger we are.

Thank you for everything you do for education through art around the world!

Glen Coutts

President 2019-22



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