

Cleveland Slovenian Business and Professionals Association (CSBPA)

April 23, 2009 - Take a behind the scenes look at WKYC-TV3 Studios where the Cleveland Slovenian Business and Professionals Association (CSBPA) held their annual reception

Photos are posted at: <http://www.clevelandslovenian.com/photos/2009-04-23.shtml>



The program included a networking social from 6pm to 7pm, which featured Wines of Slovenia. The reception was hosted by the Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland, Kollander World Travel and the Slovenia Tourist Office – USA.

The event began at 7pm with Master of Ceremonies Dick Russ from the WKYC TV3 Studios. Sylvia Pisorn's presentation followed with the 2009 CSBPA progress reports. Presentations were also made by Michael D. Polensek, Cleveland City Councilman, Cleveland - Ljubljana Connection and Dr. Zvone Žigon, Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia. The evening concluded with a question & answer session and tour of the WKYC TV3 Studios

Stanley & Milka Krulc celebrate a 50th wedding anniversary



May 2, 2009 - Stan and Milka Krulc with family at St. Mary's Church in Collinwood, Ohio. Mass was celebrated by Father John Kumse and Deacon Dave Kushner.

A note from Mirjam Gremes

I will be in Slovenia from March 26th to June 2nd. I will be checking my g-mail occasionally. Have a wonderful spring,

Mirjam

Wishing you many blessings!

Check out my website at: <http://www.mirjamsworld.com/>
or see what is new at: <http://mirjamsworld.com/blog/>

St. Mary Church of the Assumption – Collinwood, Ohio

Resurrection Mass

Easter 2009

Photo link: <http://picasaweb.google.com/philip.hrvatin/StMarysEaster2009>



Slovenian American Heritage Foundation 2009 Lecture Series

THE GOLDEN VOICES OF SLOVENIAN OPERA IN CLEVELAND

Cecilia Dolgan and Joe Valencic

7:00 PM – Tuesday, May 5, 2009

**Slovenian Society Home (Lower Hall),
20713 Recher Avenue, Euclid , Ohio**

The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the fourth talk in our 2009 Lecture Series. The Foundation is extremely pleased that Cecilia Dolgan and Joe Valencic will discuss the Slovenian community of Cleveland 's rich history of opera performance. The program, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Tuesday, May 5th at 7:00 PM in the Lower Hall of the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid . A coffee and strudel social will follow the lecture.

Opera played a key role in the Slovenian cultural scene in Cleveland from the 1920s into the 1960s. Full-scale opera productions, performed in the Slovenian language, enthralled audiences with masterful singing enhanced by costumes, scenery and orchestral accompaniment. While opera was largely inaccessible to most people in Slovenia , Slovenian music-lovers in Cleveland enjoyed several stagings each year. Cecilia Dolgan and Joe Valencic will present a program on the golden era of Slovenian opera in Cleveland with rare recordings and vintage photographs. You'll learn about memorable productions, such as Carmen, La Traviata and Il Trovatore, and the voices who brought these works to life, including Eddie Kenik, June Price, Mary Ivanusch and Anton Schubel.

Cecilia "Cilka" Dolgan was a young performer with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus when she appeared in her first Slovenian opera in Cleveland . She played lead roles in operas at Severance Hall and the Cleveland Institute of Music. Cilka has been singing and recording ever since. She directed the SNPJ Slovenian Junior Chorus for many years and is now the President of the American Slovenian Polka Foundation and its National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame.

Joe Valencic writes, lectures and produces documentaries on Slovenian-American History. His multimedia program on Slovenian music in America has been presented across Slovenia . In January his music research was featured in hour-long show on TV Slovenija. As a child, Joe also appeared at Severance Hall with Lake Erie Opera. He serves as the president or officer of several Slovenian-American societies and is a founding trustee and historian of the Polka Hall of Fame.

Anthony W. Hiti, President
Slovenian American Heritage Foundation

Introducing *Explosion from Paradise*, An Exhibition of New Work from Gary Bukovnik

CLEVELAND, Ohio – Cleveland native, San Francisco based watercolorist, GARY BUKOVNIK, will be exhibiting his work at The Bonfoey Gallery, 1710 Euclid Avenue. This stunning exhibition, entitled *Explosion From Paradise*, will be on view in both our street and lower level galleries from May 8 through June 6, 2009. An opening reception will be held Friday, May 8, from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. There will also be a film screening of his new short documentary “*Explosion From Paradise*” and painting demonstration with the artist Saturday, May 9 beginning at 10 am.

Bukovnik will also be exhibiting at the Slovenian Embassy Washington D.C. in November 2009. In April he will participate in a watercolor exhibition at the Kunstzaal van Heijningen Gallery in The Hague, Netherlands. Recently, Bukovnik was involved in the *Bouquet to Arts* Exhibition in collaboration with DeYoung Museum Auxiliary Members at the Caldwell Snyder Gallery in San Francisco. In 2003, Bukovnik was invited for six weeks to the American Academy in Rome as a Visiting Artist. He was invited for a second session in 2005. In 2001, Bukovnik was selected to create a poster for the List Collection, which commemorates programs at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York. Past selectees include such prominent artists as Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, Robert Motherwell, Helen Frankenthaler, and Alex Katz. Gary Bukovnik has been involved in numerous solo and group shows in galleries across the United States as well as exhibiting work in China and Japan. His work can be found in such prestigious museums as The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art, and the Brooklyn Museum, New York; Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; The Chicago Museum of Art; and Fine Arts Museums, San Francisco



Using floral images suspended in time and space, Gary Bukovnik creates compositions we would not have the opportunity to appreciate with our naked eye alone. Pretty, graceful, petals spread and dislodge from the bud in a symphony of evanescence as the arrangements are tossed into the air. Stems and leaves bound by thin red ribbons dislodge and seek out their own place on the picture plane. Bukovnik’s masterful use of his medium elegantly portrays water in all its delicate liquid glory; bouncing and loosely falling, seemingly weightless and solid at the same time.

For more information about the GARY BUKOVNIK - EXPLOSION FROM PARADISE, or upcoming exhibitions, please contact The Bonfoey Gallery, 216.621.0178.

A note fro Lynn Zalokar

lmz410@aol.com:

Kuhel/Kuhelj family reunion, August 2009

Are you a descendant of the Kuhel (Kuhelj) brothers who immigrated from Kostanejevica na Krki in southeastern Slovenia (near the Croatian border) in the early 1900's? Maybe we'll find descendants of the sisters who didn't come over too! The brothers ultimately settled on the east side of Chicago in a Slovenian neighborhood near the Slovenian church St. George.

The Three Brothers:

Johann (John) Kuhelj, 11-23-1879, 3-17-1936 (wife: Mary Skal)
Franz (Frank) Kuhelj, 12-21-1883, 3-2-1931 (wife: Mary T. Kotic)
Josef (Joe) Kuhelj, 9-11-1886, 2-26-1946 (wife: Frances/Fany Smole)

The three sisters who stayed in Slovenia:

Amalia, Josephine, Leopoldina. Leopoldina is a 1/2 sister, the daughter of Marie (Sekula) Kuhel from her first marriage to Leopold Lipic.

A note from Zvone Žigon

On April 28 2009, I attended a farewell reception for the Slovenians and consular corps in Denver, Colorado. Attached are several photos at the event with attorney Lucky Vidmar who organized the reception. Also pictured is Mr. Raymond Kogovsek the Slovenian Honorary Consul in Colorado. I had thanked them for the excellent cooperation we had in the last four years with a symbolic gift.



By the way, unemployment situation is affecting everyone, as you can see, even the bears are looking for jobs...(I couldn't pass up this photo opportunity in Denver)

“Let’s Feel Slovenia” – CELEBRATE ZARJA Activities

JUNE 19 – 20, 2009

Dear Members and Guests:

Your favorite Slovenian-American magazine is turning 80 years old and in honor of this special occasion the Zarja Staff has teamed up with the Slovenian Heritage Museum to bring to you an exciting line up.

This two-day event brings together Slovenian Culture, Food, Music, Drink, Language, Customs and Dancing. It will surely be the “talk of the town”.

Call the airlines! Charter a bus! Fill your car! This is the event of the year for all Slovenian-Americans and their friends. We have award-winning chef from Slovenia, Dino del Medico who is teaming up with our very own Nick Carmody of Colorado, owner of Rocky Mountain Potica Company. Together they are teaming up to bring you some savory culinary surprises. Plus the Slovenian World Congress is sending over two talented individuals, Sonia Avgustin and Andreja Vidmar, to run our heritage camp, “Let’s Feel Slovenia”.

On Saturday the party moves to the Slovenian Catholic Center in Lemont where they have graciously opened their doors to us. In the evening we will celebrate Zarja with a special Slovenian meal prepared by chef Lillian Cepon. Come meet our Slovenian guests, book authors, chefs and especially The Singing Slovenes of Duluth, Minnesota who are a favorite of many.

This is your opportunity to Feel Slovenia without needing a passport or a lot of money. Make your reservation now.

Looking forward to meeting you on June 19, 2009.
Zarja The Dawn and the Slovenian Heritage Museum
“Keeping the Slovenian Spirit Alive”

KOROTAN

KOROTAN CONCERT. On Saturday, May 9th at 7:00 p.m. Slovenian Mixed Chorus, KOROTAN, will perform their annual concert at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue. Everyone is cordially invited. Tickets are \$12. High school students and children are admitted free. Veseli Godci will play for dancing after the concert.

KONCERT PEVSKEGA ZBORA “KOROTAN” je v soboto 9. maja ob 7:00 zvečer v Slovenskem Narodnem domu na St. Clair Ave. Vstopnina je \$12. Študentje in otroci imajo vstop prost. Za ples in zabavo bo igral ansambel Veseli godci.

NEW YORK CITY

An All Nations Tour!

AUGUST 20 - 23



Complete Tour Price from Cleveland:

\$760 per person, dbl room

Includes:

3 nights Hotel, round trip and sightseeing via deluxe motorcoach. Breakfast daily, 2 nationality luncheon, 2 dinners, entrances fees and touring as per the itinerary

With Joe Valencic and Johnny Koenig

Travel by deluxe motorcoach to great New York City for a guided tour of the classic sights and unique nationality neighborhoods and ethnic establishments.

Joe Valencic knows New York City, especially its Slovenian side. He'll help you discover Ellis Island to learn about America's immigrant foundations at this important and historic monument.



Johnny Koenig grew up in New York State and even talks the city dialect! Enjoy his relaxing music en route and some lively dancing at The Eastern Austrian and Gottscheer Club in the Borough of Queens (Archie Bunker's neighborhood). The Gottscheers are well represented in New York and the locals will host a dinner and dance for our group in their classic hall.

We'll include all the details, 2 dinners, ethnic lunches, city sightseeing with knowledgeable local guides, unique sites of interest to anyone whose ancestors - or they themselves came to America past the Statue of Liberty through the gates of New York.

Aug. 20 – Early rendezvous and departure from the Cleveland area. Head east with a lunch stop along the way. Late afternoon arrival in New York City. Check into our hotel just outside the city. Enjoy dinner at the hotel. D

Aug. 21 – Our motorcoach takes us into the heart of New York for a full day of seeing the sites in this great city. Our lunch stop will be at an authentic restaurant in Little Italy or Chinatown. Then we'll visit neighborhoods that recall the various cultures that make this such a great city. Free time in the Big Apple in the late afternoon. In the evening we cross the East River to Queens for a Polka Dance hosted by the local Gottscheer Club. Transfer back to hotel after the dinner and dance. B, D

Aug. 22 – begin the morning with ferry ride across the bay to the Ellis Island Museum for an in-depth tour of this monument to our nation's immigrant heritage. The afternoon is free for walking in the city with our city-smart hosts. We will offer an optional Broadway show for those interested tonight. B, L

Aug. 23 – We depart early for Cleveland, stopping / Stop for Sunday Mass in the morning at historic St. Cyril's Slovenian church in the East Village. With Sunday Brunch at a Ukrainian restaurant and a dinner stop planned en route during our return. B



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

FULL PAYMENT IS DUE July 15, 2009

Because motorcoach space is limited, we urge your deposit of \$100 per person as soon as possible. A minimum number of 25 needed to operate the tour.

2. Baggage Allowance: The tour operator has requested that there be a limit of 1 large suitcase per person due to space restrictions aboard the motorcoach. NO RESPONSIBILITY IS INCURRED FOR LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO BAGGAGE OR ANY OF THE PASSENGER'S PERSONAL BELONGINGS. TRAVEL BAGGAGE INSURANCE IS RECOMMENDED AND AVAILABLE THROUGH KOLLANDER TRAVEL.

3. Passport & ID Requirements: A valid government issued ID or passport is required of all tour participants. A U.S. passport is valid for 10 years. Your passport must be valid for at least 180 days following your return. To apply for passports you can contact either your local passport office, Clerk of the District, or County Court. Kollander World Travel will be happy to help you obtain the necessary forms.

4. Tour Price Excludes: Airport Departure Taxes, customs user fees, passports, all visa fees, optional tours, telephone, telex, fax and telegram charges, excess baggage charges, sundry tips, laundry, beverages and food not on the regular table d'hôte menu (these items will be billed to you before leaving the hotel, or restaurant), portage at U.S. airports and all other items of a personal nature. Service charges at hotels and restaurants are prepaid. Travel Insurance is not included.

5. Refund and Unused or Amended Tour Arrangements: Unused hotel accommodations, tour features or services are non-refundable, nor exchangeable for other accommodations, services or features. Should there be any reason to change features of the tour for the group, any additional expenses will be charged to the tour members. If a change becomes necessary for any reason, hotels substituted will be the equivalent of those shown. Single room available at a supplemental charge.

6. Cancellation Penalties: If you cancel your reservation, your right to receive a refund is limited as set forth in the following schedules. All requests for refunds must be sent to us in writing. Charges for cancellation of the tour will be assessed by the participating tour operators, and hotels as follows:

- After deposit..... U.S. \$ 25.00 per person
 - 90-59 days prior to departure U.S. \$100.00 per person
 - 60-29 days or less prior to departure...50% Penalty and No Refund on air ticket.
 - 30 days or less prior to departure...100% Penalty and No Refund.
- Cancellation charges also apply to additional accommodations reserved prior to and after the tour.

7. Insurance. While every effort is made to ensure that baggage is properly handled and that the cancellation charges to you are kept to a minimum, Kollander World Travel cannot be held responsible for damages, loss or theft of luggage or personal belongings. You may secure a policy for baggage insurance, as well as insurance against sickness or accident, or trip cancellation and interruption insurance through Kollander World Travel. Important terms concerning pre-existing medical conditions, which are not covered, are described in the insurance brochure which will be sent for your review.

9. Revisions: A handling fee of \$30.00 per transaction will be charged for any alteration or revision. A change of tour date or tour itinerary within 45 days of departure will be treated as a cancellation and new booking; regular cancellation fees apply.

10. Responsibility Clause: Kollander World Travel, Cleveland, Ohio a division of Adriatica.net (hereinafter referred to as "the Company") is responsible to you in making arrangements for the tour services offered in this brochure, including transportation, sightseeing and hotel accommodations. The carriers, hotels and other suppliers providing tour services are independent contractors and are not agents, employees or servants of or joint ventures with the Company. All certificates and other travel documents for tour services issued by the Company are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the suppliers and to the laws of the countries in which services are supplied. If the services included on the tour cannot be supplied or there are changes in an itinerary for reasons beyond the control of the Company, the Company will arrange for the provision of comparable services. Any resulting additional expenses will be payable by tour participants and any resulting savings will be refunded by the Company to tour participants. The Company reserves the right to make changes in the itinerary whenever the Company deems it necessary to the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants, and to cancel a tour at any time. If the Company cancels a tour, it shall have no responsibility beyond the refund of all monies paid to the Company by the tour participant. The tour participant agrees that the Company shall not be liable for any damages, loss (including personal injury, death and property loss) or expenses occasioned by any act or omission of any supplier providing tour services or of any other person. No person, other than an authorized representative of the Company by a document in writing, is authorized to vary any term or condition in this brochure, including any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions.

*** Air Taxes Surcharges on Airline Tickets are subject to change at any time ***

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS COUPON :



971 E. 185 St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44119
(216) 692-1000 / (800) 800-5981
www.kollander.com

NEW YORK CITY TOUR WITH JOE VALENCIC & JOHNNY KOENIG AUGUST 20 -23, 2009

Enclosed is my deposit of \$_____ (\$100 per person + _____ for Insurance) for this trip. I have read and agree to the terms and conditions applicable to this tour package. *Your personal check and/or bank check welcome. If paying by Credit Card please circle: Visa, Discover, Mastercard, Amex*

Full Name(s): _____ Roommate: _____
(Name as it appears on your passport or government ID)

Name on Credit Card: _____ Signature Required: _____

Credit Card payment: Card #: _____ Expiration Date: ____/____/____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: __ (____) _____ [] Single Room (additional cost \$325)

Emergency Contact Name and Phone #: _____

- [] YES, I am interested in purchasing travel insurance. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED! To cover pre-existing condition, must be purchase at the time of deposit. *(Once purchased, insurance premiums are non-refundable.)*
- [] NO, I decline insurance protection



TIMETABLE FOR 2009 EUROPEAN UNION PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

May 8

Last day for Slovene citizens who have a permanent residence in Slovenia but are temporarily living abroad to register to vote at a diplomatic or consular mission or by mail. Registration forms must be sent by mail to the State Elections Committee at Državna volilna komisija, Slovenska cesta 54, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, by fax to +386 1-433-1269, or by e-mail to rvk@gov.si. Registration forms are also available at www.dvk.gov.si

May 8

Last day for Slovene citizens with permanent residency abroad, who are not listed in the special electoral register and who wish to vote, to submit a request to be added to the electoral register. The electoral register is on view at the Consulate General.

May 8

Last day for voters to register a party affiliation for the 2009 EU Parliamentary Elections.

May 23

Last day for voters to view the electoral register.

June 4

Last day for voters with permanent residency abroad who wish to vote in Slovenia in the 2009 EU Parliamentary Elections to inform the State Election Committee of their intent.

June 7

2009 EU Parliamentary Elections.

For more information, please contact the Consulate General of Slovenia at 212-370-3006 or at clara.drew@gov.si

Slovene citizens with addresses registered at the Consulate General have been mailed election information and voting instructions in Slovene. If you did not receive this information and would like to, please contact the consulate.

Ongoing – May 3, 2009

MARJETICA POTRČ: ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Artist and architect Marjetica Potrč is known for her installations and architectural projects in a gallery context. "Working at the interface of architecture, art and social science, she is concerned with the fundamentals of human life and well-being in the community: the dangers of globalization, climate change and unsustainable urban growth. Her work has been featured in exhibitions throughout Europe and the Americas, and she has been the recipient of numerous awards and grants." (<http://hop.dartmouth.edu/galleries/index.html>)

Hopkins Center for the Arts

Jaffe-Friede Gallery

Dartmouth College

Hanover, NH 03755

Tel: 603-646-2422

email: hopkins.center@dartmouth.edu

web: hop.dartmouth.edu

May 2, 2009 7:00 pm

A SPRING FESTIVAL OF OPERA

Acclaimed opera group Opera on the Hudson presents a dazzling array of scenes and selections from *La Boheme*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Rigoletto*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and many more.

Tickets are \$25, \$20 in advance. For reservations please call (718) 543-1273.

Church of the Epiphany
E 22nd Street at Second Ave.
New York, NY 10010

Opening May 7, 2009 7:00 pm

NAME READYMADE

Name READYMADE is the presentation of the "Name Changing" gesture perpetrated by three Slovene artists who in 2007 officially, and with all the papers and stamps required, changed their names to that of Slovenia's...prime minister at the time, Janez Janša.

Works exhibited in this show (valid ID cards, passports, credit and bank cards, driving licenses, birth and marriage certificates, and so on) are generated by the reality itself. Through turning around the classical relational scheme between art and life Janez Janša, Janez Janša and Janez Janša have cut right in the midst of their own realities and the reality of space and time, in which they work.

Location One
26 Greene Street
New York, NY 10013
Tel: (212) 334-3347
web: www.location1.org

May 8-11, 2009

Opening: May 8 7:00 - 9:00 pm

ISCP: OPEN STUDIOS

Slovene artist Miha Štrukelj features in this four-day exhibition of international contemporary art an event presents work by the 27 artists and artist groups currently in residence at ISCP. Štrukelj's work explores urban landscapes and the perceptions of the individuals within them, through drawing and painting, focusing on site specific works in the last two years.

1040 Metropolitan Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11211
Tel: (718)387-2900
web: www.iscp-ny.org
email: info@iscp-nyc.org

May 24, 2009 11:00 am

SLOVENE CULTURAL HOUR: GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Join our graduates Lenart Krečič and his Slovene band with some original compositions as well as the opening of an exhibition of paintings by Matej Branc.

RTV Ljubljana will be present and shooting part of program.

(Please note that this month Slovene Cultural Hour will be held on the fourth Sunday of the month rather than the third, as is usually the case.)

The Church of St. Cyril
62 St. Mark's Place (E 8th St.)
New York, NY 10003

June 6, 2009 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

POTICA MAKING DEMONSTRATION

The Slovenian Women's Union of America, Branch 93-NYC, will present a demonstration of making traditional potica. Mia

Branc, who caters for all events at the Church of St. Cyril, will conduct the workshop.

For more details and to RSVP please call (201) 947-6336 or e-mail swuabbranch93nyc@gmail.com by June 5th.

The Church of St. Cyril
62 St. Mark's Place (E 8th St.)
New York, NY 10003
web: www.swuanyc.org

June 29 - July 24, 2009

Application deadline: May 31, 2009

CENTRE FOR SLOVENE AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: SUMMER SESSION

The Centre for Slovene as a Second Language offers two and four week courses at three levels: beginning, intermediate, and advanced. Courses run in the morning with elective language courses offered in the afternoon.

Summer School activities also include a varied social program, where students can become acquainted with Slovene culture, history and contemporary reality while at the same time coming into close contact with the Slovene language and its speakers in its natural linguistic environment outside the classroom.

For more information, please go to www.centerslo.net or e-mail center-slo@ff.uni-lj.si.

University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Arts
Centre for Slovene as a Second Language
Courses of Slovene
Kongresni trg 12
SI-1000 Ljubljana
Tel.: + 386 (0)1 241 86 48

June 29 - July 10, 2009

Application deadline: June 16, 2009

YOUTH SUMMER SCHOOL OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE

The traditional Summer School at the Center for Slovene as a Second language has a younger sister, the Youth Summer School of Slovene. Now in its fourth year, the course runs for two weeks. Lessons are held in the morning and there is a varied social program in the afternoons and evenings, intended to acquaint participants with Slovene culture, history, and contemporary reality.

For more information on the school and scholarship opportunities, please go to http://www.centerslo.net/l2.asp?L1_ID=1&L2_ID=2&LANG=eng. Please be advised that the deadline for scholarship applications is May 15, 2009.

University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Arts
Centre for Slovene as a Second Language
Courses of Slovene
Kongresni trg 12
SI-1000 Ljubljana
Tel.: + 386 (0)1 241 86 48

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Editor's Note: To inquire about being listed in Kažipot, please contact the Consulate General of Slovenia in New York at (212) 370-3006 or clara.drew@gov.si

Back issues of Kažipot are available on the Consulate General's website at <http://newyork.consulate.si>.



Events

May 7 – Lecture A SHORT STROLL THROUGH THE UNIVERSE (Dr. Andrej Prša)
Embassy of Slovenia, 6.00 pm.

Opening of exhibition *Beyond* by Michael Benson has been **indefinitely postponed**.

May 9 – EU Open House. EU Embassies and EU Commission open their door to general public for the third year in a row. Washington, D.C., from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. Free bus shuttles provided.



Slovenian Tourist Board Workshop and Press Event in New York City

On the 12th of May, starting at 10 am, a presentation and workshop on Slovenia's tourism, followed by a luncheon, will take place at [Club 21](#) in New York City. At the event, you can learn about new tourist offers for the 2009-10 season and about Slovenian tourist attractions - from seaside promenades and world-class ski slopes to hiking in the beautiful Julian Alps or visiting fascinating caves. In Slovenia, one can get from a

lunch in a rustic village pub to a trendy café in the center of a thriving university city, filled with modern architecture and avant-garde attractions, within an hour. Besides that, the story of the Soča River Valley will be told. Soča River is one of Slovenia's jewels. It is said that the Soča River stirs something deep inside people as it winds its way through the Julian Alps and Triglav National Park to the Adriatic Sea.



In Club 21, you can meet key representatives of Slovenian tourist agencies and local experts presenting the latest information for designing ideal trips to Slovenia. For more information, please contact usa@slovenia.info

Slovenia Sharpens Academic Prowess

Education Week, April 21, Slovenian education has gained international recognition by strong ranking on international tests, such as the Trends in International Mathematics and Science studies (TIMSS) or the program for International Student Assessment (PISA), reports Education Week.

Not only have Slovenians been proving physical strength, with such incredible achievements as the swim of the entire

Amazon river by Martin Strel, or the first successful descent on skis from the top of the summit of Mount Everest by Davor Karničar, now the Slovenians are receiving the world attention by using their minds.

Dr. Zvone Žigon, Consul General of Slovenia in Cleveland, explains the success with a high motivation in students to improve themselves, and to show that Slovenia, a small and rather unknown country, exists and that Slovenians are good.

For the complete article visit the [Education Weeks' web site](#).

Tasting of Slovenian Wines in California and New York

From the 6th to the 19th of May, a series of wine-tasting events of Slovenian wine, made by a producer with 150 years of wine-making tradition, named Santomas, will take place in California and New York. On the 6th of May, the tasting will take place at [Lavanda Restaurant](#) in Palo Alto, CA, and will be accompanied by a dinner of authentic Slovenian dishes.



Then, on the 7th of May, Santomas wines will be presented to Karen MacNeil, renowned wine expert and author of the book *The Wine Bible*. On the 8th of May, another dinner with Slovenian dishes and Santomas wines will take place at [Caffe Venezia](#) in Berkeley, CA.

Those who are looking solely for wine-tasting opportunity are invited to the wine-tasting event at [Silver lake Wine Store](#), from 3 to 5 pm. On the East coast, a wine tasting event with sommelier Andre Compeyre at [Les Halles restaurant](#) in New York, which will take place on the 19th of May by invitation only for trade, hospitality and press professionals.

The International Year of Astronomy 2009

The year 2009 being the international year of astronomy, the Slovenian Embassy is organizing an evening dedicated to space exploration and our perception of the universe.

In the lecture, **A Short Stroll Through The Universe**, by the Slovenian scientist, Dr. Andrej Prša, of Villanova University, we will learn about the scales of the Universe, examining space in powers of ten and chatting about celestial bodies that are found at those scales. The lecture will outline the most important achievements of the 21st century astronomy, notably the advances in cosmology and exoplanet hunting.

Michael Benson's photography exhibit *Beyond* has unfortunately been indefinitely postponed.

Slovenia Celebrates Five Years of EU Membership

Ljubljana, 1 May (STA) - Slovenia celebrates on Friday the fifth anniversary of its EU accession. The country joined the block along with nine other countries in what was the biggest enlargement so far. During this time, Slovenia has introduced the euro, entered the Schengen zone and chaired the European Council.

The celebrations will be held between 4 and 12 May as part



of the Europe Week. On the occasion, a booklet entitled "The First Five Years - What the EU Brings Us", listing achievements important for Slovenians, will be published along with a new issue of Q&A pamphlet "Slovenia in the EU".

Slovenia became a full-fledged EU member on 1 May 2004. On 1 January 2007 it adopted the euro currency as the first among the new EU members.



On 21 December 2007 the country entered the Schengen zone, while on 1 January 2008 it took over the six-month stint at the helm of the block, also as the first among the newcomers.

During the presidency, which was one of the biggest projects in Slovenia's history as an independent country, some 8,000 events were organised. Almost 290 events took place in Slovenia, 3,455 in Brussels and 4,252 elsewhere.

EU Open House: Celebration of Europe Day

On **May 9, 2009**, diplomatic representations of EU Member States in the United States will celebrate **Europe Day**.

[Europe Day](#) celebrates the first move towards the creation of what is now known as the European Union. It was on May 9, 1950, when the French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman presented the Declaration for "the first concrete foundation of a European federation".

EU representations in Washington DC, together with the EU Commission, mark the day annually by organizing the **EU Open House** day, under the slogan *Shortcut to Europe*.

For a few hours, Embassies of 27 countries and the EU Commission Delegation in Washington, DC, will open their doors for the third year in a row, showcasing their art, culture, food, and introducing the European Union to visitors from the area.

The event attracts more and more people each year. In 2008, we recorded a total of over 50,000 visitors.

The Embassies have prepared an extensive and interesting program, which you can view on the official EU Open House website www.europe-in-dc.com. For a program at the Slovenian Embassy, visit our [web site](#).

The May 9th EU Open House event will take place on, from 10 am to 4 pm. Free bus shuttles will be provided to take you from one embassy to another. You can view the routes on the official website www.europe-in-dc.com/.

See you on Saturday, May 9!

2009 Lecture Series: The Golden Voices of Slovenian in Cleveland

The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the fourth talk in our 2009 Lecture Series. The Foundation is extremely pleased that **Cecilia Dolgan and Joe Valencic** will discuss the Slovenian community of Cleveland's rich history of opera performance.

Opera played a key role in the Slovenian cultural scene in Cleveland from the 1920s into the 1960s. Full-scale opera productions, performed in the Slovenian language, enthralled audiences with masterful singing enhanced by costumes, scenery and orchestral accompaniment.

While opera was largely inaccessible to most people in Slovenia, Slovenian music-lovers in Cleveland enjoyed several stagings each year.

The program, which is free and open to the public, will take place on **Tuesday, May 5th at 7 pm** in the Lower Hall of the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid.



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all-Slovenian all around the
world.**