



SALZBURG GLOBAL FORUM FOR YOUNG CULTURAL INNOVATORS

October 17-22, 2015

The *Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Innovators (YCI)* is an annual series of the Salzburg Global Seminar that brings together fifty of the world's most talented young innovators from the culture and arts sector at Schloss Leopoldskron to help them develop the dynamic vision, entrepreneurial skills, and global networks needed to allow them, their organizations, their causes and their communities to thrive in new ways. The artistic disciplines represented by the young innovators range from the visual and performing arts, literature, and cultural heritage, to foods, fashion, architecture, and design. The *YCI Forum* represents a major commitment by the Salzburg Global Seminar to fostering creative innovation and entrepreneurship worldwide with the intention of building a more vibrant and resilient arts sector and of advancing sustainable economic development and positive social change agendas worldwide.

Participants and Format

Each annual YCI cohort is comprised of ten expert facilitators and fifty young cultural innovators between the ages of 25 and 35 from around the world. The group are balanced in terms of gender, genre, and geographic representation. Most of the participants come from "culture hubs" that SGS is developing with partners on all continents. The "culture hubs" form the core of the YCI multi-year project. Participants are selected through a highly competitive application and nomination process, to ensure outstanding quality and diversity of professional knowledge and experience within the Forum.

Selection criteria for Forum participants:

- 25-35 years of age
- Proficiency in English
- At least 3 years of professional experience in the cultural sector
- Creativity in approach to work, openness to innovation and risk-taking, action-orientation, and demonstrated entrepreneurial practice
- Interest in creating social change and strengthening the position of the arts and cultural institutions within communities, demonstrated through an example of one project led or in planning
- Passion, enthusiasm, and leadership potential – with recommendations confirming these qualities and/or external recognition of accomplishment in this area: prize, award, citation
- Proclivity to communicate (social media savvy, etc.) and cooperate with others across sectors
- Desire to become an active member of a global network and willingness to commit time, energy, and resources to sustaining such a network, both at the global and hub level,

Forum components include the **one-week annual program** in Salzburg combining theory and praxis, with **capacity building sessions** focusing on: intra- and entrepreneurship, exposure to the latest digital resources, the changing IP landscape, new business models, risk-taking and innovation, psychology of leadership and emotional intelligence, and cross-cultural communication and negotiating skills.

Outstanding participants from each year are invited back as **facilitators/resource specialists** at ensuing sessions to assure continuity, communication and exchange of best practice across the multi-year series.

The Forum assists the YCIs in creating “**culture hubs**” on all continents to share the learning, foster a multiplier effect, and magnify the impact of the YCI network created in Salzburg at the community level. The “culture hubs” will convene mini-sessions, workshops and public events and become a local resource for emerging cultural innovators.

Strategic Objectives:

The goals of the YCI series are to:

- Support a fragile and under-resourced sector that is nevertheless a major driver of innovation, creativity, and change,
- Create an innovative, world-class network of Young Cultural Innovators to drive and strengthen the arts sector worldwide over the next decade.
- Build the capacity of a critical mass (500+) of networked young arts leaders committed to innovative leadership, entrepreneurial approaches, and exchange of best practices within and among “culture hubs” worldwide,
- Generate a multiplier effect on cultural organizations and networks around the world through the “culture hubs” designed to share the learning from the Salzburg sessions and inspire innovation, collaboration, and peer mentoring at the local level.
- Disseminate the Forum’s groundbreaking ideas to a broad community of stakeholders and build a creative network for continuing dialogue, collaboration and advocacy, through social media and catalyzed by ten “culture hubs.”

Related Sessions:

498 Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Leaders

503 Promoting the Next Generation of Young Cultural Entrepreneurs: Planning for Success

538 Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Innovators