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SCOPE

Science Connecting People

Building local ecosystems for STEM as a Driver of Development

26 to 28 September 2024, Zagreb - Croatia

Science Connecting People is the international conference on science popularization and science communication. It is a part of the *Thematic Systemic Network* in the area “*STEM as a driver of development*” supported by the National Foundation for Civil Society Development.

The conference is coordinated by Fablab in cooperation with Technical Museum Nikola Tesla, Europe House Zagreb, CARNET (Croatian Academic Research Network) and several NGOs.

The goal is to bring together various actors who can share experiences and contribute ideas on how to build and enhance local ecosystems and help civil society to play an important role as a steam engine in societal development, learn from one another and create valuable networks.

The conference will present thought-provoking keynote speakers, professionals directly involved with the public, people who shape the programming in science centres and museums, professors and researchers, representatives of local societies, coordinators of ground-breaking EU projects and managers of science engagement institutions.

The following themes will be proposed:

1. **People** - science communicators and popularizers (who are they and how to become one)
2. **Tools** - tools, installations and mobiles for science communication activities
3. **Activities/Events** - trends, future, authentic information, motivation and the metrics of creativity and enterprise
4. **Spaces** – exterior and interior design of science centres, presentations of science museums, distributed network of science centres

Conference schedule:

26 September 2024 – Europe House Zagreb

27 September 2024 - Technical Museum Nikola Tesla Zagreb

28 September 2024 - Maker Expo Zagreb – visit to event



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Official conference language is English

PROGRAMME

Day 1 – Thursday, 26 September 2024

Location: Europe House Zagreb

13:30 – 14:00	Registration and welcome drink/coffee
14:00 – 15:00	(1) Keynote speech – Korado Korlević
15:15 – 15:30	Welcome and introduction by Roberto Vdović and Krešimir Čanić
15:30 – 16:00	Opening ceremony – Government, Parliament and City representatives
16:00 – 16:15	Presentation of conference programme
16:15 – 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 – 17:15	(2) Panel discussion – STEM vs STEAM vs STREAM (Krešimir Čanić)
17:15 – 18:00	(3) Panel discussion – Building of ecosystem (Roberto Vdović)
18:30	Conference dinner and networking



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PROGRAMME

Day 2 – Friday, 27 September 2024

Location: Technical Museum Nikola Tesla

8:00 – 9:00		Registration and coffee
9:00 – 9:45	<i>People</i>	(4) Science communicators and popularizers - who are they and how to become one (Krešimir Čanić) – KD hall
10:00 – 10:45	<i>Spaces</i>	(5) Design Dilemmas - (Roberto Vdović) – KD hall
11:00 – 11:45	<i>Spaces</i>	(6) Local communities and science centres (Roberto Vdović) – KD hall
11:00 – 11:45	<i>People</i>	(7) Presentation of science centres and science museums (Anja Batel) – Tesla hall
12:00 – 12:45	<i>Spaces</i>	(8) Investing in science popularizers (Krešimir Čanić) – Tesla hall
12:45 – 14:00		Lunch break
14:00 – 14:45		(9) Keynote speech – Greg Gage – KD & Tesla hall
14:45 – 15:20		(10) STEM show – Homo Sapiens (Krešimir Čanić) – KD hall (in Croatian)
15:30 – 16:15	<i>Tools</i>	(11) Tools for schools (ŠK / Krešimir Čanić) – KD hall (in Croatian)
15:30 – 16:15	<i>Activities / Events</i>	(12) Various formats, events and activities, available spaces (Anja Batel) – Tesla hall
16:15 – 17:00	<i>People</i>	(13) Cooperation of NGOs and preschool institutions (Lucija Bašić & Roko Lukenda) – KD hall (in Croatian)
16:15 – 17:00	<i>Activities / Events</i>	(14) Presentation of events, science picnics etc. (Anja Batel) – Tesla hall
17:00 – 18:00		(15) Final thoughts – conclusion (Roberto Vdović) – Tesla hall
19:00		Conference Dinner, networking

Day 3 – Saturday, 28 September 2024

Location: Maker Expo Zagreb

10:00 – 15:00 Visit to Maker Expo in Zagreb

Note: Programme details are subject to changes and will be updated online here
<https://www.fablab.hr/tsp/scope24/>.

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Day 1 – Thursday, 26 September 2024

1. Keynote Speech

Korado Korlević is founder of Science and Education Centre Višnjan. He and his team are always working on new ways to interest young minds in science and technology, and is also well known as a great speaker and motivator. He is giving speeches all over the country with a wide range of audiences. With his speeches he always tries to move people, make them react, even provoking anger, letting them know that the only way to make a change is putting in the work and “getting your hands dirty”.

2. Panel discussion – STEM vs STEAM vs STREAM - **Krešimir Čanić**

Presentation on the evolution of the acronym STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) with and A added to stand for arts which denotes programs that aim to teach students innovation, to think critically, and to use engineering or technology in imaginative designs or creative approaches to real-world problems while building on students' mathematics and science base. Also, what does R in STREAM represent and why is it important?

3. Panel discussion - Building of ecosystem - **Roberto Vdović**

Discussion on bringing together various actors who can share experiences and contribute ideas on how to build and enhance local ecosystems and help civil society to play an important role as a steam engine in societal development.

Day 2 – Friday, 27 September 2024

4. Science communicators and popularizers – **Krešimir Čanić**

Building ecosystem starts with building a community of motivated people. Who are they? How to recognize them? What roles can they play? What skills and competences are required for a science popularizer? What is the status of the science popularizers certifications? What is the role of the real sector in this issue?

Kristina Duvnjak, Petar Čuček, Dalibor Paar

5. Design Dilemmas - **Roberto Vdović**

Design dilemmas and highlighting the importance of having a holistic approach to designing public spaces. Showcasing, with examples, the range of spaces Copernicus Science Centre has worked with whilst giving examples of challenges faced by designers and the ways used to overcome them. Zooming in on a few examples. The challenges of emerging science centres in Croatia.

- **Bojan Baletić** (dean of Faculty of architecture), **Iga Włodarczyk** and **Joanna Charczuk** (Copernicus Science Centre), **Helena Matuša** (Science Edutainment Centre Zagorje), **Ana Kralj** (Science Centre in Čakovec)

6. Local communities and science centres - **Roberto Vdović**

How can a local community approach the issue of building its own science centre? How can a local (historical) building be transformed into a science centre? What is going on in Croatia in this area? Enhancing collaboration with local science centres through networking and partnerships. Can a local cultural institution become an independent science center? Can an annual meeting sustain a partnership? What tools should be used to create a network of partners? Our approach is rooted in the philosophy of being a partner, not a mentor, ensuring our collaborators achieve independence and create a mutually supportive network.

- **Iga Włodarczyk, Małgorzata Dubilis, Helena Matuša, Ana Kralj, Petar Čuček**



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- 7. Presentation of science centres and science museums - Anja Batel**
Firsthand experiences on the creation and work of science centres and science museums. Deep dive into the challenges, opportunities and success stories.
[Mateusz Kot](#) (Copernicus Science Centre), [Markita Franulić](#) (Technical Museum Nikola Tesla), [Helena Matuša](#) (Science Edutainment Centre Zagorje), [Ana Kralj](#) (Science Centre in Čakovec), [Miha Kos](#) (Hiša eksperimentov)
- 8. Investing in science popularizers - Krešimir Čanić**
An overview on everything that has been done in this area in the recent years in Croatia and what is yet to come.
- 9. Keynote speech**
[Gregory Gage](#), an award-winning American neuroscientist, entrepreneur, author and science communicator, will deliver an exciting keynote speech. Greg is focused on spreading knowledge about the human brain, and most importantly on the development of affordable technology for the education of primary and high school students. He is one of the most prominent speakers at the TED conferences and he has several TED talks online, each supporting his mission of spreading knowledge about neuroscience.
- 10. STEM Show – Homo Sapiens**
Experienced science popularizer [Krešimir Čanić](#) will present a STEM show entitled “Homo Sapiens”.
- 11. Tools for schools**
Be inspired by hands-on activities and demonstrations (Makey Makey, How do our brains work?).
[Krešimir Čanić](#), [Wojtek Janos](#), [Bioteka](#), [Školska knjiga](#), [Petar Čuček](#)
- 12. Various formats, events and activities, available spaces - Anja Batel**
An important part of building a community is involving people and using tools in different activities. The accent in this session is on spaces. How can exciting activities be presented in totally different spaces? How can spaces contribute to activities?
[Margareta Miloš](#), [Anita Čorak](#), [Jelena Červenjak Kmoniček](#), [Carlo Fonda](#), [Jeffrey Roe](#), TBC (SP)
- 13. Cooperation of NGOs and preschool institutions**
A dive into science popularization in nursery schools.
[Lucija Bašić](#), [Roko Lukenda](#), [Edita Rogulj](#)
- 14. Presentation of events, science picnics etc. - Anja Batel**
An exciting presentation of innovative activities. Look into workshops, festivals, maker faires, science picnics etc., taking into consideration different target groups, audiences etc.
[Carlo Fonda](#), [Jeffrey Roe](#), [Sokol Shurdhi](#), [Tin Valetić](#), [TMNT](#)
- 15. Final thoughts – conclusion**
[Roberto Vdović](#)

Day 3 – Saturday, 28 September 2024

Visit to Maker Expo Zagreb