

"TOYS FOR CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION" "ИГРУШКИ ДЛЯ РЕАБИЛИТАЦИИ ДЕТЕЙ"

FIRST ARMENIAN SYMPOSIUM,
WORKSHOP AND EXHIBITION
20 Nov – 3 Dec 2005
Yerevan / Armenia

ПЕРВЫЙ АРМЯНСКИЙ СИМПОЗИУМ,
СЕМИНАР И ВЫСТАВКА
20 Ноября – 3 Декабря 2005
Ереван / Армения

Invitation for applications to the 1st Armenian Symposium, Workshop and Exhibition "Toys for Children's Rehabilitation"

The Studio-College of the National Aesthetics Center in partnership with Open Society Institute (OSI), World Vision Armenia, Fördern durch Spielmittel – Spielzeug für behinderte Kinder e.V. (Toys for Children's Rehabilitation) and UNESCO Armenia organizes the **1st Armenian Symposium, Workshop and Exhibition "Toys for Children's Rehabilitation"** that will take place in Yerevan, Armenia, November 20 to December 3, 2005.

During two weeks participants in collaboration with specialists will be involved in various activities together with children with special needs in different childcare facilities to develop completely new toys for therapy and rehabilitation of these children. Materials will be as diverse as the ideas of participants.

The programme consists of three parts: Symposium, Workshop and an Exhibition of the Toys developed during the workshop.

Project background

The natural way for children to learn and interact is through play. With the help of toys children explore their environment and get acquainted with social interaction. Games and toys make children perceive knowledge and skills. In addition, they stimulate imagination and creativity, develop healthy coping skills, increase self-esteem and confidence, promote communication skills, and assist with development of motor skills. Through the art process, children can often approach difficult issues and convey a message much clearer and safer than with words.

With our Creativity Workshop we want to encourage awareness among authorities, specialists, teachers and carers for the urgent necessity to develop and apply good and suitable toys to be used with children with special needs.

In our reality it is often nutrition, health and hygiene that play the most important role in working with these children. Emotional, cognitive and psychic needs are neglected or considered less.

Organizers:

armenian_workshop@yahoo.com



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We, the organizers, would like to promote this process by developing new ideas for suitable toys within the framework of the Creativity Workshop. Co-organizer, the non-profit organization "Fördern durch Spielmittel - Spielzeug für behinderte Kinder e. V." (Toys for Children's Rehabilitation), Germany, has led or coordinated a total of 12 interdisciplinary Creativity Workshops in different countries, with each Workshop resulting in the development of many new toys or toy ideas.

The results of the First Armenian Creativity Workshop will be shown in a public exhibition.

After the Exhibition, an interdisciplinary group chooses the most interesting toys. Selecting criteria are therapeutic aspects and innovative character. These toys will then be modified, copied and tested for three months by children with and without special needs.

The organizers will arrange further development of toys and publish a book containing instructions to make toys on ones own.

We would like to invite you to submit an application to take part in this Workshop. Please pass this information on to interested people.

Samvel Baghdasaryan

Studio-College of the
National Aesthetics Center

Siegfried Zoels

Fördern durch Spielmittel –
Spielzeug für behinderte Kinder e.V.

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Content and programme of the 1st Armenian Symposium, Workshop and Exhibition

"Toys for Children's Rehabilitation"

Date and Venue

20 November – 03 December, 2005
Yerevan, Armenia

Aims

During the workshop participants will be involved in various activities of children with disabilities and will, in collaboration with them, their teachers and specialists develop prototypes of toys for them. Selected prototypes will undergo further development. Under the terms of agreement (see Appendix), participants are expected to give their agreements to organizers to use the work (including models and drawings) for non-profit activities. The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) will remain with the designer.

Programme

Symposium on: "Toys for Children's Rehabilitation"
Date: November 21, 22

During the first day representatives from ministries, local and international organizations as well as specialists will present their views on the local toy situation in Armenia. The problems and difficulties in this area will be discussed; first steps towards a collaboration of workshop participants and specialists working together during the two workshop weeks will be made.

During the second day participants from different countries will give short and interesting presentations on both their countries and their projects in the toy making area (3-5 minutes – if possible power point presentations).

Creativity Workshop:

Date: November 23 – December 2

During two weeks participants will have the opportunity to interact with children with special needs in their institutions and collaborate with local specialists to develop innovative ideas in the toy designing process.

The working laboratory equipped with various machines and working tools will be at participants' disposal, various materials will be provided.

Exhibition:

December 3, 2005

The exhibition of toys resulting from this Creativity Workshop will be held in National Children's Gallery and open to the public. Representatives from ministries, specialists and interested people from different organizations, as well as children with special needs and their parents will be invited.

Participants:

14 participants from all over the world will be selected to participate in the Creativity Workshop. Designers, Architects, Toymakers, Teachers, Therapists, Psychologists, Special educators can apply for participation.

Working Language:

English, Russian

Costs

There will be no Workshop fee. We will provide all working materials necessary. We will also provide food and accommodation during the period of the Workshop. Travel costs have to be borne by the participants; those participants from developing countries are eligible to apply for a contribution to their travel expenses. The travel costs of the participants from eastern Europe will be reimbursed.

Deadline for Application

October 10, 2005

The participants accepted for the workshop will receive further detailed information until October 28, 2005.

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Application Form

Name: Gender: female male

Age: Date of Birth:

Profession: Current occupation:

Contact address:

Tel. (private): Tel. (business):

Email: Fax:

Languages:

Diet: (non-vegetarian, vegetarian)

1. Please summarize your experience in the field of design, toys, rehabilitation, and work with children with disabilities. (Please be specific)

2. Please list any projects and designs that you have developed and which may relate to the Workshop and include photos or drawings, a brief description of your design work and the list of materials used.

3. What do you personally expect from the Workshop like this:

Date:

Signature:

The Selection Committee will treat all applications and accompanying material in strict confidentiality. Any materials submitted to the organizers will not be returned.

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Agreement declaration

Between

Name:

And

Studio-College of the National Aesthetics Center, Yerevan, Armenia

The author of the new developments and prototypes produced during the 1st Armenian Symposium, Workshop and Exhibition "Toys for Children's Rehabilitation" held in Yerevan November 20 – December 3, 2005 authorizes Studio-College of the National Aesthetics Center to reproduce these prototypes and use them in non-profit programmes and activities.

The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for the developments and prototypes will remain with the author.

1. Studio-College of the National Aesthetics Center is to be granted individual rights for non-commercial use as follows:

- To reproduce selected new developments and prototypes and use them within activities as a part of the training or education of people with special needs
- Make the prototypes and new developments known and disseminate them via publications, exhibitions, videos, internet, and other media
- To prepare, publish and distribute the new developments and construction plans of them for parents, teachers and careers.

Studio-College of the National Aesthetics Center undertakes to:

Protect the rights of the authors and represent their interests vis-à-vis third parties

Test prototypes of the chosen toys and inform the authors of the test results.

Procedure in the event of commercial use:

Should the new developments or prototypes produced during the 1st Armenian Symposium, Workshop and Exhibition "Toys for Children's Rehabilitation" be considered for commercial use, the details of such use will then be negotiated individually between the Author and the Organizer.

Date:

Managing
Applicant _____
Studio-College of the
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Yerevan, Armenia

Date:

Director,

Address: _____

Organizers:

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