

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“INSPIRATION AND COOPERATION POST-PANDEMIC”

WHERE ARE WE STANDING AND WHAT IS THE STATUS A COUPLE OF YEARS AFTER THE COVID-PANDEMIC?

It is a great pleasure, on behalf of The Norwegian Youth Orchestra Association (UNOF) and The National Association of Norwegian Symphony Orchestras (NASOL) to invite you as one of our international guests to our conference in the beautiful city of Bodø! Bodø is in the northern part of Norway, and it takes place from the 26th to the 28th of April 2024. It also happens to be the European Capital of Culture in 2024, which we look forward to as well!

Our conference will raise discussions and questions on how we stand after some years since the Covid-pandemic. Are we back to normal? Are we far from or far beyond the level of activity; and what have we done or what can we do to reach our goal. How can we look forward and evolve together with the community? We hope that this conference will bring some new perspectives and thoughts regarding the situation we are in now and we warmly welcome you to Bodø!

UNOF and NASOL have co-operated to create the framework, topics, and contents of this conference. We hope that you find the program relevant and that you feel an urge to take an active part in sharing your thoughts and experience with us and the all the participants. Here follows a brief schedule for the conference weekend. There will be provided breaks and refreshments not stated in the schedule.

*Please note that there may be unexpected changes at short notice. All times in the schedule are in local time (CEST).





Thursday the 25th of April

Bodø is a city and municipality in the northern part of Norway. It has a beautiful charm and the local people called “Bodøværingar”^{*} are more than happy to welcome you to their city.

^{*}The letter “Ø/ø” is pronounced as the “ea” in “earth” and the letter “Æ/æ” is similar to the “a” in “I am”.

We have not scheduled any activities this day and you are more than welcome to arrive this day. If you need any sightseeing tips, or ideas on what to do, please do not hesitate to contact the staff as we are lucky to have some people with great local knowledge.

Friday the 26th of April

15:00 Registration of participants and refreshments

16:00 Official opening of the conference

16:30 Introduction and presentation of the participating organizations and other relevant guests

17:15 End of session

18:00 Dinner

20:00 Concert

Saturday the 27th of April

10:00 Opening of conference day 2

10:15 Session 1 – Keynote followed by a panel debate and discussion

11:30 Session 2 – Several anniversaries are celebrated and marked, but how?
Keynote speeches followed by Q&A

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Session 3 – Topics of participant’s matter. We invite our participants to suggest topics discussed in this session. We see the importance of an open forum and we open for discussions relevant to the musical matter.

There will be a parallel session (in Norwegian), discussing what kind of organization UNOF and NASOL have been, is now, and should be in the future, for their members.

15:30 Closing of conference day 2

17:00 Concert

19:00 Official reception and dinner (*Dress code: formal*)

Sunday the 28th of April

10:00 Parallel General Assemblies of UNOF, NASOL, and EOFed

13:00 Lunch

14:00 General Assemblies continue

16:00 Official closing of the conference



Monday the 29th of April

If you have not got enough of the Norwegian air and the scenery of Bodø, you are welcome to stay longer at your own discretion. We recommend to use this day as travel day as well, however there might be a small morning rush in the morning, we advise that to be taken into account.

Practical information

There will soon become available an online sign-up form. It is important that we know if you attend our conference and other details regarding your stay in Bodø. You will get notified when the form is up, but we recommend to check the website of UNOF [<https://orkester.no/>] as there will be published an update there as well.

The conference will last from and including the 26th of April 2024 until the 28th of April 2024. There is of course a possibility to extend your stay before and/or after, however that will not be included in the participation fee. Nevertheless, we can assist if you want to stay at the conference hotel for one night at either end. More information will be provided.

Bodø Airport is an international airport very close to the city center (airport code BOO), however it is not of the largest size and there are some limitations regarding arrival and departure options. We recommend that you already now search for travel routes and; please take a small note that the weather may not be on your side. The local concert venue is called “Stormen” which literally translates into “The Storm”.

If you have any questions or you need to get in touch with the arrangers, please use the contact info below and we will try our best to assist you.

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The participation fee will be published along with the sign-up form and what it will include will also be provided at the same time. More detailed information will follow close up to the conference as well, so please stay tuned.

On behalf of UNOF and NASOL, we hope that you will enjoy this conference and we hope that you leave Bodø with a lot more knowledge and inspiration than when you arrived. We wish all the best to the orchestra community around the world and let us create rememberable moments together! Welcome to Bodø!