

### Session 583: Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Innovators IV

### Join in online!

If you're interested in writing either an op-ed style article for our website or the session report, or a personal reflection blog post, please let Salzburg Global Communications Associate Oscar Tollast know or email your submission directly to otollast@salzburgglobal.org.

If you do intend to write for your own organization after the session, please make sure to observe the **Chatham House Rule** (information on which is in your Welcome Pack).

We'll be updating our website with summaries of the panels and interviews with our Fellows, all of which you can find on the session page:

#### www.SalzburgGlobal.org/go/583

Continue the conversation on
Twitter with the hashtag **#SGSyci** and see all your fellow Fellows and their organizations on Twitter via the list

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We'll be updating our Facebook page www.facebook.com/SalzburgGlobal and our Flickr stream www.flickr.com/SalzburgGlobal with photos from the session. If you require non-watermarked images for your own publication, please let Oscar know. Any photos published outside of Facebook should be credited: Salzburg Global Seminar/Herman Seidl

We will continue to upload photos to Instagram <a href="www.instagram.com/">www.instagram.com/</a>
<a href="SalzburgGlobal">SalzburgGlobal</a>. If you share memories of your time at Schloss Leopoldskron, remember to use the hashtag <a href="##SGSyci">#SGSyci</a>!





# YCI Forum Highlights Benefits of Collaboration and Exchange

The fourth Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Innovators has reached a resounding conclusion with a message of unity and cooperation.

After six days at Schloss Leopoldskron, 50 of the brightest and creative minds influencing urban and social transformation in their communities have left Salzburg with ideas on how to develop their causes.

This year's Forum involved young artists and cultural leaders representing more than 30 cities and regions.

Participants exchanged their cultures, passions, opinions, and individual talents and explored how diversity in art is perceived and how it impacts communities.

In the program's final plenary session, facilitators Peter Jenkinson and Shelagh Wright suggested the session marked the beginning of some of the most thought-provoking conversations of the participants' lives, something they hoped would influence participants throughout their careers.

Referring to Muhammad Ali's poem, "Me. We," Jenkinson and Wright explained that by raising complex issues and dilemmas, participants were pressured to think outside of their safe spaces and develop a greater sense of intimacy with those they would not normally relate with, thus improving their

understanding of group dynamics.

The skills workshops and small work groups created to incentivize discussion and facilitate exchange throughout the session received high praise from participants during the closing plenary.

The exchanges throughout the final few days of the program helped refresh the participants' vision and entrepreneurial skills. A number of participants said the experience had allowed them to enrich each other through different beliefs and approaches.

One participant said that by asking them to face challenges that could only be solved through collaboration, the session had made them more committed to working with people from different backgrounds as the variety of inputs helped them complement each other and make the challenges "not feel like such."

Several of the facilitators described the Forum as a safe space for courage and peace where Fellows act as a bridge to the future.

Looking ahead, participants discussed potential projects to implement in their communities going forward, as well as how to strengthen the existing YCI network.

The YCI network has now grown to more than 200 creative change-makers across all continents.







### The Schloss is Alive

Photos from Tuesday night's Open Space event at Schloss Leopoldskron











# Storytelling, Leadership, Design Thinking, and Entrepreneurship

Participants at this year's YCI Forum received guidance to develop their dynamic visions, entrepreneurial skills, and global networks which are needed to help their causes to grow.

A series of skills workshops represented a unique opportunity for participants to address how to use arts and culture to make sense of the world and themselves and make a difference in their communities.

Facilitators included Adam Molyneux-Berry (managing director of iceHubs Global), Amina Dickerson (president of Dickerson Global Advisors), Arundhati Ghosh (executive director of the India Foundation for the Arts), and Matt Connolly (chief executive officer of Tällt Ventures).

#### Design with and for your user

Financial resources are not as important as human resources. Participants were recommended to build movements around the work they're doing and use human-centered design to create programs, projects, and businesses that are focused on the needs of the user rather than the perceived needs of the user. A project should be designed in such a way that it addresses the needs of the people being served. To do this, participants were encouraged to design projects with communities, not just for them.

#### **Explore different ideas of leadership**

We are the CEOs of our own lives, in addition to being a part of an organization. Participants reflected on how they showed up as leaders and what they wanted to achieve through demonstrating leadership. The workshop featured a strategy which referenced The Bigger Game, created by Rick Tamlyn. Participants were challenged to think about the compelling purpose of their work, their hunger for advancing a certain discipline, what vision to bring on board, the investments which need to be made, and the bold actions required to escape comfort zones.

#### **Understand your entrepreneurial self**

Participants examined a list of attitudes and behaviors which had been created with both successful and unsuccessful entrepreneurs. Together they thought about where they stood against these attitudes. They then went through the transtheoretical model, which involved moving them to a level of awareness around where they stood presently compared to thoughts of where they want to be tomorrow, and the actions and habits needed to achieve that.

#### Help others understand what you do

The cultural sector can build its own stories in a way that are compelling, evocative, and more efficient than the stories which presently make up the dominant narrative. Participants went through a process of finding their story, exploring who they were, what they did and why, why having a story mattered, and who it mattered to. Participants explored the structure of their stories and the best way in which to tell them to audiences, be it with passion, rationale, or emotion.

### Jung-Suk Ryu – The Desire to Create Better Societies and Communities Transcends Across Different Sectors

Executive director of Indefinite Arts Centre reflects on his new position and multi-sector career

Oscar Tollast

Jung-Suk Ryu can't think of a better job right now that taps into his passions. The 32-year-old is four months into his new role as the executive director of the Indefinite Arts Centre - Canada's oldest disability arts organization. Ryu, who also goes by "JS," took on the role having previously worked as director of external and community relations for the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, and director of public affairs for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB). Ryu says, "Where I am now is [at] that perfect blend of both of those worlds that absolutely excite me."

The Indefinite Arts Centre provides training, creation and exhibition opportunities for artists who live with developmental disabilities. Just over 200 artists visit the Centre's studio space each week to take part in self-directed artistic programs where are they given the freedom to create whatever they wish.

Ryu, speaking at the fourth Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Innovators, says, "Our organization helps them through that creation process all the way up to the exhibition where we exhibit their works both in our own gallery space within our facility but also within the city of Calgary, within the country, and also internationally."

A whole new world opened up for Ryu during his time at CNIB, an experience he found extremely humbling.

"It certainly was extraordinary to realize the potential that is within countless Canadians across the country who happen to live with disabilities but are making tremendous contributions in their own communities in their own ways."

After two years with CNIB, Ryu moved across to the arts sector to work for the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. Here he oversaw the growth of the Centre's public sector funding at a time of economic uncertainty. In his words, he was "the first sort of in-house lobbyist for this organization."

Ryu focused on strategizing and



Jung-Suk (JS) Ryu, executive director of the Indefinite Arts Centre, is also a classically trained pianist and founding artistic director of the Ottawa Symphonic Ensemble

developing ways to increase the organization's awareness within the public sector, strengthen relationships, and present a stronger case. He says, "I just helped capture what I was seeing into something that did indeed resonate with both levels of government that would fund us. That was really exciting to see."

The experience Ryu has accumulated in his career spans across multiple sectors including health care, politics, and communications. When asked if transitioning between these fields can be challenging, Ryu replies, "Absolutely not."

Expanding on this point further, Ryu says, "Everybody, in all sectors, we're innovating. We're trying to create a better community and a better society. We're trying to address different gaps and means. What I've realized – especially with my career starting off in politics – I've realized that desire transcends sectors."

For Ryu, each sector is driven by the same thing. "Your staff is still tapping into that desire for all individuals to aspire to create stronger more resilient communities – whatever the audience may be, whatever that particular client group you're working with. I haven't really found it that much of a challenge. I think it's tapping into that desire for change."

Ryu was one of five Canadians to attend this year's Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Innovators, whose presence was made possible thanks to the Canada Council for the Arts.

He was made aware of the opportunity thanks to a connection at the Council he made at a summit in Montreal last year. "If I had not gone to that event in Montreal, I would not have known about it whatsoever. It's the same thing today. If I'm not here interacting with 49 other peers, who knows what kind of other opportunities I might not be able to experience?"

Ryu described his first few days at Salzburg Global as "overwhelming," highlighting, in particular, the opportunity to hear about a wide range of different initiatives and take part in informative skill-building workshops with different facilitators. "It is an incredible, unparalleled learning and networking experience and something that is so relevant to me because of the stage that I am in my career...."

"These types of opportunities that help ground us in realizing that there's tremendous potential to take pause and learn but to also take pause and make more and make friends and make networks, I think is so valuable."

## What was it like participating in the fourth Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Innovators?

