

LOCAL COUNCIL **meets** ARTIST ○ Can the **COMMUNITY**, through  
public art or **CULTURAL** offerings enhance **CREATIVITY**?

**CREATIVECOMMUNITIES**  
Networking Local Councils and the Arts



## **CREATIVE COMMUNITIES**

### **Networking Local Councils and the Arts**

**Can the COMMUNITY, through public art or CULTURAL offerings enhance CREATIVITY?**

New ideas and innovations, new designs, new ways of working and thinking are the fuel for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The current climate suggests a very broad definition of culture that encompasses and seeks to build bridges among the non-profit arts, commercial creative industries, formal institutions, informal cultural activity, history, heritage and other sectors.

St. James Cavalier in collaboration with the Malta EU Steering and Action Committee (MEUSAC) will be organising a set of interactive and hands-on workshops held over two days and aimed at Local Councils, non-governmental organisations within the sphere of culture and local artists. The objective of these workshops is to instil social innovation as a tool for cultural sustainability for which the targeted beneficiaries will come together to brainstorm on existing resources and bring forth creative and original IDEAS that will in turn bring about cultural innovation. At the heart of this effort is recognition of the vital role that art and culture form part of an integral system that can enhance both social and economic development. Art and culture can create a sense of identity and innovative cultural projects create a unique town, a destination, a landmark, a meeting place and most importantly a focal point for activity. The real opportunity is for the cultural community, itself, to claim leadership. One of the most important themes of the new thinking about creative cities is AUTHENTICITY. It is deemed apparent that successful cities/towns, large and small, have become so by identifying and strengthening the very characteristics that distinguish them from other places and therefore each community must find its own unique path to vibrancy and success. Hence, this activity aims for Local Councils, ngo's and local artists to exploit the vital linkages between art, culture, the local town and the community. In addition to this, the workshops will also serve to develop funding strategies for project-based creative works.

This is a unique networking opportunity for Local Councils to engage with arts practitioners who are committed to develop artistic projects in various communities. In addition, the workshops will enable all participants to establish new projects with the assistance of experts in the fields of cultural management, heritage and funding. The final aim of the training programme is to enable participants from local government and the arts community to develop collaborative projects with a clear vision, set objectives and feasible budgets that could be pursued further with the assistance of MEUSAC.

**The event will be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> and Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July from 9.00am till 1.00pm at Dar I-Ewropa, St. Paul Street, Valletta. It is encouraged that individuals are to come prepared with ideas for upcoming or future projects. For the training programme, Local Councils are highly encouraged to invite artists or arts organisations from their own localities with whom they would like to develop creative projects. Moreover it is very important that individuals attend both days otherwise the whole scope of this exercise will be lost.**

**Registrations forms can be downloaded from : [www.meusac.gov.mt](http://www.meusac.gov.mt) . You are kindly requested to send this form by not later than Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 on email address [info.meusac@gov.mt](mailto:info.meusac@gov.mt)**

# CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

## Networking Local Councils and the Arts

Interactive Workshops  
Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July  
Venue – Dar L’Ewropa, St. Paul Street Valletta  
Time – 9.00am – 1.00pm

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July

- 0830 Registration
- 0900 **Opening Address** – Dr. Vanni Xuereb (Head – MEUSAC)  
**Key note Address** – Mr. Chris Gatt (Director St. James Cavalier)
- 0915 **Cultural Speed Dating** – Getting to know each other
- 0945 **Cultural Activities – Best Practices**
- 1030 **THE IDEA** – workshop session  
Heading Workshop – Tony Attard (Cultural Manager St. James Cavalier)
- 1215 Mix n’ match (Ideas)
- 1300 End of session

### Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July

- 0830 Registration
- 0900 Opening Address – Dr. Chris Said Parliamentary Secretary for Public Dialogue and Information
- 0915 Introducing the Simulation Exercise
- 0930 Implementing THE IDEA  
Preparation of Presentations
- 1130 Selling THE IDEA
- 1220 Concluding Address