

CHILDREN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL SERBIA IN THE RHYTHM OF EUROPE IN NIS

January 31st

In June Niš will be hosting this year's biggest children's music festival -Serbia in the rhythm of Europe. Nis high school students who won last year at this biggest festival representing Turkey would bring competitors from 22 cities from Serbia. The representatives of the cities from Serbia will represent 22 European countries and sing songs in the language of the country they represent. Nis, as the host of the festival, will represent Serbia and the team from Nis will sing in Serbian language.

The contract between the organizer of the children's festival and Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic was signed today at Nis City Hall. On this occasion Mazor Bulatovic expressed his gratitude for the exceptional reception that the Turkish ambassador organized for the Nis team. "The procedures are such that the city who wins at the competition is the host of the next one. So this year we will be the host of this important children's festival which will also promote our city, our young people, European values. We will try to be good hosts," said Mayor Bulatovic on this occasion.

"The children of the host city sing for Serbia and sing in the Serbian language. If Nis wins again, the city will receive 50% of the total net SMS income, and as the city winner it can receive free stage lights and sound system and free TV broadcast", said Mr. Igor Karadarevic, the organizer of the festival. He added that the ambassadors of the 22 countries of the European Union, who have been supporting Serbia in the Rhythm of Europe Festival for 10 years, give additional value to this competition". The jury, as before, will be composed of representatives of town competitors in a live television program. The votes by jury constitute the half of the total votes while the rest is gathered via text messages.

GOVERNMENT OF SERBIA AND EIB - PARTNERS ON NEW PROJECTS

January 31st

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, prof. Dr. Zorana Mihajlovic, today spoke with EIB Vice-president Dario Scannapieco about current and new infrastructure projects implemented with the support of the EIB. The meeting, held in the Government of the Republic of Serbia, was attended by Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic. Vice President Mihajlovic at the meeting thanked Scannapieco for good cooperation with the EIB on important infrastructure projects that, primarily in the field of road and railway infrastructure.

At a press conference in Belgrade at the end of a two-day official visit to Serbia, EIB Vice-President Dario Scannapieco presented last year's results in Serbia and the Western Balkans, as well as the 2018 objectives and strategy under the Economic Resilience Initiative (ERI).

At the same event, the loan in the amount of EUR 134m for Railway Nis-Dimitrovgrad was signed. The Railway Nis-Dimitrovgrad project encompasses the reconstruction, modernisation and electrification of the existing Nis-Dimitrovgrad railway line and the construction of a railway bypass around Nis, in Serbia. By facilitating rail transport, the project falls under the Connectivity Agenda of the Berlin Process. It will contribute to the competitiveness of the country's economy and will increase the quality and availability of rail services in Serbia, also contributing to the modal shift from road to rail. The EIB financing for this project is blended with EU funding under the EU-sponsored 2015 Connectivity Agenda.

THE AWARDS TO THE BEST STUDENTS OF THE NIS UNIVERSITY PRESENTED

January 26th

The best students in 2017 from all 13 faculties of the University of Nis were presented with the City of Nis awards for their achievement during the course of their studies. The awards were also received by students who finished the studies with an average grade of 10 during their studies. The awards were presented by the Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and the President of the Nis City Assembly, Rade Rajkovic. “To all of you who are the pride of this City, I congratulate on the results achieved and I believe that you yourselves know that the only investment that has never been proved to be wrong is investing in the future and knowledge. You are our future and these awards are just mere symbol of our care for you, our appreciation of our efforts and our wish to motivate you for further achievements. Constant and diligent work is the only way to get results that will last, and you have already, for the most part, shown that you can change the world around you,” said Mayor Darko Bulatovic.

THE “11TH JANUARY” AWARD DELIVERED

The formal session of Nis City Assembly was held at the Officers Club yesterday, and on that occasion the Chairman of Nis City Assembly and the Mayor delivered “11th January Award” for the year of 2017. Among the collectives, the winners are

two prestigious secondary schools- the Grammar School “Bora Stankovic“ and Medical High School “Dr Milenko Hadzic“, and among the individuals, the winners are- the oncologist, Mrs. Sladjana Filipovic and the writer, Mr. Zoran Pesic Sigma.

The ceremony was attended by a large number of officials, and the Chairman of Nis City Assembly and the Mayor in their address, reminded the audience of the great jubilee - 140 years since the Liberation of Nis from the Turks, as well as of the importance of evaluating and recognizing the outstanding individuals and institutions that contribute to the affirmation of the city.

PRESENTATION OF THE NEW ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FOR MAIN CITY SQUARE

January 12th

The presentation of the architectural and urbanistic project for the main city square - Trg Kralja Milana was held at the big hall of Nis City Assembly. The experts from the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Nis City Institute for Urbanism and the City of Nis have prepared a proposal for the new look of the city center, which would give this zone a more modern and beautiful look. Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic, attended the presentation, and on this occasion he emphasized the significance of this project, which should create a new and more beautiful dimension of the central city square. All interested were able to see a three-dimensional view of the project that foresees the existence of a pedestrian zone all the way to the entrance to the fortress and another fountain at the location which is now parking lot. The final version will be presented to the public soon.

LIBERATION DAY

January 11th

On January 11th, 1878, the Serbian flag was placed on the wall of Nis fortress after nearly five hundred years. After centuries of slavery freedom has come. Todor Stankovic, a member of the secret committee for liberation, was the one who placed the Serbian Flag over Stambol Gate. At that time, 120 Serbian soldiers were killed and 791 were wounded in the fighting for Nis. In his address on the occasion of the 140th anniversary of the liberation of Nis Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic said that the liberator of our city, Prince Milan Obrenovic, exclaimed in front of the fortress on that day: "This flag is a sign for us that every citizen, regardless of his religion, can count on the protection from Prince. I salute you as an advocate of justice, as a defender of freedom for all citizens, for all confessions." The Mayor also emphasized that the only real freedom was the one that was free of hatred and prejudice towards others. On the occasion of this important historical event for the City of Nis, a formal session of the Assembly of the City was held, on the occasion of which the highest awards of the city were awarded. Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic and the President of the City Assembly Rade Rajkovic, presented the awards to this year's laureates. Previously, the highest officials of the City of Nis laid their wreaths on the monument to the liberators in the center of the city.

RECEPTION ON THE OCCASION OF NEW YEAR'S CONCERT

January 10th

The reception for artists who would be performing at the traditional New Year's concert in Nis organized by the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and the maestro Zoran Andric was organized at Nis City Hall. Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic welcomed the artists and the representatives of the Italian Cultural Center from Belgrade who helped in bringing the artists to Nis. Maestro Zoran Andric announced the possibility that the City of Nis together with the Government of Serbia would invest in the construction of a new concert hall in the following three years, and that for the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra it would be the honor to be the first to perform in the new concert hall.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

January 6th

Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic extended his greetings on the occasion of Christmas to all who celebrate this great Christian holiday according to the Julian calendar. "Peace of God, Christ is born! Happy Christmas to all believers who celebrate this most joyous Christian holiday according to the Julian calendar. Let Christmas, a symbol of new life and salvation, but also love and family, be a guide to all of us in the way of mutual respect, tolerance and understanding, no matter which religion or nation we belong to. I wish to all of you to spend the holiday surrounded by your loved ones and I hope Christmas will bring joy, happiness and prosperity to your homes With the sincere wishes that in the period after Christmas we will be better toward each other, and honest and real to ourselves, once again I salute you with the most joyful greeting - Peace of God, Christ is born".

NEW YEAR'S EVE

During New Year's Eve Nis City Mayor Darko Bulatovic visited the workers on call from the PUC Mediana who were cleaning the streets in the central zone. He also visited the Nis Police Headquarters and Firefighting Department and Health Care Institute for Emergency Medical Aid. All these services were on call during the celebration of the New Year's Eve. Traditionally the Mayor visited the first new born baby in 2018. The first baby born this year is a girl. The rounds ended b visit to Nis City Heating Plant where the management and the employees assured the Mayor that the district heating in the city worked impeccably.