

Institute for Cultural Diplomacy

Berlin, January 28th 2019

To Mr. Joseph Caristena,

Invitation Letter

The Artistic Cultural Diplomacy Forum 2019
" Building Cultural Bridges through Art, Film and Music "
(International Conference, Berlin; February 13th - 16th, 2019)

I am writing to you as the Founder and Director of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy (ICD), an international, not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation, registered in the USA and Germany, with headquarters in Berlin, Germany. The ICD is focused on the theory and practice of cultural diplomacy: The Institute's main activity is focused on research, holding events to raise awareness of cultural communities, conducting international and interdisciplinary congresses and symposiums highlighting the actors and various approaches related to the field, and offering educational programs, in partnership with leading European universities and institutions, dedicated either wholly or in part to the field of cultural diplomacy (www.culturaldiplomacy.org).

This document is to confirm that you are invited by the ICD to participate and deliver a presentation in our forthcoming event: **The Artistic Cultural Diplomacy Forum 2019 " Building Cultural Bridges through Art, Film and Music "** which will take place in Berlin from February 13th - 16th, 2019.

You will be responsible for all cost involved with your travel and stay in Berlin. No participation fees will be charged from you, as a presenter during the event.

About the Program "The Artistic Cultural Diplomacy Forum " is an annual conference taking place in Berlin to explore the potential for art and music to provide a neutral platform for cultural exchange. Artists and practitioners from the fields of music, film, performance art, digital art, literature, and painting, will share their perspectives alongside renowned artists and leading figures from international politics, diplomacy, academy civil society, and the private sector.

For decades, all forms of the arts have served as a powerful, effective vehicles to inspire and enable people to build cultural bridges and come together towards prosperous peaceful relations. Over the course of many years now, people have discovered the unique potential of the arts and in particular music, cinema, and performing arts to transcend cultures, serving as common languages to bring together different groups and communities. These unique qualities have the unparalleled strength to continuously effect people and over time sculpt human society closer to the ultimate goal of global peace.

The Power of Film & the Arts to Build Peace will be celebrated during the conference and examine the immense transformative value that the arts and music hold as vehicles of Cultural Diplomacy. The vision of the conference is to bring an interdisciplinary mixture of celebrated artists, high level representatives from the film industry and practitioners of Cultural Diplomacy in order to prepare an agenda for after the conclusion of the conference, which will initiate programs and initiatives that will support global peace..

The participants will include academics, educators, governmental and international organizations employees, diplomatic officials, journalists, civil society practitioners, private sectors representatives, young professionals and students as well as other relevant Stakeholders with an active interest in the Program's themes.

Further information about the program can be found under: http://www.acdf.de/index.php?en_acdf-2019_overview

We are looking forward to your participation in the program and hoping to have your involvement and to welcome you in Berlin to the program on February 13th, 2019 .

For further information on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With warm regards,



Mark C. Donfried, General Director & Founder
ICD- Institute for Cultural Diplomacy