ECSA Autumn Meeting

ECSA is pleased to inform members that the dates and location of the autumn meeting of ECSA delegates have been set. The next General Assembly will take place in Skopje, Macedonia on 24-25th September 2014. ECSA member SOKOM will host the session.

ECSA-EBU-GESAC-ICMP recommendation for the licensing of broadcast-related online activities

ECSA, public service broadcasters (EBU), music publishers (ICMP) and collective management organisations (GESAC) have launched a forward-looking industry initiative to facilitate licensing in the digital environment. The four organizations have officially released on 4th of April 2014 a recommendation that sets out principles aimed at encouraging the aggregation of rights for the licensing of certain broadcast-related online activities on a cross-border basis.

The Recommendation establishes common principles that strike a balance between the stakeholders’ interests and objectives to lead to the cross-border licensing of public service broadcasters. This will simplify the basis on which licenses of musical works in the context of “broadcast-related online activities”, i.e. additional online content related to their regular broadcasting services, will be implemented within the European Union. The recommendation also promotes high levels of transparency for authors, composers and publishers, fair compensation and efficient, modern and non-discriminatory administration arrangements.

Read full version of press release and recommendation on ECSA’s website.

European Songwriters Connection – Copenhagen 2014

On 10th May Copenhagen will host the Eurovision Song Contest. Behind a Eurovision Song Contest song, you will often find a team of up to two or three songwriters and although we rarely see them on stage, we could not do without them and their craft when Europe gets together to find the best song in the traditional Eurovision Song Contest. The organisations for Danish songwriters have therefore teamed up to bring Danish and European songwriters together to create new European hits and show the strength of songwriting. The Danish organisations for composers(DJBFA and DPA), the copyright organisation, Koda, and the Danish music publishers are jointly inviting selected Danish songwriters to team up and write together during this year's Eurovision Song Contest in Copenhagen, alongside all the European songwriters who will also be visiting the capital.

"In the end, it’s all about writing good songs and about challenging yourself as a songwriter,” says Thomas Stensgaard, who, with Lise Cabble and Julia Fabrin Jakobsen, was behind last year's Danish winner of the Eurovision Song Contest. He continues: “During my working week I might collaborate with an alternative rock band one day and then team up with a talented colleague to write a catchy pop song for the Eurovision Song Contest the next day. That is how I work as a songwriter and that is why the 'It's all about Songwriting' initiative presents such a unique opportunity to write across genres and nationalities, and to strengthen our network.”

ECSA actively supports the songwriting initiative launched in conjunction with the Eurovision Song Contest.

IIE Scholar Rescue Fund Receives Gifts to Rescue Threatened Art Scholars

The Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF) recently announced the Janet Hennessey Dilenschneider Scholar Rescue Award in the Arts for artists and scholars of the arts suffering human rights violations in their home countries. This award provides for up to ten $25,000 fellowships for scholars of the arts (including music) to be provided temporary refuge at universities, institutes, and other established institutions of higher learning. More information can be found here.