

To Whom it May Concern:

878

25.12.2012

It is our great pleasure to inform you that the traditional celebration of children's creativity the "Joy of Europe", the largest and oldest children's manifestation in the country, will take place in **Belgrade** between the **2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> October**. The founder and patron of the **44<sup>th</sup> International Gathering of the Children of Europe** is the **City Administration Office of the City of Belgrade**, with the **Children's Culture Center Belgrade**, as the executive producer of the event.

Over the four days the "Joy of Europe", gives children from all over Europe the chance to make friends and present themselves through various mediums of artistic expression on stage.

Each group can have up to **15 children aged 7 to 14 participating** (if for the quality of the performance it is necessary to have a larger number of performers, we are able to accommodate a maximum of up to 18 children), with **2 adult** companions-leaders. The children are accommodated in families of their peers from Belgrade elementary schools, one child per one family. The expenses of hotel accommodation (half-board), for the 2 adult companions, are covered by the organizer.

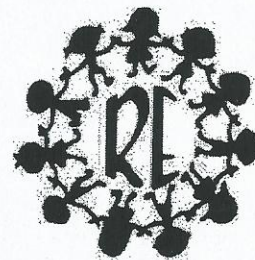
Travel expenses to/from Belgrade are covered by the participants. In the case of using guest buses during the manifestation, the organizer will cover fuel expenses, as well as accommodation expenses for 2 drivers.

The international gathering of children of Europe "Joy of Europe" is open to all performing arts schools, cultural centres, studios, clubs, associations, and above all groups who have had noted achievements in national and international competitions, festivals, contests, etc.

The mediums through which participants present themselves range from dance (classic, traditional, jazz, and modern dance...), through to drama and music (vocal group or choir), as well as multimedia forms of expression.

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**Only one group can represent each country. In order to have the most representative selection, we kindly ask you to suggest, on behalf of your country, two or if possible three entries out of which we will select one which will represent your country at the event.**

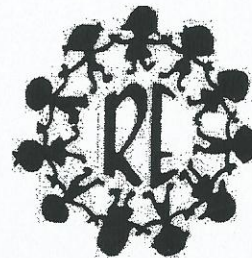
**Rock-and-roll, as a thematic framework**, will this year serve as a source of inspiration for creating art performances (dance, music, multimedia...) for all those interested in participating in this manifestation. As a primarily musical direction that appeared in the 1950s, rock-and-roll combined and brought together the influence of jazz, blues, boogie-woogie, RnB but also elements of folklore, gospel and country music. In this way, this genre of music has combined various cultures from around the world into one. This theme is truly inspirational for all artistic directions, and at the same time has a universally understood message, one of connecting different cultures, overcoming differences and moving boundaries. In selecting the groups' applications, preference will be given to those groups whose performances fit the topic of this year's JOY OF EUROPE 2013.

**The basic program** of the international gathering of children of Europe "Joy of Europe" includes the following:

- 1. CARNIVAL-** a lively parade of costumed participants of the manifestation through the city's downtown;
- 2. FRIENDSHIP MEETINGS** - concerts at the Hall of the Children's Culture Center Belgrade (groups present programs no longer than 10 minutes, music can be played live);
- 3. GALA CONCERT-** at the "Sava Center" (groups present a program, up to 3 minutes long, any vocal or instrumental performance must be studio recorded – full playback is mandatory).

The Grand Gala Concert will be watched by million viewers through a live television broadcast.

**Applications** for participation should be submitted **no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012**. We are unable to consider entries received after the deadline.



The applications of potential participants should include:

- A completed application form that can be downloaded from the website of the „Joy of Europe“ and should be sent **exclusively in electronic form** to the following e-mail address of the Children's Culture Center: [info@dkcb.rs](mailto:info@dkcb.rs) ;
- A video clip of just the stage act planned for the Gala Concert in „Sava Center“, no longer than 3 minutes (it is recommended that video clips be sent electronically).

Detailed information on the „Joy of Europe“ and its rules, as well as all application forms, can be found on the official website: [www.joyofeurope.rs](http://www.joyofeurope.rs)

We truly hope that we will have the opportunity to welcome the children of your country to Belgrade and take part in the “Joy of Europe”, which dates back to 1969.

Sincerely yours,



**Olivera Ježina**  
General Manager  
CHILDREN'S CULTURAL CENTER BELGRADE



**M.Sc. Mileta Radojević**  
Chairman of the Board  
JOY OF EUROPE 2013

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