



Lugano, 5 October, 2021

Call for Case Studies

National competition dedicated to culture and healthcare projects in Switzerland

Organized by the partnership between the *City of Lugano Culture Division* and the *IBSA Foundation for scientific research* to promote collaboration between the spheres of Culture¹ and Healthcare² for the well-being of people and communities.

Purpose of the Call for Case Studies

The first Swiss *Culture and Health Forum, an alliance for a sustainable future*, will be held at the LAC Lugano Arte e Cultura on 26-27 November, 2021. Professionals and experts on the subject are invited to submit innovative experiences and projects that are currently being developed and implemented in Switzerland using innovative methodologies and on the basis of defined scientific results.

The Scientific Forum will be an annual event and is part of a three-year project. The project developed from the awareness that a greater alliance between two seemingly distant fields, such as art and physical and psychological well-being, can lead to a better standard of living, both outside and within healthcare facilities and places of care, as demonstrated by various international studies and experiences. The World Health Organization also confirmed this in a recent report³ focusing on the European region, which examined over 900 publications covering more than 3,000 previous studies. The report confirmed that art and cultural activities are not just a matter of enjoyment during free time, but have a positive effect, both in terms of people's psychological well-being throughout their life and in terms of promoting health and preventing and managing a variety of diseases.

"The arts can address complex health challenges such as diabetes, obesity, and mental illness. They consider health and well-being in a broader social context and offer solutions that conventional medical practices have so far not been able to address effectively." - Dr. Piroska Östlin, WHO Regional Director for Europe.

¹Culture, understood as the totality of intellectual and emotional experiences including art in all its forms.

²Healthcare, understood as healthcare facilities of all kinds and places of care.

³ WHO, D. Fancourt, S. Finn, *Health Evidence Network synthesis report 67*, 2019.



During the first Forum, scientific evidence and best practices at an international level will be presented, which will stimulate debate and discussion on the topic, thanks to contributions from well-known experts. On this occasion, the results of the application selection process for this *Call for Case Studies* will also be presented, in order to give maximum visibility to what is going on in the Swiss context.

How to apply

Applications relating to collaborative experiences and projects between professionals active in the medical and scientific fields and artists / creatives / cultural professionals must be submitted **by 10 November, 2021**, to the address info@culturaesalute.ch, specifying "*Culture and Healthcare – call for Case Studies*" as the subject.

Both ongoing projects and projects that have already been carried out for a maximum of five years can be proposed, as long as they are supported by a formal partnership between the participating parties.

Only one proposal per author / group will be accepted.

Registration is free and open to anyone.

Key topics

This *Call for Case Studies* is intended to encourage discussion and study on the following topics:

- > healthcare in places of culture, such as experimental activities carried out to improve the well-being of specific target groups (such as, for example, early childhood for early cognitive development; people with disabilities or neurodegenerative diseases; medical personnel, paramedics, caregivers, etc.) in places such as theaters, concert halls, museums, galleries, archaeological sites, naturalistic sites, etc.;
- > culture in places of care, such as experimental artistic / cultural activities carried out in hospitals, homes for the elderly, rehabilitation centers, day centers, etc. to improve the well-being of specific categories (such as, for example, users / patients, medical personnel, paramedics, caregivers, etc.).

How to apply

To apply, submit the following documents in PDF format:

- > a text of maximum 10,000 characters (including spaces and excluding images) in one of the national languages of Switzerland or in English;
- > an abstract of up to 2,000 characters (including spaces) exclusively in English;
- > a short presentation on the institutions involved of a maximum of 1,000 characters (including spaces) in one of the national languages of Switzerland or in English;
- > a short biography of the authors of up to 1,000 characters (including spaces) each in one of the national languages of Switzerland or in English;
- > an essential bibliography and sitography of a maximum of 5 titles representing the authors' research career (via link or PDF of maximum 3MB) in one of the national languages of Switzerland or in English.



Please indicate the methodology, reference sources or practices, and objectives of the project. Particular attention will be paid to the clinical objectives expected from the collaboration, the results obtained, and the reliability of the assessment indicators adopted.

Application selection process

The theoretical and empirical value, the methodological soundness, the correspondence to the topic of the conference, and the logical coherence of the texts will be analyzed and successful applications selected by the scientific board of the forum, which is made up of the Culture Division of the City of Lugano and the IBSA Foundation with the University of Lugano (USI).

Presentation and grant

Up to a maximum of eight of the projects deemed most innovative by the scientific committee will be presented by the authors during the *Culture and Health Forum, an alliance for a sustainable future* (the costs of transport, food, and accommodation for a maximum of two authors will be covered by organizers) and will be published on the website www.culturaesalute.ch.

Up to a maximum of four of the best projects will be awarded a grant of CHF 2,000. The prize for the project will be awarded to the party who presents it.

For further information:

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