



July 27 -  
August 12  
2023

# 18TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL YOUTH AND HERITAGE

Sarajevo, Mostar, Stolac  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

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UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE





# WHAT IS ISSYH?

The **International Summer School Youth and Heritage** has been designed as an advanced educational platform intended to complement university syllabi. The curriculum is a unique combination of practical and theoretical learning methods, performed in **Sarajevo, Mostar, and Stolac**, historic Bosnian cities which suffered extensive damage during the war of the early 1990s, and have been a focus of post-war heritage reconstruction and social recovery since the end of the war.

This environment provides students with personal experience of working and living in a context where heritage reconstruction is a factor of the necessarily long-term process of healing societal and cultural trauma.

Since its inception, the Summer School programme has thus focused on promoting understanding and the conservation of significant expressions of tangible and intangible cultural heritage within a post-traumatic context.





# WHEN AND WHERE?

The 18th International Summer School Youth and Heritage will be organised between **July 27** and **August 12, 2023** in **Sarajevo, Mostar** and **Stolac**, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Introductory lectures will be held online between **June 22** and **24, 2023**. ISSHY18 is organised in partnership with ICCROM Sharjah, the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), and the Cambridge Interfaith Programme - University of Cambridge.

## HOW TO APPLY?

The link to the Application form can be found on the Facebook page of the International Summer School Youth and Heritage, as well as on the website of the International Forum Bosnia. The completed application form should be sent to **stolacsummerschool@gmail.com**, no later than **May 15, 2023 (23:59 UTC+1)**.

[facebook.com/youthandheritage](https://facebook.com/youthandheritage)

[forumbosna.org/international-summer-school-youth-and-heritage-issyh](https://forumbosna.org/international-summer-school-youth-and-heritage-issyh)







# LEARNING METHODS

An integrated **two-week** programme of seminars, fieldwork, practical activities, and recreational evenings, provides participants with an expert introduction to and hands-on experience of traditional crafts and bodies of knowledge, intangible and tangible heritage forms and expressions, sustainable ways of life, and environmental practice.

They are also encouraged to think about how socially cohesive, but fundamentally open communities can be developed and maintained, as well as the importance of combining diversity with strong roots in local heritage.

The project has **5 complementary aspects**:

- a) a set of coordinated working activities,
- b) a series of practical craft workshops,
- c) educational activities,
- d) field trips,
- e) recreational aspect for informal socialising and cultural encounter.



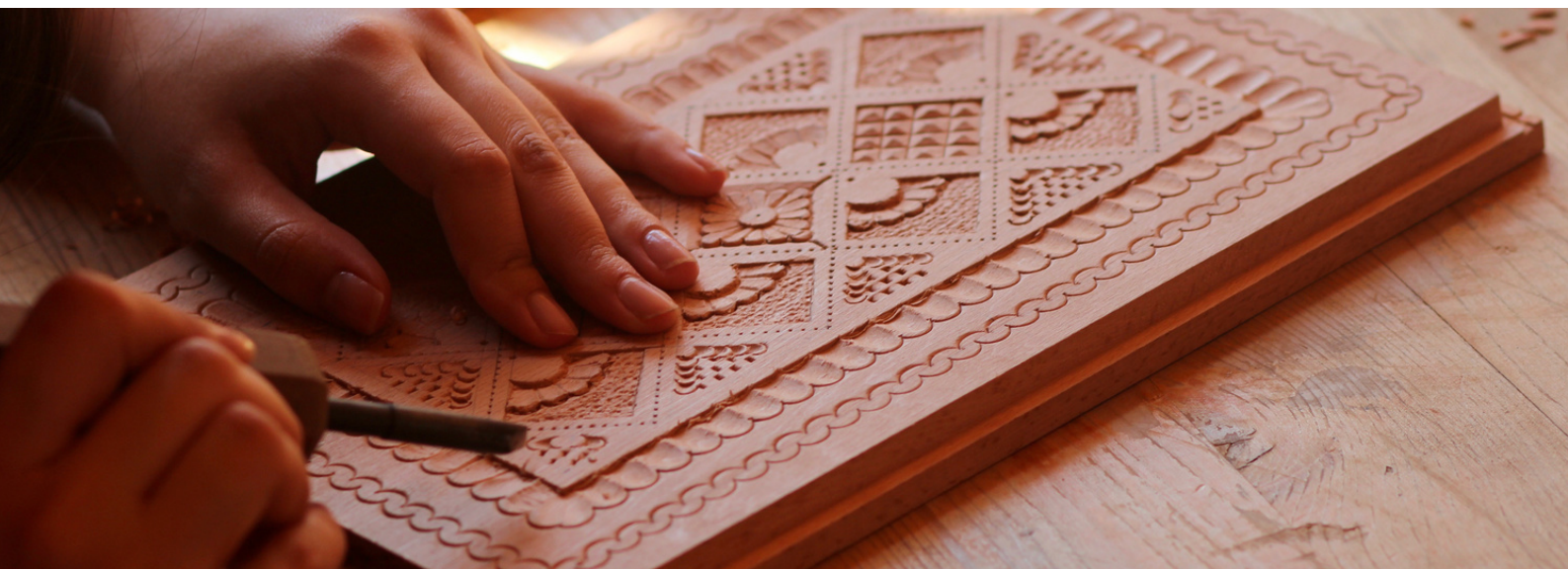




# WORKSHOPS

Learning through working involves practical workshops led by masters that introduce the participants to hands-on experience of traditional crafts and skills in peril, as follows:

1. **Building conservation:** practical workshops on woodcarving, masonry and stone-carving, dry-stone and mortared wall building, murals and calligraphy, and the restoration of vernacular houses carried out in three 17th-18th century houses in Stolac, known as the **Houses of International Dialogue and Research** or HIDR1, HIDR2, and HIDR3.
2. **Movable heritage conservation:** workshop on the making or restoration of carpets, weaving, traditional embroidery, furniture, copper artefacts, icons, and old manuscripts.
3. **Intangible heritage preservation:** archery, calligraphy, falconry, herbal lore and foraging, traditional music, folklore and local traditions, including religious rituals and local feast days.







# VENUES

The core ISSYH activities take place in and around Stolac, a historic Bosnian town included in the World Heritage Tentative List that suffered near total destruction during the 1992 to 1995 war against Bosnia, when the local population was expelled. There are day trips to nearby heritage sites at Žitomislići, Počitelj, Konjic, and Blagaj. Parts of the Program will take place in Sarajevo and Mostar.

Workshops, lectures and social activities take place in the vernacular houses in Stolac which have been restored through the ISSYH activities and which serve as Houses of International Dialogue and Research (HIDR).







# PARTICIPANTS

The ISSYH hosts up to 30 young people aged between 20 and 35, young professionals or students, interested in cultural heritage, with good English language skills.

The international mix ensures a lively encounter between members of different cultures. The ISSYH thus includes the presentation of a range of cultures and the connections between participants, as well as social interaction, recreational activities, and fun.

Those wishing to seek credits from their home institutions may opt for an additional summative assignment (a 2000-word essay) due two weeks after the ISSYH.

Whilst we do not offer credits ourselves, we can write to your home institution to indicate that the ISSYH, at Level 1 (FHEQ 4) offers knowledge equivalent to 4 US credits, 7.5 ECTS or 15 FHEQ.







# TEACHERS

The lecturers are experienced academics from partnering universities from across the world and from Bosnia – **experts** in the fields of conservation, museology, archaeology, anthropology, inter-religious studies, history, cultural tourism, cultural geography, and other fields.

In previous years, this has included committed **academics** from Bosnia, France, Ireland, Great Britain, Belgium, Canada, Turkey, Libya, Hong Kong, Egypt, the United States, as well as leading members of universities and human rights organisations from Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia.

The **masters** of traditional arts and crafts transfer the practical knowledge of traditional woodcarving, stone carving, metalworking, masonry and calligraphy.







# FIELD TRIPS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The ISSYH includes **two field trips**. The first trip involves a visit to Počitelj, Žitomislići, and Mostar. This allows field experience of the historical pluralism that is constitutive of Bosnia at the local level everywhere, as well as an introduction to the history of these sites, what they have undergone, and how their reconstruction or revitalisation has been approached – including both positive and negative aspects. The second field trip to Konjic includes white water rafting at the beautiful river Neretva .

**Recreational activities** are an integral part of the summer school programme. They will include poetry readings, dancing, music, and sport, and form an extension to the educational aspects of the programme in order to promote community and friendship.







# LOGISTIC DETAILS

The working language of the School is **English**.

Accommodation and meals are provided in hostel-type **accommodation** with air conditioned double and triple rooms, with three meals per day at a local **restaurant**.

**Transportation** from the airport and between places in Bosnia for the duration of the School is provided by the organisers. Participants should arrange their own visas for Bosnia, travel to and from Bosnia, and any other requirements that are not part of the official program of the ISSYH. ISSYH provides participants with **invitation letters** should they be necessary for visa applications.

Stationary and working materials are provided, including basic health care kits. The organisers expect participants to have travel health insurance. Emergency health care is provided.

Weather conditions in Stolac during August are hot, with an average high of 29.4°C (84.9°F), an average low of 18.5°C (65.3°F). However during recent summers the temperatures were higher than those reported as climate normals in the weather statistics. Average maximum UV index is 6. Average relative humidity is 58%. Participants are advised to bring **sunscreen lotions** and **hats**, appropriate **light clothing** and **comfortable sneakers**.



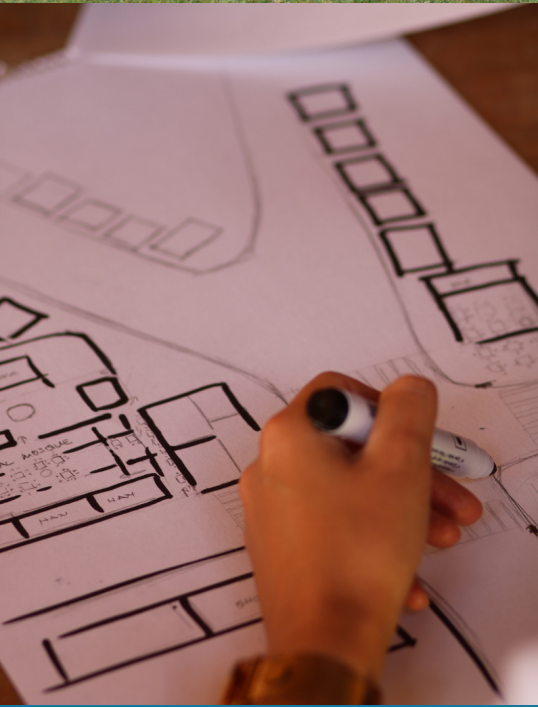
# FEES AND COSTS

International Forum Bosnia and the teachers who work on a pro bono basis have decided to exempt all accepted participants from paying tuition fees for the School itself. There are, however, **costs associated with participation**, namely to cover the provision of materials, meals, accommodation, transport, stationary, technical assistance, utilities, etc., which are essential for the program. For full costing, please contact [stolacsummerschool@gmail.com](mailto:stolacsummerschool@gmail.com).

Our sponsors provide a number of successful applicants with **grants** to cover partial or full costs of participation. The School Board considers requests for financial support depending on availability of these funds. The request for financial support to cover direct costs of participation, excluding transport to and from Bosnia and Herzegovina, should be included in the application.











Since 2006

# International Summer School **Youth and Heritage**

**Sarajevo, Mostar, Stolac  
Bosnia and Herzegovina**