

**BENAKI MUSEUM**  
138 Pireos st

**30.11.2017**  
9AM-5PM



#MuseumsChangeAthens2017

# Museums as agents of change

DIVERSITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

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# Museums as agents of change

30.11.2017  
**BENAKI MUSEUM**  
138 Pireos st, Amphitheater

## DIVERSITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION

Museums and cultural institutions can change people's lives. They are pillars of healthy communities and ideal spaces to connect people. While communities around the globe address issues of immigration, religious expression, cultural diversity, discrimination, gender identity, and equality, the commitment of museums to diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion has never been more important.

At the seventh edition of the Museum Conference, museum and cultural professionals from the U.S., the UK and Greece examine the social impact of museums, their role in promoting social inclusion and cohesion, and how diversity and accessibility programs are directly linked with audience engagement, funding sources, resilience and sustainability.

The Museum Conference explores how cultural institutions can reach and retain diverse audiences beyond race, ethnicity, age, class, ability, language and gender; how can museums give voice to underprivileged groups and become places for creative exchange and open dialogue.

The conference will also examine how arts professionals can make accessibility a lifelong process for museums and cultural organizations and how cultural organizations can approach wellbeing and become central elements of their communities.

## PROGRAM

9:00

Registration

9:30-10:00

Welcome Remarks

10:00-10:30

**Sarah Plumb**

Research Associate, Research Centre for Museums and Galleries, University of Leicester (UK)

*The Role of Museums in Nurturing More Equitable and Inclusive Societies*

10:30-11:00

**Georgia Krantz**

Independent Accessibility Trainer and Consultant (USA)

*Small Steps: A Practical Guide to Accessibility in Museums*

11:00-11:30

**Dr Nicole Ivy**

Director of Inclusion, American Alliance of Museums (USA)

*The Futures We Create: Museums as Agents of Social Change*

11:30-12:00

Coffee Break

12:00-12:30

**Jess Turtle and Matt Turtle**

Co-founders, Museum of Homelessness (UK)

*Changing our Lives: What can Working with Socially Excluded People Offer your Museum?*

12:30-13:00

**Case Studies on Inclusion**

**Maria Papadimitriou**, Artist, Professor of the University of Thessaly, Department of Architecture (Volos)

*Victoria Square Project*

**Navine G. Khan-Dossos**, Artist

*I Can't Make Love To You Unless I Imagine A Palm Tree*

13:00-15:30

Break

15:30-17:00

**WORKSHOPS**

*(Working language English – participation upon registration)*

**1. Opening the Doors**

Jess Turtle and Matt Turtle

**2. Creating a Space Where All Voices Can Be Heard**

Sarah Plumb

**3. Next Steps: A Practical Guide to Accessibility in Museums**

Georgia Krantz

**4. Forecasting Inclusive Museum Futures**

Dr Nicole Ivy

Conference Coordinator:

Dr Sophia Handaka, Benaki Museum