

## **OPERA NETWORK**

### **International Football Students Program**

#### **PREMISE**

Opera Network carries out a cultural and sport Program under the Patronage of the Municipality of Florence and the approval of the Sistema Paese management of the Italian National Ministry of Foreign Affairs for young international students, with particular reference to chinese athletes, with the aim of creating a cultural exchange and training athletes for professional sports activities in the football field.

Within the project Opera Network has the function of General and Administrative Coordination and will take care of the enrollment and the certification of attendance at courses that focuses on the sporting section, but also on the study of the Italian / english language with particular reference to technical sports and football language and the study of subjects related to the Italian and Tuscan culture.

The participants students to the program, both female and male, will be enrolled to the FIGC -Federiazione Italiana Giuoco Calcio (Football Italian Federation) according to italian rules of CONI - Comitato Olimpico Nazionale Italiano (National Italian Olympic Committee) which allows students participating to the sports activities of OPERA NETWORK to take part to the Official National Italian Sports Competitions for Youth. This gives to the participants students to the 9 months program the special possibility to play Official Matches every week with italian teams.

#### **OPERA NETWORK**

##### **OPERA NETWORK FLORENCE - Cultural Association**

**Opera Network**, founder of the program began from an idea with Carla Zanin, now its President, as a linked project of advanced training and professional preparation. It became a Cultural Association in April 2015 with Paolo Bellocchi as Artistic Director and Federico Bardazzi as Music Director. The founding concept derived from the need to create training projects in the setting of technical and artistic professionalism for live spectacles (music, prose, dance, etc.) and the arts, that would be capable of offering to young artists technical and professional courses of advanced specialization and completion with the final principle of creating a concrete occasion to experiment in the field with the competencies acquired and achieved in the profession.

Opera Network is the International Centre of Studies for the Italian language and for the artistic and musical training of international students in particular joining the Turandot Program Italy- China and international students; It is indeed accredited as the Centre of Examination for the certification of the Italian Language at the University for Foreigners in Perugia and has agreements with several music Conservatories, Academies of Fine Arts and Universities.

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The Opera Network system makes use of Italian and European qualified partners: Music Conservatories, Academies of Fine Arts, universities, theaters, local authorities, Festival, Maisons of high fashion and couture, lighting companies, etc.) that operate on the network. and collaborate on spectacular realization of the work (plays opera, ballets, concerts, etc.) The system can count on artists and professionals of clear national and international reputation that enrich the quality of projects and productions. Opera Network is also active in the areas adjacent to the cultural sector, such as the social system, in particular in the specific declination of music therapy, aware of the significant added value that music and the arts bring to the individual.

The main skills are:

- Management of training projects, also aimed at foreign students, especially Chinese, who wish to study and specialize in our country in the art and music sectors under the Turandot program;
- Realization of the Italian language courses for young international students with particular reference to the technical language of music and the arts;
- Proposals and global activities for training projects for the POR FSE and ERASMUS + Call for Applications.
- Research, coordination and 'partner' activities with private and public bodies for the enactment of training activities and cultural events.
- Cultural organisation, marketing and promotion.
- Research for projects that involve categories with the disadvantaged, according to the Tuscan Region's guidelines of material for inclusion/re-inclusion in the workplace.

The training and production activities of Opera Network are strongly identified with great attention to technological innovations, valorising at the same time the particular traditions of the 'bottega dell'arte', the craft workshop, and always with a strong link to the world of work. Its charter members, Federico Bardazzi, Paolo Bellocchi and Carla Zanin, strengthened by a long and articulate experience in the sector, matured within the training agency Maggio Formazione and in collaboration with principle foundations and industries in this sector at the national level (Fondazione Festival Pucciniano, Teatro Metastasio di Prato, Teatro Verdi di Pisa, Teatro Nazionale della Toscana, Scuola di Musica di Fiesole, Istituto Musicale Luigi Boccherini, Conservatorio Luca Marenzio di Brescia, Accademia di Belle Arti di Firenze, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, Zeta Group Video di Treviso, Maison Coveri, Scuola di Arti Orafe di Firenze, Teatro Niccolini di San Casciano, Kaos

Balletto di Firenze, Byobite etc), have in their activity carried out numerous training courses dedicated to all the professional theatre figures: theatre managers, video recorders, cameramen, set designers both actual and virtual, costumers, audio technicians, lighting designers, make-up artists and hair dressers, tool makers, mechanics, besides actors, dancers, singers, master collaborators.

At the international level Opera Network collaborates with prestigious foundations and industries in the sector, such as the University of Graz, the Hochschule of Munich in Bavaria, the Landestheater of Salisburg, the Academy of Fine Arts and the Academy of Music of Cluj (Romania), the Conservatory of Lubiana (Slovenia), the Conservatory of Miskolc (Hungary), the Accademia of Bydgoszcz (Poland), International Young Artists Project North Carolina (USA), Yale UNiversity (USA) Israel Choral Association di Tel Aviv, Opera Zimrya, Akko Israel, Waagner-Biro Stage Systems of Vienna and more.

### **Cultural and sports program for young International Students** **Opera Network Florence**

Opera Network has the vocation to promote intercultural exchange and to extend it from the world of art, music and Italian language to that of sports and Italian football in particular.

The main objective is to offer to young athletes an all-round experience of Italian cultural life, where they have the opportunity to play an entire football with its expert teachers, in order to favour the meeting between the Chinese and Italian football players that not only leads to develop and grow Chinese football but it is also a time for human exchange.

The presence of Chinese athletes with a good potential and prospects for growing will be enhanced by integrating experiences in Asian youth sectors and they will complete their professional training thanks to the tradition, experience and history of the Italian Football Sector.

The project, of course, is not just limited to the players training. The goal is the development of the whole football system, extending this attempt also to the coaches themselves, carrying out a cross didactics also with stages in China itself or in Florence, which can improve the teaching techniques, thanks to the experience, preparation and professionalism of the technical teachers of Opera Network.

## **CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

### **Course of Italian Language**

The Program includes an Italian Language Course, especially conceived for young players, where a specific didactic module on sports and football technical language is also provided. The course will be held by specialized teachers of Opera Network, which is the Examination Center (CVCL) of the University for Foreigners of Perugia.

At the end of the course the students can take the exam for the CELI Linguistic Certification A1 / A2 Level recognized internationally for all the effects of the law.

### **Events and visits**

Throughout the year, with around two outings per month, various recreational activities will be organized, such as \*:

- Guided tours to Florence and to the main Tuscan cities, including the main museums, will be prepared through meetings and specific lessons held by official tour guides and art historians.
- Guided tour of the Serie A, B Football Championships
- Participation in live cultural performances with particular reference to the main events realized in Tuscany.
- Ceremony for the Delivery of the Diploma of Participation to the Program.

*\* Cultural events and tourist visits will be combined with sports trips.*

Throughout the duration of the Program, a Chinese language tutor is expected to follow the activities of the students and will be a linguistic mediator during the training sessions.

## **DURATION & PRICES**

- 1 week € 1.600 per person including Accommodation and meals
- 2 weeks € 2.500 per person including Accommodation and meals
- 3 weeks € 3.500 per person including Accommodation and meals
- 4 weeks € 4.200 per person including Accommodation and meals

## **CAMPUS**

The students will leave in Campus in a very safe structure where they will have also full board. The rooms are mainly double / triple with bathroom. Meals are arranged in a very nice Dining Hall with Sea - View. Students have at disposal a entertainment very large room also with sea - view. In the Campus is provided Wifi and reception guardian, elevator, etc.



## **Conclusions**

The Program, unique in Italy, has as a priority the balance between training professional development and cultural studies in relation with the age of the participants. The main point the exchange between international students and the socialization with Italian country.



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