



Background

During the past 5-6 years, in Gothenburg and the region of Västra Götaland, there has been an ongoing project developing the methodology of architectural pedagogy. Here we have the first and only employed architectural adviser for children and youth in Sweden. The adviser's task is to inspire teachers and other school staff to work with architecture and urban planning in the schools. The starting point for the work is the UN convention of children's rights and the Agenda 21. Architects with special interests and pedagogical abilities are working in the schools to create a dialogue and to give children tools within the field of architecture.

The work with architecture in schools, from a democratic and creative perspective, opens up possibilities to inspire the children and the youth to experience architecture and also gives them tools to interpret their surroundings. In that sense it gives the young people a possibility in the long run to participate in discussions concerning the common environment. Children have a unique knowledge of their surroundings and it is therefore important that this knowledge is taken seriously and into account for decisions which are taken in planning processes.

Pictures from Uddevalla



Aerial photograph of Uddevalla and a photo of the significant coastwalk along the shoreline.

Taking *Playce*®

Playce will give an inspirational and educational week in co-operation with the Arts and Culture affairs in the city of Gothenburg, region Västra Götaland, districts in Gothenburg, the city of Uddevalla.

Purpose:

- To develop methods for co-operation between architects and teachers concerning increasing awareness about our built environment among young people.
- To utilize ideas, visions and knowledge which the young people possess
- To call for interest to co-operations between young people and decision-makers about public space



The conference includes a short theoretical part with lectures and seminars. Further on a longer practical part with workshops will take place with children, architect and teachers from Gothenburg and Uddevalla.

Schedule:

- Lectures and seminars for architects, planners, teachers and student teachers.
- Three days of workshops together with children and youth, together with the city planning office of Gothenburg and Uddevalla, local architects and other professionals interested in the field of Playce.
- One day presentation of the conclusions.
- One day of summary and reflections.

A desirable future of the conference is a co-operation between the regions of Västra Götaland's own rural districts and the playce network members' regions or countries. During the past couple of years the adviser and some architects have developed methods for children to participate in the planning process. The conference *Taking Playce* could be an intensifying way of finding ways of participating for children and youth in questions concerning their own environment.

Program

Saturday 2007-09-01: Arriving in Gothenburg; Welcome dinner

Sunday 2007-09-02: 10:00-12:00 Guided bus trip in Gothenburg
12:00-13:00 Lunch
13:00-15:00 Round-table conference; what has happened in your country, city and your work since last time.
15:00-17:00 Planning the workshops for Tuesday
19:00- _____ Welcome dinner together with participants of Movium

Movium + Playce conference; *City as source of energy* *

Monday 2007-09-03: 09:30-12:30 Keyspeakers
12:30-13:30 Lunch
13:30-15:00 Seminars
15:00-17:00 Worskshops
18:30-23:00 Conference dinner

Tuesday 2007-09-04 09:00-12:00 Workshops

Playce; Taking Playce

Göteborg: City youth council, pupils from schools in Gothenburg and the municipal umbrella group *Safe beautiful city*.



Uddevalla: City youth council and also pupils from schools in Uddevalla

Tuesday 2007-09-04: 13:00-18:00 The first meeting with the children and workshop together

Wednesday 2007-09-05: 09:00-18:00 Workshop with the children

Thursday 2007-09-06: 09:00-12:00 Workshop with the children
12:00-13:00 Lunch
13:00-18:00 presentation of the work to local politicians, civil servants and in Gothenburg the *Safe beautiful city*

Friday 2007-09-07: 09:00-12:00 evaluation and reflection
12:00-13:00 lunch
13:00-16:00 Seminars with the city planning office of Gothenburg and Uddevalla, the *Safe beautiful city* and invited architects.
16:00- ____ closing party

Saturday 2007-09-08: journey home

Target group: Children, youth, architects, planners, decision-makers, teachers and also civil servants

Contributors: City youth Council in Gothenburg and Uddevalla, children and youth from Gothenburg and Uddevalla, members of Playce, teachers, Chalmers, architects, administrative staff in Gothenburg and Uddevalla

Other co-organizers for the first two days of the conference: Movium (Centre for the Urban Public Space at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences), Swedish Museum of Architecture, Röda Sten (art center in Gothenburg).

Pictures from Gothenburg:

photo: Kjell Holmner



photo: Göran Assner



View over the popular "Anenyn" in the City center and a photo of the city marina close to the Opera house.

* see the attachment for this document; Movium and Playce conference, *City as source of energy*