

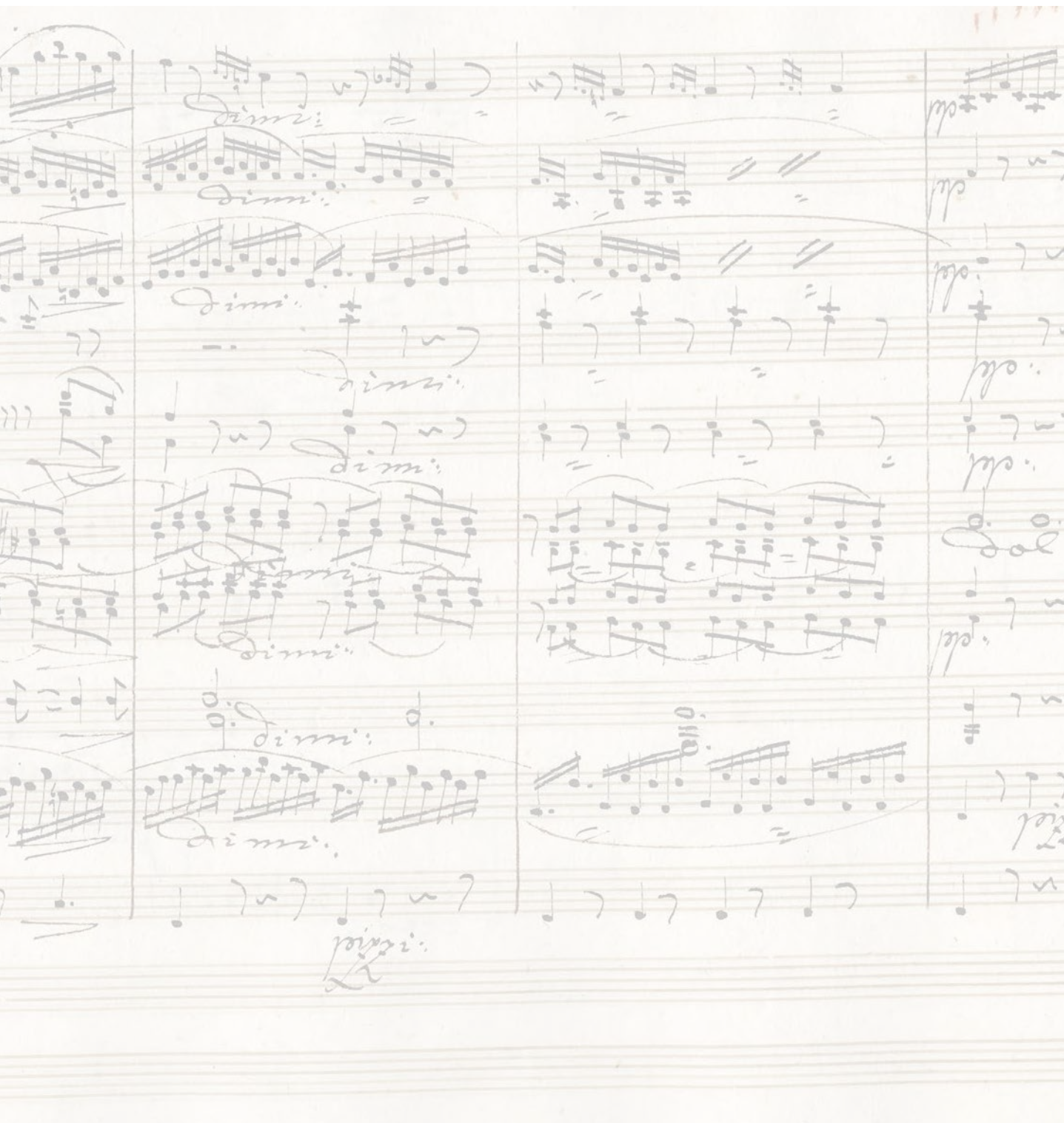


**University of Ljubljana
Academy of Music**



Music in Nature





**A World-Class Musical Education
at the Cultural Heart of Europe**





The Academy of Music

Beyond talent, you need to work hard, be committed to your art, and believe deeply in music. Whatever path you choose — performer, teacher, scholar — the Ljubljana Academy of Music provides you with a foundational, rigorous conservatory-level training that will guide you on that journey.

Small is Good

The Ljubljana Academy of Music offers a three-to-one student to faculty ratio. This means you will receive individual attention and training. But small does not mean limited. A leading Central European institution of higher music education with an eighty-year history and unique geographical position, the Academy’s music program offers a comprehensive synthesis of Italian, Germanic, Hungarian and Slavic music traditions.

The academy offers many performance opportunities. There are 150+ student-performed concerts and events annually. And each year its students have won more than a hundred awards at international and national competitions. There is a high graduate employment rate, and students regularly win auditions for international orchestras each year — such as the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra, the Mediterranean Youth Orchestra, Nei suoni dei luoghi, CEMAN, EUphony and others. An integrated part of the European-wide Bologna system of comparable standards, the Academy is also a member of a number of international associations and higher music education networks — for example the AEC, Medinea, CEEC, GMEL and the Music Education Alliance Across the “Belt and Road”.

“We were warmly welcomed. Transitional issues at the beginning were quickly resolved, and you could feel the Academy’s enthusiasm and organizational support to offer us students an engaging and multifaceted study program.”

Johannes Krusche (Germany)
Erasmus program, piano

Facts at a Glance Ljubljana Academy of Music

Founded in 1939
3/1 Student to faculty ratio
435 Students
(20% are international students)
87 Full-time professors
81 Part-time professors



photo: Jana Jocić



photo: Jana Jocić

University of Ljubljana

The Academy is one of twenty-six entities that make up the University of Ljubljana, the largest educational institution in Slovenia, which is among the top three percent of universities in the world, according to the ARWV World University Ranking System. The University contributes to Ljubljana’s international sensibility. As a student of the Academy of Music, you will also be allowed to take advantage of a limited number of elective cross-discipline courses, should you so desire. The University of Ljubljana just celebrated its 100th anniversary.

“I’m very happy to study in the beautiful city of Ljubljana. Thanks to the professors, friends and many people in the Academy, I have learned a lot from many different viewpoints.”

Ayano Shigematsu (Japan)
BA, violin

Facts at a Glance University of Ljubljana

40.000 Students
(5000 international or exchange students)
6000 Employees
650 Research projects/long-term programs
23 Faculties
3 Academies
University National Library
Central Technical Library
Innovation-Development Institute

“I feel at home at the Academy — I call it a second home. There is a friendly atmosphere and an encouraging mindset because everyone wishes to set the students on their paths to success. Besides a professional attitude, we get plenty of artistic inspiration from the professors, who are world-class.”

Urban Stanič (Slovenia)
MA, piano

Why Slovenia?

Fresh air, fresh water. A central location in the middle of Europe. Spectacular nature. This is the remarkable world you will find yourself in when you begin your musical education at the Ljubljana Academy of Music. Offering a methodical Western pedagogical program, the Academy provides musical training in an idyllic location.

Location, Location, Location ...

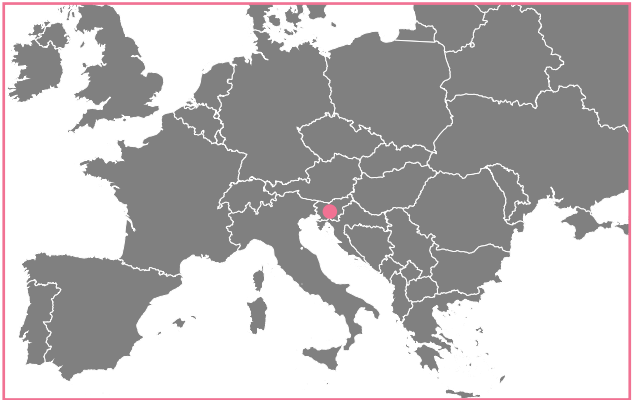
Rome, Greece and Dubrovnik *to the South.*

Paris, Barcelona, Venice, Zurich and Milan *to the West.*

Amsterdam, Berlin, Vienna, London and Prague *to the North.*

Budapest, Bratislava, Zagreb and Belgrade *to the East.*

Whether you travel the continent by convenient train routes, low-cost carrier airlines, car or app-based ride shares, a base in Slovenia puts you at the doorstep of Europe.



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Culture

Slovenia's capitol city Ljubljana, with its Baroque-era and Secession style architecture, and history as part of the Habsburg empire, offers big-city European cultural life in an intimate setting. A miniature Vienna with Slavic flair, the city is filled with gems. Roman ruins, a medieval street plan, and the glorious buildings of celebrated Slovene architect Jože Plečnik create a space that is soaked in history yet unpretentious. The opera, ballet, classical concerts and one of the oldest philharmonic orchestras in the world; folk music, modern music, cinema, dance and jazz; museums, galleries, festivals, exhibitions, theaters — Ljubljana's cultural palette is endless, offering everything from Western traditional art to its own underground urban alternative scene. Add to the mix the winding Ljubljanica river, parks, outdoor cafés, pubs, bars, and restaurants offering the best of high and low cuisine.



The city of Ljubljana's official symbol is the dragon, who according to legend was slain by Jason — the famous hero of Greek mythology — as he made his way across the moors of Ljubljana.

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photo: Jana Jocif



photo: Jana Jocif



photo: Jana Jocif



Kamniško sedlo © Jaka Ivančič, Ljubljana Tourism

Nature

Slovenia, with its population of two million, is centrally located and has been a Euro-using European Union member since 2004. With the alps to the north, karst cave-regions in the interior of the country and the Adriatic coast to the west, Slovenia is Europe's third most wooded country, where forests account for 58% of its beautiful land. For the people who live here, the fresh air, water, biodiversity and natural parks mean a quality of life which is healthy and easily accessible.



Velika Planina © Nea Culpa, Ljubljana Tourism



Soteska Pekel © Aleš Fevžer, Ljubljana Tourism



Polhograjska gora © Jaka Ivančič, Ljubljana Tourism



Bled Lake and Castle www.slovenia.info, photo: Matevž Lenarčič



Cerknica Lake photo: Jana Jocič



Piran www.slovenia.info, photo: Jošt Gantar



Postojna Cave www.slovenia.info, photo: Iztok Medja



Bohinj Lake photo: Jana Jocič



Predjama Castle www.slovenia.info, photo: Nea Culpa, Mankica Kranjec



Academic Overview/Areas of Study

Musical Studies Focus on Artistic Excellence

Achieving artistic excellence is the primary concern and goal of the Ljubljana Academy of Music.

Bachelor’s Degree

Two undergraduate bachelor’s diplomas are available, each in a three-year program: the diploma of Musical Arts and the diploma of Music Education.

Musical Arts

The diploma of Musical Arts is dedicated to future soloists, chamber and/or orchestral musicians, who study for their respective degree program with intensive one-on-one lessons. The Academy offers twenty-six principal study programs, offered in nine departments:

Musical Arts degrees offered in:

- Composition and Music Theory
- Orchestral Conducting, Choral Conducting
- Singing
- Piano, Organ, Accordion
- Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Guitar and Harp
- Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, Percussion Instruments
- Sacred Music
- Recorder, Harpsichord

Departments include:

- Composition and Music Theory
- Conducting
- Voice and Opera
- Keyboard Instruments
- String Instruments
- Woodwind, Brass and Percussion
- Sacred Music
- Early Music



photo: Jana Jocif



photo: Branka Rotar Pance

Music Education

The diploma of Musical Education Degree is dedicated to future teachers of music at all levels and consists of a strong music program with a broad range of additional studies specific to education, including student teaching.

Required Courses

No matter what study program a student has chosen, for all degrees on the bachelor’s level, there are rigorous required courses in Harmony, Counterpoint, Solfeggio ear-training, Musical Form Studies and Music History.

Wide Range of Elective Courses

As part of both the bachelor’s and master’s programs, the Academy offers a diverse palette of elective courses from the fields of jazz, early music, contemporary music and musicology. While the Academy does not offer any degrees or minors in these areas, students have the option to, for example, take jazz courses with their elective credits and immerse themselves in a full jazz program. That program includes: Jazz Improvisation for individual instruments, Jazz Harmony, Jazz Arranging, Jazz History as well as participation in small jazz combos and big bands.

Other electives include Film Music, Music Technology, Psychology, Acoustics, Score-Reading, Esthetics, Introduction to Ethnomusicology, 21st century compositional techniques and many, many others. In addition to the elective courses offered, each student can use a limited number of their elective credits to take classes from other entities within the wider University — such as the Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television (AGRFT), the Academy of Fine Arts and Design (ALUO) or the Department of Musicology in the Faculty of Arts (FF).

“A small but modern city, Ljubljana offers a very pleasant student life. Great geographical location gives it easy access to all important musical capitals of Europe. Cooperation of the Academy with Slovenia’s leading cultural institutions enables students to incorporate themselves quickly into the cultural sphere and musical marketplace.”

Domen Koren (Slovenia)
MA, saxophone



photo: Branka Rotar Pance



photo: Manca Kočjančič

“The teachers offered international seminars, workshops in music therapy, and small concerts I participated in outside of the Academy itself. It is extremely nice to have such personal contact with the instructors — there was always an open ear for me.”

Wynonna Nixel (Germany)
Erasmus, voice/music education

A note about the Slovenian music education system

Like Germany, Austria, France, Italy and many other European countries, Slovenia offers its youth a high-level, integrated music education system. In addition to the ordinary music classes that are taught in the everyday school system — primary, secondary and preschools — a network of special government- and municipality-funded music primary schools offers additional, quality first-level music education to all interested pupils (about 14% of the whole primary school population). The most talented ones continue with their education at the conservatories which offer precollege level preparation for gifted musicians aged 12-19. At these conservatories students are offered early instruction on their individual instruments, or as singers or composers, plus a high level of music theory training; especially Harmony, Counterpoint and Solfeggio ear-training. The master's degrees in Instrumental and Vocal Education and Music Theory Education are tailored to these high-level students.

Master's Degree

Four graduate master's programs are available, every program lasting two years: Musical Arts, Instrumental and Vocal Education, Music Theory Education and (General) Music Education.

Musical Arts

Dedicated primarily to future soloists, chamber and/or orchestral musicians. Students can choose from the twenty-six principal study programs listed on the previous page. The primary field of study is taught in the form of intense **individual lessons** for three hours per week — two hours of individual lessons and one hour of lessons with a piano accompanist.

At the master's level, students can choose a direction in music pedagogy from three separate areas of concentration. All three programs offer rigorous didactic courses as well as various practical teaching experiences before live classrooms.

Instrumental and Vocal Education

With twenty-two principal study programs available, this program focuses on the teaching of individual instruments or voice. The master's student will be qualified to teach her/his instrument at the primary and specialized conservatory level.

Music Theory Education

With three principal study programs: Composition, Conducting and Sacred Music, this choice in music pedagogy prepares the master's student to be able to teach all theoretical music subjects such as Harmony, Counterpoint and Solfeggio ear-training at the primary and specialized conservatory level.

Music Education

For the education of future teachers of music at the primary, secondary and preschool levels.



photo: Manca Kočjančič

PhD Degree

For more information about the Interdisciplinary PhD in Humanities and Social Sciences, please go to our website.

Preparatory and Specialization Non-Degree Programs

For potential academy students, **preparatory courses** are offered to prepare them for the Academy's demanding entrance examinations, providing necessary instrumental and theoretical background and review.

For those who already have a music degree, **specialization courses** are offered for applicants who wish to further develop their musical skills, giving them the opportunity to prepare for higher level master's or doctoral studies.

Students in both preparatory and specialization courses take lessons with academy professors and receive a certificate of completed studies when finished.

Erasmus and Other Student Exchanges

The Academy has established around a hundred Erasmus and other bilateral student exchanges with various music schools and universities all over Europe and the world. If you are interested in studying for one or two semesters at the Ljubljana Academy of Music, please contact the person in charge of student exchanges at your institution and check about further details on our website.

Academia Musicæ Labacensis Summer School & Festival

The Summer School and Festival organizes masterclasses, workshops, lectures and concerts for different instruments with various Slovene and international experts. For more information please visit our website.



photo: Jana Jocič

“In addition to my classical studies, the jazz courses in harmony, improvisation and combo taught me new techniques in arranging and building jazz chords, which helped me in my productions of pop and electronic music.”

Tone Plesničar (Slovenia)
MA, piano



photo: Jana Jocič





photo: Andrej Kek

Performance Opportunities

Close cooperation with Slovenia's leading orchestras and institutions mean Academy students perform and learn more.

At the Academy we believe that the student musician develops his or her maximum potential while performing on stage. Arranging more than 150 local and international concerts per year, the Ljubljana Academy of Music is one of the largest organizers of music events in Slovenia. Very few other centers of learning around the globe offer so much musical production synergy with their local or national music institutions.



photo: Jana Jocif

Tutti concert subscription series

Slovenia's finest orchestras participate in this concert series: the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of the Slovenian National Theatre Opera & Ballet, the Ljubljana Orchestra and the Slovenian National Opera Theatre Maribor Symphony Orchestra. Through the Tutti concert subscription series organized by the Academy, more than twenty students per year are selected by audition, at the beginning of April, to perform with these elite, national orchestras as soloists. The orchestras also perform pieces by the students of composition and offer practice opportunities for the conducting students. The orchestra concerts take place in the beautiful concert halls of the main national cultural center Cankarjev dom and the Slovenian Philharmonic Hall in Ljubljana, and the Narodni dom in Maribor (see below). In the same series, the Academy's Symphony Orchestra, String Orchestra, Wind Orchestra, Big Band, Chamber and Women's Choir also give performances.

"Because of my travels to study in Denmark I have realized that the Ljubljana Academy offers excellent theoretical as well as practical academic courses. The level of instruction is at a very high level here in Slovenia."

Jan Grčar (Slovenia)
MA, trumpet,
instrumental and vocal education

Other highlights for students

- The Solo e da Camera subscription series presents the Academy's best soloists, chamber groups and ensembles to perform in many Academy concerts, as part of planned concert programs.
- At their concerts, the elite Chamber String Orchestra of the Slovenian Philharmonic and the SloWind woodwind quintet perform pieces by the Academy's students of composition.
- The Academy's Symphony Orchestra takes part in national celebrations, Slovenian Music Days Festival, the Vilenica Festival of the Slovene Writers' Guild, Gala concerts and a variety of other events.
- High-quality co-productions and individual collaborations with the Slovenian Chamber Music Theatre, the Slovenian Army Orchestra, the Police Orchestra, the Glasbena Matica Society Ljubljana and other groups provide important opportunities for students to gain professional experience for their future careers.
- The Ljubljana Academy of Music's referral service provides gigs for students as soloists or in chamber groups and ensembles.

The Academy's organization of these many co-productions, together with Slovenia's musical community, has built up over time. As a result, senior students are often in high demand as substitutes in the aforementioned orchestras. A protocol was adopted at the Academy, and now yearly auditions are organized for the participation of substitute students with professional orchestras.



photo: Jana Jocif



photo: Matjaž Drevenšek



photo: Jana Jocif



photo: Jana Jocif

“Being a small academy, it will give you the opportunity to get to know many classmates of different levels, backgrounds and walks of life, from whom you can learn a lot. It’s a marvelous city to come and study in.”
Joana Gonzalez Subira (Spain)
MA, contrabass

The Academy published a special edition of Beethoven’s sixth symphony called the “Ljubljana Facsimile”, which was given and dedicated to the Ljubljana Philharmonic Society by Beethoven himself when he was elected an honorary member in 1819.



International Projects, Tours and Collaborations

The Ljubljana Academy is internationally known and recognized as representing the highest musical values and conforming to the highest standard of music education by offering innovative individual and group programs. Envisioning international collaborations as the main driving force of the future, we continue to encourage music to open dialogues and build strong connections with our partners. Some of those international activities are listed below.

The Academy’s Symphony Orchestra performed several times at the **Young-Euro-Classic Festival in Berlin’s Konzerthaus**. The program of the 2018 concert included an Academy student composer’s original work; R. Schumann’s Piano Concerto in A-Minor, op. 54; and R. Strauss’ Also sprach Zarathustra, op. 30, TrV 176.



photo: Igor Kadunc



photo: Manca Kočjančič

Every three years the Academy sponsors an **International tour of Mini Operas** written by students of composition and performed by students of the vocal and instrument departments. The libretti, scenography, costumes, and direction were done by students of the Academy of the Performing Arts. There were performances at the Opera Exam Festival in Budapest, at JAMU Brno and in the Ljubljana National Opera House.



photo: Jana Jocif

Each year the Academy’s **Jazz Big Band** goes on an international concert tour. Past tours have included Serbia, North Macedonia, Austria, Croatia and Germany.

The Academy continues to be a part of the **Erasmus+ SWING** project (Synergic Work Incoming New Goals for Higher Education Music Institutions) whose main objective is to explore and establish frameworks to increase and enhance transnational learning opportunities in the EU. This is done in partnership with Italy’s Consortium GARR and Conservatorio di musica Giuseppe Tartini Trieste; Austria’s Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Vienna, and the AEC: the Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen.

The Academy sponsors the **International Week of Contemporary Music** with different concerts: Students Perform Professors, Professors Perform Alumni, a concert of the Symphony Orchestra and the Mini Operas.



photo: Jana Jocif

Other International Opportunities Include:

The international **Summer School Festival of the Ljubljana Academy** and the **Linden Music Festival**.

The biannual **International Solfege Competition (ISC)** in ear-training.

Many International meetings — each of the Academy’s individual departments regularly host foreign guest speakers, artists and colleagues who lecture and give performances in the framework of an international week.

Exchange concerts and shared projects with many partner institutions, such as the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music, the Renmin University School of Arts, the Music Academy of Zagreb, the Kunst Universität Graz, the Conservatorio Jacopo Tomadini’ in Udine, the Faculty of Music in Belgrade and others.



photo: Jana Jocif



Performance Halls

The many performances organized by the Academy each year may be held at any of the following beautiful, storied halls.

Gallus Hall

is the largest of five halls that make up the massive Cankarjev dom cultural complex, masked in its white marble magnificence and sophisticated minimalist appeal. Gallus Hall boasts a two thousand square meter size and seats over fifteen hundred. The other halls in the complex: Linhart, Štih, Kosovel and the skyline CD Club also offer varying sizes and acoustics for performances seating from two hundred to over five hundred people each. Many academy performances take place in the various halls of Cankarjev dom.



photo: Jana Jocif

The Slovenian Philharmonic Hall Building

was constructed in 1891 and thoroughly renovated in 2001. One of the world's oldest philharmonic institutions of its kind, and dating back to 1701 under the name Academia Philharmonicorum, the Philharmonic Society's members have included composers such as Josef Haydn, Ludwig van Beethoven and Johannes Brahms, and the violinist Niccolò Paganini. Franz Schubert applied for the post of a music teacher here and Gustav Mahler was one of the Academia's conductors between 1881 and 1882.



photo: Jana Jocif

The Ljubljana Opera House

was built between 1890 and 1892 in a neo-Renaissance design and expanded in a major restoration in 2011. Its distinctive appearance is punctuated by the richly adorned front façade, with Ionic columns supporting a majestic tympanum above the entrance. The Ljubljana SNG Opera and Ballet — which resides here — performs a wide repertoire of modern and classical operas, ballets and concerts, as well as many seasonal and off-season repeat performances.



photo: Jana Jocif



photo: Jana Jocif

Kazina Hall

In former times a gathering place for Slovenia's upper crust, this richly decorated hall on the first floor is one of the most famous interiors in Ljubljana. Located on the north side of Congress Square, it was built between 1836 and 1838 and is one of the finest neo-classicist buildings in Ljubljana.

The Kazina building where Kazina Hall is housed is now run by the Ljubljana Academy and is used for performances, larger rehearsals and practice rooms.



photo: Luka Rudman

Knight's Hall of the Castle Brežice

Count Ignac Maria Attems, the owner of Castle Brežice, was fond of Baroque art and commissioned a number of famous Styrian artists to paint his castles. He rebuilt the eastern wing and made a hall, today known as the Knight's Hall (Viteška dvorana). Fresco paintings can be found in a double staircase, the chapel and the Knight's Hall itself, which was renovated in 2011 and is a unique example of secular baroque fresco painting in the Slovenian territory. It is a place where visitors can listen to concerts and attend events, while admiring scenes from Roman and Greek mythologies.

Grand Hall of the National Gallery

The National Gallery of Slovenia is the central gallery of Slovenian works of art. It was founded in 1918 and holds the largest collection of art created on Slovenian territory between the Middle Ages and modernist period. Concerts are held regularly in the excellent acoustic environment of the beautiful Great Hall, which is accessed by its famous staircase.



photo: National gallery archive



Student Life

Communicating with people on a daily basis in Slovenia is easy, as most younger people speak fluent English.

There are a wide range of benefits for students in Slovenia.

Slovene Student Organizations

Get your social network started. The Erasmus Student Network (ESN) is a group of students at the University of Ljubljana whose main task is to participate in the reception of exchange and international students, including mentorship, sightseeing and social gatherings. ESN and the international office of ŠOU (Student Organization of the University) organize hikes, trips, excursions and parties. All international students are invited to take part in these opportunities. ŠOU also helps students with legal assistance and finding accommodations.

Other Benefits

Slovene and international students enjoy discounts on public transport, entrance fees to events or different activities. Public transport also offers subsidized monthly passes. Another benefit of student life is the heavily subsidized student meals available in a wide range of restaurants across Slovenia. A special coupon system for student subsidized meals ensures that you will always eat well for a reasonable price. If you love biking, Ljubljana is ranked 13th on the list of best cities in the world for urban cycling. Ljubljana’s network of public bikes Bicike(lj) is also yours to use year-round, you can subscribe directly online using a credit card. The University offers a student to student tutor system. These are Slovenian students whom you can ask for advice or for a tour around the faculty. As a student you also have access to the university libraries as well as a huge wealth of online musical publications, encyclopedias and research.



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photo: Jana Jocif

Sports, Free Time

If you are a fan of more adrenaline-based sports, you can go bungee jumping, rafting, canyoning, and climbing. You can find all of this and more in the Bohinj area or in the nearby Soča valley.

Studying in Slovenia offers you a unique opportunity to discover the country and its surrounding neighbors, the culture, cuisine, nature and language. For more information, go to the website StudyInSlovenia.



photo: Jaka Ivancič, Visit Ljubljana

Getting Started

Bank Account

International students may open a bank account in almost any bank in the Republic of Slovenia.

Student Card and Registration

Students receive their identity cards upon arrival. You can find basic information for foreigners online at studentski-servis, ŠOU, and the University Website.

Living Costs

In Slovenia food, buses, scores, books and materials can cost between €500 and €600 per month. A number of services exist to help find housing, including student dormitories.

Cost/Tuition

The Academy offers an affordable education, in a city whose cost of living is much lower than in other European cities. For up-to-date tuition prices, please go to our website.

“The Erasmus program of the Ljubljana Academy was an unforgettable and extraordinary experience because it allowed me to learn new aspects of my field of pedagogy and choir conducting, working with dedicated professors and making friends from all over Europe.”

Marija Aceska (Macedonia)
Erasmus,
conducting/music education



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Contact

For more information about the above-mentioned study programs, please go to the Academy website or contact:

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**I FEEL
SLOVENIA**



photo: Jana Jocif

