



HM Konungen
Kungliga Slottet
Stockholm

Lemshaga 4 May 2009

Your Majesty,

Carpe Vitam would be honoured if Your Majesty could become the official protector of the activities within the church-building at Skeppsholmen to be used in the future as an international culture- and choral center.

Historically, Skeppsholmen has been the center of interest for our kings, being the base of the Swedish Fleet, our symbol of a strong Sweden. The Church of Skeppsholmen will in the future become the center of cultural and musical activities, with the objective of establishing international cooperation for social responsibility and different initiatives focusing on a future where our children can live in a society with common human values and in harmony with our environment – an important goal not at least for Sweden.

As a partner of UNESCO, Carpe Vitam is internationally developing educational projects focusing on sustainable social development in subjects like business management and entrepreneurship, environmental studies, preventive healthcare as well as in diplomacy and social policies. We are doing this in cooperation with well-known international universities, the Norwegian Refugee Council and the international scout organisations.

In Sweden we will together with the scout organisations, Folkuniversitet (an adult educational association) in Stockholm and other already existing museums and theatres (as well as the folk high school on Skeppsholmen), develop a project for children from the age of 8 to 12 years. We call it Thousand And One Night as the goal is to integrate children from Swedish and immigrant background in different creative activities and leadership training.

The church at Skeppsholmen as a choral center might appear as a separate project without any links to the cultural activities of the center, but experience shows, that music and not at least choral singing is one of the most effective activities which create a social belonging and at the



same time develop personal values like responsibility, respect for others and not at least happiness and inspiration.

Eric Ericson has through his inspiration and profound knowledge of choral music developed the largest amateur organisation in Sweden with 600 000 participants.

The goal of Eric Ericson International Choral center is to promote excellence, international cooperation and exchange programs of musical activities to bridge cultural differences. One project, which was started last year with the support of Eric Ericson Foundation was an international choral event in the Middle-East, where choirs from Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan, Syria, Iraq and Sweden were singing together – four days in Petra of happiness, music and future friendship.

Eric Ericson, Carpe Vitam and all organisations within our choral community have created an Ericson International Choral Center in order to secure and develop his work for the future. One of those activities will be to organise every three years an international competition of high artistic level for elite conductors.

As a tribute to Eric Ericson and his work, Carpe Vitam has decided to call the church of Skeppsholmen, Eric Ericsonhallen!

Yours Sincerely,

Peder Wallenberg