



KESKI-SUOMEN LIITTO

Regional Council of Central Finland

GREETINGS FROM THE REGION

Central Finland, the Fifth largest region in Finland, has a reputation of a fearless forerunner in especially culture related topics. First teachers' seminar in Finnish language was established in Jyväskylä and oldest, still published newspaper in Finnish is from Central Finland. Central Finland is by many ways an excellent location for Athenis Finlandiaes event.

Alvar Aalto, famous modern architecture did his school and started his career in Central Finland. On this year, it is 80-year anniversary of his iconic masterpiece, Aalto vase. This year it is also 40 years from his death. An interesting detail is that it is 100 years from his matriculate examination; he did that from traditional Jyväskylä Lyseo. Another interesting detail from Jyväskylä Lyseo is that Tahko Pihkala, inventor of Finnish national sport, Finnish baseball, did his school there. First public Finnish baseball game was in Central Finland, in the yard of Jyväskylä Lyseo school.

Central Finland and Jyväskylä has played an important role in Alvar Aaltos' production. No place in the world have such a high amount of Aalto designed buildings. Alvar Aalto museum is also located in Jyväskylä. Each year hundreds of modern architecture students and enthusiasts visit Central Finland because of Aalto's cultural heritage. Municipal house of Säynätsalo is one of the most interesting places for Aalto visits.

A logic continuum in our strong cultural heritage is that Central Finland is a sauna region of the world. We have a vast number of companies producing saunas and different sauna products, e.g. sauna stoves. Central Finland has a large number of sauna together with other wellbeing services providing companies. One of these companies worth mentioning is Tupaswilla in Laukaa, where 150 persons can enjoy to marvellous smoked sauna.

Tapani Mattila

Executive Director, CEO

Regional Council of Central Finland

Musiikin, Kulttuurin ja Taiteen
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