



Jyväskylä boldly leads the way

The centenary of Finnish independence is centred on an important theme: working together. A large number of Finland 100 events, including many public events, have been held in Jyväskylä. This range of events also includes Athenis Finlandiae, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Bringing this event to a shopping centre is a good idea.

Jyväskylä is a growing, internationally appreciated city for education and expertise, and a significant hub for research. Working together, we will make Jyväskylä the best place to live, learn and work. In particular, we want to support children's and young people's opportunities for healthy growth and effective learning. The City of Jyväskylä strives to promote equality and cultural diversity among its residents. A cultured Jyväskylä is also a tolerant Jyväskylä. A multifaceted art and culture scene is important. We can increase well-being and reduce loneliness by reinforcing a sense of community and supporting hobbies. In the process, we are also making Jyväskylä an even more attractive city for international culture, events and travel.

In their time, Wolmar Styrbjörn Schildt and Uno Cygnaeus laid the foundation for the unique, internationally renowned Finnish education system. Today, Jyväskylä is proudly exporting expertise in education around the world. Finnish expertise and culture are going strong, and the centenary of Finnish independence has made them even stronger. In addition to learning our own language and studying our own culture, it is important that we know other languages and cultures. The schools of Jyväskylä currently have a total of around 800 immigrant students whose native language is not Finnish. The students in Jyväskylä represent 66 different language groups. International interaction is a natural part of our daily lives.

On behalf of the City of Jyväskylä, I wish everyone a happy Independence Day in advance and warmly congratulate the Athenis Finlandiae cultural event.

Timo Koivisto

Mayor