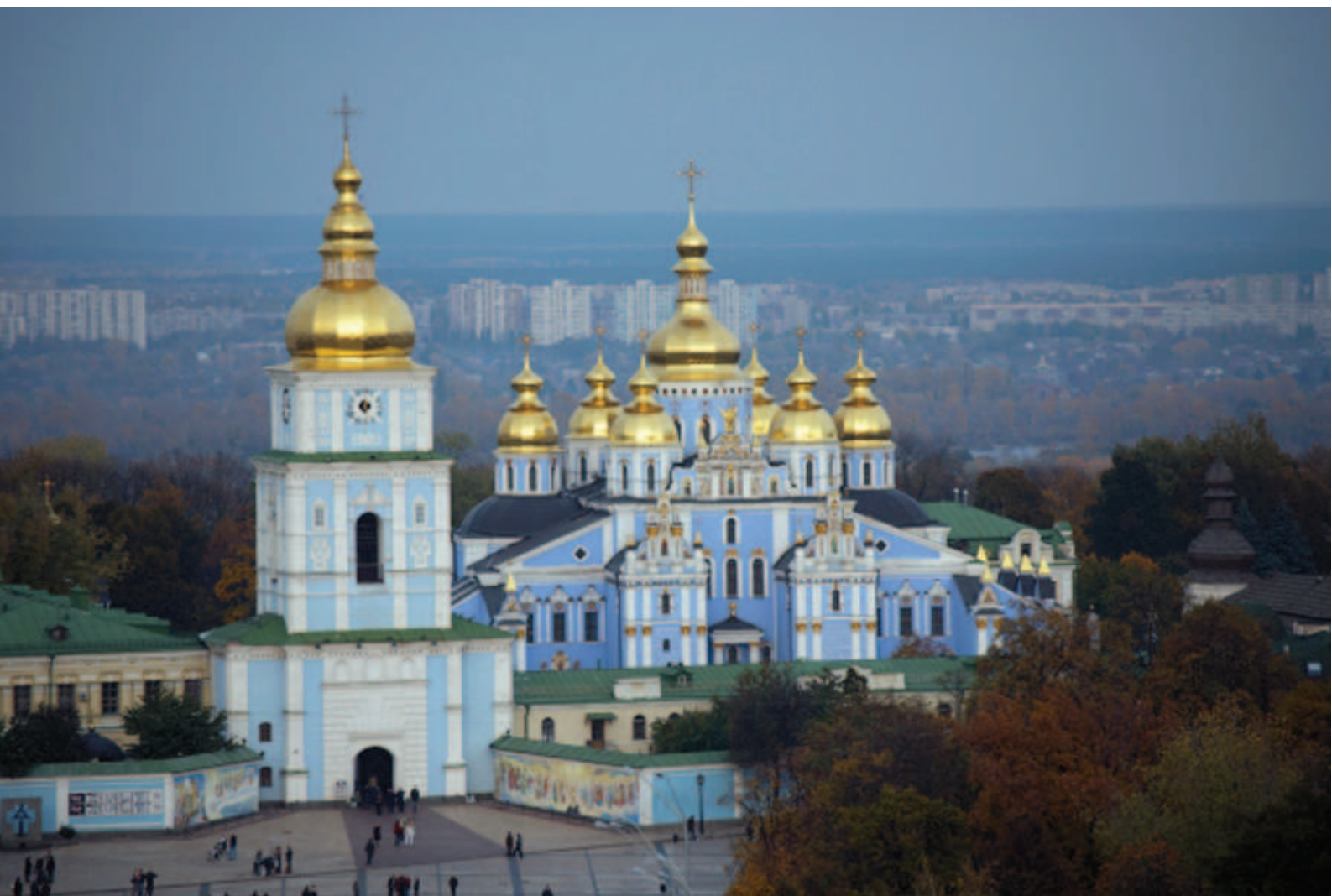




Institute of
Molecular Biology and Genetics
Conference for Young Scientists

September 14-17, 2011

Kyiv, Ukraine



Organisers:  Institute of Molecular Biology
and Genetics NAS Ukraine



Young Researchers' Council
of IMBG

Further information on: <http://cys2011.imbg.org.ua>

About Kyiv



General information and history

Kyiv is the capital of Ukraine and located at the northern part of the country, on the picturesque banks of river Dnieper. Kyiv is one of the oldest cities in the Eastern Europe – it was founded in V-VI centuries by old Slavic tribes. Due to its favorable location Kyiv quickly grew up to the main trade and cultural Slavic center. From X century Kyiv became the capital of old Slavic state Kievan Rus. From 988, when Prince Volodymyr baptize the Rus Kyiv is Christian city and usually called as the cradle of Orthodox Christianity. On 1240, during Mongol invasion Kyiv was fully destroyed by the army of Batu Khan but was rebuilt after a time. At the period of centuries XIV-XIX Kyiv lost its power and belonged to Lithuania, Poland and Russian Empire. The city revived and prospered again during Russian Empire's industrial revolution in the late XIX century. In 1917 when Russian Empire collapsed Kyiv became the capital of newborn Ukrainian National Republic claimed its independence from Russia. From 1923 the city belonged to Soviet Union. Since 1934 Kyiv is the capital of Ukrainian SSR and since 1991 after the collapse of Soviet Union – the capital of Ukraine.

Today Kyiv is a modern European city laid on the both banks of Dnieper with historical, business and cultural centre on the right bank; the left bank is mostly residential and industrial. The population of the city is for about 2.8 million people and permanently growing up.

City transport

Kyiv has a branched city metro that covers most but not the entire city. It takes for about a half of an hour to reach the centre from any suburb of the city using metro. In addition to it there are numerous buses, trolleys and minibuses delivering passengers to every place of the city or even to Kyiv suburbs. Kyiv was the first city in Europe where trams appear more than 100 years ago but for now this transport is decaying rapidly. There are also 2 airports in Kyiv – Zhulyany Airport used mostly for local flights and International Airport Boryspil – and several railway stations with the main one – Kyiv Passenger Railway Station – located near the historical city centre.

About Kyiv



Streets, architectural landmarks and monuments

Long and stormy history of Kyiv mixed different people and various cultures that left unique stamp on the architectural and cultural landscape of the city. Now Kyiv unites numerous historical architectural buildings and monuments with state-of-the-art business and entertainment centers and apartments. A fine place to start exploring city center is the main street of Kyiv Khreshchatyk. It is known from the beginning of XIX century. At the time of World War II the street was completely destroyed but after the end of the war it was rebuilt in unique soviet architecture style. Khreshchatyk stretches for about 1.2 km from the Bessarabsky Market to the Independence square (Maidan Nezalezhnosti) which was the heart of Orange Revolution at 2004 and European square joining the historical city center and the downtown of old Kyiv named Podil. While Khreshchatyk and Maidan play main role in political and social life of Kyiv and Ukraine another street called Descent of St. Andrew's (Andriivsky Uzviz) is considered to be the one of the first places of cultural and artistic life in the city. Here artists and sculptors demonstrate their works all the year round just on the street. In numerous art galleries and shops on Andriivsky Uzviz paintings, sculptures and embroidery made by different Ukrainian popular and unknown artists are exhibited. In addition to its prominent role in artistic life of the capital Andriivsky Uzviz is notable due to St. Andrew Cathedral created in inimitable Ukrainian Baroque style and the former residence of Michail Bulgakov. It is also the quickest way to descend into Podil, Kiev's downtown region where you'll discover a curious mix of riverside restaurants, factories and churches.

Being the cradle of Eastern Christianity and “the Second Jerusalem” Kyiv has many churches, monasteries and sacred places well-known far away from Ukraine. The most prominent are Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra (Caves Monastery) and St. Sofia Cathedral which are recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. Sofia Cathedral was founded at XI by Kyiv Grand Duke Yaroslav the Wise (Yaroslav Mudryi) and became the main temple of Kyivan Rus – here ceremonies of ascending the throne were held, here Kyiv Grand Duke received the foreign ambassadors, here were placed the burial-vaults of grand Dukes. In St. Sofia Cathedral Yaroslav the Wise had founded first Kyivan Rus library — here a chronicle was kept and old books were rewritten and translated.

About Kyiv



Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra was also founded at the middle of XI century by monks who dug first caves in the Kyiv hills. From that time more and more monks joined to the founders of the monastery and intensive building had begun. Kyiv-Pechersk monastery played the central role in Slavonic culture development – the first printing-house was established here, many famous chroniclers, writers, scientists, painters, doctors lived and worked. In 1113 Chronicler Nestor wrote his “Tale of Bygone Years” (“Povest' vremennyh let”) – the main source of knowledge about the times of Kyivan Rus. For the long time Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra was the largest monastery on the territory of former Kyiv Rus but from 1917 to the end of 80-th Lavra was closed with limited access for scientists. Today Lavra functions both as monastery and historic and cultural complex with several museums placed on its territory among which are Museum of Ukrainian books and book-printing, Ukrainian State Museum of Theater, Music and Film Arts, Museum of Ukrainian decorative art and some others.

Noteworthy historical architectural landmarks also include several Orthodox churches among which the most famous are St. Volodymyr Cathedral, St. Michael Cathedral, the reconstructed Golden Gates that was the main entrance to Kyiv at the time of Yaroslav the Wise, Mariyinskiy Palace designed by architect Bartolomeo Rastrelli and built in 1744-1752, numerous monuments dedicated to St. Volodymyr who baptize Kyivan Rus, the famous hetman (head) of Ukrainian Cossacks Bogdan Khmelnytsky, prominent Ukrainian poet and artist Taras Shevchenko and other persons influenced much on the history, politics and culture of Kyiv and Ukraine.



About Kyiv



Museums

Visitors can find a great variety of museums located predominantly in the central part of the city. Not far from Andriivskyy Uzviz the National Historical Museum is located. Its collections are amazing: there you can find the examples of unique Trypillia ceramics, scythian gold jewelry and so on. This museum is situated on the hills from where you can see the places of Kyiv's origin – mounts Zamkova, Schekavytsya and Khorevytsya. By the way, there is a unique place – the Landscape Walkway (Peyzazhna Aleya), where you can see a lot of modern sculptures, is located not far from the National Historical Museum. Museum of the Great Patriotic War, the National Art Museum, the Museum of Western and Oriental Art, the Kyiv Fortress and the National Museum of Russian art are also the good places to visit. For modern art lovers several art galleries including the Pinchuk Art Centre and the Centre of Modern Art are opened. At the southern suburb of the city (not far from the Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics) National museum of people's architecture and everyday's life is situated. This unique museum on the open air is the largest museum in Europe, and it gives the possibility to become familiar with unique buildings and utensils usual for rural Ukrainians lived in XVIII-the beginning of XX centuries.

Kyiv is a very beautiful city with lots of interesting places to visit. We hope the visitors of CYS-2011 will enjoy our city and leave one piece of their hearts here.