SÓTI, The Icelandic Orff Association

Sóti was founded in 2007 and has 90 members from various educational disciplines.

Goals:
To encourage the development of a holistic music and movement education program for all age groups in Iceland, based on the pedagogical philosophy and approach of Carl Orff.

To organize and administer Orff Schulwerk conferences and workshops in Iceland.

To encourage and organize the participation of Icelandic teachers in international courses and conferences related to Orff-Schulwerk.

To produce and distribute an Icelandic web-journal addressing issues relating to the Orff philosophy of music education.

To cooperate with other Orff Schulwerk organizations in order to further the objectives of the Association.

FACTS ABOUT ICELAND

- Iceland consists of only 290,000 inhabitants. 60% of Iceland’s population lives in the capital, Reykjavik.
- Iceland has one of the highest literacy rates in the world, 100%. In fact, more books are published per capita here than in any other country.
- In Icelandic Christmas folklore there are 13 Santa Clauses!
- Houses are heated with thermal water as well as most outdoor swimming pools.
- Beer was banned in Iceland until 1989.
- Most Icelanders do not have a family name (such as Johnson, Smith, etc). So children have a given name and then father’s name–son or father’s name–daughter.
- The Icelanders believe in elves and dwarves (in a sort of myth-way).
- Icelanders drink more Coca Cola than anyone else in the world.
- The Icelanders speak the Icelandic language, which is used only in Iceland.
- Iceland is the world’s oldest democracy. Its parliament (Althingi) was founded about 1,000 years ago.
- Geysir is Iceland’s largest geyser and where the word geyser originates.