

# Finnish Experiences of TaitajaPLUS and Abilympics

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26.04.2010

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## Start of Abilympics in Finland in 2005

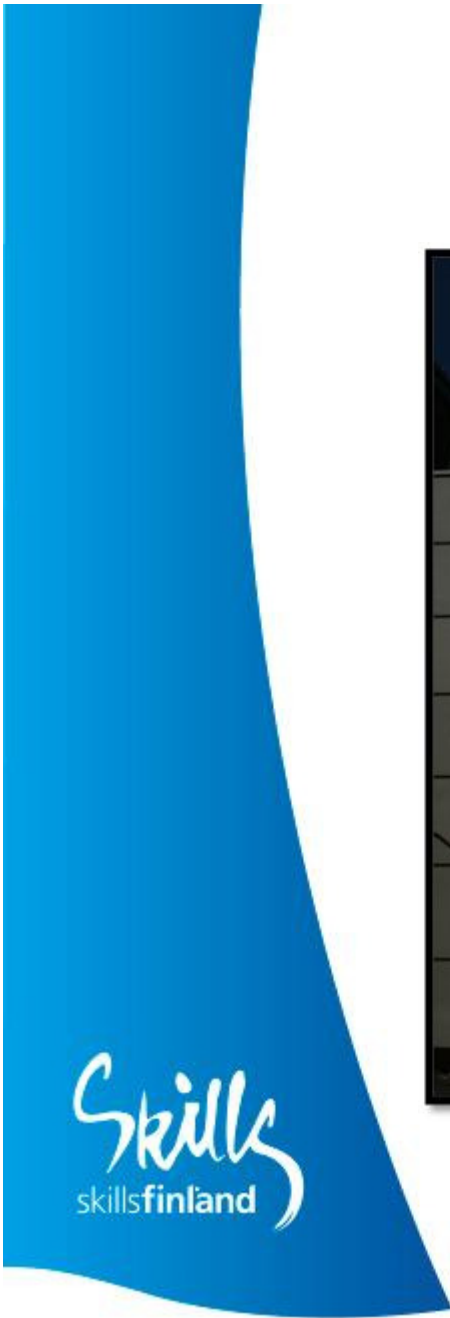
- Visit of IAF in WorldSkills2005 in May in Helsinki
- Application for membership by the Board of Skills Finland in September
- Nomination of Abilympics Coordinator
- Visit to Japan: IAF office and the National Abilympics of Japan in October

2006

## Working Group

- Ministry of Education, National Board of Education, Vocational schools, Special vocational schools, Skills Finland
- A letter by the Minister of Education to all vocational schools underlining the importance of skills competitions for young people with special needs

Cooperation with two teacher training universities



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## International Abilympics in Finland

Selecting of students to International Abilympics 2007

- young students, part of Team Finland
- floral arrangement, poster design, mechanical CAD, electronics

International Abilympics in Japan in September

- 29 countries, over 400 competitors
- each competition 2-6 hours
- all the judges were from Asian countries

Abilympics 2007, Sanni Tarvainen from Kiipula  
Vocational College



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## Experience from the first International Abilympics

- Finnish competitors were the youngest in the competition – we got no medals
- All the competitors managed well
- We need a stronger European viewpoint
- We want to have separate competitions for students and youngsters
- Finland will continue participating IA

# National Abilympics - TaitajaPLUS in Finland

Abilympics demonstrations in Taitaja2006  
Tampere

- handicraft, caring, information technology
- good feedback from students, schools and visitors

Demonstrations in Taitaja2007 Joensuu

- floristry, electronics, pottery, photography

# Tampere



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## Joensuu



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## Three kind of competitions in Taitaja2008 in Espoo

1. 8+1-model Demonstrations in Taitaja2007
    - floristry, pastry cook, painting, cleaning services, electronics
  2. Abilympics-competition
    - caring, electronics, photography, customer services, web design
  3. Demonstrations
    - music, watchmaker, upholsterer, artisan
- 8 vocational schools involved

# Espoo



# Espoo



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## Taitaja2009 in Vaasa

- Competition rules
- Abilitylympics – competitions
  - cleaning services, web design, caring
- Demonstrations
  - landscape gardening, property maintenance

New name and logo in  
Finnish and Swedish!

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**taitajamästare**  
**PLUS**



# Taitaja2010 Oulu

## **TaitajaPLUS –competition**

- Customer services, cooking, cleaning services, electronics and telecommunications technology
- Demonstration: Preparatory and rehabilitative education and guidance

## **European Abilympics Conference 'Competitions for All'**

# Partners



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