



REGULATIONS OF THE 11TH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, ART, AND FOLKLORE 'THE PODLASIE OCTAVE OF CULTURES'

THE ORGANIZER

1. The organizer of the **XI International Festival of Music, Art and Folklore 'Podlasie Octave of Cultures'**, hereinafter referred to as the Festival, is the Regional Cultural Animation Centre in Białystok (8 Kilińskiego Street, 15-950 Białystok, Poland), hereinafter referred to as the Organizer.
2. The Festival takes place on 25th-29th July 2018 in Białystok, Poland, and in other venues of the Podlasie Region.
3. In organizing the festival concerts held outside the city of Białystok, the Organizer cooperates with other cultural institutions or other entities, hereinafter referred to as Partners.
4. The partners are responsible for organizing and course of concerts, especially for the safety of their participants. Partners are also required to obtain all the permissions, agreements, and authorizations required by law related to the organization of the concerts.
5. As for the organization of the concerts referred to in the section 3 above, the Organizer is solely responsible for ensuring the proper level of artistic performance of the concert, by ensuring the performance of the Festival participants.

THE FESTIVAL MISSION AND FORMULA

1. The main objective of the Festival is the presentation of artistic achievements of the groups from Poland and the countries connected with the ethnic minorities living in Podlasie Region (Lithuanians, Roms, Ukrainians, Jews, Tatars, Russians, and Byelorussians).
2. The participation of the representatives of other countries and cultures is also possible.
3. The preferred repertoire includes:
 - authentic or stylized folk compositions, performed both with folk or contemporary instruments,
 - compositions inspired by the domestic folk music,
 - works by composers using traditional music,
 - musical shows and performances relating to tradition,
 - programmes presenting artistically prepared, stylized, or reconstructed folklore of their countries,
 - early, classical, contemporary and jazz compositions.
4. The Festival programme shall include:
 - concerts in Białystok and other towns of the Podlasie Region,
 - folklore parade,
 - trips and integration evening gatherings,
 - accompanying events.

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

1. Both professional and amateur groups, recommended by their ministries of culture, embassies, consulates, foundations, cultural institutions, schools, local governments, organizations of national minorities or national and foreign partners of the Organizer, may participate in the Festival.
2. The participation in the Festival is conditioned upon preparing 60-, 30-, 15-, and 5-minute programmes to be presented at the Festival concerts. In case of folk groups, also an animation of folk plays/games with participation from the audience. The instrument players and musicians that make integral part of the song

and dance ensembles should prepare a separate repertoire to be presented at integration gatherings and folk bands' concerts. The groups should perform live.

3. The obligatory documents to apply for the Festival, are as follows:
 - the application form, filled in and signed by group's manager,
 - CD or DVD with a record of the current group's programme,
 - 4 to 6 current high quality group's photos that could be used in the Festival publishing (300 DPI resolution),
 - CD with 1 or 2 records of the compositions that, shall be included in the promotional musical compilation CD of the bands taking part in the Festival.
4. The groups shall apply to participate in the Festival until 31st January 2018, sending completed application forms and the materials mentioned above. The groups shall be informed on their admittance to the Festival till 31st March 2018. After this date, the teams are obliged to provide the Organizer with the data necessary to conclude the contract in accordance with the form submitted by the Organizer.
5. The application forms and the remaining materials should be sent to:

Wojewódzki Ośrodek Animacji Kultury w Białymstoku
ul. Kilińskiego 8, 15-950 Białystok – Poland
with the annotation: 'POK Festival'

6. Sending the application form equals to the acceptance of these Regulations and processing of the personal data included in all the application documents by the Organizer for the purposes of the Festival, pursuant to the 1997 Act on personal rights protection (single text: Official Journal 2016, item 922, as amended).
7. The groups invited to take part in the Festival shall be selected by the International Artistic Council upon seeing and hearing the groups' programmes.
8. The groups invited to participate in the Festival shall be granted with a remuneration in the amount previously agreed by the group and the Organizer, i.e. the Director of the Regional Cultural Animation Centre in Białystok with the opinion of Festival Director.
9. The groups qualified for the Festival that cannot enter the territory of the Republic of Poland without visas, are obliged to fulfill and comply with all the formalities on their own, especially apply for visas not later than 3 months prior to the beginning of the Festival. The Organizer neither mediates nor assists in the process of acquiring visas.
10. The Organizer shall cover the total costs of participants' board and lodging. Groups may consist of several to over a dozen persons. In case of orchestras or song and dance ensembles the total number of participants (including musicians, supervisors, assisting persons, and coach drivers) cannot exceed 35 persons, unless for artistic reasons, in which case the consent from the Organizer is required. In other cases, for each person above the limit the amount of EUR 150 shall be paid for the entire stay.
11. Transportation expenses to Białystok and back are to be covered by the ensembles. During the festival the groups will receive up to 150 litres of fuel per bus, and up to 50 litres of fuel per car or minibus, depending on the itinerary. For those groups which arrive by plane, the Organizer will provide a bus for the whole Festival and will cover the costs of transfer to and from the Chopin Airport in Warsaw.
12. The Organizer shall cover neither any potential costs of crossing the Polish border or issuing visas, nor any break-down or repair costs of the coaches or other means of transport.
13. Managers of the groups are obliged:
 - to buy an insurance policy in their country for all group members in case of illness and accident which covers travel period and time of stay at the Festival and
 - to submit a copy of the insurance policy to the Organizer of the Festival.The Organizer is not liable for any damage or loss, neither in person nor in property of the Festival participants, especially the damage or loss caused by a third party's act or omission.
14. The arrival date should be planned in such a way so that the band can be accommodated in the afternoon on July 24th. The departure should follow the final concert on July 29th or on July 30th in the morning.
15. During the Festival, the bands should be at the Organizer disposal at any time and participate in all concerts and other events specified in the Festival programme. Taking part in any unscheduled events or concerts without permission of the Organizer is forbidden. The bands can bring CDs and DVDs, promotional materials, folk handicraft products that can be sold. The money from the sale is the property of the group.

16. Group managers shall be responsible for the participants' behaviour at the Festival and for any potential material damage or loss in the rooms given to the group's disposal or to persons or property of third parties incurred by the Festival participants' act or omission.
17. The Organizer reserves the right to record, film and photograph festival concerts by reporters and photojournalists without special fee paid to the bands due to copyrights or participation in the Festival.
18. Further issues which are not included herein, shall be agreed directly via the telephone or electronic mail.