

International Storytelling Festival in Anykščiai SEKAS

FESTIVAL EVENT PROGRAMME

DAY 1. 30th of NOVEMBER, 2017

THURSDAY

The Method of Storytelling for Social Change

Interactive Training on the Storytelling Method

United Kingdom, Scotland

The course will help practitioners in social and creative fields to enhance time spent with the people they support. The method of storytelling can become a delicate and gentle, but very important, key that unlocks the door of “silence”. Participants will be provided with techniques and activities to help them encourage others to tell their own stories and identify their goals. The acquired skills and knowledge will be suitable to apply while working in communities and with vulnerable groups including seniors, women in crisis, refugees from conflict areas, people with disabilities or addictions, and people living in poverty. Claire McDade, the Executive Director of the Village Storytelling Centre, will share her experience and present case studies of working with projects in the social sector. The course will be facilitated by storyteller Joanne Marr from The Village Storytelling Centre.

This course is delivered in English with the participation of a Lithuanian interpreter.

Anykščiai Public Library named after S. and L. Didžiuliai

30-11-2017 | 9.00 am – 5.00 pm

Iran vs Israel

Storytelling show with storytellers Raphael Rodan and Sahand Sahebdivani

Iran, Israel, The Netherlands

“Iran vs Israel” combines classical Jewish and Iranian tales, as well as the personal stories of Raphael Rodan and Sahand Sahebdivani. It dives into their pasts, their cultures and the source of their countries’ enmity.

This performance is in English. A leaflet with its content translated into Lithuanian will be available if required.

Anykščiai Centre for Culture

30-11-2017 | 6.00 pm

Oh! A Little Spark Has Fallen

Festival Opening Night

Rimantas Vanagas, an author from Anykščiai, will tell stories of the land and region in his unique programme “The Phenomenon of Anykščiai”. Storyteller, folklorist and ethnologist Gražina Kadžytė will present the legend “The Glimmer from Šventavartė’s Altar” by Antanas Vienuolis, linking Anykščiai land with the historical battle of Saulė, into traditional oral storytelling style. Milda Varnauskaitė, a professional storyteller, will share her contemporary performance “I Have Emigrated by Accident, Mother”, based on personal experience, wittily blending religious chants, a Portuguese tale, the particularities of new life in Amsterdam, and love for her mother.

These performances are in Lithuanian.

The Memorial Museum-House of Antanas Vienuolis-Žukauskas

30-11-2017 | 8.00 pm

DAY 2. 1st of DECEMBER, 2017
FRIDAY

Storytelling for Children*

Interactive Training on the Storytelling Method

Raising children, or working with groups of children who struggle to concentrate? This comprehensive series of games, stories and exercises will help you get groups on their feet and engaging with stories. This high energy training session will give you tools to keep their focus on learning and communicating through fun. The course will provide participants with useful techniques and expand awareness about the benefits of storytelling for families, for education in schools and libraries, and for after-school activities as well. This session will give plenty of space for inspiration in the use of storytelling to encourage literacy and reading, making children's spare time more exciting, engaging and enriched. Claire McDade, Executive Director of the Village Storytelling Centre, will share her experience and present case studies of working with projects and activities for families and children of various age groups. The course will be facilitated by storyteller Joanne Marr from The Village Storytelling Centre.

This course is delivered in English with the participation of a Lithuanian interpreter.

Anykščiai Public Library named after S. and L. Didžiuliai
01-12-2017 | 9.00 am – 5.00 pm

The Circle of Stories

Open Storytelling Night

This open mic storytelling event is for everyone! We invite you to warm up on the first winter night and share your traditional and contemporary, local and international stories on free for interpretation topic: "One side is warming, and the other is freezing". The length of each storytelling piece should be eight minutes or less – the shorter, the better. At the end of the night the listeners will select the storytelling piece they enjoyed most, and its storyteller will be awarded a cash prize donated by the public. The host of the night is actress, director and cultural manager Kristina Jakubauskaitė-Veršeliene.

The stories will be told in Lithuanian and English.

Etno Bar in Anykščiai
01-12-2017 | 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm

DAY 3. 2nd of DECEMBER, 2017
SATURDAY

The Art of Storytelling Today Inspiring Conversations with Professionals

The Conference

We invite you to discuss how an old oral storytelling tradition could be beneficial and interesting in our contemporary world. Naomi Wilds, producer for Adverse Camber, will share her passion of presenting artistic storytelling shows which introduce audiences to epic tales from different cultures. Storytellers Raphael Rodan and Sahand Sahebdivani will talk about the Mezrab Storytelling School in Amsterdam and about the bread and butter of the professional contemporary storyteller, the importance of an emotional connection to the stories we tell, and how it can help us to overcome conflicts and to prepare the new generation of storytellers. Gražina Kadžytė, researcher at the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, ethnologist and presenter on Lithuanian National Radio, will give a rich talk about the

timeless wisdom in folklore texts and the challenges for today's storytellers. Guntis Pakalns, philologist, storyteller, Folklore lecturer and researcher at the Institute of Literature, Folklore, and Art of the University of Latvia, will present the situation of storytelling in contemporary Latvia. In an open panel discussion we will hear from representatives of Lithuanian culture, art and education organisations who will talk about the attraction of storytelling, in what way have they experienced it so far, and what's next for the medium.

This conference is in Lithuanian and English with the participation of an interpreter.

Anykščiai Public Library named after S. and L. Didžiuliai

02-12-2017 | 9.00 am – 12.30 pm

Pasakojis

Fête for Children and Families

Together with storyteller, singer and concertina player Adomas Koreniukas we will travel to South America in the interactive musical tale "How Adomas was searching for the music playing torch in the desert". In the workshop "Over the Nine Seas" Milda Varnauskaitė will help us look for inspiration in our everyday lives, select the best ingredients, prepare our stories and then tell them to each other. Storyteller, folklorist and ethnologist Gražina Kadžytė will invite families to weave the "Advent Wreath" made out of legends and tales about the creation of the world and animals, about the principles of human coexistence. We will stop by the "Slibinarium/Dragon Lab" where together with storyteller Daiva Ivanauskaitė we will peek into the secret lives of mythical creatures in Scottish and Lithuanian fairy tales and then create our own fantastical beasts. For making cozy winter nights in the family circle even more miraculous, artist Lina Timukaitė invites us to her workshop "As the Evening Approaches – the little stories of paper cuttings" where we will make characters from paper, let them live through their own stories full of faery adventures, and learn how to create a little stage at home.

We ask you kindly to book in advance for the "Pasakojis" activities by email: pasakojis@gmail.com.

These storytelling activities are presented in Lithuanian.

The Museum of Angels

Anykščiai Public Library named after S. and L. Didžiuliai

02-12-2017 | 1.00 pm – 5.00 pm

Fire in the North Sky: Epic Tales from Finland

The Storytelling Show with the storyteller Nick Hennessey

United Kingdom, Finland

Be transported by songs, adventure and the stories of *Kalevala* - Finland's national epic and cultural treasure – equal to Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, or the Old English *Beowulf*. This evocative, musically rich performance draws from *Kalevala*, Finland's national epic, based on folk poems that were sung across Finland, Estonia and Karelia (Russia) for centuries. Leading British storyteller Nick Hennessey and three virtuoso Finnish musicians bring these 2,000 year-old traditional stories to life with a mix of offbeat fun, enchantment and evocative music that moves between dancing flutes, infectious rhythms and hauntingly beautiful sung melodies.

This performance is in English with Lithuanian subtitles. A leaflet with its content translated into Lithuanian will be available if required.

Anykščiai Centre for Culture

02-12-2017 | 6.00 pm