



INVITATION AND OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE LATVIA'S CULTURE AND ART: a list of events offered by the culture and arts education programme "Latvijas skolas soma" for international schools

Dear colleagues, teachers, and school administrators,

For the seventh year in a row, every student in Latvia, from grades 1 to 12, is entitled to experience at least one cultural event per semester funded by the state. The cultural and arts education programme "Latvijas skolas soma" (Latvian School Bag) is behind this effort, connecting educators and cultural professionals in the joint effort to provide the best cultural experiences to our children and youth.

We are especially happy that the programme also includes international schools operating in Latvia. This is a great opportunity to introduce students, teachers, and even families—who may only be here for a few years—to the richness of the Latvian culture. We would like to thank those of you who are already making good use of this programme. If you have not done it yet, we encourage you to get involved.

Based on your feedback and understanding that some cultural events to enjoy them fully require knowledge of the Latvian language, we have put together a selection of events that will help teachers in the international schools choose the most appropriate events that highlight the values and contemporary expressions of the Latvian culture and art across 10 areas (music, theatre, dance, circus, visual arts, cinema, architecture, design, cultural heritage, and literature & publishing).

The events in this selection meet the following criteria:

- event providers communicate in multiple languages, including English, and are ready to help ensure a great experience.
- events provide subtitles (in theatre or film) or summaries (synopses).
- event originally is available in different languages, including English.
- event has minimal use of language, or it is not used at all (dance, circus etc.).
- event has been previously chosen by international school/s, so is already tested and appreciated by your peers.

This event selection has been specially translated into English to help you explore the available offerings. However, the full content of the programme is only available in Latvian on the official website: www.latvijasskolassoma.lv. To better understand the event descriptions and other information, you can use tools like Hugo.lv for quick translations.

On behalf of the programme team, we hope that this selection will serve well the students, teachers, and parents in exploring Latvia's rich and diverse culture, and building on those experiences, to become ambassadors of the Latvian art and culture!

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MUSIC

An Educational Musical Lesson in the World of Rhythm and Sounds

Offered by: Nils Ile music studio

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Maija Sējāne-Īle, e-mail: nilsilestudio@gmail.com; tel. no.: 29767381

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/izglitojosa-muzikala-nodarbiba-ritma-

<u>un-skanu-pasaule/</u>

Musicians Nils Īle and Maija Sējāne-Īle introduce the students to a variety of musical and sound instruments from Latvia and all over the world. While listening to each of them, the students are asked to look for similarities with the sounds found in nature and to actively participate.

Through the joint playing of instruments, the children and young people get to know the diverse magic of sound, try various sound instruments which are frequently also used as effects in the creation of film soundtracks; listen in; create musical sound paintings together; by experimenting with various sound tools, develop their creative imagination; as well as, by working together, promote a positive communication among classmates, gain skills in playing rhythm and creating joint musical compositions under the guidance of experienced tutors.

This is a conversation in the language of music during which everyone has an opportunity not only to watch and to listen but also to touch and try the offered musical instruments. A musical conversation like this, facilitated by an instrument, helps even the most introverted student to open up and to work with everyone together, as well as inspires quite a few students to continue their self-development in the musical field.



Concert Lecture "Jauns es biju karavīrs" (I was a Young Soldier) by Folklore and Ancient Battle Ensemble "Vilkači"

Offered by: Folklore and ancient battle ensemble *Vilkači*

Time of the event: According to a pre-announced schedule and upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Ingus Krūminš, e-mail: ingus.krumins11@gmail.com;

tel. no.: 26318602

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/folkloras-un-seno-cinu-kopas-vilkaci-

koncertlekcija-jauns-es-biju-karavirs/

The aim of the concert lecture is to show the students the love of native land through ancient traditions and songs, as well as to arouse interest through the demonstration of musical instruments and ancient weapons. The concert lecture is complemented by a narration about the historical events in Latvia.

During the presentation, Latvian folksongs are performed, telling about the life course of Latvians, the virtues of soldiers, the love of one's native land and the selfless struggle for freedom. Traditional instruments are used in the musical accompaniment - kokle, bagpipes, a vargan, $g\bar{t}ga$ (Latvian bowed zither), pipes, a stump drum, a trumpet and various percussion instruments.

The students will also get acquainted with ancient folk costumes, made according to samples of archeological finds in the territory of Latvia, dating back to the Late Iron Age (10th - 12th century), or before the arrival of the Crusaders in the territory of Latvia. In addition, the event will include a demonstration of armour and reconstructions of weapons that correspond to the samples found in the territory of Latvia.



An Interactive Drum Concert Programme "Around the World in 80 Minutes"

Offered by: SIA "I.R. DĀRZS"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Reinis Rekis, e-mail: rekisreinisdrum@gmail.com; tel. no.: 29383310

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/interaktiva-bungu-

koncertprogramma-80-minutes-apkart-zemeslodei/

In the drum concert programme, drummer Reinis Reķis, with the help of various percussion and rhythm instruments, demonstrates the diverse possibilities of creating music and how this can be applied in one's life to find one's own rhythm. The event offers to reveal to the students that rhythm is an important element of living which gives stability and structure to everyday life. During the concert, R.Reķis introduces the students to the specific characteristics of drum music and various percussion instruments, which the students will also be able to try playing themselves.

It is a journey through time and cultures, familiarising children and young people with the origins, history and development of music. The concert will provide an opportunity to hear music for drums - from historical rhythms to contemporary improvisation performances; from North American plains, through South American jungle, briefly touching on the African desert, taking us to the Asian culture and returning to the European classics and the present.



Museum Education Activity "Listen into Music, Listen into Yourself"

Offered by: The Latvian National Museum of Literature and Music

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Liene Šmukste, e-mail: komunikacija@rmm.lv; tel. no.: 67509263

Target Audience: Year 6 - 12

More inormation: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/muzejpedagogiska-nodarbiba-

ieklausies-muzika-ieklausies-sevi/

At the beginning of the activity, the students are offered to explore the sound record exhibition "SAN" (BUZZ) of the Museum of Literature and Music, where the students get acquainted with sound recording and playback technologies, from the mechanical piano invented at the end of the 19th century, to the CD. The students learn about the principles of operation of each type of sound recording, its advantages and disadvantages, as well as about the most popular musical genres that have been recorded by using it.

Further in the activity, the students get to know and understand their feelings and emotions, discussing the characteristics of various emotions, the energy levels and creating a "mood thermometer". While listening to the music of different styles and times, the students have the task of listening to their feelings and choosing the most suitable point on the previously created "mood thermometer".

During the lesson, an overview is provided of the facts of sound recording history that have a specific significance to Latvia. The students also get to know and understand their feelings and emotions by listening to music of different styles and times, as well as paying attention to how their emotions can be regulated and influenced with the help of music.



DANCE

Dance Performance "Verpete" (Torsion)

Offered by: Society "Tuvumi"

Time of the event: According to a pre-announced schedule, upon request; on-site event **Contact information:** Dārta Priedniece, e-mail: <u>darta@tuvumi.com</u>; tel. no.: 20237984

Target Audience: Year 8 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/dejas-izrade-verpete/

The performance is based on an interest in bodily experiences and rhythmic structures of folk tunes, with the help of which the artists, Ēriks Erikssons and Krišjānis Sants, have created a score from just a single spinning movement with joined hands – a choreography charaterised by precision, speed, trust and a growing thrill. The forces of attraction and repulsion keep the dancers in tension with each other; it is both trust and struggle.

With a commitment to stay together, supporting each other and maintaining a counterbalance, the artists' dance moves the audience and creates a common space through the movement. It is

an experience that many viewers have described as being in the middle of a natural element, where the mind is overwhelmed by inexplicable elation.



Lesson "Get to Know Latvian Dances and Games"

Offered by: Society "Tradicionālās kultūras centrs" (Traditional Culture Centre)

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Valdis Putniņš, e-mail: valdis21@gmail.com; tel. no.: 26514627

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/nodarbiba-iepazisti-latviesu-dancus-

un-rotalas/

The aim of the lesson is to introduce the students to an important component of the Latvian traditional culture – games, dances and singing/dancing games from the end of the 9th century to the present day, as well as to show that these are not only ancient treasures in archival records, but also relevant in various contemporary situations – both in everyday life and at holidays, social dancing events, $J\bar{a}\eta i$ (Midsummer's Eve) and other traditional annual festivities, family celebrations etc.

The students will learn what folk dance is, how it differs from stage dance, learn and dance some of the most popular folk dances together, improve their kinetic skills, skills to work together and collaborate, as well as expand their horizons and gain motivation to learn more about our traditional culture.



Dance Performances by Choreographer Olga Žitluhina Offered by Society "PARTY"

Dance Performance "3D. Ballet" or "Dance". Demonstration. Discussion. BALLET"

Offered by: Society "PARTY"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Baiba Ozoliņa, e-mail: ozolina.baiba@gmail.com; tel. no.: 29422999

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/dejas-izrade-3d-balets-jeb-deja-

demonstracija-diskusija-balets/

The performance, created by choreographer Olga Žitluhina, introduces the schoolchildren to ballet as an art genre and the practice of a ballet artist. The Latvian National Opera and Ballet soloist Ringolds Žigis and Riga Ballet School graduate Lelde Beāte Kuzņecova will share their experience and vision.

Departing from the conditional elitism of ballet, in an accessible and attractive form, the students explore this genre of dance. The artists show and explain the tradition and canon of classical ballet. The performance is about the beautiful and noble in dance, the special relationship between the female and male characters in classical ballet performances, as well as the difficulties that dancers have to overcome. After the performance, the students are invited

to ask questions, share their impressions in the form of a conversation, as well as participate by getting to know the positions of classical dance – ballet.

Dance Performance "3D. About Telephones" or "Dance. Demonstration. Discussion. TELEPHONES"

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/dejas-izrade-3d-par-telefoniem-jeb-

deja-demonstracija-diskusija-telefoni/

The performance is a social dance project and the author of its idea is choreographer Olga Žitluhina. The show offers a view of young people's addiction to phones from the perspective of contemporary dance, doing so without moralizing, evaluating both the good and the bad it brings. In search for answers together with the students,

Phones have taken on such an important role in the life of young people that dance cannot remain indifferent either. Everyone has a phone; you can buy it; it is not demanding (not emotionally attached, you just have to feed the battery), yet it takes away all the spare time. Brutally, but at the same time so imperceptibly. Whether it is good or bad, there is no knowing, but we can draw attention to this phenomenon and maybe help those who are open to it.

The performance is maximally relieved of everything superfluous: there is no set design, no lights, no special costumes; it is only the human contact that creates the show. As a result, the young people gain a new, often unprecedented, experience, and learn about contemporary dance as part of the Latvian culture.

Dance Performance "3D. About Love" or "Dance. Demonstration. Discussion. LOVE"

Target Audience: Year 5 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/dejas-izrade-3d-par-milestibu-jeb-deja-demonstracija-diskusija-milestiba/

Performance "3D. About Love" is an educational performance that addresses students in an unusual form, as well as invites them to think about movement, body language and the ability to speak through movement. The author of the idea of the show, choreographer Olga Zhitlukhina, refers to the ideas of the famous American choreographer Deborah Hay that the performance is created during the practice.

The show features two dancers who are also its co-authors. The dancers come to the students and take over the space, give themes that the audience interactively develops, or ask the audience to read a text and give its assessment, or ask them to play random music from their phone. Everything – responses, reactions, participation – affect the choreography of the show. The show is created by performing the space.

On the other hand, the idea of the show is about Love. How to develop it? Two dancers talk through the audience: what is Love like, what is Love, why is there Love, is Love needed, where does it take us? The essential thing is that words can lie, but the body - never.



CIRCUS

Clowning Show "Pachamamo"

Offered by: VSIA "Rīgas cirks"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Renāte Saulīte, e-mail: renate.saulite@cirks.lv; tel. no.: 26195232

Target Audience: Year 1-9

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/klaunades-izrade-pacamamo/

Carrying tricks, music, as well as various useful and useless things in his suitcase, Cronopio the clown arrives at a new (or maybe long-known?) place. Cronopio conjures up a comedic and sincere image of a somewhat clumsy traveller and speaks in the language of humour on familiar topics, large and small.

Clown Cronopio (Mariano Gedwillo) is and Argentine with Latvian roots. He has grown up in Latin America, performed in many parts of the world, including many European countries, and currently, the Riga Circus has managed, for a short while, to attract Cronopio to his grandparents' hometown, Riga.



Magic Trick Performance "Miracles Happen"

Offered by: SIA "Mystero"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Inese Mežgale, e-mail: inese@dare.lv; tel. no.: 26191261

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/burvju-triku-izrade-brinumi-notiek/

The circus performance combines attractive stories about the history of illusionism to reveal to the students the possibilities to explore the world through various means of cultural expression, including promoting creativity, fantasy and exploring the content of school subjects in various fields, as all this knowledge, in an attractive way, is put into practice by professional magicians in the show.

Incredible miracles are often mentioned in many different fairy tales and stories of the world. The artists of the performance, together with the audience, will go to the "Jungle Book", where the Snake will demonstrate a magic trick; there will be an opportunity to use the "time machine" and travel in time; the students will learn the spells that were known to famous Wilhelm Tell, as well as see Mary Poppins' magic umbrella, while someone will be able to step into the shoes of Harry Potter and try out what the magic wands can do.



Performance "Underwater Bubble Show"

Offered by: SIA "Mystero"

Time of the event: Upon request; digital event - in the form of a recording **Contact information:** Inese Mežgale, e-mail: inese@dare.lv; tel. no.: 26191261

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/izrade-zemudens-burbulu-izrade/

The modern circus performance created by illusionists Pecolli, by original means of expression, tells a very topical story about how a person discovers and develops their potential by themselves.

The entire action of the show takes place, as it were, in the underwater world, and the main artist of the performance Mr. B (Pēteris Rimss, the leading pantomime artist in Latvia), during the performance, encounters more or less real underwater inhabitants and, thanks to them, learns much more about himself, to understand at the end of the show that happiness does not have to be sought anywhere outside, but for each of us in ourselves, and we are given every opportunity to do it.

The show uses elements from various fields of performing arts, including circus art (soap bubble art, magic arts, acrobatics, juggling, etc.), acting, drawing with sand, dance, pantomime, as well as special effects and original stage scenography.

Events offered by these creative professionals also includes a digital event – the circus performance "Alice in Wonderland". More information about the performance: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/cirka-izrade-alise-brinumzeme/.



Museum Education Activity On-Site or Virtually "Illusionism Theatre and Museum "Mystero""

Offered by: SIA "Mystero"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site and digital event

Contact information: Inese Mežgale, e-mail: info@pecolli.lv; tel. no.: 26191261

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/muzejpedagogiska-nodarbiba-

klatiene-vai-virtuali-iluzionisma-teatris-un-muzejs-mystero/

During the visit, the creators of the museum "Mystero", illusionists Dace and Enrico Pecolli or Dante Pecolli will introduce you to the secrets of the art of stage magic and history of the development of this field in Latvia and in the world.

The activity aims to introduce the audience to the variety of genres of the original illusionist performing arts and their creative means of expression, to popularize this unique art. The students will find out which was the first most popular magic trick in the world, see it demonstrated, witness the likelihood of human levitation and the possibility of being part of the "three-headed Amazon jungle flower" illusion, as it could be seen in the days of the Vaudeville Theatre.



VISUAL ARTS

The School of Contemporary Art: "Comic as Story-telling Method Addressing Complex Topics" with Artist Vivianna Maria Staņislavska **Offered by:** The Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Andris Freibergs, e-mail: mara@lcca.lv; tel. no.: 29586893

Target Audience: Year 8 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/laikmetigas-makslas-skola-komikss-ka-stasta-veidosanas-panemiens-runajot-par-sarezgitam-temam-ar-makslinieci-viviannu-mariu-stanislavsku/

During the lesson, the participants will seek to answer the following questions: How to say the complex and the difficult at once clearly and perceptibly? and How to give up the superfluous and speak only about the essential, but in a way that is still exciting? In her creative lesson, artist Vivianna Maria Staņislavska introduces the students to the comic - an art form as well as a tool for activism and contemporary issues to convey complex messages in an accessible way.

The lesson includes a demonstration of examples of how contemporary art is asking important questions, and how the comic particularly gives answers to them, combining the creative and the politically important. The lesson consists of several parts. These are conversations with the students about the current problems – perceptions, worries and expectations, including things that are personally important. In the creative part, the students can learn the basic principles of comic book creation and create their own graphic story on a special topic close to them.

The artist adapts the dynamics and processes of the lesson to the students' preparedness and abilities, thus, in conclusion, creating individual small comic books (zines) or an original collective book.

Other events of the programme "The School of Contemporary Art" by the Latvian Centre of Contemporary Art in the content offer of the programme "Latvian School Bag": https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/?s=lcca.



Lesson "Luck or Skill? How to Take a Good Picture?"

Offered by: Society "ISSP"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Līga Stibe, e-mail: <u>liga@issp.lv</u>; tel. no.: 29197627

Target Audience: Year 5-9

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/nodarbiba-veiksme-vai-prasme-ka-

uznemt-labu-attelu/

Does a perfect picture exist? What is needed for a picture to be good? In the lesson, students are introduced to the compositional techniques that are used in the creation of any images.

By examining Ivars Grāvlejs' work "Useful Advice for Photographers" (2016), the students will learn the "laws" of photography engagingly and think about the prerequisites for a successful picture. By getting acquainted with the works of Edward Burtynsky and Ansel Adams, the students will be shown a variety of compositional techniques that are used to achieve artistically appealing and publicly recognized images. Concepts such as light, time, exposure, focus, depth of focus, golden ratio, etc. will be discussed in the lesson.

The lesson is created interactively, involving the young people in content creation and using various applications in the learning process. The knowledge acquired in the lesson is applied in practice, completing a creative photo task. The students will have to use their telephones.



The Offer of Art Museums

The culture and arts education programme "Latvian School Bag" includes the entire offer of the national art museums – the Latvian National Museum of Art, the Art Museum "Riga Bourse", Romans Suta and Aleksandra Belcova Museum, the Museum of Decorative Arts and Design and the Museum Storage Facility and "Forest of Sculptures". This includes all permanent exhibitions and collections on permanent display of these museums, the museum education classes on offer, creative workshops and online lessons.

More about the offer of art museums: https://www.lnmm.lv/.

The offer of the Latvian National Museum of Art

Contact information: Education programme curators, e-mail: ekskursijas@lnmm.lv; tel. no.:

67324461

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

The Latvian National Museum of Art is the largest repository of professional art in the country, which plays an important role in the accumulation, preservation and promotion of cultural values in Latvia and abroad. It organizes art exhibitions, educational activities and cultural events on a regular basis.

The students are offered not only to explore the permanent expositions of the Latvian National Museum of Art, discovering the development of the Latvian art history, but also temporary exhibitions and installations. The programme offer also includes a variety of on-site and digital lessons on a variety of topics, including restoration of works of art, the language of art, classical art and others.

For example, "Guided Tour in the Exhibition: Discover the Art Museum!" More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/ekspozicijas-izzinasana-atklaj-makslas-muzeju/

The Offer of the Art Museum "Riga Bourse"

Contact information: Education programme curators, e-mail: <u>rigasbirza@lnmm.lv</u>; tel. no.:

67226467

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

The Art Museum "Riga Bourse" houses the largest collection of foreign art in the Baltics, the development of which was started by Riga town councillors, merchants and burgomasters in the 19th century. The museum is located in an architectural monument of national importance – a building constructed between 1852 and 1855, imitating the palazzo forms of the Venetian Renaissance.

The students have the opportunity to explore the museum's permanent exhibition, discovering the largest collection of foreign art in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia; as well as the temporary

exhibitions and collections on display. The programme offer also includes a wide range of onsite and digital classes on a variety of topics, including creative, interactive and art lessons.

For example, "Guided Tour in the Exhibition: The Art of Different Cultures".

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/ekspozicijas-izzinasana-dazadu-kulturu-maksla/

The Offer of Romans Suta and Aleksandra Belcova Museum

Contact information: Museum administration, e-pasts: sbm@lnmm.lv; tel. nr. 67288800 **Target Audience:** Year 1 – 12

This Museum is dedicated to two outstanding personalities in Latvia's art history and representatives of classical modernism, and is located in the artists' memorial apartment in Elizabetes Street, Riga.

The students are offered to explore the museum's permanent exhibition, which is dedicated to three aspects of the life of both artists: creative activity, social life and family, as well as to explore the art of modernism more broadly, by getting acquainted with the temporary exhibitions on various topics.

For example, "Guided Tour in the Exhibition: Get to Know the Latvian Modernism". More information: https://www.lnmm.lv/romana-sutas-un-aleksandras-belcovas-muzejs/izglitiba/skolam-un-bernudarziem/ekspozicijas-izzinasana-ar-gidu-iepazisti-latviesu-modernismu-129



Museum Education Activity "The Large Forest of Sculptures"

Offered by: The Latvian National Museum of Art **Time of the event:** Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Curators of education programmes, e-mail: muzejukratuve@lnmm.lv;

tel. no.: 67357525

Target Audience: Year 10 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/muzejpedagogiska-nodarbiba-lielais-

skulpturu-mezs/

This activity for young people combines educational and interactive exploration of the exhibition "The Forest of Sculptures", getting to know the history of culture and art through the works of classical and Renaissance sculpture.

In the first part of the activity, the students learn the stories of ancient Greek, Roman and Renaissance sculpture with the help of a digital guide. In the second part of the activity, the students take part in an interactive lesson under the guidance of an education curator, who introduces various art periods and the role of sculptures in them, inviting the students to search, in a creative and exploratory way, what we can see from "The Forest of Sculptures" in our everyday life.



Museum Education Activity "The Small Forest of Sculptures"

Offered by: The Latvian National Museum of Art **Time of the event:** Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Education programme curators, e-mail: muzejukratuve@lnmm.lv;

tel. no.: 67357525

Target Audience: Year 1-9

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/muzejpedagogiska-nodarbiba-

mazais-skulpturu-mezs/

This interactive lesson combines an educational tour of the exhibition with a creative activity to introduce the history of culture and art through the works of classical and Renaissance sculpture.

In the first part of the activity, we will go for an exciting walk through the "Forest of Sculptures", getting acquainted with its inhabitants from the Antiquity and the Renaissance, looking for their counterparts in the modern world. In the second part of the activity, we will imagine ourselves in the role of sculptors, inspired by what we see in the exposition, creating a takeaway sculpture, cameo or magnet from air dry clay.



Exploratory Activity to Deepen Art Appreciation at Rothko Museum (all exhibitions)

Offered by: Rothko Musuem

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Žanna Jemeļjanova, e-mail: zanna.jemeljanova@daugavpils.lv; tel. no.

22471925

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/izzinosa-nodarbiba-makslas-

<u>izpratnes-padzilinasanai-rotko-muzeja-visas-ekspo</u>zicijas/

During the activity, the students, together with a guide, will get acquainted with the current exhibitions of Rothko Museum, including the permanent exhibition "Mark Rothko. Life and Art", enjoying the exhibition of original works by Mark Rothko, which tells about the artist's biography and various periods of his creative work. The small-scale exhibition of six works in Rothko Hall traces the development of the artist's work throughout his career: from the early figurative paintings of the 30s of the 20th century through the transitional period in the 40s to the revolutionary "classical" period of the 50s and 60s.

Special attention will also be paid to viewing the exhibition "No.2 [Untitled]" of Rothko Museum collection, answering the question of what the museum collection is, how it is created and why it is necessary. It also includes stories about the active implementation of art symposia and exhibitions and successful cooperation with art experts, gallery owners and exhibition curators in the planning and implementation of art projects. Among them, there are fruitful dialogues with renowned artists who have created their solo exhibitions at Rothko Museum. The lesson will improve the understanding of contemporary art, allow the students to practice perceptiveness and reasoning, as they get introduced to high-quality samples of contemporary art.



Animation Film "Flow" (Straume)

Offered by: Film Studio "Dream Well Studio"

Time of the event: In the cinemas of Latvia and on request in schools from film distributors;

both on-site and digital event

Contact information: You are kindly requested to contact each provider individually.

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://flow.movie/ un https://flow.movie/ un https://www.facebook.com/filmastraume

One of the most recent films that has gained wide popularity and recognition is the animation film "Flow" ("Straume"). It is suitable for school students of all ages and is a work of art in a purely cinematic language - without dialogues. The film's action is set in a flooded world, abandoned by people. Its protagonist is a very self-sufficient and independent Cat, who is used to doing everything in life by himself.

Cat is a solitary animal, but when his home is devastated by a great flood, he finds refuge in a little boat together with other animals. To escape the great flood, the individualist Cat faces his worst fears, ending up in the same boat with the selfless Capybara, hoarding Lemur, frisky Retriever and the Bird with the gift of leadership. Cat will have to make a decision - to be independent or to cooperate, while travelling through mysterious landscapes and learning to adapt to the new world, uninhabited by people.

Gints Zilbalodis, the director and artist of the film, has created the score in collaboration with composer Rihards Zaļupe, and director and film producer Matīss Kaža is the co-writer of the script.

The film was screened in the competition programme "Un Certain Regard" of the 2024 Cannes Film Festival. It also gained four awards at the Annecy Animation Film Festival, including a jury and audience award. This film has won the Golden Globe for Best Animated Feature Film, becoming the first Latvian film to win the award.



Animation Film "Away" (Projām)

Offered by: Film studio "Bilibaba"

Time of the event: In the cinemas of Latvia and on request in schools from film distributors;

both on-site and digital event

Contact information: You are kindly requested to contact each provider individually.

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://www.filmas.lv/movie/4072/

Director, scriptwriter, artist and producer Gints Zilbalodis has created an animation film without dialogues.

After a plane crash, the protagonist wakes up on a mysterious island, covered with forests, deserts and lagoons. A gigantic, dark spirit, who also inhabits this island, begins to stalk the boy. To escape and return home, the boy embarks on a challenging journey across the island together with his newly acquired friend - a little bird.

The full-length animation film "Away" ("Projām"), which took three and a half years to complete, had its world premiere in the film festival *Animafest Zagreb*, but one week later was screened in Annecy, France; the largest European animation festival, in the parallel competition *Contrechamp*, where it won the main award; since then, the film has been acclaimed at world film festivals.



Screenings of Films Made in Latvia in Schools

Offered by: Society "Kinopunkts"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site and digital event

Contact information: Kristine Meirane, e-pasts: kristine.meirane@gmail.com; tel. no.

26141368

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/latvija-veidoto-filmu-demonstresana/

In the framework of the project "Kinopunkts", the educational institutions are offered the opportunity to screen the latest films made in Latvia. Society "Kinopunkts" ensures the permission for the screening of films from their rightful owner, as well as the delivery of the film file and posters to the address indicated by the educational institution. Whenever possible, the society organises meetings with the filmmakers – directors, actors, production designers etc.

Most of the films offered in the project programme are available with English subtitles.



Screenings of Latvian Films in Cinema "Kino Bize" and Online

Offered by: Cinema "Kino Bize"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site and digital event

Contact information: Paula Bērziņa, e-mail: paula.berzina@kinobize.lv; tel. no. 25662939

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/latvija-veidoto-filmu-demonstresana/

Cinema "Kino Bize" offers an unforgettable cinematic experience to the whole class and invites the students to visit the cozy little cinema in Elizabetes Street to watch the latest domestic films at the time and date chosen by the visitors. The latest and most beloved Latvian cinema, such as "January" (*Janvāris*), "Soviet Milk" (*Mātes piens*) and others, is available in the film catalogue. The film selection can be adjusted to various age groups. Most of the films are accompanied by methodical materials, which will help the teachers to have meaningful discussions of the viewing experience during their lessons.

The film screenings are available on-site in cinema "Kino Bize", as well as online in the cinema's streaming platform. We also offer mobile cinema, to show films in the educational institutions.



Tour of Cinema "Splendid Palace"

Offered by: Cinema "Splendid Palace"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Lelde Jevstignejeva, e-pasts: lelde.jevstignejeva@rigasnami.lv; tel. nr.

26189209

Target Audience: Year 5 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/kinoteatra-splendid-palace-

iepazisana/

Cinema "Splendid Palace", celebrating its centenary, opens the curtain behind the scenes and invites you on a guided tour to get acquainted with the unique building and interiors in Neo-Rococo style, to explore the legends of the cinema and film history.

The cinema, with its excellent film repertoire and various cinematic events, has delighted several generations of moviegoers. However, beyond just showcasing films, this cinema, founded in 1923, can offer fascinating insights into the history and stories about the film art and the viewing habits from the early 20th century to the present day.

Its stunning architecture and interior, no less interesting and worth exploring, further contribute to the reputation of Cinema "Splendid Palace" as one of the most elegant and beautiful cinemas in Europe.



DESIGN

Offer of the Museum of Decorative Arts and Design

The museum is one of the national art museums, which offers to get acquainted with the works of leading Latvian designers and artists, as well as tells about the development of professional applied art and design from the end of the 19th century to the present day. The museum collection contains more than 11, 928 items, while about 500 items are displayed in the exhibition rooms.

The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design offers the school students diverse activities, both on-site and online, about the development of design, screen printing (workshop *Madarošana*), textile design and other topics.

Please find the entire offer of the museum in the cultural education programme "Latvian School Bag" here:

https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/?s=Dekorativas+makslas+un+dizaina+muzejs.

Exploring the Exhibition "Design Stories"

Offered by: The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Education programme curators, e-mail: dmdm@lnmm.lv; tel. no.:

67830917

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/ekspozicijas-izzinasana-dizaina-stasti/

The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design offers school students to get acquainted with the permanent or current exhibitions of the museum, under the guidance of a museum educator, discovering the stories of the history of Latvian design and exploring various art styles and design development processes.

The participants familiarise themselves with the exhibitions through stories, interactive tasks and conversations. In a guided tour, the students discover design and artworks – the process of their creation and various materials, learn about their authors – the artists – and study the differences in art styles and directions.

Art and Design Expedition "Get to Know Ceramics!"

Target Audience: Year 2 - 6

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/makslas-un-dizaina-ekspedicija-

iepazisti-keramiku/

The aim of the activity is to encourage the students to see the possibilities of ceramic plastics and the diversity of surface treatment. In the museum's permanent exhibition, the students explore the collection of the legendary porcelain painting workshop *Baltars* (1924-1928), as well as ceramic and porcelain artworks created in the period from the end of the 19th century to the present day.

In the course of the expedition, the students jointly search for answers to various questions related to ceramics. What is the difference between a painted plate and a painting, and what rules does the shape of the dish dictate to the artist? What is the role of the artist and designer in a workshop? The students explore the themes that are reflected in the porcelain art and tell about the era and the personalities of artists. Using tangible samples, they study the technique and the variety of materials.

Practical creative work follows in the second part. The students are given the task to choose the theme of the artwork of interest to them and, using the elements they have seen, create their own design of the dish. At the end of the activity, the students demonstrate and discuss their ideas at a display of their work.

Museum Education Activity "Woodblock Printing"

Target Audience: Year 5 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/muzejpedagogiska-nodarbiba-koka-

spiedogu-apdruka/

The Woodblock Printing Workshop is a practical activity aimed at getting to know the ancient textile printing technique and its widespread use in textile design under the guidance of a textile artist.

At the beginning of the activity, the students get acquainted with the various forms of textile printing and their origin, the use of wood blocks in the Latvian folk artisans' work and the creative experiments of artist Ansis Cīrulis.

During the practical part, the participants learn the basics of this technique and create their own composition, working with authentic woodblocks from India and Turkey, as well as ones created by Latvian artisans based on Ansis Cīrulis' motifs. In conclusion, the students demonstrate their work, by appreciating the diverse possibilities provided by woodblocks in fabric printing.



THE TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Exploratory Activity "First Time in the Open-Air Museum"

Offered by: The Ethnographic Open-Air Museum of Latvia

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Ieva Bērziņa, e-mail: ieva.berzina@brivdabasmuzejs.lv; tel. no.

26338918

Target Audience: Year 1-9

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/izzinosa-nodarbiba-pirmo-reizi-

brivdabas-muzeja/

The aim of the activity is to introduce the students to life in a farmstead. The students will visit one of the farmsteads in the exposition of the Open Air Museum, find out the names of the buildings and their role for the farm. They will see a dwelling house, a granary (*klēts*), a barn and a bathhouse (*pirts*). They will also learn about the traditional household (*saime*), and the tasks that the people of the household had to do. To gain a better understanding of the ancestral living environment, the students will visit a church and a pub (*krogs*), which were the most important public buildings in the 18th and 19th centuries.

In addition to telling about the farmers' lifestyle, aesthetic and ethical values, the activity includes brief information about the creation of the Open-Air Museum and the work of storing, researching and promoting cultural heritage.

Other activities by the Ethnographic Open-Air Museum of Latvia in the content offer of the programme "Latvian School Bag":

https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/?s=Latvijas+Etnografiskais+Brivdabas+muzejs.



Activity "200 Years of Industrial Heritage in Līgatne"

Offered by: SIA "Zeit"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Margers Zeitmanis, e-mail: info@zeit.lv; tel. no. 25779944

Target Audience: Year 10 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/nodarbiba-industriala-mantojuma-

200-gadu-vesture-ligatne/

The historical village of Līgatne Paper Mill has a history of more than 200 years. From its beginnings, an important place in the village has been occupied by a territory that 200 years ago was used as the horse stables for the needs of the paper mill but today has turned into the creative quarter "Zeit".

In the territory, there is the first stone building in Līgatne, which historically has also been the first school in Līgatne, a horse stable, workers' canteen, guard's house, and other buildings, as well as Ķiberkalns Cave, Ķiberkalns Scenic Trails and other historical sites. During the activity, the students also have an opportunity to see the interior and learn about the history of the use of the interiors and rooms of the largest building.

"Zeit" is a place that, due to the accessibility of the environment, is open to everyone, emphasizing a creative approach to the revival of industrial heritage – ancient buildings and household items, for which one can creatively find a new use today. At the same time, the art of creativity and transformation is emphasized to treat ecology with care and act responsibly towards climate change.



Tour of the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia "From Occupation to Freedom"

Offered by: The Museum of the Occupation of Latvia

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Inguna Role, e-mail: <u>ip@okupacijasmuzejs.lv</u>; tel. no. 67211030

Target Audience: Year 9 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/ekskursija-latvijas-okupacijas-

muzeja-no-okupacijas-lidz-brivibai/

In the museum's new permanent exhibition, the students will learn about the period of independence of the Republic of Latvia, the loss of independence, the events of World War II, the Holocaust, the repression of the Latvian people by the Soviet totalitarian regime, the national partisans, the non-violent resistance and the time of restoration of independence.

The guide will also draw the students' attention to the design of the exposition, which, with the contrast of black and white, dark and light, various materials, lights and sounds, helps to accentuate various features of the museum narrative.

Other events of the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia in the content offer of the programme "Latvian School Bag": https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/?s=Latvijas+Okupacijas+muzejs



A Drawing Lesson in the RSU Anatomy Museum "The Skull"

Offered by: The RSU Anatomy Museum

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site and digital event

Contact information: Museum administration, e-mail: Anatomijas.muzejs@rsu.lv; tel. no.

26129464

Target Audience: Year 10 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/zimesanas-nodarbiba-rsu-anatomijas-

muzeja-galvaskauss/

The lesson reveals the story of the Anatomy Museum about people's efforts to understand themselves. This lesson and getting to know the museum's collection is a great way to start interdisciplinary conversations about anatomy, history, ethics and art.

In the first part, the students are introduced to the museum's craniological collection (skulls), the features of the skull that help determine the age (fontanelles, stitches, teeth, etc.), the features of the skull that help determine gender (the brow ridge, the jawline, etc.), as well as the diversity of human bodies. In the second part - the drawing lesson, the students, under the guidance of a museum specialist artist, learn how to draw an anatomically accurate skull. Using the knowledge gained in the theoretical part, the students can customize their drawings to depict skulls of different ages or genders.



Museum Education Activity "Visiting Turaida Vogt"

Offered by: Specially Protected Cultural Monument "Turaida Museum Reserve"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Ija Kivlina, e-mail: info@turaida-muzejs.lv; tel. no. 67971402

Target Audience: Year 5 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/muzejpedagogiska-nodarbiba-ciemos-

pie-turaidas-fogta/

The activity is a journey through time, where the students are engaged in an interactive roleplaying game, becoming knights, peasant landlords or high-born ladies, exploring the greeting etiquette and the relationships in the class society, learning the ancient writing on wax tablets, as well as forming an understanding of life in the Middle Ages.



Getting to Know the Permanent Exhibition of the Postal and Information Museum in Aglona

Offered by: The Postal and Information Museum **Time of the event:** Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Elizabete Viluma-Gražule, e-mail: pastamuzejsaglona@inbox.lv; tel.

no. 27068443

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/pasta-un-informacijas-muzeja-aglona-

pastavigas-ekspozicijas-iepazisana/

The Postal and Information Museum in Aglona offers school students to get acquainted with the history of Latvia and Aglona and its cultural and historical heritage through the main stages of the development of the history of communication. In the museum, the students can explore the development of the ways of communication and people's creativity, inventing various ways of communication – from the bottle, pigeon and bee post to the drum telegraph and Aglona "valenki" post.



THEATRE

Repertory Performances of the Latvian National Opera and Ballet

Offered by: The Latvian National Opera and Ballet

Time of the event: According to a pre-announced schedule; on-site event

Contact information: The Latvian National Opera and Ballet information, e-mail:

<u>biletes@opera.lv</u>, tel. no.: 67073705 **Target Audience:** Year 1 – 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/latvijas-nacionalas-operas-un-baleta-

repertuara-izrades/

The Latvian National Opera and Ballet is the only repertory theatre of operas and ballets in Latvia. The Latvian National Opera and Ballet performs the functions of the State Theatre for the popularization and development of the opera and ballet genre.

All the repertory performances of the Latvian National Opera and Ballet are included in the content offer of the programme "Latvian School Bag", just choose the one you are interested in. The repertoire and descriptions of the opera and ballet performances are available here.

Everyone also has access to the mobile app "OPERA captions" for the translation of the performances. More about the app: https://www.opera.lv/lv/biletes/lietotne-opera-titri//



Explore the Latvian National Opera

Offered by: The Latvian National Opera and Ballet

Time of the event: According to a pre-announced schedule; on-site event

Contact information: Artūrs Apsītis, e-mail: arturs.apsitis@opera.lv, tel. no.: 26567903

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/izzini-latvijas-nacionalo-operu/

This tour offers the students a unique opportunity to get to know and explore the unique architectural monument of the 19th century. During the tour, there will be an opportunity to go behind the scenes, as well as learn more about how opera and ballet performances are created from both technical and artistic points of view.

The tour provides an insight into the history and traditions of the building, which have shaped the cultural life of Latvia. The students will learn about the different professions in the opera house and their responsibilities – from light and sound engineers to performance managers and directors. During the event, the technical, artistic or other circumstances permitting, there will be an opportunity to visit the rehearsal rooms, where the artists hone their craft, as well as to step on the stage of both the Great Hall and the New Hall, gaining an insight into the use of the complex mechanisms and technologies during the performances.

Exploring the Opera is an exciting and educational experience that provides an in-depth insight into the work of one of the most prestigious stage organizations in the Baltics.



Dailes Theatre Performances with English Surtitles

Offered by: Dailes Theatre

Time of the event: According to a pre-announced schedule; on-site event **Contact information:** Monta Simtiṇa, e-mail: <u>dailesteatris@dailesteatris.lv</u>,

tel. no: 67294444

Target Audience: Year 1 - 12

More information: https://www.dailesteatris.lv/en/

The repertoire of the Daile Theatre includes performances that encourage thinking, exploring and feeling, broadening one's horizons, getting to know the most current, significant and valuable dramaturgy and authors of Latvia and other countries. Within the framework of the programme "Latvian School Bag", it is possible to attend the performances recommended by the theatre, which can be viewed here, as well as any other performance in Dailes Theatre repertoire that is suitable for the students' age group. The theatre also offers performances with translations in surtitles.

The full repertoire of the theatre and descriptions of the productions can be found on the website https://dailesteatris.lv/lv/izrades.

Physical Theatre Performance "Pale Blue Dot"

Offered by: ISTABAS TEĀTRIS / Society "Pusstāvs" **Time of the event:** Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Alma Kušķe, e-mail: <u>istabasteatris@gmail.com</u>, tel. no.: 26418778

Target Audience: Year 9 - 12

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/kustibu-izrade-gaisi-zilais-punkts/

For all of us, the emotional world is a bodily experience. Our legs shake with excitement, we blush with anger or shame, we sweat, clench our hands into fists and smile. The performance talks to young people about emotions through the movement, as every teenager and his feelings and emotions have a place in this world.

In the performance, the three dancers empathize with different emotions and play them out with each other through movement, music, set design and artistic solutions of light.



Non-verbal Performance with Elements of Juggling "The Bench"

Offered by: Creative Association "Theatre under the Wing"

Time of the event: Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: Marika Černavska, e-mail: marikacernavska4@gmail.com,

tel. no.: 29187360

Target Audience: Year 1-9

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/neverbala-izrade-ar-zonglesanas-

elementiem-solins/#

A show with elements of the new circus, in which juggling and manipulating objects becomes an organic part of the story. The show has no dialogue; it tells a heartfelt story about two unusual girls who meet in the park on a bench. Although the two are very different, it is juggling that helps them both find a common language.



Performance "Adventures of Pif"

Offered by: The Latvian Puppet Theatre

Time of the event: According to a pre-announced schedule; on-site event

Contact information: Diāna Silina, e-mail: diana@lelluteatris.lv, tel. no.: 26556669

Target Audience: Year 1-4

More information: https://www.lelluteatris.lv/lv/izrades/latviesu-trupa/liela-zale/un-atkal-

pifs

A dog named Pif and tomcat Hercules, Aunt Agathe, Uncle Tonton, Doudou and Rosalie. These characters need no introduction neither in France, where cartoonist José Cabrero Arnal created them many years ago, nor here in Latvia, where many generations have grown up with the comic book and the characters of the puppet theatre shows.

At the Latvian Puppet Theatre, the squabbles of the good-natured Pif and the cunning Hercules have experienced repeated productions and belong to the Golden Fund of the theatre. Ivars Vīgners' songs from the performance have also become a classic of the Latvian children's music.

Other performances of the Latvian Puppet Theatre in the content offer of the program "Latvian School Bag": https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/?s=Latvijas+Lellu+teatris and on theatre's website: https://www.lelluteatris.lv/lv/izrades.



LITERATURE AND PUBLISHING

Museum Education Activity "If I Were a Book"

Offered by: The National Library of Latvia (NLL) **Time of the event:** Upon request; on-site event

Contact information: "Book in Latvia" administration, e-mail: gramata.latvija@lnb.lv,

tel. no: 26420065

Target Audience: Year 1-4

More information: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/norise/muzejpedagogiska-nodarbiba-ja-es-

butu-gramata/

The aim of the activity is to promote literacy and imagination among the students in the junior years of primary school, as well as to develop their understanding of the functions of illustrations and the ability to create illustrations in a mixed technique.

The activity is organised in two parts. In the first part, the teacher of the activity, with the aid of the book "If I Were a Book" (publishing house "Liels un Mazs") by José Jorge Letria, will encourage the students to get to know the book as a friend and discover the exhibition "Book

in Latvia". The second part will offer a hands-on activity in which the students will create their version of one story from the book in the study room "Virtaka Classroom". The students will create the text and an illustration in a mixed technique using acrylic paints, sponges, stencils and oil pastels.

Other events of the National Library of Latvia in in the content offer of the programme "Latvian School Bag": https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/?s=Latvijas+Nacionala+biblioteka.

At the same time, the students have an opportunity to get acquainted with the NLL as an institution, a repository of knowledge and a cultural centre. More information: https://lnb.lv/services/ekskursijas/. There is also a free audio guide available in five languages. More about the NLL audio guide: https://gids.lnb.lv/karte.



* * *

Directions for practical use:

- The most comprehensive information about the cultural events recommended in the programme can be found at: <u>programme in website catalogue</u> (in Latvian only).
- The educators decide on the relevance of each specific event to a certain age group and the pertinence to their teaching and value education work.
- A selection of the most current events can be found on the monthly news pages, which are also available at: https://latvijasskolassoma.lv/resursi/kulturas-norisu-izlases/ (this selection is also posted there)
- The latest news, photos and videos can be found in the social media accounts of the programme "Latvian School Bag":
- "Facebook" https://www.instagram.com/latvijasskolassoma, and "X" https://x.com/LV_skolas_soma, as well as on the Youtube channel of the programme: https://www.youtube.com/@latvijasskolassoma.

On the social media, we invite you to add your rating in the comment sections or share one of the posts and your experience.

Concerning the events that cannot be found in any of these resources, make sure that they are compatible with the aim of the programme, by contacting the team of "Latvian School Bag", by writing to e-mail: pasts@latvijasskolassoma.lv.

On the Youtube channel of the programme, https://www.youtube.com/@latvijasskolassoma you will find the experience stories and lectures of educators and experts in the cultural sector presented in the seminars, conferences and forums of the previous years, as well as other audiovisual resources and methodological materials.

www.latvijasskolassoma.lv #LatvijasSkolasSoma