

REGULATIONS OF THE XVIII INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL-COMPETITION “MORNING STAR” (LITH. “AUŠRINĖ ŽVAIGŽDĖ”)

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The International Dance Festival-Competition “Morning Star” (hereinafter referred to as the Festival) is focused on nurturing the art of dance, its popularization and international cultural exchange. It develops a creative and active personality open to aesthetic and cultural experience, who intelligently satisfies his/her creative abilities. It creates opportunities for acquiring the general experience and skills of dance expression necessary for each person. There is an opportunity to get acquainted with new groups, to share the joys of dance, success, experience and professionalism.

2. The organizer of the festival is the choreography studio of Šiauliai Culture Center “Aušrelė”.

CHAPTER II THE GOAL AND TASKS

3. The goal of the festival is to ensure the continuity of traditions, to create conditions for young talents to implement creative ideas in the language of dance and present the national identity of their country and region, to strengthen cooperation in the field of cultural exchange between dance groups in Lithuania and foreign countries.

4. Tasks of the festival:

4.1. to develop the traditions of professional dance events;

4.2. to educate children and youth by the means of art;

4.3. to form and develop the scenic and public culture;

4.4. to encourage and develop the individuality of each child, to provide an opportunity to express themselves and their abilities;

4.5. to develop choreographic, musical, aesthetic knowledge;

4.6. to promote a positive attitude towards the performing arts;

4.7. to strengthen cultural exchange cooperation between dance groups;

4.8. to bring together the best Lithuanian and foreign dance groups;

4.9. to encourage society participating in the popularization of art and culture.

III CHAPTER TIME AND PLACE

5. The festival will take place on May 15-18, 2025 in Šiauliai Culture Center, public places in Šiauliai City and Šiauliai Region.

6. The competitive parts of the festival will be held as follows:

6.1. On May 15, viewing and evaluation of the “recorded” performances presented by the participants of the festival; announcing the winners in the Internet;

6.2. On May 16, competitive part of the folk dance, awarding the winners in Šiauliai Culture Center (Aušros Avenue 31, Šiauliai);

6.3. On May 17, competitive part of the contemporary dance, awarding the winners in Šiauliai Culture Center (Aušros Avenue 31, Šiauliai);

6.4. On May 18, competitive part of the classical dance, awarding the winners in Šiauliai Culture Center (Aušros Avenue 31, Šiauliai).

CHAPTER IV PARTICIPANTS

7. Dance groups (7-30 dancers), small groups (3-6 dancers), duets, soloists in the following age groups may take part in the Festival:

- 7.1. 4-6 years old;
- 7.2. 7-9 years old;
- 7.3. 10-12 years old;
- 7.4. 13-16 years old;
- 7.5. 17-25 years old;
- 7.6. 25 years old and older;
- 7.7. "MIX" (various age group).

8. Participation of dancers of another age group is allowed in the choreographic composition, however, their number shall be not more than 20% of the total number of dancers of the composition. Two or more groups of dancers of different ages can dance in a "MIX" group. During the competition, you cannot dance the same dance two years in a row.

CHAPTER V PROGRAMME

9. Dance categories performed by participating dancing groups, small groups, duets, soloists:

- 9.1. classical dance (classical and neo classical);
- 9.2. folk dance (folk dance stage adaptation, folkloristic dance, stylized folkdance);
- 9.3. contemporary dance (children's, free dance, contemporary). The contemporary dance groups participating in the competition from among their participants can submit only one performance for a solo, duet or trio in certain age and genre categories.

10. Performance:

- 10.1. one dance in the chosen category (participation in several categories is possible);
- 10.2. duration of the dances shall be no longer than 4 minutes. Audio recordings shall be sent together with the application.

11. On the competition day, the audio recording shall be presented on a USB device.

12. Options of performances:

12.1. "live" - dance groups (in case of a favorable epidemiological situation) perform one dance in the chosen dance category at Šiauliai Culture Center in the presence of the evaluation committee and the audience;

12.2. "recorded" - dance groups (in case of an unfavorable epidemiological situation and not having the opportunity to perform "live") shall send a video recording of one dance in the chosen dance category. The dance recording will be shown on the screen at Šiauliai Culture Center in the presence of the evaluation committee and the audience. The recording cannot be edited; it must be filmed from one point. It shall be no longer than 4 minutes and shall be of a good technical quality – in Mp4 format (full HD (1920x1080)). The recording must be sent before May 15, 2023. Dance videos for the competitive performance should be sent via the following websites: <https://www.myairbridge.com/en/#/> or <https://wetransfer.com/>.

13. Light effects are not allowed in the competitive part.

14. The order of performances is made by the Organizers according to the order of submission of applications.

CHAPTER VI EVALUATION AND AWARDING

15. The performance of the participants in the competitive part of the festival will be evaluated by an international evaluation committee. The names of the committee will be published 10 days before the event on the website of Šiauliai Cultural Center.

16. The repertoire, the performance of the work, the image of the dancing group shall correspond to the age of the dancers and the aesthetic requirements of the stage.
17. Performance evaluation criteria:
- 17.1. performance technique;
 - 17.2. stage culture;
 - 17.3. artistry of dancers;
 - 17.4. dance composition, choreographer's work;
 - 17.5. appropriateness of the chosen repertoire to the age of the participants, selection of music;
 - 17.6. Each performance criterion is evaluated on a 3-point scale. Scoring: 0 (bad), 1 (satisfactory), 2 (good), 3 (very good). The maximum number of points scored is 15. The final score is determined by dividing the total number of points awarded by the committee by the number of committee members.
18. Determination of the winner of the competitive part of the festival:
- 18.1. the first place is awarded with 12-15 points;
 - 18.2. the second place is awarded with 10-11 points;
 - 18.3. the third place is awarded with 8-9 points;
 - 18.4. the fourth place is awarded with 1-7 points.
19. The evaluation committee awards four prize-winning places for each dance category and each age group.
20. The Committee's decisions are final and not subject to appeal.
21. The winners of the festival will be awarded with diplomas, special prizes, gifts from sponsors.
22. The announcement of the festival laureates will be broadcast live on the Internet.
23. The prizes of the festival and the awards for the participants of the "recorded" performances will be sent to their leaders at the specified addresses at the end of the event.
24. The Organizers reserves the right to change the course of the competition of the festival.

CHAPTER VII CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

25. The participants are charged an entry fee: EUR 10 per person.
26. The participants of the competitive part of the festival shall cover their own travel and meal expenses. You can contact the organizers for mediation.
27. The festival regulations, the participant application and consent for photography/filming (Appendix 1), list of participants (Appendix 2) are available on the Center's website at www.siauliukc.lt.
28. Information about the course of the festival, the time of rehearsals and performances will be sent to the specified email address after receiving the completed participant application. The leader of the dancing group shall be responsible for filling out the participant's questionnaire, communicating with the organizers and providing information.
29. The participant application and consent for photography/filming (Appendix 1), lists of participants (Appendix 2) shall be submitted before April 30, 2025 by e-mail: zita.mundiniene@siauliukc.lt. For more information, please call +370 678 36 701.
30. The Organizers of the festival have all rights to recordings of performances, television broadcasts, photographs and publicizing images for the purposes of the festival without payment to the participants thereof.
31. By submitting all the necessary documents of the festival, the representative of the festival participants agrees to the photography and filming of the group members during the festival, confirms that he/she has the consent of the parents of the minor members thereof, and guarantees that the Organizer can process the personal data of the dancing group members (name, surname, date of birth, place of residence, country) in order to organize the festival. The representative of the festival

participants confirms that he/she is aware of the rights of the data subject, established in the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Legal Protection of Personal Data.

32. The Organizers guarantee that photos and videos of the festival participants will be used only to highlight the activities of the festival and the institution for non-commercial purposes. The materials can be used on Internet portals, social networks, in the press, on television, in promotional materials, printed publications, etc.

33. In addition, the participants themselves or the leaders of the minor participants, the responsible persons shall ensure the discipline of the participants and shall be responsible for health disorders of the participants during the festival-competition.

CHAPTER VIII INFORMATI ON

34. For more information, please call +370 678 36 701, e-mail: zita.mundiniene@siauliukc.lt, the website www.siauliukc.lt.

35. Organizing group of the festival:

35.1. Mrs. Zita Mundinienė – Author of the festival idea, festival coordinator and implementer; Manager of cultural activity of the choreography studio of Šiauliai Culture Center “Aušrelė”, phone +370 678 36701, e-mail: zita.mundiniene@siauliukc.lt;

35.2. Mr. Mindaugas Kosaitis – Coordinator and implementer of the artistic part of the festival; Art director of the choreography studio of Šiauliai Culture Center “Aušrelė”;

35.3. Mrs. Vita Adomėnaitė-Butnorienė – Implementer of the festival activities; Art director of the choreography studio of Šiauliai Culture Center “Aušrelė”.