

WORKSHOPS ON CREATING FOLK CHANDELIERS AND PAPER CUTOUTS

FOLK TRADITION IN OUR HANDS

YOUTH CRAFT MOBILITY IN THE V4 REGION (2026)

The project is co-financed by the governments of Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia through Visegrad Grants from the International Visegrad Fund.The mission of the fund is to advance ideas for sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe.

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mART

LAZYLAB

Visegrad Fund

CONTENT

KEY INFORMATION + TIMELINE

What? When? Where? Who? Green Travel? How much?

PARTNERS INVOLVED

ŁDK Cultural Center of Lodz (Poland), Mart (Hungary), LAZY lab (Slovakia)

OBJECTIVES

What do we want to achieve with the Folk Tradition in Our Hands: Youth Craft Mobility in the V4 Region?

FOLK TRADITION IN OUR HANDS 2026 AGENDA

What are we going to do?

LOGISTICS

Travel arrangements, Accommodation & Food

KEY INFORMATION

WHAT?
CREATING TOGETHER

Focus on creation of the Opoczno Folk Chandeliers ("Pająki") & Paper Cutouts.
Contemporary inspirations and creating own crafts during different kind of practical workshops.

WHEN?
8-10TH DEC 2026

Participants will arrive one day **EARLIER** on the **07.12** to ensure a smooth arrival. The program starts on the next day morning. Departures of all participants are scheduled for the **11.12.**

WHERE?
POŚWIĘTNE (PL)

Participants will be accommodated Młynczysko Conference and Leisure Center, located in Poświętne village , near Opoczno, approximately 87 km from Łódź, in central Poland. We will have workshops in the same place.

WHO?
15 PARTICIPANTS

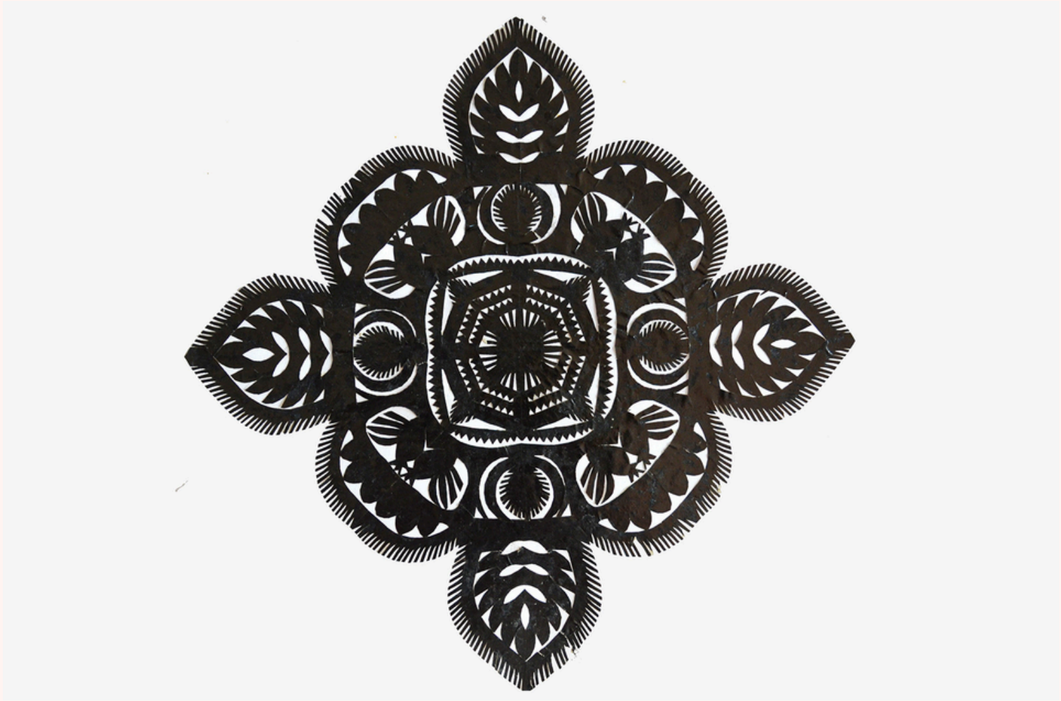
In total, 15 participants from Slovakia, Poland and Hungary between **18-26 years old** can join.
No prior experience required!

HOW TO GET THERE?

The closest bigger city is **Opoczno**. But you should arrive to **Lodz** (plain, bus, train) and ŁDK will arrange transportation to Poświętne by car.

HOW MUCH?
FREE

Travel costs to and from Polandwill be **reimbursed** by the involved organizations.
Accommodation, **food** and **material** costs will be **covered** throughout the program.





PARTNERS

Together acting upon youth mobility, hand on learning, and finding modern ways to preserve craft !

LAZY lab [Slovakia]

LAZY lab is the applicant and hosting organisation behind the Slovak part of the project. Our NGO aims to promote the values of sustainability and inclusion through educational and cultural activities at local and international level. We are focused on art and creativity, empowering initiatives.

The organisation emerged in the eco-village Zaježová, Slovakia, from an international team with a wide range of competences and skills.

Being located in a rural location *("lazy" meaning "remote settlement" in Slovak)*, we strive to support the development of the rural youth and other age groups aimed at opening up opportunities.

From 2022 we are running Open art studio, where we are offering different art workshops for the local community.

Our projects are combining arts, sustainability, nature stewardship. Through the community activities as hikes, journaling and creating together we are building opportunities to meet and learn in rural areas.

https://lazylab.eu

Cultural Center of Lodz (POLAND)

ŁDK is a regional cultural institution based in Łódź (PL), operating under patronage of local government of Łódź Voivodeship. Its mission is support & animate cultural development across the Lodz region. One of statutory goals of ŁDK is to protect, popularize & research the unique traditional & folk cultural heritage of ethnographic regions in Łódź region, implemented through a series of projects supporting regional centers in preserving intangible cultural heritage. ŁDK organizing cultural & educational projects across the region. Examples: Łódź Review of Amateur Theatres, National Folk Dance Competition “5 Minutes for the Oberek” & Łódź Voivodeship Harvest Festival, a large-scale public event. Since 2019, ŁDK operated the “Very Young Culture” programme, promoting cultural education among youth and coordinates European Heritage Days in Łódź region. ŁDK regularly reaches thousands of cultural participants, learners & professionals through its events, training programs, and festivals.

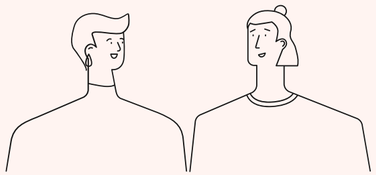
https://ldk.lodz.pl

Mart [HUNGARY]

Our Association began its work in 2007, and its activities encompasses an ever widening palette of folk art, other arts and a growing circle of interested audience every year. Amongst our members there are highly acclaimed workshop leaders, instructors and educators as well as young people interested in the various arts. We support children, youngsters and adults in the discovery, preservation and passing on the artistic values, particularly those of folk art.

WHY TO JOIN?

Folk Tradition in Our Hands - Help to preserve unique craft folk traditions of the Visegrad Countries



INTERCULTURAL EXCHANGE

Connect with people who have different backgrounds by learning and discovering Polish crafts and traditions together. Let's make friends!



SPACE FOR EXPERIMENTATION

Enter a space for creative exploration! Collaborate in teams, get inspired by other crafters and artists and share your ideas with others. Stimulate your artistic wonder.



GET YOUR HANDS BUSY

Give yourself a break from digital devices and work again with your hands with raw materials. Reconnect to nature and embrace the physical environment around you.

WHY CHANDELIERS?



The direct objective of the workshop is to sustain and revive the tradition of folk decorative arts in the Łódź region and to recall and subsequently transmit knowledge and skills related to the techniques & patterns of folk chandeliers.

A chandelier is a decoration made of straw, tissue paper & paper, hung from the ceiling as a symbol of happiness, fertility & prosperity. It was a popular Christmas decoration.

The workshop will be combined with lectures introducing participants to the history, techniques & forms of folk chandeliers, as well as examples of contemporary inspirations drawn from this disappearing field of art. Lectures on the history of folk chandeliers, techniques, forms, regional diversity & contemporary uses of this traditional decoration.

WHY PAPER CUTOUTS?



Folk paper-cuts from the Opoczno region are remarkably precise, openwork paper decorations that emerged in the second half of the 19th century to adorn the interiors of rural cottages. The Opoczno region is best known for its distinctive square-shaped paper-cuts, multicolored "sprig" motifs, and delicate tissue-paper valances.

The art of paper-cutting in the Opoczno district is passed down from generation to generation and remains very much alive; currently, there are several dozen active paper-cut artists in the region.

ARTIST-ZOFIA PACAN



She acquired her skills and artistic sensibility at home from her mother, Franciszka—knowledge she now passes on to her own daughters, Agnieszka and Katarzyna. She is among the most talented folk artists, specializing in traditional decorative and ceremonial crafts (including the creation of *pisanki*—decorated Easter eggs—paper-cuts, lacework, *pająki*—traditional straw-and-paper chandeliers—and embroidery).

She has been a member of the Association of Folk Artists since 1985.

ARTIST-KATARZYNA WĄGIEL



She is a highly versatile and talented artisan who creates exquisite, intricately crafted items, including decorated Easter eggs (*pisanki*), embroidery, traditional Easter palms, *pająki* (decorative hanging ornaments), and paper flowers. She participates in competitions, workshops, and fairs organized by museums, cultural centers, and other institutions. Beyond teaching the craft of making Easter eggs, palms, and other traditional objects, she also shares knowledge about the customs and traditions of the Opoczno region.

She has been a member of the Association of Folk Artists since 2016.

AGENDA

What can participants expect?



WHAT WE WILL DO

- Participants will create various paper decorations inspired by folk art (such as chandeliers, paper flowers, paper cutouts) under supervision of professional folk artists
- Participants will be working on own projects during the daily workshops
- Participants will have the opportunity to meet with women from Poświętne who belong to the Rural Housewives' Association and learn more about what life is like in the countryside in this region of Poland.
- We will visit The "Niebowo" open-air museum is a small yet picturesque site with an incredible charm, located in the village of Wincentów
- We will have guided tour in baroque monastery complex of the Oratorian Fathers in Poświętne
- We will visit the castle in Inowłódz, and we'll also stop by the oldest Romanesque church in Poland- St. Giles' Church

*Detailed daily schedule will be forwarded to participants.







LOGISTICS

Travel, Accommodation, Food



ACCOMODATION





- **Location**: Ośrodek Konferencyjno Wypoczynkowy Młynczysko, ul. Szkolna 51, 26-315 Poświętne, Poland
- **Sleeping**: Participants are going to be accommodate in two/three persons rooms.
- **Food**: Breakfast, lunch and dinner we will served to the participants.



CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS :)

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https://ldk.lodz.pl/