Association of Folk Artists

NGO accredited to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

Vision
We believe that by being rooted in our traditions we may embrace and create our present and future in a sustainable way. In order to achieve this we respect, care for, cooperate with and listen to ICH bearers.

Mission
The Association was established in 1968 and since then its core aim has been to safeguard traditions of folk culture in all fields, to promote expressions of folk art, provide care for folk artists and represent them. Thanks to 22 local branches that operate throughout the country, the Association remains as close as possible to the bearers themselves. The Association cooperates with diverse communities, groups and individuals through different ways aimed at raising awareness, the transmission of knowledge and skills in the field of ICH, and folk culture specifically.

Relevant projects or initiatives
• APA has created national databases of folk creators and rural artistic groups since 1998, which are verified and updated annually. The databases currently contain more than 12,000 records. It fosters knowledge about regional culture, its characteristic products and specific creators.
• APA organizes the annual Folk Art Fair in Kazimierz Dolny (55th edition in 2022) which takes place during the Festival of Folk Bands and Singers - one of the oldest and most prestigious national festivals presenting contemporary folk culture in Poland. The unique atmosphere enables direct contact and transmission of knowledge and skills between artists and recipients.
• APA is the only entity in Poland that has been publishing individual authors’ volumes and anthologies of folklore since 1976. “The Folk Creativity” (“Twórczość ludowa”) is the only Polish nationwide magazine devoted entirely to contemporary folk art and ICH, its challenges, achievements and problems.

Geographic Coverage of NGO’s expertise: Poland.

Main areas of work related to the Convention
- Organization of workshops, seminars, conferences, concerts, exhibitions, presentations, fairs and dance meetings where all bearers can meet, teach their skills and transmit their knowledge to anyone interested, with a special focus on the young generation.
- Dissemination and popularization of the creativity of folk artists at home and abroad.
- Administrative and organizational assistance in diverse procedures related to obtaining grants and scholarships by individual creators.
- Publication of folk literature and documentation of folk artefacts with the close cooperation of folk artists.
- Participation in statutory meetings and preparation of nomination files.

Contact Information
Stowarzyszenie Twórców Ludowych
Zarząd Główny
ul. Grodzka 14
20-112 Lublin, Poland

+48 (81) 532 49 74
zgstl@op.pl
hania.s@uw.edu.pl

NGO’s activity networks and more information