# FOLK COMP ANNUAL REPORT 2019



### CONNECTING WITH TRADITION -DISCOVERING OUR COMMON ROOTS





#### WHO WE ARE

FOLK CAMP CANADA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing accessible community programming in the folk arts, with particular attention to the cultural traditions of Eastern Europe. We run ongoing educational programs through our Folk School, as well as coordinate several folk music and dance events throughout the year. We connect folk artists and artisans with schools, community organizations, and festivals, in addition to hosting our annual Summer Folk Camp, our biggest event of the year, a week-long program of workshops and activities. We welcome people of all identities and backgrounds; you don't need to have Eastern European heritage to join!

#### OUR MISSION

Our mission is to bring people closer to the earth and one another through folk art tradition.

#### OUR VISION

We envision a growing community built around learning & embracing traditional ways, through folk art, song, dance, and food. We envision engagement in all the best aspects of village life: communal living, close connection to the earth, creative expression, and meaningful ritual and celebration. By exploring & sharing the cultural heritage of this land, and of Eastern Europe, we preserve and cultivate ancient knowledge & wisdom into a vibrant and spirited living tradition.

# LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR...

2019 has been an exciting year for the organization, thanks to the participation and support of so many individuals and organizations. We began after our last annual general meeting in February with an invigorated Board of Directors. Joining FCC founders Bozena, Marichka, Oksana and Steph, were Ada, Angela, Alessia, Ksenia, and myself, Mary. The new Board has been working throughout the year, to build the infrastructure and support system FCC needs to thrive and grow. Learn more about the FCC Board members by visiting our website, www.folkcamp.ca/boardandstaff.

One key structural change has been moving the Annual General Meeting forward to November, to align better with our financial year end of September 30, and to align membership renewal with the calendar year. Although this has made for a shorter than usual timeline between AGMs, we are pleased to share with you the many successes of this past year, as well as our plans for continued growth into 2020.

The board has come together this year to structure a team which supports the various areas of work within the organization. We look forward to further growing this organizational structure, with the participation of many more member volunteers on various committees in 2020. Fundraising, Summer Camp, and Special Events support are all areas where we are actively seeking member volunteers to join committees. Our aim is to develop strong working committees in these areas over the next year, to improve programming through enhanced member participation, as well as allowing the board time to dedicate to visioning for the future and strategic planning.

Programming in 2019 reached more participants than ever, with the Pysanky tour across Ontario, representation at an International Folk Music conference, and the largest gathering of Summer Camp to date. Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with the only recurring complaint being requests for yet more programming. It has truly been a wonderful year of intergenerational, cross cultural community building through folk art traditions, from song, to food, to craft, to storytelling. Fundraising has been a key challenge in 2019. We are currently looking at all options for growth in this area, to support the FCC mandate of providing accessible folk art programming, from sponsorship to member contributions.

For 2020 we are pleased to launch an enhanced membership program, which offers tiers of membership, enabling individuals to choose the level of membership and financial obligation that works for them.

The new program includes a \$15 yearly membership option, accessible for students and others who may not be able to make a greater financial commitment. We have kept a membership option at the 2019 rate of \$30, as well as offering a few higher tiers of membership, each with additional benefits to the member. For those able to offer more financial support to FCC this year, these tiers of membership enable the organization to really take strides in improving accessibility of programming, as well as providing the stability to move forward with long term planning. We hope that this enhanced membership program will encourage both new and past members to join FCC. We appreciate the support and participation of all of our members this year and in the past, and look forward to another creative and spirited year together as an organization.

Regards,

N/an THE

Mary Ptucha CHAIR FOLK CAMP CANADA

# FALL 2018

#### FOLK SCHOOL YEAR STARTS

Folk school is dedicated to providing classes, workshops, and demonstrations focusing on heritage crafts & traditional Ukrainian and Eastern European singing & dancing to the community. Folk school connects skilled teachers maintaining folk artistic traditions with learners in accessible programs that promote cultural learning and sharing.

#### 2018/2019 FOLK SCHOOL INCLUDED:



# WINTER 2018/2019

#### KOLIADA

At its peak, the group swelled to 25 koliadnyky --amateur and professional singers, Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian, men and women, and a goat... a diverse group, all singing ancient Ukrainain carols and keeping the custom alive.

Kosa Koliadnyky spread cheer at:

- "Warm Up on King Street" in downtown Toronto
- Home visits in GTA on Dec 25 and Jan 7
- Streets of Bloor West Village, Toronto on Epiphany
- Ukrainian New Year's "Folk Melanka" in Toronto

The biggest fundraising caroling outing took place on Ukrainian Christmas Day – Jan 7 with two groups visiting different homes throughout the GTA, joining together at the end in one impressive choir. As well as keeping this tradition alive, Koliada represents an important fundraising activity to support FCC's work.



#### MELANKA

The Folk Camp community hosted a Melanka fundraiser event on January 28th, 2019.

*Folk Melanka* was a magical night filled with traditional foods catered by The Living Table; music and folk dances by Korinya: Ukrainian Folk Band and Csango Unchained; New Year's rituals by British mummers, and Kosa Koliadnyky, who entertained guests with koliada skits and shchedrivky (special new year's songs).

Thank you to all who brightened the night with their presence: all the hardworking volunteers who made it all happen; those who donated amazing donations for our raffle, and all who attended as guests at our table. All funds from this event go towards subsidizing tuition costs for Summer Camp attendees and helping our organization grow.



#### FOLK ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

February 13-17 in Montreal

FCC attended the multi-day international folk music industry event for the first time this year. We had a wonderfully decorated booth and worked on outreach to the local and international community while representing Ukrainian folk music and tradition. Throughout the weekend we met many potential future collaborators for Summer Camp and Folk School.



# SPRING 2019

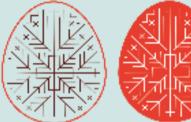
#### **PYSANKY TOUR**

We organized 23 *pysanky* workshops all across Ontario, in cooperation with local organizations. 400 participants learned the art of Ukrainian Easter Egg decorating.

This year's workshops included: Arnprior (X2), Eganville, Pembroke, Peterborough (X3), Kitchener, Barry's Bay, Ottawa (X5), Hamilton, Renfrew, Toronto (X7)

Pysanky workshops were led by FCC board and community members. Pysanka supplies sold made more than \$1,500 for our organization, and equipped dozens of people with the tools needed to continue the tradition.

#### LEARN HOW TO MAKE PYSANKY UKRAINAN EASTER EGGS IN ONTARIO







# PYSANKY 2019

THURS, MARCH 14 - ARNPRIOR PUBLIC LIBRARY - ARNPRIOR SAT, MARCH 16 - BONNECHERE UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY - ECANVILLE SAT, MARCH 30 - PEMBRORE LIBRARY - PEMBRORE SUN, MARCH 31 - DROM TABERNA - TORONTO FRI, APRIL 5 - SUN, APRIL 7 - WATSON & LOU - PETERBOROUCH SAT, APRIL 5 - SUN, APRIL 7 - WATSON & LOU - PETERBOROUCH SAT, APRIL 6 - KITCHENER MARKET - KITCHENER SAT, APRIL 6 - KITCHENER MARKET - KITCHENER SAT, APRIL 6 - MADAWASKA PUBLIC LIBRARY - BARRY'S BAY THURS, APRIL 11 - MAKER HOUSE CO. - OTTAWA FRI APRIL 12 - FAIRFIELDS HERITAGE HOUSE - NEPEAN FRI, APRIL 12 - SAT, APRIL 13 - NEEDLEWORK - HAMILTON SAT, APRIL 13 - RENFREW PUBLIC LIBRARY - RENFREW SUN, APRIL 13 - RENFREW PUBLIC LIBRARY - RENFREW SUN, APRIL 14 - ARTICULATIONS - TORONTO SAT, APRIL 20 - ST, VLADIMIR INSTITUTE - TORONTO SUN, APRIL 21 - DROM TABERNA - TORONTO

GO TO FOLKCAMP.CA/PYSANKY TO FIND OUT MORE



#### HAIVKY

In May, members of the FCC community once again brought the old Ukrainian spring rite of *Haivky* to life in the heart of the city.

Amongst budding trees in Trinity Bellwoods Park, the Kosa singers sang vesnianky, old spring calling songs, and children's haivky songs, songs with movements and dances, and games.

The festivities began at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic church for parishioners enjoying their Easter luncheon, and then processed out into the neighbouring park, inviting both parishioners and neighbourhood residents to join in the celebration. The traditional songs and games were followed by a communal picnic, and folk dancing led by Hungarian group Csango Unchained.



# SUMMER 2019

#### FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Over the summer season, we participated in various festivals and events throughout Ontario. All were successful in our exposure and outreach initiatives.

#### **EVENTS INCLUDED:**



# SUMMER CAMP

This year, the 5th annual Summer Camp took place from August 19-25, 2019 at the Plast campground in Grafton, Ontario.

People came from all over Ontario, as well as Alberta, New York, Ohio, Germany, Ukraine, and Finland! People with Ukrainian, Belarusian, Ashkenazi, Polish, Finnish, French Canadian, Croatian roots... and many more. As always, we had a crosssection of different ages, but this year, we had more children than we've ever had. In total, there were 105 people, including all participants, workshop leaders, facilitators, volunteers and kitchen crew. Our numbers grew on feast nights and weekends to 120+.

We had wonderful and skilled teachers from Ontario, New York, Finland, and Ukraine - world renowned vocalists, musicians, dancers, and craftspeople of traditional arts who led daily workshops.



#### SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR'S CAMP INCLUDED:



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<u>The community mural project</u>, designed by Oksana Pikush (Toronto based Petrykivka artist) and Kathryn Durst (Toronto based folk artist & children's book illustrator), inspired by Petrykivka motifs and Ukrainian folktale images, brought to life by camp participants and now a permanent feature of the Plast camp to be enjoyed by the wider community.



Delectable <u>feast</u> with corn roast conjured up by our chefs, followed by a thrilling <u>zabava</u> led by Oleh But, of Buttya (UA) calling old folk dances from Ukraine.

"It was a **feast**, every meal. Loved almond cake, peach crumble [...] Good balance each meal with greens & local goods. Thanks for accommodating all the varied needs!"



Our <u>apprenticeship</u> program for for focused learning with skilled artisans: Weaving with Johanna Koeslag and Baking with Natalka Buchok

"Thank you. Thank you. Thank you for creating this amazing group and idea, and opening it up to be inclusive and public!"



Gorgeous garden revival and enriching horticulture classes with Blair Richards-Koeslag who integrated the community garden back into camp with a harvest and celebration

"Non-stop joy"

More photos can be found at: www.folkcamp.ca/gallery

### FINANCIAL REPORT

(UNAUDITED) OCT. 1, 2018 TO SEP. 30, 2019

#### REVENUE

GRANT/SPONSORSHIP MEMBERSHIP FOLK SCHOOL FOLK SHOP FOLK CAMP EVENTS

#### \$50,960.50

\$11,429 \$605.43 \$5,988.70 \$1,350 \$22,342.17 \$6,745.20

#### **EXPENSES**

#### \$49,362.74

ONLINE SALES FEES	\$1,377.56
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$127.80
HONOURARIUMS/CONTRACTS	\$27,769.37
FOOD & BEVERAGE	\$7,290.05
VENUE RENTAL	\$8,066.48
WORKSHOP MATERIALS	\$1,878.20
PERMITS	\$300
EQUIPMENT RENTALS	\$353.87
EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	\$299.32
TRAVEL STIPENDS	\$797.61
INSURANCE	\$1,023.84
MARKETING/PROMOTION	\$1,429.20

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS:**

St. Vladimir Institute Arts Etobicoke, Outdoor Picture Show Balfolk Toronto Ukrainian Village Voices Koerner Hall Pyretic Productions St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church BWV Ukrainian Festival/Mississauga Ukrainian Festival

#### **SPONSORS:**

Ukrainian Credit Union Shevchenko Foundation

#### SUPPORTERS:

Kosa Kolektiv Rudolph's Bakery Toppers Linen Supply Ltd. Beau's Brewery Rosewood Winery Koota Ooma Eggcessories

#### **RAFFLE DONORS:**

- Koerner Hall HATIRAindustries OKSANA
- Makework
- **NH** Ceramics
- Eggcessories
- Lemon Bucket Orkestra
- Bloor of our Soil
- Kathryn Durst
- Ptashka Arts
- Koota Omma
- Loaded Perogi
- Robbie Anderman
- **Full Circle Foods**

















#### 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Ptucha CHAIR

Marichka Galadza VICE CHAIR

Angela Lytle SECRETARY

Ada Dahli TREASURER

Bozena Hrycyna FOLK SCHOOL AND SUMMER CAMP DIRECTOR

Stephanie Turenko CHAIR OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Ksenia Khan MEMBER AT LARGE

Alesia Nahirny MEMBER AT LARGE

#### STAFF

Oksana Hawrylak CREATIVE DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR

More info: www.folkcamp.ca/boardandstaff

#### CONNECT:

WEBSITE: FOLKCAMP.CA FACEBOOK: @FOLKCAMP INSTAGRAM: @FOLKCAMP EMAIL: FOLKCANADA@GMAIL.COM

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY:**

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