



ONGOING CREATIVE WORKSHOPS OF THE PROJECT

Various creative workshops took place under implementation of the Interreg V-A Latvia – Lithuania Cross Border Cooperation Programme 2014–2020 project „Craftsmanship as Tourism Product without Borders (LLI-539 Tour de Crafts)“.

In July, 2021 creative workshops „Creation of a ribbon as an element of Lithuanian national costume“ for the public were organized at Upytė Craft Center and near Upytė Mound. Everyone who wanted was invited to join and weave their own ribbon. This educational program was a part of the event dedicated to Lithuanian State Day in Panevėžys district. Therefore, combination of threads – yellow, green and red colors symbolizing Lithuanian national flag was chosen to weave the ribbon in order to mark this special occasion. The participants who came to the event very willingly and enthusiastically joined educational activities, and after getting acquainted with the method of weaving the ribbon and trying it, they wove it as a festive element of the national costume. The LED screen system purchased from the project budget was also tested: certified weaver, folk artist Irena Ona Vilienė demonstrated ribbon weaving at Upytė Traditional Crafts Center, while participants gathered on Upytė Mound, where stands and threads for ribbon weaving were prepared, watching the broadcast lesson on a nearby LED screen, wove their ribbons.

In August theoretical trainings for local craftsmen, artists and creators were held at the Anykščiai Art Incubator. Enthusiastic participants gathered knowledge and experience from the lecturer's dr. Rasa Levickaitė, dr. Dominyka Venciūtė and Justas Tekutis on tourism trends, branding and digital communication.

In October 3-day national costumes and music instruments creative workshops „Craft circle“ for craftsmen, artists and creators took place at Upytė Craft Center, thus launching a cycle of such events in all project partner regions. For three days, participants from Latvia and Lithuania became actively and enthusiastically involved in the activities of this event: craftsmen creating in Panevėžys district, history of Upytė region and complex of Upytė Craft Center with its ongoing activities, projects, expositions, competitions, educational programs, creative workshops were presented. Lecturer Lina Vilienė, being the craftsman of certified national heritage products and a nurturer of the old knitting craft, presented national costumes of all Lithuanian regions. Participants were taught the primer of bands and various ways to weave them while listening to the stories about the origin and existence of textile and woven bands.

Music lecturer Arūnas Stankus, getting involved in the world of national music, introduced enthusiasts of creative workshops with national musical instruments and their history. Participants intensively worked producing Lithuanian shepherds' musical instruments: "birbynėlė" from cane, clatter, rattle, Pentecost horn, and tried to play the instruments made.

Also in October, project partners from the Adult Education and Business Support Center in Dobele (Latvia) invited to a creative workshops on work with digital platforms. Participants got acquainted with the peculiarities of photography in a photo studio, tried out photo editing programs in practice. The possibilities of using digital marketing in social networks were presented to the participants, were tested in practice visual material development programs and tools in an open laboratory.

In November, a cross-sectoral creative workshop was held in Balvi County (Latvia), where participants, trained by the event lecturer, raised their competencies in modern handicraft packaging design, got acquainted with modern leather processing methods, produced gypsy masks, and listened to lectures about art and design.

In December Anykščiai Art Incubator organized a creative workshops on the design and production of wood products, encompassing traditions and modern design, where participants looked for the new product design solutions: tried out modern equipment – laser and CNC milling machines and combined traditional woodworking tools. With the help of the lecturer dr. Egidijus Valentinavičius and modern woodworking equipment, various wood and plywood products were produced during the creative workshops. Part of the workshop time was devoted to design decisions, preparation of layouts and vector files. Participants made contacts and shared good practices with colleagues from Latvia.

In the near future, a ceramic creative workshop in Preili municipality (Latvia) will be held, as well as art fairs, development of a new cross-border tourism product in craftsmanship Tour de Crafts and other activities to promote a sustainable use of traditional craft skills, preserving and presenting it as a common feature of the cultural and historical heritage of the Lithuanian-Latvian border area and a common tourism product that attracts tourist interest. All these project activities are implemented together with partners – Latgale Planning Region (Latvia), Preili and Balvi County Council (Latvia), Dobele Adult Education and Business Support Centre (Latvia) and Anykščiai Art Incubator – Art Studio.

More about the project: https://www.panrs.lt/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/amatininkyste_en.pdf

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Information about the Interreg V-A Latvia – Lithuania Cross Border Cooperation Programme 2014–2020: <https://latlit.eu/>

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Upytė, Panevėžys district. Creative workshops for the public – creation of a ribbon as an element of Lithuanian national costume.



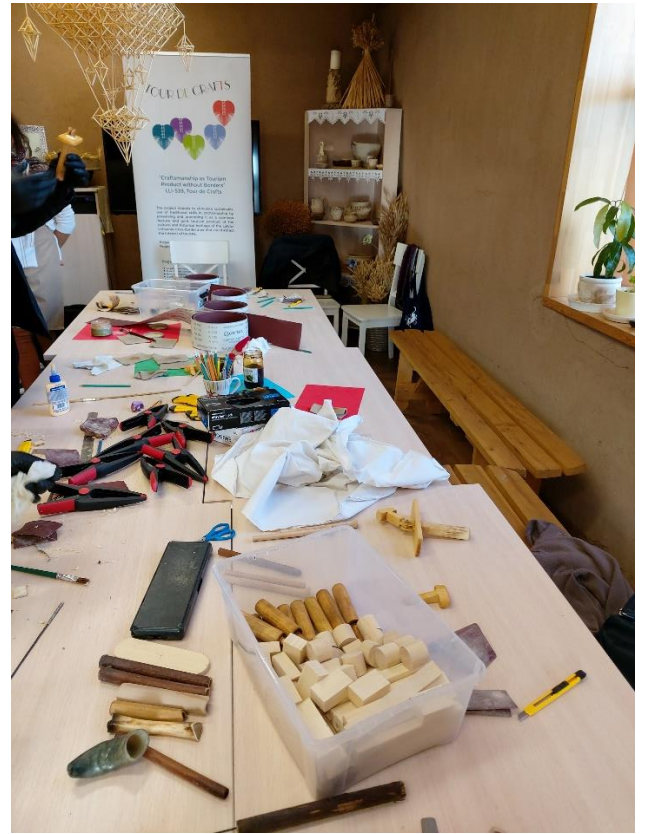
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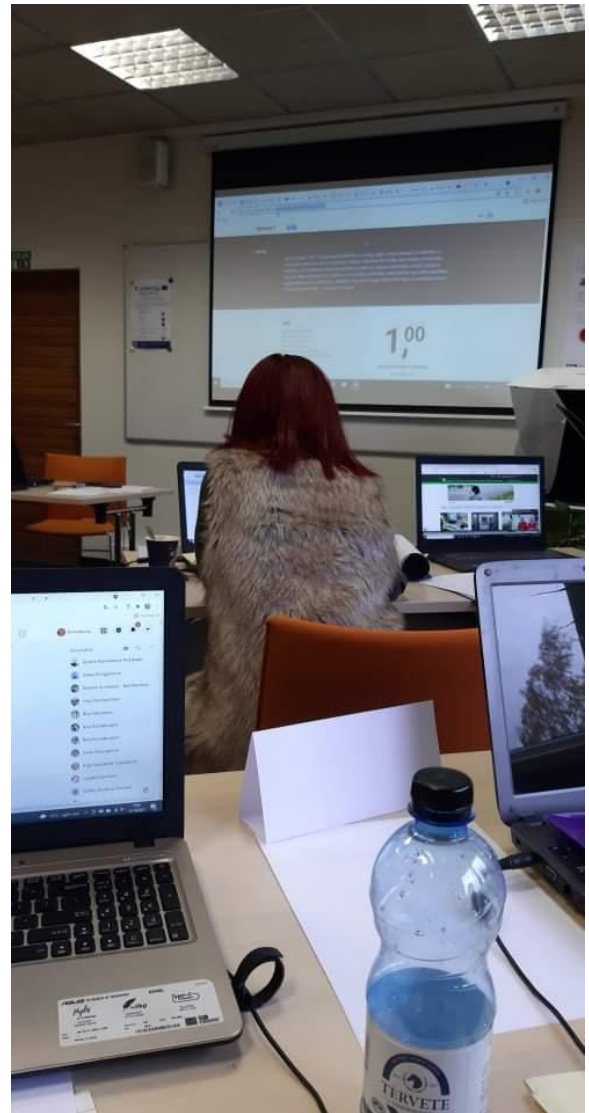
Anykščiai. Theoretical trainings for local craftsmen, artists and creators.



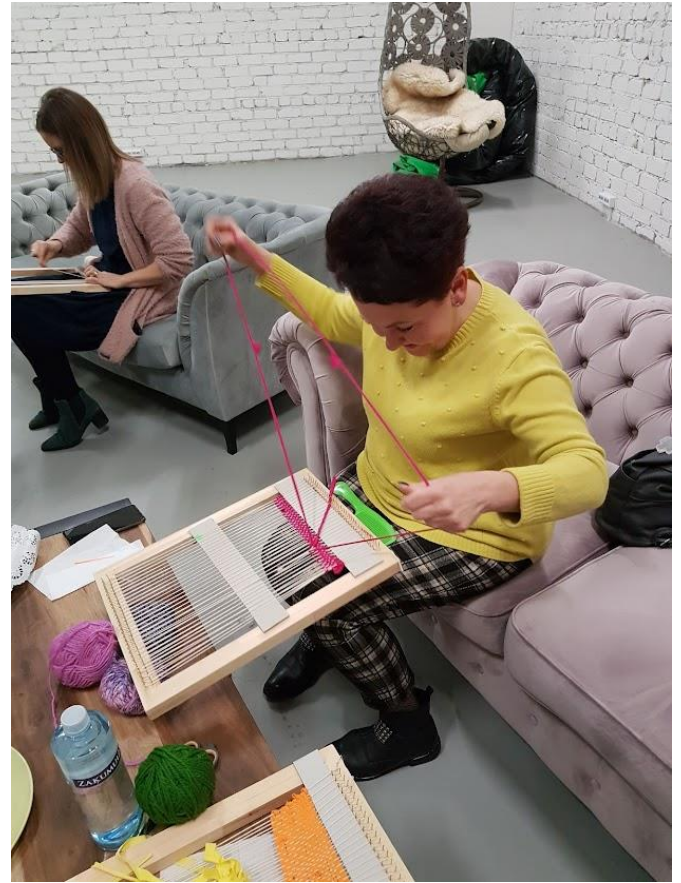
Upytė Craft Center, Panevėžys district. 3-day national costumes and music instruments creative workshops „Craft circle“ for craftsmen, artists and creators.



Uptytė Craft Center, Panevėžys district. 3-day national costumes and music instruments creative workshops „Craft circle“ for craftsmen, artists and creators.



Dobele. 3-day creative workshops on work with digital platforms for craftsmen, artists and creators.



Balvi. 3-day a cross-sectoral creative workshop for craftsmen, artists and creators.



Anykščiai. 3-day woodworking creative workshops for craftsmen, artists and creators.