

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS KULTŪROS MINISTERIJA MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

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Ms Heidy Purga Minister of Culture of Estonia Suur-Karja 23 EE-15076 Tallinn Estonia

Ms Agnese Logina Minister of Culture of Latvia K. Valdemāra iela 11-a LV-1364 Rīga Latvia

Dear Colleagues,

The Baltic States are very proud of and continue to cherish the unique tradition of Song and Dance Celebrations, which has been inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

This precious tradition has been at the roots of our modern independent states and, at the end of the Soviet occupation, contributed to the phenomenon of the Singing Revolution. The coming together of people through song has been important at various times in our history, and it is more important than ever for the resilience and strength of our societies today.

As Lithuania celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Song Celebration this year, we would like to continue our tradition of cooperation in this field, and I kindly invite you to the gala event of the centenary Lithuanian Song Celebration "May the Green Forest Grow" on 6 July 2024, which will take place in Vilnius Vingis Park.

On 6 July at noon, we will celebrate the Day of Lithuanian Statehood at the Presidential Palace, after a festive lunch we would like to invite you to take part in the procession of the Lithuanian Song Celebration participants, visit some new cultural establishments, and at 20.30 attend the gala event at Vilnius Vingis Park.

I hope that we will have the opportunity to celebrate together this important day for Lithuania.

To confirm your attendance, please RSVP by 17th of May 2024 to Mr Jurgis Giedrys, Adviser at the Ministry of Culture (jurgis.giedrys@lrkm.lt, phone +370 608 43762).

Simonas Kairys Minister of Culture