



Centre of Culture



In 2024, the Vilnius University Culture Centre distinguished itself through increased student engagement in art groups, active involvement in cultural activities, and significant international projects. The global project 'Twenty Years of Cultural Enrichment in Reunified Europe – CAMINO', initiated by the University of Latvia, was particularly significant. The project, which brought together higher education institutions in Eastern and Central Europe, aimed to promote the understanding of the European Union, its history, diversity, and achievements, while strengthening joint cultural integration. On 29 May in Riga, seven European universities, including Vilnius University, signed a memorandum of cooperation to develop a network of university culture centres and student unions, and to foster cultural activities in academia and at a local level. This has opened up new opportunities for the Culture Centre to implement international projects.

On 6–11 May, the XXV International University Theatre Forum 'Vilnius Crossroads' was held in Vilnius, organised by the Culture Centre together with Vilnius TECH, the University Theatre Association, and both Lithuanian and international partners. Eleven theatre companies from Lithuanian and international universities in Estonia, the US, and Spain participated in the programme; performances, discussions, creative workshops, and a street theatre campaign to celebrate the identity of Vilnius city took place. 'Mažosios kultūros bendruomenės Europos universitetuose' ('Small Cultural Communities in European Universities'), an inter-sectoral discussion, was held for the first time, bringing together representatives of the education, culture, and art sectors. The Culture Centre contributed to the international representation of Lithuanian culture. At the invitation of the Lithuanian Culture Institute and the Lithuanian Embassy in Italy, the 'Ratilio' Folk Ensemble of the University participated in a high-profile international event dedicated to Lithuania and climate change. The Folk Ensemble held a concert on 25 January in the art space 'Forof', Rome, featuring Lithuanian *sutartinės* – a song genre included in the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Ensemble members presented folklore traditions, dances, traditional instruments, and national costumes of the five ethnographic regions of Lithuania.

At the invitation of the Lithuanian Choral Union, the 'Virgo' Girl Choir of the University participated in the events of the Lithuanian Cultural Season in Paris. Together with four other Lithuanian choirs, the 'Virgo' Choir performed in well-known Paris concert venues, including Sorbonne University, La Gaîté Lyrique, the Théâtre de la Ville, and at the entrance of the Centre Pompidou. Moreover, the Culture Centre developed cooperation with the Lithuanian National Culture Centre, signed agreements with the Punks Lithuanian Theatre and the Zarasai District Municipality Culture Centre, thus strengthening partnerships at a regional and international level.

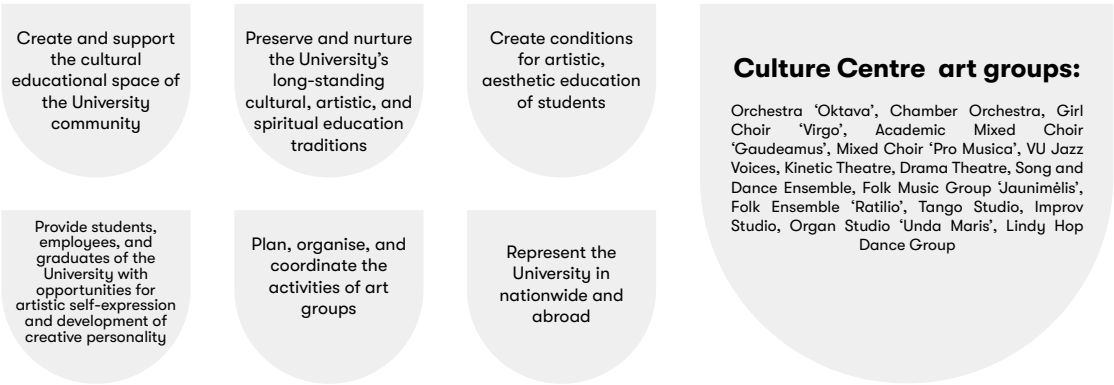
The year 2024 was marked by exceptional events and the preservation of traditions. Eight art groups of the Culture Centre participated in the jubilee Lithuanian Song Celebration, performing in ten events and showcasing their work to the audience. This year, the 'Klasika visiems' ('Classical Music for All') project, bringing together over 400 participants and an equal number of spectators, performed 'The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace' – a work by the British composer Karl Jenkins.

The 'Oktava' Wind Orchestra of the University won first place in category D of the Lithuanian Wind Orchestra Championship, and Maestro Albinas Kučinskas was recognised as the best conductor. Milda Ričkutė, artistic director of the Folk Ensemble 'Ratilio', was awarded the Ministry of Culture prize for fostering and promoting ethnic culture and intangible heritage.

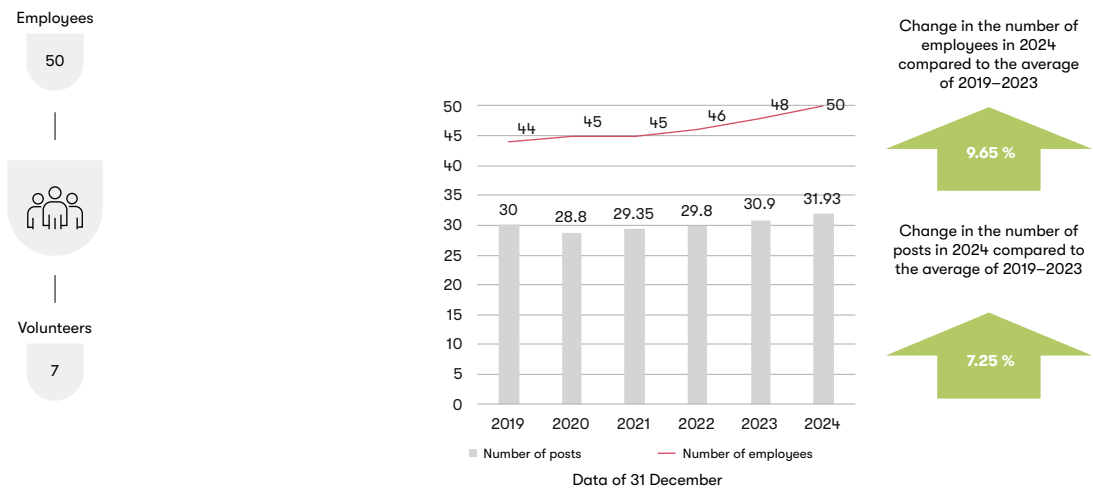
Gintė Jokubaitienė, Head

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Culture Centre objectives and areas of activity



Number of employees and posts in 2019–2024



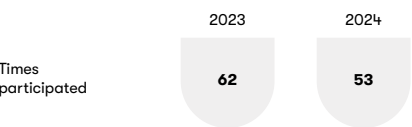
Number of members of art groups and creative studios, 2023–2024

	Students	Alumni	Employees	Total
2024	490	161	21	672
2023	422	119	21	562

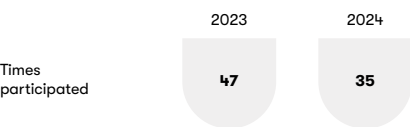
Number of events organised for the community, 2023–2024

	2023	2024
Number of events	57	78
Number of spectators	~7000	~1050

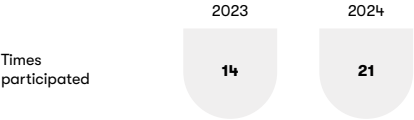
Participation of art groups in the annual traditional events of the University's units, 2023–2024



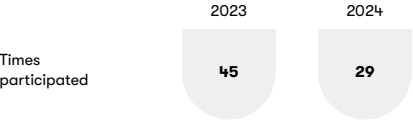
Participation of art groups in events organised by other organisations, 2023–2024



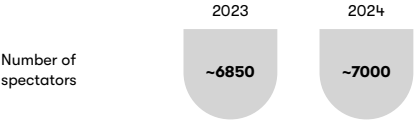
Art group trips abroad,
2023–2024



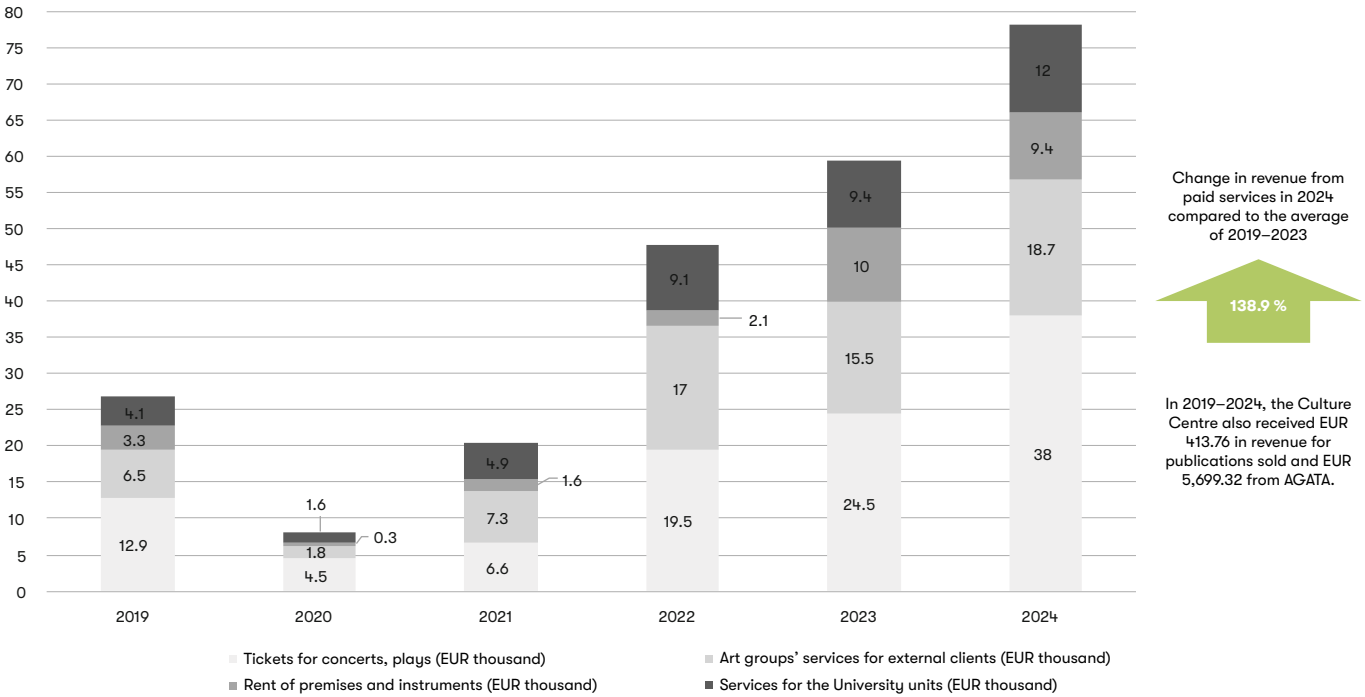
Art group tours in Lithuania,
2023–2024



Number of spectators in concerts
organised by the Culture Centre,
2023–2024



Revenue from paid services, 2019–2024 (EUR thousand)



Projects in 2024

Twenty Years of Cultural Enrichment in Reunified Europe No. 101143824-CAMINO

The value of the project administered by the University is EUR 50,000. The project is funded by the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV) (Project No. 101143824). Project manager – Sonata Adomaitienė.

XXV tarptautinis universitetų teatrų forumas „Vilniaus kryžkelės“, skirtas paminėti Lietuvos įstojimo į ES 20-mečiui (25th International University Theatre Forum ‘The Crossroads of Vilnius’, Dedicated to the 20th Anniversary of Lithuania’s Accession to the EU)

The value of the project administered by the University is EUR 9,115 (the funding of the State Studies Foundation amounts to EUR 7,197.00). The project is funded by the State Studies Foundation under the Students’ Priority Topic Projects programme (Financing Agreement No. SP3-3). Project manager – Sonata Adomaitienė.

„Klasika visiems 2024“ – Karl Jenkins „The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace“, skiriama taikai ir vienybei puoselėti (‘Classical Music for All 2024’ – Karl Jenkins ‘The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace’, Dedicated to Promoting Peace and Unity)

The value of the project administered by the University is EUR 16,613 (the funding of the State Studies Foundation amounts to EUR 10,591.85). The project is funded by the State Studies Foundation under the Students’ Priority Topic Projects programme (Financing Agreement No. SP3-2). Project manager – Sonata Adomaitienė.

VU dramos teatro spektaklio „Žadėtoji“ sukūrimas (Creation of the VU Drama Theatre Play ‘The Promised’)

The value of the project administered by the University is EUR 22,415 (funding collected via the VU Foundation amounts to EUR 2,235.37). The project is funded using the crowdfunding platform of the VU Foundation (Support Agreement No. (1.82 Mr) SU-3849). Project manager – Sonata Adomaitienė.