



RUSSIAN HERITAGE
Post Office Box 14552
St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Saint Petersburg, FL
Permit No. 5736

RUSSIAN HERITAGE

Volume VIII, Issue 5.

March 2004

Your opportunities to participate in Russian Cultural Activities.

Concerts by our Russian Musical Ambassadors	p. 1
See <i>Russian Heritage</i> Folk Fair Booth at SPIFFS (March 18-21) Be a volunteer!	p. 2
Participate in our anecdotes and proverbs competition	p. 2.
Upcoming Events	p. 3.



RUSSIAN HERITAGE

Volume VIII, Issue 5.

March 2004

Russian Heritage Ambassador Exchange Program Student Musicians from St. Petersburg, Russia

Kristina Miller and **Ekaterina Frolova** from the Special Music School-Lyceum of the Rimsky-Korsakov St. Petersburg Conservatory will be visiting St. Petersburg, Florida during the first two weeks in March, sponsored by *Russian Heritage* and Eckerd College. They will be performing on March 7 in Largo and at Eckerd College on March 13. They will also appear at St. Petersburg College and Gibbs High School and will meet with the Pinellas Youth Orchestra. *Russian Heritage* is excited to have student musicians of this quality visiting our city. Read about these remarkable musicians, and come to see them, hear them, and meet them at their concerts (page 3 for details).

KRISTINA MILLER (piano)

Kristina was born in 1968 and began her piano studies at the Music School in the city of Ulyanovsk on the Volga. Since 2000 she has studied in the Special Music School-Lyceum of the Rimsky-Korsakov St. Petersburg Conservatory with Professor Rubina.

She is a prize-winner at the Mravinsky International Competition "Young Talents", and at youth festivals in Volgograd and Ulyanovsk. She has performed as a soloist with the symphony orchestras of Volgograd, Ulyanovsk, and Bremen, Germany.

Her extensive repertoire includes many solo pieces of different composers as well as four piano concertos, including Grieg, Liszt #2, Beethoven #5, and Rachmaninov #2.

EKATERINA FROLOVA (violin)

Ekaterina was born in 1985 in St. Petersburg. In 1993 she entered the Special Music School-Lyceum of the Rimsky-Korsakov St. Petersburg Conservatory. Since 1995 she has been studying with Professor Kasarina.

She is the First-prize winner and the Grand Prix "Golden Bow" winner at the Second International Spor Competition for Young Violinists in Weimar, German (1998). She received the Honor Diploma at the Eighth Sibelius International Competition (2000, Helsinki). In 2002 she received the special "Hope" prize at the Twelfth Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in 2003 at the Ninth International Spor Competition in Freiburg, Germany she received First Prize.

Ekaterina has played on two Stradivarius violins, the "Empress of Russia" and the "Yusupov". She has given recitals in such countries as Austria, Germany, Holland, Poland, Finland, France, and Switzerland.

Her repertoire includes seven violin concertos, such as Tchaikovsky, Sibelius, Prokofiev #1, Mozart #5, Mendelssohn, and others.

Russian Heritage Joins SPIFFS: Will Participate in March Folk Fair March 17 – 21, 2004

In 2003 *Russian Heritage* participated in the 28th annual SPIFFS International Folk Fair when there was a special focus on the "Two St. Petersburgs" and the celebrations of the two anniversaries of these special cities. This year *Russian Heritage* will again participate in the 29th Folk Fair, which will have as its theme, "Legends, Myths, and Folklore".

This year the Folk Fair will take place at the PINELLAS EXPO CENTER, 10601 US HWY 19 North, in Pinellas Park. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday the Folk Fair is open to students from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Exhibits are open to the General Public at the following times:

Friday, March 19 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 20 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Grand Opening Ceremonies at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday

Parade of Groups, with participants in ethnic costumes

Sunday, March 21 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Russian Folk Dancers perform at 1:30 p.m.

Our exhibit is still in the process of formation, but we are thinking about emphasizing the themes of "The Land of the Firebird", "The Tales of Pushkin", and "The Fables of Krylov". We welcome your input of ideas and artifacts based on these themes. Zina Downen, a member of the *RH* Board, has been selected as our official delegate to SPIFFS, and will help coordinate our participation in the Folk Fair.

We need volunteers! We especially need volunteers who are willing to represent Russian Culture, and when possible appear in Russian dress. If you can volunteer to be present at our booth for three hours on one of the mornings, afternoons or evenings listed above, please call 727-864-8235. It will be good if you can come with a friend to man the exhibit for that time. Leave a message on the answering machine about your desired hours of work. We will not be serving food this year. Russian souvenirs and art objects will be available for purchase from our partner in the Folk Fair, "Vladimir's Collections".

Best Russian Anecdotes and Proverbs Contest

We want to hear from you with your best Russian anecdotes (Soviet era or contemporary). Submit three, if possible in Russian and English, but they can be in either language. First prize is 6 months of hard labor or \$50. Your choice.

We also will award \$50 for the three best Russian proverbs, with a few sentences of explanation of why they are important to Russians, *and* to you personally.

Prizes will be awarded at either the April picnic or the May meeting. Deadline for submissions (one entry per person) to the *Russian Heritage* post office box is April 15.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 7, 2004. Russian Ambassadors Concert.

4:00 p.m. at the *Prince of Peace Lutheran Church* (455 Missouri Ave. N.) in Largo near the High School. The program will feature our guest student performers from St. Petersburg, Russia (see page 1). Come at 2:30 if you would like to attend the *RH* Board Meeting, which is open to the membership. The concert is free and open to the public. An offering will be received.

Saturday, March 13, 2004. Russian Ambassadors Concert.

3:00 p.m. at the Eckerd College (4200 54th Ave. S.) in St. Petersburg. This program is part of the "Young Artists" series of the Academy of Senior Professionals at Eckerd College, will include one Eckerd pianist in addition to our two Ambassadors from Russia. The concert will be at Lewis House at Eckerd College. The concert is free and open to the public.

Sunday, March 14, 2004. Archiglass. Russian Choir Concert.

An outstanding choral group from St. Petersburg, Russia will present a concert of Russian sacred music and folk songs at 7:00 p.m. at the Palladium Theater (253 5th Ave. N.) in St. Petersburg. Tickets moderately priced. Call (727) 822-3590.

March 19-21, 2004. St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society (SPIFFS) page 2.

* * * * *

DO NOT FORGET THE SPECIAL RUSSIAN EXHIBIT AT THE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM. "RUSSIAN ODYSSEY" IS A SPECIAL COLLECTION OF ITEMS FROM THE RUSSIAN MUSEUM IN ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA. IT CLOSSES ON APRIL 4.

* * * * *

Sunday, April 11, 2004. Easter for Orthodox and Western Christians.

Sunday, April 18, 2004. Russian Heritage Picnic. Bill Grant has graciously invited us to his house for this "pot-luck" picnic (4:30 – 8:30 p.m.). More details and directions to his Sarasota home in the April Newsletter.

Sunday, May 16, 2004. Russian Heritage Business Meeting and Elections.

We plan to continue our tradition of having our annual business meeting in May at a restaurant to be announced in the April Newsletter. This meeting will include a review of the past year's activities and a look to the future, including the elections of officers for 2004-2005.

* * * * *

Two student ambassadors were chosen in a competition for the best English language students in St. Petersburg from a field of more than 300. Meet them and read their essays in the April Newsletter.