

PROJECT LT04-1-KM-K01-005
„INTEGRATION OF THE VOSS MODEL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL
ACCESSIBILITY AND STRENGTHENING OF CULTURAL EDUCATION IN
PANEVĖŽYS REGION“

On 25th of May, 2021 Panevėžys district municipality administration and Central Project Management Agency signed an agreement of project „Integration of the Voss model for the development of cultural accessibility and strengthening of cultural education in Panevėžys region“ implementation. This agreement was signed on the basis of a Partnership Agreement among Panevėžys district municipality administration, Panevėžys district Naujamiestis Cultural center–Art Gallery and Voss Cultural School from Norway, which, as partners, will cooperate in the project. This project is being implemented under the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014–2021 Programme „Culture“.

Total sum of the project is 177 738,46 Euro (therein 151 077,69 Euro is support of the EEA Financial Mechanism and budget co-financing, and 26 660,77 Euro is contribution of Panevėžys district municipality).

The EEA and Norway Grants are funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. The Grants have two goals – to contribute to a more equal Europe, both socially and economically – and to strengthen the relations between Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, and the 15 beneficiary countries in Central and South-Eastern Europe and the Baltic States.

The main goal of the project: to improve dissemination of professional cultural products and services in the Panevėžys region and to ensure equal accessibility; to encourage creativity of adults, children and young people by facilitating their participation in cultural education activities and to expand cooperation boundaries of Panevėžys region's cultural organizations.

During the implementation of the project, by integrating the Norwegian Voss model in the region's musical art groups, it is planned to create two professional concert programs, which are going to be presented to the general public at three territorial levels – local, municipal and county center.

The Norwegian Voss model is the first program of its kind in Scandinavia to comprehensively educate the leaders of music ensembles in the environment of their local ensembles. This method yields positive results for both the emotional health of musicians and the musical progress of the ensemble – the Voss model provides the learner with the tools needed to unleash, reveal, express and communicate their own creativity by teaching philosophy of sustainable leadership and visual performance, rehearsal and conducting techniques.

It is hoped that the Norwegian experience will improve the quality of leadership in music groups, emphasizing the role of the band leader, as well as it will condition the development of cultural life and musical level, maintaining existing and encouraging new people to join the diverse cultural life of their region. People in rural areas will have access to high-quality cultural services, while inclusive and meaningful bilateral cooperation will help to reduce social and cultural disparities between the regions. It is also expected to learn from the good Norwegian practices of cultural actors in smaller

towns of close cooperation with cultural actors in larger regional centers, helping to ensure high-quality cultural services for every inhabitant.

It is planned to implement the project within 20 months.

**For more information about the project please seek the project coordinator Oddvar Nøstdal,
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