



FESTIVAL ISSUE - OCTOBER 27, 2024

Sdružení Čechů a Slováků pro Uchování Národních Odkazů  
Združenie Čechov a Slovákov pre Zachovanie Národných Odkazov

*A publication of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland*

## Welcome to the 36th Czech and Slovak Festival



Dunaj, Slovakia

Vltava, Czechia

Morava, Moravia



# FESTIVAL PROGRAM



<b>12:00 PM</b>	DOORS OPEN	Music by PAJTAŠI, Meals, Beverages, Vendors
<b>12:30 PM</b>	PERFORMANCE	Slavic-American Sokol - DC
<b>1:00 PM</b>	OPENING	National Flags Ceremony, National Anthems
<b>1:20 PM</b>	PERFORMANCE	Limboračik - NYC
<b>1:40 PM</b>	DANCE LESSON	Dance Teachers and Pajtaši
<b>2:40 PM</b>	PERFORMANCE	American Sokol Washington
<b>2:50 PM</b>	DANCE LESSON	Dance Teachers and Pajtaši
<b>3:00 PM</b>	PUPPET THEATER	American Sokol Washington · (Kid's Classroom)
<b>3:20 PM</b>	PERFORMANCE	Limboračik - NYC
<b>3:45 PM</b>	RAFFLE DRAWING	Good Luck!
<b>4:15 PM</b>	PERFORMANCE	Sokol Baltimore
<b>6:00 PM</b>	DOOR CLOSES	Official Closing - Thank you for coming.

Special Thanks  
To  
**The Embassy of the  
Czech Republic**  
and  
**The Embassy of the  
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of the  
Czech and Slovak community  
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In memory of Charles Supik  
Francis Vojík

## Festival Exhibitors and Vendors

### Slovak-Czech Varieties

Jarka a Milan Uherik - Long Island City, New York  
Czech & Slovak Groceries, Souvenirs

### Beads By Rasa

Rasa Bertinelli - Baltimore, MD  
Handmade necklaces, earrings & bracelets

### Hornaks Honey

Jacob Hornak - Sayreville, New Jersey  
Pure raw honey

### Krysias Place

Krystyna Osowski - Middle River MD  
Polish Chrusciki, Candy, Folk Aprons, Wianki

### Kielbasa Factory

Sina Molavi - Rockville, MD  
Meat, Pierogies, Savory & Sweet groceries

### Olenka School of Music

Olenka Stasyshyn - Columbia, MD  
Ukrainian handmade crafts, T-shirts

### Ondrej's Home-baked Goods

Ondrej Hricina - Levittown, PA  
Home-baked pastries and cakes

### OM Design & Photography

Olga Mendel - Prague, Czechia  
Calendars, Cards, Soaps, Baked Goods

### Home-baked Pastry

Ivana Kenjova - Baltimore, MD  
Baked Pastry

### Travelmation

Marcela Bell - Baltimore, MD  
Travel planning to the heart of Europe

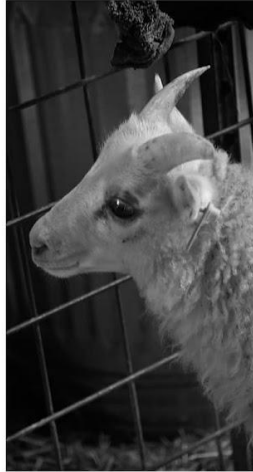
### Ukraine Aid Group

Iryna Goula - Reston, VA  
Humanitarian support

### Grand Lodge & Bohemian Cemetery

Jeanne Taborsky - Columbia, MD  
Bohemian Cemetery Co

## Special thanks to the festival sponsors



**The Farm of Beauty Goats and Sheep**  
supports the CSHA mission of promoting  
Czech and Slovak heritage here and abroad.

I sell Icelandic sheep yarn from my small flock.  
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[FarmofBeauty.com](http://FarmofBeauty.com) and peruse my  
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### **Farm of Beauty Goats and Sheep**

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Baltimore, October 27, 2024

Dear friends of Czechia and Slovakia, On behalf of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland, I would like to welcome you to the 36th Czech and Slovak Festival.

We are really proud to host this traditional event at this beautiful venue in Sykesville, MD.

Whether you are a returning visitor or visiting for the very first time, we want to thank you for your support.

We hope that you will enjoy everything that our association has prepared for you.

Please have a taste of traditional meals, pastries, Czech and Slovak beer. We have invited various vendors to bring you traditional sweets and goods for purchase. Enjoy music by Slovak cimbalom band Pajtasi, dancing, and fellowship.

Thank you for being here today; we hope you will continue to take part in all of the activities of the Association.

Se srdečným pozdravem,  
So srdečným pozdravom,



Petr Justin  
CSHA President

## About Us

**Z**druženie Čechov a Slovákov pre Zachovanie Národných Odkazov / Sdružení Čechů a Slováků pro Uchování Národních Odkazů,  
**The Czech and Slovak Heritage Association** of Maryland, Inc., the CSHA is dedicated to providing education in the language, culture, traditions and history of the Czechs and Slovaks.

Founded in 1994, the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association was created to preserve the Czech and Slovak heritage, promote and provide education in the languages, cultures, traditions, and histories of the Czech and Slovak peoples, to maintain in succeeding generations ties between the Czech and Slovak communities in America and the peoples of the Czech Republic and Slovakia and to provide assistance to charitable Czech and Slovak endeavors.

The CSHA membership is open to all persons interested in furthering the purposes of the CSHA. JOIN CSHA! Support our mission of keeping the Czech and Slovak heritage alive.

We are always looking for new members of all ages. Consider joining if you have Slovak or Czech ancestry, and want to learn about the culture, language, history, and beauty of these two small countries in the heart of Europe, or just want to make new friends.

As of January 26th, 2024 the 2024-25 Officers and Board of Directors were elected:

### OFFICERS:

President - Petr Justin, Vice President - Dana Petran, Secretary - Lois Hybl, Treasurer - Zuzana LaBuff.

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Ann Zelenka, Barbara Vann, David Mitchell, Fran Vojik, MacLean Lunko, Margaret Supik, Robert Horel, Russ Rezek and Zoe Hruban.

### CSHA ONLINE:

For more information about our Association, our activities, events, Language schools, CSHA membership, our publication HLAS, Heritage Singers and others, check our website **[www.cshamaryland.org](http://www.cshamaryland.org)** or contact us at **[info@cshamaryland.org](mailto:info@cshamaryland.org)**.

The CSHA Board of Directors will respond to answer your questions and provide information. We are eager to hear your ideas and suggestions.

## Special thanks to the festival sponsors

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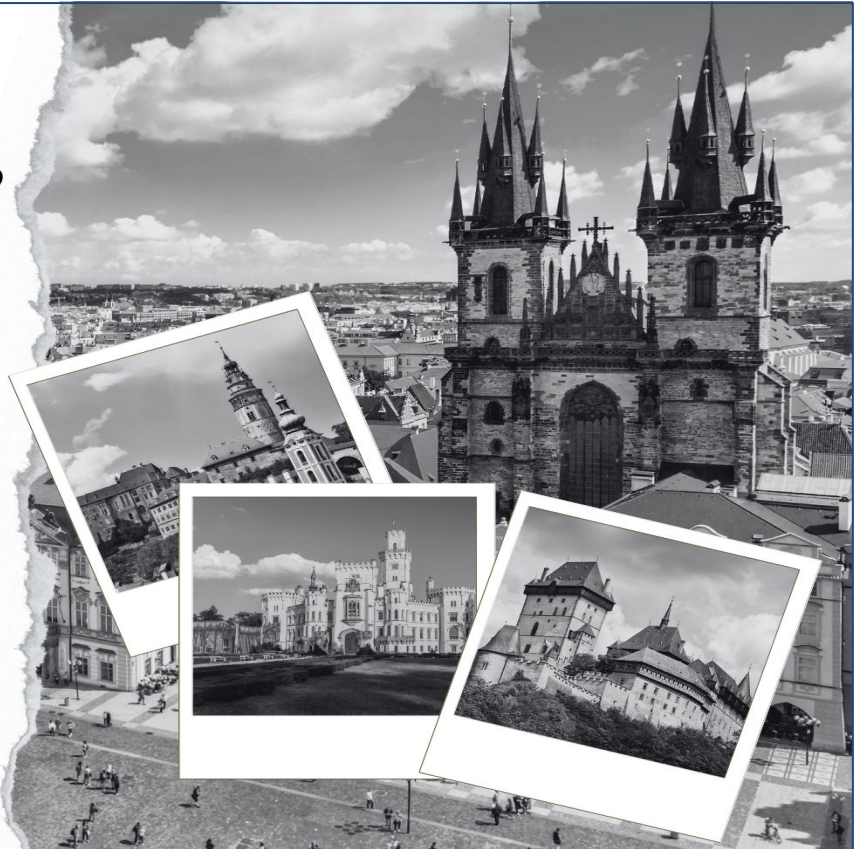


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**KIRA and ANDREW CORRAL & family**  
**JOANNE and GARY LEISER & family**  
**GREG and TORY SONBERG**



# Our Rivers - Vltava, Czechia

**V**ltava [ˈvʊltəvə], is the longest river in the Czech Republic, it flows in a southeasterly direction along the Šumava and then north through Bohemia.

It flows through Český Krumlov, České Budějovice, and Prague, and finally merging with the Elbe at Mělník. It is commonly referred to as the "Czech national river".

It got its name from the old Germans who called it Wilt-ahwa (wild water). It appears for the first time in 1125 in the Cosmas Chronicle under the name Wlitaau.

The first settlements and towns were built along the Vltava River in the early Middle Ages. The Vltava River served as a source of water, energy (mills) and also as a traffic artery.

The Vltava River is 430.3 kilometres (267.4 mi) long and drains an area of 28,090 square kilometres (10,850 sq mi) in size, over half of Bohemia and about a third of the Czech Republic's entire territory. As it runs through Prague, the river is crossed by 18 bridges, including the Charles Bridge.

Nine hydroelectric dams have been built on the Vltava south of Prague to regulate the water flow and generate hydroelectric power. Just to name a few, these are Lipno, Orlik and Slapy.

The Vltava basin has flooded multiple times throughout recorded history. Markers have been created along the banks denoting the water line for notable floods, the highest of all in 2002, when the basin was heavily affected by the European floods.

Prague was again flooded in 2013. Many locations within the Vltava and Elbe basins were left under water, including the Prague Zoo, but metal barriers were erected along the banks of the Vltava to help protect the historic city centre.

Vltava is the second symphonic poem from the cycle *Má Vlast* (My Country) by a brilliant Czech composer Bedřich Smetana. It is from the Romantic era of classical music and is a musical description of the river's course through Bohemia.



The Vltava River has been used as the setting for a number of films, including the 1942 Czech drama *The Great Dam*. More recently, the Vltava has been used as a film location for such films as *Amadeus* in 1984 and *Mission: Impossible* in 1996.

In DC Comics, there's a country called Vltava, which is the homeland of the villain Count Vertigo, an enemy of the Green Arrow. It's likely that this country is named after the Vltava.



# Special thanks to the festival sponsors

*In Memory of The ČERVÍN Family*

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# Our Rivers - Morava, Moravia

**M**orava ['morava] is the main river of Moravia historical region in the Czech Republic.

The Morava originates on the Králický Sněžník mountain in the north-eastern corner of Pardubice Region, near the border between the Czech Republic and Poland and has a vaguely southward trajectory. The lower part of the river's course forms the border between the Czech Republic and Slovakia and then between Austria and Slovakia. This part is one of the oldest national boundaries still extant in continental Europe as the Carolingian Empire with the Avar Khaganate around 800.



The river's name is derived from Indo-European \*mori, "waters" (mare). It was first documented as Maraha in an 892 deed.

In July 1997, the Morava basin was affected by heavy stratiform rain, which caused catastrophic floods, which also affected Poland and Germany. In the Czech Republic, 49 people lost their lives, more than 250 villages had to be evacuated and the total damage was 63 billion crowns.

Several large towns lie on the Morava, particularly Olomouc, Kroměříž and Uherské Hradiště. The catchment area of the river has a population of c. 3.5 million people. After 352 km (219 mi) of its course, the Morava feeds the Danube river.

The Morava river forms an important link between the Danube Valley and the plains of northern Europe, for animals as well as, at least historically, for humans.

The river's weak slope means that the floodplains of the Morava are among the most biologically diverse ecosystems in Europe. Its richness in plant and animal species (some 12,000 species have been identified) ranks it second in diversity only to the Danube Delta.

During the 20th century however, large tracts of the river, especially downstream from Litovel, have been regulated with the ensuing effect of loss of inundation areas. Since the river basin is densely populated and, especially the Czech part, industrialised, the river also receives a lot of wastewater. Agriculture also contributes to spreading nitrogen and other nutrients into the river.



Nevertheless, the central part of the river has retained much of its natural character and in later years conscious efforts have been made to protect the nature and ecosystem of the river basin.

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# Polish Folk Dance Group **OJCZYNA... is** Looking for New Members!!!



We Practice on Sunday Evenings  
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**For Information:** visit <https://www.facebook.com/OjczyznaDancers/>  
Or Contact Michael Carnahan 443-392-2072, [mlcarnahan@gmail.com](mailto:mlcarnahan@gmail.com)



# Our Rivers - Dunaj, Slovakia

**D**unaj ['du'nai] is the second-longest river in Europe. It flows through Central and Southeastern Europe, from the Black Forest south into the Black Sea.

A historically important river, it was once a frontier of the Roman Empire. In the 21st century, it connects ten European countries, running through their territories or marking a border.

Among the many cities on the river are four national capitals: Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest, and Belgrade. Its drainage basin amounts to 817,000 km<sup>2</sup> (315,000 sq mi) and extends into nine more countries.

Since ancient times, the Dunaj, Danube has been a traditional trade route in Europe. Today, 2,415 km (1,501 mi) of its total length are navigable. The river is linked to the North Sea via the Rhine–Main–Danube Canal.

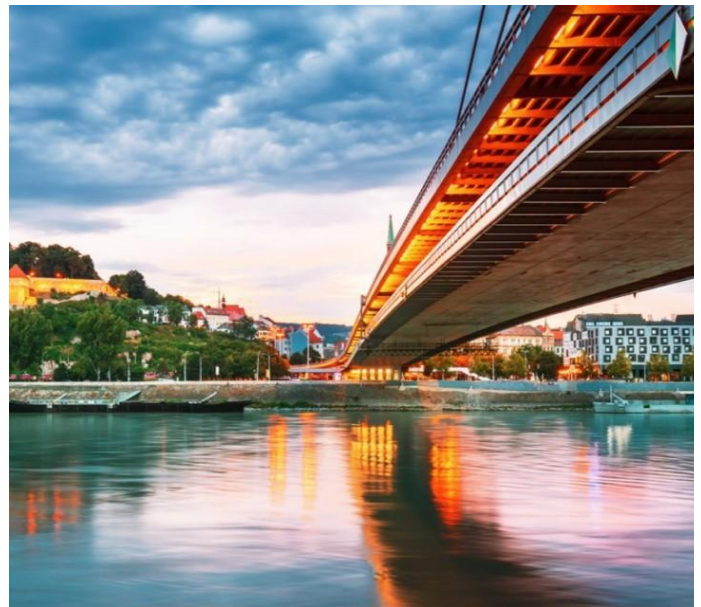
The river is an important source of hydropower and drinking water. Along its course, the Dunaj, Danube is a source of drinking water for about 20 million people.

In 2022, there was a major heat wave in Europe. As a result, there was less water flowing in the rivers. As the water level decreased, a number of shipwrecks from World War II emerged in the river. Many of the ships were from Nazi Germany's Black Sea Fleet and had been scuttled to stop them from falling into enemy hands.

The importance of fishing on the river, which was critical in the Middle Ages, has declined dramatically.

Some of the river's resources have been managed in an environmentally unsustainable manner in the past, leading to damage by pollution, alterations to the channel, and major infrastructure development, including large hydropower dams.

Some fishermen are still active at certain points on the river, and the Dunaj Delta still has an important industry.



The Danube region is not only culturally and historically important, but also important to the regional tourism industry thanks to its fascinating monuments and sites. The area along the river, with its well-established infrastructure for cycling, hiking and travel options, attracts an international clientele and cruises every year.





## Special thanks to the festival sponsors



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(240) 453-9090





# The Czech and Slovak Language School for Children

**D**ear families, parents and friends of the CSHA, The Czech and Slovak Language School for Children welcomes you to the 2024-2025 school year!

The CSHA is unique in its offering classes for children in both the Czech and Slovak languages. We want to invite our members, families and friends to take advantage of this opportunity.

If you, or someone you know, might be interested in exploring a new language, or staying current in your heritage language, please let us know.

Our Fall semester is already underway, but there still is time to sign up. All classes are being held virtually, with Slovak and Czech teachers and their students meeting online. Beginners or fluent speakers are welcome to join us.

The Czech language beginner's class meet on Fridays and advanced speakers on Mondays.

Slovak Language children's classes continue to meet on Sundays: beginners meet at 9 AM and advanced speakers at 10 AM.

We can also tailor our classes to suit everyone's needs.

For more information, or to register a student please visit our website.

Our Language School also organizes Family Fun nights, which happen throughout the year usually every other month or quarterly and include Carnival Mask Making, Easter traditions, Back to school picnic, Mikulášská celebrations and Christmas Carol Singing.

Visit our website or Facebook page for a detailed schedule information, and how to register.



# The Czech and Slovak Language School for Adults

**T**he CSHA is one of the few organizations in the USA that offers language instruction for adults.

Participants in our Czech and Slovak Language School have been meeting virtually since the beginning of the pandemic. While we miss seeing each other in person, our school has grown to include students from all over the United States and other countries.

The beginning, intermediate and advanced classes for both Czech and Slovak languages are held on Saturday mornings. The fall classes start at the beginning of September and the spring semester begins in January.

We also offer summer courses based on student interest.

The Czech and Slovak Language School was founded in 1989 to preserve the Czech and Slovak heritage. Our first teacher was the late Milada Vanicek.

We will forever feel grateful to the late Dolores Zajickova Gentes who had taught first-year Czech beginners class in 1990 and was instrumental in publicizing the school. For many years, her husband, the late Harold "Pete" Gentes organized the refreshment time during class breaks.

The school is open to anyone interested in learning about Czech and Slovak languages, history, and culture.

Visit our website or email [info@cshamaryland.org](mailto:info@cshamaryland.org) for a detailed schedule information, and how to register.

When visiting the festival, ask our staff about the language school and also take one or two books in Czech, Slovak or English, which are available at our association table.



# Kostel Sv. Václava - The Church of St. Wenceslaus

Since 1872 the church of St. Wenceslaus has been part of the fabric of the large Czech community in Baltimore.

Wenceslaus was considered a martyr and saint immediately after his death, when a cult of Wenceslaus grew up in Bohemia and in England.

St. Wenceslas was founded in 1872 in a neighborhood of East Baltimore that was then known as Little Bohemia. The parish was created primarily to serve the Bohemian (Czech) community in Baltimore. A significant number of the first visitors came from southern Bohemia. Slovaks also participated. Divine services were originally held in English and Czech.

The current church was built in 1914 and at that time the church had 7,000 Czech Catholic members. In 1920, the church was the fourth largest in the Archdiocese of Baltimore.



Although Wenceslaus was only a duke during his lifetime, Holy Roman Emperor Otto I posthumously "conferred on Wenceslaus the regal dignity and title", which is why he is referred to as "king" in legend and song.

The hymn "Svatý Václave" (Saint Wenceslaus) or "Saint Wenceslas Chorale" is one of the oldest known Czech songs. Traceable to the 12th century AD, it is still among the most popular religious songs in the Bohemian lands.

Wenceslaus's feast day is celebrated on September 28. Since 2000, it has been a public holiday in the Czech Republic, celebrated as Czech Statehood Day.

Many of the joyous and the sad life events of our families were observed at The Church of St. Wenceslaus in Baltimore. In 1914 the present church was dedicated and its bells chimed the hours of every day for decades. But change is inexorable.



The church was named after Wenceslas I (907 – 935). Also called Václav the Good, he was a Czech prince from 921 until his death. According to legend, he was murdered by his younger brother Boleslav the Cruel.

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The years following WWII saw an exodus to the suburbs and a change in the congregation at St. Wenceslaus. Most recently that congregation has shrunk to a point where the Archdiocese of Baltimore is combining three congregations into one and selling off the property of the churches deemed no longer viable. Sadly St. Wenceslaus is one of those properties.

Mass will be celebrated for the last time at St. Wenceslaus on Sunday, November 24 at 9 AM.



There will be one last opportunity to celebrate our Czech and Slovak heritage at St. Wenceslaus, though.

That will be at 2 PM on Sunday, December 8, when St. Nicholas will arrive, after a program of traditional Czech and Slovak Christmas music, with treats for the children.



Please join us there at St. Wenceslaus, 211 Ashland Avenue in Baltimore 21205. If you will be bringing children with you, please visit our website [www.cshamaryland.org](http://www.cshamaryland.org) and sign them up. The event is free, but St. Nicholas needs to know how many treat bags he should bring with him.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you for coming to  
**THE THIRTY-SIXTH  
CZECH AND SLOVAK FESTIVAL**



We will see you at the 37th Festival  
on Sunday, October 26, 2025



[www.cshamaryland.org](http://www.cshamaryland.org)



CSHA on facebook

For more information visit our website [www.cshamaryland.org](http://www.cshamaryland.org) or email us at [info@cshamaryland.org](mailto:info@cshamaryland.org)  
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