



INTERNATIONAL BOOKPLATE COMPETITION 2020 'TRAKAI PENINSULA CASTLE: UNICORN – A SYMBOL OF CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE'

Trakai has been declared Lithuanian Capital of Culture for 2020. Contributing to the city's cultural initiatives, Trakai History Museum has organised an international bookplate competition: 'Trakai Peninsula Castle: Unicorn – a Symbol of Cultural and Historical Heritage'. The competition aims to promote the art of the *ex libris*, as well as raising the profile of Trakai Peninsula Castle and its symbol, the unicorn. An exhibition of the winners' artworks will be held, and a catalogue published. The contest marks Trakai History Museum's fourth International Bookplate Competition.

Alvyga Zmejevskienė, director of the Trakai History Museum, invites artists and creators of small graphic artworks from around the world to create bookplates depicting the symbol of the unicorn, and dedicated to the architectural complex of Trakai Peninsula Castle, the eminent personalities connected with it, and to 'Trakai – Lithuanian Capital of Culture 2020'.

A zoomorphic mounting in the form of a unicorn was found in 1962, during archaeological excavations headed by Adolfas Tautavičius. The object was found close to the mound, on the eastern slope of Sacrifice Hill, at a depth of one metre. It dates from the second half of the 14th or the 15th century. It is unknown what the function of the artefact was, or if any comparable artefacts exist in Lithuania or worldwide. Due to the close proximity of its discovery, this unique find was chosen as a symbol of Trakai Peninsula Castle. Unicorns were worshiped by the Babylonians; descriptions of this mythical beast are found in the writings of ancient Persian, Roman, Greek and Jewish scholars, as well as in Celtic mythology. As a magical symbol, it also occupies a revered place in Chinese tradition and Indian art. In medieval Europe, the pagan symbol of the unicorn was interpreted by the church as an incarnation of Christ, and its death was considered to represent the suffering of Christ. The unicorn also holds an important place among heraldic symbols.

COMPETITION RULES FOR PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

The competition is open for entries **from 8 January 2020 until 29 May 2020 inclusive**, according to postal registration date.

The bookplates may be dedicated to a private person or institution. Every bookplate must carry the obligatory inscription '**EX LIBRIS. UNICORNIS**' and the full name of the owner of the *ex libris*: an institution or individual person. In cases where only the initials of the individual person are indicated on the *ex libris*, his or her full name should be written on the reverse side. It is recommended to dedicate the bookplates to:

- Grand Duke of Lithuania Kęstutis
- Grand Duke of Lithuania Vytautas
- Guillebert de Lannoy
- Sacrifice Hill (Trakai distr.)
- Trakai Peninsula Castle (info on <http://www.seniejitrakai.lt/place-en-9/text>)
- Trakai History Museum (TIM)

Bookplates that do not include the obligatory inscription and the full name of the institution or individual person that owns the *ex libris* will not be allowed to participate in the competition and

the exhibition of the bookplates. The maximum length of the longer edge of the print of may be up to 150 mm, and the paper sheet should not exceed A4 format. Bookplates may be created using traditional graphic techniques as well as new technologies, including computer graphics.

Bookplates will be accepted only when accompanied by a completed competition entry form. The entry form can be downloaded from the website:

<https://trakaimuziejus.lt/news/499/133/International-bookplate-competition-2020>

Competition entry must include one signed bookplate print. The number of entries is not limited. On the reverse side of the bookplate should be written the full name of the author, their home address and information about the bookplate: the year of its creation, the graphic technique used and the bookplate's dimensions.

Competition bookplates must be mailed until **29 May 2020** inclusive, according to postal registration date at the following address:

**International Bookplate Competition
Trakai History Museum
Kęstučio g. 4
LT-21104 Trakai
Lithuania**

EVALUATION

Entries will be judged by a jury selected by Alvyga Zmejevskienė, director of Trakai History Museum. The jury will evaluate all entries and announce the winners.

Ex libris will be selected for the exhibition, catalogue and awards from among those bookplates that best conform to the rules of the competition.

Works will be judged in two categories:

- Bookplates created using traditional graphic techniques;
- Bookplates created using new technologies, artistic techniques and computer graphics.

Entries will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- The originality of the artwork;
- The artist's understanding of the subject matter;
- Creativity;
- Mastery of the chosen technique;
- Bookplates that have been stained, creased, torn or folded in half, as well as those arriving after the competition's closing date, will not be evaluated.

AWARDS TO BOOKPLATES, CREATED USING TRADITIONAL GRAPHIC TECHNIQUES

Main prizes are cash awards:

- **1st Prize – 300.00 EUR.**
- **2nd Prize – 200.00 EUR.**
- **3rd Prize – 100.00 EUR.**
- **1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade certificates.**

AWARDS TO BOOKPLATES, CREATED USING NEW TECHNOLOGIES, ARTISTIC TECHNIQUES AND COMPUTER GRAPHICS:

- **1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade certificates.**

The competition jury will select the best 80 works and notify their authors. The selected bookplates will be exhibited, and the exhibition catalogue will be published; authors of the selected bookplates will receive the catalogue free of charge.

The top three artists among the works selected will be awarded cash prizes (1st, 2nd, 3rd prize). A further six artists within the two groups will be selected to receive certificates. Additional prizes, gifts and certificates established by the organiser or sponsors of the competition may be awarded to the authors of other selected bookplates. The awards, and the date and location of the exhibition's opening will be announced at a later date.

The organiser, Trakai History Museum, will retain all entries.

The organiser retains the right to photograph and reproduce bookplates entered into the competition, and to use them for the purposes of advertising the contest. Such images will be accompanied by the artist's name, without payment of royalties to their authors. Entries submitted to the competition are non-returnable. By participating in the contest, the author agrees to all terms and conditions of the competition.

The results of the competition will be announced on the website:

<https://trakaimuziejus.lt/news/499/133/International-bookplate-competition-2020>

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION RULES FOR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS

The competition is open for entries from 8 January 2020 until 29 May 2020 inclusive, according to postal registration date.

Alvyga Zmejevskienė, director of Trakai History Museum, invites children and students from around the world to create bookplates depicting the symbol of unicorn, and dedicated to the architectural complex of Trakai Peninsula Castle, the eminent personalities connected with it, and to 'Trakai – the Lithuanian Capital of Culture 2020'.

Children and students from around the world between the ages of five and 19 are eligible to take part in the competition.

The bookplates may be dedicated to a private person or institution. Every bookplate must carry the obligatory inscription '**EX LIBRIS. UNICORNIS**' and the full name of the owner of the *ex libris*: an institution or individual person. In cases where only the initials of the individual person are indicated on the *ex libris*, his or her full name should be written on the reverse side. It is recommended to dedicate the bookplates to:

- Grand Duke of Lithuania Kęstutis
- Grand Duke of Lithuania Vytautas
- Guillebert de Lannoy
- Sacrifice Hill (Trakai distr.)
- Trakai Peninsula Castle (info on <http://www.seniejitrakai.lt/place-en-9/text>)
- Trakai History Museum (TIM)

Bookplates that do not include the obligatory inscription and the full name of the institution or individual person that owns the *ex libris* will not be allowed to participate in the competition and the exhibition of the bookplates. The maximum length of the longer edge of the print of may be up to 150 mm, and the paper sheet must not exceed A4 format. Bookplates may be created using traditional graphic techniques as well as new technologies, including computer graphics.

Bookplates will be accepted only when accompanied by a completed competition entry form. The entry form can be downloaded from the website:

<https://trakaimuziejus.lt/news/499/133/International-bookplate-competition-2020>

Competition entry must include one signed bookplate print. The number of entries is not limited. On the reverse side of the bookplate should be written the full name of the author, their home address and information about the bookplate: the year of its creation, the graphic technique used and the bookplate's dimensions.

Competition bookplates must be mailed until **29 May 2020 inclusive**, according to postal registration date at the following address:

International Bookplate Exhibition
Trakai History Museum
Kęstučio g. 4
LT-21104 Trakai
Lithuania

EVALUATION

Entries will be judged by a jury selected by Alvyga Zmejevskienė, director of Trakai History Museum.

Entries will be judged in five age groups: 5-6 years; 7-8 years; 9-10 years; 11-12 years and 13-19 years. The creators of the three best bookplates in each age group will be awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade certificates.

Ex libris will be selected for the exhibition, catalogue and awards from among those bookplates that best conform to the rules of the competition.

Entries will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Bookplates created using traditional graphic techniques;
- Bookplates created using new technologies, artistic techniques and computer graphics;
- The originality of the work;
- The understanding of the genre;
- Artistic approach to the subject matter;
- Creativity;
- Mastery of the chosen technique;
- Bookplates that have been stained, creased, torn or folded in half, as well as those arriving after the competition's closing date, will not be evaluated.

The competition jury will select the best 140 works and will notify their authors. The selected bookplates will be exhibited, and the exhibition catalogue will be published; authors of the selected bookplates will receive the catalogue free of charge. Top three authors of the selected works in every age group will receive certificates (1st, 2nd and 3rd grade); additional prizes, gifts and certificates established by the organiser or sponsors of the competition may be awarded to the authors of other selected bookplates. The selected best works will be exhibited at Trakai Island Castle and other public places. The awards, and the date and location of the exhibition's opening will be announced at a later date.

The organiser, Trakai History Museum, will retain all entries.

The organiser retains the right to photograph and reproduce bookplates entered into the competition, and to use them for the purposes of advertising the contest. Such images will be accompanied by the artist's name, without payment of royalties to their authors. Entries submitted to the competition are non-returnable. By participating in the contest, the author agrees to all terms and conditions of the competition.

The results of the competition will be announced on the website:

<https://trakaimuziejus.lt/news/499/133/International-bookplate-competition-2020>

ORGANISER OF THE COMPETITION:

Trakai History Museum
Kęstučio g. 4
LT-21104 Trakai
Lithuania

PARTNERS OF THE COMPETITION:



Trakai District Municipality



Trakai Art School



Čekijos Respublikos ambasada

Embassy of the Czech Republic



Šiauliai County Povilas Višinskis Public Library



Association of Art Teachers



Russi Karabiberov Art Galery

dailininkų sąjungos

galer'ja

Gallery of Lithuanian Artists' Association

CURATOR OF THE COMPETITION

Renata Mečkovskienė

e-mail: renata.meckovskiene@trakaimuziejus.lt

INTERNATIONAL BOOKPLATE COMPETITION 2020

**TRAKAI PENINSULA CASTLE:
UNICORN – A SYMBOL OF CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE**

ENTRY FORM

First name	
Family name	
E-mail	
Address	
Age (for children and students)	

Title	Dimensions (mm)	Technique

Please fill in legibly and mark the technique with the international code.

THE CODES FOR TECHNIQUES USED IN PRINTING EX LIBRIS

X	Relief printing
X1	Woodcut
X2	Wood engraving
X3	Linocuting
X6	Plastic
T	Typography, letterpress
T1	Linotype, indirect letterpress
P1	Line block (clichè)
P2	Half-tone (clichè)
P5	Collotype
P6	Photolithography
P7	Offset
P8	Original photograph, hologram
P9	Serigraphic reproduction (photosilkscreen)
CDR	Computer reproduced design
CGD	Computer generated design
C	Indentation
C1	Steel engraving
C2	Burin engraving
C3	Etching
C4	Drypoint
C5	Aquatint
C6	Soft-ground
C7	Mezzotint
C8	Intaglio engraving on linoleum, plastic, oth.
L1	Autolithography
L2	Autography (transfer lithography)
S	Stencil „pochoir“
S1	Original serigraphy (screenprinting)
S2	Mimeography (dye stencil)
S3	Katazome (oiled-paper stencil)
OWN	Creator technique
U	Frottage, collography
Y	Photocopy
/mon	Monotype
/3	Number of colours
/col	Hand-coloured
MT, Mix	Decoding of mixed technique



Trakai Peninsula castle tower



Zoomorphic mounting in the form of a unicorn found in the Trakai Peninsula Castle area