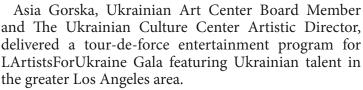


## UKRAINIAN ART CENTER NEWS



### **ARTISTIC RELIEF**

Ukrainian Art Center, under the patronage of Ukrainian Culture Center, hosted another LArtistsForUkraine fundraiser over the Thanksgiving weekend. Twenty LA artists contributed their artwork to benefit the Ukrainian people in their fight against merciless russian aggression. The Ukrainian Art Center was honored to curate the art of Alla Bartoshchuk, Maria Danylchuk, Yulia Gasio, Lado V. Goudjabidze, Marlene Greenberg, Alicia Hollinger, Anzhelika Hutkan, Drew Iwankiw, Natalka Klymkovych, Nick Le Skela, March Locust, Anna Maistrenko, Victor Makohonenko, Herman Padilla, Anastasia Shubina, Gary Sklar, Yuriy Viktiuk, Rich Wilkie, Anastasia Yanovych, and Robert Zirgulis.



Anna Maistrenko, President of the local branch of UNWLA in Los Angeles, and her husband Carlos Portillo were outstanding as Masters of Ceremony for the event.

The Ukrainian Art Center would like to thank Daria Chaikovska, the President, Victor Makohonenko for organizing the event, and Mariano Galante for catering.









#### CITY OF LOS ANGELES RESPONDS TO A NEW WAVE OF UKRAINIAN REFUGEES...

Over many years, our organization Ukrainian Art Center has worked together with our government representatives - our Mayor, Councilmen and recently with our county Supervisor.

In part, this fulfills Ukrainian Art Center's mission of outreach - where we are able to introduce and share our arts and culture with the constituents of our representatives. Several events were supported by them such as a Resolution in Support of Ukraine, naming Kyiv as a Sister City to Los Angeles, supplying tables and chairs for Art Center events, and even turning our City Hall blue and yellow as a sign of support for Ukraine, but the most important support IS the promise to rebuild the cities and cultural institutions!

Presently, we are very fortunate to have a community partner in our Supervisor Hilda L. Solis who has extended a helping hand in assisting to ease Ukrainian refuges burden of relocation.



"At my direction, Los Angeles County helped to meet the moment for our Ukrainian brothers and sisters - ensuring they have the opportunities and resources to start anew. Refugees, regardless of their origin, deserve our full support.

And I am committed to continuing to do all that I can to support those fleeing the devastating war in their home country," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, First District.

And so for this year's Thanksgiving, UAC was appropriated turkeys as part of an operation called Gobble-Gobble to help our new refugees from Ukraine enjoy the American tradition of giving thanks. And yes, many families were very thankful. At the same time, UAC received a small stipend to help our countryman enjoy the upcoming holidays.

Because of the tragic attack on Ukraine and the devastation of a nation, and the atrocities happening daily – our government has responded. Daria Chaikovsky, UAC - President

On behalf of Ukrainian Art Center Board, wishing you a Beautiful Holiday Season! A happy, safe and blessed Christmas and may the New Year be kind to all! Slava Ukraini!





# ЕЦЬКИИ ЦЕНТР

www.UkrainianArtCenterSoCal.org





A WORD FROM THE

PRESIDENT...

Donations can be made at: www.UkrainianArtCenterSoCal.org The Ukrainian Art Center, Inc. is a federally recognized 501c3 and your donation is 100% tax deductible

### UAC CONTRIBUTES TO UKRAINE FEST IN SANTA BARBARA

Traditionally, fall is the season overflowing with festivals and cultural celebrations to mark the harvest season and abundance of life. On October 6th, at the Granada theater, a Ukraine Fest

took place as part of downtown Santa Barbara's art walk. UCSB Arts and Lectures organized this event in partnership with UAC Cultural Diplomacy Department and the Stand With Ukraine Foundation. The celebration featured craft displays and bandura music. The night's highlight was a dance performance by a famous Stand With Ukraine Dance Group, which presented original choreography of the worldwide largest dancing flash mob in support of Ukraine. This spectacular dance, launched by SWUF creative activists from Los Angeles, has been repeated over 100 times on every continent since the russian full-scale invasion. "An amazing group of people came together for this cultural and educational event. The dancers with their flamboyant performances were phenomenal!" said Roman Baratiak, host and organizer of the fest. The dancing performance is called "Good Evening,

we are from Ukraine!" was followed by a folk dance masterclass given by choreographer Tetiana Shestak-Spektor and speaker Iryna Vasylkova. "This dancing flash mob is a unique artistic project of cultural diplomacy, a soft yet highly efficient power focusing the attention of the world community on a victorious struggle of the Ukrainian people against the Russian invaders. All the glorious history of Ukrainian resistance and resilience is epitomized in one dance." - noted Iryna Vasylkova, head of the project.

It was an inspiring transition and a pre-show to the DakhaBra-kha concert. At the crossroads of folklore and theater, DakhaBra-kha has honed an evocative musical approach that "brings a beguiling blend of music from an anguished nation" (The Boston Globe).

UAC was honored to join the Ukraine fest in celebration of the indomitable spirit and determination of Ukraine.

Iryna Vasylkova, Cultural Diplomacy Program Director



Традиційно осінь  $\epsilon$  сезоном рясним на фестивалі та святкування, присвячені збору врожаю та подяки за життя в

достатку. В рамках жовтневої арт-забави міста Санта-Барбара, на площі театру Гранада, відбувся Ukraine Fest. Цей захід було організовано UCSB Arts and Lectures у партнерстві з відділом програм культурної дипломатії Українського Мистецького Центру та благодійним фондом Stand With Ukraine. На святі проходила виставка українських ремесел та грала музика бандури. Родзинкою вечора став виступ відомого танцювального колективу Stand With Ukraine Foundation, який представив оригінальну хореографію найбільшого у світі танцювального флешмобу на підтримку України. Цей видовищний танець, запущений креативними активістами Лос-Анджелеса, відтворили понад 100 разів на всіх континентах після повномасштабного російського вторгнення. «На цій освітній культурній події зібралася дивовижна група людей. Танцюристи зі своїм яскравим виступом були феноменальні!»

– відзначив Роман Баратяк, ведучий та організатор фестивалю. Після танцювальної композиції під назвою «Доброго вечора, ми з України!» хореографка Тетяна Шестак-Спектор та спікерка Ірина Василькова провели майстер-клас з українського народного танцю. "Цей танцювальний флешмоб є унікальним мистецьким проєктом культурної дипломатії, м'якою та надзвичайно потужною силою, здатною тримати у фокусі увагу світової спільноти до звитяжної боротьби українського народу з російськими окупантами. В одному танці втілюється вся наша славетна історія, вся краса та міць нескореної України." - зауважила Ірина Василькова, очільниця проєкту. Це був надихаючий захід перед концертом гурту DakhaBrakha. На перехресті фольклору й театру DakhaBrakha відточила свій унікальний музичний підхід, що спонукає до розуміння музики та душі стражденної нації.

Український Мистецький Центр мав честь приєднатися до фестивалю Ukraine Fest з метою відзначення незламності духу українського народу.

Photography Credits:
David Bazemore,
Daiva Chekanauskas Navarrette

Прина Василькова, Директор
програми культурної дипломатії

### SPOTLIGHT ON Drew (Andrij) Iwankiw

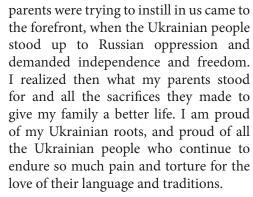
My name is Andrij (Drew) Iwankiw. I am an American Ukrainian artist, formally trained in digital media and extended reality. In 2004, I graduated with a BFA in Fine Arts New Media from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. In 2015, together with my business partner, Roman Gora, We launched an Augmented Reality company called the AR FIRM (www.thearfirm.com). New for 2022, We started LA NFT Firm, a division of the company that focuses on web3 and digital collectibles (NFTs).

Growing up in Southern California, I knew that I was different from the rest of my friends early on. My parents were immigrants from Ukraine, and I struggled constantly to fit into American culture. I was not aware of the sacrifices my parents endured in order to give me a better life than the one they left behind.

My father's family left Stryj, Ukraine during WWII. stayed in Berchtesgaden, Bavaria in a misplaced people's camp and came to the US in 1950. My mother's family escaped from Buchach, Ukraine, during the Soviet occupation in 1957, and after living in Walbrzych, Poland, emigrated to Pasadena, Ca in 1961. Both of my parents were very proud of being Ukrainian, and taught me and my siblings, Stefan and Kristina, the value of freedom. They instilled in

us strong ethics, the value of hard work, and the love for their Ukrainian heritage and culture.

In 2014, I experienced a kind of "awakening" - everything that my



I am honored to contribute to the Ukrainian fight for independence. I stand with Ukraine and support the Ukrainian people in their choice to live in a democratic and free society. Slava Ukraini! Glory to her heroes!

Vinok Art summary if you need below.....

My inspiration for the piece comes from a melodic, and rich history of my Slavic ancestors. I have chosen the classic

VINOK, a festive wreath - a Byzantine medieval flower crown worn by young women that dates back to pre Christian times and celebrates nature and the circle of life.

It is a national symbol of peace, unity, and survival. Today, especially, it empowers Ukrainian pride and inspires the peaceful protest against the invasion of Ukraine. The beautiful and vibrant colors of the local flowers and plants on the wreath, soften the history of

the Ukrainian people's violent struggle and testament to their voice and identity. Victory to Ukraine!

Drew Iwankiw





### **MYKOLA P. NOVAK 100 ANNIVERSARY**

### MYKOLA NOVAK: "OUR HEART IS BURNING FOR OUR UKRAINE"

January 14, 2022, is the 120th anniversary of Mykola Novak, one of the founders of the Ukrainian Center (now - UCC) and the ally of the Ukrainian community of Los Angeles.

Mykola Novak's life path started in Ivano-Frankivsk (Western Ukraine) and it was full of great love toward the Ukrainian land and concern for its future. When he was 25, young and fearless, he received some contracts for filmmaking and moved to Canada, then 2 years later - to New York. Everywhere he went Mykola Novak was an active community organizer and worked hard for the unity of Ukrainians.

In New York Mykola met his future wife Nadia Mandzij. Soon thereafter the Novaks had two sons: Orest and Taras. In New York Novak co-produced and acted in the first Ukrainian films "Natalka-Poltavka" and "Marusya". On his way to

Hollywood, he dreamed of producing a film about Ukraine's fight for freedom and showing the unbreakable spirit of Ukrainian patriotism. But it didn't quite work out. Instead, he dove fully into the complex work of community organizing. He assumed command of the Ukrainian Cultural Center for a great number of years and participated in buying and setting up the People's house of Los Angeles. His tireless and selfless work contributed to the development of the Ukrainian orthodox parish of St. Andrew's church.

After joining the Ukrainian community in the 1940s Mykola Novak was meticulously engaging in active propaganda among the Ukrainian families to get the remaining ones to join the Ukrainian center and not participate in the communist gatherings. "My father lived and breathed Ukraine, his heart ached for its future, and his goal was to defeat communism and the soviet regime that has subjugated Ukraine. He was an ideological warrior and that took a lot of his time. As a result, all of the everyday household matters fell onto my mother, she worked and maintained our family's home. She has never reproached him and has always supported all of my father's initiatives." - the younger son, Taras Novak, recounts his memories of his father.

Later Mykola Novak will write in his memoirs: "If in my life-

time I have managed to do something to better the lives of Ukrainians, then I should thank God for sending me my wife Nadia, who has always been my closest companion in all of our community affairs.

The Ukrainian community of Los Angeles is deeply grateful to the Novak family for their dedicated joint effort to preserve the Ukrainian identity.

Halyna Stadnyk

### МИКОЛА НОВАК: "МИ ГОРІЛИ СЕРЦЕМ ДО НАШОЇ УКРАЇНИ"



14 грудня 2022 року минає 120 років з дня народження Миколи Новака, одного із засновників Української Централі (нині УКО) та сподвижника української громади Лос-Анджелесу.

Життєвий шлях Миколи Новака розпочався на Івано-Франківщині (Західна Україна) і був сповнений великою любов"ю до української землі та вболіванням за її майбутнє. У двадцять п"ять років, отримавши контракти на фільми, молодий та завзятий Новак приїздить до Канади, а вже за два роки до Нью-Йорку. У кожному місті Микола Новак був надзвичайно активним у громадському житті і намагався об"єднати українців.

У Нью-Йорку Микола зустрів свою майбутню дружину Надію з роду Мандзій. Згодом у родини Новак народилося двоє синів Орест і Тарас. У Нью-Йорку Микола Новак був співпродюсером і актором перших українських фільмів "Наталка-Полтавка" та "Маруся". А вже

їдучи до Голлівуду він мріяв спродюсувати нову стрічку про українські визвольні змагання, аби зобразити незламний дух українського патріотизму. Але не склалося. На то місць, Микола поринув у складну громадську роботу. Він очолив Український культурний осередок на багато років і долучився до купівлі та відкриття Народного дому в Лос-Анджелесі. Його невтомна і жертовна праця сприяла також розвитку православної парафії при церкві Святого Андрія (Лос-Анджелес).

Влившись до української громади Лос-Анджелесу у 1940-х роках Микола Новак провадив кропітку агітаційну пропаганду серед українських родин, аби переманити останніх до українського осередку, щоб ті не відвідували комуністичні імпрези. "Тато жив Україною, він вболівав за її майбутнє, його ціль була — побороти комунізм, радянський режим, який поневолював Україну. Він був ідейним сподвижником, а це забирало багато часу. Відтак, на маму лягали усі побутові справи, вона працювала і підтримувала родинний затишок. Проте ніколи не нарікала, і завжди підтримувала ініціативи батька", - розповідає у своїх спогадах про батька молодший син Тарас Новак.

Згодом у своїх біографічних спогадах Микола Новак напише: "Якщо я щось зробив добре для української справи

у своєму житті, - то мушу завдячувати Богові, що послав мені таку дружину Надію, яка завжди була моїм найближчим співпрацівником у всіх наших громадських турботах".

Українська громада Лос-Анджелесу пам"ятає і дякує родині Новаків за віддану сподвижницьку працю на благо збереження української ідентичності.

Галина Стадник



### TIME'S 2022 PERSON OF THE YEAR

The editors of the magazine have chosen the Ukrainian president as the person that had the most influence on the news this past year.

Hearing this news today we are not surprised what so ever. If one had heard this a year ago, well, it probably would have been more controversial. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has filled his presidential shoes very well indeed and not in a way that any president would want to except when needed. He stepped up and proved himself to be the right man at the right time.

It was two days after an unprovoked attack by Russia that he was given the opportunity to leave Ukraine for safety. President Biden sent out an invitation for the President and his family but he stood his ground as many Ukrainians have. "The fight is here; I need ammunition, not a ride," and this gave Ukrainians not only in Ukraine but

all around the world a glimmer of hope, strength and most of all pride.

Ukraine has been put through hell and even worse in some instances. Things have been done that we would never have expected in the 21st century and sadly it has. President Zelenskyy has been bearing the pain along with not only the families of his country but all Ukrainians whether it be Ukrainians that just left their homes or families that have lived away from their homeland for generations. We can see it in his face, we can hear it in his voice. It is wearing him down greatly but he will not let it knock him down.

In an essay revealing Zelenskyy as 2022 Person of the Year written by Simon Shuster: "Zelenskyy's success as a wartime leader has relied on the fact that courage is contagious.

It spread through Ukraine's political leadership in the first days of the invasion, as everyone realized the President had stuck around."

Not only has he stuck around but he has been rallying and pushing for the strongest of support from the rest of the world knowing that if Putin got his way and took hold of Ukraine,



it wouldn't end there. The President as well as all other Ukrainians know that he would not stop there at all but with a puffed up ego he would feel he could conquer anything at that point. Russian aggression on Ukraine has been going on for centuries and for the most part has been hidden or buried or lied about. Especially the atrocities of the Holodomor, a very disastrous genocide about which Ukrainians have been saying - "Never Again" and yet, it is happening again and still going on as we speak... Ukrainians know exactly what is going on right now and it is a genocide once more. Zelenskyy knows this and is determined to fight to the end knowing that many of our people and land will be unavoidably lost to destruction. We cannot give in or give anything away that does not belong to anybody but us Ukrainians. Greed, envy and ego are not an excuse for this attack.

As a man whose previous career was acting and comedy, we should not forget that this man has a degree in law and had a political career. Not only does he know how to handle the media

but, he knows how to act as a president . When he was elected President in 2019, he was not welcomed fully with open arms by all and even once the war started he still was being watched carefully. It has been 10 months since the initial attack with no end in sight yet. Unlike the Russians, our soldiers are being supported and supplied down to the most basic of needs, their morals are strong and they post amazing and uplifting videos. This is reflective of a great leader and his people.

The land and the Ukrainian people are suffering now but have an end goal for complete victory and independence to look forward to. We are being led by a man that will not jump ship for anything. It is most important for the world to see this- let alone his own people.

Yes, today we can definitely accept that the person for Time's 2022 Person of the Year is chosen well...Slava Ukraini!

Elizabeth Zaharkiv-Yemetz, Vice President of UAC



## CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

During the Holiday Season our hearts are brimming over with thanks for kindness received. Expressing our deep and sincere gratitude for the dedication, hard work and support shown in the successful fulfillment of the UAC mission, we are pleased and honored to announce the names of our brilliant team members and dedicated contributors who have been awarded the certificate of recognition for their outstanding service in preservation and promotion of Ukrainian art, music and culture:

Roman Baratiak Ashley Green Sandra and Michael Janssen Kathy Kartalis







### Dear Members and Supporters,

Holiday Greetings to All and a gentle reminder that when you do your holiday shopping on Amazon please use the Smile. Amazon app or just sign in to Smile.Amazon.com and select our non-profit - Ukrainian Art Center, Inc. as your support selection. That is all, but each purchase brings \$\$\$ to our organization to cover the cost of printing or event postage. So enjoy this special time of the year and don't forget to choose UAC to support every time you

go to **Smile.Amazon.com**.

#### Help Bring Joy This Holiday Season

Shop for Holiday gifts on smile.amazon.com or with AmazonSmile enabled in the app to support us, at no cost

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Happy Holidays and may 2023 be kinds to all

Daria Chaikovsky, President



Thank You and Best Wishes for the Holiday
Season and a Happy New Year!

3 Різдвом Христовим і Новим Роком! Прийміть найкращі побажання та щиру подяку за Вашу підтримку українського містецтва в м. Лос Анджелес.

UAC Board of Directors Дірекція Центру Українського Містецтва

### THE HISTORY OF THE UKRAINIAN ART CENTER Based in Los Angeles, California, UAC, Ukrainian Art Center

is a non-profit community organization. It was initiated by Daria Chaikovsky together with a group of like minded people in 1986 to preserve, promote and develop the Ukrainian arts in Los Angeles and California. Its initial goals reflect its present plan to create a new Ukrainian Museum in Los Angeles and to develop cultural and educational programs, alongside festivals and exhibitions. Mrs. Chaikovsky worked tirelessly with the UAC Board alongside her own business, presenting folk festivals, lectures, workshops and community projects on a small scale, consistently providing a much needed resource for the local area. Over the years UAC was the main focal point for Ukrainian arts and culture on the West coast and involved people from all ages and backgrounds including non-Ukrainians. During these fruitful years, the local city council and private patrons funded its activities including regular Annual Easter Pysanka and Holiday Yalynka events, exhibitions, concerts and more, encouraging many diverse groups and individuals to explore the richness of Ukrainian Culture.

Become a Member of UAC If you enjoyed any of UAC programs/events like Maidan, Road to Freedom, Pysanka Festival, Museum Fundraiser Auction, Magestic Woman-Lesia Ukrainka, and other events and workshops over the years, you are invited to become Member of UAC and take part in development or have the opportunity to help the organization grow. A Ukrainian background is not necessary - just a passion for and a need to learn about Ukrainian contemporary arts and folk arts. You will work closely with our artists, board directors and other members. We could use your help and expertise in running future programs. Email: ukrainianartcenter@gmail.com | Tel: 818-635-8999 Website: ukrainianartcentersocal.org | Facebook: www.facebook.com/UkrainianArtCenterLA "Ukrainian Art Center Los Angeles"

Newsletter The Board worked together to create a newly formatted newsletter. Previously several editions of the UAC Newsletters were published and after a break has reemerged in its new form and is available online. The UAC is run by a newly formed Board, each bringing with them unique skills and life experience that enriches the organization with a true commitment to developing its long term goals.

#### 'The Ukrainian Art Center News' Editorial Group:

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Daria Chaikovsky; CONTRIBUTORS: Iryna Vasylkova Benbenisty, Olena Romanivna Kalish, Elizabeth Zaharkiv Yemetz; DESIGNER: Petro Brecko; WEBSITE: Andrea Kusina; IT: Roman Yemetz; PRINTING: PrinterPretation

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