10/06/2024

Arts Council England

Unit A, Level 4, New England House

**New England Street** 

Brighton

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Czech & Slovak Club UK C.I.C. non-profit organisation

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Re: Letter of Support for Slovak Theatre in London Grant Application

Dear Members of the Arts Council England,

I am writing to express my strong support for the grant application submitted by Slovak Theatre in London. As director of Czech & Slovak Club UK CIC, a dedicated community organisation committed to promoting the welfare, arts, and culture of the Czech, Slovak and other Central & Eastern European communities living in the UK, I have witnessed firsthand the significant impact that Slovak Theatre London has had on our community.

Slovak Theatre in London is the only organisation of its kind supporting collaboration and original work of artists of Slovak and Czech heritage. Their unique position in the cultural landscape allows them to provide invaluable contributions to the diverse artistic community in the UK. The innovative performances and programmes they offer not only celebrate Slovak and Czech cultures but also foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity among audiences from various backgrounds.

One of their most exciting initiatives is the new project, "Portraits of Slovak and Czech Britain." This project uniquely connects the Slovak and Czech diaspora across generations and professions, bringing together various community organisations. By highlighting the stories and contributions of Slovak and Czech individuals in Britain, this project strengthens community bonds and promotes cultural pride and cohesion.

The theatre's dedication to excellence in the arts is evident through their high-quality productions, which blend traditional Slovak and Czech storytelling with contemporary themes. This approach not only preserves cultural heritage but also makes it accessible and relevant to modern audiences. By doing so, Slovak Theatre in London plays a crucial role in promoting cultural dialogue and mutual respect within our community.

Moreover, Slovak Theatre in London has been actively involved in community engagement activities, offering workshops, educational programmes, and collaborative projects to Czech and Slovak supplementary schools that our organization runs. These initiatives have provided invaluable opportunities for local residents, especially young people, to develop their creative skills and gain a deeper appreciation for the arts. The theatre's commitment to inclusivity and community participation aligns perfectly with the values of our organisation.

In addition to their artistic contributions, Slovak Theatre London has demonstrated exceptional organisational capability and a clear vision for future growth. Their strategic plans for expanding their reach and enhancing their programming are both ambitious and achievable. With the support of an Arts Council England grant, Slovak Theatre in London will be able to further their mission, reach a wider audience, and continue to be a cornerstone of cultural and artistic excellence in London.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support Slovak Theatre London's grant application and urge you to consider the profound positive impact that this organisation has on our community. Their work is not only artistically significant but also essential in promoting cultural diversity and community cohesion.

Thank you for considering their application.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at dklamparova@czskclub.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Dana Klampárová

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Director, Czech & Slovak Club UK CIC
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