

REGULATIONS OF

EX LIBRIS CONTEST "ALYTUS – LITHUANIAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2022.

BUILDING BRIDGES"

Bridges connecting everything – the symbol of "Alytus – Lithuanian Capital of Culture 2022". Bridges to people, bridges of creators and communities, bridges from the present to the past and the future, bridges connecting old and young generations, culture and business, compatriots who have stayed here and are scattered all around the world. However, the most important foundation of all cultural bridges is the human being. We would like to invite you to join, get involved, create and be a part of Alytus 2022.

Alytus Jurgis Kunčinas Public Library, being a part of "Alytus – Lithuanian Capital of Culture 2022", announces an ex-libris competition and invites Lithuanian and foreign artists **TO CREATE EX LIBRIS THAT GIVE MEANING TO ALL-ENCOMPASSING BRIDGES AS A HISTORICAL REALITY OF ALYTUS OR AS A METAPHOR (see the list of twelve bridges below).**

PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST – to give meaning to the cultural event "Alytus – Lithuanian Capital of Culture 2022" and to express the visual identity of Alytus city with specially created forms of small graphics and their permanent dissemination.

CONTEST ORGANISERS - Alytus Jurgis Kunčinas Public Library

CURATOR AND CONSULTANT OF THE CONTEST – Arūnas Vaitkus, e-mail vaitkusa@gmail.com

PARTICIPANTS – artists of Lithuania and other countries, creators of small graphics.

CONTEST CONDITIONS

There is no participation fee. All graphics techniques are accepted.

Each participant may send a maximum of 3 works, each with 3 mandatory autographed prints. The length of the ex libris must not exceed 15 cm. The last name, first name, place of residence (country, city), details of the work (year of creation of the work, bridge/bridges to which the work is dedicated, graphic techniques and dimensions) must be written on the reverse side of the ex libris.

Ex libris required entries:

"Ex libris. ALKS-2022" or "Ex libris. "Alytus – Lithuanian Capital of Culture 2022"

All sent works shall remain in the Alytus Jurgis Kunčinas Public Library.

Ex libris are not refundable, no payment shall be made for those sent or published.

Ex libris intended for the contest may be sent until 10 October inclusive (the date of the postage stamp on the sent envelope shall be considered to be valid).

The exhibition of contest works shall be exhibited from 27 October 2022 at the Alytus Jurgis Kunčinas Public Library.

SEND EX LIBRIS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

To the ex libris contest
Alytus Jurgis Kunčinas Public Library
Seirijų st. 2
LT- 62116, Alytus, Lithuania

NOTE: the organisers of the contest reserve the right to use the ex-libris obtained for the contest in publishing, advertising, invitations, catalogue or poster creation.

PRIZES AND JURY

Each ex libris submitted to the contest will be evaluated by the ex libris contest jury. Corresponding to the theme, artistic ex libris will be awarded with prizes, diplomas, certificates of acknowledgment, etc.

Winners of the contest shall be awarded cash prizes:

First place – EUR 500;
Second place – EUR 300;
Third place – EUR 100.

LIST OF TWELVE BRIDGES THAT MAY BE DEPICTED IN EX LIBRIS:

BRIDGES AS ALYTUS REALITY

At the beginning of the 20th century, there were three bridges in Alytus – buildings of complex and at the same time modern construction. Three bridges in one city were considered to be a rare phenomenon at that time. Alytus was very proud of that.

Currently, the four bridges in Alytus are connected by excellent bicycle paths, which is one of the city's distinctiveness. Bridges are the strength and unity of the city, and the Nemunas does not divide the city into two parts, but decorates it instead.

1. KANIŪKAI BRIDGE

The history of bridges began in 1892, when the first Kaniūkai bridge over the Nemunas near Alytus was built. In 1915, the bridge was blown up, later rebuilt, and in 1976–1977 it was reconstructed.

2. RAILWAY BRIDGE

The railway bridge connecting the two banks of the Nemunas was built in 1899 during the construction of the railway from Varėna towards Alytus and from Alytus towards Grodno. It was one of the first railway bridges in the Russian Empire and Russian engineers were very proud of it. With the outbreak of the First World War, on 14 August 1915, the Russian army retreating from Alytus blew up the bridge truss and piers. The Germans who occupied Alytus built a temporary wooden military railway bridge in its place. Its height was 35 m, length – 294 m. The bridge served until 1926 and was later disassembled.

3. ANTANAS JUOZAPAVIČIUS BRIDGE

In the city itself, a wooden bridge connected the banks of the Nemunas only in 1909. But the bridge existed very briefly, in 1915, as it was blown up by the retreating Russian soldiers, just like the Kaniūkai bridge. The Germans who occupied the city rebuilt the bridge and it was also wooden. On 13 February 1919, during the struggle for Lithuania's independence, the first officer of the struggle for independence, Antanas Juozapavičius, was shot on the bridge. In honor of the officer, the bridge was named after him. The wooden bridge had to be repaired, so it was often closed or the traffic had to be restricted. The idea of starting to spread around that it was necessary to build a new, modern and reliable bridge. Construction of the reinforced concrete bridge was completed at the end of 1937. It was the largest and most modern bridge in the Baltic states. The townspeople could enjoy the new bridge only for a short period of time. After the outbreak of World War II in Alytus, the Russians covered the bridge in mines as they retreated, but did not manage to blow it up. The Germans did it in 1944. The bridge was restored only in 1967, and in 1990 the name of A. Juozapavičius was returned to the bridge.

4. LITHUANIA'S MILLENNIUM BRIDGE

The design of the Alytus bypass bridge was started in 1985. By 1993, access roads to the future bridge were prepared. Due to the deteriorating economic situation, the construction of the bridge was repeatedly stopped. On 9 July 2008, a memory capsule of the reinforced concrete bridge under construction was installed, and it was given the name of the Lithuania's Millennium Bridge. The bridge was opened to traffic on 28 October 2011.

5. WHITE ROSE BRIDGE

The newest and the highest pedestrian and bicycle bridge in Lithuania was built in 2015 on the surviving piers of the former railway bridge. It is the highest bridge in Lithuania, reaching a height of 38.1 metres and being 240.53 metres long, and is recorded in the Lithuanian Book of Records. The people of Alytus voted for it to be named as the White Rose Bridge. Bridge height – 38.1 m, length – 240.52 m. It connected the bicycle paths on both banks of the Nemunas, which divided the city.

BRIDGES AS A METAPHOR

6. MEMORY BRIDGES

7. SLEEPING BRIDGES

8. (UN)BUILT BRIDGES

9. REINFORCED CONCRETE BRIDGES WITH WINGS

10. OPEN BRIDGES

11. GREEN BRIDGES

12. RISING BRIDGES