



Providing fitness and community  
for individuals and families  
through physical, educational,  
cultural, and social programs

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

June/July Slovo  
articles due May 1

**Sokol Minnesota  
Singers**  
first and third Tuesdays,  
10 a.m.-noon.

**Friendly Friday  
Evening Social**  
Friday, May 10, 7 p.m.

**Sokol Gift Shop**  
open during events  
and by appointment

**Children's Cultural  
Day Camp**  
at C.S.P.S. Hall  
(info on page 8)

**94th Sokol Camp  
Booya Picnic**  
Sunday, August 11,  
noon- 4 p.m.  
Food, beverages,  
music, folk dancing.  
19201 Woodland Acres  
South, Pine City  
Volunteer:  
Kari or Scott Muyres:  
763-226-0313

**35th Czech & Slovak  
Festival**  
Sunday, September 29



*Spring*  
CELEBRATION

Families and Friends Celebrate with our Sokol Youths!

**Saturday, May 4, 2024**  
**Start time: 10:30 a.m.**  
C.S.P.S. Hall 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's  
*Taneční Mládež a Taneční Teens*  
Dance Performance  
*and*  
Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities  
Student Recognition

Friday, May 17, 7 p.m. C.S.P.S. Hall, Third Floor  
**Bohemian Music Sellers in the United States**  
By *Filip Sir* (Digitization and New Media Department,  
Czech National Museum, Prague)  
*Discussing Historic Music Sellers in the United States*, including  
A.J. Jelinek (New Prague), W.J. Dyer (St Paul), and M.A. David (Montgomery)

**Spring Mushroom Hunt!**  
Led by **Mojo Mushroom** ([mojomushroom.com](http://mojomushroom.com))  
**Sunday, May 19, 3 p.m. at a secret Twin Cities location**  
Limited space. Online registration/payment required.  
\$10/ Sokol members, \$15 non-members  
Sign up at [www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)

## Prezidentčin komentář/President's Notes by Lucy Rose

Spring has sprung, and things are ramping up around the C.S.P.S. Hall. If you've been to the Hall recently, you may have noticed we removed several large box elder and walnut trees along the western edge of the parking lot. The trees were not in great shape to begin with, and the walnuts were a particular annoyance during the fall if you parked your car beneath one. After much discussion and thoughtful planning by the members of our Building and Property Trustees Committee (BPTC), I'm happy to report that we will plant new trees along the western edge of the parking lot this spring. In addition to the beautiful linden tree that currently stands alone, we'll add several maples and a few oaks to the mix. Unfortunately, these young trees will not provide much shade for this year's Czech & Slovak Festival, but over the coming years they will grow to provide us with welcome shade and vivid colors in the summer and fall. Many thanks to the volunteer members of our BPTC, who worked long and hard to find just the right trees for our location.

I want to welcome home the members of our Sokol gymnastics competition teams and their instructors, who represented Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota at the regional gymnastics meet in Omaha, Nebraska on April 27, where they competed against teams from several other Sokol units from the upper Midwest. The gymnasts and their instructors worked incredibly hard during their weekly practices at the C.S.P.S. Hall to prepare for this competition. I am so proud they were able to represent us so well in Omaha.



At the end of March, Sokol Minnesota hosted its regular spring Pancake Breakfast, Craft, and *Koláče* Bake Sale. A big thank you to our dedicated volunteers and vendors, as well as everyone who braved the slippery roads to make our spring Pancake Breakfast a huge success. (See page 4.)

Coming up in May, we have our next regular Friendly Fridays get-together at the C.S.P.S. Hall on May 10, from 7-10 p.m. These monthly gatherings are a great way to meet other Sokol members, to play board games, or to learn a new card game, like *mariaš*. Please join us. If you'd like, you can also bring a beverage and/or a light snack to share. (See page 3.)

I am immensely proud that nearly all of the special event programming, classes, and other cultural opportunities that Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota offers to the community are made possible through the dedication of our volunteers. It is truly a testament to the strength of our Sokol community that month after month, our members come up with creative ways to celebrate our shared culture and heritage. I thank you for supporting our community through your Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota membership.

I look forward to meeting you at the next event. *Nazdar!*



Lucy  
Brudnak Rose

### Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota 2024 BOD (Board of Directors)

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Telephone: 651-290-0542

Past issues of *Slovo* and  
Hall Calendar of Events:  
[www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota provides fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural, and social programs for children, teens, and adults.

Information on our programs, calendar of events, membership, C.S.P.S. Hall rentals, and gift shop, plus e-addresses for our board, program directors, volunteer staff, and the Czech Honorary Consul, as well as *Slovo* past issues, are available at  
[www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org) or  
[www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota](https://www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota)



Use our  
QR code to  
[sokolmn.org](http://sokolmn.org)  
to follow  
all of our  
activities,  
events,  
and classes!

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

# YLA

Youth Leadership Award  2024

The Sokol Minnesota Youth Leadership Awards are a way to encourage and recognize outstanding participation of youth members and to foster a future generation of members and leaders for our Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota organization.

Up to three Sokol Minnesota youths will receive the YLA and a \$500 cash prize; \$400 each from Sokol Minnesota, plus \$100 each contributed by Honorary Czech Consul M. L. Kucera.

A separate award and \$100 prize is given for the Best Essay, donated by Louise Wessinger.

Applications for the 2024 Youth Leadership Awards opened April 1.

The criteria for applying for the award is outlined on our Sokol website [www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)

Applications must be submitted by July 1, 2024.

Questions? Contact: Blanka Brichta  
[brichta.blanka@gmail.com](mailto:brichta.blanka@gmail.com)  
or Louise Wessinger  
[louisewessinger@msn.com](mailto:louisewessinger@msn.com)

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

• **6th Annual Czech May Day Celebration** Heritage Park in Montgomery, Sunday, May 5, noon-5 p.m. Ribbon Dances around the May Pole, folk dancing, concertina music, Czech food and beer.

• **Join the Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures book group**  
Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m. at C.S.P.S. Hall. Discussion of *My Dear Boy: A World War II Story of Escape, Exile, and Revelation* by Joanie Holzer Schirm. Literary Ventures is sponsored by the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, and the Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis. Find information and updates at [cs-center.org](http://cs-center.org) or contact [gwen@cs-center.org](mailto:gwen@cs-center.org).

## Thanking Tom Aubrecht and Welcoming Kelly Rynda

by the *Slovo* Committee



Tom Aubrecht

Long-time Sokol Minnesota member Tom Aubrecht is well known to many Sokol Minnesota members. He and his late wife, Judy Aubrecht, have been members and front-line volunteers for numerous events for years. Therefore, it was natural when the vital position of copy/managing editor opened up five years ago that Tom and Judy stepped forward. Since 2019, Tom has made sure our *Slovo* newsletter has been produced and on time. Tom noted, "I was honored to work with the great *Slovo* team, dedicated contributors, and conscientious reviewers in promoting and documenting the organizers' efforts and attendees' participation in Sokol Minnesota's physical, educational, cultural, and social programs, as well as those of our affiliated groups." Sokol Minnesota members thank you, Tom, for sharing your expertise, skills, and time for these five years as copy editor. Your dedication to the *Slovo* and Sokol Minnesota is deeply appreciated.

When the announcement went out that Sokol Minnesota needed a new copy/managing editor for the *Slovo*, member Kelly Rynda answered. Kelly joined Sokol Minnesota in 2019 and has been taking Czech language classes. She has done newsletter writing and editing in previous jobs and in her current employment with Literacy Minnesota. Kelly enjoys language and grammar and feels volunteering for this position is a great way to contribute to Sokol Minnesota. Kelly is assisting with the production of this May *Slovo*. She officially assumes the helm for the June/July combined issue. Welcome to the *Slovo* team, Kelly.



Kelly Rynda

## Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities' Spring Event Mushroom Craft Silent Auction Fundraiser 2024

Inspired by "The Remarkable World of Mushrooms," class from Virtual University for the Third Age (VU3V).

Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities created this fundraiser to honor "The Remarkable World of Mushrooms," the introductory class from the Virtual University for the Third Age (VU3V), to awaken our creativity, and to offer another popular fundraiser that benefits Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota.

**Link opens May 5. Place bids from May 5 to May 10.**

**Find link: Sokol Minnesota's website ([sokolmn.org](http://sokolmn.org)), Facebook, Instagram, or E-blast.**

Pick up winning items on Friendly Friday, May 10, at 7 p.m.



Tvoření a fundraising zima 2024: téma HOUBY!  
Craft Fundraising 2024 - MUSHROOM inspiration for you!



Bob Kostichka is one of our pancake experts.

## Wintery Outside, but Inside: Warm Spring Pancake Breakfast, Craft, and *Koláče* Bake Sale

by Joyce Tesarek

Despite weather forecasters predicting blizzard conditions, 97 diners came to C.S.P.S. Hall on March 24 to enjoy the spring Pancake Breakfast, Craft, and *Koláče* Bake Sale.

A delicious plate of pancakes, sausage, and fruit cup was

served. *Koláče* and Bob Kostichka's special caramel corn sold out at the bake sale table.

The other vendors were Czech Sis Kitchen (Markéta Pálková and Ludmila Pálková), Marilyn Gomez, Mirwood Cottage (Chuck and Jean Draheim), and the Sokol Gift Shop, plus an information table by the Honorary Czech Consul.

A special treat for the diners was accordion music by brothers Bob and Frank Mislivec. After finishing their pancakes, they asked if they could provide some background accordion music while people enjoyed their breakfasts and shopped at the craft and food tables. "Our accordions are just down in the truck!" they said. We were more than happy to open up the balcony above our main hall for them to add ambience to the event.

Our volunteer Sokol bakers made 480 *koláče*: Mary Cahill, Roger Green, Don Haselbauer, Katie Haselbauer, Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, and Joyce Tesarek

As always, our many Sokol volunteers made the event possible. Co-chairs were Mary Cahill and Joyce Tesarek, along with volunteers Rosemary Baiden, James Bradford, Megan Brozovich, Dennis Cahill, Jean Draheim, Roger Green, Myra Grignon, Glynis Grostephan, Dave Grostephan, Theresa Hudachek, Chantelle Kley, Bob Kostichka, M. L. Kucera, Doreen McKenney, Becky Olson, Lucy Rose, Steve Shimer, Joan Sedlacek, Tereza Treanor, and Cinnamon Whaley.

## Czech Poet Petr Hruška at the C.S.P.S. Hall by Sally Lieberman

Twenty-five guests gathered at the C.S.P.S. Hall on Friday, March 29 for an evening of poetry in Czech and English. Our esteemed guest from the Czech Republic, Petr Hruška, sometimes called the "Rock Star of Czech Poets," was on a multi-city tour of the United States to share his first volume of poems in English, *Everything Indicates* (Leith, Scotland: Blue Diode Press, 2023; translated by Jonathan Bolton). The tour was sponsored by the Czech Literary Centre in Prague, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Literary Ventures, and the Honorary Czech Consulate/Minneapolis co-sponsored the event.



(L-R) Tim Nolan, Petr Hruška, and Jan Zigmund. The appreciative audience enjoyed speaking with the literary guests after the reading, discussing life in Hruška's native Ostrava, his work, and also life in Minnesota.

Hruška was joined by Minnesota poet Tim Nolan. Hruška read several of his poems in Czech, then Nolan read the same poems from the English version of *Everything Indicates*. Nolan also read some of his own poems, and Hruška read his original Czech translation of Nolan's poem, "Red Wing Correctional Facility."

Jan Zigmund, of the Czech Literary Centre in Prague, served as interpreter for Hruška; he also offered some of his own insights as well. Hruška expressed his excitement at seeing the Mississippi River for the first time when he arrived from the airport that Friday afternoon; the river figured in one of his first literary works, an adventure novel he wrote when he was eight years old.

4 May 2024 *Slovo*

## Sokol Minnesota Welcomes New Members

**John and Michelle Kalina**, Austin, with interests in the adult singing group, literature group, language, cooking and crafting classes, films/theater, music/dances, history/genealogy, event help (setup/kitchen/serve meals/cleanup/staff booths), and other activities.

**Laris Kerstin Berggren**, Saint Paul, with interests in adult calisthenics, films/theater, music/dances.

**Michael Chergosky**, Saint Paul, with interests in languages classes, films/theater, music/dances.

**Michelle Nowaczewski** (with **Matthew Nowaczewski**, made their individual membership into a couple membership), Saint Paul, with interest in youth gymnastics.

**Constance and Henry Jandrich**, Saint Paul, with interests in films/theater, music/dance, history/genealogy, cooking classes, crafting classes, and other Sokol activities.

**Patrick Dewane**, Edina, (author/actor of *The Accidental Hero*) with interest in language courses.

This brings our membership back to 300.

Submitted by Steve Ernest, Membership Director

<https://sokolmn.org/membership/>

**Welcome to our newest members!**

## ***The Accidental Hero: an Outstanding Performance and Sokol Fundraiser***

by Mary Cahill and Marit Lee Kucera, co-chairs

Sokol Minnesota received a wonderful gift in February when Patrick Dewane came forward to donate a performance of *The Accidental Hero* to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota. Patrick is the creator and performer of the story; Sokol members made this all-volunteer event into a very successful fundraiser for the organization's Legacy Fund (maintenance and renovation of the C.S.P.S. Hall). Nearly 150 people attended the April 13 performance.

The evening began with an hour of contemporary jazz by Czech-born



Pavel Jany

Pavel Jany on the guitar. As theatre goers gathered at the Hall on a very warm April 13 evening, the music set the mood as

guests enjoyed a cold glass of Pilsner Urquell or Pinot Grigio, along with *zelnický* sauerkraut crackers provided by the Czech Heritage Club (New Prague).

Patrick Dewane has performed his one-man show several hundred times, both here in the United States and in the Czech Republic. It is the story of his grandfather Matt Konop's World War II experiences and the awakening of his pride in his Czech heritage. More than a few tears rolled down

cheeks during the quick-paced dramatic tale about the anguish, the trauma, the terrible destruction of wars, and the importance of fighting for freedom over tyranny. Patrick's portrayal of several characters, plus sound effects, old photos, and actual footage on Matt Konop's own movie camera, brought the realities of that war (trenches, Nazi prisoners on a death march) directly to the audience. The audience gave Patrick a long standing ovation. For more on Matt Konop's story: [www.accidentalhero.net](http://www.accidentalhero.net)

After the performance, Daniel Freeman, an internationally-renowned musicologist, interviewed Patrick onstage about how the show has grown and changed since it was first performed twenty years ago. Patrick explained that he considers it vital to keep the 90-minute drama fresh with something new every performance.

Thanks to all the volunteers: co-chairs Mary Cahill and M. L. Kucera, along



Patrick Dewane with Daniel Freeman. with Jason Brozovich, Megan Brozovich, Dennis Cahill, Bruce Chuchel, Jean Draheim, Chuck Draheim, Roger Green, Dave Grostephan, Glynis Grostephan, Doreen McKenney, Anna Overbo, Joan Sedlacek, and Alena Youngberg.

A very special thanks to Richard Sargent, our unsung Sokol volunteer hero, who donated more than eleven hours setting up the complex audio-visual technology for this multi-media performance.

Supporting this Sokol Minnesota fundraiser: Patrick Dewane, the Czech and Slovak Culture Center of Minnesota, the Czech Heritage Club, the Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis, and Daniel Freeman.

Watch for a spring 2025 performance of *The Accidental Hero* at C.S.P.S. Hall.

## **Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant Held April 13 in Montgomery**



(L-R) 2024-25 Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Junior Ambassadors RJ Timmerman, Keely Kluzak, Kailey Flicek; 2024-25 First Princess Gabriella Stoudt; 2024-25 Queen Sarah Langridge; 2023-24 Queen Ellaina Novak; 2024-25 Second Princess Lexi Timmerman; 2023-24 Junior Ambassadors Jules Rotter, Clara Winget, Evelyn Winget; and 2024-25 Junior Ambassador Ella Flicek. Not pictured: 2023-24 Junior Ambassadors Alenka Jans, Margaret DeLeon; 2024-25 Junior Ambassador Lilli Sticha. [facebook.com/MissCzechSlovakMN/](https://facebook.com/MissCzechSlovakMN/)

## **April 14 Screening of Czech film *Big Dreams* at MSPIFF43**



It has become a tradition to take a group picture after a screening of one of the Czech and/or Slovak films at the Minneapolis Saint Paul International Film Festival. (Front L-R) Kája Jost with Honza; Katka Svensson with Karolina and Viktoria; Lucie Jašek; Markéta Pálková; Jitka Sebek. (Back L-R) Chad Nemes with Claire and Lucas; Katherine Jorgenson; Richard Sargent; Pam Langworthy; Nancy Blume; Cynthia McArthur; Sally Lieberman; M.L. Kucera; Matthew Resong; and Michaela Wentz with Elizabeth. Not Pictured: Steve Ernest, Theresa Hudachek, Jan Knudtson, and John Topic.

## Highlights of the Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors March 2024 Meeting

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors convened on March 21, 2024. The meeting commenced with a call to order and attendance verification, followed by the approval of the February meeting minutes.

Jason Brozovich spoke for the Youth Leadership Award Committee to propose that Sokol Minnesota increase the award amount from \$200 to \$400 each for up to three recipients. This proposal, along with an additional \$100 contribution from Honorary Czech Consul M.L. Kucera, bringing the total award to \$500 each, was approved.

A motion was passed to appoint Mary Cahill, Joan Sedlacek, and M.L. Kucera as representatives to the Western District (WD) of American Sokol on behalf of Sokol Minnesota with the clarification that these representatives would oversee matters beyond gymnastics. Jason Brozovich, as Sokol Minnesota's Women's and Men's Director, automatically represents Sokol Minnesota on the WD Board, with two votes (one for Women's Director and one for Men's Director).

The Board approved the printing of 2,000 postcards (up from last year's 1,500) to promote the 35th annual Czech & Slovak Festival on September 29.

Brittany Stepan resigned from her position as Chair of the Publicity Committee.

There was an issue with patrons purchasing tickets online for *The Accidental Hero* performance receiving no confirmation email or receipt. (The requested implementation of an automated system rectified this problem.)

Reminder: all website-change requests should be submitted to Cinnamon Whaley.

Regarding stage scenery repair: partial repair of stage scenery has been completed. We hope to get grant funds to do more repair and preservation work. Wendy Waszut-Barrett, an expert on the repair of the scenery, offered to explain the history and value of the scenery to the Board and then at a later time to a broader audience if interested. There is a Stage Committee.

A donation request for the Western District Special Assessment Fund (\$50) and the Trophy Fund (\$75) for the April 27 competition in Sokol South Omaha were approved.

The Board agreed to participate in a neighborhood event at Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church on June 8, with plans to have a table showcasing Sokol and volunteers to staff it.

Volunteers needed.

President Lucy Rose presented a proposed fee structure for Sokol-sponsored or co-sponsored and non-Sokol events. The Board expressed interest in forming a committee to explore additional options for Hall use.

The Board of Instructors reported on preparations for the upcoming Western District Slet/Gymnastics Competition and end-of-year gymnastics party. Also, collaboration with Kung Fu instructors for a one-day self-defense class is underway.

The Building and Trustee Committee proposed planting two autumn blaze maple trees and four regal oak trees, securing a new elevator maintenance contract, and applying for a grant to improve the elevator pit and heating system.

The Education Committee reported on ongoing language classes, a successful Dumpling Master Class, and proposed baking workshops with a renowned Czech baking expert. These workshops were subsequently approved.

The Finance Report highlighted a computer replacement and the recommendation to sub-grant a portion of the 2024 Czech government grant to Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities (*škola*). Three new member applications were approved.

The Gaming Committee received approval to increase the gaming worker's pay and award a bonus for his 2023 work.

The Sunshine Committee sent a get-well card to Tom Aubrecht.

The meeting concluded with a motion to adjourn.

### Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota greatly appreciates your donations supporting Sokol programs and the maintenance of our historic C.S.P.S. Hall.

#### GENERAL FUND:

**\$100 - \$499: Alena Youngberg** (to honor the dedicated volunteers at Flavors of Slovakia on March 10).

#### LEGACY FUND

**Over \$2,800:** All-volunteer event of *The Accidental Hero* on April 13.

#### IN KIND DONATIONS

**Patrick Dewane**, performance and **Czech Heritage Club**, *zelníčky* sauerkraut crackers (*The Accidental Hero* event on April 13).

#### Slovo Publication Information and Committees

The *Slovo* is published ten times per year by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, a non-profit organization, 383 W. Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102. Phone: 651-290-0542.

#### Sokol Minnesota members receive the *Slovo* with their membership.

To receive your *Slovo* in color via email instead of the black and white mail version, contact [slovo@sokolmn.org](mailto:slovo@sokolmn.org)

#### Non-member *Slovo* subscription: \$20 annually.

Please include name, address, phone number, email address with a \$20 check payable to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota; mail to *Slovo* at the above address.

The *Slovo* staff welcomes submissions.

**Copy deadline for each issue is the first day of the prior month.** Send news, articles, and pictures digitally to [slovo@sokolmn.org](mailto:slovo@sokolmn.org)

Advertising: for information on due dates and rates, please email [slovo@sokolmn.org](mailto:slovo@sokolmn.org)

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The *Slovo* is bulk mailed; non-deliverable copies are not forwarded or held by the Post Office. Non-delivered copies are returned to Sokol Minnesota and billed to us at the first-class mail rate. For this reason, we will not send issues until we have a current, correct mailing address on record for you.

**More information at [www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)**

#### Member volunteer *Slovo* staff:

**May Issue Interim Co-Managing and Copy Editors:** Mary Cahill and M. L. Kucera with help from Kelly Rynda.

***Slovo* Team:** Mary Cahill and Joyce Tesarek.

**Production Layout:** Mary Kucera.

**Mailing:** Mary Cahill and Joan Sedlacek.

**Mailing/Email Lists:** Penny and Tom Tesarek.

**Minnesota Ad Designer:** Doreen McKenney

**May issue Contributors:** Mary Cahill, Heather Vikla Dobias, Arlene Hamernik, Jean Keogh, Sally Lieberman, M. L. Kucera, Doreen McKenney, Kari Muyres, Lucy Brudnak Rose, Jitka Sebek, Joyce Tesarek, Gwen Willems.

**May issue photographs, ads, or illustrations:**

Tom Aubrecht, Heather Vikla Dobias, Martina Gurgle, M. L. Kucera, Doreen McKenney, Kelly Rynda, Jitka Sebek.

# Czech Honorary Consul News

May 2024

2024 donations from several Czech and Slovak organizations and individuals to the 43rd Minneapolis St Paul International Film Festival (MSPIFF43) totaled \$1,750. Before the screening of *Big Dreams (Děti Nagana, 2023*, directed by Daniel Pánek, based on a true story) on Sunday afternoon, April 14, I presented contributions from Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities, Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, the Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis, plus from Marshall Toman and Blanka Brichta (both Sokol Minnesota members).



(L-R) Kendall Murphy, Community Engagement Coordinator; M.L. Kucera, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis; Susan Smoluchowski, Executive Director; Jesse Bishop, Programming Director.



New Prague Area School/Early Learning, Central Education Campus - Gym, hosted a Polka Dance Party on March 15 to celebrate New Prague's Czech heritage with language, food, crafts, dance, and music by the Eddie Shimota Band. The Czech Heritage Club invited the Honorary Czech Consul to join their display tables.

Vi Chromy pointed out that “the event focused on introducing Czech heritage to the little ones.” As part of the event, Vi, dressed in *kroj*, read two children’s stories, *The Fabulous Lost and Found* and *The Little Czech Mouse*, two well-known Czech stories for children, which also delighted the attending parents.

(L-R) M. L. Kucera, George Mikiska, and Vi Chromy. Photo: Krystal Erickson

News covering the visit by Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala to U.S. President Joe Biden in Washington, the beginning of the third week of April, caught the attention of many Czech-Minnesotans, both immigrant and heritage. If you missed news clips, you can read articles from Radio Prague such as “Pundit on Fiala’s US visit: Czech initiative for Ukraine has increased Czechia’s stature.” <https://english.radio.cz/pundit-fialas-us-visit-czech-initiative-ukraine-has-increased-czechias-stature-8814417>.

For daily Radio Prague coverage:  
<https://english.radio.cz>.



“Czechia” as translated into myriad languages.



Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic  
in Minneapolis, MN

Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul  
651-238-0447  
minneapolis@honorary.mzv.cz  
OR mlkucera@outlook.com





383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102  
651-290-0542

### C.S.P.S. HALL LEGACY FUND

We ask for your support for maintenance and renovation to C.S.P.S. Hall as we celebrate the Hall's 137th year in 2024. Contact Joyce Tesarek to discuss your tax-deductible donation: 612-822-6147 or email: [finance@sokolmn.org](mailto:finance@sokolmn.org) *Thank you!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I make a tax-deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my gift designated:  in memory or  in honor of:

Make checks payable to **Sokol Minnesota**

Write **Legacy Fund** in the memo line.

Mail to **C.S.P.S. Hall Legacy Fund. Attn: Treasurer**

Or donate online: [www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)



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facebook.com/sokolminnesota

For status of events scheduled for the C.S.P.S. Hall, check our calendar at [www.sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/hall-calendar/](http://www.sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/hall-calendar/)

## Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* May 2024

### Children's Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp

June 17-21 2024



# FAIRS and Puppetry

26th annual Children's Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp  
June 17-21, 2024  
C.S.P.S. Hall 383 Michigan St., Saint Paul

**Register by May 15 for the Early-Bird discount.**

All camp registration materials must be received by June 1. Registration materials for campers ages 6 to 14 and adult volunteers can be downloaded at [www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)

*Full refund if camp needs to be postponed.*

Questions? Contact: Louise Wessinger: 651-271-3601

One of this year's special guests is Minneapolis-based puppeteer, Kurt Hunter, who will teach a marionette-making class.