

Foundations announce establishment at Soyuzivka of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy

by Matthew Dubas

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PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Foundation and the Ukrainian National Association, through the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation, on March 12 announced their partnership in forming the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy at Soyuzivka.

To mark the event, Soyuzivka will host a reception that will include a cultural program and ribbon-cutting ceremony during Memorial Day weekend. As part of the official ceremonies, a plaque, which will be blessed by local clergy, will be located on the grounds to inform guests of the creation of the academy.

In addition, the Ukrainian National Association and Soyuzivka have pledged their support in establishing Soyuzivka as the permanent summer home of the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of New York and welcoming members of the dance ensemble as official members of the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation. A sign will be erected at the entrance to Soyuzivka informing guests of the dance ensemble's new summer home.

This year, the Syzokryli ensemble, founded by Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, is celebrating its 30th anniversary.

To ensure the success of the dance academy, the Ukrainian National Foundation, the UNA's charitable arm, made a generous donation for the modernization of the facilities used by the dancers, which last year numbered over 300. These include the installation of a new dance floor, upgrades to the bathroom facilities in the rehearsal hall, and replacement of the air conditioning system for the Veselka hall.

The Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Workshop was founded in 1979 at Verkhovyna resort, then owned by the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, in Glen Spey, N.Y., along with the dance camps.

Speaking of the continuing legacy of the workshop, Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych said, “The footprint left by Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, coupled with a talented and diverse staff who pass on their love of Ukrainian dance and heritage to Syzokryli, fosters a family atmosphere at Soyuzivka.”

The camps at Soyuzivka are enjoyed by all generations, as parents of campers vacation on the same grounds as their children.

This year’s staff for the dance camps and workshop includes camp director Ms. Bohachevsky-Lonkevych, artistic director Kristine Izak, instructor/choreographer Orlando Pagan, along with Nina Kobryn, head counselor, and Larissa Pagan, wardrobe mistress. Additional guest instructors are to be announced.

Donations are encouraged for the future expansion of the facilities, at Soyuzivka including new barracks and a sheltered activity center.

For more information on the dance camps and dance workshop at Soyuzivka, readers may visit www.soyuzivka.com.



From Left to Right:

UNA National Secretary, Christine E. Kozak, UNA President, Stefan Kaczaraj, Executive Director of the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Foudnation, Ania Bohachevsk- Lonkevych
General Manager of Soyuzivka, Nestor Paslawys, & UNA Treasurer, Roma Lisovich

