



PERNÍČEK CHILDREN'S FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

Founded under the dance department of the Elementary Art School Havlíčkova 925, Pardubice in 1986, the **Perníček Children's Folk Dance Ensemble** has been working under its wing to this day. More than 1,200 children have been active in the ensemble since then, and about 150 children aged between 4 and 18 are playing, dancing, and singing there now. Pre-school dancers perform under their own section called "**Marcipánek**", and the ensemble is accompanied by a children's music band.

OBJECTIVES AND METHODS OF OUR WORK

In creating choreographies, the ensemble primarily explores and draws inspiration from the Polabí region and its customs and traditions. Together with children, we discover how our great-grandmothers lived during the entire year. The result is monothematic feature performances involving all sections of the ensemble. From these programmes the viewer gets a broad picture of long-forgotten traditions. That's why the ensemble likes to present them during educational concerts for primary schools and kindergartens as well.

Feature programmes conceived in this way:

Year	Title	Première date
2019	<i>Masopust, Masopust!</i> (Slavic carnival)	03/03/2019
2018	<i>Od Šumavy k Tatrám</i> (From the Bohemian Forest to the Tatras)	08/05/2018
2017	<i>Na jarmarku</i> (At the fair)	14/05/2017
2016	<i>Na Mikuláše... v nebi, pekle i mezi nimi...</i> (On Saint Nicholas Day... in heaven, hell and in between)	04/12/2016
2015	<i>Tenkrát na Vánoce</i> (Unce upon a time at Christmas)	16/12/2015
	<i>O letnicích s Perníčkem a Marcipánkem</i> (On Pentecost with Perníček and Marcipánek)	10/05/2015
2014	<i>O posvícení s Perníčkem a Marcipánkem</i> (On kermesse with Perníček and Marcipánek)	12/05/2014
2013	<i>O Vánocích s Perníčkem a Marcipánkem</i> (On Christmas with Perníček and Marcipánek)	12/12/2013
	<i>O Velikonocích s Perníčkem a Marcipánkem</i> (On Easter with Perníček and Marcipánek)	21/03/2013



STRUCTURE OF THE ENSEMBLE:

Section	Children's age	Number of children	Teacher
Marcipánek 1	3–5 years	21	Lenka Šťastná
Marcipánek 2	5–6 years	20	Lucie Kmošková
Marcipánek 3	7–8 years	19	Iveta Lepori-Paličková
Perníček 1	8–10 years	30	Lenka Šťastná
Perníček 2	10–13 years	25	Lenka Šťastná
Perníček 3	13–18 years	17	Lenka Šťastná
Band	12–17 years	15	Michal Doubek, Pavla Slouková

Our ensemble has eight independent sections

ENSEMBLE LEADERS:

The ensemble was founded and lead for many years by Blanka Slouková who handed over the leadership to her former student MgA Lenka Šťastná in 2009.



SUCSESSES OF THE ENSEMBLE

Deservedly, Perníček has been considered one of the best Czech ensembles for several years. In 2013, the ensemble received the most prestigious award in a tough competition of Bohemian, Moravian and foreign ensembles: the ensemble became the Laureate of the Strážnice IFF of 2013.

The awards from national competition shows (since 2009) are listed below.

Perníček is highly prized in district and regional competitions through which the ensemble usually passes to appear in the national show. The most valued programmes are listed below (unless indicated otherwise, the award was given in a national competition).

Year	National show	Programme	Award
2018	Dance departments of elementary art schools	<i>Jarmareční rej</i> (Hustle and bustle of the fair)	Silver award
	Folk music bands	<i>Pásmo jarmarečních písní</i> (Fair songs compilation)	Silver award
2017	Children's folk dance ensembles	<i>Než přijde Mikuláš</i> (Before Saint Nicholas comes)	Wild card from the regional round
2016	competitions were not launched		
2015	Children's folk dance ensembles	<i>Slet čarodějnic</i> (Witches' coven)	Special award for convincing dramatic performance of the soloist Barbora Vondráková
	Dance departments of elementary art schools	<i>Posvícenský kostelíček</i> (Kermesse church)	for humour, playfulness and spontaneity
		MgA Lenka Šťastná	for outstanding pedagogical and creative achievement
2013	Children's folk dance ensembles	<i>Morana</i> (Death of the winter goddess)	Special jury award for impressive interpretation and balanced composition
2012	Dance departments of elementary art schools	<i>Za humny</i> (At the backyard)	Special jury award
		MgA Lenka Šťastná	Award for pedagogical achievement
2011	Children's folk dance ensembles (regional round)	<i>Za humny</i> (At the backyard)	2nd place, passing to the next round
2010	competitions were not launched		
2009	Children's folk dance ensembles	<i>Koulelo se, koulelo</i> (Rolling apples)	Special jury award for subject matter, adaptation and choreography achievement

The main success is our present and former members:

100% of the present and former members of our ensemble successfully study at grammar schools or secondary vocational schools, they are students at universities in different fields and subsequently active members of society.

We are most happy though when they bring their children and later grand-children to our ensemble...



REPRESENTING THE CITY OF PARDUBICE AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Perníček has represented its city, region and country at many shows and international festivals in the Czech Republic (e.g. Strážnice IFF, Pardubice – Hradec Králové, Traditions of Europe) and abroad (Europe, Asia, Africa, South America...).

The events since 2009 are listed below:

- Organizing international events – we co-organize the Traditions of Europe International Children's Folk Festival

Year	Hosting ensemble / festival	Country
2018	Children of the World Dance for Peace	Costa Rica, Colombia, Peru, Argentina France, Poland, Slovakia, Serbia
2017	Traditions of Bohemia	
2016	Zemplinik	Michalovce, Slovakia
2015	India, Nrutyeshwar	Mumbai, India
	KUD GIK BANAT PIONIR	Zrenjanin, Serbia
2014	Iglikla	Tsarevo, Bulgaria
	KUD GIK BANAT PIONIR	Zrenjanin, Serbia
2013	India, Nrutyeshwar	Mumbai, India
	Cindruška	Liptovský Hrádok, Slovakia
2012	Petiots	Sainte-Gemmes-sur-Loire, France
	Zemplinik	Michalovce, Slovakia
2011	Les Spiranta	Theux, Belgium
2010	KUD GIK BANAT PIONIR	Zrenjanin, Serbia
	Les Spiranta	Theux, Belgium
2009	Čabarok	Minsk, Belarus



- Czech festivals

Year	Festival	Location
2018	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
2017	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
	Strážnice IFF	Strážnice
2016	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
	Národopisné slavnosti v Kinského zahradě	Prague
2015	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
	Kunovské léto IFF ★Award for original subject matter and its impressive artistic adaptation and for spontaneous children's performance	Kunovice
	Strážnice IFF ★Award of the Director of the National Institute of Folk Culture to K. Černíčková and L. Šťastná for balanced dramaturgy and direction of the programme	Strážnice
2014	Středočeský festival IFF Tuchlovická pouť ★Feature programme award	Tuchlovice
	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
	CIOF Plzeň IFF	Plzeň
	Strážnice IFF	Strážnice
	Lidový rok IFF	Velká Bystřice
2013	Strážnice IFF ★ LAUREATE OF THE STRÁŽNICE IFF 2013	Strážnice
	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
	Adámkovy slavnosti	Hlinsko
2012	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
2011	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
2010	Pardubice – Hradec Králové IFF	Pardubice, Hradec Králové
2010	Břeclav IFF	Břeclav

- Festivals abroad

Year	Festival
2017	Zrenjanin, Serbia
2016	Children of the World Dance, France – only the directors of CWD 2018 organized in the Czech Republic
2015	Children of the World Dance, Argentina
2014	Sainte-Gemmes-sur-Loire, France
2014	Children of the World Dance, Zrenjanin, Serbia
2013	Zrenjanin, Serbia
2012	Theux, Belgium
2012	Dresden IFF, Germany
2012	Children of the World Dance, Poland
2012	Guests from Mexico in Pardubice
2011	Zemplinské slavnosti, Michalovce, Slovakia
2011	Children of the World Dance, Costa Rica
2010	Izmir ICFF, Turkey

- **CONTACT DETAILS**

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