

Application process for the 11th International Flower Carpet Festival in Ventspils has started!

Ventspils city municipality invites floral arrangers from Latvia and foreign countries to apply for participation in the 11th International Flower Carpet Festival that will be taking place in Ostas Street Promenade in Ventspils



on August 4–6 within the framework of the City Festival 2011. The application deadline is July 1, 2011.

This year festival's motto is "I Bloom, I Sing for You!". The motto was proposed by one of the inhabitants of Ventspils participating in the poll about new festival's motto. Each team has to choose some song title and depict it in a square flower carpet of 6 m².

The application is open not only to new teams, but also to the participants of previous flower carpet festivals. Each team (maximum 5 members) can include florists, industry professionals (flower shops, schools, etc.) and flower lovers alike.

The Flower Carpet Festival is organized by the Municipal Urban Environmental Services Company and supported by Riona Ēce's floristic studio "Ziedu dizains", Rita Garaissils' Flower Arranging School, the farm "Sarmas 7", the farm "Bērziņi", SIA "Shetelig LV", and the Seaside Open Air Museum.

Flower carpets are going to be assessed by a special jury commission including such members as Anita Neilande (Ventspils city landscape architect, chairwomen of the jury commission), Didzis Ošenieks (deputy chairman of Ventspils City Council), Daiga Dzedone (chief city architect of Ventspils), Aija Žagariņa (instructor at R. Garaissils' Flower Arranging School), and Nadīna Laukmane (editor-in-chief of the Latvian floristics magazine "Floristika" (the latter two are from Riga).

The International Flower Carpet Festival annually attracts a large number of participants and spectators. Carpets are created not only by groups of Latvian florists and flower lovers, but also by foreign teams. The creative process traditionally starts on Friday during the City Festival and ends next morning when carpets are made available to the jury commission and general public for assessment. Last year's festival attracted a record number of participants with 44 teams, of which 9 were youth teams and 8 were teams from foreign countries.