

CITY OF MADISON  
Sister Cities Grant Program  
**Application for Base Level Funding for 2008**  
**Due: Monday, February 11, 2008**

Name of Sister City Organization: Madison Vilnius Sister Cities, Inc.  
Contact Person: Daina Zemliauskas-Juozevicius Phone: 608-260-8971  
Address: PO Box 55034 Madison, WI 53715

Is your organization: Incorporated under Chapter 181 of Wisconsin Statutes?  Yes  No  
Approved under Section 501(c)(3) of IRS Code?  Yes  No

If Yes, EIN: 39-0912928 / ES35034

1. Briefly describe the history and purpose of your organization:

The purpose of Madison Vilnius Sister Cities, Inc. is to develop and facilitate exchanges between two capital cities, Madison and Vilnius, for the mutual benefit of both cities' residents. MVSC undertakes broad community efforts here to acquaint Madison with the people and culture of Lithuania, including this Baltic nation's social, economic, and political systems. MVSC touches lives of the people of Vilnius through humanitarian efforts, close communication, and by providing the means to experience many levels of Madison while they visit here.

The idea of Madison Vilnius Sister Cities began in 1987 and had an official start in 1989. As Lithuania was still under communist rule, the concept of MVSC was born to promote friendship and understanding between the people of Madison and those of Vilnius. The two cities share similarities in ways that make them a natural match: both are seats of government, home to at least one major university, and are metropolitan areas surrounded by agricultural land. They are both heavily involved with the dairy industry.

At its conception, MVSC invited and hosted Vilnius medical students and others who would benefit from the western world experience in a practical way. Throughout following years, and just after Lithuania's independence in 1991, MVSC provided financial support to Vilnius' orphans and in this sense became a humanitarian organization. Presently, MVSC's mission encompasses all of these efforts and more. It has evolved to include cultural, educational, and commercial aspects of exchange.

MVSC maintains close working relationships with Sister Cities International and the Office of the Mayor of Madison as well as several departments at the University of Wisconsin.

2. Briefly list and describe your organization's goals and objectives for the year. Include any significant activities and events that are planned.

MVSC's goals and objectives are dictated by its mission: to provide and promote beneficial exchange for both sister cities.

This application must accompany a completed Annual Report for 2007 and be submitted by Monday, February 11, 2008 to:  
Mayor's Office, Room 403, 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Madison, WI 53703-3345  
or send via e-mail to [llewis@cityofmadison.com](mailto:llewis@cityofmadison.com)

**Note: City base level funding may not be used for staff salaries or for the purpose of supporting travel costs for Madison members of a Sister City organization.**

Specifically for Madison’s residents, MVSC will:

- Publish and distribute *The Lithuanian Connection*, MVSC’s quarterly newsletter;
- Organize and implement an exhibit of Soviet-era Lithuanian propaganda posters at the Madison Public Library, Central Branch in June;
- Assist UW’s Center for Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia with preparations and implementation of the Baltic Studies Summer Institute program to be held in Madison during the summer months of 2009 and 2010;
- Work towards inviting a renowned Lithuanian singer for a Madison performance in the fall;
- Donate Lithuanian books and magazines to the Madison library system;
- Support “Zaibas, Lithuanian Dancers of Madison” – (they will represent Madison in Los Angeles this summer for the World Wide Lithuanian Dance Festival, an event that over 5000 will attend);
- Contact the organizers of the Wisconsin Film Festival to explore the possibility of showing a Lithuanian film during this annual event, exposing Lithuanian filmmaking to hundreds;
- Continue to work with UW’s Cinematheque and International Cinema to show LT films;
- Hold the MVSC Annual Meeting in June -confirmed speaker is Dalia Cidzikaite, editor of DRAUGAS, the most widely distributed Lithuanian American newspaper (published in Chicago);
- Maintain and improve our website and explore additional links to offer information for the community.

For our sister city of Vilnius, we will:

- Provide humanitarian aid by donating to an orphanage and teen center;
- Ship American English books to Vilnius library branches;
- Explore the possibility of a student exchange program through contacts made in UW’s Dairy Science Dept.;
- Investigate logistics of inviting Lithuanian cheese makers to submit their products to the World Championship Cheese Contest and Expo in 2010 (a biennial Madison event).

3. What is the approximate size of your 2008 annual budget? \$2700.\_\_\_\_\_

4. Proposed budget for 2008 base level funding (equal share = \$500.00):

Budget Category	City Request	Explanation (if needed)
Program Supplies, Postage, Printing	\$ 250.	Publication and mailing of “The Lithuanian Connection”, quarterly newsletter
Equipment Rental	\$ 50.	MVSC Post Office Box, annual cost
Advertising (print)	\$ 100.	Posters advertising musical performance in fall and other community events
Donation of LT magazine to Madison Public Library	\$ 50.	<i>Lithuanian Heritage</i>
Maintenance of website	\$ 50.	Madisonvilnius.org web hosting
TOTAL	\$ 500.00	

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