

SERPANTINO LABORATORJA

Inclusive Performing Arts Platform SERPANTINE LABORATORY since 2019, this ongoing Kaunas city chamber theater initiative has encompassed creative workshops, specialized training programs, professional stage productions, and their dissemination. The SERPANTINE LABORATORY empowers a diverse creative community—professional theater creators and people with disabilities—developing and testing new working methods applicable in the fields of performing arts and social integration.

The initiative facilitates the exchange of best practices at both institutional and personal levels while transforming public perceptions of performers with disabilities on stage.



Goal of the project - to increase the accessibility of professional art and culture for people with disabilities, ensure equal opportunities to participate in creative and professional performing arts projects, and develop a sustainable institutional network for the exchange of best practices.

Expected Outcomes - elimination of barriers for people with disabilities in professional theater arts, fostering their creative empowerment and social inclusion. An inclusive perspective will promote equal opportunities and uphold the right to non-discrimination based on disability-related social, physical, emotional, linguistic, or other individual characteristics.

Target Audience

Direct beneficiaries:

- People with visual, hearing, mobility, intellectual, and mental disabilities.

Indirect beneficiaries:

- Professional artists (directors, choreographers, actors);
- International performing arts organizations working with the mixed groups;
- Organizations providing social services to the mixed groups and their staff;
- The general public.

Project Activities | 2025

The project's activities are designed to lay the institutional, financial, methodological, and creative foundations necessary to achieve its objectives over three years. The three key directions (which correspond to project activities) will be consistently expanded and deepened, ensuring a holistic approach to the SERPANTINE LABORATORY project and its outcomes.

Empowerment of the Target Group & Creative Projects

Aims to increase participation in creative projects, strengthen creative empowerment, and reduce exclusion from professional theater arts. For long-term participants, opportunities will be created to integrate into the professional performing arts field. Indirectly, this activity will help expand social connections, boost emotional well-being, and enhance self-esteem

Non-formal community The Club of Theatre Aferists

A community initiated by project participants where people with various disabilities and challenges engage in regular movement, voice, and improvisation workshops, improving theater-related skills and fostering collaboration. SERPANTINE LABORATORY provides the community with meeting space, hosts the meetings and helps to invite theatre professionals for group sessions or workshops and discussions.

2025: 6 club meetings, 4 group sessions/workshops, 2 diagnostic-creative sessions.

Professional Program PRO: Individual Sessions and Etude Creation

Specialized training led by professional artist-mentors, tailored to participants' strengths and skills. Participants collaborate with professional mentors to create theatrical etudes, culminating in a public showcase.

2025: 3 PRO participants, 2 modules of 7 sessions each, 8 creative workshops each, 2–3 professional etudes, 3 program graduates.

Professional Theater Production

A performance integrating PRO program participants, professional actors, and "Aferisty Klubas" members.

2025: Premiere of a new production (Choreographer-Director: M. Bakalo, Ukraine).

International Collaboration, Networking & Best Practice Exchange

Aims to foster long-term collaboration among project stakeholders, focusing on social service providers, artists, and cultural organizations.

Institutional Collaboration with Social Service Providers:

Strengthening ties with existing institutions and attracting new partners to increase participation in the project.

2025: Collaboration with 5 social service organizations.

Networking with International Performing Arts Professionals & Cultural Organizations

Expanding the network of mentors and partners to integrate Serpantine performances into mainstream cultural events and festivals.

2025: 10 professional artists involved, collaboration with 3 international organizations.

Training for Professional Artists & Project Team

Enhancing artists' competencies in working with mixed-ability groups and expanding the knowledge of project staff and theater employees.

2025: 2 creative methodology seminars (conducted by Dance Theater DInA13, Germany, and Inna Falkova, Ukraine); 20 professional artists trained; 2 training sessions for project staff on working with people with disabilities.

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Development of a Methodology for Integrating People with Disabilities into Professional Performing Arts

In collaboration with international partners—including performing arts institutions, academic institutions, and organizations working with people with disabilities—a methodology will be developed to inform both professional practice and educational curricula.

2025: Needs analysis completed, activities outlined, international consortium established.

Increasing Access to Professional Performing Arts & Culture

Aims to shift public perceptions of performers with disabilities while making professional art and culture more accessible to them.

Dissemination of Serpantine's Performances & New Productions

Showcased in Lithuanian cities and international tours where possible. The repertoire includes performances such as “Is it easy?”, “Superpowers”, “Metamorphosis” (Miniature), and new productions.

2025: 550 total attendees, including 250 from the target group.

Project Duration: 2025–2027

Project Implementer: Kaunas City Chamber Theatre



Project Funders: Lithuanian Council for Culture, Kaunas City Municipality, Goethe-Institut Vilnius



More information: www.kamerinisteatras.lt