A year of folk rituals with Wikipedia

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Wikimedia Polska
The idea

The problem:
Copyright challenges => very few high-quality, well-written resources (and images) on Polish ethnography and cultural anthropology on the Web.

The Idea:
Organize mixed teams of professional ethnographers and wikipedians, train them and send them to the places where folk rituals are still alive to document it in Wikiexpedition style.

The solution:
A joint project of Wikimedia Polska and National Museum of Ethnography: A Year of Folk Rituals with Wikipedia – successful grant application to Ministry of Education (50 000 PLN) + 5000 PLN from Wikimedia Polska.
The team

The inventors:
Julia “Lantuszka” Koszewska (WMPL) and Klara Sielicka-Baryłka (National Ethnographic Museum in Warsaw)

The organizers:
Klara Sielicka-Baryłka and Marta Moraczewska (WMPL)

The team:
6+ Wikipedians, 7 Museum researchers, 7 ethnography students
The timeline

The stages:

1. Preliminary training at the Museum (March)

2. Expeditions to the sites and field documentation (7) (April - September)

3. Upload of photos/recordings + article writing (April-November)

4. Final meeting at Museum (together with local residents) (November)

5. Final grant report (December)
Preliminary meeting

The Museum:
Provided room and catering
Preliminary lecture about basics of ethnography studies
Role-play training for photographers and interviewers
Sightseeing of the Museum exhibition

Wikimedia Polska:
Provided wiki-trainers and wiki learning materials
Preliminary lecture about basics of Wiki projects and free licenses
Wikiworkshop for Museum staff and students

The Result:
Better knowledge about each other
Preliminary team formation
Some new friendships :-(
Field documentation

**Preparation:**
1. Make preliminary research and contact local residents (Museum)
2. Plan trip and organize team (usually 2 Museum staff, 1 Wikipedian, 1 ethnography student)
3. Travel by car

**On site:**
1. Stay on site for 1-2 days in near-by hotel.
2. Contact local residents (Museum)
2. Film and photograph rituals (all participants)
3. Interview local residents (Museum and student)

**At home:**
1. Upload recordings and photos to Commons (all participants)
2. Publish research results on Museum's website and journals (Museum)
3. Write articles in Wikipedia about rituals and related issues (all participants)
Final meeting

The plan:
- Small conference – for all participants of project including local residents + some invited guests.
- Probably: Lecture about the results and lesson learned
- Wikiworkshop and editathon
- Final celebration and discussion about future plans.

The goals:
- Better knowledge about each other
- Some new Wikipedians (?)
- Some new friendships (?)
- New ideas and projects.
The outcome so far

14 people trained in Commons upload and basic editing

700+ images uploaded to Commons

20 recorded video interviews with residents (to be uploaded)

7 video recordings of rituals (to be uploaded)

7 articles on rituals considerably expanded, annotated and illustrated, 14 others expanded (including articles on visited locations, and related topics, e.g. “Field research”)
Let's make it international:
Comparative studies of similar rituals and habits
Rituals of cross-border minorities common studies
Some other ideas?

We are looking for partners from abroad:
1. Ethnography museums
2. Wikipedians
3. Ethnoenthusiasts
Contact info

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https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikiprojekt:GLAM

FB: https://www.facebook.com/glam.wiki.polska
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