

GET TO KNOW OUR UNIVERSITIES

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Poltava V.G. Korolenko National Pedagogical University

POLTAVA V.G. KOROLENKO NATIONAL PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Poltava V.G. Korolenko National Pedagogical University (PNPU) is one of the oldest universities in Ukraine and is practically synonymous with watershed events in the history of Ukrainian national science and education. Its history goes back to the Poltava Teachers Institute, founded in 1914, and the Historical-Philological Department of Kharkiv University in Poltava, established in 1918, which were the forerunners of the higher learning establishment we know today.

The University is famous for its educational traditions. Its intellectual climate was crafted by teaching staff including notable historians, philosophers and educators.

Since independence, the University has undergone several structural changes. PNPU has successfully gone through a government accreditation process and today consists of 36 departments and 7 schools: History, Natural Sciences, Physics and Mathematics, Philology and Journalism, Technology and Design, Psychology, and Physical Education.

In accordance with fulfilling the goals of the University Charter, PNPU has a well-developed infrastructure and provides a high standard of teacher training. Today the campus of PNPU includes 4 academic buildings, 4 dormitories housing 1,300 residents, a sports complex, botanical gardens, production workshops, and a health-care centre.

PNPU has a Museum of Natural History, an Archaeological Museum, as well as rooms named in memory of the people whose fates are linked to Poltava and theme educational centers aimed to comfort students and provide qualitative study setting. The longest rushnyk (towel made of homespun cloth) in the world was made in 2012 by students of the University and is kept in the Museum of Ukrainian Embroidery at the Faculty of Technology and Design (the work is mentioned in the Book of Records of Ukraine).

PNPU follows the traditions established by its cofounders and provides many opportunities for students' scientific development and promotion. Various international students' scientific conferences take place each year – for instance, the “Contemporary English Scientific Discourse” which is traditionally held in February.

However, our university is not only focused on pure education, but also promotes a variety of extra curriculum activities. For instance, we have a local choir, even two faculty choir “Zhyva voda” which could be translated as “Living water” and university one “Kalyna” (or “Guelder rose”), where students get a chance to train their vocal skills and perform at university and city events, participate in plenty of competitions.

PNPU student groups often participate in international and national competitions, include “Grace” Dance Ensemble (winner of international, European and Ukrainian championships); “Kalyna” Ukrainian Folk Choir, which has gone on tours to many countries including

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Switzerland, France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Italy, Turkey, and more; “Spring” Folk Dance Group; Student Theater “Globe.”

Each year the university puts on concerts and festivals including the variety show “Student Spring,” in which around 20 groups and 30 solo performers take part, contests for freshmen “Hey, we’re looking for talent,” and many more. The most active students become part of PNPU Student Parliament and generate initiatives considering celebrations for Student’s Day, Poetry evenings, Faculty week. By the way, a student from our group participated in the poetry evening. She was reading a poem written with her own hand and won this competition. But the biggest event the Ball is organized by the University staff.

Every year there are university-wide competitions for the “Rector Prize” in volleyball, beach volleyball, mini-football/soccer, tennis, and more. The Faculty of Physical Education traditionally organizes the university-wide Health Day in the spring.

Moreover, a Ukrainian boxer, Honored Master of Sports of Ukraine – Alexander Khizhnyak is studying at our university. He is a multiple winner of international and national competitions. This year he became the vice-champion of the Summer Olympics in Tokyo. We are proud of our athlete and wish him success in his activity.