

Press release

THE 15TH ANNUAL GUSTAV ADOLF CELEBRATION IN TARTU A Swedish-Estonian Event of Music, Poetry, and Research

On November 3rd-4th in the lobby of Lossi 3, Tartu

At the Gustav Adolf Day, 6 November, the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Tartu, will organize an event for the 15th year in a row. Through his dual role as Swedish king and founder of the national university of Estonia, Gustav Adolf is an important symbol for the Swedish-Estonian common history. The Department of Scandinavian Studies has since 2010 annually celebrated the day with an event that combines academic presentations with music and poetry from Gustav Adolf's time. The purpose is to promote and develop the Swedish-Estonian relations on the basis of the common interests of Sweden and Estonia.

This year, the first part of the celebration will consist of a two-days conference on so-called Nordic values. The second part will focus on poetry and music from the 17th century, when Estonia and Sweden were one country.

The cultural part, on 4 November at 18.00-18.00, will focus on Swedish lyrical poetry and songs from the 17th century, primarily Lasse Lucidor and Samuel Columbus. Daniel Sävborg will give presentation about Lucidor's adventurous life. Several of their songs will be sung and instrumental music from the period will be played. Some poems will also be recited in both 17th century Swedish and in Estonian translation by students of Skandinavistika. There will also be a concert with music from the same period, and a buffé with snacks and wine.

The preceding symposium, starting on 3 November at 9.00, has the theme *Trust – Nordic Values and the Baltic countries 1991-2024*. It aims to discuss the concept and role of *trust* for a society. It also aims to shed light on the different historical experience of Estonia and the Nordic countries and how that might have affected the values of people. It also aims to examine how the Baltic countries tackle the problem of the heritage of values from the period of the Soviet occupation. The aim is to promote the understanding between the Nordic and the Baltic countries based on a mutual respect.

The conference gathers leading experts from several countries. Among the speakers are Secretary General of World Values Survey Professor Bi Puranen, Professor Lars Trägårdh from Uppsala University, Professor Kristian Gerner from Lund University, Maie Kitsing from Ministry of Education in Estonia, Professor Hannu Salmi from University of Helsinki, Professor Mikko Lagerspetz from Åbo Akademi University, Professor Ivars Orehovs from the University of Latvia, and lecturer Kristina Tolinsson Ting from the University of Tartu.

Everyone is welcome! There is no entrance fee.

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