

Sister City Relationship Annual Report Form Questionnaire

City Clerk's Office
City Hall, Room 205
200 E. Wells Street

Milwaukee, WI 53202 PH: (414) 286-2221 WEB: www.milwaukee.gov/sistercities



LOCAL SPONSOR ORGANIZATION IN MILWAUKEE

Legal Organization Name

The Federation of Croatian Societies, Inc. (2024 Annual Report)

Mailing Address (Address, City, State, Zip Code)

PO BOX 341548, Milwaukee WI 53234

Website

www.milwaukeecroatians.org

PERSON IN CHARGE OF ORGANIZATION FOR MILWAUKEE

Name

Tom Kuzmanovic

Phone

(414) 530-1133

Mailing Address (Address, City, State, Zip Code)

5671 Frances Ct. Greendale, WI 53129

Email

TomKuzmanovic@gmail.com

SISTER CITY

Name

ZADAR

Country

CROATIA

Population

Zadar: 70,779

LOCAL SPONSOR ORGANIZATION IN THE SISTER CITY

Legal Organization Name

International Cooperation Officer of the Mayor's Office

PERSON IN CHARGE OF ORGANIZATION IN THE SISTER CITY

Name Anita Gržan Martinović

Phone and/or email + 385 23 208 176

anita.grzan-martinovic@grad-zadar.hr

Please provide information in your annual report by responding to the following:

1. What are the goals, areas of mutual interest, and involvement between Milwaukee and the sister city based on the areas of culture, business, and/or any other aspects for the past reporting year?
2. Please identify in length specific activities planned or performed and the methods used by the organization to achieve the goals and objectives for the sister city relationship for the past reporting year.
3. Please identify the progress made (or lack thereof) for the goals, objectives, and activities of the organization regarding the sister city relationship for the past year.
4. Please provide measurable outcomes and/or results for each activity.
5. Please complete the accompanying Activities Summary Worksheet or provide a summary in similar fashion to go along with your report.

Please also consider reporting on any information that has changed from the original application pertaining to:

- Goals, objectives, and activities (both short-term and long-term) for the sister city relationship.
- Local organizational structure in Milwaukee that supports the relationship including number of members, their professional and business background, names and contact information.
- Current list of Board of Directors and bylaws of your organization.
- Evidence of local community support for the sister city relationship including financial support, volunteer support, and interest.
- Information regarding the financial base or resources of the organization available and used to support the sister city relationship.
- Details of communication and consultation with the sister city regarding the existing relationship.

2024 Sister City Relationship Annual Report 2024
Zadar, Croatia – Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Activities Summary Worksheet

Table 1

	Activity 1	Activity 2
City Criteria	Holiday Folk Fair International: West Allis, Wisconsin 11/22 -11/24, 2024 (81 st Anniversary)	CAFÉ: Culture. Art. Food. Entertainment. Drexel Town Square, Oak Creek, Wisconsin, Daniel Bukiewicz, Mayor 9/21/2024 (Mini Folkfair)
Area of mutual interest	Education and celebration of culture through traditional art, music, entertainment and ethnic specialty foods.	Promoting Croatian culture through food, dance & entertainment.
Goal and/or objective	Celebration of cultural diversity.	Introduce Croatian bakery to American public.
Plan and/or method used	Music, entertainment (Lindjo), education & food.	Presenting baked goods for sampling and selling.
Involved and/or engaged parties	Locally engaged 40 Volunteers plus professional Dance Ensemble Lindjo from Dubrovnik.	4 families
Activity performed	Showcased traditional Art at the Sister Cities Booth and sold sweet and savory items at the Food Booth.	Provided samples and sold baked goods.
Measurable Outcome, Result, and/or Achievement	Knit the local community. Sent out 40 THANK YOU acknowledgements to the wonderful volunteers & leaders. Sample letter Table 1.	Stipend given for specialty foods.
Plan going forward	To be determined at the annual Federation of Croatian Societies meeting.	To be determined at the annual Federation of Croatian Societies meeting.
Other information or insight	Increase the number of defined & actionable initiatives between the cities.	Plan ahead & involve a larger group of people. nlb 1/17/25



Federation of Croatian Societies, Inc.
Hrvatska Središnjica
P.O. BOX 1548
West Milwaukee, WI 53234-1548

December 4, 2024

Volunteer Name
Volunteer Address
Volunteer City

Dear _____,

The Federation of Croatian Societies was delighted to receive your generous donation in product and service in support of the 2024 Croatian FOLKFAIR Food and Sister Cities Cultural Booths.

Milwaukee's famous Holiday Folk Fair (www.folkfair.org) celebrated its 81st anniversary this year. It was the first time ever that an International professional dance ensemble | performed on our local ALL NATIONS THEATER stage. This was our own "folklorni ansambl" LINDO from Dubrovnik. "Beautiful and polished."

Our MENU items received such compliments as "Magnificent" and "Unrivaled."

— CROATIA

Sarma s Krumpírom (Sarma Cabbage Roll with Mashed Potatoes); Kobasica Sadržiti s Ajvarom (Croatian Sausage Sandwich with Ajvar); Liška Kapa Tortica (Liška Cap Mini Torta); Savijate/Orebanjate (Round Swirl Rolls); Walnut – Orsh, Apple – Jabuka, and Poppy – Mak; Biscuvica (Peach Cookie) Sitni Kolafiti (Pastries); Kiflice, Litzneri, and Oblatze; Bez Glutena (Gluten Free Cookies); Srčki – Sweethearts ("India Tree"); and Zagreb Kolat (Limon, Orsh, Tretinja) – Zagreb Cake (Puff Pastry, Walnut Cake, Cherry Filling)

(Retrieved 12/1/24, www.folkfair.org, Festival Information, Ethnic Food Menus)

We are happy to report a very successful event and want you to know that you were a significant part of that success.

Sincerely,

Nevenka L. Bralic, Contact
International Institute of Wisconsin

Tomislav Kusmanovic, President
Federation of Croatian Societies

Federation of Croatian Societies, Inc.
P.O. Box 341548 Milwaukee, WI 53234-1548

Sacred Heart Croatian Church | St. Augustine Croatian Church | Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge# 362 & 1828 | American Croatian Radio Club | Croatian Eagles Soccer Club | United American Croats | Movement for Croatian Independence | Milwaukee Croatian Tamboritzas | American Croatian Silver Strings

Additional information about the sister city ZADAR-MILWAUKEE relationship – 2024

On behalf of the Federation of Croatian Societies of Milwaukee, 2024 highlights of the involvement for the City of Milwaukee and Sister City Zadar, Croatia are provided:

1. Croatia was represented “in person” at the Holiday Folk Fair International cultural booth at the Exposition Center at Wisconsin State Fair Park in West Allis, WI. during the weekend of November 22-24, 2024 as sponsored by the Sister Cities City of Milwaukee, Ald. Russell Stamper, II, Chair. This was the 81st annual Holiday Folkfair (www.folkfair.org) and the theme was “Celebrating Culture of Traditional Art.” Of the 40 dedicated volunteers that weekend, three had an opportunity to share their artistic/artisan talent: Mike Hrdi (authentic pastry bread board); Bernarda Supan (80 X 50 in.” crocheted bed cover) and Katherine Notheis (framed needlepoint).

The Folkfair is a vibrant celebration of cultural diversity and this year, first time ever that an International professional dance ensemble performed on our local ALL NATIONS THEATER stage. This was the “folklorni ansambl LINDO” LINDJO from Dubrovnik, Croatia. “Beautiful and polished.”

Folkfair of southeastern Wisconsin every year features various food items and this year it was traditional desserts. The EXPO Center was filled with the great smells of BAKERY and DINNERS. The Croatian FOOD BOOTH featured a MENU of sweet and savory delicacies: from SARMA to LIČKE KAPE cupcakes. LIKA HATS were showcased to honor the Lika-born inventor, Nikola Tesla. “Skidam ti Kapu Gosp. Tesla” “Hats off to you, Mr. Tesla.”

2. Another event which achieved its goal of fostering understanding and appreciation for different cultures was held in Oak Creek, WI and dubbed “Mini Folkfair.” CAFÉ: Culture. Art. Food. Entertainment. which was held on Saturday September 21, 2024 at the Drexel Town Square, Oak Creek, WI; Daniel Bukiewicz, Mayor. With Ana Macan’s leadership, the community promoted Croatian culture through fine bakery.
3. One of our member organizations, MCT (Milwaukee Croatian Tamburitzans) traveled to Croatia in late June to early July. They visited Zadar for a day on July 1, 2024. MCT is a our only junior group with youth to 21 yrs old that perpetuate our Croatian heritage through music,

dance, and song. They met with city officials and extended a welcome to visit us in Milwaukee Wi. The picture below are members of MCT, their parents and guests. Posted July 2, 2024.



Milwaukee Croats

Jul 2, 2024 · 🌐



Did you know that Milwaukee is a *sister city* of Zadar, Croatia?



Our very own Milwaukee Croatian Tamburitzans (aka Milwaukee CFU Tamburitzans) made a stop in Zadar on their Croatia tour.



4. Looking ahead, the sponsoring organization of Sister Cities, Zadar, Croatia - Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is rethinking the academic “water health” program to business or other opportunities. The newly elected board (January 26, 2025) of the Federation of Croatian Societies, Inc. is exploring options. We will also be replacing our 2024 chair, Nevenka Lutzow Bralic, and update you as soon as possible. Nevenka has done a fine job for us and our Croatian community.

Respectfully submitted,

Nevenka Lutzow Bralic

2024 Chair, Sister Cities, on behalf of the Federation of Croatian Societies

And

Thomas Krenz – Board Member – Federation of Croatian Societies Inc.