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Bogorodskoye toy in Crimea

On May 13, 2025, the opening ceremony of the exhibition “Bogorodskoye toy” took place at the Craft chamber of Crimea (Simferopol), featuring graduation qualification works created by students of the Bogorodskoye institute of artistic wood carving – branch of the Russian university of traditional art crafts.

The exhibition presented not only the best diploma projects that had been successfully exhibited earlier at the Russian house of science and culture in Paris, but also included items recognized for their artistic merit and officially classified as products of national applied arts craftsmanship pursuant to order No. 789 issued by the Ministry of industry and trade of Russia dated March 13, 2023.

V.M. Naumov, director of the Bogorodskoye institute of artistic wood carving, participated in the official opening of the exhibition – the first large-scale exposition held within the territory of the Republic of Crimea, which featured over 50 unique pieces (Fig. 1¹³).



Fig. 1. Official opening of the exhibition

Prior to the opening of one of the significant exhibition events in online format, a press conference was held involving representatives of the Russian university of traditional art crafts: rector O.P. Rybnikova, first vice-rector S.G. Soynikov, vice-rector for research S.A. Tikhomirov and vice-rector for academic affairs U.M. Stal’kina. On Radio “Tochka” of the Republic of Crimea

¹³ Figs. 1–5. Photos by the author of the article.

V.M. Naumov, director of the Bogorodskoye institute of artistic wood carving, and subject lecturer A.S. Sysoyev discussed the exhibition, displayed items, admission campaign of 2025 and talented students of the Russian university of traditional arts crafts.

Residents of Crimea encountered Bogorodskoye wood carved toys for the first time during the exhibition's inauguration event organized by the Chamber of folk applied arts and handicrafts of the Republic of Crimea. State Council deputy J.L. Khutorenko attended the opening ceremony, highlighting that this traditional form of traditional applied art would likely captivate creative individuals in Crimea, potentially leading to the emergence of new masters capable of producing similarly distinctive objects carrying the rich history of Russia.



Fig. 2. Master class on Bogorodskoye artistic wood carving

Employees of the House of friendship of peoples of the Republic of Crimea were also present at the opening of the exhibition. They emphasized that this event became a significant occasion, highlighting the wealth and diversity of national applied arts and crafts deeply rooted in the traditions and culture of Russia.

It was a vibrant and engaging event, covered by TV channel "Crimea 24. News of Crimea and Sevastopol" later that evening. The following day was dedicated to masterclasses led by A.S. Sysoyev (Fig. 2).

There was great interest among visitors, resulting in prior registration being arranged along with three additional days designated for viewing the exhibit. Visitors included primary and secondary school pupils, university students from Simferopol, as well as a group of Indian students in their first year studying at the Medical academy named after S.I. Georgiyevskiy (Fig. 3).

It is particularly worth noting that the exhibition "Bogorodskoye toy" was visited by E.A. Aksyonova, chairperson of the supervisory board of the interregional public organization "Russian unity", and S.P. Tsekov, first deputy chairman of the State Council of the Republic of Crimea (Fig. 4).

Exhibitions like these are crucial for preserving cultural heritage. Traditional applied arts, specifically Bogorodskoye toys made by students of the Bogorodskoye institute of artistic wood carving, serve not merely as children's playthings but embody symbols of national culture passed down through generations. Such exhibitions play a key role in safeguarding and promoting traditional art crafts while fostering respect for cultural roots.

At the exhibition, unique student works made of wood were showcased, both unfinished ("bel'yo") and painted. Each composition tells a story reflecting the life and traditions of the Russian people.



Fig. 3. First-year students of the Medical academy named after S.I. Georgiyevskiy

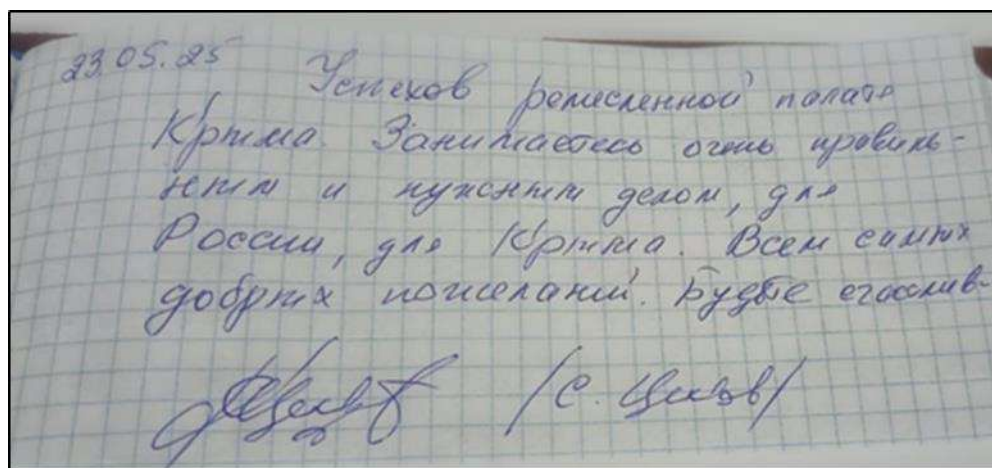


Fig. 4. Feedback from S.P. Tsekov after visiting the exhibition

The exhibition introduced viewers not only to the beauty of Bogorodskoye artistic wood carving but also highlighted the importance of preserving cultural heritage and the necessity of similar events, as evidenced by numerous enthusiastic reviews from visitors.

During the exhibition, student M. Medvedev conducted workshops on creating traditional Bogorodskoye toys (Fig. 5): he demonstrated his own work, explained the process of making them, inspiring participants to create their own creations.

Undoubtedly, such a significant event could not have taken place without the direct involvement of the administration of the Russian university of traditional art crafts – president V.F. Maksimovich and rector O.P. Rybnikova. And, of course, immense gratitude goes to N.N. Gordetskaya, president of the association "Chamber

of folk applied arts and handicrafts of the Republic of Crimea", who did extensive work to organize and host this major exhibition for the first time in Crimea.



Fig. 5. Master class by M. Medvedev

The exhibition "Bogorodskoye toy" at the Chamber of folk applied arts and handicrafts in Crimea became an important event reminding society about the value of traditional applied art. These types of activities contribute not only to the preservation of traditions but also foster respect for one's national culture.