

UAB Summer Art School in Kosovska Mitrovica, Kosovo and Metohija

The University of Arts in Belgrade traditionally organizes its Summer Art Schools with the aim of exploring and understanding the cultural, historical, artistic and natural potentials of a specific area in Serbia or the region, intended to serve as sources of inspiration for the participants to articulate ideas using the language of contemporary art.

The title of this year's Summer Art School *solidARiTy*, highlights the importance of the concept of solidarity, a concept which came to have a particular resonance and relevance in our country during 2025. Solidarity will serve as guiding principle that students and professors of the Summer Art School will express through their collaborative work – both in their mutual collaboration and in their engagement with all those who will take part in, or else simply observe, the activities of the 2026 Summer Art School in Kosovo and Metohija.

This 2026 Summer Art School will take place in Kosovska Mitrovica, and it will include participation and organizational support of the Faculty of Arts in Kosovska Mitrovica, University of Priština. The aim of the 2026 Summer Art School is to familiarize students, both from Serbia and abroad, with a part of Kosovo and Metohija – its traditions, cultural and historical heritage, including the exceptional artistic achievements of medieval architecture and painting in Serbian monasteries, while also introducing them to the contemporary social context of the everyday life.

The programme includes visits to monasteries inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage Sites List, including The Dečani Monastery, The Patriarchate of Peć, The Gračanica Monastery, and the Church of the Mother of God of Ljeviša (Lyevisha). Following these visits, Faculty of Music and the Faculty of Dramatic Arts will prepare and present a short artistic programme in the town of Prizren. Drawing on these experiences, as well as on their participation in the Summer Art School workshops, participants will be expected to produce artistic works that synthesize tradition and contemporary artistic approaches.

Interdisciplinarity, as the core concept of every Summer Art School, this year will be reflected through four workshops, each designed to integrate elements of the traditional culture and daily life of Kosovo and Metohija with contemporary artistic practices across different art disciplines. Each workshop will take the form of an intensive short course, grounded in mentorship and individualized approach. Particular attention will be placed on fostering interdisciplinary and intercultural exchange, encouraging active participation, dialogue, and the sharing of knowledge and experience.

An evaluation of each workshop, as well as of the Summer Art School as a whole, is planned, with the results to be analyzed in cooperation with the participating students.

The workshops will be led by Full Professor Dr Sanja Ranković and Assistant Professor Dr Iva Nenić (Department of Ethnomusicology, Faculty of Music), Full Professor Adam Pantić, PhD (Department of Graphic Arts, Faculty of Fine Arts), Assistant Professor Bojana Savić (Restoration and Conservation of Wall Painting and Mosaic, Faculty of Applied Arts), as well as Associate Professor Srđan Karanović, PhD, and Teaching Assistant Dušan Matejić, PhD (Department of Acting, Faculty of Dramatic Arts).

The objective of each workshop is to inspire students' creativity, encourage personal engagement, and promote collaboration with peers from Serbia and abroad. Participation in 2026 Summer Art School is intended to open up new space for work and provide artistic opportunities beyond standard academic programmes. A particular emphasis in the work of Summer Art School is placed on engaging with the local community and creating opportunities for local residents to observe or participate in the work of the workshops.