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Professional competition in lace weaving “Lace souvenir” at the Higher school of folk arts (academy)

On April 26, 2024 the VI professional competition for artistic lace weaving "Lace Souvenir – 2024" was held at the Higher school of folk arts. The purpose of the competition is to introduce future artists to the cultural values and traditions of their country. The objectives of the competition are:

- identification of historical and technological knowledge on artistic lace weaving;
- professional development;
- development of logical thinking in non-standard situations;
- formation of the ability to control emotions when achieving tasks.



Fig. 1. A workspace for performing a practical task at the Lace Souvenir competition. Higher school of folk arts (academy)¹³

The competition at the Higher School of Folk Arts (Academy) "Lace Souvenir" started in 2016. The competition is held among young specialists in the field of artistic lace weaving at the head university and the Ryazan branch of the Higher school of folk arts. The competition is an analogue of the All-Russian lace-making competition "Silver Bobbin" held several years ago in Vologda on the basis of the Governor's College of Folk Crafts.

¹³ Fig. 1-11 – photo of the author of the article.



Fig. 2. Participants of the competition at work

The Lace Souvenir Competition is a professional competition consisting of 20 questions on theory and professional skills related to the execution of a small product. The contest time is 4 hours.



Fig. 3. Winners of the Lace Souvenir 2019 contest

The lace souvenir that needs to be made includes all the basic elements of weaving: a cloth a grid a lining and a plait as well as a scan and complex technological techniques (for example, bifurcation of a cloth) (fig. 8-10).

The compositional solution of the future competition task must meet strict requirements: the size of the product artistic intent aesthetics and the inclusion of technological elements. Before the competition the practical task is necessarily woven by a specialist.



Fig. 4. Winners of the Lace Souvenir 2021 contest



Fig. 5. Winners of the Lace Souvenir 2022 contest

Any professional competition reveals the strengths and weaknesses of the contestants. You can be confident in yourself, answer all the questions perfectly but you can't cope with the excitement, you can't complete the competition task in the allotted time. But this should not alarm and scare away. On the contrary it is necessary to try your hand and determine your capabilities.

As practice shows students studying in the III and IV courses show excellent results, students of the I and II courses lack experience in weaving; there are errors in theoretical knowledge.

What does the Lace Souvenir contest give to the student?

- Professional growth.
- The opportunity to really assess your capabilities.
- Work experience in a team.
- A unique prize pool.

The main prize of the Lace Souvenir competition is a silver bobbin with gilding (fig. 8) made by special order of the Higher school of folk arts by the 'Severnaya Chern' enterprise (Veliky Ustyug).



Fig. 6. Winners of the "Lace Souvenir – 2023" contest



Fig. 7. Winners of the Lace Souvenir 2024 contest



Fig. 8. The main prize of the competition is a silver bobbin with gilding and a completed practical task

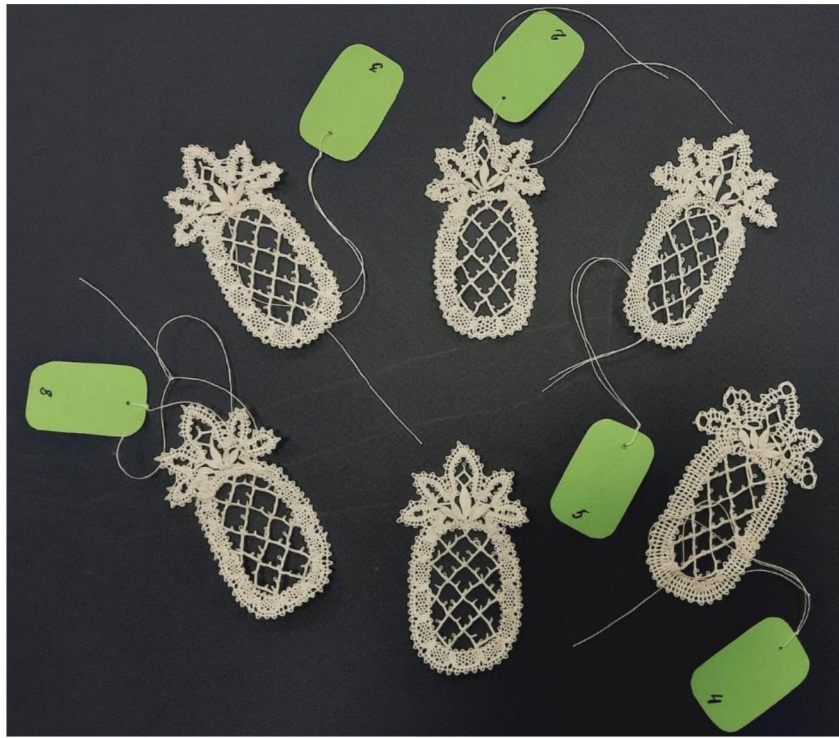


Fig. 9. Souvenirs made by the participants of the competition in 2024



Fig. 10. Souvenirs made by the participants of the competition in 2019



Fig. 11. Participants of the competition at the award ceremony