

Czech The NEWS – Los Angeles



Annual meeting of the Honorary Consuls and Consuls General of the Czech Republic

In September, the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles has the pleasure of hosting the Annual Meeting of the Consuls General and of Honorary Consuls of the Czech Republic in the United States, whose main mission is to strenghten representation of the Czech Republic with a particular country, such as United States of America and to serve local Czech communities.

Under the leadership of the Ambassador of the Czech Republic in Washington DC, H.E. Petr Gandalovič, the meeting will be a well-timed opportunity for all Honorary Consuls, who are spread far and wide throughout twenty three American states, to come together and have "face á face" interaction - as an alternative to the usual long-distance phone conversations. This will be a great chance for all participants to discuss various consular matters, explore potential business opportunities for Czech companies, and look into further strengthening the Czech-American cultural ties.

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Dear Friends in Southland,

I hope everybody is having a fantastic summer. The weather seems to be cooperating, at least here in Southern California. Some of you might have visited the Czech Republic and enjoyed the beauty of our motherland. Although there are many troublesome spots around the world right now, fortunately, things seem to be at peace and safe in the Czech Republic.

After hosting the Czech Senate delegation in California in June, we are looking forward to the annual meeting of all Czech American Honorary Consuls here in Los Angeles in September. The Czech Ambassador Petr Gandalovič and the Czech Consul Generals from New York and Chicago will be joined by more than 20 Honorary Consuls representing Czech interests throughout the United States at a two-day meeting at the Consulate. An evening reception on September 19th will be a great opportunity for the local community to meet them.

This fall, we will have an opportunity to celebrate works of one of the greatest Czech writers of the 20th century - Franz Kafka. The Czech Embassy in Washington, DC selected him as a person to whom the annual Mutual Inspiration Festival will be devoted to this year. The first event in LA will take place at the beautiful Villa Aurora in Malibu on September 14, 2014.

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Besides a small reception, there will be several readings from Kafka's writings as well as multidimensional presentations about his life and legacy. In addition, several films based on Kafka's books will be screened at the Consulate.

We will also remember two important dates this fall. On September 14th, the Czech Catholic Mission in California will celebrate its Golden 50th Anniversary which will take place at the Polish Center in Yorba Linda, starting with the Mass at 1pm. I invite you all to attend. And in November, we will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Velvet revolution and the end of communism in our country with series of events. The kick-off of this celebration of freedom will take place at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, very likely on Monday, October 20th.

I already look forward to the fall season of the Petrof Music Series. Three concerts are being organized in cooperation with the Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU). First, a popular Czech soprano Martina Kociánová with her two colleagues from the National Theater in Prague will perform at my residence on October 5, 2014. The second concert of this spectacular music series will happen on October 28, 2013, when famous Czech violinist Jaroslav Svěcený will perform with his talented daughter Julia, just prior to the Czech National Day celebration and reception. And in November, another renowned Czech violinist Ivan Ženatý will return to Los Angeles.

I am also pleased to announce that inaugural EU film festival called EUphoria will take over the campus of University of Southern California in September (9/19-24). The Czech Republic will be represented by a successful picture "Clownwise" starring popular Czech actors such as Jiří Lábus, Oldřich Kaiser and Eva Jeníčková. The Czech film will be screened on September 20th at 5pm and will be followed by a reception.

I am also excited that the Czech language school in Los Angeles keeps growing each semester. I would like to thank Miron Ilincev and Lilian Roter from Sokol for all their efforts. The Consulate will continue to support teaching Czech language to kids and adults as much as we can. I believe that learning the language is the first and the most important step in keeping the Czech culture in the family while living abroad.

A lot of changes are happening at the Consulate this summer, several of our officers have already departed either back to the Czech Republic (the Vice-Consul Tomáš Kára) or to their new postings such as my former assistant Sylvia (London) and the consular specialist Petra (Washington DC). Our head of administration Jiří Chaloupka will be moving to Tel Aviv (Israel) in September. You will meet our new staff at our events in coming months after they arrive to Los Angeles. My new assistant Pavlina is already settling in and if you need anything, please, do not hesitate to contact her at: pavlina_ciorobea@mzv.cz.

Please, keep checking our Facebook page and our website: www.mzv.cz/losangeles for more details and up to date information regarding all events.

Michal Sedláček, Consul General

Annual Meeting of the Honorary Consuls and Consuls General of the Czech Republic

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The meeting will be held on the premises of **the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles on September 19-20, 2014**. A high-level participation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is expected along with the presence of the Ambassador Gandalovič, accompanied by members of the Czech Embassy. In addition, the event will also include representatives of major Czech companies Mr. Homola (Corinth) and Mr. Miklas (Be3D); and Mr. Roman Horáček of CzechInvest - San Francisco.

As economy, culture and education will be at the top of the agenda, representatives of the Czech schools in the U.S. will attend and share their thoughts on how to better promote Czech language and culture among our young ones. The intention of the meeting is also to explore new options on how to further build on the tremendous success of the Mutual Inspirations Festival.

The annual conference has several years of tradition. Therefore, the Consulate General of the Czech Republic is proud to be the host this year.

The Inaugural of the EUphoria Film Festival Has Arrived

A fantastic celebration of European cinema will take place in Los Angeles this fall. The inaugural EUphoria Film Festival will offer a great opportunity for enthusiasts of international cinema to celebrate and discover contemporary films from across the European Union, featuring award-winning films and domestic box office hits from 13 participating countries of the EU. Euphoria is dedicated to promote European film culture and the European Union in the United States by expanding awareness of the rich cultural heritage and language diversity in European cinema.

The EUphoria will feature dramatic and documentary films from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Poland.

The Czech Republic will be represented by the unrivalled comedy/drama „Clownwise” („Klauni“, 2013, 120 minutes) starring legendary comedians Oldřich Kaiser and Jiří Lábus, accompanied by local Czech actress Eva Jeníčková. This new Czech film is a collaboration of a promising director and producer Viktor Tauš and a veteran Czech screenwriter Petr Jarchovský, the author of Academy Award nominated movies, „Divided We Fall“ and „Želary“.

„Clownwise“ was nominated for 8 Czech Academy Awards, including the Best Film of the Year, and received 4 nominations for Czech Critics' Choice Awards including the Best Film of the Year.

„Clownwise” will be screened on Saturday, September 20, 2014, at 5:00 pm at Eileen Norris Cinema Theatre/Frank Sinatra Hall (3507 Trousdale Parkway, Los Angeles, CA 90007). A popular Czech actress Eva Jeníčková and director Viktor Tauš will be available for Q&A session after the screening. The post-screening reception will likely be attended by the Czech Minister of Foreign Affairs Lubomír Zaorálek.

The EUphoria film festival is taking place at the University of Southern California (USC) from September 19th -24th, 2014, and is produced jointly by 13 EU Consulates in Los Angeles and San Francisco, European Languages and Movies in America (ELMA), and the USC School of Cinematic Arts.

The festival is offered free of charge to film lovers across Southern California, and will kick-off with an opening night reception featuring cuisines and drinks from across the EU.

For more information and complete schedule please visit the official website of the festival at: <http://euphoriafilmfest.com/>



Friday, Sep 19 at 7:00 PM	Greece
Saturday, Sep 20 at 2:00 PM	Ireland
Saturday, Sep 20 at 4:00 PM	Lithuania
Saturday, Sep 20 at 5:00 PM	Czech Rep.
Saturday, Sep 20 at 7:00 PM	Poland
Saturday, Sep 20 at 8:00 PM	Belgium
Sunday, Sep 21 at 2:00 PM	Austria
Sunday, Sep 21 at 4:00 PM	Luxembourg
Sunday, Sep 21 at 5:00 PM	Germany
Sunday, Sep 21 at 7:00 PM	Bulgaria
Sunday, Sep 21 at 8:00 PM	Croatia
Tuesday, Sep 23 at 7:00 PM	Finland
Wednesday, Sep 24 at 7:00 PM	Italy

Exciting Czech Musicians Coming to Los Angeles This Fall

Each year the annual Petrof Concert Series consists of several musical performances of various genres. The event is organized jointly by the Consulate General of the Czech Republic and the Czechoslovak Society of Arts & Sciences – LA with a generous support of the Petrof Pianos USA Company. The popular music series will continue with several wonderful concerts this fall.

Popular Czech mezzo-soprano singer Martina Kociánová will perform together with a violin virtuoso and conductor Oldřich Vlček, and a pianist Sára Bukovská on **Sunday, October 5, 2014, at 4 pm at the residence of the Czech Consul General in Los Angeles.** “*Flowers of Czech Music in Prague*” (Květy české hudby z Prahy), the name of the upcoming concert, consists of well-known arias for soprano solo. Attendees of the concert will have a unique opportunity to listen to the well-known compositions of great Czech composers such as A. Dvořák, B. Smetana, L. Janáček and B. Martinů. The second part of the concert will commemorate Czech music tradition by performing numerous Czech and Moravian folk songs.

Petrof Concert Series will continue on **October 28, 2014, at 5 pm** with a concert of the acclaimed violinist Jaroslav Svěcený and his talented daughter Julia. The concert will be held **at the residence of the Czech Consul General in Los Angeles** and will be a great addition to the program of the celebration of the Czech National Day reception. Mr. Svěcený and his daughter will also perform on October 26, 2014, at the Knollwood Country Club (12024 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA), during the “Annual Heritage Event” organized by American Sokol – LA. The tour of Mr. Svěcený and his daughter Julie will continue to Seattle (October 22), Las Vegas (October 24) and San Diego (October 27).

The final event from Petrof Concert Series in 2014 will offer a recital of another prominent Czech violin virtuoso Ivan Ženatý, who will perform with an American pianist Sandra Shapiro. The concert will take place on **November 9, 2014, at 4 pm at the residence of the Czech Consul General.**



Jaroslav and Julia Svěcený



Martina Kociánová



Ivan Ženatý

Mutual Inspirations Festival 2014 - FRANZ KAFKA

The annual Mutual Inspirations Festival consists of multiple events held throughout the United States focusing on mutual inspirations between Czech and American cultures. The 2014 edition will honor the legendary Czech – German writer, Franz Kafka, commemorating the 90th anniversary of his passing.

In Los Angeles, the annual initiative organized by the Czech Embassy in Washington D.C., will officially launch **on Sunday, September 14, 2014, at 4 pm at Villa Aurora in Malibu** (520 Paseo Miramar, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272). The Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles, together with Villa Aurora, will present a special event dedicated to Franz Kafka, regarded by many as one of the most influential writers of the 20th century. A celebrated poet, Gerhard Falkner, will discuss Kafka's life and work. The program will include film clips, performance and reading from Kafka's books.

The festival will continue **on Tuesday, September 30, 2014, at 7 pm** at the Consulate General of the Czech Republic with a **screening of Steven Soderbergh's feature film "Kafka"**. The leading role in this biopic is played by the acclaimed actor Jeremy Irons. At the same evening the exhibition titled „Journeys of Franz Kafka“ will be launched. Czech photographer Jan Jindra in his photography project follows in the footsteps of the literary great, taking black and white pictures of many of the places Kafka visited. The Czech Consulate will host the exhibit in its Front Gallery (10990 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1100, Los Angeles, CA 90024) till middle of November, 2014.

On October 14, 2014, at 7 pm, the screening room of the Czech Consulate will showcase a **Czech feature film "Amerika"**, based on Kafka's unfinished book, *"The Men, Who Disappeared."* A popular Czech actor Martin Dejdar is starring in the leading role of the 1994 film, directed by Vladimír Michálek. In addition, the Czech Consulate is in touch with an UCLA department of literature in order to a great addition to the evening with a short presentation about Kafka's work.

Details are still being worked out and will be announced on the official website of the Czech Consulate at: www.mzv.cz/losangeles

There is no admission charge for the events within the Mutual Inspirations Festival, but reservation is required. Seating is limited and is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For reservations: (310)473-0889, ext. 230 or at: losangeles@embassy.mzv.cz



„Amerika“ (1994) directed by Vladimír Michálek



„Kafka“ (1991) directed by Steven Soderbergh

Czech Senators in California



Czech Senators from the Senate Committee for Czechs Living Abroad (Tomáš Grulich, Hassan Mezian, Jaroslav Kubera) visited California in the late June 2014 and enjoyed a full and interesting program. On June 22, 2014, the delegation held an open panel discussion at the Residence of the Consul General in Los Angeles which was accompanied by a small reception. More than 50 guests attended the lively discussion focusing on various topics of interest to the Czech community, such as questions about the new Czech citizenship law or how to improve cooperation between compatriots and their motherland.

Apart from the interesting debate, guests could enjoy a special exhibition commemorating Czech assistance in Israel's struggle for independence. The exhibition focused on key events of the Czech military assistance to Israel in 1947-1949 that made establishment of the State of Israel possible. The exhibit also illustrated values both countries share such as love for freedom and democracy, and commemorated the long lasting alliance between the Czech Republic and Israel, starting with the visit of the Czech President Masaryk to Palestine in 1927 and concluding with the official trip of President Havel to Israel in 1990.

The Senate delegation also met with officials of the City of Los Angeles, visited the Getty Villa, took part in a special tour at the Warner Brothers film studio in Burbank and attended many other activities. After their stay in Los Angeles, the senators traveled to San Diego where they were joined by the Czech Ambassador to the United States, H.E. Petr Gandalovič who participated in all their activities. On June 24, 2014 the group attended the Biotechnology International Convention (BIO), visited the Czech and Slovak House in Balboa Park and met with the students and parents from the Czech School in San Diego. After their stay in California, the delegation traveled to Dallas.

Otto Notzl named President of L.A. Mission

Otto Notzl has long been one of the most faithful and helpful members of the Czech Catholic Mission in LA. In June he accepted the invitation from the bishop to take on the role of LA Mission president for the next year. His duties will be to facilitate the liturgical and social celebrations of the community, as well as assist the bishop with whatever issues arise. Even in one year he will put his own stamp on the office since each president fashions the job to his own skill and preferences. He will become an *ex officio* member of the board of the **Velehrad California Czech Catholic Mission, Inc.**, which has fiduciary responsibility for the house.

Věstník of Czech Catholic Diaspora



50th Anniversary of Czech Catholic Diaspora

This year the Czech Catholic Mission in California is celebrating its 50th anniversary. The Golden Anniversary celebration of the California Czech Mission will take place at Pope St. John Paul II Polish Center, 3999 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda 92886 **on Sunday, September 14, 2014, starting with Mass at 1:00 pm.**

Admittance is by reservation only, therefore R.S.V.P. should be mailed along with check of \$10.00 to Bishop Peter Esterka 344 Koch Avenue, Placentia, CA 92870 **by August 31.** Fee covers the cost of lunch entree (children 12 and under are free).



KOLACHE FACTORY

Taste of Central European Pastry

The kolache (pronounced ko-LAH-chee) entered the American repertory in the mid-1800s, soon after the immigrants from Central Europe settled in the hills and prairies of Texas. As it was once home to more than 200 Czech-dominant communities when nearly 100 settlements have had Czech names, and about half of them still exist, it is not very surprising to learn that it is also the cradle of Kolache Factory, a place for freshly baked kolaches set in a modern ambiance. However, despite the contemporary twist, its old-fashion recipe tradition is preserved and followed.



Kolache Factory was founded in 1982 in Houston, Texas by co-founders John and Jerri Banks, who identified a need for a fresh, high quality breakfast that could be eaten "on the run." The Banks' used a variety of methods to encourage consumers to try their high quality, fresh kolaches, and soon they were in high demand for business meetings, family breakfasts, on-the-go lunches, and afternoon snacks. Today, Kolache Factory is expanding nationwide and has received national attention for its concept and product.

Kolache Factory is privately owned and operated, and is headquartered in Houston, Texas, however with several franchise branches it has even reached California with its newly opened store in Tustin. So what else to say, other that **you are welcome to taste a sweet part of the Central European heritage.**



The closest store is in Tustin, CA:

14091 Newport Ave, Tustin, CA 92780

For other locations or for further information please visit the corporate website: www.kolachefactory.com

Czech School Los Angeles starts its Third Year

The 2013/14 school year is over at Czech School of Los Angeles, and we can proudly mark it as a successful one. The school grew by over 30 % of enrolled children, which is a very significant number and we sure hope it will continue to grow.

This year we have also started lessons of Czech language for adults. We are happy to say, that this upcoming year we will continue with adult classes and anyone who wishes to speak Czech or at least to know more about it should not hesitate to sign up. Classes run weekly, on Saturdays. All this increasing demand for our educational services made us hire two new teachers and we are happy to have them now in our team.

The Czech School of Los Angeles organized several cultural events throughout the year, such as St. Nicholas and Christmas Party, Czech-American Family Mountain retreat, Easter Celebration and close to school year Children's Day at the Beach.

Thank you all for your support and we look forward to welcome everyone for the **classes starting again on Saturday, September 6th**, when a new school year 2014/2015 begins.

For more information, write to Miron at milincev@hotmail.com or visit www.czech-school.com or www.facebook.com/czechschoola

Miron Ilinčev



Czech lesson for Kids.



Czech lesson for Adults.

September 2014**October 2014**

September 14, 2014 at 1:00 pm – 50th Anniversary celebration of the Czech Catholic Diaspora in Los Angeles

Lunch fee: 10 USD per person (children 12 and under are free)
(3999 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda 92886)

September 14, 2014 at 4:00 pm – launch of *Mutual Inspirations Festival 2014 – Franz Kafka* at Villa Aurora

(Villa Aurora, 520 Paseo Miramar, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272)
upon invitation only

September 20, 2014 at 5:00 pm – Screening of the “Clownwise” as part of the Euphoria Film Festival at Eileen Norris Cinema Theatre

(Eileen Norris Cinema Theatre/Frank Sinatra Hall, 3507 Trousdale Parkway, Los Angeles, CA 90007)

Tickets must be reserved on-line at <http://euphoriafilmfest.com>

September 30, 2014 at 7:00 pm - Screening of the film “*Kafka*” as part of *Mutual Inspirations Festival 2014 – Franz Kafka* at the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles

(10990 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1100, LA)
RSVP at losangeles@embassy.mzv.cz

October 5, 2014 at 4:00 pm – Concert of Martina Kociánová as part of *Petrof Series* at the Residence of the Consul General

upon invitation only

October 14, 2014 at 7:00 pm - Screening of the film “*Amerika*” as part of *Mutual Inspirations Festival 2014 – Franz Kafka* at the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles

(10990 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1100, LA)
RSVP at losangeles@embassy.mzv.cz

October 20, 2014 – Reagan Library, panel discussion on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Velvet Revolution with Ambassador Gandalovič as one of the speakers

further details TBC
upon invitation only

October 26, 2014 at 11:00 am – Annual Heritage Event of Sokol Los Angeles at Knollwood Country Club

(12024 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA)
RSVP by October 10 to Mrs. Lillian Roter at gemlil@aol.com

October 28, 2014 at 5:00 pm – Concert of Jaroslav and Julia Svěcený at the residence of Consul General

upon invitation only

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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