

НАЦИОНАЛНА ГИМНАЗИЯ ЗА ПРИЛОЖНИ ИЗКУСТВА

100
ГОДИНИ

ТРЕВНЕНСКА ШКОЛА



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The **National High School of Applied Arts “Trevnenska shkola”** in Tryavna, Bulgaria, is a state cultural institution with the Ministry of Culture.

The school preserves and develops the tradition of Tryavna icon painting and woodcarving school that dates back to the National Revival period, providing vocational training for high school students from the whole country in three main subjects - *Artistic Woodcarving*, *Interior Design* and *Icon Painting*. The high school graduates receive diploma and professional qualification certificate for Artist or Designer and have the right to continue their education in all higher education institutions.

The school was founded in 1920 as State Carpentry School with the idea of preserving the Bulgarian traditions in artistic wood processing. The school quickly turned into educational and art centre and attracted talented teachers like the artists Ivan Hristov, who had graduated in Munich. He gave the idea for creation of a museum of woodcarving, where precious wood art pieces have been preserved to date. Among the notable teachers and graduates of the school through his 100 years' history have been the art historian Dimitar Drumev and the woodcarvers Tsanyo Antonov, Asen Vasilev, Prof. Kancho Tsanev, Prof. Anton Donchev, etc. They all had a significant contribution not only to the Tryavna School of Woodcarving, but to the Bulgarian plastic arts development and modern redefining of the traditional arts and crafts. Here are the main stages in the school history:

1920 – 1944 -State Carpentry School

1945 – 1952 – Secondary State School of Woodcarving and Construction

1952 – 1975 – Technical School of Woodcarving and Interior Architecture

1976 – 2009 - High School of Applied Arts

2009 – now - National High School of Applied Arts “Trevnenska shkola”

Currently the school is one of a handful of art schools with the Ministry of Culture of Bulgaria, regarded as state cultural institutions. Students from the whole country gather to study in the three unique for Bulgaria school subjects: Artistic **Woodcarving**, **Interior Design** and **Icon Painting**.

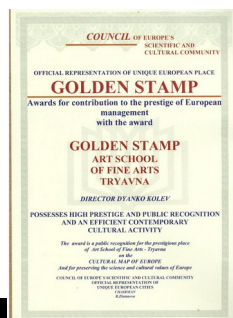
The main objectives of the training at the school are acquiring of professional knowledge and skills and raising of the personal professional and artistic cultural level in the field of applied arts.

Art Schools are national, which means that each school is dedicated to a specific art or craft and attracts students from the whole country. They are governed by the Ministry of Culture in terms of organization, financing and methodology of teaching. Each school has developed a specific curriculum which best reflects its specifics and art education needs.

The professional training, received in Tryavna Art School, allows its graduates to find jobs and seek personal development in interior design, furniture design and production, creative industries, art and culture as a whole.

Art Schools are combination of educational institutions and art and culture centres, important base for many of the country's cultural processes. Art School graduates have long tradition of becoming the core staff of many Bulgarian cultural institutions and organizations. The teachers and students of the Art Schools are major part of the artistic capital of the nation. Their mission, the **mission of Trevnenska Shkola Art School**, is to preserve the rich, centuries-old local traditions of icon painting and wood carving and develop them into contemporary arts and crafts.

The school is a Bulgarian spiritual and cultural centre, which provides excellent conditions for high-quality training of young talents in applied arts. An evidence for this is the recognition by the Council of European Scientific and Cultural Communities, which awarded the school with a Golden Stamp and Golden Book for its high professionalism and contribution to the Bulgarian culture.



Tryavna Art School teaching staff is highly qualified. The special subjects are taught by prominent artists with considerable teaching experience. Art School students have won numerous awards at local and international competitions, workshops, programmes, exhibitions, sporting events. Every year the most talented students receive scholarships from the Ministry of Culture, Bulgarian-American Foundation – Boston, USA, Euro-Bulgarian Cultural Centre, etc. There is an impressive atmosphere of continuity and understanding between students from different school grades.

Together with the daily school training, Tryavna Art School has developed a wide range of extracurricular activities, which extend students' knowledge, skills and experience in various fields of the contemporary culture. The school maintains close contacts with NGOs, social, cultural and educational institutions. Among the international contacts are these with the Carving School in Brienz - Switzerland (since 1997) and the "Drvoart" Technical School in Belgrade.

Tryavna Art School boasts excellent educational facilities and equipment; among them 3D CNC machine and laser scanner for woodworks, a laboratory with 5 pcs. 3D printers, laser cutter and engraver, renovated studios and workshops, class rooms with modern educational devices, unique library, own art gallery, art shop and in-house dormitory for 50 students. The building of the school is renovated to achieve higher energy efficiency.

Tryavna Art School graduates continue their education in many Bulgarian higher art and science educational institutions like the National Academy of Art, Veliko Tarnovo University, National University of Architecture, etc. Through the years many of them have gone to study and work in Austria, Germany, South Africa, Israel, USA, Canada, Spain, Italy, England and others countries.

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They study:

- The Bulgarian heritage in the field of artistic carving.
- material science.
- Composition - types, basic notions. Types of symmetries.
- Composition in artistic woodcarving, principles of construction.
- Study, analytical stage in the design of decorative artistic work.
- Styling of plant and animal elements, shaping.

- Graphic design and plastic project, performance in clay or in a pattern of designed compositions.
- Design of decoration for objects with utilitarian use or three-dimensional plastics - creative stages.
- Principles for building harmonious forms.
- 3d design of the 3D MAX program and operation of the CNC machine
- Organization of working areas for carving, calculation of the work and others.

The program preserves and develops the Bulgarian tradition in the field of woodcarving. It develops the student's creative skills in theory and practice and provides basic knowledge and skills for the specialty.