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Braila County Council
Braila County Centre for Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture

International Folklore Festival
Love song along the Danube
the *XIX*th edition, Braila, Romania, the 21st- the 23rd of July, 2026

The contest purpose:

The thematic variety of folklore imposes, especially, that artistic genre which addresses to the soul by the emotional and sensitive states which it transmits, namely the love song. Thus, the organizers intend to rediscover, valorise and promote these creations and launch new performers belonging to the vocal genre, meant by definition to increase the spiritual richness of all the inhabitants of the Danube region and not only.

The contest addresses to the vocal soloists and also to small groups (maximum 5 persons), amateur artists belonging to the communities from the Danube's course: Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova and Ukraine.

The Song of Love along the Danube Festival takes place either on the Danube esplanade or on a stage made available by the organizer and communicated in due time to the participants.

The hymn of the festival is the *Dunare, poteca lina*. Given the fact that this hymn will open and end the event, all the competitors will know the lyrics of it for singing it on the scene.

In the contest there are allowed persons being over 18 years old**,** made until the date of the laureates' gala. It's advisable that in the case of the participants from the Romanian counties near to the Danube, one of the contestants should belong to the preponderant ethnic group (Ukrainians, Tartars, Turks, Lipovenians, Greeks, Italians etc.).
After the pre-selection maximum **30 contestants** will be admitted in the competition.

The registration in the contest:

The winners of the previous editions **(the winner of the trophy's, first prize, second prize and third prize) cannot participate in the contest.** Also, in the case that one contestant already participated in two editions of the festival, a third participation is not possible. The winner of the trophy in the previous edition will be presented for performing a micro recital, at the organizers request (case in which the organizers will cover the expenses for transportation, accommodation and meals).

The registration in the contest is made on the basis of a registration form (according to annex). The record will be sent together with a CD or attached to an e-mail containing the repertory for the contest. All of these will be sent to the address of The County Center for Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture, nr. 2 Piata Traian (Traian Square), postal code 810153, phone no/ fax +40239.614.710 Braila, Romania between **the *23rd of March-the 22nd* of May 2026**. The songs in mp3 format and the documents required for the registration in the contest may be also sent to the e-mail address: *festival.braila@gmail.com.*Each contestant will present 2 songs, different as structure (tempo, tune, rhythm, and feature); the first song, without accompaniment, and the second one with musical accompaniment, representing the ethno folklore area from which the contestant comes.

The songs will correspond, through their content, to the message transmitted by the festival's title – ***the love song.***

In other words, the contestants will present in the festival – exclusively – love songs. In what concerns the representatives of the ethnic groups, their songs will belong to the repertory of the respective minority.
The contestants will wear the costume specific to the area or ethnic group they belong to.

The pre-selection for the Romanian and the foreign contestants will be done on the basis of the audio material sent – CD-mp3 or e-mail, between the ***25th of May-the 29th of May, 2026.*** The decisions will be made by the contest jury. The result of the pre-selection will be announced to the participants on the ***2nd of June, 2026,*** by publishing it on the web pages of the institution and they have the obligation to send to the organizers the scores of the songs until the ***15th of June 2026***

Upon registration, each candidate will present/send:
• copy of the identity card;
• completed registration form;

• the songs related to the registration form in .mp3 or wma format;
• the declaration on the Protection of Personal Data (annex to these Regulations)
• 2 artistic color photos
• (copy of student ID card where applicable, valid for foreign competitors, in order to benefit from existing tax facilities).

The contest's fee

The amount of the participation fee is as follows

- 120 Romanian lei for a single person admitted to the competition (soloist entered individually in the competition)

- 200 Romanian lei for a musical project admitted to the competition (duet, trio, quartet, etc.)

The admitted competitors after the pre-selection will pay the fee for the contest, or by bank transfer to the account open at Braila Treasury (Account IBAN RO64TREZ 1512 1G33 1900 XXXX) fiscal code 7869923 or in cash, at the cash desk of the County Center for Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture Braila, just the exception case, until the **21st of July, 2026, 11 o'clock**

Foreign competitors will pay the fee in cash at the cash desk of the County Center for Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture Braila, until **21stof July, 2026**, **11 o'clock**

Failure to pay this tax within the prescribed term means elimination from the competition.

The contest's schedule

The contest takes place on **the 21st, 22nd, 23rd of July 2026**.

On the 23rd of July 2026 will take place the Awarding Ceremony.

The order of performances will be appointed by drawing lots or, by contestants' agreement, in the order which will follow the Danube River's course from the source to mouth.

Also, the order of entering the competition will take into account the compliance of the artistic requirements (the presence on stage in the same competition night of several competitors representing the same country/ethnographic area as well as the repetition of the same competition song or performance should be avoided). The organizer will communicate the final decision. Compliance with artistic requirements is a priority. Competitors will strictly comply with the organizers' specifications regarding entry into the competition and rehearsals.

The jury

- The Jury of the contest is formed by folklore personalities, well-known specialists who, through value and professional competence will guarantee the correctness of the results according to the following criteria: the quality of performance, authenticity and artistic value of the songs, the costume's authenticity, and scenic attitude of the performer.
- Judging is done under the judging Rules of the competition.
- The Jury's member who is involved in the competitor's artistic training or management is in charge with, can no longer vote for this competitor. The contestant will receive the average of the other jury members' grades.
- Ex Aequo prizes are not allowed.
- In case of points equality for one or more competitors, the separation will be done according to the grade belonging to the President of the jury. If this criterion is not sufficient the separation will be through the direct decision of the President of the jury.
- The members of the jury keep the confidentiality of grades and charts derived from the judging procedure.
- All decisions are final and without right of appeal.
- The judging results are made public once with the awarding ceremony, then, the list is published on the websites belonging to The Creation Centre, County Council and Festival's.
- From the moment the ranking is handed over by the jury members and the judging minutes are signed, CJCPCT Brăila is exempted from any obligation towards the participants in the event, regarding the final results.

The competitors' obligations are:

- To comply with the terms of the contest's Regulation;
- If the competitors are attended (agent, family member, etc.), attendants will bear the cost of their meal and accommodation.
- Travel expenses will be borne by competitors.
- The Laureates who are not presented at the Prize Awarding Ceremony are going to be disqualified;
- Any break of these obligations leads to the unappeasable exclusion from the contest.
- To pay the fee for the contest, by the established ways, in the established time.
- To sign broadcasting rights cession agreements settled by the organizers;
- Accept the terms of the Personal Data Protection Regulation, also signing the Declaration attached to this Regulation.

The organizers' obligations are:

- To ensure the fair running of the contest's pre-selection and its impartiality;
- To ensure the accuracy of votes' centralization for the partial and final results;
- To assure the prizes.
- To bear the accommodation and meal expenses for all the competitors; Competitors' companions will bear their own costs of accommodation meals and transport.
- Ensures, within the budget, the transport of foreign competitors from the airport/North Train Station or bus stations from Bucharest to Brăila and back, only for the period for which they are required to be present in Brăila, to take part in rehearsals with the orchestra or to establish other organizational details; In case a participant is forced to arrive/depart to/from Brăila for unfounded reasons, which are not related to the organizer, it will unilaterally cover the costs of transport, accommodation and meals, for that interval.
- Ensures, within the budget, the food and accommodation of the contestants, only for the period for which they will be required to be present in Brăila, to take part in rehearsals with the orchestra or to establish other organizational details. In case a participant is forced to arrive/depart to/from Brăila for unfounded reasons, which are not related to the organizer, it will unilaterally cover the costs of transport, accommodation and meals, for that interval.
- The organizer reserves the right to register for the contest archive all the stage developments of the participants;
- The organizers are not responsible to the events or incidents in which the contestants may be implied outside the show.

The prizes (at the euro exchange rate of BNR, National Bank of Romania, from the date of approval of this regulation)

- The trophy - 4.000 €
- I Prize - 2.500 €
- II Prize - 1.500 €
- III Prize - 1.000 €
- Special prize- 500 €
- Prize for the authenticity of the folk costume 500 €
- Prize for the popularity 500 €

Other prizes, from other sources or sponsorships, can be also granted.

The amounts are taxable according to the Romanian legislation in force on the date of prize awarding.
Prizes will be awarded in RON (Romanian currency), at the euro exchange rate of BNR, National Bank of Romania, from the date of approval of this regulation, 12.01.2026, by *Decision of the Administrative Council of the County Center for the Preservation and Promotion of the Traditional Culture Braila*. The payment is made by bank transfer. The bank's commissions for the prizes' transfer will be borne will be borne by both parties (Organizer and winner of the prize).
The prizes will be transferred within **120 days** from the announcement of the winners, in compliance with the budgetary provisions and the sponsorship law.
The competitors who do not find themselves among the winners will receive a participation diploma.
Any changes to the Regulation imposed by circumstances beyond the organizer - will be communicated in time on the festival's web page as well as on the organizing institution's web page.

Major force
In case of majeure force or fortuitous event, the Organizer may decide to make changes or even cancel *Love song along the Danube festival* in exceptional situations without being held liable in any way to the Participants for these decisions.
Majeure Force or fortuitous event means any external event such as, but not limited to: storms, threats or risk of terrorist attack, decisions of public authorities, whether legitimate or illegitimate, epidemics, pandemics, accidents, explosions, fires , floods, torrential rains, earthquakes, social conflicts, major short circuit, high risk of harm to public health, decisions of the authorities or any other cases that cannot be foreseen by the organizer at the time of publication of this regulation and may prevent this edition from taking place.

Contact information:
Phone number /fax number +40239.614.710/+40725.526.810
http://canteculdedragoste.ro/
http://www.centruldecreatiebraila.ro/

STATEMENT

I, the undersigned .... hereby agrees the right of the County Center for Conservation and Promotion of Traditional Culture Braila , through personally empowered persons, to process personal data according to the EU General Personal Data Protection Regulation 679/2016 (GDPR) for the Love song along Danube International Folklore Festival, organized between the 21st- the 23rd of July, 2026

In order to participate in the preselection of the contest and if it is the case for the competition that will take place between the 21st- the 23rd of July, 2026 you are obliged to provide your personal data.

Your refusal determines the impossibility of benefiting from all these facilities.

The recorded information is intended for use by the operator and is only communicated to the following recipients: central and local public authorities, the operator's contractual partners, etc.

Under Regulation 679/2016, you have the right of access, data interference and the right not to be subject to an individual decision.

At the same time, you have the right to oppose the processing of your personal data and to request the deletion of the data.

Date Signature

Registration Form
Love song along the Danube
XIXth edition, Brăila, Romania
the 21st- the 23rd of July, 2026

Name and surname…… .....

Date and place of birth .....…….....

Identity document

Series.....No..... Personal code number….....

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Address.....

E-mail .....telephone.....

Profession, occupation.....

The represented folkloric area .....…….....

Musical studies (if case).....…….....

Relevant data regarding musical artistic activity (if works within an institution, contests, performances, prizes, collaborations) .....….....

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The repertory proposed for the contest, the origin:

1.....

2.....

Signature of the Contestant

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