

SIAULIAI JULIAUS JANONIO GYMNASIUM

Gymnasium Profile

Siauliai Juliaus Janonio Gymnasium is a state co-educational general secondary education school. It is located in Siauliai, the fourth largest city in Lithuania. 560 students are enrolled: 261 students in Lower-Secondary (Basic) Study Programme (Forms I-II, age 16 /17 years) and 299 students in Upper-Secondary (High) Study Programme (Forms III-IV, age 18 /19 years). 44 members of teaching staff and 4 assistance specialists are committed to developing inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people.

History of School

Gymnasium is one of the oldest education institutions in Lithuania. It was established in 1825 in Svisločius (present Byelorussia). The idea to have a gymnasium in Siauliai came out in 1838. Siauliai area landlords applied to local authority and promised to raise funds for the gymnasium building. The permission to transfer Svisločius Gymnasium to Siauliai was issued on September 11, 1845. In 1845 the construction of a two-story brick building was started and it was finished in 1850. In 1851 Boys' Gymnasium ("Šavelskaja Mužskaja gimnazija") started its work in Siauliai. In 1920 it was reorganised into Siauliai State Gymnasium and in 1928, after girls were separated and taught in a separate school, it was renamed Siauliai Authority Boys' Gymnasium. During the years of Independent Lithuania, famous educators worked there, Lithuanian traditions were established, and students who later became famous science, arts and culture figures finished Gymnasium. During the World War 2 Gymnasium experienced hard times – it was deprived of the building; teaching and educating trends were enforced. After the war, Gymnasium was reorganised into a secondary school and in 1946 it was called Juliaus Janonio Secondary School. In 1954 it became a co-educational secondary school. In 1965 it was entitled to specialise in Humanities profile. School community contributed a lot to cherish school history. In 1993 school building was awarded the status of a state preserved culture heritage object. The year of 1991 was the starting point of preparing to re-establish gymnasium status. Primary classes were moved to a separate school. In 1996 the school gained the status of gymnasium and was called Siauliai Juliaus Janonio Gymnasium. During more than 170 years of school history many famous people who left well-marked trace not only in Gymnasium, but also in the whole life of Lithuania studied and worked in Gymnasium. National revival ideas were popular among students who after finishing Gymnasium became prominent society and culture figures. Even four out of 20 signatories of February 16, 1918 Independence Act were Gymnasium students: M. Biržiška, J. Vileišis, A. Petrulis, S. Kairys. Three generations of Earl Zubovai, three brothers professors Viktoras, Vaclovas and Mykolas Biržiškos, S. Šalkauskis (a philosopher), P. Višinskis (a social figure and promoter of Lithuanian ideas) and many other outstanding persons studied in Gymnasium. Gymnasium history is reflected in the Gymnasium History Jonas Krivickas Museum, which was founded in 1970 by a teacher of the Lithuanian language and ethnographer Jonas Krivickas. In 1987 the Museum was awarded the name of the Folk Museum. Now the Museum contains over 3500 exhibits. It is widely known for its wide range of activities. Former students from all over the world come back to their school and share experiences, success stories and career opportunities with present-day students.

Curriculum

The curriculum at Siauliai Juliaus Janonio Gymnasium is designed to provide each student with a suitable breadth and depth of opportunity in each year of study. The maximum size of a class is 30 students, foreign language groups – 20. The duration of a lesson is 45 minutes, maximum number of lessons a week – 32. A 10 point scale is used with 10 as the highest mark and 4 as the lowest passing mark. All students study English as the first foreign language and have an opportunity to

choose from 5 modern foreign languages available: English, German, Russian, French, and Spanish. Students study 11 compulsory and optional subjects in the I–II forms: moral education (religion or ethics), Lithuanian, first and second foreign languages, mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, history, geography, civil education, economics and enterprise, art, music, (dance, theatre), information technologies, technologies, physical education. Education in III and IV forms is individualised according to the following study profiles: Humanities, Social Studies, Arts and Biomedicine, Physical Sciences, Technology so students design their individual curriculum according to the preferences. The core of the upper-secondary (high) program consists of the following subjects: moral education (religion or ethics), languages (Lithuanian tongue and foreign languages), mathematics, social education (history, geography), natural sciences (biology, physics, chemistry), arts (art, music, dance, theatre), information technologies, technologies, and physical education. The choice of subjects for each student is based on individuality. The range of subjects available is appropriate to the overall high academic standards of our students. All school-leavers have to take final examinations: an obligatory examination in the Lithuanian Language, and 1 elective examination, but students are free to choose up to 6 electives. A criterion-referenced assessment is being introduced for state-level examinations with 100 as the highest score and 16 as the lowest passing score. The results of final state examinations in all subjects by Gymnasium students are above the city and national level. The commitment to hard work by both staff and students and the recognition of each student's abilities are the principle reasons for this success.

Extra-Curricular Activities

The wide range of extra-curricular activities provided by the Gymnasium is one of its distinctive strengths. These include: club of young scientists “We”, club “Earth’s Friends”, theatre studio “If...”, art studio “Colouring”, folk dance group “Liuoksinis”, Vocal Studio, Guitar Studio, sports clubs: aerobics, fitness, football, volleyball, orienteering, badminton, tennis. The whole Gymnasium community is involved in traditional events such as the English Language Competition sponsored by Isolde I. Poželaitė Davis, AM and Kazimieras Butkus (Australia), Week of Australia, National Mother-Tongue Conference, National Olegas Truchanas Conference, Week of Kindness, Theatre Day, Reunion Day, annual nominations “The Roots of Science” and many others.

International and National Projects

Participating in international and national projects promotes individual achievements through a variety of experiences which foster the development of self-belief and self-esteem. Students develop co-operative, friendly attitudes and respect for the values and beliefs of others.

- International Erasmus+ project “+Participatory Democracy +Active Citizenship” (Portugal, Spain, Lithuania) 2019-2021
- International Erasmus+ project “Friendship Days” (North Macedonia, Poland, Turkey, Lithuania) 2019-2021
- International Erasmus+ sports project “Combating with Hazard Trough Olympic Values” (Czech Republic, Poland, Turkey, Lithuania) 2020-2021
- The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award Programme DofE, since 2016
- International Operation “Snowball”, since 2011
- LIONS QUEST programme “Keys to Success” 2021-2022
- Junior Achievement Lithuania. Youth entrepreneurship programme, since 2012
- National project “Schools – the Ambassadors of the European Parliament” 2019-2022
- National project “Olympic Generation”
- Gymnasium project “Student – Teacher”
- Gymnasium project “A Branchy Family Tree”

Gymnasium community is open to new ideas and new co-operation opportunities.

Contact Us

Postal address: Tilžės St. 137, LT 76348 Šiauliai, Lithuania

Principle phone +370 41 523 373

Deputy Head phone +370 41 523 375

Office phone +370 41 523 376

Office e-mail rastine@jjanonis.lt

Gymnasium Museum muziejus@jjanonis.lt

Website <http://www.jjanonis.lt>