

MONTHLY

JUNE 2026

Russian Cultural Garden Magazine

Preserving Russian Cultural Heritage in America

Discover This Month



FOR THE FIRST TIME

“IVAN KUPALA”

WITH THE RUSSIAN CULTURAL GARDEN

JUNE 28TH, 2026

11:30AM-5:00PM

AT THE RUSSIAN CULTURAL GARDEN

(730 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD. CLEVELAND, OH 44103)



- A MARKETPLACE WITH TRADITIONAL CUISINE
- FUN CONTESTS FOR KIDS AND ADULTS
- FOLK PERFORMANCES
- AND MUCH MORE



CLEAN UP 2026

ON SATURDAY, MAY 16TH, OUR GARDEN HOSTED ITS TRADITIONAL COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP DAY, BRINGING TOGETHER DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS. TOGETHER, WE ACCOMPLISHED A GREAT DEAL: CLEANING THE GROUNDS, PLANTING NEW FLOWERS AND PLANTS, CLEARING THE PATHWAYS, AND REMOVING LITTER. THANKS TO EVERYONE'S HARD WORK AND EFFORT, THE GARDEN HAS BEEN BEAUTIFULLY REFRESHED AND IS FULLY READY FOR THE SUMMER SEASON.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO OUR EVENTS THIS SUMMER – MANY WARM GATHERINGS, CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS, AND JOYFUL MOMENTS ARE STILL AHEAD.

FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS, WE THANK ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR INVALUABLE HARD WORK, TIME, AND CARE. WITHOUT YOU, THE RUSSIAN CULTURAL GARDEN WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.





Russian Language Day - A Celebration of Language, Culture, and the Soul



June 6th marks Russian Language Day - a celebration dedicated to one of the most beautiful and expressive languages in the world.

On this day, the great Russian poet Alexander Sergeyevich Pushkin was born. He is considered the founder of the modern Russian literary language.



The Russian language is not only a means of communication, but also an important part of our culture, history, and traditions. Through the language, fairy tales, songs, books, and the memories of generations are passed down. It helps people stay connected to their roots, even when they are far from home.



Today, millions of people around the world speak the Russian language. It is valued for its richness of vocabulary, expressiveness, and beautiful sound. Ivan Sergeyevich Turgenev famously called the Russian language “great and mighty,” encouraging people to cherish and preserve it.

On Russian Language Day, it is especially important to remember the value of reading, speaking well, and respecting one’s native language. A language lives on as long as people speak it, read in it, and pass it on to future generations.

STARRY GUIDANCE: HOROSCOPE FOR JUNE 2026



ARIES:
JUNE IS ABOUT HAVING THE
COURAGE TO BE FIRST -
EVEN IN THE LITTLE THINGS.
TRY SOMETHING YOU'VE
BEEN PUTTING OFF FOR
"SOMEDAY."



TAURUS:
A MONTH OF TASTE AND
SENSATIONS. FOOD, SCENTS,
AND TACTILE PLEASURES -
SLOW DOWN AND ENJOY THE
EXPERIENCE.



GEMINI:
INFORMATION IS
EVERYWHERE, BUT IT'S
IMPORTANT TO FOCUS ON
WHAT TRULY MATTERS. ONE
CONVERSATION THIS MONTH
COULD CHANGE A LOT.



CANCER:
IT'S TIME TO REASSESS
YOUR BOUNDARIES.
WHERE ARE YOU GIVING
TOO MUCH - AND WHERE IS
IT TIME TO CHOOSE
YOURSELF?



LEO:
THE STAGE IS SHIFTING - YOU
DON'T HAVE TO BE AT THE
CENTER TO SHINE. QUIET
CONFIDENCE IS STRONGER
NOW THAN LOUD WORDS.



VRGO:
NOT PERFECTION, BUT
ALIVENESS. ALLOW
YOURSELF TO DO
SOMETHING "OFF-PLAN"-
AND FIND JOY IN IT.



LIBRA:
THE CHOICE YOU'VE BEEN
POSTPONING WON'T WAIT
ANY LONGER. YOUR
INTUITION ALREADY
KNOWS THE ANSWER.



SCORPIO:
TRANSFORMATION COMES
THROUGH LETTING GO. THE
MORE EASILY YOU RELEASE,
THE SOONER SOMETHING
NEW WILL ARRIVE.



SAGITTARIUS:
A SMALL ADVENTURE MAY
TURN OUT TO BE MORE
IMPORTANT THAN A BIG
ONE. SAY "YES" TO
SPONTANEITY.



CAPRICORN:
A RETHINKING OF SUCCESS.
WHAT YOU'VE BEEN
STRIVING FOR MAY LOOK
DIFFERENT NOW - AND
THAT'S OKAY.



AQUARIUS:
UNUSUAL IDEAS WILL FIND
RESONANCE. EVEN THE
STRANGEST THOUGHT
DESERVES TO BE SPOKEN
ALLOUD.



PISCES:
SIGNS AND COINCIDENCES
WILL BE SPEAKING TO YOU.
PAY ATTENTION TO THE
DETAIL - THEY ARE NOT
RANDOM.

80th One World Day

Sunday, August 30, 2026

11:00 am - 6:00 pm



**Celebrate the cultures of
the world at the Cleveland
Cultural Gardens**

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

VOICES OF THE RUSSIAN GARDEN



**OLGA
NAGDASEVA**

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF: WHERE ARE YOU FROM, WHAT DO YOU DO, AND WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO IN YOUR FREE TIME?

I was born in Moscow and have been living in the United States for more than 25 years. Over this time, I've had the chance to get to know different parts of the country, but I eventually fell in love with Cleveland in particular. I'm constantly rediscovering the city—its hidden places, quiet corners, and unexpected events—always in search of moments that give life meaning. I am inspired by art, cultural gatherings, music, nature, and unique culinary experiences. It is important to me to live life vividly, sensually, and consciously, so that even the simplest moments carry depth and beauty.

HOW DID YOU FIRST BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH THE RUSSIAN CULTURAL GARDEN, AND WHAT ABOUT IT CAPTIVATED YOU?

I have been involved in the life of the Russian Garden since its very beginning. I still remember our first Maslenitsa—we were clearing snow and joking that it was too cold and that no one would come. But people did come. And what emerged was something truly warm, alive, and unifying. Over the years, that feeling has only grown stronger. The garden has become a space where people can come together to create, share traditions, and celebrate. Here, boundaries fade—no matter your faith, where you come from, or how long you've lived here. For me, this is a very personal place. I've always searched for pieces of home, even while traveling to different cities. But over time, I realized: home is here. My homeland lives in this garden.

WHY, IN YOUR OPINION, IS IT IMPORTANT TO PRESERVE AND DEVELOP PLACES LIKE OUR GARDEN?

I truly believe it is important to remember one's roots and pass cultural heritage on to future generations. In a world where traditions can easily fade away, places like the Russian Garden become especially valuable.

We are very fortunate to have such a space in Cleveland—alive, evolving, and full of meaning. It is not just a place, but a part of our shared soul. And it is something that must be cherished, supported, and continued for years to come.

Olga has been an integral part of our team and a reliable pillar of our garden since its very beginning. She has been with the project through every stage of its development and has always been there during its most important moments.

Olga is actively involved in preparing events, readily takes on a variety of tasks, and helps create a warm and thoughtful atmosphere. She connects beautifully with children, surrounding them with care and attention. Olga is always ready to offer support in any situation.

For us, Olga is someone we can always rely on. Her kindness, responsibility, and genuine involvement make every event special.



Traditional Russian Costume: Changes, Traditions, and Symbolism



Peter the Great's Reforms

Significant changes took place in the 18th century during the reign of Peter I. He introduced European-style clothing for the nobility, aiming to bring Russia closer to Western standards. As a result, traditional costume gradually disappeared from the everyday life of the upper classes and remained primarily in the peasant communities, becoming a symbol of folk culture.



Headwear and Traditions

Special importance was given to headwear. It was clearly divided into girls' and women's categories. Unmarried girls wore headbands and wreaths that left their hair uncovered, while married women were required to fully cover their hair with headdresses such as the kuchka, soroka, or kokoshnik.





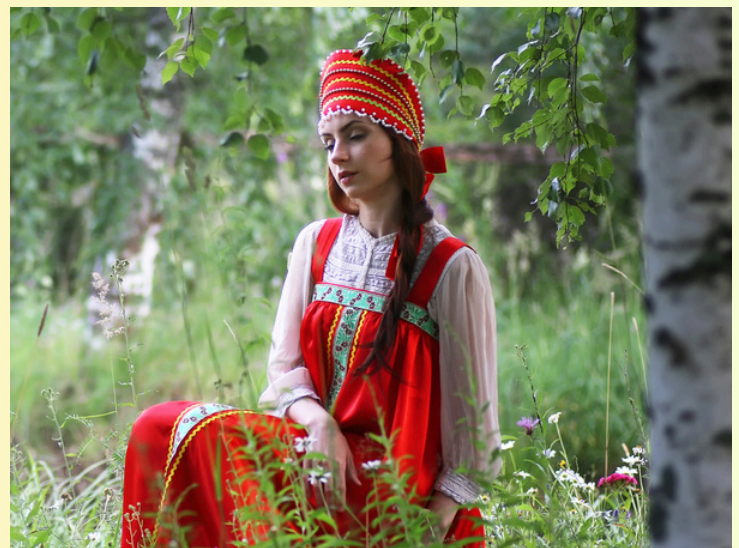
Regional Features

The Russian costume was not uniform across the entire territory. In the northern regions, the sarafan ensemble prevailed, characterized by a loose cut and layered structure. In the southern areas, the poneva ensemble was more common, featuring checked skirts and brighter color combinations.



Symbolism and Meaning

Clothing was made to last for many years: it was carefully preserved and passed down through generations. The color red, shown in various shades—from kumach to deep crimson—was considered a symbol of life, beauty, and energy, and therefore held a special place in traditional costume.



JOIN THE VOLUNTEER TEAM OF THE RUSSIAN CULTURAL GARDEN!



**LOOKING FOR NEW FRIENDS IN CLEVELAND? VOLUNTEERING
AT THE RUSSIAN CULTURAL GARDEN IS A GREAT WAY TO
MEET NEW PEOPLE AND BECOME PART OF A FRIENDLY TEAM!**

**IT DOESN'T REQUIRE A PERMANENT COMMITMENT – YOU CAN
HELP WHENEVER YOU HAVE THE TIME AND DESIRE.**

**INTERESTED? EMAIL US AT
RUSSIANGARDENCE@GMAIL.COM.
WE WELCOME EVERYONE!**

DID YOU KNOW?

June and Russian Culture



In traditional Russia, June was considered one of the most intensive working months:

At that time, the active agricultural season began, and the future harvest often depended on it. People worked almost without breaks, adapting to the weather and daylight hours.

In the northern regions, June was called the time of the “unbroken day”:

Light almost never disappeared, and the usual boundaries of time became blurred. This created a sense of constant movement and flow of life.

At the beginning of summer, villages often baked the “first bread from the previous year’s harvest”:

It symbolically marked the completion of the cycle of last year’s stored grain and the transition into the new agricultural season.

In Russian painting, June often appeared not as a distinct month, but as the “height of the green season”:

Artists rarely titled their works “June,” but they captured exactly this particular state of nature and everyday life.



On behalf of the entire Russian Cultural Garden of Cleveland, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Yana Solomonik for her continuous support of our project and all of our initiatives.

From the very beginning, Yana responded to our request for help and became one of the first people to believe in the Russian Cultural Garden. Since then, she has consistently stood by our side, supporting us and contributing to the growth of our events, helping us move forward with confidence.

What makes Yana's support especially meaningful is that she works in the mortgage lending industry and helps people find solutions even in difficult life situations, when obtaining approval may seem challenging or almost impossible. Thanks to her experience, attentiveness, and ability to find an individual approach for every client, many families have been able to achieve their dream of owning a home.

We know Yana as a person of integrity - reliable, generous, and genuinely passionate about what she does. For our team and volunteers, she has become much more than a sponsor; she is a true partner we can always rely on.

We are sincerely grateful for her trust, involvement, and ongoing support. It is people like Yana who help our cultural garden grow, develop, and bring people together around meaningful and positive causes.

Every contribution you make is an investment in the future of the Russian-speaking community!

Dear friends,

The Russian Cultural Garden is a place where Russian culture lives. Here, children discover Pushkin for the first time, familiar melodies are heard, and adults feel part of a big family. Here, we laugh together, sing, create, and simply feel that **we are one**. Everything you see in the garden is made with love by our **volunteers**. Every flower, every bench, every celebration is the result of hard work, inspiration, and a belief that culture must live. We do this for **you**, for the **children**, for the **future**.

But for the garden to continue to bloom and grow, we need your support. **Support** that brings ideas to life, that allows music to play, flowers to flourish, and people to come together.

♥ **Making a donation is now easier than ever!**

We accept donations via **Zeffy** — safe and convenient.

👉 [Click the link to make a contribution →](#)

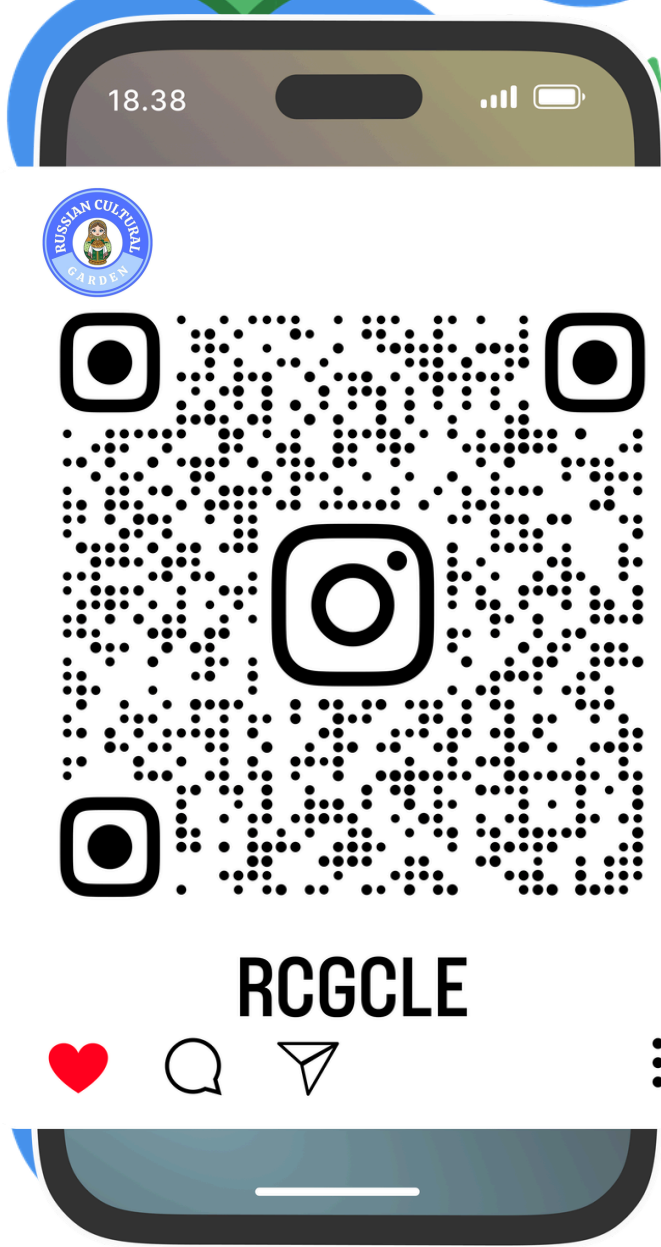
Every donation is more than just a sum of money. It's a warm "thank you," a helping hand, a belief in a shared cause. Even the smallest contribution makes a **big difference**.

Thanks to you, culture continues to live.

Thanks to you, the garden **blooms**.

Thanks to you, we are **together**.

**WE ARE ON
INSTAGRAM!**



Subscribe to the Russian Cultural Garden Magazine!

Do you want to stay up to date every month on the most exciting events, projects, and news from the Russian Cultural Garden? Subscribe to our e-magazine and never miss the most important updates! 🌿 ✨

How to Subscribe?

Go to our [website](#) and enter your email in the subscription field at the bottom of the page — and you'll receive new issues directly in your inbox.

Each issue includes:

- a review of past events;
- announcements of upcoming events ;
- exclusive interviews and materials;
- and much more!

Stay connected with our culture and history!

