

Results 2024

General activity and team (I)

- We have updated the organization's [website](#) with basic information about the Council and our projects. The new dynamic concept of the page allows you to post key news, publish analytical reviews, research, discussions, key documents and reports. Active social networks continue to help spread the main narratives and tell about the most important things.
- We have completed the first stage of our digital security audit. We are committed to maintaining data in accordance with standards, so we ensure that all communications are protected. The result of this process will be a Security Protocol, which will be revised based on the comments and recommendations of experts.

General activity and team (II)

- We are working on a new Strategy, Charter, and other documents that will regulate the organization's activities. This is a necessary step to ensure transparency and inclusiveness of the decision-making process: standardized documents developed and adopted by the organization's members will record internal procedures related to financial activities, communication, and security.
- In total, in 2024, 452,034 euros were raised to support the sector (excluding funds from the ArtPower Belarus and "Vasminoh"/"Octopus" programmes).

We and about us (media and communication)

- [An info session](#) was held dedicated to the work of the BCC in 2023.
- Separate profiles on social networks were created: for the Resource Centre (target audience: cultural actors) and for the Council. The latter inform about the organization's activities, raise issues related to cultural policy, diplomacy, and share research results in the cultural field.
- We released a joint [media project](#) with KUKU. 9 videos were released, which, using modern animation, explain the basic principles – “nails” – of cultural policy. The reach of each post is from 3-4k to 16k. We also created a project page on the website.
- In total, we counted more than 120 mentions of the Council in the media. Most of the publications concerned comments on the state of culture or high-profile events, the organization's activities and our projects. The media also actively use data from research and analytical materials.

Analytics and research (I)

- We prepared [an article](#) for the Stockholm Centre for Eastern European Studies about the prospects for Belarusian culture.
- Participated in a focus group at the Wind Rose Local Community Support Centre dedicated to identity.
- Contributed to the creation of the advocacy [document](#) “Belarusian Culture in the Grip of Repression and the Fight for a Free Voice”.
- We published [a large review article](#) on the topic of decolonization (the Belarusian case).
- We have released 2 quarterly analytical reviews. [1](#) and [2](#). This year, traditional culture was added to the reviewed areas.

Analytics and research (II)

- Held 2 round tables:
 - I. [In the summer](#): discussed the state and prospects of Belarusian art criticism.
 - II. [In the winter](#): summed up the results of 2024 in culture.
- We have launched a joint project with “Solidarity” - [“Cultural Process”](#). This is a series of interviews with experts about the state of Belarusian culture.
- We have begun research into shifts in the symbolism of national identity – the steps that the Belarusian authorities are taking to erase the significance of national symbols and replace them with “their own.”
- We organized [a baseline study](#) of the state of the cultural field, published the results on the website, and held a presentation for the media and the community.

Help direction (I):

In 2024, we received **253** applications from cultural figures. They concerned various aspects of support, including:

- financial aid;
- visa support – assistance in obtaining visas;
- counselling for psychological help;
- consultation on relationship and legalization.

During the year, we held **212** consultations aimed at solving individual problems of cultural figures.

In 2024, we prepared **22** letters of recommendation, which contributed to:

- receiving support for creative projects from international organizations;
- ensuring official procedures in the countries of residence and confirming status for obtaining international protection (including legalization issues);
- confirmation of the status of a cultural figure or activist.

Help direction (II):

Organized:

- 3 public fundraising campaigns;
- 1 non-public fundraising campaign.

As a result:

- Week of Solidarity with Nina Marhajeva: collected €4,341.45;
- Christmas fundraising for three families in difficult financial situations: collected €1,359 (€453 for each family);
- Fundraising for repressed cultural figures (in progress).

Total amount of payments: €23,982 (including payments within the 2nd tranche of the 2023 Solidarity Marathon);

Number of recipients: 42.

Cultural diplomacy

- Contributed to writing some advocacy papers:
 - I. [A joint letter](#) from Belarusian organizations to the Seimas of Lithuania;
 - II. [A letter](#) from Estonian organizations to the Parliament.
- Held a round table dedicated to cultural diplomacy.
- We continue to advise the OSC (the Office of Sviatlana Cichanoŭskaja) and the UTC - the United Transitional Cabinet of Belarus (preparation for international visits).
- Held several meetings to exchange experiences: with the Lithuanian Council for Culture, the British Council, learned more about the work of the Danish Cultural Institute, and attended a meeting of the Lithuanian EUNIC Cluster.
- Participated in two meetings of the NDF network: in Copenhagen and Chişinău.

The most high-profile conferences

In total, more than 50 visits and diplomatic meetings of various kinds were recorded (excluding working meetings with partners). Among them:

- Stockholm Conference on Belarus;
- IMPACT Conference;
- BIIM;
- Tallinn YouTube Summit for Democracy and Peace;
- Truth in Motion;
- The Third Conference of Belarusians of the World in Prague;
- Meeting with US congresswomen on the topic of national identity (at the invitation of USAID);
- “New Belarus” conferences;
- ABBA conferences;
- Strategic dialogue with the US.

Lublin – European Capital of Culture

- In March, we held the first meeting to discuss projects for the programme “Lublin - European Capital of Culture 2029”.
- Prepared an initial application, which described possible large-scale events with the participation of Belarusians at venues in Lublin.
- We consider Lublin’s obtaining the ECoC 2029 status as a victory for us as well. We will participate in the activities of 2027-2032 in one way or another.

Poets' Night

- We recorded at least 46 events in 15 countries and 30 cities. They took place with minimal coordination on our part. [The campaign website](#), which we developed in 2022 and now yearly update on the eve of the event, worked perfectly as a methodological base. The topic was widely covered in the media, both Belarusian and foreign.

Days of Belarusian Culture

- [Stopped](#) organizing the Days of Belarusian Culture. Maybe this is just a break.

Sojm/Forum/Coalition (together with other organizations in the field)

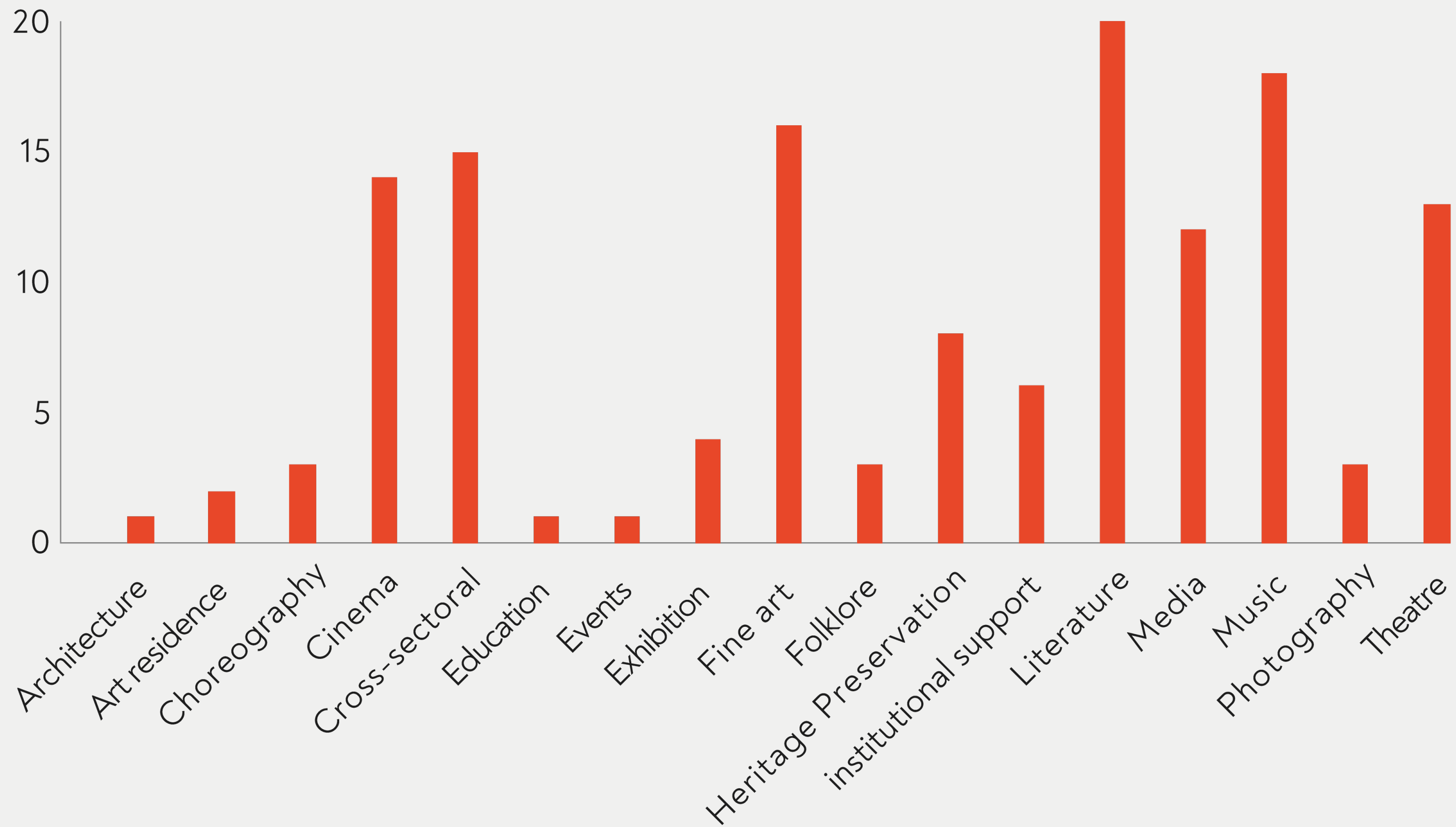
- We conducted a Sector Needs Assessment (surveyed nearly 100 organizations and actors) and [presented](#) the Roadmap in Brussels on April 16.
- Held an online round table for survey participants and partners about funding mechanisms in the European Union and the essence of roadmaps. We talked about the presentation and the process of distributing the allocated funds.
- Organized high-level preparation for the BIIM, and all participants were inspired by the fact that they could work together.
- We are participating in the preparation of the Sector Needs Assessment.

Resource Centre, Subgranting

ArtPower Belarus (implementing together with the Danish Cultural Institute)

- Completed the project monitoring (ROM) at the end of March.
- ArtPower Belarus results 2023-2024.

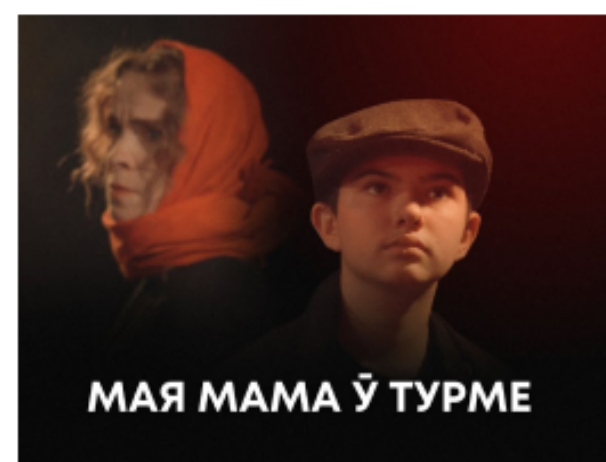
	Applications	Supported	% of supported
Midi	299	35	11,7
Mini	288	48	16,7
Mob	120	57	47,5
Total amount	707	140	19,8



#ArtPowerBelarus: Number of supported projects and mobilities (2023-2024) / examples of supported projects (2024)

Theatre

13



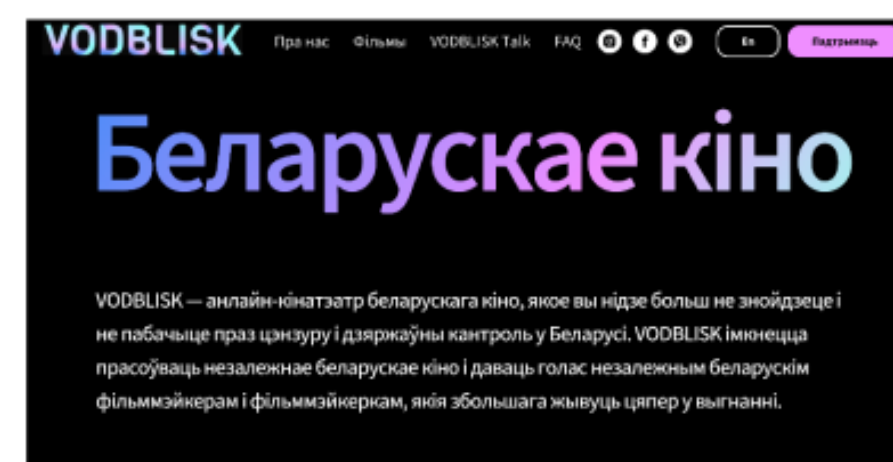
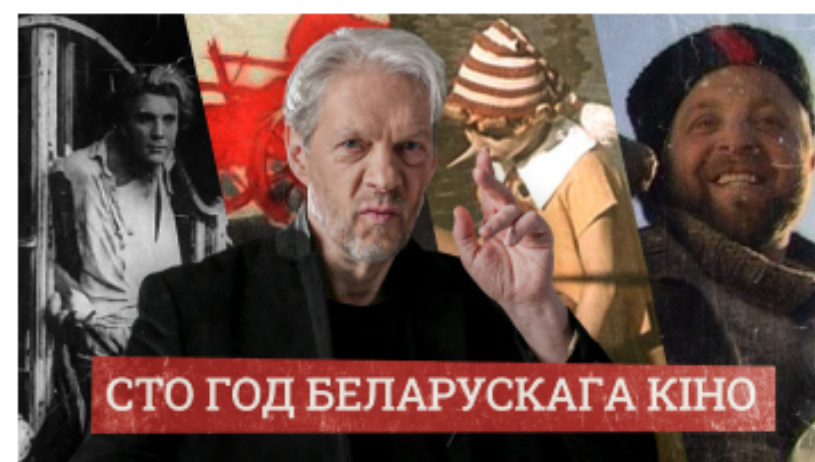
Music

18



Cinema

14



Fine art

16



Literature

20



Folklore and Heritage Preservation

11



In total, through various subgranting mechanisms in 2024, the following were supported:

- 47 projects within the ArtPower Belarus programme.
- 34 mobilities, in which 92 people participated, within the framework of the ArtPower Belarus programme.
- 16 projects were additionally supported by the Belarusian Council for Culture within the framework of other programmes.

Sector financing systems (I):

Patrons' Club

- Work has begun on rebuilding the philanthropic [community](#). The public presentation took place during the Belarusian Business in America conference in March 2024.

Magistrates (I)

During 2024, the following were completed within the framework of the “Belarusian Magistrates” project:я:

- February. Magistrate “Heritage” – 9 months, 50 participants. Raised approximately 6,000 euros.
- March. Magistrate “ULegend” – 9 months, 30 participants. Raised approximately 4,000 euros.
- March - December. Magistrate “Volat” [literally - Giant] - 9 months, 26 participants. Raised approximately 4,000 euros.

Sector financing systems (II):

Magistrates (II)

Running:

- September. Magistrate “Belarusian School in Warsaw”. Completion: May 2025. Currently 29 participants. Raised 1300 euros.
- December. “Book Magistrate”. This is a long-term magistrate, whose participants will regularly invest in projects related to the development of the Belarusian book market. At the moment, the magistrate has 20 people. Have raised 380 euros.

Reference: The first “Knihauka” initiative, launched in 2022, raised 23,000 euros. In total, the project raised more than 40,000 euros, and in 2024, approximately 8,000 euros.

Education and networking (I):

School of Art Management:

As part of the ArtPower Belarus programme, training and graduation of a pilot course of the School of Art Management were organized. For this reason, in 2023, a study of the educational needs of target groups was conducted and a curriculum was developed in accordance with its results.

Classes at the school were held online from February to September 2024.

- 64 applications were accepted, 19 certificates were issued.
- Held 22 lectures (3 of them public), 12 consultations, and organized a practical block.
- [Organized](#) a final round table with presentations of participants' projects.

We are organizing another educational project (non-public) - there are lectures, study visits, and a mentoring programme within its framework.

Education and networking (II):

Vasminoh/Octopus (some results for the entire period of implementation of the programme, which is carried out together with “EuroBelarus” and the OSC)

- 113 applications for educational grants from “Vasminoh” for the first competition (15 supported).
- 59 applications for the second competition for educational grants from “Vasminoh” (15 supported).
- A total of 30 Belarus-centric educational projects were supported for a total amount of 430,000 euros.

Education and networking (III):

Online courses

- Training on developing online lessons for teachers was provided. Thanks to this educational opportunity, more than 35 educators can now use digital platforms to organize the learning process.
- Contributed to the creation of 20 innovative online courses in the Belarusian language for schoolchildren of different ages (12 were planned).
- 52 teachers registered on a specially created online platform with 4,400 users.

Events

- An innovative platform [Vasminoh](#) has been developed and is constantly being updated.
- A YouTube channel has been created and is being developed: [Vasminoh Project](#) (87 educational videos, 38 thousand views, 1090 subscribers). The videos are also conveniently viewed on the [website](#).
- A series of [educational videos](#) “They Won’t Tell You About This at School” was created (15 episodes have been released).
- A “Vasminoh”/”Octopus” drawing contest was held among children (based on the results, a branded sticker pack and merch were developed). Contest participants received T-shirts and bags with their [drawings](#).

Education and networking (III):

Cultural Code

[Кам'юніці](#), A community that unites culture and IT, promoting the creation and development of projects at the intersection of culture and digital. The “Cultural Code” community (in the Telegram chat) currently has 490 participants.

- 12 public talks were held. The speakers were SMM specialists, artists working in the digital sphere, web developers. They talked about the peculiarities of working at Notion, finding people for a team, working with AI, the modern art market, and much more.
- 8 pitchings were organized - online meetings where project creators presented their ideas or MVPs. The winners of the pitchings (determined by jury members and community members) received prizes useful for the project - paid hours of consultations from experts (of the winners' choice). In total, 32 new projects/ideas were presented during the pitchings in 2024. About 40% of them were projects from Belarus.

Education and networking (IV):

Cultural Code

- A small mastermind group worked throughout the season. The founders of the projects shared their successes and problems, under the guidance of a moderator, tried to resolve painful moments and helped each other. 3 mastermind meetings were held, 1 of which was held offline in Warsaw.
- We published 57 informative posts with sector news, opportunities, inspirational picks, and summaries of meetings and interviews.

Hańcioŭnia (Guest room)

- Over the year, Hańcioŭnia organized and hosted at least 30 events (lectures, rehearsals, round tables, presentations), with a total of more than 400 visitors.