

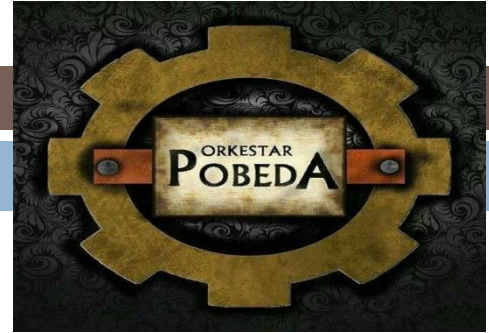
TAA TAMBURITZA EXTRAVAGANZA®
Milwaukee 2017

POBEDA
PITTSBURGH, PA

Orkestar Pobeda

3/28/2017

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BAND OVERVIEW

Orkestar Pobeda was created in the fall of 2003 by a group of friends with a passion for Eastern European folk music. This passion incited a fire within each member to continuously improve their talents and abilities. As they grew as individual musicians, they evolved as a band, and are now able to share that passion with their audience.

BAND MEMBERS

Dushan Rocknage

- Accordion, Keyboard, Vocals

Grew up in Pittsburgh and began playing the accordion at the age of fifteen. He was a member of multiple junior tamburitza groups including Duquesne Juniors and Golden Triangles. Dushan performed with the Duquesne University Tamburitza from 2006-2010, where he was a dancer, singer, and a musician. He previously taught Jadran Beaver Valley Junior Tamburitza in Aliquippa, PA and Golden Triangle Junior Tamburitza in Rankin, PA. Over the years, he has arranged and recorded numerous dance sets for his junior ensembles.

JT Kordesich

- Tambura, Drums, Vocals

Began his folk music career at a very young age with several junior tamburitza groups around the Pittsburgh area. He was a founding member of Orkestar Pobeda at the age of fourteen, and has continued with the band up to present day. JT attended Duquesne University, where he received a B.S. in Social Studies Education, and was a member of the Duquesne University Tamburitza. He is an avid teacher and student in the folk dance community, as a member of Folk Factory and an instructor for the Junior Tamburitza of Duquesne.

Ben Wagner

- Kontra, Vocals

Started playing music at a young age because of his family's involvement in the European culture. He began his musical career by playing prim, but soon learned the rest of the Tamburitza instruments. He eventually moved on to playing guitar to expand his musical knowledge. Ben was a member of the Duquesne University Tamburitza, where he learned other various stringed instruments. Over the years Ben has performed with several bands throughout Pittsburgh including TS Trzalica, Orkestar Tsare, Orkestar Zabava, and Tamburaški Sastav Ponoč. With Orkestar Tsare, he recorded his first album. Ben has taught music and tambura throughout his career to individual students and junior groups, which led to him arranging several pieces of music.

Nikola Vranesevic

- Berde, Vocals

Grew up with the sounds of ethnic music in his household. He began his musical studies at the age of five with piano and then moved to violin and tambura. Nikola graduated from Duquesne University with a B.S. in Music Education. While at Duquesne, he performed with the Duquesne University Tamburitza where he was primarily a musician. In 2010, Nikola was selected to be guest conductor for the SFFNA Folklore Festival. He has also arranged musical selections for several music ensembles including the Duquesne University Tamburitza. He has performed with different bands in the Pittsburgh area including TS Ponoč, TS Trzalica, and Orkestar Tsare. Nikola is currently the music director for the Duquesne Junior Tamburitza.

NOTABLE GIGS, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND RECORDINGS

Macedonian National Festival, Serbian 3-Day (multiple occasions), TAA Extravaganza, Countless private events (weddings, graduation parties, receptions)

Ben Wagner, Nikola Vranesevic, and Dushan Rocknage were recipients of the TAA Founder's Award.

Pobeda has several live recordings available. Pobeda will have their first CD available for this year's TAA Extravaganza.

VIDEO AND AUDIO LINKS

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=10152778115668929&id=319257863928

<https://www.facebook.com/akucan234/videos/958507160833237/>

12 MONTH PERFORMANCE SAMPLING

Lifeline (Fundraiser) – March 6th 2016 - American Serbian Club – Pittsburgh, PA

Big Bend Night (Fundraiser) – April 22nd 2016 – American Serbian Club – Pittsburgh, PA

Tamburitzan Reception – April 23rd 2016 – German Club – Pittsburgh, PA

Junior Tamburitzan Reception – May 21st 2016 – Jadran Croatian Club - Aliquippa, PA

Graduation Party – May 29th 2016 – Pittsburgh, PA

Wedding – June 4th 2016 – Serbian Cultural Center – Weirton, WV

Picnic – June 5th 2016 – St Nicholas Picnic Grounds – Steelton, PA

St Nicholas Picnic – July 30 2016 – St Nicholas Picnic Grounds – Steelton, PA

Sprska Noc – September 2nd 2016 - American Serbian Club – Pittsburgh, PA

TAA Extravangza – September 2016 - Westin – Chicago, IL

Serb Fest – September 24th 2016 – St Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church – Steelton, PA

Halloween Bash – October 29th 2016 – American Serbian Club – Pittsburgh, PA

Sprska Nova Godina – January 13th 2017 – American Serbian Club – Pittsburgh, PA

Memorial Party – March 4th 2017 – Acme Club – Cheswick, PA

PROMOTIONAL PICTURES AND VIDEO LINKS





**J.T.
KORDESICH**



**DUSHAN
ROCKNAGE**




**NIKOLA
VRANESEVIC**



**BEN
WAGNER**

A VERY SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO
-- DUSHAN ROCKNAGE --
2015 FOUNDER'S AWARD RECIPIENT!

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