



Funded by  
the European Union

JAUNPIEBALGA

May 2023

# NEWBALGA

EUROVISION

*UNITED BY  
MUSIC*

**DREAM TEAM  
2023**

*SCHOOL IS  
COMING TO AN  
END*

*WITH GOOD  
TEAMWORK, ANYTHING  
IS POSSIBLE!*





# Dream team 2023



The 2023 Ice Hockey World Championship was co-hosted by Finland and Latvia from 12th to 28th May. It was 86th edition of the tournament organized by the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) featuring 16 teams in the top division. The tournament also served as a qualification for the 2024 Winter Olympics, with the top six teams securing their spots in Beijing. The games were played in two venues: the Tampere Deck Arena in Tampere, Finland, and the Arena Riga in Riga, Latvia. The teams were divided into two groups of eight, with the top four teams from each group advancing to the quarterfinals. The quarterfinals were cross-over, with the exception of a possible Finland-Latvia match-up.

In this tournament Canada won beating Germany in the final and taking home gold for the 28th time. But this tournament's biggest surprise was the Latvian team. The tournament for Latvians was like a roller coaster. They lost the first 2 games, then won 5 games and taking 3rd place in the group reached quarterfinals. Where they had to play against Sweden, and everybody thought that it was an easy game for Sweden, but Latvians proved them wrong by winning the game and reaching semi-finals. In semi-finals they had to play against Canada for the second time in this tournament and unfortunately, they lost. So, the final game was against USA for the third place. And that game was when Latvians made history by winning the first medal for Latvia in Ice Hockey World Championship.





All players and coaching staff were amazing and gave everything for this tournament and this win. But a very important player who often saved the team was goalkeeper Arthur Shilov, which won tournament MVP (most valuable player).

But a big part of this win was Latvian fans and just because the games were at home they were crazier than ever. For every game there was a full stadium, there was a fan zone outside and in every household people were cheering. When the decisive games were held in Finland Latvian fans were there. It was like they were playing in home. As the head coach and some players have said: they always had one more player- the fans.

The fans were crazy after the win and for that reason, the parliament of the Republic of Latvia announced the Monday after the historic victory a national holiday. On that day at least 30,000 fans had gathered at the Freedom Monument at the hockey players' welcome event in Riga. For Latvians this bronze medal was like a gold medal, and it showed that we are a hockey country and our fans are the best.

Written by Zanda Loginova





A close-up of the Eurovision Song Contest trophy, a silver microphone on a stand, set against a vibrant, colorful background of swirling patterns in blue, yellow, and red. The words "EUROVISION SONG CONTEST" are visible on the microphone's grille.

# Eurovision 2023

Eurovision is the world's longest-running international TV contest, with over 65 years of history. Around 200 million people across Europe and the world watch it on TV every year. It spreads a global message of unity and acceptance. It allows every participant country to show their unique culture, music, and traditions. It showcases Europe's diversity and inspires new musicians every year.

This year's contest sadly couldn't happen after traditions in last year's winning country Ukraine due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. It took place in Liverpool, United Kingdom. Thirty-seven countries participated in the contest, with Bulgaria, Montenegro, and North Macedonia ceasing their participation, mainly due to the economic impact of the 2021-2023 global crisis.

The winner was Sweden with the song "Tattoo", performed by Loreen. She made history by being the first woman to win the Eurovision Song Contest twice. There have been a lot of discussions about this year's winner because Finland's singer Kaarja with a funny but catchy song called "Cha, Cha, Cha" and his charismatic personality captured a lot of hearts and even won the viewers' votes. Due to this, many Eurovision fans weren't happy about the outcome. But Kaarja can be the winner of our hearts anyway.



Latvia has participated in the Eurovision Song Contest 23 times, making its debut in the year 2000 when Brainstorm (Prāta Vētra) represented Latvia with the song "My Star" and secured 3rd place. Latvia's first and so far only victory was in the 2002 contest, won by Marie N with the song "I Wanna." The 2003 contest took place in Riga due to the previous year's victory. The show was hosted by two of Latvia's most successful representatives: Marija Naumova and Renārs Kaupers. The third time Latvia reached the top 5 was in the 2005 contest, represented by Valters and Kaža with the song "The War Is Not Over." From 2009 to 2014, Latvia did not qualify for the final. In 2015, after a 7-year hiatus, Latvia qualified for the Eurovision final, represented by Aminata with the song "Love Injected," achieving 6th place in the final. Since 2016 Latvia has not qualified for the finals.



This year our country was presented by the indie pop band "Sudden Lights" by a lullaby called "Aijā". It is an indie-rock track with folk undertones. The title "Aijā" roughly translates to "hushaby" or "shush" in English. According to Sudden Lights, the song is a lullaby to the world, providing comfort through difficult times. They said: "Witnessing the dark events in the world and people's lives ruined by evil, we could not remain indifferent". Despite the high hopes and Latvian fan love for the song, it did not qualify for the final.

Written by Gerda Johansone





# Måneskin in Riga!

## Who is Måneskin?

Måneskin is an Italian rock band formed in Rome in 2016. The band is composed of lead vocalist Damiano David, bassist Victoria De Angelis, guitarist Thomas Raggi, and drummer Ethan Torchio. In the past years, the band has been very successful. They got global recognition after winning Eurovision 2021 with a song called “Zitti e Buoni” surprising everybody as it is one of the only rock songs that has won in the Eurovision Song Contest. They also have proved how important the Eurovision Song Contest is, from a small Italian rock band they now are global stars with huge success in a very short time.

## World Tour “Loud kids get louder”

This was the first tour after Eurovision, and they had big success. Originally, they only wanted to tour Europe, because they were not so well known in other parts of the world at the time. To be honest, a lot of Eurovision artists go on tour the next year, so this did not come as a surprise to most, but for a small country like Latvia it did, because they were coming to Riga.



But you may think how did it end up being a world tour? It was rescheduled two times due to COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine. At this time the band only had grown in popularity, so they decided to add dates in America and for some places change arenas to fit more people. I had the opportunity to go to the concert in Riga and it was amazing. The concert took place on May 18th in one of the biggest outside stadiums in Latvia “Mežaparka strāde” which has a capacity of 50000. The venue for this show was also changed, mostly because the original arena was occupied by the 2023 IIHF World Championship. I decided to go only a month before the show, so I was happy about the venue change because it is bigger, so I was still able to buy tickets. I am happy that I went, and I have to say they are great performers, and it is one of the best concerts I have been to.

Written by Gerda Johansone

**Damiano David:  
“Rock and  
Roll never dies!”**



# An upgrade to our school's lounge

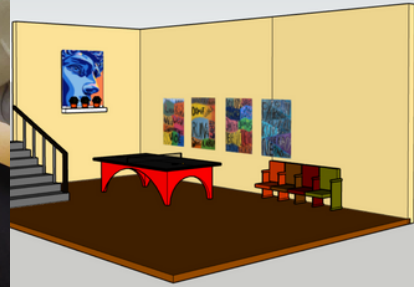
In the subject, design and technology, our class (grade 11) were thinking of ways of how to improve our schools lounge

.We started coming up with plans:

- renew schools chair cloth;
- change the layout of the room;
- cover a window that is out of place with a work of art;
- create a checkerboard;
- restore the drinking water tap.

Then, let's get to work!

We created the planned final result in 3D format, visited Wenden Furniture to learn more about restoring chairs, calculated how much and what materials we would need.



We changed the layout of the room - removed unnecessary plants, moved the tennis table a little.

We covered the window with a work of art depicting Michelangelo's David, who symbolizes independence, strength and the beauty of youth.

Making the checker table and changing the fabric of the chairs, were the most time-consuming tasks, but with good teamwork, anything is possible!

In about 3 months, we had everything done. Judging by the reactions and happy expressions of others, the students and teachers were satisfied with the colorful chairs, the layout of the room and the new games.

Also, a big thanks to our design and technology teacher Aiva Nebare for making this all happen!



before



after



# School is coming to an end

Written by Līga Daniela Kīne

On the 19th of May students, teachers and parents came together in the Jaunpiebalga House of Culture to the event "Minūti ar Tevi" ("A Minute with You") to watch and show what they have been working on all year. Kids from grades 1.-4. performed traditional dances, recited poems, sang in choirs, played percussions, and showed improvised etudes under the bright stage lights. The high school theatre club also participated with Imanta Ziedoņa epiphanies about themes such as time, waiting, impatience because of hunger, and special moments together. The event was beautifully ended with a self-written song by the event organizers.

On the very last day of school, students were surprised by many performances to celebrate the start of the long-awaited summer break. First the teachers and principal say a few kind words to encourage and inspire students to keep learning and exploring the world beyond the classroom. Then a few students entertain their schoolmates by performing musical pieces and theatre on stage to show all the hard work they have done this year. Finally, the hard-working students receive awards and prizes for their good grades or participation in events. Wait! The day isn't over just yet! This year our school had special guests Rūta Dūduma-Ķirse and Jānis Ķirsis who put on a show for the whole school with attention-catching lighting and well-known songs. We sang, moved, and laughed along with the musicians. Ultimately, the day was successful and a great way to end the school year.





# Latvia's history

## May 4th of 1990

November 18, 1918, and May 4, 1990, are the two most important dates in history of Latvia. This year marks 33 years since May 4, 1990, when the Supreme Council with the votes of 138 deputies accepted the declaration "On the restoration of the independence of the of Latvia". Since April 9, 2002, this day was designated as a public holiday. This celebration is one the newest Latvian holidays. Tens of thousands of people gathered in the centre of Riga near the building of the Supreme Council, where the Republic of Latvia is located now. On that day fate of Latvia was decided- for the first time after the beginning of the Soviet occupation, the elected Latvian parliament decide on the adaption of the declaration of independence of the country.

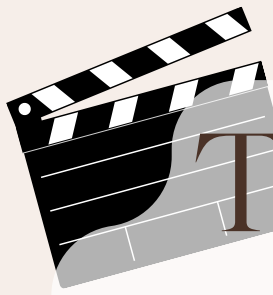


Many of people, who were standing outside, listened to the Supreme Council meeting on the radios, counting the votes for the country's independence during the voting. The Declaration of Independence on May 4, 1990, can be compared to the country's second birthday- it was undoubtedly an important moment in the life of our country. This event has not yet fully evaluated and there is still much to study about the requirements of accepting the Declaration of Independence today.



Written by Zanda Loginova





# Top 5 books and movies of May 2023



Fourth Wing (The Empyrean, #1)  
by Rebecca Yarros



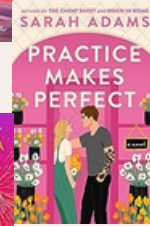
Yellowface  
by R.F. Kuang



Meet Me at the Lake  
by Carley Fortune



Practice Makes Perfect (When in Rome, #2) by Sarah Adams



The True Love Experiment  
by Christina Lauren



Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3



The Mother



Fast X



White Men Can't Jump



The Little Mermaid

