



Re:Stage – where the curtain rises for the first time

In small cities and towns, the question young people ask most quietly is not whether they have talent – it is whether there is anywhere for that talent to go. In Haivaron, a small community in the Kirovohrad region, far from Ukraine's cultural centres and in the shadow of an ongoing war, that question had no easy answer. Re:Stage set out to change that.

Working with CSO "Agency for Sustainable Development SKYCRAPER" the initiative created three distinct events that transformed everyday spaces into stages – for anyone willing to step onto them. A festival of theatre miniatures, Theatre Without Rules, invited participants to try improvisation and performance for the first time, in a format deliberately stripped of pressure. An open mic, Without Frames, gave voice to poetry, personal stories, and ideas that rarely get an audience in a small-town setting. And a full social theatre production, The Day Will Come, premiered in Kropyvnytskyi – bringing together nearly 175 participants and audience members in a shared moment of creative community.

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EVENTS

Theatre without rules

Festival of theatre miniatures & improvisation

175

PARTICIPANTS & AUDIENCE

Without frames

Open mic – poetry, stories, personal voice

14–30

AGE RANGE

The day will come

Premiere social theatre production, Kropyvnytskyi

The centrepiece was not just the performance itself, but the POP-UP space that surrounded it: theatre, open mic, a youth marketplace of opportunities, and interactive formats woven into one live event. Young people from vocational schools and communities across the Kirovohrad region were not passive spectators – they were pulled into the action, asked to share, respond, create.

For many, it was their first time on a stage of any kind. That first time matters – not only for the confidence it builds, but for the story it starts.

Implemented as part of the British Council's Youth Connect for Ukraine programme.

