

## APPLICATION FORM

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### Library data

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**Name of the library:** Municipal Public Library in Piekary Slaskie / Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna w Piekarach Śląskich

**Address of the library:** 41-940 Piekary Śląskie, ul. Kalwaryjska 62D

**Website:** <http://www.biblioteka.piekary.pl/>

**Social media:** <https://www.facebook.com/bibliotekapiekary/>  
[https://www.instagram.com/biblioteka\\_piekary/](https://www.instagram.com/biblioteka_piekary/)  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MBPPiekary>

**Contact person (name and email address):**

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### Library description

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**Type of library:** Metropolitan

**Population served :** Between 10.000 and 100.000

**Short description of the library :** Piekary Slaskie is a town in the south of Poland, inhabited by almost 53 thousand people, representing a rich, 900-year-old history. Since centuries, the town has been inseparably related to coal extracting and coal mine industry. Economic, widely –understood changes within last decades, have transformed the appearance of Piekary Slaskie deeply; town authorities are considering tourism and culture as new sources of town development.

The library in Piekary Slaskie is definitely a facility facing up to the challenges of the 21st century. We are supporting the development of information society, moreover we recognize and fulfill educational and cultural needs of the local people –through these activities we also create a positive look of our library in a town environment. We are an institution of social confidence, having a strong influence on the society. We wish our readers used not only books or magazines but also could take part in a self – development and self - realization process, due to all forms of activity, the library is offering them. There is ArtLab - making jewellery by beading technique. We hold regular activities such as Poetry Evenings, chess club, educational meetings for the youngest kids “Clown and Tale”, discussion panels and meetings with people of culture. Loud reading as well as Art lessons have been a tradition of our place.

For those who like stamps, there is a philatelic club, for the film lovers – a movie club. We organize many activities related to new technologies such as robotic workshops, 3D printing, lessons on augmented and virtual reality. We teach young people to programme and that's way we take part in such events as Code Week and Hour of Code. A special service “A book through the phone” is

available as well as a spoken book for the blind. We are happy to have The Gallery of the youth, in which we promote the most artistically talented young people.

For the mentally disabled, there is an annual poetry contest called "Look how gifted I am". We organize literature, poetry and photography contests too. We frequently make outdoor activities – in a summertime, locals are welcome to take part in events such as "The library under the cloudlet", Family Picnic "Mother, Father and Me". The library has been a laureate of several all –Poland competitions: "Week with the Internet", "House with High Class" and "Play the EU". Good contact and communication with the locals can be kept through the eight library branches located in our town. The overall number of readers registered in Piekary Slaskie is up to 7.000. There are three children's sections and two reading rooms. The total number of book collections and audiovisuals is 137 000 and still being enriched. The personnel consists of 23 well –qualified librarians. The whole team counts 32 persons.

**Current library programs:** In order to meet our customers' needs and to accompany their social life, the Library realizes various programs aimed at people of different ages and demands.

In recent months, we have proposed numerous activities for people aged 55+. Especially for them, a computer course and a digital camera service course have been organized.

Our constant cooperation with the local University of 3rd Age has resulted in several painting exhibitions of the most gifted students.

A lot of care and attention is paid to teenagers and young people also. For their sake, the Library carried out a project called "**Alternative Stop**". The main idea of that enterprise was to strengthen the youth's resistance to threats of the present world but also to equip them with information, skills and knowledge needed to make decisions by themselves and take responsibility of their own life.

"**With the Library across Europe –1000 miles of adventure**" was another project aimed at young people. We are also interested in social problems, that is why we often take part in campaigns like "**Library – a place of safe Internet**" or promoting the right behavior towards animals.

"**Recipe for the business**" was realized to develop the local business activities. We don't forget about our region, which is not only a geographic term, but also its culture and rich traditions. In reference to this topic, we organized a program "**Silesian matters – regional journey through life, history and culture**".

In 2012 we are starting lectures on classical music where also our locals will have a chance to learn an interesting piece of literature. We are also very proud of regular painting exhibitions (professionals and amateurs) held in the Library gallery annually. There are often 10 such events a year, each accompanied by the musicians' performances.

Since 2013 we have been hosting **EVS volunteers** from Turkey, France, Spain, Italy, Ukraine, Denmark. We implement the „European cultural inspirations" project with them.

**Activities you want to do with your sister library:** Through a cooperation with a Sister Library, we hope to enter common, various and wide areas of activity. We are eager to cooperate in the following topics:

- Organization of common Art contests showing important global problems.
  - Organization of children's drawing competition – exchange of drawings.
  - Presentation of pieces of art made by regional artists of the Sister Library.
  - Exchange of job experiences between librarians.

- Searching new ways of promoting reading, implementing new ideas.
- Organizing bilingual web quests for the young.
- Creating a book discussion club online.
- Publishing a common annual (online or paper).
- Exchange of the most successful scenarios of programs and projects.
- Exchanging gifts
  - books, magazines
  - creating corners, bookshelves with information about the Sister Library e.g. books about Silesia, regional magazines.
- Making it possible for senior readers to exchange letters, emails with foreign friends.
- Organizing visits.
- Common participation in grant contests within two countries.

**Languages your staff speak:** English, French, Italy, Germany, Russian

**Languages your patrons speak/read:** English, French, Italy, Germany, Russian

**Preferred countries for cooperation:** Libraries with which we could communicate using the abovementioned languages.

**Features of the library that ideally you would like to cooperate with:** It should be a public library from a larger city, that possesses various branches, including a youth-focused branch. It should also be creative, with strong effect on it's surroundings and modern understanding of the function of a library.

### European Union Programs

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**Are you searching partners for a European program?:** No

**Are you participating in any European Union program?:** No