

Larisa Timofeeva.
Photo: Dmitry Dzyubin.

Shchekino District continues to implement the project of State Duma Deputy Nataliya Pilyus to showcase children's performances from Russia's best theaters. The student theater from the world-famous GITIS was another guest under the project.

Nataliya Pilyus and GITIS rector Grigory Zaslavskiy have implemented several cultural projects for the Tula Region. Nataliya Pilyus invited Grigory Zaslavskiy to her program titled "The Year of Theater in Parlamentskaya Newspaper", where they discussed issues relating to theater education and the demand for artists. The conversation gave rise to an idea to invite GITIS students to the Shchekino District and to show our youth a performance from their peers.

"It is important for us that children, regardless of the chosen future profession, develop harmoniously and see the best examples of the our country's art," Nataliya Pilyus said.



Nataliya Pilyus

"The young working for the young is a way to engage them in culture."

When young people see their peers on the stage, turning into their heroes and doing good, they will be able to make an important decision for themselves to also do good to others.

The students brought three plays to the music of Jacques Offenbach:

The Key on the Pavement, The Wedding by Lantern-Light and The Ladies of the Market.

"Today we came to visit you with a musical performance,"

Alexander Barmak, Professor at GITIS, told Sloboda. "These are the students of my studio at GITIS; they are future actors and directors of the musical theater. We have been performing this play for a year; it consists of three small, charming, funny and cheerful operettas. They are so simple, charming and serene that any audience will enjoy it."

"I am sure those whom you see on the stage will soon become world-famous artists, and now they are performing both in Russia and abroad," Nataliya Pilyus said. "In the Year of the Theater declared by the President of Russia, our common goal is to make theater more accessible and bring it closer to people. I wanted to please you, and I believe that this evening will bring you pleasure and joy. The program is being implemented in the Shchekino District thanks to our friendly



Alexander Barmak

relations with Shchekinoazot, which is a socially responsible company and really interested in bringing the best examples of contemporary art to the district. The company supports this cultural project.

Nataliya Pilyus gave Alexander Barmak, the artistic course director in the faculty of musical theater and Honored Artist, a large Tula gingerbread.

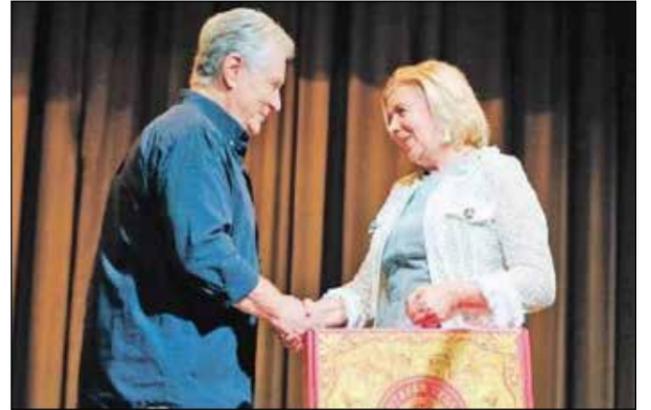
According to **Dmitry Kozhenkin**, Deputy General Director for social Affairs at Shchekinoazot, this project proved how important it is to involve children in art:

"We see on the faces of children and adults the joy of waiting before performances and happiness — after them. This is the most important thing in our work: to give care, make the world

a better place, give opportunities for development for all children — that is the goal of Shchekinoazot's work. Many thanks to Nataliya Pilyus for her work on the organization of these events in Pervomaysky and Shchekino."



Dmitry Kozhenkin



State Duma Deputy Nataliya Pilyus presented a large Tula gingerbread to GITIS Professor, Alexander Barmak.



GITIS students Ulyana Biryukova and Violetta Vasilyeva in the operetta The Key on the Pavement.