



All CCS and Cross-sectoral Denmark Estonia Finland Germany Latvia Lithuania Poland Sweden Open Call

## BSR Cultural Pearls 2026: Strengthening Communities through Culture

The BSR Cultural Pearls programme is now accepting applications for its 2026 title, inviting local authorities to leverage culture as a driver for social resilience and community engagement. Small and mid-sized municipalities in the Baltic Sea Region can apply to gain international recognition and join a regional network committed to creating more connected cities.

Deadline for Applications: April 4, 2025, 23:59 CET

Organizer: [BSR Cultural Pearls](#)

Who It's For: Local authorities, municipalities, and public institutions in the Baltic Sea Region

Apply [here](#).

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#### About the Programme

The BSR Cultural Pearls title is a recognition awarded to small and mid-sized towns and cities in the Baltic Sea Region that demonstrate a commitment to culture-driven social resilience. The programme provides municipalities with resources, mentoring, and peer-learning opportunities to implement cultural action plans that enhance civic engagement, cross-sector collaboration, and trust between citizens and decision-makers.

Selected cities will gain access to expert support and a regional knowledge-sharing network to test new approaches to community cohesion and sustainable development.

## Who Can Apply?

Eligible applicants include:

- Towns and cities in the Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme area, including Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany (specific regions), Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Sweden.
- Small and mid-sized municipalities, including district councils and public institutions responsible for cultural and community services.
- Teams of municipalities applying together (one lead partner required).

Non-eligible: The capital cities Stockholm, Helsinki, Tallinn, Riga, Vilnius, Warsaw, Berlin, and Copenhagen.

## Why Apply?

Successful applicants receive:

- The Cultural Pearls title, bringing international visibility and recognition.
- Expert mentoring and guidance during the title year.
- Inclusion in a regional network of cities working to build resilient communities.
- Publicity and promotional opportunities through dedicated storytelling, photography, and media campaigns.

## How to Apply

- Applications must be submitted online in English.
- Applicants should review the Culture for Resilience Guidebook, available in English, German, and Latvian.
- The deadline for submission is April 4, 2025, 23:59 CET.

For procedural details and full selection timeline please consult the [Guide for Applicants](#) and the official [open call website](#).

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Image Credit: [BSR Cultural Pearls](#)

