

Who We Are

Charleston-Banska Bystrica Sister City Alliance is a group of citizens committed to making our communities world class through art, education, nonprofit and business exchanges.



Capitol building, Charleston

"Through our alliance, we are building bonds of friendship that broaden understanding between our peoples and empower meaningful exchange programs. Working together, we are creating stronger cultural, economic and social ties between our two communities."

DANNY JONES
MAYOR OF CHARLESTON



Banska Bystrica town square and fountain at night



Friends from Banska Bystrica perform at FestivALL

How to become a member

We welcome you to contact us for more information or to be added to the mailing list.

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<http://www.cityofcharleston.org>
<http://eng.banskabystrica.sk>

CHARLESTON
BANSKA BYSTRICA

Sister City



Alliance

Learn how you can be a part of this
exciting Alliance.

Together we stand in mutual support

About Our Sister City

With around 76,000 residents, Banska Bystrica has a healthy mix of commercial business and a history dating back to the Middle Ages.

The mountainous terrain in Slovakia is predominantly rural in nature making it similar in many ways to West Virginia. Banska Bystrica is the commercial center of Slovakia. According to local lore, "after going to Banska Bystrica, only in heaven will you find a better life."

In 2009 Charleston hosted special guests from Banska Bystrica to begin formalizing our Sister City relationship. The following spring of 2010, a delegation from Charleston visited Banska Bystrica and finalized the Alliance agreement.

Our Work

New partnerships have formed between Charleston Area Medical Center and Franklin Delano Roosevelt Hospital in Banska Bystrica; the University of Charleston and the Univerzita Mateja Bela; Kanawha County Library and the library in Banska Bystrica, and the two city



Charleston



Mountains near Banska Bystrica

WHAT BETTER PLACE FOR
"ALMOST HEAVEN" WEST VIRGINIANS
to feel at home

councils. First Presbyterian Church, Charleston, has an ongoing partnership with Nadej detom, a ministry assisting Roma children and youth.

With the Sister City Alliance framework in place, more groups are exploring exchanges with their counterparts in Banska Bystrica.

Participating Organizations

Charleston Business Alliance
Charleston City Council
Charleston Rotary Club
First Presbyterian Church, Charleston
Lions Club
Mountain Stage
State Scientific Library
University of Charleston
WV State University
WV Youth Symphony

Why Join?

Enjoy events and opportunities year round in international affairs. The Alliance provides a framework for members to trace family heritage, be a part of future delegations, host Slovak guests, take part in ongoing exchanges or initiate a new exchange.

"The Sister City Alliance provides a platform for our youth to take part in strengthening ties between two cities while experiencing a new culture through a common language of music."

MARJORIE COOKE
WV YOUTH SYMPHONY