



No. 117

December 26, 2025

The Anniversaries of Great Personalities

On December 29, 2025 the Ministry of Digital Development and Innovative Technologies of the Kyrgyz Republic puts into circulation a series of Kyrgyz Express Post postage stamps: "The Anniversaries of Great Personalities".

The year 2025 marks anniversaries of some outstanding personalities who made invaluable contributions to the development of world civilization, in particular: the 1075th death anniversary of Al-Farabi, the 550th birth anniversary of Michelangelo Buonarroti, the 200th birth anniversary of Johann Strauss II and the 150th death anniversary of Hans Christian Andersen. These anniversaries are commemorated by the new issue of Kyrgyz Express Post, which includes four postage stamps.

Abu Nasr Muhammad al-Farabi (c. 872–950) was an outstanding philosopher, scientist, music theorist, and the most prominent representative of the medieval Islamic Golden Age. He was born on the territory of modern-day Kazakhstan, studied and worked in Samarkand, Bukhara, Baghdad, Damascus, and Aleppo. Al-Farabi made an immense contribution to the development of philosophy, logic, physics, mathematics, ethics, and music. He was known in the Middle Ages as the "Second Teacher" after Aristotle, who was called the "First Teacher".

Al-Farabi's works had a great influence on the subsequent development of science and philosophical thought in the East and Europe. His ideas of humanism and the pursuit of harmony between reason and virtue remain relevant today. The name of this great thinker is especially revered in the countries of Central Asia, including Kyrgyzstan.

Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475–1564) was a great Italian sculptor, painter, architect, poet and thinker of the High Renaissance and early Baroque eras. He was a native of the Florentine Republic, and it was in his works that the artistic style of the Florentine school reached its culmination. Michelangelo is the author of some of the greatest masterpieces of world culture, including the statues David and Pietà, the frescoes of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, and the architecture of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

In his works, Michelangelo embodied ideals of harmony, strength, and spiritual beauty, becoming a symbol of creative genius and the relentless pursuit of perfection. His art had a profound influence on the development of European art and continues to inspire artists and masters all over the world, including in Kyrgyzstan.

Johann Baptist Strauss II (1825–1899) was a brilliant Austrian composer, conductor and violinist, who gained worldwide fame as the "Waltz King". He authored about 500 musical compositions, including the famous waltzes "The Blue Danube", "Tales from the Vienna Woods", "Artist's Life", as well as the operettas "Die Fledermaus" and "The Gypsy Baron". With his compositions, Strauss elevated dance music to symphonic heights. His works were admired by many great composers, including Offenbach, Wagner, Lehár and Tchaikovsky.

Strauss II's music is characterized by brilliance, grace and the joy of life, embodying the spirit of 19th-century Vienna. His compositions continue to be performed on the world's finest stages and are widely appreciated by classical music lovers in Kyrgyzstan.

Hans Christian Andersen (1805–1875) was an outstanding Danish writer, poet and playwright, one of the most famous authors of fairy-tale literature for children and adults. His works, including "The Ugly Duckling", "The Snow Queen", "The Little Mermaid",

"The Emperor's New Clothes", "The Steadfast Tin Soldier", "The Princess and the Pea", "Thumbelina" and "The Wild Swans", have become part of the world's cultural heritage.

Andersen skillfully combined folk wisdom with deep humanism and faith in goodness. His fairy tales have been translated into hundreds of languages and are beloved by children and adults around the world, including Kyrgyzstan. The memory of the great storyteller lives on in books, theatrical performances and screen adaptations. April 2, the writer's birthday, is celebrated worldwide as International Children's Book Day. In 1956, the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) under UNESCO established the Hans Christian Andersen Award ("Andersen Medal") as a literary prize awarded to outstanding children's book authors.

For this series, KEP also issues four postcards, which are used to realize four maximum cards.



Stamps description

No. **262**. 150 KGS. Abu Nasr Muhammad al-Farabi (c. 872–950)

No. **263**. 150 KGS. Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475–1564)

No. **264**. 150 KGS. Johann Baptist Strauss II (1825–1899)

No. **265**. 150 KGS. Hans Christian Andersen (1805–1875)

Technical specifications

Paper: coated, gummed, 105 g/m².

Printing method: full-color offset lithography.

Stamps perforation: comb 14:14½.

Stamps size: 46 × 27.5 mm.

Stamps are issued in minisheets of 5 stamps with one label.

Minisheets size: 113 × 108 mm.

Quantity issued: 6 000 pieces each stamp (1 200 minisheets).

Designer: Daria Maier.

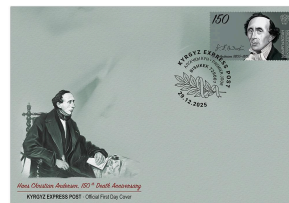
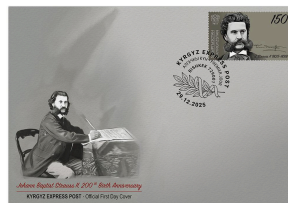
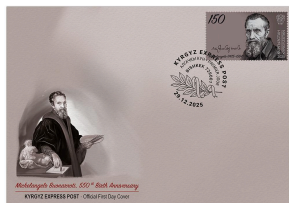
Printer House: "Nova Imprim" (Chişinău, Moldova).



A special cancellation on FDC will be carried out at the Bishkek KEP Office (729001) on the stamps issuing day.

The first day covers, postcards and special postmark are designed by Daria Maier.

Covers size: C6 (162 × 114 mm).



Quantity of covers issued: 300 pieces each.
 Quantity of postcards issued: 400 pieces each.
 Endorsing ink color: black.

