

Ten mano svajos **The Place of My Dreams**

Music and lyrics: Darius Polikaitis

The poem is about the well-known camp Dainava, where our youth have gathered for the past 70 years, and continue to assemble to this day. The camp environment reminds one of Lithuania's ecosystem, with its forests, lakes, and rolling hills. The programs acquaint our youth with Lithuanian history, customs and traditions, music and dance. Having spent productive and fulfilled days at Dainava, it is difficult to depart. Upon returning home, we long remember our experiences, emotions, and the friends we left behind.

The words and music were written by D. Polikaitis when he was just 16 years old. The mood is of sadness and longing – one is left with only memories of the wonderful environment, friendships, and shared experiences. In a way, these are the same emotions experienced by those who have left their homeland, and can only return in memories to the place of their birth. Lithuanian camps in the United States and Canada have always been and still remain a place for both an enjoyable vacation and a deeper connection to Lithuania.