

INFORMATION SHEET on the 2022 Fellowship Program “Weltoffenes Berlin”

In 2022, subject to the availability of funds, Berlin’s Senate Department for Culture and Europe will provide funding for **professional artistic collaborations** through **fellowships** for professionals working in art, media, and culture who have left or intend to leave their countries of origin due to the current political situation there.

Cultural institutions and initiatives can apply for funds for the realization of fellowships (maximum period is one year), which support the access to the artistic job market in Berlin for the professionals of the target group.

Eligibility

Cultural institutions and initiatives who are active professionals in art, media and culture and who are resident in Berlin are eligible to apply. Individual persons are not eligible to apply.

Objective of the program

The program intends professional artistic collaborations between Berlin based Cultural institutions and initiatives and professional artists or media and culture professionals, who have left or intend to leave their countries of origin because:

- They feel threatened personally (e.g., on account of political persecution or armed conflicts);
- They cannot continue their professional activity on account of the current political situation (e.g., general repression, a climate of intimidation, collapse of professional opportunities);
- They are in fundamental opposition to negative political trends.

A grant of € 2,500 per month can be awarded for a maximum of 12 months.

€ 2,000 of the monthly grant have to be paid to the fellow as a wage or fee.

Purpose of funding

Cultural institutions and initiatives in Berlin may apply to organize fellowships of up to a year that aim to support professionals working in art, media, and culture to become established in Berlin.

Prerequisites

The fellowships shall facilitate an independent artistic or creative work for the fellow in the form of a collaboration between the cultural institution initiative submitting the application.

During the fellowship, the fellow shall be supported in building a professional working perspective according to his/her individual situation.

In case of a funding, the cultural institution or initiative is obliged to sign a contract (e.g., stipend, employment or service contract) with the fellow.

Professionals working in art, media and culture are persons who have completed relevant professional training or courses of study and who have worked, or still are working, in art, media, and culture on a professional level.

The following persons are particularly qualified to become fellows under the program:

- Persons holding a residence permit allowing them to be self-employed (Section 21[5] of the German Residence Act [*Aufenthaltsgesetz*]);
- Recognized asylum seekers;
- Asylum seekers whose request for asylum is currently being processed and who hold a temporary residence permit or a certificate confirming registration as an asylum seeker [*BüMA*];
- Migrants holding a residence permit granted for humanitarian reasons (Sections 22-25b of the German Residence Act [*Aufenthaltsgesetz*]) or an exceptional leave to remain [*Duldung*], provided they have registered within the past three years.

The future fellows must be legally resident in Berlin by the time they start their fellowship.

Not eligible to become a fellow are persons who:

- are enrolled at a university or an institute of higher education or
- graduated from a German university or institute of higher education and lived since then mostly in Germany.

Type, scope and volume of funding

For each fellowship, a monthly sum of up to € 2,500 will be paid for a maximum of 12 months. Of this amount, a maximum of € 500 per month shall be available for materials, while a minimum of € 2,000 must be used to cover (wholly or partially, as the case may be) wage or fee payments to the professional working in art, media, and culture who is a fellow.

Allocation of funding

Funding decisions will be made during a selection process based on the following criteria:

- Suitability and potential for development of the professional working in art, media, and culture who is the beneficiary of the funding, with due consideration being given to his/her personal risk level;
- Ability of the cultural sector stakeholder submitting the application to organize the fellowship;
- Quality and sustainability of the planned collaboration under the fellowship.

An independent jury consisting of three experts will evaluate the project applications. Confirmed jury members are: Lisa Benjes, Nora Al-Badri and Can Sungu.

Submitting an application

You can fill in the electronic application form and upload the required supporting documents online at:

<https://fms.verwalt-berlin.de/egokuef/>

Select the option “Spartenoffene Förderungen” in the choice field named “Förderbereich” on the first page of the electronic application form.

Please use these file names for the following supporting documents:

1. Description of the cultural sector stakeholder submitting the application, including information on previous experience in supporting the target group

Maximum file size: 2 MB; authorized file formats: docx, pdf; authorized file name: **Info_***Name of Applicant*

2. Description of the fellow’s work and how he_she is to be involved in the applicant’s activities

Maximum file size: 2 MB; authorized file formats: docx, pdf; authorized file name: **PB_***Name of Applicant*

3. Cost and financing plan using the template [Musterfinanzierungsplan](#)

Maximum file size: 500 kB; authorized file formats: docx, xls, xlsx, pdf; authorized file name: **FP_***Name of Applicant*

4. Proof of applicant’s residence in Berlin

Maximum file size: 2 MB; authorized file formats: docx, pdf; authorized file name: **MB_***Name of Applicant*

5. [Application Form](#) completed by the fellow

Maximum file size: 2 MB; authorized file formats: docx, pdf; authorized file name: **AF_***Name of Applicant*

Deadline

September 20, 2021, 6 p.m.

Please note:

Online applications need to be fully submitted by 6 p.m. It will be impossible to submit your application after this time and any started submission processes will automatically be cancelled.

We advise you to make sure you start the application process in good time and prepare all necessary supporting documents in advance. Please also make sure you are using a stable internet connection with sufficient speed and bandwidth to upload large amounts of data.

Further information on the online application process can be found in our FAQs (in German):

<http://www.berlin.de/sen/kultur/foerderung/antragscenter/artikel.85073.php>

Exclusion

Staff members of the Senate Department for Culture and Europe, as well as their families, are not eligible to apply.

Additional information

Information for foreign professionals working in art, media, and culture can be found on the online portal “touring artists” of the Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste – IGBK (the German branch of the International Association of Art) and the German Center of the International Theatre Institute (ITI):

<https://www.touring-artists.info/en/home/>

Please consult the information published by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees – BAMF – for details on labor market access and conditions for refugees:

<http://www.bamf.de/DE/Infothek/FragenAntworten/ZugangArbeitFluechtlinge/zugang-arbeit-fluechtlinge-node.html>.

The Senate Department for Culture and Europe will be glad to assist cultural sector stakeholders interested in the program should they have any questions on its practical or legal aspects.

Applications will only be considered if they are complete and submitted before the deadline.

All information will be treated confidentially and used only for the application process and funding purposes.

After the selection process has been concluded, all of the applicants will receive written notification of the results.

If the grant can be considered state aid, this funding is being awarded on the basis of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and

108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (General Block Exemption Regulation) (OJ L 187/1, 26.6.2014).

Companies that have not complied with a recovery injunction based on a previous Commission decision on the inadmissibility of an instance of state aid and its incompatibility with the internal market will not be granted individual aid.

Contact / Further information

Silvia Kalmutzki

Tel.: +49 (0)30 90 228-756

E-mail: Silvia.Kalmutzki@kultur.berlin.de

Website: <https://www.berlin.de/sen/kultur/foerderung/foerderprogramme/weltoffenes-berlin/>

Individual consultations in the framework of the program “Weltoffenes Berlin” for interested cultural institutions and initiatives

Dates by appointment only!

➤ **Touring Artists: Individual consultations by SMartDe e.V.**

Contact: **Sebastian Hoffmann**

Address: Mehringplatz 8, 10969 Berlin

Phone: (030) 24 33 67 40

E-Mail: beratung@touring-artists.info

Web: <https://www.touring-artists.info/home/beratung/>

➤ **Landesmusikrat Berlin e.V.: Information about Berlin’s Music Scene - Personal Advice and Accompaniment**

Contact: **Yusuf Sahilli**

Address: Lübecker Straße 23, 10559 Berlin

Phone: (030) 39 87 60 51

Fax: (030) 39 73 10 88

E-Mail: Katawi@landesmusikrat-berlin.de

Web: <https://www.landesmusikrat-berlin.de/projekte/musikarbeitsmarkt-transnational/>

➤ **Willkommenszentrum des Berliner Senats: Residence law advice**

Contacts: **Yvonne Veith / Huy Don Ho Pham**

Address: Potsdamer Straße 65, 10785 Berlin

Phone: (030) 90 17 23 / 030 90 17 23 12

Fax: (030) 90 17 23 20

E-Mail: Yvonne.Veith@intmig.berlin.de / HuyDon.HoPham@intmig.berlin.de / Willkommenszentrum@intmig.berlin.de (please in cc.)

Web: <https://www.berlin.de/willkommenszentrum/>