

Our Projects

International Poetry Slams

Poetry slams are a popular form of interaction between poets and audience. But usually they are held only in the local language and English. We have created new slam concepts that allow poets with a broad diversity of languages to take part. Following the spirit of this multilingual experience we experiment with new concepts transferring the vivid discourse of slam to new contexts and places. Slam means poetry means starting to think!



Literary Salons

We regularly organise public Literary Salons in Berlin and other places. German and international authors come together to read from their newest manuscripts and to discuss current topics. These events often become starting points for new projects like books, translations, performances, cooperations etc. - our salons are free market places of minds and ideas.

Our Projects



Cultural Exchange

We promote interaction between different arts, countries and cultures. Therefore, we regularly organize intercultural events like multilingual workshops, publications, public festivals, exhibitions or seminars. These projects are created to find new ways of understanding and cooperation in a globalized world. Especially as our hometown, the German capital Berlin, has a special position as a bridge between East and West, North and South.



Our Projects

Benefit Events

As a non-profit organization of artists and activists, we feel responsible for our colleagues and friends who need support. That is why we regularly organize benefit events (concerts, readings, exhibitions etc.) and public offertories to help artists and projects all over the world that are sharing our ideas and goals.



Education

Our work is dedicated to the fact that learning is a lifelong process. In the last years we regularly offered a diversity of workshops especially on theatre, creative writing, music and arts but also politics and social life. We constantly cooperate with schools, universities and social institutions and regularly take part in cultural and social research projects.



Berliner Literarische Aktion

Literature behind Bars

Literature is for everybody. That's why we started the *Literature behind bars* program in 2002. Famous writers from all over the world join workshops, read from their books and discuss with inmates behind bars. The program quickly became a model event and received great popularity among prisoners and authors alike. Despite initial scepticism, today the support and interest is enormous and many prisons have adopted this approach. In 2010 *Literature behind bars* became part of the European *Arts and Culture in Prison* project as well as of the *Learning in Prison* project in 2011. Today more than 30 authors from 17 countries and more than 30 partner institutions cooperate with *Literature behind bars*.



About Us

The *Berliner Literarische Aktion e.V.* is a non-profit association that is accredited by the German state. We promote contemporary literature as a base of international communication and cooperation by supporting and presenting authors and activists who advance the spirit of democracy and human rights, freedom of speech, mutual tolerance and freedom of art. For us, literature is no parallel universe made up for fugitives of reality but it is essential brainfood and it is the most important fuel for the further development of the dratted culture we are living in. Literature is our key. We connect it with other arts, with politics, with cultures all over the world – and even with reality!



Berliner Literarische Aktion



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