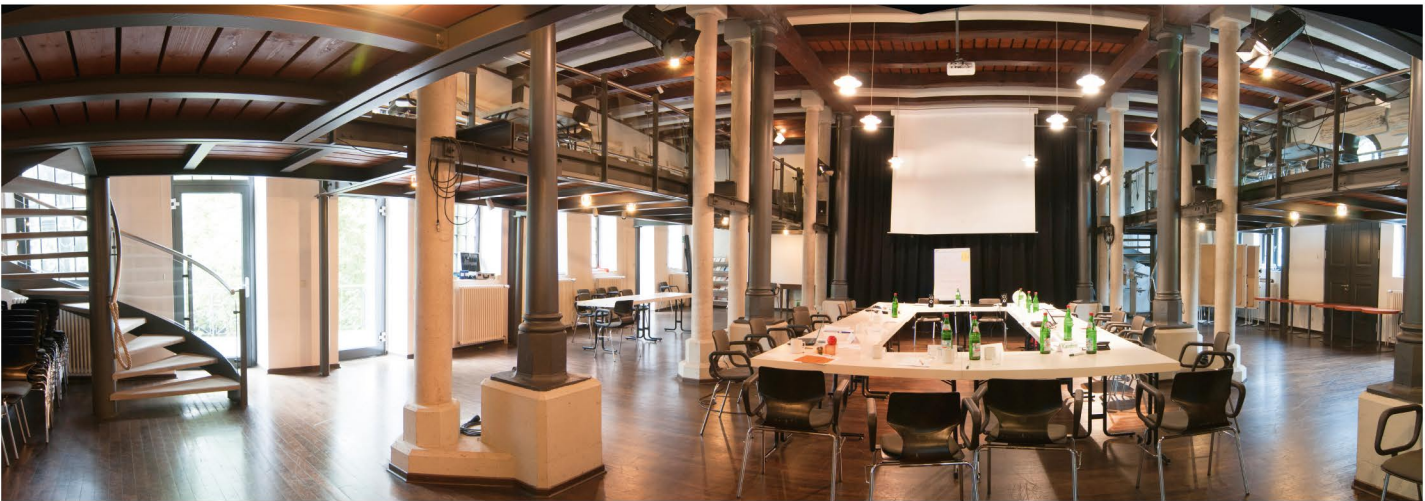


The place for art, culture and their mediators

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Bundesakademie für Kulturelle Bildung Wolfenbüttel

The Bundesakademie für Kulturelle Bildung Wolfenbüttel ...
is one of Germany’s most significant providers of practically orientated professional further training and development in the field of cultural education. First and foremost, the Bundesakademie is aimed at multipliers and professional creative artists. Thus it improves the provision of highly qualified staff for the job market in the field of production, mediation and tuition of culture and arts. Thereby it builds on the quality of cultural education, and it pursues the goal that everyone should have the chance to participate in culture.



The Bundesakademie unites under one roof specialists, mavericks and trendsetters in the field of cultural education. It advises and cooperates with decision makers, multipliers and promoters, and stands in practice, theory and research for quality, inspiration and sustainability.

Aim

The aim of the Federal Academy for Cultural Education is to professionalise cultural work by training multipliers, therefore promoting the cultural development of society.

Participants

The range of events is geared towards cultural mediators and creative artists from the whole of Germany as well as neighbouring countries. The approximately 2,500 people who participate every year are engaged in cultural occupations, whether full time, as a side job or in a voluntary capacity.

Six programme areas

Each year, the academy offers around 180 seminars, qualification courses and meetings in six areas: fine arts, performing arts, literature, museum topics, music and cultural management, policy and research.

Advanced training and further development

The practically orientated training sessions mostly take place in the form of workshops lasting three to five days with 10 to 15 participants each. More than 300 competent lecturers support the six programme managers. Most programme sections consist of multi-part courses besides some single courses that have been co-developed with professional organisations. There is the possibility of obtaining a certificate upon completion of these courses.

Projects

In recent years, the Bundesakademie has increasingly engaged in various projects in the field of cultural education. Most projects run for three years and are funded by the German Federal Government (BMBF / BKM). They include teacher qualification for cultural school development, collegial consultations of cultural institutions, e. g. on topics such as diversity and the establishment of a knowledge platform for cultural education on the Internet.

Organisational structure

The academy was founded in 1986, it is organized as a non-profit association, and its mission is to contribute to the further development and cultural education in Germany. The members' general meeting, the executive board and the advisory board form part of the supporting association's committees. The advisory board, made up of specialists in different cultural fields, provides the academy with advice on content-related questions.

Philosophy and self-image

The academy sees itself as a place for art, culture and their mediators. In line with contemporary practices in cultural education, the academy believes in the importance of life-long learning; it provides content not only for professionally active people, but also for students and senior citizens. As a partner in the cultural network, it has its finger on the pulse of current aesthetic practices and detects new impulses. It sees itself as a forum where culture can be discussed at a professional and political level.

Financing

The academy is institutionally funded by the German Federal State of Lower Saxony (Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture) and by the Federal Government (German Ministry of Education and Research and The Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media) and other third-party funds. In addition, the budget is complemented by own income from participants' fees and guest accommodation.

Staff

Around 30 employees work in the academy on a full or part-time basis. This number also includes staff members who do a Voluntary Year of Social Cultural Service and apprentices in house keeping.

The value of cultural education

Cultural education is a fundamental part of general education. As a process which accompanies a person throughout their lifetime, it is an important component of character development, and encourages greater participation in society. It strengthens social, communicative and creative abilities whilst contributing to professional success. In addition, actively engaging with arts and culture promotes critical and constructive interaction with the world around us.



Budget volume

Turnover amounts to around 2.7 million euros per annum.

Learn and work in historic surroundings

The Bundesakademie uses the Wolfenbüttel Castle with seminar rooms and workshop facilities, a wing for the academy's administration, and the guesthouse »Schünemannsche Mühle« with its two outbuildings. The guesthouse has 39 rooms (48 beds) and several seminar and events rooms. The kitchen, together with dining rooms, is located in one of the outbuildings. The academy can offer a total of 12 seminar, meeting and work rooms.

Overnight stays and occupancy

The buildings are used to accommodate guests during periods when no courses take place. In addition to the 5,000 overnight stays that participants on the academy's programmes account for, around 1,500 overnight stays are attributed to guest accommodation.

Cooperative arrangements

The academy cooperates with numerous charities, cultural associations and federations, universities, foundations and ministries. In addition, the academy is an active practice partner in scientific research, and regularly releases publications of its own series, entitled »Wolfenbütteler Akademie-Texte«.

Programmes for students

Being a centre for further training and a venue for seminars makes the academy the ideal place for future job starters who are deciding which career path they may take, and wish to build up a network of professional contacts. Students have the real opportunity to exchange ideas with brilliant teachers and artists, and to experience things outside of the university bubble. In addition to the cooperative arrangements with regional universities such as the Braunschweig University of Art, the Leibniz Universität in Hanover and the Universität Hildesheim, the academy is open at special rates to students from the whole of Germany.

The academy in the Wolfenbüttel region

Thanks to its range of activities, the Bundesakademie represents a considerable locational factor for the City of Wolfenbüttel and the region: in addition to the jobs at the Bundesakademie, several full-time jobs in the city and environs are secured. What's more, with its array of public events such as concerts, readings, lectures and exhibitions, the academy forms an integral part of the cultural landscape in the Wolfenbüttel region. But the academy also has a symbolic effect: as an outstanding institution at both national and European level, it contributes to the positive image of Wolfenbüttel as a city of culture.

Edition: July 2018

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