

European Conference

The Impact of Cultural and Citizenship Education on Social Cohesion

3 - 5 December 2009, Vilnius, Lithuania

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Project Fact Sheet

Workshop 1

“Working in Neighbourhoods and District Management: Future Models for Participation and Empowerment?”

	Section	Indications of content
1	Title of project	Citizens' Campus Common Berlin Art and Society in the Public Space
2	Location (City/Country)	Berlin, international
3	Main topics (select 5 max)	International competition, public art, interdisciplinary workshops, citizens' campus
4	Practice-related keywords (5 max)	The closed space, the economised space, the coded space, the atmospheric space, the geometric space, the utopian space
5	Brief description of project (150 words)	Common Berlin is a model for interdisciplinary educational promotion that brings different generations closer together through artistic ways of working and thinking. The general population is invited to test new ways of interacting democratically with each other by realising artistic projects in the public sphere. In this context, Berlin becomes a so-called “campus”, where the topics of art and society are discussed by diverse members of the community and generations living in the city; all of those are integrated through “Common Berlin”.
6	Objectives of project	The objective of the project is to create an unconventional way of thinking that presents new contexts. We are looking for exemplary incentives that create community and enforce civic involvement. The civil campus as a “community university” identifies as one central topic the contemporary conditions of the public space and searches for artistic strategies to change them positively within a wider social context.
7	Impact of the project on education and social cohesion (250 words)	The Citizens' Campus Common Berlin is a model for the encouragement of formation: connecting different generations by means of artistic ways of thinking and working. The citizens' campus is created by the people's cooperation. The public space becomes the campus for the citizens. Common Berlin e.V. invites artists and citizens to try new forms of acting in the democratic “togetherness” by using artistic processes and communication-oriented forms as models. The citizens' campus involves different generations and different social groups living in the city. It is the basic artistic idea of the competition to create an art that has its roots in the society's public life by means of forms of intermediation and the possibilities of participation. It deals with the contemporary conditions of the public space and develops artistic strategies that can help to improve them in a larger framework.
8	Target groups	The Citizens' Campus Common Berlin addresses artists and engaged members of the general public drawn from different professions and age groups who often act independently in everyday life.

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9	Project methods/ Project format	The open international competition is submitted annually for two subject areas. Our condition for the competition is that the projects are presented to a dedicated public in form of workshops. The projects are created and realized together with the public. The workshops do not have a fixed format and can be freely interpreted by the concerned parties participating. The evaluation of the project is realised by a jury of specialists chosen and invited individually for each submission.
10	Project Time scale	The provided duration of the project is three years in total. The Citizens' Campus Common Berlin takes place twice a year. Realisation of the first two fields of topics is scheduled for 2010. The competition takes place in Berlin.
11	Project Initiator	Common Berlin e.V. is a registered, non-profit association for the promotion of civic engagement and the creative process of formation. Members are Jörg Amonat, Stefan Krüskemper, Maria Linares, Patricia Pisani, Kerstin Polzin.
12	Resources involved (financial, human, others)	For the purposes of this project, the association is cooperating with the Federal Agency for Civic Education (Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung).
13	Evaluation/Materials	None
14	Contact information	Stefan Krüskemper : buero@krueskemper.de María Linares : contact@marialinares.com