

THE POWER OF THE ARTS

Info Sheet

The Power of the Arts – Nominees for 2017

***foundationClass**

The Weissensee College of the Arts, Berlin

Management: Professor Ulf Aminde, Miriam Schickler

Project Format: Instruction, workshops, lectures, lessons, exhibitions, performances

Implementation Period: January – December 2018

Web site: www.foundationclass.org

Since 2016, refugee artists have, under the auspices of Professor Ulf Aminde, been offered the possibility to prepare for eligibility tests with respect to art-college entry level. This course, recognizing the problems arising from lost course certificates, provides support to refugees who have been unable to complete their course of study in their home country. As participants in the **foundationClass* of the Weissensee College of the Arts, they have access to studios and workshops of any type. They will thus get in contact with other students and instructors, many of them with a migrant background. The course will also involve inquiries into what a diversified college of the future might look like.

ArtLab by ARTHELPS

ARTHELPS e.V., Weissach

Management: Yasemin Lupo, Thomas Lupo, Tanja von Känel, Tobias von Känel

Project Format: Projects both creative and economic

Implementation Period: Autumn of 2017

Web site: www.arthelps.de

The ARTHELPS Initiative was founded in 2009. It is an association of artists and creatives. From the classic exhibition via pop-up shops up to book publications – the projects that have so far been realized are many and diverse, with revenues being channeled directly into new social projects such as open creative workshops. Since in the past it always proved difficult to find suitable premises, plans are now to erect the *ArtLab* in Weissach. Having a fixed location in the Stuttgart region is intended to promote the inclusion of socially disadvantaged groups of persons there. The aim is to intensify the existing cooperation with local organizations and firms, with a view to creating jobs for refugees in the long term.

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Banda Internazionale

Banda Comunale, Dresden

Management: Michal Tomaszewski

Project Format: A band project with unaccompanied underage refugees

Implementation Period: January – December 2018

Web site: www.bandacomunale.de

In 2015 – after participating in numerous anti-PEGIDA demonstrations –, the Dresden-based brass band *Banda Comunale* founded the *Banda Internazionale* project. In addition to concert events, the group, which meanwhile has almost 20 members – with musicians from Syria, Palestine, Iran, Iraq, and Burkina Faso –, holds music-teaching workshops in the Saxon provinces. Their shared goal is to give music from home regions new interpretations, and to get rid of prejudice. As part of an independent transnational band project with younger refugees, workshops will be realized at Saxon schools.

BELLEVUE NETWORKS – Bellevue TV / Munich International Radio

Bellevue di Monaco eG, Munich

Management: Christian Granzer, Thomas Lechner

Project Format: Media platform for Internet, television, and radio programming

Implementation Period: until December 2018

Web site: www.bellevuedimonaco.de

Since 2016, the *Bellevue di Monaco* in Munich – a residential, cultural, and social center – has been home to unaccompanied underage refugees and their families. Now the center is going to be expanded to include the media platform *BELLEVUE NETWORKS – Bellevue TV/Munich International Radio*. People from Munich, with or without escape experience – will be offered the possibility and the know-how to participate in social debates with their own voice by providing video and audio contributions. An additional objective is to form urban social networks.

CUCULA – Refugees Company for Crafts and Design

A registered society to promote intercultural youth work / Schlesische27, Berlin

Management: Corinna Sy, Michael Wolke, Jessy Medernach, Barbara Meyer

Project Format: Production workshop including experimental workshops

Implementation Period: September 2017 – August 2018

Web site: www.cucula.org

The pilot project CUCULA comprises design manufacture, a platform for intercultural exchange, and pre-vocational training programs – all in one. In cooperation with Schlesische27 as well as with international artists, the project offers educational and creative programs funded through sales of custom-made furniture and design objects. CUCULA backs a classic empowerment approach, aiming to support participants entering professional life.

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GARELLY-SCENE – Festival der Jugendkulturen

label m – Werkstatt für Jugendkultur e.V. [Workshop for Youth Culture, a registered association], Saarbrücken

Management: Thomas Langhammer

Project Format: Participation project, workshops, festival

Implementation Period: Autumn 2017 – Summer 2018

Web site: www.labelm.org

Since 2009, Label m has been implementing crossover projects advancing social participation by young people with various cultural backgrounds. Based on youth culture as an innovation engine for culture in general, the project focuses on the subject matters of migration and escape experience, followed by realization in the form of publications, films, and performances. As a participatory send-off for the newly-established cultural center *Gallery-Haus*, the *GARELLY SCENE – Festival of Youth Cultures* will be organized. The Festival is intended to familiarize members of the youth scenes of several countries with one another.

IKU – Integrationstheater im alten Kino [Integration Theater at the Old Cinema]

altes Kino Ebersberg e.V., Ebersberg

Management: Max Weis

Project Format: Theater, Music, Dance

Implementation Period: until August 2019

Web site: www.kultur-in-ebersberg.de

The association *Altes Kino Ebersberg* in Upper Bavaria, a registered society, has existed for more than 20 years, operating the *Altes Kino* cabaret and concert stage as well as the Ebersberg municipal hall *alter speicher*. Under the title of *IKU – Integrationstheater im alten Kino*, the association is planning for an integrative project of theater education addressed primarily to refugees with prospects of permanent residence. Active participation by refugees in cultural life will help the population to be more open toward them, facilitating the building of networks of their own. This civic initiative is a classic example of integrative projects in a rural region – Ebersberg at present has a population of approx. 10,000, with roughly 1,000 of them being refugees.

Pass On

Hajusom e.V., Hamburg

Management: Ella Huck, Dorothea Reinicke

Project Format: A qualification program for performers

Implementation Period: September 2017 – June 2018

Web site: www.hajusom.de

The transnational performance group *Hajusom* was founded in 1999. The *Pass On* training program is designed to make the method of acquiring ‘tacit knowledge’ comprehensible – initially, by means of analysis, and then with the help of modules dealing with artistic practice and the possibilities of transnational art. It comprises the conveyance of contents from the entire cultural work of *Hajusom*,

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and aims to qualify performers of many years' standing to pass on the methodology in the form of lecture performances, workshops, lectures, coaching, or internships.

TIN PIT – Abenteuerliche Alltagsgeschichten aus Damaskus [Everyday Adventure Stories from Damascus]

Blickpunkte e.V / Ensemble Megaphon, Hannover

Management: Lenka Zupkova, Wasim Ghrioui

Project Format: Multimedia music theater

Implementation Period: October 2017 – May 2018

Web site: www.ensemble-megaphon.com

The association *Verein Blickpunkte*, a registered society, intends to establish the *Rasif* chamber-music ensemble. Along with the *Welcome Board of Lower Saxony*, the *Syrian Expat Philharmonic Orchestra*, and *Ensemble Megaphon*, professional musicians who have escaped to Germany will realize the multimedia music-theater project *TIN PIT*. *TIN PIT* tells about pre-war Syria, combining traditional Arabic song with Western music styles such as free jazz and electro. After its premiere at the Hannover State Theater, the project will go on a tour of Lower Saxony, Hamburg, Berlin, and Prague.

Un-Label

Sommertheater Pustelblume e.V., Cologne

Management: Lisette Reuter

Project Format: Building an interdisciplinary, inclusive performing arts company

Implementation Period: November 2017 – December 2018

Web site: www.un-label.eu

The interdisciplinary cultural project *Un-Label* aims to promote participation on an equal-rights basis by disabled people in cultural life. Approximately 100 artists will be dealing with the new inclusive and innovative potential offered by the performing arts. By creating a permanent performing arts company, *Un-Label* intends to support the provision of career and employment opportunities for artists from many different origins, with or without disablement.