



Kunstsymposium  
**Internationale  
 Werkstattwoche**  
 Wittingen/Lüben

**Organizer: Kulturverein Wittingen e. V. (Culture Club Wittingen)**

**Co-organizer: Stadt Wittingen**

## Concept for 2023

### I. Organization Team

01. Coordination and management	Regina Oldenburg
02. Chairwoman	Annette Ohst, President Culture Club Wittingen
03. Social coordination	Claudia Niemann
04. Educational support	Katrin Kern (member of the board, Culture Club) Natascha Engst-Wrede (member of the board, Culture Club)
05. Provider of accommodations, On-site support	Imke Wolter Hagen Oelker
06. Exhibition organization, archive	N.N.
07. Media Design Press Relations, social media	Soenke Hollstein Vincent Grahn
08. Finance	Michael Ohst (member of the board, Culture Club)
09. Co-organizer representative	Sven Menzhausen, Stadt Wittingen

### II. Purpose and tasks

**The purpose of this project is the strengthening of the region by supporting artistic endeavours sustainably. Local artists and – in view of the globalisation – also artists from European as well as other countries, first-year students, pupils and the local people should all enter into a dialogue and thereby sharing cultural values.**

This purpose is to be reached by different structures:

1. **Local artists work together with international artists** on the basis of a common leitmotif referring to the present and taking into account specific local relevance. Of course, each artist will be free to use his own artistic interpretation. Additionally, the local artists should be given an opportunity to build up a network with national and international artists and their work.
2. During the symposium the participants work on a relevant future-orientated topic, which is made public with the application forms. The organization team – with participation from former attendees – chose as **leitmotif** for 16th International Werkstattwoche: **„Dignity“** (in German: **„Würde“**).
3. Local and international artists work together with graduates and students. The cooperation with experienced artists, who already know the art scene, should give these **young artists**

an opportunity to select their study programme later. In this way the young artists will be able to get to know work methods, concepts and creative processes, which will set impulses and support their motivation for their further career.

4. **Professional training for pupils from all types of schools beyond the existing educational institutions:**
  - a. Above mentioned artists will work on a special day during the symposium with pupils starting at secondary school level in order to bring them closer to art by working together. The participants learn about sustainable concepts and processes beyond the normal educational goals.
  - b. Children from local elementary schools will be part of a workshop offering professional instructions in line with the topic of the symposium.
5. **Further education for interested local adults:** in a workshop local adults will be able to develop own creations under professional artistic direction, inspired by the leitmotif.
6. **The citizens of Lüben** will offer accommodation to the artists during the symposium. They will thus have close direct contact to the artists during the creative processes.
7. **Face to face encounters, discussions and contact with the local population** during the symposium, followed by an exhibition in Lüben, allow visitors from the region and far beyond an insight into the creative process and cultural structures. An exhibition in one of the participants' countries is aimed at.
8. A **permanently accessible online gallery** will present artists and their work beyond the period of the 2023 Internationale Werkstattwoche. In addition a series of single or group exhibitions in the region is aimed at.
9. Continuity in the execution of the symposium is key in order to establish these targets sustainably.

### III. Group of participants

A maximum of 22 participants will be invited

- from local districts,
- from other German federal states,
- from other nations (max. 2 participants per nation).

German or English language skills are required.

### Qualification

- The artists should have a university education or an adequate qualification.
- To be part of the junior development program school graduates and students aiming at a degree in fine arts are also allowed to apply.
- Artists of any age may apply for the 16th Internationale Werkstattwoche. The artists should represent contemporary art positions in the fields of graphics, painting, photography, sculpture or installation. Proof of exhibition activities is welcomed and strongly recommended for a successful application but – especially for junior artists – not mandatory.

- The artists, graduates and students apply with the relevant documents and picture-files.
- Tender documents will be published on [www-kulturverein-wittingen.de](http://www-kulturverein-wittingen.de) and via e-mail.
- A jury decides on the participation. Repeated participation is possible. Students may apply several times during their studies and may apply again after completion of their studies.

#### IV. Execution

##### Time and scope

- 10 days of **residence obligation in Lüben**
- The accommodation of the participants will be realized in private guest rooms either in the village of Lüben or in villages nearby.
- 2-year event cycle (due to pandemic, the 16th Internationale Werkstattwoche will take place in 2023 rather than 2021)
- Exhibitions
  - local
  - regional
  - international
  - online

##### All participants agree

- to have some of their personal informations published in print as well as in the online gallery, as stated in the application form (name, portrait, basic biographical informations, images of works), to further the cultural impact of the Internationale Werkstattwoche,
- to comply to the work plan, which will be distributed at begin of the Internationale Werkstattwoche by the organization team,
- to provide at the end of Internationale Werkstattwoche at least three works of art to be professionally photographed and presented in the online gallery,
- to present their work on the final weekend of Internationale Werkstattwoche at an exhibition in Lüben, and to help to prepare this exhibition as a group effort,
- to donate one work of art to the Culture Club Wittingen e. V., which the club will use at its own discretion to further the cultural engagement in the region. The work will be chosen after consultation with the artist by the organization team.

All works that are shown during the exhibition and in the online gallery must have been created during the Internationale Werkstattwoche, either in Lüben or the surrounding area. This does not concern the series of single or group exhibitions. Here additionally new works or works based on concepts originally conceived in Lüben should be presented.

#### V. Financing

Together with the organization team, the coordinator will establish a cost estimation and a financing scheme. The board of the Culture Club will provide this information to the Stadt Wittingen (city council) for them to plan the necessary financial resources on a timely basis. The funding requests for this project will be submitted according to deadline.