

The NRW KULTURsekretariat invites cultural journalists on research trips to North Rhine-Westphalia as part of its International Cultural Relations activities. The following programmes are planned for journalists from January to July 2012.

Invitation for participants to research trips to North Rhine-Westphalia - First half of 2012:

lit.COLOGNE and literature scene in NRW - 3 days between 14 and 24 March 2012

<http://litcologne.de/festival/>

At the 12th lit.COLOGNE, Europe's largest literature festivals, international best-seller authors and national writing greats read to their audiences. In addition to the visit to the festival, the programme includes meetings with young authors and visits to various literature houses, literature mediators and sponsors, as well as publishing houses in Cologne and Düsseldorf.

For this programme, there are 3 places for journalists. Knowledge of the German language is of advantage for this trip, however, not mandatory. Please submit applications by Wednesday, 8 February 2012.

New Music on the Rhine and Ruhr - 2-3 days between 27 April and 01 May 2012

<http://www.wittenerstage.de/>

<http://www.achtbruecken.de/>

At the centre of this research trip is a music festival on the Rhine and one on the Ruhr: the Wittener Tage (Witten Days for New Chamber Music), with numerous premiere performances, and the Cologne music festival 8 Brücken (Eight Bridges), which this year is dedicated to the music of North America and the work of John Cage.

In addition, there will be meetings with the possibility to interview the protagonists of the region's New Music scene, including musicians, ensembles, concert houses and associations.

For this programme, there are 3-5 places for journalists. Please submit applications by Friday, 2 March 2012.

Mülheim Plays and NRW Theatre Scene - 3-5 days between 19 May and 09 June 2012

<http://www.stuecke.de/>

The renowned Mülheim Theatre Days – the forum for German-language contemporary drama – is being held for the thirty-seventh time. Seven to eight plays from Germany, Austria and Switzerland

will be shown in the most effective production – usually the first performance – in Mülheim an der Ruhr, followed by a discussion. Since 2007, there have also been the "KinderStücke" (Children's Plays) for which five first performances are selected for children from 6 to 12 years of age. Further theatres of the rich and diverse city theatre landscape and independent scene in NRW will also be visited.

For this programme, there are 7 places for journalists. Knowledge of the German language is mandatory in order to participate. Please submit applications by Wednesday, 14 March 2012.

Visitors' travel, accommodation, transfer and programme costs will be covered by the NRW KULTURsekretariat. The publication of a report and a defrayment contribution of EUR 50 are mandatory.

Contact

Please send one completed form (enclosed) per application direct to:

Ms Elgin Wolf
Project Assistant
+49 (0)202 – 69827222
wolf@nrw-kultur.de
www.nrw-kultur-international.de

NRW KULTURsekretariat: International Cultural Relations

www.nrw-kultur-international.de

Since 2009, the NRW KULTURsekretariat has been working with its member cities and the Ministry of Family, Children, Youth, Culture and Sports Affairs of the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) on the coordination and management of International Cultural Relations. The aim of this work is to promote artists, ensembles and cultural institutions of all sectors in their international projects.

* Bi-national cultural exchange programmes with different partner countries present and link artists from around the world with the scene in NRW. This creates long-term collaborations with lasting effects, even after the end of the “culture season”. In 2011/2012, the partner country is Poland.

* An international sponsorship programme supports all those artists, companies and cultural institutions which are planning cross-border and process-oriented collaboration with partners abroad. Sponsorship is available for both international performances as well as more permanent multinational projects of up to three years in duration.

* The International Visitors Programme is a network programme aimed at real encounters, and invites cultural journalists, curators, artists, cultural mediators, cultural politicians and other multipliers from around the world to North Rhine-Westphalia. In addition to the reports published abroad, personal exchange also gives rise to lively, supporting networks that frequently lead to cooperative projects.

The NRW KULTURsekretariat is a public culture promotion initiative set up by the 21 biggest cities and the regional association Rheinland of North Rhine-Westphalia. Founded in 1974, it works with its communal partners and numerous cultural institutions to organise and promote innovative projects, festivals and programme series in the areas of theatre, music, visual arts, literature, dance and new media. It is also engaged in trans-cultural projects and cultural education. As an internal and external dialogue partner, it also stimulates cultural-political processes and discourse within the association network and enhances cultural competence through meetings and conferences on topical and relevant issues.