



YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS

IN BERLIN



WHAT ARE YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS?

Youth associations are associations founded by young people.

Young people come together in youth associations. Here, they jointly organise programmes for other young people. These include, for example, holiday trips, excursions, workshops and much more. In youth associations, children and young people shape their leisure time together with other young people.

The special thing about youth associations is that the children and young people decide themselves what they want to do. They plan the activities themselves and then implement them. In youth associations, young people who have the same interests get together. They work together for other people.

You don't have to be a member of the association to take part.



YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS ARE PLACES IN WHICH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

3

- organise themselves,
- undertake volunteer activities,
- shape their own leisure time,
- take part in democratic decision making,
- learn how to formulate their interests,
- become involved in political and societal processes if they like.

WHAT DO

YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS DO?

Youth associations offer programmes for children and young people all year round:

- They look after children's and youth groups.
- They offer holiday trips for children and youths.
- They run youth centres, youth clubs and youth cafés. Here, children and young people can meet and get to know each other.
- They provide training for youth leaders.
- They bring different cultures together.
- They meet other young people abroad.
- They are politically active.
- They are committed to protecting the environment.
- They do cultural work.
- They offer sports programmes.
- They offer seminars and education.

You can find examples on the following pages.



Urban Gardening with young refugees

Gardening brings people together. Young people from **BUNDjugend Berlin** came up with the idea and have launched an urban gardening project with young refugees in a refugee accommodation centre in Zehlendorf. Here, the young people build raised beds and plant vegetables. The focus is on making the accommodation centre more appealing and allowing people to exchange their views.

Young people in Berlin grow up with many different cultures, and live them too. The opinion-making project meinungsmacher.in by the youth association djo-Regenbogen Berlin shows how diversity enriches our society. In media camps and academies they make colourful and diverse videos, images and newspapers with stories from the very many different young people living in our city.

Opinion makers: Meinungsmacher.in

6





Children's adventure camps

Out of the city and into adventure: This is the motto of the children's adventure camps run by the [Young Humanists Berlin \(Junge Humanist_innen Berlin\)](#) for children between 7 and 12 years of age. The special thing: children from poorer families or who receive allowance according to the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act can take part in the trips free of charge.



U28 Youth glasses for politicians

With “U28 – The Future is Laughing”, the Federation of German Catholic Youth wants to convince politicians to view their political decisions from the perspective of children and young people. Politicians should consider the effects of their decisions on young people.

At a camping site amidst the dunes on the North Sea island of Sylt, children call out their own republic every year – the Children’s Republic. The children are involved in the planning of the holiday programme and then implement it together. There are also lots of leisure time activities, including sports on the beach and in the sea, trekking across the mudflats, barbeques and much more. The programme is offered by the Youth Foundation of the German Workers’ Welfare Association (AWO).

The Children’s Republic of Sylt



YOUTH LEISURE FACILITIES



Children and young people can spend their leisure time at youth clubs and in youth centres.

At the LUKE youth centre of the German Scout Association (BDP), young people can meet up, listen to music together and play table tennis or billiards. In addition, there are many group programmes on offer, e.g. football, dancing, cooking and homework support. There is also a sound studio.

The band room, sound studio and bicycle workshop are just a few of the things on offer at the Betonia youth centre of the Kinderring Berlin e.V. And, of course, there is also an "open area", where children and young people can meet up and spend their afternoons together.

In addition to these two examples, there are many other youth clubs in Berlin. You can find an overview online at https://jup.berlin/location_map.



WHICH YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS ARE THERE?

There are

- Denominational associations (e.g. the Muslim Youth, the Protestant Youth, the Federation of German Catholic Youth or the Alevi Youth)
- Sports youth
- Charity youth associations (e.g. the Technical Relief Service Youth, the Fire Brigade Youth or the Red Cross Youth)
- Scout associations
- Youth associations that are involved in environmental protection and nature conservation (e.g. BUNDjugend)
- Youth associations that primarily work internationally/inter-culturally (e.g. djo-Regenbogen Berlin and the Young European Movement)
- Humanist or political youth associations (e.g. Socialist Youth Germany – the Falcons, the Young Humanists, the Youth Democrats / Young Left or Friends of Nature Youth).



In addition to these, there are many other interests that are represented by youth associations:

The youth network Lambda is a youth association that advocates the interests of gay, lesbian, bi, trans*, inter*, queer (LSBTIQ*) young people in Berlin and Brandenburg.

The Junge Presse is an association for young people who are interested in the media. Other examples include Amaro Foro, a youth association for and by Roma and Non-Roma, or KOMCIWAN Berlin, an association for Kurdish children and young people.

There is an overview of Berlin youth associations on the Landesjugendring Berlin website: www.ljrberlin.de.

The Landesjugendring Berlin combines the Berlin youth associations. There are currently 33 youth associations as members in the Landesjugendring Berlin.



WHO ARE THE PEOPLE WHO OFFER YOUTH WORK IN THE YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS?

Most people involved in youth work are volunteers. In youth associations in particular, these are young people who have been volunteering in their association for many years.

Other people involved in youth work are trained for this work. In general, they hold a relevant university degree or have undergone training in pedagogical studies. In addition to paid staff, freelance staff often support the work of the associations.

The people who work for the associations look after everything on site. Children and young people can just come along and participate in the programmes.

Many youth association volunteers have participated in training sessions to learn how best to deal with children and young people. This training is offered by many youth associations and is known as 'The Juleica Training'.

Juleica stands for youth leader card (Jugendleiter_innen-Card). People who want to work with children and youth get the Juleica, when they have taken part in a 40-hour training course with pedagogical and legal content, have completed a First Aid course, and have worked as a volunteer in a youth association.



WHERE DO YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS GET FUNDING?

Young people have a right to programmes that are made for their interests and which they can shape themselves. For this reason, youth associations where young people can come together receive state funding.

18

The work of youth associations also has a legal basis. This is regulated in the German Social Security Code VIII.

Youth associations also fund their work through donations. In some associations, members also pay a membership fee. Some programmes, such as holiday trips, cost some money. However, many youth associations also offer discounts.

Lots of the programmes in youth associations are free-of-charge – and take place regularly!

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JOIN IN!

What are you interested in? Be sure there is a youth association in Berlin where you can meet young people that are interested in the same things as you are!

Youth associations provide information about their programmes on their websites, on Facebook and also via the Landesjugendring Berlin calendar.

You don't have to be a member of the association to take part.

Here is an overview of the youth associations in Berlin:

<http://www.ljrberlin.de/landesjugendring/mitglieder>

<http://www.ljrberlin.de/jugendmigrationsbeirat>

You can also ask us directly!

Give us a call or write us an email!

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