

Final Report

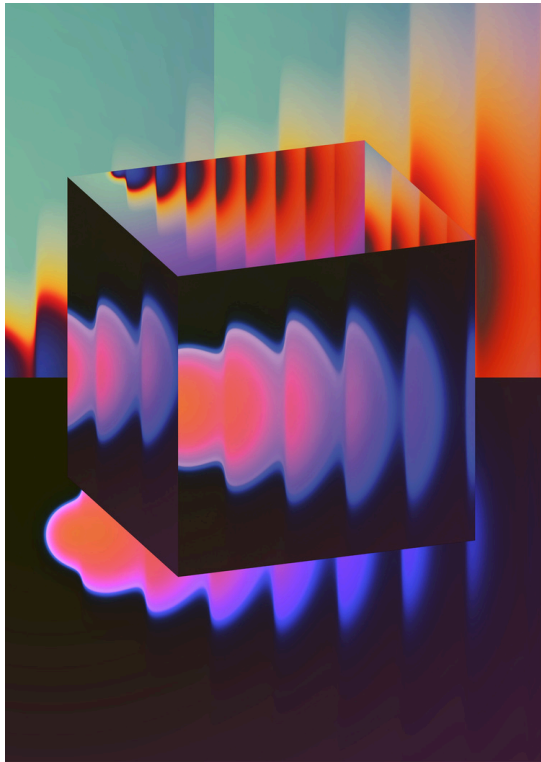
BERLIN SCIENCE WEEK

Hosted by:

**FALLING
WALLS
FOUNDATION**

2025

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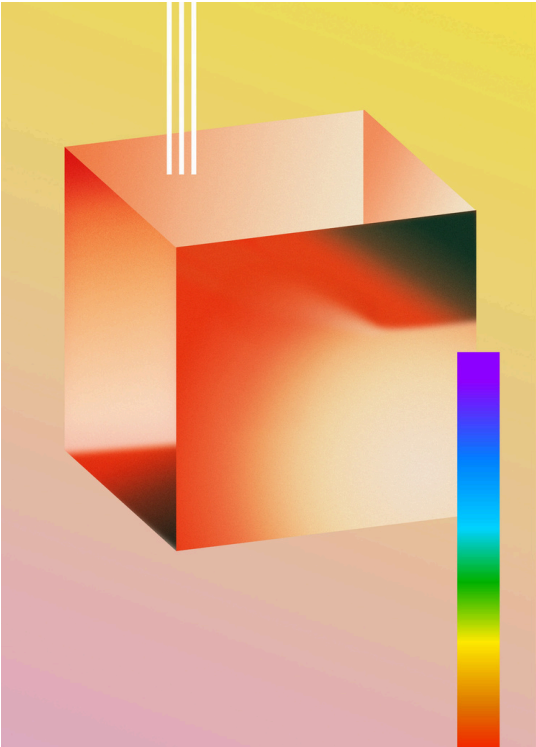


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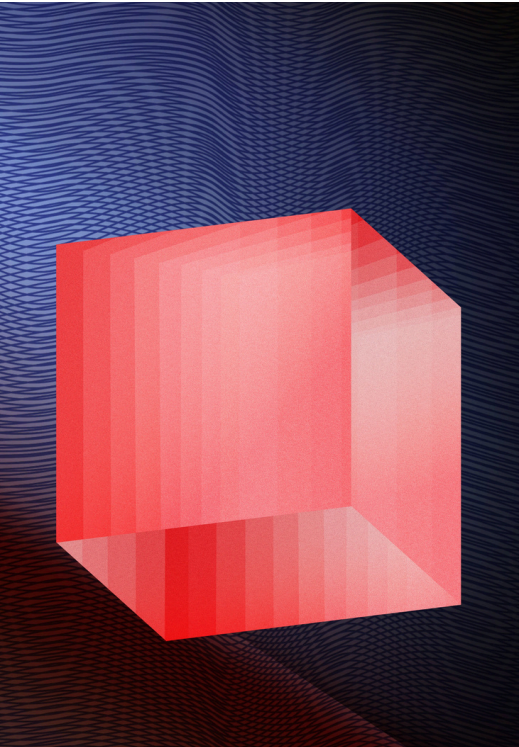


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Foreword

Berlin Science Week has always been driven by a simple but ambitious idea: breaking down the walls between science and society. As a project of the Falling Walls Foundation, this mission lies at the heart of everything we do, because science has its greatest impact when it is shared and shaped with the public.

In 2025, we celebrated ten years of Berlin Science Week. What began as an umbrella event for Berlin's scientific landscape has grown into an international festival bringing together researchers, institutions, artists, and curious minds. Creating spaces for dialogue across disciplines and perspectives remains our unique strength. Together with our partners, long-standing and new, Berlin Science Week once again turned the city into a citywide celebration of science in society. Seeing the scientific community and the public come together to envision futures Beyond Now made this anniversary edition truly special.

As we look to 2026, we're excited to build on this year's momentum and welcome everyone who wants to help shape the future of science in society with us. Thank you for being part of this journey. We look forward to welcoming you again.

Christian Rauch
Festival Director



Our Mission

We believe science can only fulfil its potential when it is embraced as a vital part of everyday life. At Berlin Science Week, our mission is to strengthen the role of science in building a more resilient society. By placing cutting-edge research at the heart of cultural life, we make science understandable, approachable, and accessible to those it is meant to empower.



An abstract graphic on the left side of the page. It features a 3D cube with a dark, possibly black, face. The other faces of the cube are covered in vibrant, wavy patterns in shades of red, orange, yellow, and blue. The background behind the cube is a gradient of these colors, with vertical bands of light and dark. The overall effect is dynamic and artistic.

01

Overview

Every year from 1–10 November, we transform Berlin into a playground of scientific ideas, celebrating groundbreaking research and innovation from the city's institutions and our international partners. Through our festival, we cross disciplinary boundaries and connect the worlds of science and culture with a curious public. Together, we create a lively platform for science and the public to explore how cutting-edge research shapes our world.

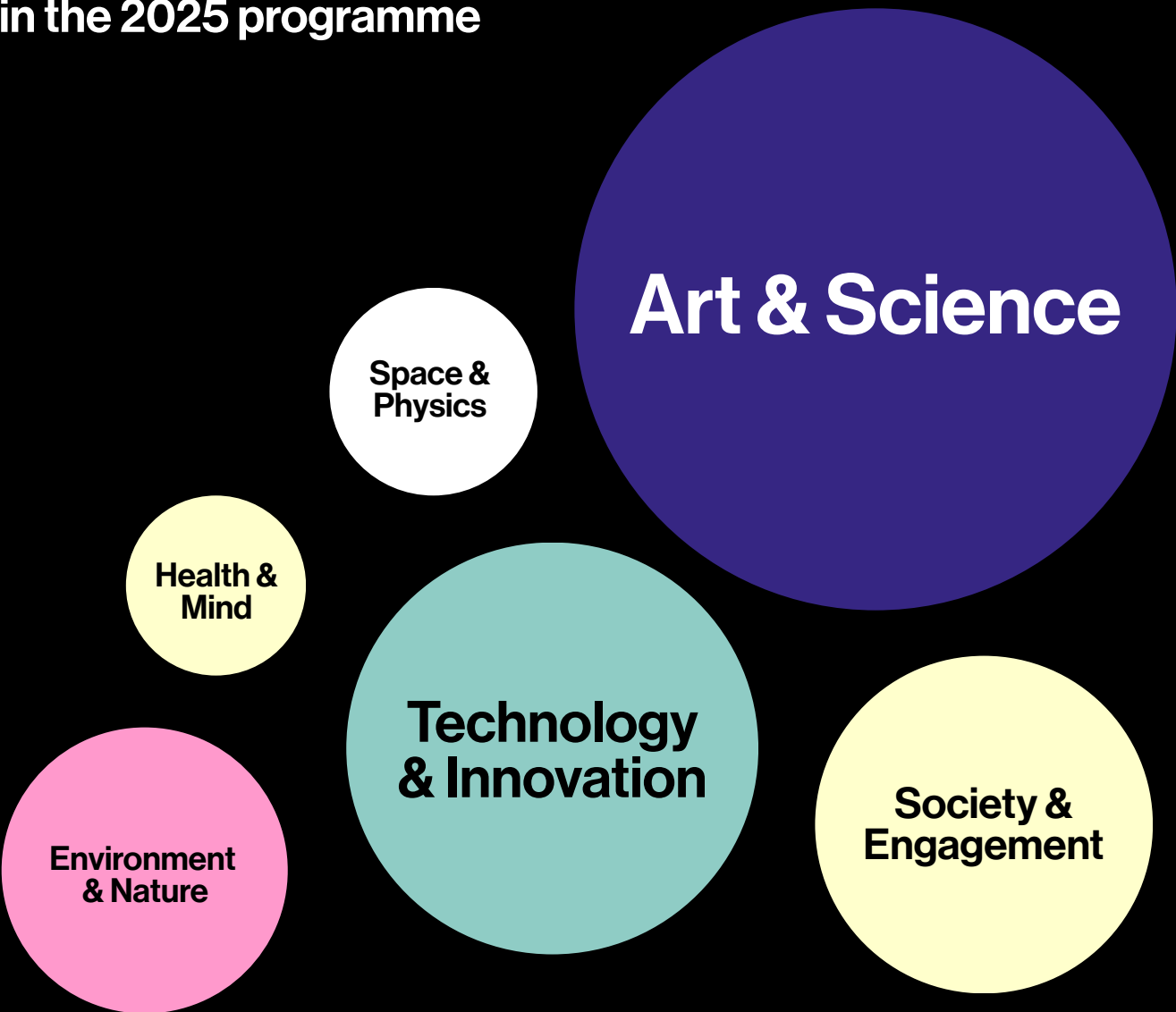
Science Events
over 10 days across the city

530+
Hours
of programming
across all 10 days

**Most Common
Event Topics**
in the 2025 programme

350+

Speakers
representing 43 countries



Partners
Local & International

200+

700+

Visitors
over 10 days at 82 venues

35k



70% more than in 2024

Impressions
2M

on Instagram & LinkedIn in the 6 weeks running up to the festival

Theme 2025

Beyond Now

How do
we shape
what comes next?

As Berlin Science Week marked its 10th anniversary, we chose not to look back at the past decade, but to look ahead. Our 2025 theme, Beyond Now, asked how science can help us move past the urgencies of the present and open new perspectives on the future.

While the world as we knew it has come undone and what lies ahead remains undefined, this year's festival turned to science for guidance and inspiration. From the earliest glimpses of modern science to the revolutionary discoveries of quantum mechanics, science has always challenged us to see the world differently and to imagine what lies beyond. Science thrives in uncertainty and ventures beyond the edges of what we know, not driven by fear, but by curiosity. In this spirit, science invites us to question assumptions, expand possibilities, explore new paths forward, and create space for new ways of thinking, living, and acting.

With Beyond Now, our 10-year anniversary edition reaffirmed our commitment to the transformative power of science as a shared effort to imagine and create better futures. The festival was designed to be a space for collective visioning: not as escapism, but as a form of grounded optimism. Beyond Now was a call to shift focus from what is breaking down to what could be built up. From limitations to potential.

Inspired by our theme, the 2025 Berlin Science Week programme was full of bold ideas, critical perspectives, and innovative formats that examined science and society in a moment of fundamental change. From 1–10 November 2025 we convened to shape what is possible Beyond Now, together.

What Our Partners Have to Say



Ina Czyborra

Berlin Senator for Higher Education and Research, Health and Long-Term Care

"I warmly congratulate Berlin Science Week on its tenth anniversary – a remarkable testament to the city's vibrant culture of science. For a decade, it has created spaces where research and society come into dialogue and knowledge is made accessible in ways that are easy to grasp. Especially today, when scientific facts are increasingly called into question and academic freedom is under pressure in many places, this exchange is of inestimable value."



Matthias Tang

Head of Press and Communication, Research Institute for Sustainability (RIFS) at GFZ Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences

"Berlin Science Week offers a fantastic opportunity to connect science and society. It creates a lively and creative atmosphere for direct encounters between scientists and citizens. We value this opportunity as an important contribution to our transdisciplinary research."



Camilla Geier

Head of Fraunhofer-Network »Science, Art and Design«

"Participating in this year's Science Week was a great opportunity to present our projects to a broad audience. Showcasing scientific work at the intersection of art and design in an accessible and creative context is essential for fostering dialogue between research and society. We greatly value this collaboration, which highlights how interdisciplinary exchange can inspire innovation and strengthen public trust in science."



Annalena Kampermann

Media and Science Communication, Cluster of Excellence "The Politics of Inequality" Universität Konstanz

"Berlin Science Week offers a unique platform to engage in open dialogue with a broad audience. For us, it's an ideal opportunity to share our research on the political causes and consequences of inequality and to discuss it with the public."



02

Festival Highlights

The 10th anniversary edition of Berlin Science Week celebrated the city's scientific excellence through a diverse mix of events, exhibitions, and interactive experiences. This year introduced new formats, including the Inspiration Stage and Decision Theater Ideathon, alongside our debut exhibition, while expanding festival partnerships. The festival showcased cutting-edge research, fostered cross-disciplinary dialogue, and connected the scientific community with an engaged, culturally curious audience.

Opening Night

Celebrating 10 Years of Berlin Science Week

We kicked off this year's anniversary edition of Berlin Science Week on Saturday, 1 November by bringing together our partners, sponsors, and principal donor – the Berlin Senate Department for Higher Education and Research, Health and Long-Term Care – to celebrate a decade of bringing science to the heart of cultural life. Hosted at the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, the evening set the tone for the 2025 festival and introduced the theme Beyond Now through an immersive and unconventional programme.

Ahead of the evening, journalists and media partners were invited on an exclusive press tour to explore the Festival Hub programme, including partners' exhibition stands throughout the museum.



Shortly thereafter, the newly formed Berlin Science Week Advisory Board convened for the first time, marking a crucial strategic development for the festival. This milestone underscored the festival's evolving direction, allowing the Opening Night to serve as a key meeting point for a growing network and community of partners. To open the event, an introductory panel reflected on the strategic growth and direction of Berlin Science Week, featuring:

- Dr. Ina Czyborra, Senator for Higher Education and Research, Health and Long-Term Care
- Prof. Dr. Johannes Vogel, General Director, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin
- Prof. Dr. Jürgen Mlynek, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Falling Walls Foundation, Initiator of Berlin Science Week
- Dr. Andreas Kosmider, Managing Director,, Falling Walls Foundation
- Dr. Christian Rauch, Festival Director, Berlin Science Week

What began as a formal gathering unfolded into a dynamic evening of music, dance, and unexpected performances, opening space for informal encounters and dialogue among partners and guests. Developed in collaboration with the Jazz-Institut Berlin of the Universität der Künste Berlin (UdK) and the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin, guests were guided by a series of questions into rooms symbolising states of transformation: blooming, cocooning, pollination, decomposition, and dissolution. In each space, they were met with improvised performances by students from the participating institutions and were able to experience the essence of Beyond Now through these immersive performances.



30+
Performers

150
Guests and partners



Opening Night
Berlin Science Week:
Beyond Now

BIFOLD

DIE WE

Citywide Programme

Spotlighting Berlin's science scene

The Citywide Programme has been at the core of Berlin Science Week from the very beginning. When the festival was founded in 2016, the aim was to create a platform that would increase the international visibility of Berlin's scientific landscape.

At the time, Berlin Science Week consisted of 30 events by Berlin's research institutions. Ten years later, in 2025, over 120 partners participated with more than 200 events across the city.

The 2025 Citywide Programme brought science directly into Berlin's neighbourhoods by opening the doors of institutions, laboratories, and lecture halls, while also placing science in unexpected cultural spaces such as theatres, bars, and galleries. The programme covered themes including climate futures, artificial intelligence, and governance, and over ten days, partners hosted talks, exhibitions, workshops, tours, and performances across 82 venues.

The Citywide Programme continues to strengthen Berlin's identity as a leading science capital by connecting scientific institutions with the city's cultural scene.



In 2025, partners engaged approximately 16,500 visitors and benefited from our largest citywide campaign to date, including press coverage, features in the Tagesspiegel magazine, and coordinated communications across all Berlin Science Week channels. Looking ahead to 2026, we look forward to welcoming even more partners into the Citywide Programme and to creating additional opportunities for collaboration in bringing science into the city in innovative ways.

395h
of programming
across 10 days

120+
Partners took part in the
citywide programme

82
Venues across the city.



Festival Hubs

Centres of the festival: CAMPUS & FORUM

At the heart of Berlin Science Week 2025 were our two Festival Hubs: CAMPUS and FORUM. From 1–2 November, we transformed the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin into a lively, hands-on space for science and society. With a packed two-day programme, CAMPUS encouraged visitors of all ages to experience science in playful, experimental ways, while offering partners a platform to test interactive approaches for presenting their work.

On 7–9 November, Berlin Science Week activated Holzmarkt 25 as a creative hub for transdisciplinary exchange. Home to the Art & Science Programme, FORUM brought together researchers, artists, and performers to explore the intersections of art, science, and technology. Each day centred on a guiding question, shaping curation for specific communities and marking a significant evolution in our programming practice.

With over 100 partners across both hubs, these spaces offered high visibility and direct access to diverse audiences through tailored, high-impact formats. The 2025 festival also saw developments in our formats: the launch of the Inspiration Stage, our first curated exhibition, and refined participatory elements designed to increase engagement. Our hubs increasingly prioritise creating genuine exchanges between scientists and the public, providing scientific institutions with valuable insights into the societal resonance of their work.

Building on this year's successes, 2026 will focus on optimising formats to maximise partner impact, prioritising depth of engagement and supporting more focused, sustained exchanges between our audiences and collaborators.

8.5k

Visitors at CAMPUS on the first weekend

10k

Visitors at FORUM on the second weekend

26

Exhibition stands & pop-up booths

50

Panels and talks

43

Participatory formats and performances



Inspiration Stage

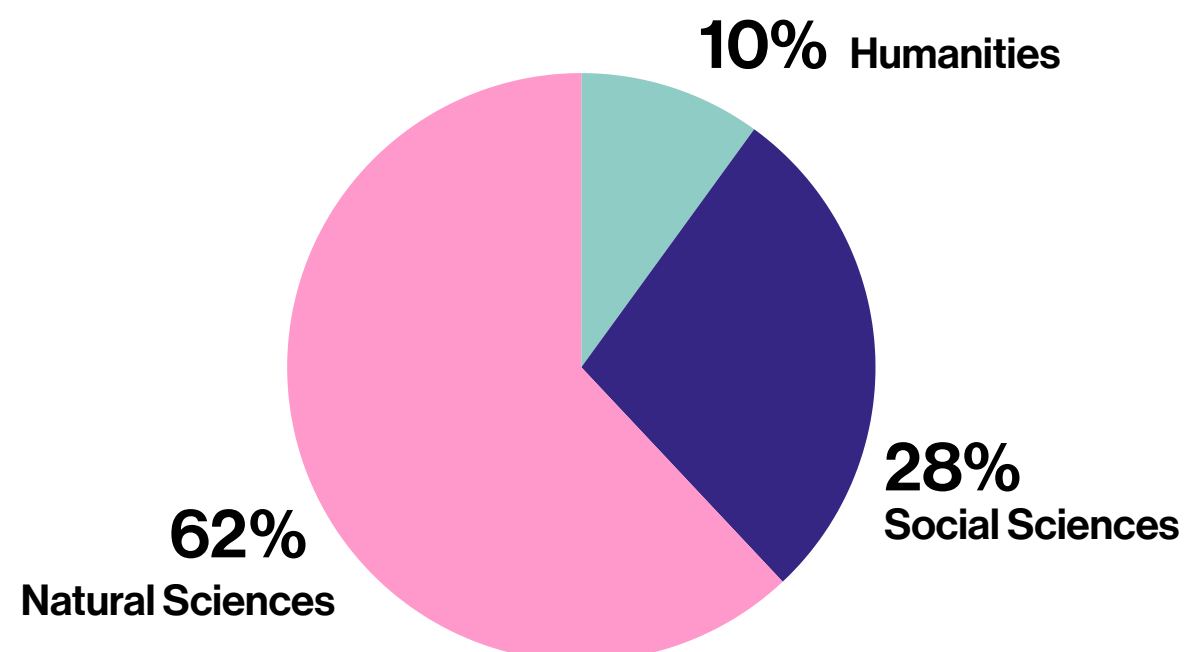
Quick-fire science talks

In 2025, Berlin Science Week launched the Inspiration Stage, a curated programme of short popular science talks covering topics from inequality research and healthy ageing to quantum physics. Designed to give early-career researchers the opportunity to present their work to an engaged general audience, these TED-style talks offered festivalgoers a window into today's cutting-edge research presented by 28 speakers.

Each speaker had 12 minutes to present their work in small thematic sessions curated by the Berlin Science Week team. After each session, speakers connected with guests during "Meet the Scientists," an informal exchange where visitors could ask questions and learn directly from the researchers.

Speakers received tailored coaching in storytelling, structuring content, and stage presence through preparatory practice sessions, helping them communicate complex science to non-specialist audiences. A participation fee covered full stage support, the preparatory workshop, and an invitation to the exclusive Berlin Science Week Opening Night.

While many speakers joined via an application process in 2025, institutional partnerships are also welcome in 2026, offering organisations the opportunity to showcase emerging talent from their institutions on one of our most visited stages.



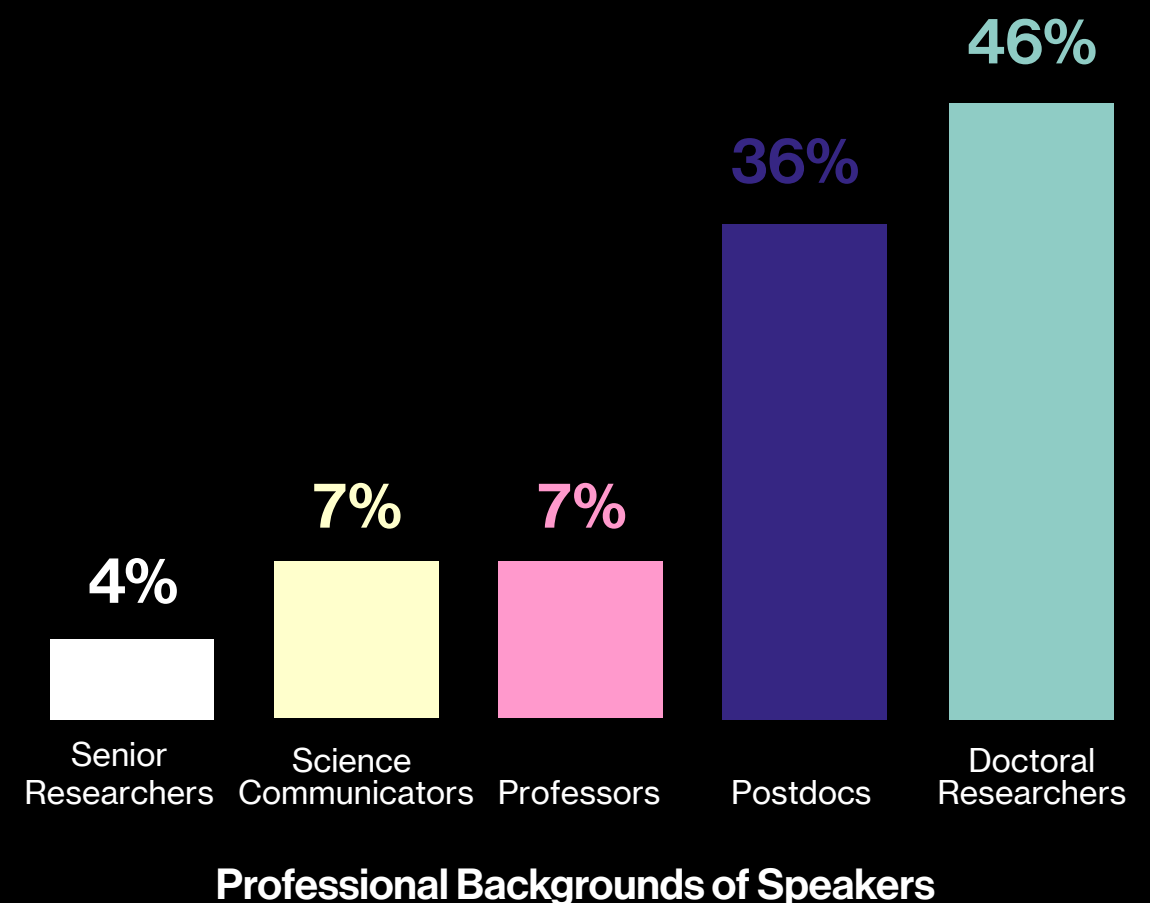
“

This was a rare opportunity to share my scientific passion with the public – not just my results, but also the questions, insights, and concerns that drive my work and make me so passionate about it. Connecting with people in this way reminded me why it's important to bridge the gap between scientists and the general public.

”

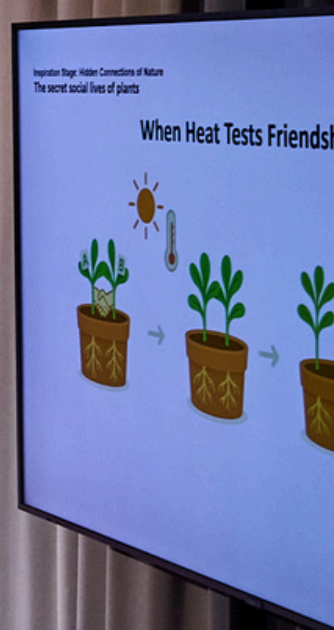
Erika B. Martinez Ruiz

Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries





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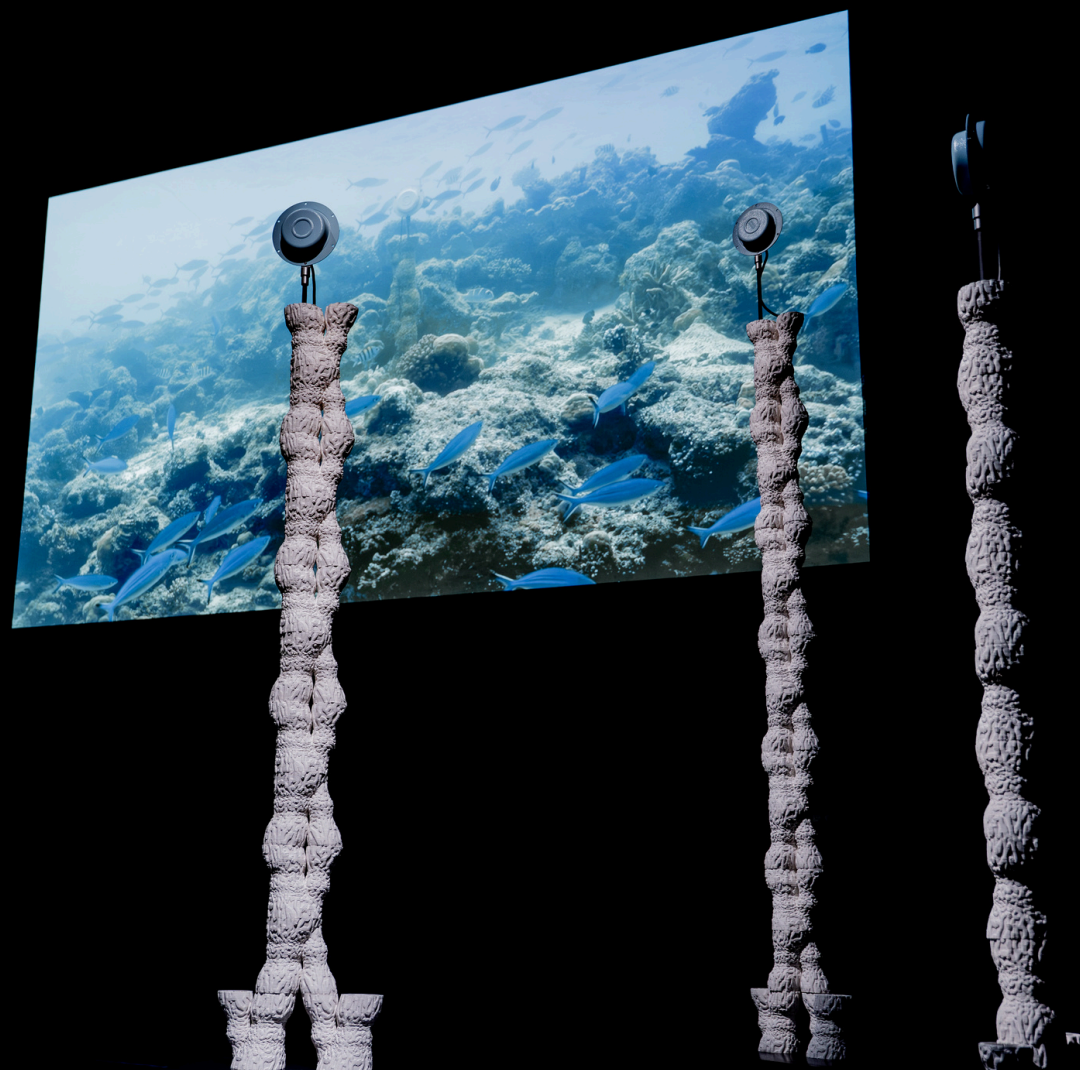


Beyond Us

Debut exhibition featuring Marco Barotti

For its 10th anniversary, Berlin Science Week presented Beyond Us, its debut exhibition showcasing the works of the 2025 Falling Walls Science Breakthrough of the Year in the category Art & Science, Marco Barotti.

Since 2023, Berlin Science Week has been developing its Art & Science Programme, a strategic initiative supporting practitioners at the intersection of the arts and research. This year's programme included 60 events, 82% of which were financially supported by Berlin Science Week. The exhibition not only expanded visibility for the emerging field, but also marked the first time that the prestigious Falling Walls award was presented as a physical exhibition open to the Berlin public. The selected works were transformed into objects of shared public inquiry, allowing the scientific breakthrough to be experienced by a broad audience.



Beyond Us brought together a selection of Barotti's works that examine the precarious situation of coral reefs and the urgent need to establish a harmonious relationship with the underwater world, including his award-winning project, Coral Sonic Resilience. Barotti's works draw on artistic practices informed by scientific research as a method for ecological regeneration, exploring the unique intersection of art and science through sound.

The exhibition offered a tangible and accessible way to experience science through art, making scientific research visible, personal, and engaging while reflecting this year's theme, Beyond Now. Visitors could also hear directly from Barotti, who gave a talk on the FORUM main stage, providing further insight into his work and process.

4

Days open to the public
free of charge

2k+

Visitors attended the
exhibition



Marco Barotti

**2025 Falling Walls Science Breakthrough
of the Year in the category Art & Science**

Marco Barotti (IT) is an internationally renowned media artist working at the intersection of art, science, and technology. He creates data-driven kinetic sound sculptures and fictional post-futurist ecosystems where technology mimics the rhythms and forms of nature. His installations explore the evolving relationship between humans, machines, and the environment, transforming scientific ideas into poetic, multisensory experiences. These works highlight the Anthropocene's cultural and ecological realities, raising awareness of humanity's impact on the planet.

Berlin University Alliance

Tackling the Grand Challenges, together

For many years, the individual institutions of the Berlin University Alliance (BUA) – Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin – have participated in Berlin Science Week. In 2025, we formalised our collaboration with BUA, joining forces with Berlin's leading university alliance to jointly spotlight the city's scientific research excellence.

Our shared ambition was to strengthen public visibility for the role of Berlin's research institutions in shaping transdisciplinary approaches to the most pressing challenges of our time. Aligned with the 2025 festival theme Beyond Now, the partnership highlighted BUA's Grand Challenges initiative, an integrated research agenda that identifies five interconnected global challenges, with each challenge informing and impacting the others.

With over 50 events in the festival programme, one in seven events during Berlin Science Week 2025 highlighted one of the Grand Challenges: Social Cohesion, Global Health, Climate and Water Under Change, Quantum Technologies, and Responsible Innovation in Times of Transformation.

52

Events by the alliance institutions

61k

Views on partnered content

Highlights

- 35 Citywide Programme events
- 5 Inspiration Stage talks
- 2 Workshops in our Festival Hubs
- 1 Flagship panel at FORUM
- 9 other events in the Festival Hubs
- 5 interviews shared across Berlin Science Week channels
- 1.6k posters with integration of the Berlin University Alliance's Grand Challenges initiative

Through this integrated presence, the partnership showcased the breadth and depth of Berlin's research landscape and reinforced the city's reputation as a centre for world-class science and innovation.



“

Berlin Science Week celebrates the wonder that drives research – where diverse minds, voices, and worlds meet to create what none of us could imagine alone. It invites us to share curiosity, spark dialogue, build trust, and envision how we might together meet our society's Grand Challenges.

”

Suncica Klaas

Berlin University Alliance



Explore the Grand Challenges

Find out more about Berlin University Alliance, the Grand Challenges initiative, and our partnership at Berlin Science Week 2025.



Decision Theater Ideathon

The future of decision making

Following a successful 2024 partnership, we continued our collaboration with the Arizona State University (ASU) Decision Theater and its Germany-based partner, the Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology. The Decision Theater is an immersive environment that helps users explore complex systems and understand how decisions shape possible futures by integrating scientific modelling, data visualisation, local insights, and practical experience. At its core is the belief that informed decisions require more than expert knowledge alone.

This year's partnership focussed on inspiring further developments of the Decision Theater methodology through a participatory process and supporting its establishment in Germany through local insights and expertise.

Culminating with the Decision Theater Ideathon on 6–7 November during Berlin Science Week, the festival offered an ideal platform to engage local experts, showcase the methodology, identify collaborators, and let participants experiment with the tool and co-create ideas for its future applications.

Selected through an open call and joint jury process, 50 participants representing science, technology, the arts, public administration, and civil society formed 10 interdisciplinary teams. Across two days, the teams engaged in structured ideation sessions, developed concepts, received expert and peer feedback, and translated their ideas into storyboards and one-page summaries. The results were presented publicly on 7 November in a gallery-style showcase.

The Ideathon marked an important milestone in our partnership with Arizona State University and the Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology. It provided visibility for their cutting-edge work, generated a concrete portfolio of development directions, and connected the partners with a new network of potential collaborators. For Berlin Science Week, the co-creative format represented a valuable innovation, laying the groundwork for future participatory formats and informing collaborations planned for 2026.



80+

Applications to participate in the Ideathon

50

Participants joined interdisciplinary working groups

10

Concepts developed for future application

SAVE THE DATE
7-9 NOV 2026



774

Speakers

600+

Participating
institutions

88

Countries
represented onsite



Discover science that breaks walls

Find out more about the Falling Walls Science Summit, the Science Breakthroughs of 2025, and our host institution Falling Walls Foundation.

Falling Walls Science Summit

Where the world's brightest minds meet

The Falling Walls Science Summit is the international, interdisciplinary, and intersectoral forum for global science leaders. On the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, from 6-9 November 2025, over 2,000 international scientists, policymakers and industry leaders gathered in Berlin to tackle the greatest challenges of our time. Responding to the question, "What are the next walls to fall in science and society?" the Summit is a hub for transformative research, debate and cross-disciplinary networking.

2025 Highlights

- Breakthrough talks and insights by Nobel laureates Katalin Karikó (2023 Nobel Prize in Medicine) and Brian Schmidt (2011 Nobel Prize in Physics)
- Keynotes by Dorothee Bär (Germany's Federal Minister for Research, Technology and Space) and Friedrich Merz (German Chancellor)
- Orbital reflections from ESA astronaut Matthias Maurer
- 9 Science Breakthroughs of the Year showcased next-generation discoveries – from photonic AI and live-imaging ovulation to coral sonic resilience and real-time quantum space communication

The 2025 Falling Walls Science Summit brought together vision, expertise and ambition, breaking down barriers between disciplines and transforming research into tangible impact while marking a new era of international scientific exchange. Thought leaders from over 600 institutions from 88 countries engaged in plenary, round and executive table talks on science diplomacy, quantum technologies and the global energy transition. Larger in-Summit conferences (Stifterverband's Gipfel für Forschung und Innovation and BCG's Climate and Sustainability Summit) applied a business and policy lens. 774 leaders from academia, research, industry and politics spoke in 134 individual sessions about solutions for the grand challenges of our time.

03

Engagement

Berlin Science Week thrives on meaningful engagement, connecting partners, our community, media, and the public to create a citywide celebration of science. In 2025, we strengthened engagement through our communications and marketing, participatory event design, and growing our community of partners and volunteers. From press outreach to community involvement, these efforts amplified the festival's reach, fostered dialogue, and enabled partners and participants alike to experience what science can do for society.

2025 Campaign

Strengthening our strategic communications

Our annual public campaign is central to delivering visibility for Berlin Science Week and our partners. It raises awareness of the festival, highlights the breadth of the programme, and drives attendance.

In 2025, we strengthened our communications strategy with a clearer visual identity, unified content, and a more coordinated channel approach. Alongside the programme launch in late September, we rolled out a citywide out-of-home campaign developed in collaboration with the Berlin University Alliance, extending across digital channels and public spaces throughout the city. This resulted in our strongest reach to date, engaging a record number of Berliners and reinforcing the city's identity as a hub for science and innovation.

25%
Increase in Instagram
followers in less than 2
months

2M
Impressions across on
Instagram & LinkedIn since
the programme launch

2x
More A1 posters
distributed in the
city than 2024



Our Audience

While our communications serve a broad stakeholder landscape, our public-facing efforts target a culturally attentive, globally minded adult audience seeking accessible and intellectually engaging experiences.

- Who: Our audience consists of Berliners and international residents who actively participate in the city's cultural life. Typically young professionals, creatives, researchers, and students, they are drawn to ideas at the intersection of science, society, culture, and future-oriented thinking.
- What motivates them: These audiences seek more than passive entertainment; they look for emotionally compelling formats, critical conversations, and opportunities to engage directly with experts while contributing their own perspectives.

Our strategy therefore blends the visual language of Berlin's cultural scene with the scientific expertise of our partner institutions, ensuring that Berlin Science Week provides partners with opportunities to reach new and engaged audiences.

+50%
of our audience
members are women *

25-45
is the average age of
our festival visitors *

*Insights based on data from social media channels and event registrations.

Marketing Efforts

Out-of-Home Campaign

Through our campaign partnership with the Berlin University Alliance, we significantly expanded our marketing reach during this year's out-of-home campaign, doubling the number of posters compared to 2024. In total, over 1,600 posters were displayed across more than 400 high-traffic locations throughout Berlin, including major train stations, university areas, and cultural hotspots. Posters were distributed in key neighbourhoods such as Mitte, Prenzlauer Berg, Friedrichshain, Kreuzberg, Neukölln, Schöneberg, and Charlottenburg. Placements remained active for five weeks leading up to the festival, with rotating locations ensuring sustained and widespread public exposure.



1.6k

Posters distributed at 400+
high traffic locations

146k

Average Instagram followers of
media partners

45

Unique ad placements across print,
web, social media, radio, & cinema

108k

Printed Tagesspiegel magazines



Media Partnerships

In line with our communications strategy, we established 14 media partnerships in 2025, a 42% increase compared to 2024, covering newspapers, magazines, radio, social media, web, and cinema. Classic media ensured citywide coverage, while social media partnerships focused on cultural events engaged audiences already interested in Berlin's cultural calendar. This diverse media mix – including radio ads, interviews, web placements, social media content, printed ads, advertorials, newsletters, apps, and cinema spots – enabled us to reach audiences wherever they are. A highlight was our continued partnership with Tagesspiegel, which published a dedicated Berlin Science Week magazine on the theme Beyond Now, featuring articles and programme highlights. The magazine was distributed 100,000 times alongside Tagesspiegel in mid-October, plus 8,500 copies placed in over 100 locations, providing extra visibility for the festival and partners.

42%

increase in
cooperations from
2024

Thank you

Berlin Partner
CeeCee
Der Freitag
Die Zeit Verlagsgruppe
FAZ
FluxFM
MitVernügen
Radio Eins
Rausgegangen
Tagesspiegel
That's My Berlin
The Berliner
tipBerlin
Yorck Kino

In the Press

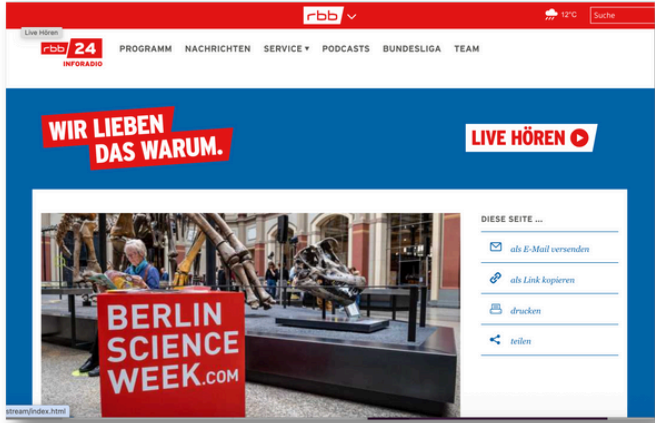
Frankfurter Allgemeine



Golem



RBB



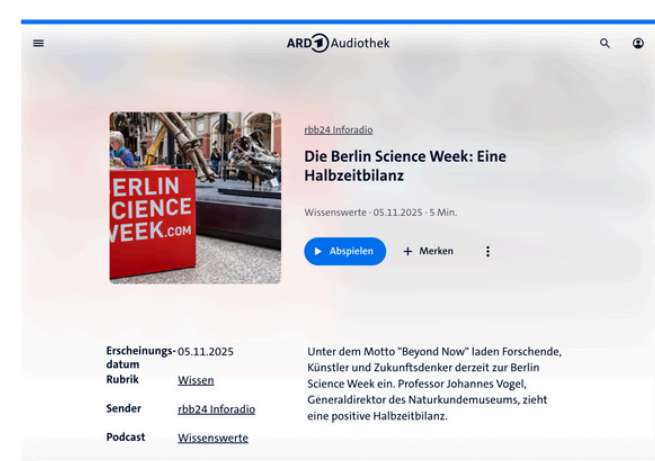
Die Zeit



Tagesspiegel



ARD



In 2025, we refined our approach to engaging with the press. Rather than holding a conventional press conference, we organised a press tour for accredited journalists, designed as a more engaging format that encouraged direct interaction between partners and members of the media. Approximately 20 journalists participated in the tour and were welcomed by the Berlin Science Week team alongside Falling Walls Foundation leadership, where they were introduced to the festival's structure, highlights, and the year's programme. The tour then guided journalists through the Festival Hub, enabling direct conversations with participating organisations.

In combination with partner-led press activities and ongoing media outreach throughout the week, this approach contributed to broad coverage. Media reporting ranged from articles covering the breadth of the Berlin Science Week

programme to in-depth interviews with researchers and features on selected projects, including the Fraunhofer-Netzwerk »Wissenschaft, Kunst und Design« project Soft Interfaces and Marco Barotti's Coral Sonic Resilience. Overall, press coverage related to Berlin Science Week 2025 and partners' research achieved an estimated reach of over 40 million.

110+
Press mentions

40M+
Accumulated press reach

Tagesschau



Radio Eins





Futures Canvas

Enhancing participation

After piloting Futures Canvas in 2024, we expanded and refined use of the platform in 2025 to deepen participant engagement and strengthen our approach to futures thinking at Berlin Science Week. Building on last year's hybrid format, we transitioned to a fully digital experience and created a dedicated physical installation at the Festival Hub FORUM in collaboration with our partners Archimedes Exhibitions.

Our aim was to invite festivalgoers to collectively imagine possible futures and to understand how Berlin Science Week influences the way they think about science, society, and the future. Participants were asked to share a new thought about the future that emerged for them at the festival, rate contributions from others, and watch as the aggregated responses formed a shared vision of the future. For Berlin Science Week, use of the platform served as a qualitative method to gain insights into the value and resonance of the festival programme from the audience perspective. Engagement increased significantly compared to 2024, reflecting both the improved design of the platform and its stronger integration into the festival experience.



Explore the results!

Uncover four possible futures, formed from participants' ideas and brought to life by artificial intelligence.



280+

Entries submitted by
festival participants

1.8k

Ratings by users on
other users' responses

70%

Increase in ratings
from 2024

Thank You

- Alexandra Abelkis

Ashish Avasthi

Andrei Belibou

Ginevra Bellini

Charlotte Brinkmann

Matthew Brooks

Julie Courtiol

Kalpana Das

Evelin Espenberg

Leon Gutasukas

Anna Helmes

Charlotte Herrmann

Leonhard Hucho

Magdalena Klein
- Stephan van Kuyk

Ollie Kuznetsova

Anna Meshcheryakova

Annie Musgrove

Adam Pannwitz

Helen Monica Regina

Raquel Reyes Galindo

Maria Riscado Ramos

Steve Rogenstein

Tau Samper

Emma Sokoll

Mélisandre Téfit

Anita Waltho

Sadie Weis



540h

Of on-site support

349

Applications from
diverse fields

50%

Of our volunteers are
returning from previous
years.

Volunteers

Our community in action

We're proud to spotlight our incredible volunteers, whose commitment reflects the strength and spirit of our community. Their dedication is essential to Berlin Science Week, ensuring that each festival edition offers a welcoming, accessible, and engaging atmosphere for all visitors.

In 2025, after a highly competitive application process, 28 volunteers from 13 European countries supported over 129 events in our Festival Hubs, bringing diverse perspectives and skills from a wide range of backgrounds. Their work shaped visitors' experiences at every stage, from guiding audiences and supporting partners to helping with the event set-up and wrap-up.

Beyond their practical support, volunteers embody what drives this festival: a passion for science, enthusiasm for public engagement, and a commitment to fostering exchange. This 10th anniversary edition would not have been possible without their energy and professionalism. We extend our heartfelt thanks to every volunteer who contributed to making 2025 a true citywide celebration.



Thank You to our Festival Partners & Sponsors

We'd like to extend a warm thank you to all our festival partners and sponsors for their collaboration, creativity, and support in shaping Berlin Science Week 2025. As a nonprofit initiative, we are deeply grateful to the institutions that share and support our mission, enabling us to grow as we welcome thousands of people to explore bold ideas and celebrate science in all its forms. We'd like to extend a special thank you to our principal donor, the Berlin Senate Department for Higher Education and Research, Health and Long-term Care, which has made Berlin Science Week possible for the past 10 years. Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to ensuring that science is for everyone.

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Festival Partners 2025:



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BRAIN CITY

BERLIN



With special thanks to:

TAGESSPIEGEL

Thank You to our Programme Partners

To our programme partners: without you Berlin Science Week 2025 would not have achieved the richness and diversity that makes this festival thrive. Thank you.

A Hidden Variable
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ALMA Futura
Angela Aux
Angelina Tittmann
Anita Waltho
Anjam Chaudhary (Michigan State University)
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Axel Springer Freedom Foundation & World Liberty Congress
Berlin Art Club
Berlin Clusters of Excellence
Berlin Institute of Health / German Stem Cell Network
Berlin Partner für Wirtschaft und Technologie GmbH
Berlin Quantum (Department of Physics, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Berlin University Alliance
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Bernhard A. Sabel
Big Data Management and Machine Learning (BIFOLD)
Bildung für Nachhaltige Ernährung und Lebensmittelwissenschaft (Technische Universität Berlin)
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Centre for Cultural Techniques (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
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Cluster of Excellence "Science of Intelligence"
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Dahlem Humanities Center & Dahlem Center for Linguistics
Daniela Felletti - Global D.E.I. Practitioner
Daylight Academy
DESY in Zeuthen
Deutsche Allianz Meeresforschung
Deutsches Archäologisches Institut
Die Zeit Verlagsgruppe
Digital Health (Hasso Plattner Institute)
Dimitra Mazaraki

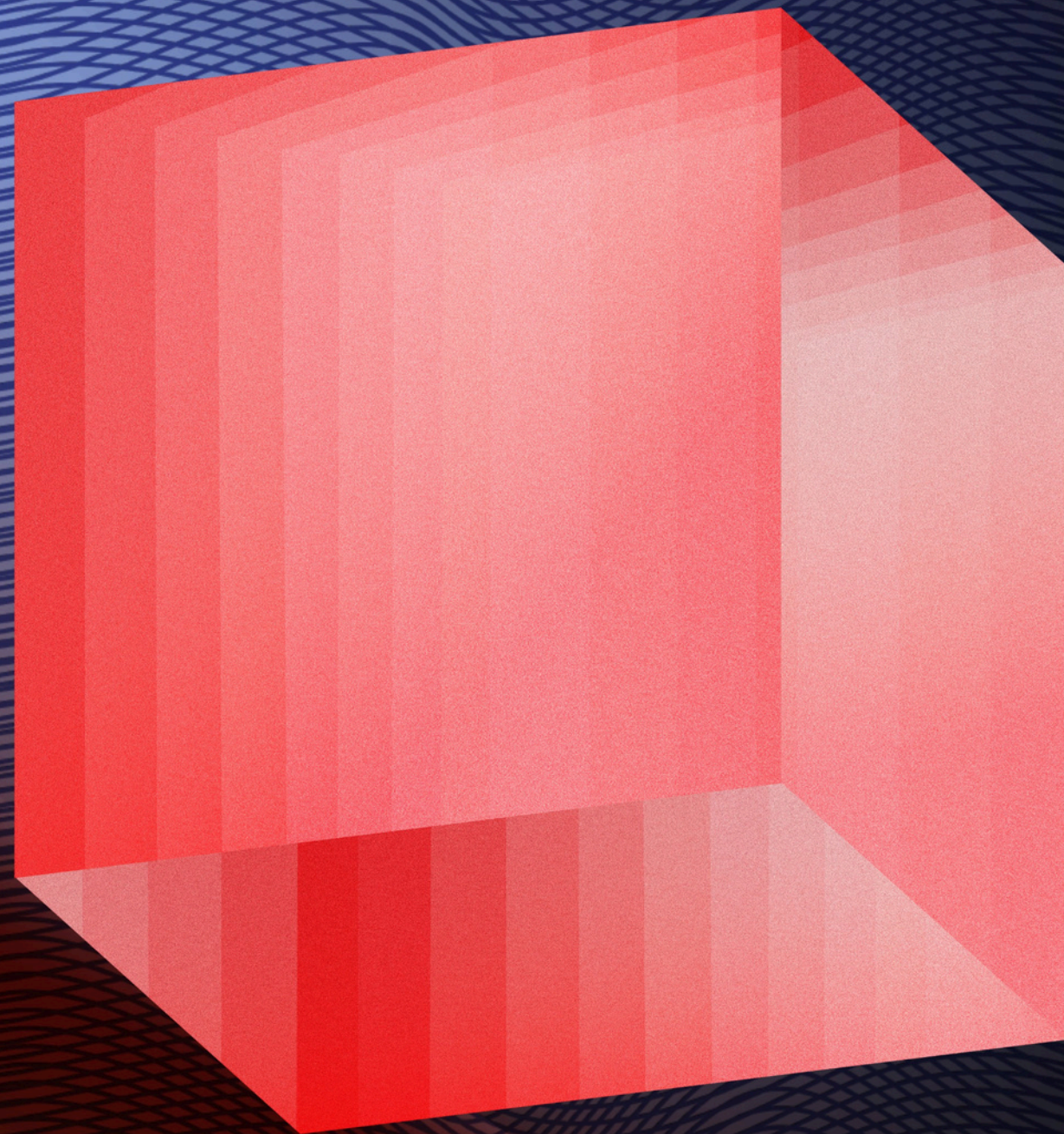
Dimitra-Maria Kandia
Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development
ECDF Gender & Diversity Network
EDGE - Blurring the Borders between Art and Neuroscience e.V.
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Einstein Foundation Award for Promoting Quality in Research
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German Stem Cell Network
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Global Citizens' Assembly Network (GloCAN)
Haus der Kulturen der Welt
Hdp Haus des Papiers - Museum für Bildende Papierkunst
HENKELHIEDL
Holtzbrinck Berlin
Humboldt Residency Programme (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Hybrid Plattform
IGAFA - Initiativgemeinschaft Außeruniversitärer Forschungseinrichtungen in Adlershof e. V.
Institut für Physik, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Instituto Cervantes Berlin
Interactive Media Foundation gGmbH
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Iz Paehr
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SFB 1475 „Metaphern der Religion“
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Single Cell Focus Area, Berlin Institute of Health at Charité
Soapbox Science Berlin
Society of Spanish Researchers in Germany
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Staatliche Akademie der Künste Tbilisi - Georgien
Stabstelle Science and Society, TU Berlin
Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz
Sternfreunde Berlin
Stiftung Planetarium Berlin
Studio Marco Barotti
TA T - Tieranatomisches Theater (Zentrum für Kulturtechnik, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Tangible Media Group (Media Lab, MIT)
TD-Lab der Berlin University Alliance
Technische Hochschule Augsburg
Technische Universität Berlin
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THE ART+SCIENCE SALON
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WISTA Management
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Young Environmental Research and Advocacy Hub Europe - YERA Hub
ZEIT STIFTUNG BUCERIUS
Zia - Visible Women in Science and Humanities (Die Zeit Verlagsgruppe)
Zoë Rush

04

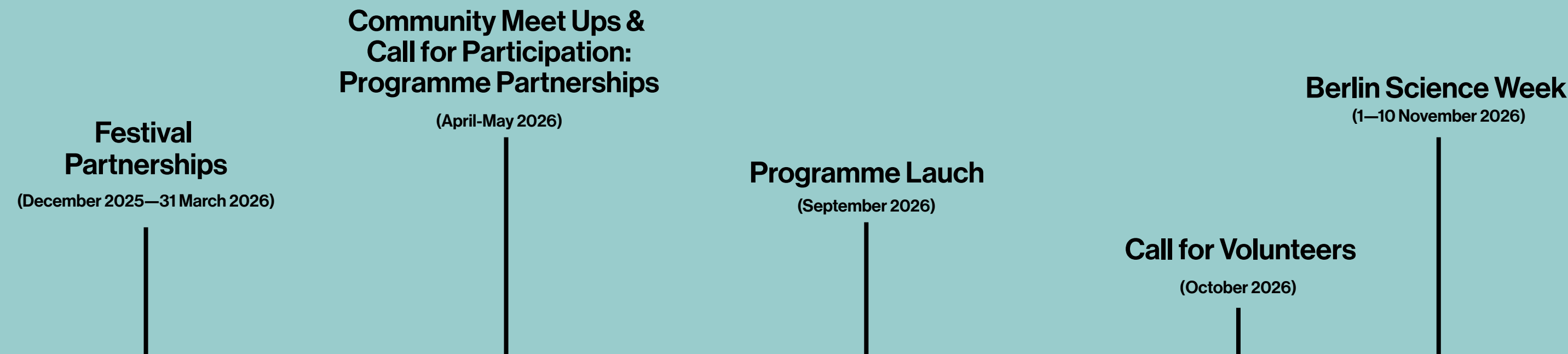
Outlook



As we look ahead to the next festival season, we're excited to continue building partnerships and developing new collaborations for Berlin Science Week 2026. While our 2025 theme explored what science can do for society, next year's theme will focus on how science impacts each of us personally. We invite partners to join us in delivering a high-quality festival that places their work at the forefront of public engagement and visibility.

Berlin Science Week 2026

Next year’s festival will build on a decade of connecting science, culture, and society. Across the year, we invite partners, institutions, artists, and volunteers to join us in shaping a high-impact festival. From early collaboration opportunities to volunteer recruitment and the festival itself, the timeline reflects our commitment to placing our partners’ work at the centre, engaging audiences across Berlin, and celebrating science in every corner of the city.



Early engagement allows partners to help shape the festival messaging and programming. Customised partnership models and sponsorships showcase organisations and put their work at the forefront of the festival experience.

Partners interested in contributing to the 2026 programme are invited to connect at our community meetups. Institutions can submit event proposals for the Festival Hubs or Citywide Programme. Individual practitioners working across science, art, and other disciplines may apply for support to present work and broaden public access to interdisciplinary practice.

The full festival programme goes live online, marking the start of the 2026 citywide campaign. Audiences and partners can explore events, plan participation, and prepare for a shared festival experience.

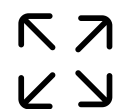
Recruitment begins for a dedicated volunteer team to support logistics, guest management, and onsite operations, ensuring the festival runs smoothly while providing volunteers hands-on experience in science communication and event delivery.

Partnership Opportunities

Berlin Science Week is made possible by an extensive and dedicated network of partners who bring expertise, creativity, and the latest scientific perspectives to the festival each year. More than 200 institutions take part annually, helping us build a programme that celebrates the diversity and spirit of scientific discovery.

Berlin Science Week offers science-driven organisations and individuals a unique opportunity to connect with a curious, general audience by showcasing cutting-edge research through innovative event formats. With a diverse programme in our Festival Hubs, alongside hundreds of events across Berlin in the Citywide Programme, we welcome bold formats, new voices, and collaborative thinking across disciplines.

Become a Partner



Expand your Reach

Increase visibility and engage with new audiences.



Connect with the Public

Showcase your research, spark dialogue, and gather insights from the public.



Try New Formats

Test innovative formats with an engaged audience.



Build Cross-Disciplinary Connections

Strengthen your network and foster inter- & transdisciplinary collaborations.



Sponsorships

Sponsoring Berlin Science Week is more than a gesture of support; it's a chance to stand out and align your brand with scientific excellence and public impact. As a sponsor, you'll gain extra visibility among thousands of visitors, showcase your commitment to science and innovation, and become part of the international network of the Falling Walls Foundation, which connects leading scientific institutions and policymakers worldwide.

Our sponsorship packages are tailored to meet your needs, offering visibility across festival channels, unique engagement with a science-curious public, and opportunities to position your brand as a leader in innovation and societal impact.

Learn more: info@berlinscienceweek.com

Let's Join Forces!

We welcome partnership and sponsorship ideas and are happy to explore formats tailored to your organisation. Early contact ensures your input helps shape the festival, maximising visibility and impact while connecting your work with audiences across Berlin Science Week.



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