TAG DER CLUBKULTUR 2025

OPEN CALL

CULTURE AWARD

Open Call Culture Award TAG DER CLUBKULTUR 2025 Applications are open from 23rd July to 20th August 2025 for Berlin clubs and collectives.

The online application and conditions of participation are available at <u>www.tagderclubkultur.berlin/en/</u>

For the sixth time, the TAG DER CLUBKULTUR is honouring the diversity and special significance of Berlin's club scene for the city with a cultural award. Berlin clubs and collectives are honoured for their outstanding cultural work and their previous commitment to the capital's club culture in five different categories with award money of between 5,000 and 20,000 euros.

All actors who apply for the award are also invited to take part in events during the city-wide festival week as part of the TAG DER CLUBKULTUR, which will take place this year from 3rd to 12th October 2025 under the theme *Bridging Realities – 35 Years of Movement*.

The TAG DER CLUBKULTUR has been organised by Clubcommission Berlin e.V. since 2020 and is funded and supported by the Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion and Musicboard Berlin.

What will be honoured?

Then as now, Berlin's club culture provides significant cultural, artistic and social impetus and is the creative and resistant glue of this city. It breaks with both social and aesthetic norms, overcomes boundaries and builds bridges with its ideas, approaches and values that reach all over the world.

TAG DER CLUBKULTUR makes this cultural relevance visible and honours outstanding actors from all genres and disciplines in Berlin's diverse club scene. The culture award recognises clubs and collectives that have a lasting impact on the cultural life of the city – with attitude, vision and artistic excellence.

This year, the award is once again based on an open call for entries, to which Berlin's clubs and collectives can apply independently. This means that both venues and independent organisations without a fixed location are considered - two central pillars of Berlin's club culture.

All award-winning clubs and collectives will be honoured at the award ceremony on 1st October 2025, which this year will be hosted by Musicboard Berlin in a smaller ceremony.

Prize Money & Categories

In its sixth edition, the TAG DER CLUBKULTUR is undergoing some innovations: In 2025, a total of 31 awards will be presented to outstanding clubs and collectives in five different categories:

- Programme design & curation
- Commitment to community & social cohesion
- Aesthetics & interior design
- Newcomers
- Commitment to diversity & sustainability

The awards for clubs are endowed with 20,000 euros each, for collectives with 10,000 euros each and for newcomers with between 5,000 (Collectives) and 10,000 euros (Clubs).

Juries for Clubs & Collective

This year, two five-member independent juries will decide for clubs and collectives.

Both bring together excellent expertise and perspectives from different spheres of Berlin's club culture: From artists, DJs and bookers to door policy and club management to activism, journalism and community work. Pioneers meet new generations, local familiar faces of the scene meet internationally networked perspectives. Different genres, social positions and professional backgrounds come together with a common attitude: to make club culture visible as a multi-layered, progressive and significant cultural practice.

This year, Michael Müller, Perera Elsewhere, Anja Schneider, Tabea Burk and Christoph Reimann will decide on the selection of the award-winning clubs. The collectives will be selected by: Cristina Plett, Dimitri Hegemann, Wanda Gaimes, Asia James and Carmen Herold. Information on all jurors can be found <u>here</u>.

How can you apply?

The award is open to all active Berlin clubs and collectives that make a visible contribution to the city's club scene with their artistic and cultural practice, regardless of whether they are already established or new to the scene.

The juries evaluate the applications on the basis of the artistic and content-related quality of the clubs' and collectives' work, as well as their significance for Berlin's club culture and the focus of the various award categories. A clearly recognisable vision of how the applicants make their individual contribution to the sustainable development of Berlin's club culture also plays a role.

The application is valid for all award categories. If there is a category in which your club or collective particularly stands out, then you can mention this and emphasise the relevant content. In the end, the expert jury will decide who will be honoured in which category. All clubs and collectives can only be honoured in one award category.

The application includes a brief introduction, a reflection on previous cultural work, an overview of previous activities and an event concept based on the theme of this year's TAG DER CLUBKULTUR festival week. The event concept serves as a creative work sample and can ideally become part of the festival week from 3rd to 12th October 2025.

Participation in the festival week is not obligatory for award winners and must be organised independently of the award money, but is expressly desired. It is possible to automatically register for participation in the festival week when applying for the award.

Festival week – Bridging Realities – 35 Years of Movement

From 3rd to 12th October 2025, the annual festival week will take place as part of the TAG DER CLUBKULTUR and invites all Berlin clubs and collectives to participate with events and interpret this year's festival theme individually and in the formats of their choice.

On October 3, 2025, we commemorate the 35th anniversary of German reunification – a historic moment that shifted not only political borders but also opened new cultural spaces. Berlin's contemporary club culture emerged from this moment of upheaval: in improvised clubs, squatted buildings and temporary spaces, new forms of community, expression and togetherness were born. Dance floors became places of encounter where difference was embraced, walls were broken down and bridges between realities were built.

With this year's theme *Bridging Realities – 35 Years of Movement*, the festival week asks: How does this spirit live on today? How can club culture remain a space for exchange, resistance and collective imagination in times of crisis, division and gentrification? What spaces for collective action - also from international and migrant perspectives - can be opened today for remembering and rethinking together?

We invite all actors of Berlin's club culture to explore these questions - through formats that connect past, present and future: as collective memory, as a social laboratory, as a vision for movements yet to come. From October 3 to 12, 2025, Berlin will become a resonance chamber for artistic, activist and curatorial contributions that understand club culture as a bridge between experiences, scenes, subcultures, generations and realities.

DATES 2025

23 July	Start of the application phase
29 July, 18:00	1st info call for applicants
12 August, 18:00	2nd info call for applicants
20 August	End of the application phase
01 October	Award ceremony
03 October	Opening TAG DER CLUBKULTUR Festival week
03 – 12 October	TAG DER CLUBKULTUR Festival Week

Star No. 10

Further information, conditions of participation and the application form are available on the website: <u>https://tagderclubkultur.berlin/en/</u>

Contact: <u>info@tagderclubkultur.berlin</u> Instagram: <u>@tagderclubkultur</u>

