



TAG DER CLUBKULTUR

2026

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION
CULTURE AWARD

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1. Cultural Award of Berlin Club Culture

TAG DER CLUBKULTUR 2026 recognises clubs, collectives, and organisers who actively shape Berlin's club culture.

The focus is on those whose cultural work contributes to a vibrant, diverse, and future-oriented scene. The awards carry prize money ranging from 5,000 to 20,000 €.

TAG DER CLUBKULTUR is organized by Clubcommission Berlin e.V. and funded by the State of Berlin (Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion). It is realised in cooperation with Musicboard Berlin.

2. Target Group

This call is aimed at operators and organisers of clubs, as well as collectives without a fixed physical location in Berlin.

It is open to those working across a wide range of musical genres and cultural, creative, and artistic disciplines within Berlin's club culture – from electronic music to rock, hip-hop, jazz, and experimental formats.

A requirement is their own publicly accessible programme that gives artists and other members of the scene the opportunity to present their work and develop new projects.

The call is open to both established and emerging individuals and collectives who actively shape Berlin's club culture.

3. Objectives of the Cultural Award

TAG DER CLUBKULTUR recognises outstanding commitment to an interdisciplinary, independent, and socially sustainable club culture.

The focus is on artistic quality, as well as socially relevant and future-oriented approaches that contribute to the ongoing development of Berlin's club culture.

The awards are intended as recognition of previous cultural work and its contribution to Berlin's club culture. Their aim is to make this work visible and strengthen it.

Three categories reflect different aspects of work within club culture.

4. Eligibility Requirements & Assessment Criteria

4.1 Formal Eligibility Requirements

Only applications that meet the following requirements are eligible:

- **Primary place of work and activity in Berlin**
- **Collectives:** The majority of members live and work in Berlin.
- **Clubs / venues:** Registered business address in Berlin.
- **Evidence of continuous cultural activity in Berlin for at least one year, as well as a clear prospect of continuing and building on this work.** This includes an overview of events or activities from the past 12 months.
- **Transparent information about the organisational structure (e.g. statutes, commercial register extract, self-declaration, or similar documentation).**
- **Willingness to support public communication as part of the TAG DER CLUBKULTUR campaign and through the applicant's own channels.**

4.2 Artistic and Content Assessment Criteria

In addition to the formal requirements (see 4.1), the artistic and content quality of the application, as well as the way the applicant's cultural work is presented, are key factors in the selection process.

For 2026, three thematic categories have been defined, each highlighting a different aspect of Berlin's club culture. Awards will be given for outstanding cultural work in the following categories:

- **Space & Aesthetics**
- **Programme**
- **Community**

As part of the application, applicants must choose one of these categories and present their work in relation to that focus.

The jury will assess each application as a whole, taking into account the chosen category as well as the shared core values of the award. The main basis for selection is the quality and impact of the cultural work presented in the application materials.

The assessment is guided by the central values and core themes of TAG DER CLUBKULTUR: **diversity, sustainability, social engagement, and innovation.** These values will be considered across all categories.

Applicants should clearly show how these values are reflected in their work. It is not necessary to address all of them equally. Instead, the application should highlight what makes the work special, where its strengths lie, and what contribution it makes to Berlin's club culture.

4.2.2 Introduction to the Individual Categories and Content Focus

Category 1: Space & Aesthetics

This category recognises clubs and collectives that create exceptional environments through strong spatial and design concepts.

Assessment criteria:

- Overall design concept and a clear, recognisable identity (e.g. spatial design, architecture, visual design)
- Technical quality (e.g. sound, lighting, or spatial implementation)
- Atmosphere and distinctiveness
- Accessibility and inclusive design in the use of space
- Visual and aesthetic quality in public presentation (e.g. graphic design, communication, digital channels)

Category 2: Programme

This category recognises clubs and collectives whose programme design and curation shape and advance Berlin's club culture.

Assessment criteria:

- Curatorial approach and a clear artistic profile
- Range and originality of the programme (e.g. curated selection, dramaturgical structure, conceptual coherence)
- Relevance within the respective artistic genre or discipline
- Inclusion of regional and international artists
- Support for emerging artists
- Visibility of diverse perspectives, social backgrounds, and lived realities

Category 3: Community

This category recognises clubs and collectives that create social spaces, demonstrate civic engagement, and strengthen communities through their work. The focus is on the impact of their work within their environment and existing community structures.

Assessment criteria:

- Promotion of participation, exchange, and open access
- Active involvement of communities (e.g. in programming, decision-making processes, or organisational structures)
- Sensitive and responsible engagement with different perspectives and lived realities, as well as actively centring marginalised voices and communities (e.g. through awareness practices)
- Cultural education and learning opportunities for the respective target group
- Strengthening local actors and community structures (e.g. through cooperation, shared resources, or networks)
- Strong local rootedness and engagement with social, cultural, and spatial developments (e.g. neighbourhood context, urban change, or intergenerational approaches)

4.3 Grounds for Exclusion from the Application Process

Members of the juries, employees of the TAG DER CLUBKULTUR project team at Clubcommission Berlin e.V., members of the executive board of Clubcommission Berlin e.V., as well as members of the Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion and Musicboard Berlin, are excluded from applying.

Applications may also be excluded if they conflict with the core values of Clubcommission – Network of Berlin Club Culture e.V. (see [mission statement](#)). This applies in particular to content or conduct that runs counter to the principles of diversity, inclusion, equality, and democratic participation, or that promotes violence, is discriminatory, dehumanising, or unconstitutional.



5. Application Documents

5.1 Application Period & Submission

The application period begins on 15 June 2026 and ends on 12 July 2026 at 11:59 pm.

Applications may only be submitted via the online form at:
www.tagderclubkultur.berlin

For questions regarding the application process:
bewerbung@tagderclubkultur.berlin

Applications may be submitted in German or English.
Submissions received after the deadline cannot be considered.

Eligible applicants are operators of clubs and collectives, represented by a natural person with legal authority to act on behalf of the organisation. The application must be submitted by this person in the name of the club or collective.

5.2 Required Documents

Applications may only be submitted via a structured online form at tagderclubkultur.berlin

The formal eligibility requirements (see Section 4.1) will be collected through the form. The following content must be submitted:

Folgende Inhalte sind einzureichen:

1. Who are you and what drives you?

Describe your structure, your journey so far, and the motivation behind your work.

2. What makes your work special, and why are you applying in this category?

Give insight into your artistic and cultural practice in Berlin. Present your work in the context of the chosen category (**Space & Aesthetics, Programme, or Community**). Which aspects of your work are particularly relevant to this category?

3. What do you think Berlin's club culture is missing, and what does your work contribute?

Briefly describe which gaps, challenges, or developments you see in Berlin's club culture, and how your work responds to them.

4. Work sample: Event concept in the context of the TAG DER CLUBKULTUR festival week

Describe a specific event idea or format that you would implement as part of the festival week (in line with this year's theme). How do you translate the approaches and priorities described in your previous answers into this format?

(Actual implementation and participation in the festival week are not mandatory, but are expressly encouraged.)

Optional (recommended):

- **Additional materials (e.g. images, videos, links)**

5.3 Note: TAG DER CLUBKULTUR Festival Week (03.10. – 11.10.2026)

As in previous years, TAG DER CLUBKULTUR consists of two pillars: alongside the Cultural Award, the festival week is an independent part of the project and invites Berlin clubs, collectives, and organisers to take part with their own event formats.

The festival week will take place from October 3 to October 11, 2026, and offers a unique opportunity to highlight the diversity of Berlin's club culture, generate new momentum, and strengthen dialogue and networking. As in previous years, the festival week will have a theme that all organizers can interpret in their own unique way within their respective events. This year's theme is: "STAY CORE."

In a time of a political shift to the right, cultural-political pressure, and a growing threat to spaces of freedom, the TAG DER CLUBKULTUR Festival Week 2026 asks: What does it mean to still be here now? To occupy space without conforming? To stand up for one another without resolving contradictions? Back to what club culture has always been: subculture as an attitude, not an aesthetic, as an alternative vision, as a safe space, and as a lived practice. Participation in the festival week is possible independently of an application for the awards. Likewise, taking part in the festival week is not a requirement for applying or for receiving an award.

Participation is voluntary — and we welcome everyone who wants to contribute with creative formats. Every contribution helps expand the reach and impact of the festival week, strengthening the collective visibility and cultural voice of Berlin's club culture.

Further information about the festival week can be found here: [Festivalweek](#)

6. Selection Process and Juries

After the application deadline, all formally eligible submissions will be reviewed on the basis of the assessment criteria.

A total of 32 awards will be granted by **two independent juries**:

1. one jury for clubs
2. one jury for collectives

Each jury consists of **five experts** from Berlin's club culture, the music industry, and related cultural and social fields.

Further information on the composition of this year's juries can be found here: [Jury](#)

The assessment is based on the submitted application materials. The final selection will be made in joint jury sessions.

Jury members must disclose any potential conflicts of interest and deal with them transparently in order to ensure a fair and independent decision-making process.

The sessions are confidential. Individual decisions will not be publicly explained.

All applicants will be informed of the outcome before the award ceremony.

There is no legal entitlement to receive an award.

7. Data Protection

Personal data submitted as part of the application will be treated confidentially and processed solely for the purpose of conducting the selection process, as well as fulfilling documentation and auditing requirements for funding and auditing purposes.

In this context, data may be shared with funding bodies (e.g. the Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion, Musicboard Berlin).

By submitting an application, applicants consent to the [processing of their data](#) in accordance with the privacy policy of Clubcommission Berlin e.V..