



Division I A – Funding for Artists, Projects, and  
Independent Groups

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**INFORMATION SHEET**  
on  
**Project and reading series Funding – Literature for 2025  
2026**

The application deadline ends on 06.08.2024, 11. a.m.)

In 2025, subject to the availability of funds, Berlin's Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion will be awarding grants to promote literature projects and reading series in Berlin.

**Target group**

Individuals, groups, civil law partnerships (*GbRs*), literature professionals, associations, and other organizations, including venues where readings are held on a regular basis (*Lesebühnen*), are eligible to apply, provided the applicant's primary residence or registered office is in Berlin. The annual revenue of publishing houses that wish to apply (publication projects) must not exceed €100,000, and they must not have more than three employees.

**Purpose of funding**

A) Project Funding

Funding is awarded to literature projects reflecting target-group-oriented approaches and formats in presenting contemporary literature and cartoons.

Potential projects may range from innovative, comparative, or creative forms of presenting and communicating sophisticated contemporary literature to interdisciplinary and/or subject-specific symposiums and conferences with a focus on modern literature.

Publication projects of high literary quality are also funded, such as issues of literary magazines and digital/alternative forms of publication:

B.) Support for reading series

Independent reading series in the narrower sense of the word, but also reading stages, regular event programmes of literary associations, literary salons or literary sections of houses of the independent scene are considered reading series. Independent initiatives or individuals are also eligible to apply

Funding is available for reading series that are already established (4 years) as well as for reading series that are still being developed (3 years). What is required is a (re-)recognisable content concept for a continuous, serial literary event format (at least four public, non-commercial events per year) and proof of previous continuous work. Authors, translators and literary guests should be invited to the reading series.

**Verkehrsverbindungen**  
U-Bahn Rosenthaler Platz - U-8  
Bus 240  
Straßenbahn M1, M8, 12

**Sprechzeiten**  
nach Vereinbarung

**Zahlungen bitte bargeldlos**  
nur an die Landeshauptkasse Berlin,  
Klosterstr. 59, 10179 Berlin  
  
Internet: [www.berlin.de/senatskanzlei](http://www.berlin.de/senatskanzlei)

Geldinstitut	Kontonummer	Bankleitzahl
Postbank Bln	58100	100 100 10
Berliner Spk	0990007600	100 500 00
Berliner Bank	9919260800	100 200 00
Landeszentralbank	10 001 520	100 000 00

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Reading series can be funded for one or two years. For two-year funding, a concept for two years must be set out in the appendix "Detailed project description" and the costs for two years must be stated in the financing plan (see sample). Please note that the costs in 2025 and 2026 must also be stated in the online form; for reading series that are only to take place in 2025, the financing plan for 2026 must still be completed in the online form (with € 0.00 for the individual approaches). The jury is free to vote for a project applied for two years for one year only.

The following applies to literature projects and reading series:

In addition to a detailed project description, the following aspects need to be addressed in the application documents:

*1) What is unique about your project? What is the specific artistic value of your project (e.g., innovation)? When applying for reading series: Are you applying for a one-year or a two-year grant?*

*2) Raising public awareness through targeted measures (media outlets, etc.).*

Please describe which target groups (audience, media outlets, experts) you intend to reach and how you intend to achieve this (public relations). Please state the audience size anticipated.

The final report on the expenditure of funds will assess the extent to which the targets were met and which of the media outlets mentioned actually reported on the project.

*3) Professional project implementation*

The project organizers or organizations should have a track record of high-quality work in the field of literature or be able to prove experience in organizing projects or producing publications; this needs to be demonstrated by supporting documentation. The final report on the expenditure of funds will assess the extent to which the individuals mentioned were actually involved in implementing the project.

*4) Involvement of authors from Berlin*

Authors who live and work in Berlin should be considered in and for the programming or the publication project. The authors' names need to be stated in the project application so it can be assessed in the final report on the expenditure of funds whether they indeed took part and whether the plans were realized.

Anniversary events and events of a predominantly private character are not eligible for funding.

**Prerequisites and conditions**

The project needs to be carried out in **Berlin** between **February 2025** and **December 2025**. Pursuant to budgetary provisions, **only projects that have not yet started can be funded**.

**Amount of funding**

The jury will deliberate on the number of projects to be funded and the amount of funding for each project. The jury's recommendations will be submitted to Berlin's Senate Department for Culture and Community. Around €330,000 is available for around 60 applications.

The project grant applied for must not exceed €25,000.

Applications can be made for both human resources (fees) and the physical resources needed for project implementation and public relations work (e.g. pro rata rental costs or costs for stage equipment, moderation).

Important: In the online application form, you must indicate under "Previous year's funding" whether and in what amount you have already received grants from public institutions in the current and previous two calendar years, which are "de minimis aid".

### **Submitting an application / Applications:**

In principle, **applications** have to be submitted **online**.

**Online applications must be received by 6 August 2024, 11:00 a.m. Applications cannot be sent after 11:00 a.m.; any uploads in progress at 11:00 a.m. will be terminated automatically.**

**We advise you to make sure you start the application process in good time and prepare all the necessary supporting documents in advance.**

**Please also make sure you are using a stable Internet connection with sufficient speed and bandwidth to upload large amounts of data.**

**You can find further information on the online application in our FAQs (in German): <http://www.berlin.de/sen/kultur/foerderung/antragscenter/artikel.85073.php>**

The application form, including the project description and the detailed explanation of the project (Annex 1), need to be submitted in German.

You can access the **link to the online form** on the Internet at

<https://www.berlin.de/sen/kultur/foerderung/antragscenter/>

Please do not use any previous links you may have saved or links from external providers to access the online form. The online form should be accessed only via the Senate Department for Culture and Community website.

### **Submitting an application**

**For an online application that includes the necessary supporting documents in electronic format as described below, no additional paper documents are required.**

The following supporting documents must be submitted with the application:

- Detailed project description** (e.g., conceptual idea/topics/aesthetic approach, main focus), **up to 4 MB, at most 4 pages**  
**In the case of reading series, the criteria listed above under "Purpose of funding" B) Funding of reading series must be taken into account.**  
*File name for the online application: PB\_Applicant's name*
- Applicant's CV**  
*File name for the online application: CV\_Applicant's name, 2 MB, at most 2 pages*
- Your group's/your previous projects in Berlin (covering at least the last 2 years), 4 MB, optionally documentation/information material, at most 3 pages**  
*File name for the online application: PROJEKTE\_Applicant's name*
- List of project participants, 2 MB, at most 2 pages**  
*File name for the online application: BETEILIGTE\_Applicant's name*
- Financial plan, in line with the example on the website/on the online form, 2 MB**  
**Please note: For 2-year projects, the columns for the years 2025 and 2026 must be completed in the sample financing plan!**  
*File name for the online application: FP\_Applicant's name*
- Excerpts from the register of associations and statutes of the association/initiative (only mandatory for associations), 2 MB**  
*File name for the online application: Verein\_Applicant's name*

- Confirmation of the venue of the presentation/event, 2 MB**  
*File name for the online application: VO\_Applicant's name*  
**Mandatory for two-year reading series**

The applications must be filled in and submitted in German.

**Please be sure to observe the specified maximum number of pages, otherwise the application cannot be approved!**

### **Allocation of the funds**

The Senator responsible for cultural affairs will decide on the allocation of the funds after consulting an advisory body of experts (jury). The independent jury, consisting of three to five jurors will issue its recommendations by the end of **December 2024**. The vote will be based on the expected quality of the literature to be presented and how it is communicated, as well as on the response anticipated from the public.

Awards can only be made subject to the availability of funds. There is no right to funding.

All applicants will receive written notification via email of the jury's vote by **January 2025**.

### **Exclusion**

Members of the jury and their families, as well as staff members of Berlin's Senate Department for Culture and Community and their families, are not eligible to apply.

### **Deadline for submission / application**

This year, the application deadline is **6 August 2024**.

### **Please note:**

**The online applications must be submitted to the Senate Department for Culture and Community by 6 August 2024, by 11 a.m. at the latest, as described above.**

Applications will only be considered if they are complete. All information given will be treated confidentially and used only for selection and funding purposes.

### **After the jury procedure**

- All applicants will be notified of the jury's vote via email shortly after the decision (January 2025).

### **Additional information**

If the grant can be considered state aid, this funding is being awarded on the basis of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (General Block Exemption Regulation - GBER) (OJ L No. 187/1, 26 June 2014).

Companies that have not complied with a recovery injunction based on a previous Commission decision on the inadmissibility of an instance of state aid and its incompatibility with the internal market will not be granted individual aid.

### **Contact / further information:**

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-Literature funding: projects -  
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<http://www.berlin.de/sen/kultur/foerderung/foerderprogramme/literatur/>

<https://www.berlin.de/sen/kultur/foerderung/foerderprogramme/literatur/artikel.82137.php>