



Date: August 18-24 , 2025
Location: Berlin Carl Bechstein Saal

(Brunsbütteler Damm 132-142 • 13581 Berlin, Germany)

Current registered participants are from Taiwan, Australia, Hungary, the USA, Azerbaijan, China, Iran, Romania, Italy, Japan, Korea, Canada, Germany, Latvia, France, Bulgaria, Spain, Poland, Canada and Armenia.

• 2025 •

BERLIN-BECHSTEIN SUMMER ACADEMY

<https://berlinbechsteinsummer.com>



About the Bechstein Stiftung



The purpose of the Carl Bechstein Foundation is to promote piano playing on a broad level. The foundation is particularly committed to the musical development of children and young people. You can learn why this is so important under The Philosophy.

The foundation is named after the visionary piano maker, company founder, and patron of music and musicians Carl Bechstein (1853–1900). With his grand and upright pianos, he gave a voice to the pianists of his time—above all Franz Liszt. He also established concert halls where great artists of his time—such as Hans von Bülow and Johannes Brahms—performed. You can read more about Carl Bechstein [here](#).

The non-profit Carl Bechstein Foundation was founded at the end of 2012 by Kuthe GmbH (represented by Mr. Stefan Freymuth), private donors Berenice Küpper and Karl Schulze, and the C. Bechstein Pianoforte Factory AG. Learn more about The Founders and the Board of Directors.

All major decisions are made by the foundation's board, which consists of the three founding individuals as well as cultural manager Gregor Willmes. The board is advised by a competent advisory council, which includes Prof. Christian Höppner (Chairman of the Advisory Board), Wolfram Nieradzik (Deputy Chairman), Theo Geißler, and Prof. Linde Großmann.

Organizer: Project Zero



Project Zero was officially established in 2020 in Berlin, Germany, although its activities began sporadically as early as 2014. The company also has a branch in Taipei, Taiwan. It operates in multiple countries worldwide, with clients and collaborators spanning the globe. Over the past year, the company has taken on both private and public projects in locations such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Greece, Italy, France, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Japan, China, Malaysia, Singapore and more, in addition to Taiwan and Germany.

Project Zero has been organizing classical music charity performances and international cultural exchange events. Between 2014 and 2025, the charity concerts it has organized or been invited to participate in have raised over €76,792 for disadvantaged groups and food banks.

During the 2020–2021 pandemic, Project Zero launched Concert Hall 0, a digital platform that hosted over 30 online performances and reached audiences in 50 countries. Featured artists included Michael Barenboim, Noah Bendix-Balgley, Alexander Gadjiev, Iskandar Widjaja, Isang Enders, Haruma Sato, among others.

In terms of international cultural exchange, Project Zero UG has long collaborated with renowned performers. In 2019, they invited young musicians and prominent figures such as Friedemann Eichhorn, the Artistic Director of the Kronberg Academy, and Máté Szűcs, the former principal violist of the Berlin Philharmonic to perform at the Berlin Philharmonie. They also invited French cellist Aurélien Pascal for performances in Macao, Taichung, and Kaohsiung in 2019. In 2020, they invited violinist Albrecht Menzel to perform in Taoyuan and Taichung (Taiwan). In 2025, concert invitations are planned in Taiwan and Macau for violinist Yamen Saadi, pianist Julien Quentin, and violinist Simon Zhu.



Professors

*teaching days: Aug. 22-25

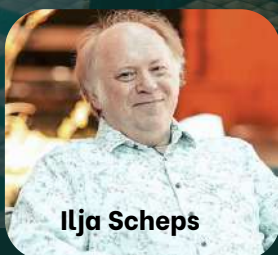
*teaching days: Sep. 15-19



Alexej Gorlatch

Piano Professor at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Mannheim

Student achievement: Prizewinner at the ARD Competition in Munich



Ilja Scheps

Piano professor at the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Köln

Student achievement: Sony Classical and Universal Records Artists



Gerrit Zitterbart

Piano/Fortepiano Professor at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover

Student achievement: Success at the prestigious competitions



Tomasz Tomaszewski

Violin Professor at the Universität der Künste Berlin

Student achievements: Concertmaster and member of the Berliner Philharmoniker; 1st prize winner of the Paganini Competition



Latica Honda-Rosenberg

Violin Professor at the Universität der Künste Berlin

Student achievements: Members of the Karajan Academy; prize winners at the Sendai Violin Competition



Boris Garlitsky

Violin Professor at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Paris

Student achievement: 1st prize winner of the Queen Elisabeth Competition



Keiko Urushihara

Violin professor at Toho Gakuen College

Winner of the Wieniawski International Violin Competition

*teaching days: Aug. 15-21



Hartmut Rohde

Viola professor at the Universität der Künste Berlin

Student achievements: Member of the Berliner Philharmoniker; winners of the Max Rostal Competition and Prague Spring Competition

*teaching days: Aug. 15-20



Troels Svane

Cello professor at the Hochschule für Musik "Hanns Eisler" Berlin

Student achievement: Prize winner at the Tchaikovsky Competition, Berliner Philharmoniker member

*teaching days: Aug. 20-22

Professors

Alexej Gorlatch, Piano



Piano Professor at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Mannheim

1st prize winner of the ARD competition , prizewinner at the Leeds International Pianoforte Competition

Student Achievement: Prizewinner at the ARD Competition in Munich

Alexej Gorlatch is Professor of Piano at the Mannheim University of Music and Performing Arts. From 2016 to 2020, he held a professorship at the Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts. He previously taught at the Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts and at the Hannover University of Music, Drama and Media.

He studied at the Berlin University of Arts with Martin Hughes and at the Hannover University of Music, Drama and Media with Karl-Heinz Kämmerling and Bernd Goetzke, where he graduated with the Konzertexamen. His victory at the International ARD Music Competition, where Alexej Gorlatch received first prize, was preceded by a remarkable musical career – within just six years, he received first prize at nine renowned international piano competitions, including the Hamamatsu International Piano Competition, as well as being awarded the Silver Medal at the 2009 Leeds International Pianoforte Competition.

Alexej Gorlatch gave highly acclaimed performances at the world's most prestigious concert venues. He went on concert tours in Germany, Japan, South Korea, Italy, South Africa, Ireland, and the USA. As soloist Alexej Gorlatch appeared with numerous orchestras, such as the Hallé Manchester, Royal Northern Sinfonia, Stuttgart Radio Symphony, Camerata Salzburg, RTÉ National Symphony Ireland, leading orchestras of Japan – NHK, Japan Philharmonic, Tokyo Symphony, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony, among others.

For his latest CD on Sony Classical Alexej Gorlatch recorded works for piano and orchestra by Igor Stravinsky with the Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin conducted by Alondra de la Parra.

Professors

Ilja Scheps, Piano



Piano professor at the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Köln

Jury of the International Competition

Student achievement: Sony Classical and Universal Records Artists

***teaching days: Aug. 22-25**

***This class is full; online lessons are available.**

The Russian pianist Ilja Scheps studied under Prof. Lev Vlassenko and Prof. Ewgeni Schenderowitsch at the famous Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, where he later taught himself. From 1982, he performed for ten years as a soloist with the Moscow Philharmonic, appearing both as a soloist and with many prominent singers and instrumentalists. Numerous guest appearances have taken Ilja Scheps to the USA, Australia, China, Israel, Italy, Malta, New Zealand, Spain, Turkey, Hungary, among others.

Since 1992, Ilja Scheps has lived in Germany. He taught for a long time at the universities of music in Rostock and Dortmund, as well as at the Music Academy in Darmstadt. Since 2003, he has been a professor at the University of Music in Cologne/Aachen, leading numerous international masterclasses for pianists. Additionally, Ilja Scheps has been appointed as a visiting professor at several universities in China. Students of Prof. Scheps have won prizes at numerous piano competitions and have been signed exclusively to record companies such as “Sony” – Classic and “Universal” Records.

Prof. Ilja Scheps is a sought-after jury member at major international piano competitions such as “Top of the world” and “Grieg” Piano Competition in Norway, Shenzhen Piano Concerto Competition, and China Int. Among others.

In addition to earlier recordings with companies such as “Melodia”, “MCA” (USA), and “Le Chant du Monde” (France), Ilja Scheps has added new CDs with companies such as “Deutsche Welle – classic”, “Coriolan” (Teldec), “EMC-Records”, and “CPO”.

Professors

Gerrit Zitterbart, Piano & fortepiano



Piano/Fortepiano Professor at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover

Recipient of the “Choc” award from Le Monde de la Musique, France. 5-time recipient of the ‘Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik’ (Trio).

Student achievement: Success at the prestigious competitions such as Tchaikovsky, Geneva and Rubinstein competition.

Gerrit Zitterbart (born in Göttingen in 1952) was trained in Hanover, Salzburg, Freiburg and Bonn. His concert career began with international competition successes in Switzerland (Zurich, Geneva), Belgium, among others.

Gerrit Zitterbart has distinguished himself as a soloist and chamber musician (including 41 years in the Abegg Trio) in almost 4,000 concerts in 50 countries. His extensive repertoire is documented on over 75 LPs and CDs (with piano concertos, solo works, chamber music and lieder) – on modern and historical grand pianos alike. A recording of early piano concertos by Mozart was awarded the “Choc” (Le Monde De La Musique) in France.

His trio with Ulrich Beetz and Birgit Erichson received important awards (Colmar, Geneva, Bonn, Bordeaux, Hanover, Zwickau), and recorded 30 CDs, including the complete works for this instrumentation by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Gade, Schumann, Brahms, Dvorák, and Shostakovich. Five recordings received the coveted “Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik”.

Since 2003 Gerrit Zitterbart has also been giving concerts on fortepianos from around 1750 to around 1900. Furthermore he is a member of the Board of Trustees that advises the Carl Bechstein Foundation on their collection of historical instruments.

From 1981 to 2022, the pianist led a piano class at the Hannover University of Music, Drama and Media, and has been a professor since 1983. His students have taken part in important international competitions in Paris, Moscow (Tchaikovsky), Geneva, Bergen (Grieg), and Tel Aviv (Rubinstein) successfully.

Professors

Tomasz Tomaszewski, Violin



Violin Professor at the Universität der Künste Berlin

Student achievements: Concertmaster and member of the Berliner Philharmoniker; 1st prize winner of the Paganini Competition

***Online lessons are available**

Tomasz Tomaszewski studied with Tadeusz Wronski and Stanislaw Kawalla at the Fryderyk Chopin Music Academy in Warsaw. He received his Master Diploma in 1976. Between 1980 and 1982, he studied once again with Wolfgang Marschner in Freiburg.

Between 1974 and 1979 he was the second violinist of the Polish Quartet. The ensemble received many prizes e.g. I prize at the International Competition in Belgrad (1975) and III prize at the ARD Competition in Munich (1976). Since 1980 Tomasz Tomaszewski has been living in Germany. From 1982 to 2017 he was the first concertmaster of Deutsche Oper Orchestra in Berlin. He worked with such famous conductors as Barenboim, Sinopoli, Stein, Rattle, Tielemann, Abbado, Gergiev among others. Since October 1983 he has been working at the Universität der Künste in Berlin. He received the Professorship of UdK in 2002.

Tomasz Tomaszewski performs regularly as a soloist and chamber musician. Since the beginning of his music career 35 years ago he has worked in various chamber groups. Tomasz Tomaszewski is being regularly invited to be a member of jury of national and international competitions.

Recently, he has received an extremely prestigious award - PREIS DER DEUTSCHEN SCHALLPLATEN KRITIK - for the CD 'Poland Abroad' recorded with 'Polish String Quartet Berlin', considered the best production of 2019 in the Chamber Music genre. In 1998 Tomasz Tomaszewski received the Golden Cross of Merit from the President of Poland for his outstanding artistic achievements and promotion of Polish culture abroad. In the same year he received the title of Kammervirtuose from the Senator of Culture in Berlin.

Professors

Latica Honda-Rosenberg, Violin



Violin Professor at the Universität der Künste Berlin

Prizewinner at the Tchaikovsky Competition

Student achievements: Members of the Karajan Academy; prize winners at the Sendai Violin Competition

***teaching days: Sep. 15-19**

***online lessons are available in September.**

Latica Honda-Rosenberg is among the foremost representatives of the generation of young violinists that is now established in concert life. Winning the silver medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow in 1998 paved the way for an international career for her.

Born the child of a Croatian cellist and Japanese singer, Latica Honda-Rosenberg grew up in Germany and commenced playing the violin at the age of four. She became a young pupil of Tibor Varga at the Detmold School of Music when she was nine. She continued her training with Zakhar Bron in Madrid at the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofia and at the Musikhochschule Lübeck.

She made her debut as a soloist at the Philharmonie Berlin in 1989. She has since appeared as a soloist with the Orchestra of the Beethovenhalle Bonn, NDR Radio Philharmonic Orchestra Hanover, MDR Symphony Orchestra Leipzig, Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, Lucerne Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, among others.

Since 2000 Latica Honda-Rosenberg has been recording exclusively for the Oehms Classics label. The recordings of chamber music by Ernest Bloch were chosen by 'The Strad' as its CD of the Month.

Apart from her worldwide activities on the concert platform, since 2003 Latica Honda-Rosenberg has held a professorship for violin at the Musikhochschule Freiburg.

Since April 2009 she received a professorship at the Berlin University of the Arts.

Professors

Boris Garlitsky, Violin



Violin Professor at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Paris, Folkwang Universität der Künste

Prize winner of the Paganini Competition

Student achievement: 1st prize winner of the Queen Elisabeth Competition

In 1982, Boris Garlitsky won the Italian Paganini Competition and began his career as a soloist. Since then, he has played, among others, with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Vienna Radio Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia as well as the Milan based Giuseppe Verdi Orchestra and the British Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.

Mr. Garlitsky is an active participator in several international music festivals, such as the Pablo Casals Festival in France, Mostly Mozart in New York, the London Proms, the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival and Gidon Kremer's Chamber Music Festival at Lockenhaus in Austria. Also, Mr Garlitsky performs for the BBC, Radio France as well as a number of radio stations in Italy, Russia and the United States. He has recorded for RCA, Naxos, Chandos and Polymnie. Garlitsky is an outstanding chamber musician and member of the Hermitage String Trio.

Born in Russia, Mr. Garlitsky received his first music lessons from his father. He studied with Professor Yankelevich at the Moscow Conservatory, and afterwards worked as the Concertmaster for the Moscow Virtuosi and the London Symphony Orchestra, the Covent Garden Opera, the Vienna ORF Orchestra, the Hamburg Philharmonic and many more.

Today, Mr. Garlitsky holds a chair at two outstanding music Institutes, the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Paris and the Folkwang Universität der Künste, Essen (Germany). In addition, Mr. Garlitsky offers master classes on a yearly basis at the most renowned music institutions including the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia, the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Hanns Eisler Musikhochschule in Berlin and Kronberg Academy.

Professors

Keiko Urushihara, Violin



Violin professor at Toho Gakuen College

1st prize winner of the Wieniawski International Violin Competition

***teaching days: Aug. 15–21**

Keiko Urushihara won the first prize as well as six other prizes at the 8th Wieniawski International Competition at her age 18 as the youngest ever and the first Japanese winner while she was still a student of the high school attached to the Tokyo University of Arts. She started her career as a violinist next year at the same as she entered the Tokyo University of Arts. In 1986, as a member of the Halley String Quartet she won the first prize in the chamber music division and Hideo Saito Prize at the Min'on Music Competition.

Keiko Urushihara has toured in Japan and abroad, appeared on TV, performed in major international music festivals and many master classes. Among the conductors and orchestras she has performed with are Vladimir Spivakov, Ervin Lukacs, Jiri Belohlavek, Hungarian National Symphony Orchestra, Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, and Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra. She also appeared in many recitals and chamber music concerts winning high acclaim.

She has released many CDs, among which J.S. Bach unaccompanied violin solos for Japan Acoustic Records won “Most Recommended CD”. Also, “Unaccompanied violin duos” recorded with her sister Asako Urushihara for the same label attracted great attention winning “The National Arts Festival Excellence Award” of the Arts Festival sponsored by the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Active in the front lines, her constantly high-level performance has gained her the trust not only of music lovers but of conductors and musicians of orchestras. Currently Keiko Urushihara is a visiting professor with Kunitachi College of Music and special-appointment professor with Toho Gakuen College.

Professors

Hartmut Rohde, Viola



Viola professor at the Universität der Künste Berlin

Student achievements: Member of the Berliner Philharmoniker; winners of the Max Rostal Competition and Prague Spring Competition

***teaching days: Aug. 15-20**

***online lessons are available.**

Hartmut Rohde became soon after winning 1.st. Prize at the Deutsche Musikwettbewerb and prizes at the Naumburg Competition NY.

Hartmut Rohde performs as a soloist with conductors such as Kent Nagano, Paavo Järvi, among others. In addition, he is a regular guest artist at Carnegie Hall New York, Wigmore Hall in London, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, the Salzburg Festival, Moritzburg Festival, the Seoul International Music Festival in Seoul Arts Center, among others.

Hartmut Rohde's chamber music partners include Heinrich Schiff, David Geringas, Lars Vogt, Daniel Hope, Janine Jansen, among others. His Mozart Piano quartet received the OPUS Klassik Award in October 2018.

He has been a professor at the Berlin University of the Arts since 1993, and is also an honorary member of the Royal Academy of Music in London. His students' successes include leading positions with the Berlin and Munich Philharmonic, with all radio orchestras, the Leipzig Gewandhaus, London, Paris, Rome etc. as well as numerous prizes in competitions such as Banff, ARD Munich, Young Concert Artists NY, Geneva competition, ECHO Klassik Prize winners, among others. He is since 1998 the artistic director of the International Max Rostal Competition Berlin.

Further CD recordings are available from EMI Classics, Decca, BMG / Sony, MDG and Naxos. In 2003 he received the Supersonic Award. Hartmut Rohde plays an instrument by Ivo Luliano (2016) and a Giuseppe Fiorini (1899).

Professors

Troels Svane, Cello



Cello professor at the Hochschule für Musik "Hanns Eisler" Berlin, Musikhochschule Lübeck

Student achievement: Prize winners at the Tchaikovsky Competition, ARD Competition, Geneva Competition; Berliner Philharmoniker member

***teaching days: Aug. 20–22**

***Online lessons are available**

Troels Svane studied with David Geringas at the Musikhochschule Lübeck, Germany. He graduated from the soloist class with distinction and the highest grade in all subjects.

After finishing high school, he was appointed co-principal cellist of the Copenhagen Philharmonic at the age of 18. He won prizes at prestigious national and international competitions and received numerous scholarships.

As a soloist he has performed with most Danish orchestras and with orchestras in England, Germany, Holland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden and Switzerland. As a recitalist and a chamber musician Troels Svane played concerts all over Europe, Australia, Asia, South America and the United States.

He has recorded more than 40 CDs including the complete works for cello and piano by Beethoven, Rachmaninoff and Reger. Troels Svane was the assistant to David Geringas for 11 years before he was appointed professor for violoncello at the Musikhochschule Lübeck in 2004.

Furthermore, he has a cello class at the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin. He was a jury member at international competitions.

His students are prize winners at prestigious international competitions (ARD, Feuermann, Geneva, Isang Yun, Rostropovich, Tchaikovsky) and members of renowned chamber music ensembles and orchestras such as the Armida Quartett, the Berlin Philharmonic and the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks.

Master Class, Concert Locations

Carl Bechstein Saal (Aug. 18-24)



A New Venue for Music in Spandau: On the site of the old Kaiser's coffee roastery, alongside the collection of historical keyboard instruments, a new concert hall has been created: the Carl Bechstein Saal.

The facility is modern, the hall is filled with natural light, and the acoustics are perfect for small ensembles. Fans of historical performance practice will also find something to enjoy here: In combination with the adjacent collection of historical keyboard instruments, particularly interesting concerts on instruments from the 18th to the 21st centuries are possible.

The hall accommodates up to 200 guests, who can experience chamber concerts, piano evenings, and recitals multiple times a year, often with a guided tour of the collection beforehand.

Collaborations with renowned organizers like Klassik in Spandau and the Brandenburg Summer Concerts, as well as concerts hosted by the Carl Bechstein Foundation, guarantee an unforgettable evening of music.

Concert Locations

Palais Lichtenau (Aug. 19, 23)



Palais Lichtenau is a classical building located at Kurfürstenstraße 40 in Potsdam, Germany. It was constructed between 1796 and 1797 during the reign of King Frederick William II. The palace is considered an outstanding monument of early classical architecture in Germany.

The palace was most likely built as a dignified residence for the financial administrator Johann Friedrich Ritz. Countess Lichtenau lived near the “Dutch facility” at the Kavalierhaus (Cavalier House) until the death of King Frederick William II on November 16, 1797.

Before being sold in 2007, the palace served as a venue for small performances by the Hans Otto Theater Potsdam. On January 14, 2005, the play Jenny Treibel by Theodor Fontane premiered here, with Katharina Thalbach in the lead role. After several years of disuse and the bankruptcy of the previous owner, Viola Hallman, the palace was restored between 2011 and 2013. It is now used as a medical aesthetics clinic, operated by the current owners, and the banquet hall continues to be used for events. Some productions by Arte TV and Sony have been recorded here.

Concert Locations

Schloss Friedrichsfelde (Aug. 20)



Friedrichsfelde, originally known as Rosenfelde, was first documented on 2 April 1265, though it likely existed decades earlier, founded during the German eastward expansion under Margraves John I and Otto III of Brandenburg.

In 1682, the Great Elector Frederick William granted an unused estate in Rosenfelde to Benjamin Raule. Following Raule's downfall, the estate returned to Elector Frederick III, who renamed the village and palace to Friedrichsfelde on 25 January 1699.

In 1713, King Frederick William I gifted the vacant palace to his uncle, Margrave Albrecht Friedrich of Brandenburg-Schwedt. In 1762, Prince August Ferdinand of Prussia acquired the palace as a summer residence. The estate was sold in 1800 to Princess Catherine of Holstein-Beck, who redesigned the palace and hosted grand events attended by royalty, including Queen Louise and King Frederick William III. In 1806, Napoleon's troops occupied the palace, and he reviewed his forces there before advancing eastward.

Post-World War II, the palace served various purposes, including housing refugees and functioning as a workers' retreat. Since 2009, the Förderverein von Tierpark und Zoo Berlin e.V. has managed the palace's museum operations and organized events.

Guest Concert Location

Piano Salon Christophori (Aug. 21)
Guest Artist: Minami Yoshida, Violin
(Member of the Berlin Philharmonic)



Piano Salon Christophori is one of Berlin's most distinctive cultural venues, located in the city's Wedding district. Set within the Uferhallen—a 1926 tram depot—it uniquely merges a historic piano restoration workshop with an intimate concert hall. Founded by neurologist and piano enthusiast Christoph Schreiber, the salon originated from his passion for restoring grand pianos.

Schreiber's collection includes around 120 concert grand pianos from 1799 to 1987, with a focus on French instruments. Performances often feature rare and historically significant instruments, such as Érard pianos from the 19th century, a 1950 Steinway D, a 1943 August Förster Quattrocord, and Bösendorfers spanning a century.

Concerts take place almost daily and range from classical chamber works to jazz, in a relaxed, immersive atmosphere. Audiences sit close to performers on mismatched chairs amid antique piano parts, enhancing the intimate experience. With its exceptional acoustics and global artist roster, Piano Salon Christophori has earned a reputation as a cultural gem in Berlin's dynamic music scene.

Concert Locations

Schloss Britz (Aug. 22)



Schloss Britz (Britz Castle) is actually a manor house, as historically, no royal family members ever resided here. A manor house legally refers to a property that enjoys certain privileges, such as tax exemptions or the right to participate in regional councils. Individuals holding the title of “knight” automatically had political appointment rights, which distinguishes it from a typical country house.

In the medieval period, this moated manor house was owned by the Britz family. The building first appeared in the Land Register of Emperor Charles IV in 1375. Until 1945, the rooms of the manor house were rented out to private individuals, the park became a public green space, and the manor served as a municipal estate until 1957. From 1945 to 1953, the house was used as a refugee and orphanage, and then, until the early 1980s, it was used as a children’s home by the Neukölln district office.

In 1971, Schloss Britz was listed as a heritage-protected building. It opened to the public in 1989. With this permanent exhibition, a small concert hall and a special exhibition area on the first floor were also established.

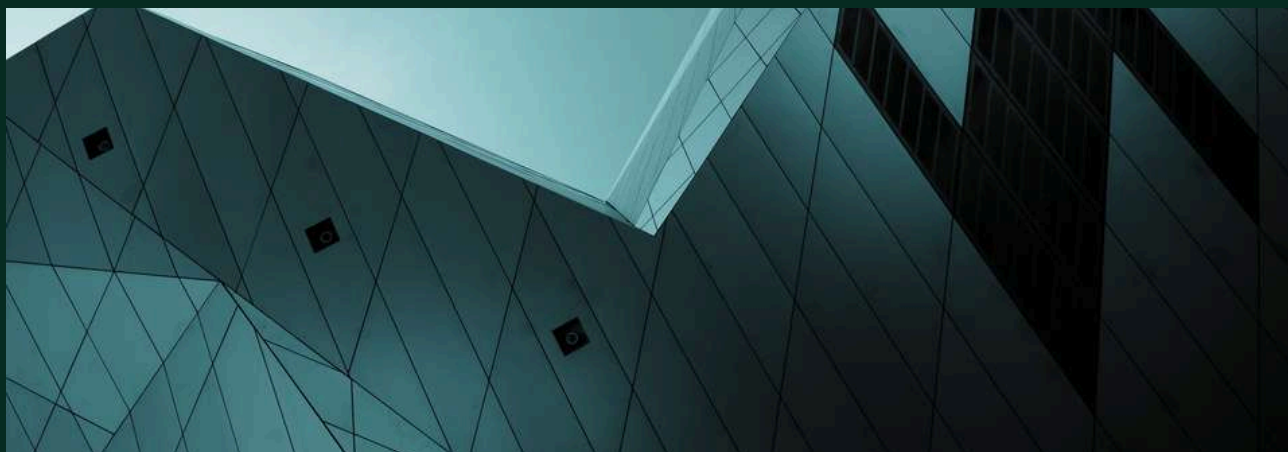
Since then, the Carl Bechstein Foundation has ensured the continued cultural program in the castle, park, and the “Cultural Barn” event hall.

SCHEDULE

[A more detailed general schedule is available through this link.](#)

■	August 17th	Arrival, hotel check in
■	August 18th	Opening ceremony, location tour, forte piano lecture, Q&A sessions with professors about their experiences in international competitions, master classes
■	August 19–21th	Master classes, Berlin day trip, concerts
■	August 22–23rd	Master classes, concerts
■	August 24th	Closing Gala
■	August 25th	Departure

Practice rooms will be available free of charge for up to 21 hours over a 7-day period (full session). Additional hours may incur extra charges. If a student is selected to perform in the closing gala, chamber music concert or in more than two concerts, additional free practice hours will be provided.



For more details about the registration costs, especially for Prof. Latica Honda Rosenberg's class, and online lessons, please check this link.

Registration

[Please click here for the registration form](https://forms.gle/UbGLKzy3FWBG3mtP9)

<https://forms.gle/UbGLKzy3FWBG3mtP9>

➔ Registration Fee

500EUR

- Registration Fee: 500EUR
250EUR (4 days half session lessons)
50EUR up (online lessons)
- Ensemble – Duo: 600EUR; Trio: 900EUR;
Quartet: 1000EUR
The total cost is shared among all members

➔ Course Fee

150EUR/lesson

- Ensemble members can also take solo lessons
- Prof. Keiko Urushihara charges €100/lesson

➔ Observer or Guardian

200EUR

- Participants under the age of 16, whether active or passive, must be accompanied by a guardian.

➔ Berlin Day Trip

40EUR/person/day

- Optional activity

An additional free chamber music lesson will be offered to solo participants performing in the chamber music concert.

Concert opportunities for selected students in Europe, Asia, and possibly the USA after the academy.

If you have any financial concerns, you may email us to inquire about installment plans or other financial assistance options.

Nearby Accommodation Options



Landhotel Waldschänke

- The cheapest nearby option takes about 30 minutes by bus (with one transfer) to reach the Carl Bechstein Saal.

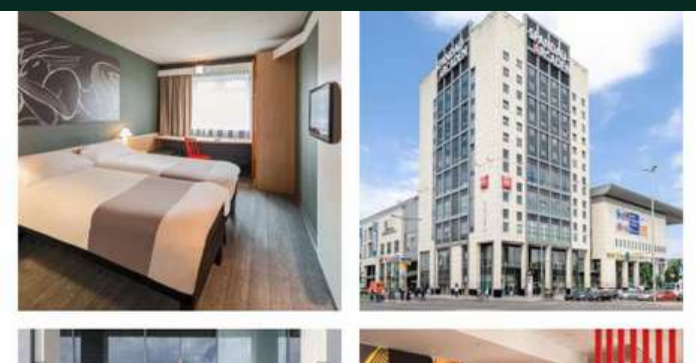
54EUR/night



Hotel am Wasserturm

- The closest hotel is a 12-minute walk from the Carl Bechstein Saal. Rooms are limited. Group rate: €115 per night (regular rate: €160).

115–125EUR/night



Ibis Hotel Berlin Spandau

- The Carl Bechstein Saal is 12 minutes away by bus. The hotel is at the main station, with shops and restaurants nearby.

80–90EUR/night



Garner Hotel Berlin - Spandau by IHG ★★★★

- It takes about 20 minutes by bus to get to the Carl Bechstein Saal.

68–91EUR/night

Optional Activity

Berlin Guided Tour (Option 1.)



- Berlin Philharmonie (Berliner Philharmonie)

Introduction: This is one of the most iconic concert halls in Berlin and the home of the world-renowned Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra (Berliner Philharmoniker). The building, designed by Hans Scharoun, is famous for its golden tent-like exterior and exceptional acoustics. Guided tours are available to explore the architecture and history of the hall.

Recommended duration: Depending on the schedule, we suggest 2–3 hours.



- Berlin Historical Axis (Berliner historische Mitte)

This central axis links Berlin's most iconic historical landmarks, including the Brandenburg Gate, Unter den Linden Boulevard, Berlin Cathedral, and Museum Island. The route not only witnesses the grandeur of the Prussian Kingdom but also deeply reflects the rise and fall of German history.



- State Opera (Staatsoper Unter den Linden)

Introduction: This historic opera house is one of Germany's most important opera institutions. Originally built in 1742, it has undergone multiple reconstructions and restorations. Today, it serves as the main venue for conductor Daniel Barenboim. The opera season is rich, covering works from the Baroque period to contemporary pieces. The opera house itself is a magnificent Baroque-style building.

Recommended duration: Depending on the schedule, we suggest 2–3 hours.



- Berlin Wall Memorial (Gedenkstätte Berliner Mauer)

The Berlin Wall Memorial is a key site for understanding the history of the Cold War and the division of East and West Germany. It preserves a section of the original Wall structure and the "Death Strip," and features an open-air exhibition, viewing platforms, and a memorial chapel. This site vividly portrays the harsh reality of the separation of families and cities, and it serves as a place to reflect on freedom, unity, and human rights.

Recommended duration: Approximately 1–1.5 hours.

Optional Activity

Berlin Guided Tour (Option 2.)



- Visit Potsdam

Potsdam is located about 40 kilometers southwest of Berlin and is the capital of Brandenburg. The city has a long history and was once the summer residence of the Prussian kings. It is renowned for its palaces and gardens and is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

- Sanssouci Palace (Schloss Sanssouci)

Sanssouci Palace was built by Frederick the Great in 1745 as a summer palace. The name “Sans souci” is French for “without worries,” reflecting the relaxed nature of the place. The Rococo-style palace blends art and nature, with its famous terraced vineyards and the beautiful Sanssouci Garden. Inside, you can explore the royal bedrooms, study, and exquisite murals, showcasing the opulence of the Prussian royal family.

Recommended duration: About 1.5–2 hours.

Tip: The palace and the entire Sanssouci Park are very expansive, so it's recommended to wear comfortable walking shoes.



- Historic City Center of Potsdam (Historische Innenstadt Potsdam)

The old town of Potsdam features a blend of German and Dutch architectural styles, with the most famous landmark being the Dutch Quarter (Holländisches Viertel). This area is made up of four rows of red brick Dutch-style houses, built in the 18th century by Dutch craftsmen. The atmosphere here is leisurely, ideal for walking, with cafés, art shops, and local life to explore.

Recommended duration: About 1 hour.



- Wannsee

Wannsee is a lake located on the border of Berlin and Potsdam, known for its natural beauty and historical significance. The area has a beach resort that serves as a popular summer getaway. The Wannsee Villa, located by the lake, is also famous for being the site of the Wannsee Conference (1942), where Nazi leaders discussed the “Final Solution.”

Recommended duration: About 45 minutes.



- Cecilienhof Palace (Schloss Cecilienhof)

This Tudor-style palace was the last royal residence of the Hohenzollern family. It is most famous for being the location of the Potsdam Conference in 1945, where U.S. President Harry Truman, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill (later replaced by Clement Attlee), and Soviet leader Joseph Stalin met to discuss the post-war future of Germany and Europe. The palace has since been converted into a museum, preserving the original setting of the conference.

Recommended duration: About 1 hour.



August 25-27

Optional Activity:

Three-Day Tour of Nearby Cities Around Berlin


40EUR/person/day, excluding transportation and accommodation.

Due to low bookings for this option between August 25–27, we have cancelled the group trip plan. However, any students who would still like to go can do so with individual assistance.

August 25th



- Day 1: Berlin → Wittenberg → Leipzig | The Path of the Reformation and Cultural Heritage

-  Lutherstadt Wittenberg

This small town became the birthplace of the Reformation when Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses in 1517. Today, the town retains many historical buildings and museums related to Luther.

- Schlosskirche (Castle Church): The famous location where Luther posted the 95 Theses and the place of his burial.
- Luther Museum: Displays his writings, manuscripts, and personal belongings, offering an in-depth understanding of Luther's thoughts.
- Lunch: Traditional German restaurant or café in the town center.
- In the afternoon, travel to Leipzig.
- Mendelssohn-Haus Leipzig: Located in the city center, this was the last residence of Felix Mendelssohn. It is now a memorial museum and small concert venue. The museum houses exhibits like pianos, letters, manuscripts, and portraits, and sometimes hosts concerts.
- Schumann-Haus Leipzig: Located in the city center, this was the first home of Robert Schumann and Clara Schumann after their marriage. It preserves many documents and artifacts related to their musical lives.
- After dinner, check in at a local hotel.

August 25-27 Optional Activity: Three-Day Tour of Nearby Cities Around Berlin

August 26th



- Day 2: Leipzig City Tour | Historical Landmarks and Musical Sanctuaries
- Völkerschlachtdenkmal (Monument to the Battle of the Nations):

This monument commemorates the victory of the anti-Napoleon coalition in the 1813 Battle of Leipzig. Standing at 91 meters, it is one of Europe's largest war memorials. Visitors can climb to the top for a panoramic view of the entire Leipzig city. Recommended duration: 2 hours



- Lunch recommendation: Near the City Hall, try traditional Saxon cuisine.

- Thomaskirche (St. Thomas Church):

This church was the workplace of Johann Sebastian Bach, who served as the music director (Thomaskantor) here. It was in this church that he composed and conducted many of his works, and it is also his burial site. The atmosphere is sacred and solemn, making it an excellent venue for listening to cantatas or religious music. The church regularly hosts organ concerts and Bach choral performances. Recommended duration: 1 hour



- Bach-Museum Leipzig:

Located across from St. Thomas Church, the museum holds an impressive collection of Bach's manuscripts, instruments, family history, and other precious artifacts. There are also interactive exhibits where visitors can experience the music creation process firsthand. Recommended duration: 1.5–2 hours



- In the evening, enjoy free time to explore the city's shopping streets and historic buildings, such as the Old Town Hall (Altes Rathaus) and Naschmarkt.
- For dinner, you can choose to dine independently or let the guide assist with meal suggestions, marking the end of the day's itinerary.

August 25-27 Optional Activity: Three-Day Tour of Nearby Cities Around Berlin

August 27th



- Day 3: Leipzig → Dessau → Berlin | Modern Design Enlightenment Tour
- Bauhaus Dessau Campus:
Established in 1919, the Bauhaus School moved to Dessau in 1925, becoming a symbol of modernist architecture and design. The campus, designed by Walter Gropius, is renowned for its functionalism and spatial aesthetics.
- Bauhaus Museum Dessau:
The museum displays interdisciplinary design works, ranging from furniture, printing, and textiles to architectural models, embodying the Bauhaus philosophy of “the unity of art and craft.”
- Lunch recommendation: Near the Bauhaus campus or at a design-inspired restaurant in Dessau city.
- In the afternoon, return to Berlin and enjoy a group dinner at a restaurant near the hotel.

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