

## **About us**

Kulturzentrum E-Werk, a cultural center in Erlangen / Bavaria has been an important factor in the socio-cultural events of the region for more than 35 years and is known far beyond the regional borders as one of the largest cultural centers in Germany.

Originated from a “need for rest” of residents around, when 2 youth clubs in 1982 had to move into a decommissioned power plant, it has a turbulent history behind it and is still under power!

The E-Werk is run and operated by an association and a limited liability company and faces - like many socio-cultural centers - the difficult degree between financially lucrative events and the claim to quality and education, without having to give up on its ideals.

The E-Werk is home to a cinema and four different venues - from the familial "Kellerbühne" to the great hall. Our 2,500 square feet of event space have a visitor reception capacity of 2,500 people. Every year 250,000 to 300,000 guests visit the E-Werk, which is also embedded within the city's north, surrounded by a good infrastructure and with 600 parking spaces around ("Kaufland Erlangen").

Managing Director of the E-Werk is Berndt Urban (until 2020). The association chairman is currently Heiner Grillenberger. The E-Werk trains several apprentices, has over 130 employees and youngsters doing a "FSJ" (Voluntary Social Year - Culture). In addition, roundabout 80 volunteers are involved in the E-Werk program. The administration, the public relations and the program planning, the gastronomy and the evening business, the technology, the property management and the billposting are all concentrated in the GmbH. The association is primarily the superstructure for the volunteer structures.

## **Music & Spoken Word**

Every year we host more than 200 live acts from almost all genres: hip-hop, reggae, world music, jazz, pop & rock, independent, singer-songwriter, folk, punk, literature, poetry slam, theater, cabaret. The E-Werk promotes the local and regional scene through weekly performances such as the free and inside club in the cellar stage "Kellerbühne". In addition to nationally known and popular events such as "Jazz for Free" or the Poetry Slam, there are also a variety of different parties.

## **Movie Theatre**

Every day, visitors have the opportunity to use sophisticated programs at affordable prices in our E-Werk cinema. The mainly volunteer-based cinema group has been working for years with consistently high quality. In weekly sessions, the program is planned and discussed. In summer, open-air cinema shows take place in our garden.

## **Socioculture, Education, Projects & Cooperations**

Readings, discussions, slideshows, regular group meetings, consultations and courses take place and are offered. The aim is to step up again in the political and social discourse and to discuss controversial topics such as to pick up and discuss tuition fees, homophobia, state privatization plans or everyday racism with events.

The E-Werk is a Member of Bundesvereinigung soziokultureller Zentren and LAG Bayern.

Some examples of our program in different sectors:

Children and adolescents

For over ten years, the KinderKulturTag has been offering sophisticated cultural events for large and small E-Werk visitors on one Sunday each month. For young people we offer many opportunities for participation in our groups (play group, bicycle workshop, city SMV, pottery workshop, cinema group, juggling & acrobatics group, screen printing workshop, Erlanger pub choir, word work), many recreational activities (parties and concerts), but also eSport tournaments and open gaming Evenings.

#### Environment & Sustainability

For some years, our repair cafe has been enjoying the interest of many citizens who do not want to give up on a beloved electrical device or similar and who make the offer to have it professionally repaired for a donation. Furthermore, we deal in many formats with the above topics, such as our "Weitsicht" (foresight) Erlangen film series in the E-Werk cinema.

#### Intercultural

The E-Werk is an open house for cultural associations and institutions in Erlangen, which not only appreciate the necessary premises but also the technical infrastructure of the E-Werk and use it on numerous occasions. So there are always great cooperations, such as the International Garden Festival, Fest der Kulturen, Jour de France, Argentine Caravan Festival and much more.

#### Politics & Society

In addition to the "EN-Stammtisch mit Musik", which often deals with local political issues in a relaxed setting and invites illustrious guests from the Erlangen city society, there are always formats that also address global issues such as "human rights" (film series and discussion events).

#### Cooperation

Again and again, the E-Werk offers interesting and socially relevant topics an open house. So there are e.g. the "Marktschwärmer" initiative", which allows small agricultural producers to contact interested buyers without having to negotiate great paths. To do this, we offer interesting publishers such as the Erlangen publisher "homunculus" the opportunity to present their authors with us. E-Werk also is an open house here for ideas with cultural and social relevance.

### **Youth and communication**

Youth culture work was and is one of the central concerns of Erlangen's E-Werk. At parties and student parties, in dance classes and at the daily meeting point in the pub or our beer garden, young people can celebrate, meet and share. A program office concentrates on youth work, designs and plans events in close cooperation with the youth. These range from the party with live bands to discussion events. In addition, since 2007, two street workers with a focus on youth work have been working from their office at E-Werk.

### **Creativity / Initiative**

Since the founding of the company, numerous different groups have been active in E-Werk's activities. Whether manual or artistic, volunteers working in groups can use the premises of the E-Werk.

Areas such as the bicycle or pottery workshop were built especially for group activities, others - such as the computer room in the attic - were equipped by the group staff themselves. There are several times a week the opportunities to become active with the groups. The association and the GmbH work closely together to ensure the flow of communication and make decision-making possible.

## **Participate!**

You can do much more at the E-Werk than “just” attend concerts / parties / readings! Do you really know our club? E-Werk traditionally offers a large number of free and varied offers in increasing numbers, in particular through our open groups, workshops and initiatives under the umbrella of the Kulturzentrum E-Werk e.V.!

The program is aimed at music lovers as well as eloquents, acrobats or organizational talents - from young to old you can be active here.

Currently there is the computer group Bits'n'Bugs,  
the author group “Wortwerk Erlangen”,  
the Erlangen pub choir (Erlanger Kneipenchor),  
the juggling and acrobatics group (Jongleure & Akrobaten),  
the bicycle workshop (FlickWerk),  
the game group (Spielegruppe),  
the city of SMV (student representative),  
the pottery workshop (pottery in Kulturpunkt Bruck),  
the open screen printing workshop (in Hauptstrasse 84 at the Free Willy)  
the E-Werk Cinema Group  
and the Newcomer Promotion (Sound of My City / Newcomerfestival).

The group leaders always welcome new members into the group - without coercion and obligations.

There is nothing interesting for you?

What many do not know yet: Everyone has the opportunity to start their own group or initiate initiative - so you can not only live out your hobby, your passion with us uncomplicated and unbureaucratic, but also make it accessible to the general public in Erlangen and discover new members. The past shows: good friendships are born here, but you will at least find like-minded people!

How it works? Every second Tuesday of the month (except for August), the group council of the E-Werk meets in the cellar stage (“Kellerbühne”) at 7:30pm. Representatives of the groups and initiatives, the board of the cultural center E-Werk e.V. and program staff meet. Ideas or problems are discussed here, the state of affairs is exchanged, and once a year, you plan your own household for the groups. Do not worry - this is not complicated and it is a very manageable bureaucratic effort. In order to further promote the free cultural offer in Erlangen, the groups are dependent on supporters who appreciate the importance of cultural offers and pass them on to future generations.

And: Whether you come as a guest or as a volunteer, is up to you - as well as your consumption in the house: you are not forced to at any time. Stop by, we look forward to you!

## **Local band promotion**

Great, partly still undiscovered bands find their origin in Erlangen, from pop, indie to rock, punk and metal to folk bands and acts, almost every style is represented. However, these musicians can only exist by having them listen to themselves regularly - the best opportunities, of course, are performances.

At the E-Werk Cultural Center, local newcomer promotion plays a major role. Through the music initiative Sound Of My City, the weekly Umsonst & Drinnen (“for free & inside”) Club, the open stage “Saitenwechsel”, as well as the annual Newcomer Festival music competition, there are some solid instances that offer the local music scene a platform and

performance opportunities. In addition, bands can organize their own (release) concerts in cooperation with us, apply for festival appearances or as a prelude to great artists at E-Werk.

## **Room Rental**

Whether large events covering the entire building or small seminars: the E-Werk Erlangen offers a variety of venues best suited for your event concept! Rent a space for meetings, conferences, receptions, performances or private celebrations! We are happy to implement your individual ideas by providing our facilities and in-house services concerning catering, technical equipment, staff and infrastructure. Stop by or give us a call: We are delighted to arrange a viewing with you!

## **Campus Radio “funklust”**

The Campus Radio Studios funklust of the Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen has been a cooperation partner since May 2019. Since 2015, the campus media of the FAU have been funniest: a merger of the former student radios "bit eXpress" and "Unimax". funklust was created as a sponsorship project of the Fraunhofer Institute in Tennenlohe, which provided the radio studio for research purposes. After completing the research, the funklust radio studio is now settled in the E-Werk, 1<sup>st</sup> floor. funklust does not only make radio: "We also create videos for our Youtube channel as well as larger video projects, such as for the Erlangen News."

## **Youth Club “fuxx”**

The opening of the youth meeting "FUXX" was celebrated in July 2017 together with the anniversary of the 35th anniversary of the E-Werk Cultural Center. The new building is centrally located between the cultural center and the car park of the Kaufland, in the middle of the Erlangen city center. The Jugendtreff visitors has 200m<sup>2</sup> upstairs, large windows, upscale amenities and state-of-the-art technology.

The youth club stands out not only by its special architecture. The youngsters, mainly aged 12 to 18 years old, can use a large terrace, a living room, a multipurpose / dance room, a PlayStation corner and the kitchen. Since then, a team of three social pedagogues maintains the operation in the youth club. Together with the addressees, the specialists set up a colorful program.

## **Kraft-Werk**

In 2011 the rehearsal room center "Kraft-Werk" had its opening in the former premises of the "Franken II" power plant in Erlangen-Frauenaurach. Due to the close cooperation between "Musikzentrale Nürnberg" and Kulturzentrum E-Werk as well as the support of the City of Erlangen and the district of Middle Franconia, there are now urgently needed practice areas for young musicians and bands. With 36 rehearsal rooms, the "Kraft-Werk" is one of the largest rehearsal centers in the Nuremberg Metropolitan Region.

## **Accessibility**

Due to the existing elevator and toilets suitable for the disabled, basic accessibility has been guaranteed since the foundation of the E-Werk (1981/82). At the two main entrances are two rings for handicapped guests, an evening supervisor (+49 9131800524) accompanies the

calling wheelchair users and handicapped persons to the desired venue. The guests can ask at any time at the counters for the evening manager. At non-chaired events, a chair can be brought in at any time for disabled and elderly people.

During partial renovation of the house, which was completed in 2009, most accessibility issues were followed. The cinema was the first barrier-free in Erlangen. For this we were advised by the Center for Self-determined Life Disabled e.V. in Erlangen.

Regular and irregular offers in the field of integration / inclusion like "OBA Disco" (dance event of the open disability work of the "Lebenshilfe"), about 5 times a year, each with up to 200 guests, and other film festivals and Events, Readings and Concerts, take place at E-Werk.

An accompanying person of a disabled person has free admission.

Upon request ([info@e-werk.de](mailto:info@e-werk.de); +49 9131 80050) we reserve a space for wheelchair users.

### **Prices**

In general we don't offer any ticket discounts. But occasionally there are discounts selected parties like Students, Senior Citizens and Unemployed; and our Cinema offers a general discount to persons addressed as mentioned above. The prices can be requested at any time in advance. (Phone: +49 9131 80050)

### **Opening hours**

The house is usually open Mon-Sun from 6pm, depending on the length of the events. There are exceptions in the daytime or events closed for the public, these are always announced beforehand, for info please check our homepage [www.e-werk.de](http://www.e-werk.de) or call our info desk (9:30am – 6 pm, +49 9131 80050).