



3rd European KIDS Regio Forum

More than 80 experts from all over Europe will meet in Weimar/Germany from 27 to 28 June for the conference entitled "Connecting the Dots - Towards a vital European children's film culture".

On the 27 and 28 of June 2019 in Weimar/Germany, the 3rd KIDS Regio Forum will offer lectures and discussions on academic studies, successful European children's film projects and initiatives as well as film funding. The key topics of the conference include distribution and access to European children's film beyond its national borders, the marketing of children's films and positive image building for children's film as cultural asset with a high socio-cultural relevance. The conference's organisers of the European lobby initiative KIDS Regio are particularly interested in improving the current situation of children's films through a close-knit European network.

The participants themselves become active within think tanks and discussions of the status quo, they will explore synergies and develop ideas and strategies to strengthen children's film in Europe. Along an interactive and interdisciplinary conference design, demands will be developed to impact regional, national and European film policy as well as film production in the coming years. Above all, the main goal is to achieve an even closer cooperation on a European level in order to raise awareness for children's films in legislative processes, the allocation of film funds and film policy decision-making.

Katriel Schory, CEO of the Israel Film Fund, will present a keynote about the successful development of a film culture on a local, national and international level. In addition, Kenyan director Likarion Wainaina is going to reflect on the cultural and social potential of children's films. His Kenyan-German children's film "Supa Modo" received a special mention at the Berlinale Generation 2018 and was the Kenyan contribution to the Oscar® in 2019. Discussing the situation of children's films in Africa, he will build a bridge to Europe and thereby encourage participants to discuss the cultural and social potential of children's films.

Within interactive think tanks, experts share their know-how with the other participants. Thus, Magdalena Dzbik from Creative Europe MEDIA will give a lecture on "European support schemes for young audience content". Marina Andree Skop and Darija Kulenovic together with Nicholas Sando will present the first Croatian-Norwegian film co-production "My Grandpa is an Alien". Furthermore, Margret Albers, President of the European Children's Film Association, will talk about strategic measures to develop and promote original stories.

More than 80 participants from over 20 European countries will take part - including researchers, authors, directors and producers, representatives of broadcasters, world sales companies, distributors, funding bodies, politicians and other interest groups will be participating.

This year's KIDS Regio Forum is under the patronage of Prof. Dr. Benjamin-Immanuel Hoff, Head of the Thuringian State Chancellery and Minister for Federal and European Affairs.

Kind regards,
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*An initiative by KIDS Regio – within the framework of Cine-Regio,
In cooperation with MDM – Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung, the State Chancellery of Thuringia,
Film i Skåne, Nederlands Film Fonds and Creative Europe Desks as well as the European
Children's Film Association,
Organized by The German Children's Media Foundation Golden Sparrow*

*KIDS Regio presents a lobby initiative for high quality and multi-faceted European Children's
Films. It functions as an agent between policy and society, the film industry and the scientific
world in order to form a network and discuss new synergies. Thus the initiative supports the
industry professionals in film for children & youth and built a platform to strengthen existing
networks and define solutions to improve the status, transfer and variety of European
productions, co-productions & distributions for children and youth.
KIDS Regio particularly supports original live-action feature films for children, which offer
children a wide variety of stories, genres and styles.*