

PRESS RELEASE

20 July 2022

A successful opening year – taking stock after 365 days in the Humboldt Forum

Around 1,5 million guests, 820,000 visitors to exhibitions, 4,500 tours and 390 events with 800 experts, academics and artists from over 25 countries attended by around 150,000 people, and 8 exhibitions. During its first year of opening, the Humboldt Forum has not only developed into a new urban space in the heart of Berlin, but also a thriving location for culture and science, discussion and debate.

On 20 July 2021, the Humboldt Forum opened its doors at last, revealing the modern interior behind the reconstructed palace façades. There followed 365 days filled with exhibitions, tours, discussions, theatrical productions, open-air festivals, performances, concerts, DJ sets, readings, premiers, dance performances, film series, educational programmes, participatory projects, artistic interventions, conferences, digitalised exhibits, video art, sound installations and much, much more. In that time, we have welcomed around 1.5 million visitors. Offering a rich variety of places to eat, drink and shop, the Spree balcony, the Humboldt Terraces in the Lustgarten, the Roof Terrace and its unique view of Berlin, the baroque Schlüterhof and the modern foyer have become popular places for thousands of visitors from Berlin and around the world to meet every day.

Attracting around 820,000 visitors, the eight exhibitions were hugely popular, ranging from the history of the building, including the Palace Cellars, Sculpture Hall and a Video Panorama, to *BERLIN GLOBAL* and *After Nature*. There were also presentations of the collections of the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst, as well as *Impressions. The Humboldt Brothers*. We also featured the special exhibitions *Elephant – Human – Ivory*, and *Have a Seat! An exhibition for children*. The current exhibition is *Songlines: Tracking the Seven Sisters*, which runs until 30 October 2022.

Around 150,000 people participated in both the cross-genre event formats and the cultural education offerings for groups, families, children and young people, as well as kindergartens and schools. A total of 390 events and 4,500 tours took place. The Humboldt Forum's

commitment to social issues was also very well received, such as the multi-day vaccination campaigns against COVID-19 and donating items for Ukraine.

General Director Hartmut Dorgerloh: "We can look back on a very successful first year, particularly given the restrictions due to the pandemic and the impact they had around the world. It has been a joy to witness how, over the past year, the diverse community of Berlin and visitors to the city have taken up the Humboldt Forum and its cultural and scientific programme as an urban space, discussing it, criticising it and also shaping it as a place of democratic, open-minded debate. The final major stage of the opening took place in September, making it possible for the first time to experience in full the collections of the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst, along with five new temporary exhibitions. At last, everything at the Humboldt Forum is open."

The opening of the East Wing will be marked by a varied public programme starting at noon on Saturday, 17 September 2022, which will be free to the public and lasts 24 hours. Details will be published in mid-August.

Free entry with no need to book for almost all areas

Entry to all exhibitions was free of charge for the first 100 days. This is still the case and will continue to apply to most areas. Entry is currently free of charge for the whole Stair Hall, the Roof Terrace, the exhibitions on the history of the site (including the Palace cellars, sculpture hall and video panorama), the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin's *After Nature* exhibition, along with the collections of the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst. It is only necessary to purchase tickets for entry to the following exhibitions: *BERLIN GLOBAL* (€7, concessions free) and the *Songlines: Seven Sisters Create Australia* (€12, concessions €6). Since June it has not been necessary to book tickets for most areas of the Humboldt Forum. However, we ask visitors to book a time-slot ticket in advance if they wish to visit the *Songlines* special exhibition, *BERLIN GLOBAL* and *After Nature*, or to visit the Roof Terrace.

Entry prices for events, tours and other educational activities vary according to the specific format.

Full details may be found at humboldtforum.org.

One building, four partners: our diversity is founded on the collaboration of our partner institutions. The Humboldt Forum is a collaboration between the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss; the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz for collections from the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin; the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin for the Humboldt Lab; and the Stadtmuseum Berlin for the *BERLIN GLOBAL* exhibition.

PRESS CONTACT DETAILS

Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss

Michael Mathis, press spokesperson

+49 30 265 950-525, michael.mathis@humboldtforum.org

Mirko Nowak, Head of Communications

+49 30 265 950-520, mirko.nowak@humboldtforum.org

humboldtforum.org/presse

Ethnologisches Museum and Museum für Asiatische Kunst

Staatliche Museen zu Berlin - Preußischer Kulturbesitz

Stefan Müchler, Media and Communication Department,

Press Officer Humboldt Forum

+49 151 527 515 84, s.muechler@hv.spk-berlin.de

Timo Weißberg, Press Officer for the Dahlem site

+49 30 266 42 6803, t.weissberg@smb.spk-berlin.de

smb.museum.de; preussischer-kulturbesitz.de

Berlin exhibition – Stadtmuseum Berlin

Karsten Grebe, Press and Communications Stadtmuseum Berlin

+49 30 24 002 – 273, grebe@stadtmuseum.de stadtmuseum.de

Humboldt Labor – Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Boris Nietzsche, Press Consultant

+49 30 2093-12720, boris.nietzsche@hu-berlin.de.