

# 35 MAUERFALL JAHRE

Berlin, 5 November 2024

## Hold Freedom up High!

### Berlin to mark the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Wall on 8 & 9 November

- More than 100 individual events await visitors
- A four-kilometre open-air installation along the path of the former Berlin Wall will showcase thousands of posters created by Berliners in support of freedom
- 700 musicians will transform the street into an open-air stage and create an unforgettable experience
- Hundreds of thousands of Berliners and visitors to the city are invited to take part in the unique festival and join together to celebrate freedom

On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Wall, Berlin will transform into an exciting open-air stage. On 8 and 9 November, the capital will celebrate the historic events associated with the fall of the Berlin Wall and relive that unique moment of freedom unbound. All Berliners and visitors to the city are invited to take part in the spectacular closing event on the evening of 9 November at the “Fest für Freiheit” (Festival for Freedom).

At a press event held today, the organising team at Kulturprojekte Berlin joined with **Joe Chialo**, Berlin’s Senator for Culture and Social Cohesion, and other guests to officially present the extensive programme of events marking the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall on 8 and 9 November. Among the key programme points are a four-kilometre-long open-air installation featuring replicas of historical banners and spotlighting posters created by thousands of Berliners since June of this year. There will also be an historical exhibition examining the demands expressed during the Peaceful Revolution and created in cooperation with numerous experts drawn from memorial sites, foundations and academia. The celebrations will also be accompanied by a number of other events such as a lectures, guided tours and performances.

The highlight of the two-day festival will no doubt be the rousing “Konzert für Freiheit” (Concert for Freedom) on the evening of 9 November. This concert will feature over 700 musicians performing eight legendary rock anthems along the path of the former Berlin Wall. Among the songs being played are “Heroes” by David Bowie, “S.O.S” by the German band Silly and “Freiheit” by the German singer-songwriter Marius Müller-Westernhagen. With the help of huge video screens, spectacular lighting effects and thousands of loudspeakers set up along the roughly 4-km route, the evening is set to be a truly touching moment that will likely cause a few goose bumps while also transforming Berliners into the biggest rock band in the world.

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**Joe Chialo**, Berlin's Senator for Culture and Social Cohesion, emphasised the sense of togetherness and common purpose he hopes people will feel during the celebrations: *“Social cohesion is essential for freedom, and only when we stick together will it be possible to preserve freedom for us all. As Berliners, we are eager to send this strong message out to the world with our celebrations marking the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Wall. Our city is the city of freedom. And the Peaceful Revolution played a decisive role in this”.*

Visitors who make their way in person to the site over the course of the festival weekend will be invited to pick up a copy of a book created especially for the occasion; the book, which explores the Peaceful Revolution and also contains images of the thousands of posters featured in the installation, is free of charge. There will be seven exhibition areas along the route of the installation, each offering exciting insights into the Peaceful Revolution and the fall of the Berlin Wall. And, finally, the anniversary celebration will come to a close on 10 November at the “Campus der Demokratie” (Campus of democracy), where events will include a day of action under the title “Revolution! – Then what?” and an open-air concert by Pussy Riot.

**For a detailed programme schedule including all highlights and a list of events involved in the celebrations marking the official “35th Anniversary of the Peaceful Revolution and the Fall of the Berlin Wall”, please visit [mauerfall35.berlin](http://mauerfall35.berlin).**

## **PRESS CONTACT – 35th anniversary of the Peaceful Revolution and fall of the Berlin Wall**

SteinbrennerMüller Kommunikation

T +49 30 4737 -2191/ -2192

mail@steinbrennermueller.de

## **PRESS CONTACT Kulturprojekte Berlin**

Nancy Henze

T +49 30 24749 – 864

pr@kulturprojekte.berlin

## **Funding & Partnerships**

The project marking the 35th anniversary of the Peaceful Revolution and the fall of the Berlin Wall was conceived, organised and implemented by Kulturprojekte Berlin in cooperation with Berlin's Commissioner for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship, the Berlin Wall Memorial Foundation, the Robert Havemann Society, the Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship and many other partners. The project also enjoyed generous support from Berliner Sparkasse and Coca-Cola. The book publication was made possible by the LOTTO Foundation Berlin.