

67. Darmstaedter Heinerfest from June 29 - July 3, 2017

Free Admission

The Most Diverse Downtown Festival in Germany

Finally, it's time again: Each year multiple hundred thousand people from all across the world follow the calling "Kommt alle!" (German for "Everybody come!") to enjoy the vivid hustle happening in downtown Darmstadt, near the residential castle. The exclusive *Heinerfest* ticket for public transportation allows everybody to reach the event ground, presenting rides, culture, and culinary from around the world, in an inexpensive and convenient manner. Wolfgang Koehler, the recently appointed fair president, will be inaugurating this year's *Heinerfest* in the Herrngarten for the first time after seven successful years with fair president Dr. Hans-Joachim Klein. Our twin town San Antonio, Texas, will be contributing to the festival with musical performances and culinary specialties. The *Flying A's* will be playing country and blues music, the master brewer from San Antonio will be helping to brew a *Heinerfest* beer, and the famous chef Johnny Hernandez, who worked in the White House cooking for Barack Obama, will be providing delicacies at the *AlleWeltTreff* (German for "One World Meeting Point".) We will be celebrating many anniversaries: 10 years of Forum Street-Theater located just outside of the darmstadium, 20 years of iconic Trash Show at the *AlleWeltTreff*, and 25 years of friendship with our Ukraine twin town and 15 years with our Spanish twin town.

Last year, thousands of visitors immediately fell in love with our idyllic vineyard located at the historic city wall. In addition to the newly designed Castle bastion, this vineyard will be a cozy get-together for all wine lovers. A big beer garden will be presented by Festhalle Hausmann at the Karolinenplatz for thirsty *Heiners*. More than 200 carnies from all over Germany will be presenting exciting rides and attractions, including the brand new "Apollo 13" and "Best XXL Schaukel".

We are looking forward to five happy days right in the center of Darmstadt evolving around the Friedensplatz. Darmstadt's twin towns will be spoiling the visitors in the beloved *AlleWeltTreff* with local delicacies. Not just the first-time guests from the United States will be present, but many long-time guests from all over Europe will be returning to the Heinerfest as well. *Taruma Percusion* is a young musical group from Spain that will be bringing zest for life and vitality to Darmstadt with their drumming performances. It is common for Spanish fiestas to perform not only on stage but in the streets, which will be one feature of the exciting shows of *Taruma Percusion*. The offer of classical music is truly unique and diverse: The state theatre's orchestra will be presenting "*Heiner klassisch*", an open-air concert on the Georg-Büchner-Platz, the Merck-Orchesterwerkstatt will be playing in the darmstadium, sinfionietta and soloists of Darmstadt's state theater will be performing in the Herrngarten, the church choir will be leading a great *Heinerfest* concert in the city church, and many young stellar musical talents will be presenting their songs.

Music will be heard all over the city with the club *Ponyhof* having parties at the Jugendstilbad, *Piazza* presenting known DJs and live acts, and eight live stages, that will be distributed all over the city, offering diverse musical and dance performances. Entertainment will be available for all age groups, with the *HeinerTreff* in the eastern part of the castle moat featuring jazz and vernacular for adults, and the nostalgic *Heinerfest* children's treat with flower arrangements and magical fun for children in the newly designed western part of the castle moat.

"Our Heinerfest survives with the voluntary help of and partnership with companies and facilities that belong to the identity of the science city Darmstadt. The number of sponsors and supporters grows each year. Everybody is welcome to join the 150 free events", says Wolfgang Koehler. Vernacular will be another main event at this year's *Heinerfest*. The award "Spirwes für Maulkunst und Lebensart" will be presented in the state theatre on Sunday before the festival

begins. Different performances using the famous Hessian dialect will be taking place in the residential castle, the castle moat, and the *AlleWeltTreff*.

In addition to all of these events, the illuminated Herrngarten will be hosting daily concerts, a dance festival, and a rap performance by famous Olli Banjo. *Circus Waldoni* will be presenting fanciful artistry at the Luisenplatz. Street theatres, movies, and a diverse offer of athletic activities will also be included in the great cultural program of the *Heinerfest* that will be providing fun and entertainment for everyone. The yearly Merck firework display, that will take place on Monday night from the roof of the darmstadium, will once again be marking the triumphal final of the famous *Heinerfest*.