

PRESS INFORMATION

## What kids in Berlin wish for: the Friedrichstadt-Palast asks 500 school children in the city's twelve districts

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The jury reviews the wishes: Simon-Paul Wagner, Miriam Shawa, Alex Jakob, Thomas Härtel and Dr. Berndt Schmidt. Photo: Pedro Becerra

**In line with the “Dreams come true” campaign, around 500 children from the twelve districts of Berlin have shared their heart’s desires with the Friedrichstadt-Palast’s young ensemble. A specially drafted, six-person jury then fired the starting shot for making the realizable dreams come true.**

At the end of October, huge pink cuddly rabbits set off on a great journey across Germany’s capital. Representing the more than 402,000 school children in Berlin, pupils at the Allegro primary school in the city’s Mitte district kick-started the Berlin-wide campaign in cooperation with the Berlin Child Protection Agency and the state advisory council for family-related issues.

Altogether, over 500 wishes were collected. These were reviewed carefully before the jury made its selection. The jury was made up of Thomas Härtel (former state secretary and chairman of the state advisory council for family-related issues), Alex Jakob (Berlin Child Protection Agency), intendant Dr. Berndt Schmidt, Simon-Paul Wagner (prominent ambassador of the “Dreams come true” campaign, and Miriam Shawa (15), a member of the Friedrichstadt-Palast’s young ensemble.

“We were very surprised by how many non-material wishes the children had, like going swimming with their dad, and the selfless wishes, like happiness for a sister’s new family. We were moved by how mature and sensible some of the wishes were, like the



Friedrichstadt-Palast  
Europe's Show Palace  
Friedrichstrasse 107  
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In the East End Theatre District  
General Director:  
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State Secretary of Culture  
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wish for more German tuition. Of course, there were also countless very sweet wishes, and we made use of all of our contacts at fire services, the TV tower and zoos, in order to fulfill as many of the wishes as possible."

With the help of their contacts, the jury managed to fulfill a total of around 40 per cent of the children's 500 wishes. At the end, all of the children received a gift. Including the ones whose dreams could not be realized (a "butterfly-knife" or a games console), all of the children were given a cute pink cuddly rabbit from the Palast.

A selection of the wishes submitted:

a packet of gummy bears 150g	grass on the school football pitch
a karate course	whittling tools
a visit to: the zoo, the cinema, bamboo land, fashion school, the TV tower, stables, swimming pool	to dance on the stage in silver shoes
a pony ride	fencing club membership
books	extra German tuition
sports headscarf	a day as a zookeeper
no more hunger in the world	left-handed scissors
to spend time with my dad and sister	a spying robot
that polar areas don't melt	a wooden rabbit house
Santa's elves	Dalmatian puppies
ballerina music box which drives away monsters	4 months without siblings
to play football with Robert Lewandowski	that my sister's new family will be happy
princess costume	want to do everything with my friends
a magic wand	a piano, meet DieLochis (YouTube celebrities)
to touch a crocodile	a mini fridge
a fairy princess	to fight a ninja

The dream-rabbits mentioned above, souvenirs of our latest production 'Keinschneechaos', represent the diversity of young Berliners' ideas. The fluffy friends will form an impressive family at the foyer of number 107 Friedrichstraße from the close of the campaign until the end January 2014. Upon them, guests young and old can read what today's children are wishing for.

*The Friedrichstadt-Palast would like to thank all supporters for their kind support, among them: Borussia Dortmund, Heide Park Resort, Circus Roncalli, Playmobil FunPark, Europa Park, Xavier Naidoo, Spreewelten Lübbenau, Berlin's television tower, Berlin dungeon, Manuel Neuer, Serengeti Park in Hodenhagen, the Berlin fire service, Legoland discovery centre in Berlin, AquaDom & SEA LIFE Berlin, the Berlin youth transport school, the fire brigade museum, Leipzig zoo etc.*

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