

## junges Ensemble (young Ensemble)

Every year, more than 500 children apply to join the junges Ensemble (young Ensemble) of the Palast in the heart of Berlin. With more than 280 kids and teenagers from over 20 nations, the Young Ensemble is the largest ensemble for kids and young people in Europe and as such already a modern legend: under the motto 'Children performing for children!' the children of the Palast first danced and performed in October 1945 in the 'Heavenly Carnival'.

Launched as a 'children's variety show' and then evolving into a 'children's revue', the junges Ensemble, unique in Europe, has now arrived in the 21st century. In the meantime, the children's revues have turned into children's shows, the kids, whom it is actually about, also understand the synonym show the name of the ensemble has also changed: since its members are between seven and 16 years old, it is no longer referred to as a children's ensemble but as the junges Ensemble. Or have you ever tried to call a 14- or 16-year-old youngster a child?

The sheer level of creativity, curiosity and motivation of the 280 kids and adolescents in the junges Ensemble is without equal. You can sense their pride in belonging to this extraordinary, international ensemble at the Palast and in being able to perform on the largest theatre stage in the world.

And 'international' is not an empty word here: whether it be Xin from China, Lukas-Joaquin aus Chile or Rwan and Maja from Syria, all of these kids, as long as they meet certain requirements, will be accepted into the Palast's junges Ensemble where, for ten years, they will be placed under the tutelage of a highly professional team of instructors under the direction of Christina Tarelkin, where they will be coached, instructed and cared for.

All of the choreographers, acting and vocal coaches, acrobatics and master trainers, are experts in their fields. This is how the junges Ensemble was able to win the 1997 Culture Prize presented by the State of Berlin. In 1997, it also won the German Children's Cultural Award for outstanding achievements in its work with children from the Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk (German Children's Fund), and in 2012 it received another prize from the German Children's Fund.

Former members like Paula Beer (Bavarian Film Prize, Best Newcomer at the Film Festival in Venice), Dagmar Biener (Ödipussi, Pappa ante Portas), Sonja Gerhardt (Hessen Television Prize), Olivia Gräser (Großstadtrevier), Sophie Karbjinski (Emmas Chatroom), Alina Levshin (German Film Prize, Bambi Award Winner), Patricia Meeden (SOKO Leipzig) and Julia Richter (Polizeiruf 110) as well as Lucas Reiber (Bavarian Film Prize, New Faces Award), Justus Schmeck and Benjamin Trinks (Unsere Mütter, unsere Väter) prove that the junges Ensemble can be a stepping stone to a further career.

To make every performance a success that wows the audience requires intensive training, many rehearsals and, of course, discipline. The YE promotes individuality within the collective and focuses on team spirit as well as on quality in the training provided, in the artistic outcome and in the members' interactions with one another. Only in this way is it possible that every year show productions are filled well to capacity in no time flat and most often even sold out.

### PRESS CONTACT:

Josephine Dörfler  
Team Lead PR

T +49 30 2326 2-201  
M +49 172 2079 138  
doerfler@palast.berlin

Natascha Lecki  
Director of Marketing, Sales & PR

T +49 30 2326 2-230  
M +49 152 5633 7101  
lecki@palast.berlin

[www.palast.berlin](http://www.palast.berlin)

Friedrichstadt-Palast Berlin

Friedrichstraße 107  
D-10117 Berlin-Mitte

General Director:  
Dr. Berndt Schmidt

Chairman of the Board:  
Dr. Klaus Lederer  
Senator for Culture and Europe

  Owned by the  
City of Berlin