

Fresh from the press

Neujahrsempfang in der Stadthalle

Borken begrüßt das Jubiläumsjahr

BORKEN (ska). Das Borkener Stadtjubiläum stand im Mittelpunkt des traditionellen Neujahrsempfangs am Donnerstagabend in der Stadthalle Vennehof. Über 400 Gäste dürften es gewesen sein, die der Einladung von Stadt und Kreis Borken gefolgt sind, versprach dieser Empfang eben aufgrund des besonderen Geburtstags auch ein besonderes Programm.

Das „Highlight des Abends“, das Bürgermeisterin Mechtild Schulze Hessing in ihrer Begrüßung versprochen hatte, war auch schnell identifiziert: Die grandiose Festouvertüre, die eigens im Auftrag der Stadt von Guido Rennert komponiert wurde. Schon bei der Uraufführung im September vergangenen Jahres auf dem Marktplatz hat das Stück die Zuhörer begeistert. Das war am Don-



Das Kreisorchester Borken präsentierte in der Stadthalle die eigens für das Stadtjubiläum komponierte Festouvertüre. Sehr zur Freude des begeisterten Publikums. Foto: Marie



Rund 400 Gäste waren der Einladung von Stadt und Kreis Borken gefolgt. Foto: Kauffelt

nerstag nicht anders. Der Lohn für die Darbietung des Borkener Kreisorchesters unter der Leitung von André Baumeister war tosender Beifall. Rennert hat mit seinem Werk den richtigen Nerv getroffen, perfekt ergänzt durch die eigens auf die Musik abgestimmten Bilder auf den Leinwänden, das wurde erneut deutlich.

Den zweiten Teil des in seiner Dichttheit ambitionierten Programms bildete ein Podium, auf dem nicht weniger als 19 Menschen erzählten,

was sie mit Borken verbinden oder auch schon für Borken getan hatten. Herzerwärmend dabei waren vor allem die Beiträge des von Moderator Philipp Dienberg so genannten „Europa-Tisches“. So trafen vor allem die Botschaften der Gäste aus Dänemark („ich bin überrascht wie gastfreundlich in Borken alle sind“), Tschechien („Borken bedeutet für mich Innovation, Freundschaft und warmes Umarmen“) und der Ukraine („Wir haben hier mehr als

Unterstützung erfahren, wir haben hier Liebe erfahren“) ebenfalls einen Nerv beim Publikum.

Stadt und Kreis hatten viele Vertreter aus Politik, Wirtschaft, Vereinen und verschiedenen Organisationen eingeladen. Dazu konnten sich auch Bürgerinnen und Bürger anmelden, weshalb die Stadthalle voller war als bei manch früherem Neujahrsempfang.

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Please connect to our
translation service

We will start at 9:30

Wireless Network

- Rathaus-Gast
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Welcome to the International Network Conference of Twin Towns

Velkomst - Willkommen - Accueillir - Välkomna - Laskavo prosymo - Ласкаво просимо - Vítejte - Welcome



Agenda

Look forward to a busy and exciting day around twinning

- ▶ 9:30 Welcome to Borken and Introduction of Attendees
- ▶ 10:00 Workshop “Next Generation Twinning”
 - ▶ How can we inspire young people (aged 16-25) with the idea of twinning?
- ▶ 12:30 Lunch break
- ▶ 13:30 Workshop Wrap Up and Commitments
- ▶ 14:00 Split Teams for Groups
 - ▶ Session 1 - Members of Twinning Associations
led by Markus Rößing - Room 1
 - ▶ Session 2 - Mayor’s Round Table
led Mechtild Schulze Hessing - Room 2
- ▶ 17:00 End of day
- ▶ 18:30 “Wintertreff”

Coffee breaks included



Welcome to Borken

Your hosts for this weekend

Mechtild Schulze Hessing

Bürgermeisterin der Stadt Borken

Markus Rößing

1. Vorsitzender des Partnerschaftsvereins Borken

Unterstützt durch



Minister für Bundes- und Europaangelegenheiten,
Internationales sowie Medien
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen
und Chef der Staatskanzlei



Who is around today?



Whitstable
Di ...
Gillian ...
Graham ...
Jean ...

Grabow
Brigitte ...
Eduard ...
Kathleen ...
Laura ...

Říčany
Martina ...
Martin ...

Dainville
Beatrice ...
Françoise ...

Albertslund
Finn ...
Gisela ...
Lars ...
Leif ...

Podilsk
Anastasiia ...
Olena ...
Volodymyr ...
Yana ...

Borken
Bernd ...
Dorothee ...
Markus ...
Mechtild ...
Mike ...
Nicole ...
Reinhard ...
Simon ...
Udo ...

Möln dal
Michael ...

Guests
Imke ...
Irina ...
Leona ...
Lotte ...
Marie ...
Nicole ...
Olha ...
René ...

Workshop

How can we inspire young people (aged 16-25) with the idea of twinning?

- ▶ 10:00 Setting the scene
- ▶ 10:15 Presentations from the Twin Towns: 10 - 15 mins. each
 - ▶ Albertslund - Dainville - Grabow - Mölndal - Podilsk - Říčany - Whitstable - Borken
- ▶ 11:45 Discussion of the ideas and selection of the focus areas
- ▶ 12:30 Lunch break
 - ▶ Enjoy conversations around the morning and the way forward
- ▶ 13:30 Workshop Wrap Up and Commitments
 - ▶ What did you learn during lunch - where should we focus?
 - ▶ Commitments to turn the ideas into action
- ▶ 14:00 split up for the afternoon sessions



Presentation Notes (1)



▶ Albertslund

- ▶ Youth Festival
- ▶ Saturday, April 11th, 2026
 - ▶ Invite representatives from twin towns to learn about it
 - ▶ Invitation to young people to join as visitors
 - ▶ Longterm: get twin towns guest into the lineup
- ▶ Instagram VORESALBERTSLUND

▶ Grabow

- ▶ Survey of Young People
- ▶ Connect Twinning & Youth Clubs
- ▶ Engage kids who know it already from past experience to report to new kids
- ▶ School exchange to Dainville



Presentation Notes (2)

► Mölndal

- How can we re-engage the city again?
- Spread invitations for young people festivals into the community
- ACTION:
Send a formal letter signed by the mayor's of all twin towns to the mayor

► Podilsk

- How to gain attention of kids who are not interested
- Get early access to schools?

► Ricany

- Understand what can motivate young people? What can attract their attention?
- Find their topics of interests related to international networking

► Whitstable

- Be the middle-man for initiatives and people to travel and exchange
- Bring people in touch, build the network

► Borken

- Internship apprenticeships
- One Instagram for all



Presentations

The following presentations used during the workshop will be attached

- ▶ Albertslund
 - ▶ Youth festival Albertslund_2
- ▶ Borken
 - ▶ Networkconference_Borken_Internship_Social_Media
- ▶ Grabow
 - ▶ Survey of Children in Grabow
- ▶ Whitstable
 - ▶ Whitstable presentation for Network Conference



Our commitments (1)

► Instagram

- One Account as a joint place for all twin towns
- We keep it actual and busy
- Borken apprentices will take the lead
- 3 weeks for concepts
- Twin towns provide local contacts
- 6 weeks for first zoom with team
- Go-Live on May 1st

► Internships

► Participating

- Borken
 - Grabow
 - Dainville
(depending on election in March)
 - Albertslund
(depending on sign in from city council)
- By December 31st we will have completed the first one-week internship between two towns



Our commitments (2)



► Festivals

- Ra Festival in Albertslund
 - Borken will send 2...3 people to learn about it and look behind the scenes
- We will communicate about youth festival in the twin towns
 - to spread the word and attract visitors
 - To potentially find actors to join on stage in a twin town
- We aim to bring it on the agenda for the next Network Conference

► Schools

- We understand it is not as easy and meaningful as it used to be
- We continue to support working relationships between schools to keep the momentum
- Engaging schools will be become more difficult for regulations and time constraints
- We act as the middleman if there is any interest and try to find counterparts where applicable



For the next Network Conference

- ▶ Agenda input from today's conference
 - ▶ Invite young people to join the conference
 - ▶ Maybe from one of the activities triggered today?
 - ▶ Make the approach of festivals for young people a topic
 - ▶ What is going on?
 - ▶ How can we better support the exchange
- ▶ Review the outcome from the Internship Program
 - ▶ Achievement of commitment
 - ▶ Experience and Learning, visibility on Instagram



Room Assignment for the afternoon



Session 1 Members of Twinning Associations		Session 2 Mayor's Round Table
Kleiner Sitzungssaal		Großer Sitzungssaal
Beatrice DAINVILLE	Martina RICANY	Anastasiia PODILSK
Brigitte GRABOW	Martin RICANY	Di WHITSTABLE
Eduard GARBOW	Michael MÖLNDAL	Françoise DAINVILLE
Finn ALEBRTSLUND	Olena PODILSK	Jean WHITSTABLE
Gillian WHITSTABLE	Volodymyr PODILSK	Kathleen GRABOW
Gisela ALBERTSLUND	Team PV Borken	Lars ALBERTSLUND
Graham WHITSTABLE	Olha INTERPRETER	Laura GRABOW
Leif ALBERTSLUND		Mechtild BORKEN
		Yana PODILSK
		Irina INTERPRETER



Thanks to our sponsors for supporting the Network Conference

Die Netzwerkkonferenz wurde von der Landesinitiative Europa-Schecks des Ministers für Bundes- und Europaangelegenheiten, Internationales sowie Medien und Chef der Staatskanzlei des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen unterstützt.



Minister für Bundes- und Europaangelegenheiten,
Internationales sowie Medien
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen
und Chef der Staatskanzlei



Thanks for being with us

Enjoy your time in Borken



Backup Slides



Flipcharts from the workshop

Reference only - see summary on next pages



ALBERTSLUND
Youth Festival
April 14th, Saturday
- Representatives from Twin Towns
- Invite Young people to visit
- Long term: get performance on stage
INSTAGRAM
VORES ALBERTSLUND

GRABOW
• Survey of young people
• Connect Twinning & Youth Club
• Engage kids who know it already
• School exchange Dairville

MÖLNDALE
Re-engage Citygarn?
Invitations to young people festivals
Formal letter from other mayors?

PODILSK
HOW TO GAIN ATTENTION OF KIDS WHO ARE NOT INTERESTED
Early school intro?

RICANY
UNDERSTAND WHAT CAN MOTIVATE THE YOUNG PEOPLE?
- FIND THEIR INTERNATIONAL TOPICS

WHITSTABLE
Be the middle man for initiatives and people to travel and exchange

BORKEN
INTERNSHIP
INSTAGRAM

INSTAGRAM
APPRENTICES
FESTIVALS
SCHOOLS

Instagram
- one account
- Responsibility in each town
- it must be actual
- Go live 1. May
- First information comes from Borken
V.

Apprentices
- Participate
TOWN-HALLS
• Borken
• Dairville?
• Grabow
• Albertslund?
• Ricany
First exchange completed by 31.12.16

Festivals
- RA-Festival
Albertslund
• Borken will join (to look and learn)
• Communicate Festivals for young people between Twin-Towns
→ also a topic for the next network-conference

SCHOOLS
- Good working links & support of course!
- in the future it becomes more difficult to get schools involved

NEXT CONF.
• Invite young people
• Festivals as topic
• Internship review