# MOS MAG

a magazine to let you know more about Lüneburg and its people







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## mosaique in one word

USIC

mosaique

This magazine was published in honorary collaboration with volunteers from the mosaique – house of cultures, numerous initiatives and individuals from Lüneburg. At this point, we would like to thank all contributors and the sponsors and partners of mosaique e.V.. As an association, supported mainly by the help of volunteers, mosaique e.V. is dependent on donations.

## Maybe I'd like to...

help planning new events? support the mosaique e.V. financially?

design the next issue of the magazine?

help us to promote the mosaique?

be informed about events regularly?

use our rooms for your own events?

## Don't hesitate to come around or contact us!

#### Contact us



http://mosaique-lueneburg.de

www.facebook.com/mosaiquehaus



✓ info@mosaique-lueneburg.de



mosaique Haus Katzenstraße 1 21335 Lüneburg



mosaique - Haus der Kulturen e.V. IBAN: DE40 2405 0110 0065 5493 62 BIC: NOLADE21LBGv

or

become a supporting member of the association mosaique e.V., the support of mosaique - Haus der Kulturen! More infos can be retrieved on our website!



With the support of the Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft Soziokultur in Niedersachsen



#### Dear readers,

This is the third edition of our MOSMAG, the magazine of mosaique. The content is what the title promises: "talking about Lüneburg and its people".

But before we reveal who tells the story here, we'd like to answer the question "What is mosaique about?"It can be a living room, a place to plan and carry out cultural events, or a space to share knowledge and fun.

All people around the mosaique are continuously working on the answer to the question how we can consistently create and maintain a sustainable, peaceful and enriching life with our fellow human beings.

Because, as the founder of mosaique - Haus der Kulturen e.V. once said: "A mosaic is a work of art that only works if all the small parts harmonize. Every single piece plays a certain role. Even our mosaic would not be a whole without the many volunteers who transform the house into such a lively and open place". Now we get to the question who actually collected, contributed and wrote the content. We are Aura, Eva, Cathi, Cherie, Jonathan, Luisa, Marek and Nadine, the team (of volunteers) who came together to design this magazine. But not that you think we rocked this on our own! Texts, photos and ideas come from a variety of people, who also wanted to contribute something to make the magazine happen. Thus, it's a mosaic consisting of many parts, collected by many different people.

The third MOSMAG represents the mosaique as we experience it every day.

We hope you get inspired by the magazine and soon want to become a part of the mosaique as well! How does that work? Take a look at the magazine or our website: www.mosaique-lueneburg.de.

By the way, this 3rd publication of MOSMAG hopefully won't be the last. We'd be more than happy if you become a part of the team. Whether you want to text, layout, take photographs, give feedback - just send an email to magazin@mosaique-lueneburg.de - it's without any obligation.

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## **RECAP OF THE YEAR**

It has been just over a year since, in March 2018, mosaique - "the house of cultures" in Lüneburg - opened its doors for the first time. On the occasion of mosaique's first birthday, in April this year, not only Ulrich Mädge, Mayor of Lüneburg, and Doris Schröder-Köpf, State Commissioner for Migration and Participation in Lower Saxony, came to extend their congratulations. The birthday was additionally used as an opportunity to review the past year. Hence, the mosaique even hosted two events in April, celebrating its first anniversary - a year filled with joy - with many friends.

In her review of the past year, Corinna Krome, President of the Association, gave her listeners an understanding of the vitality of the house. Her speech left the guests with a clear impression of all the work and people behind the idea and realization of mosaique as a house which brings people together. The gratitude for this shared experience was clearly felt in the room. Relating to that, you can now read her words below:

Corinna's review of mosaique as a place of encounter at the 1st birthday, which was celebrated on April 10, 2019:

In the beginning of 2013, the idea of a house of cultures was born and the planning for mosaique began. If you'd have told me back then that things would be the way they are now, I would have called you idealists and naive people!

Even today, I am often asked whether the mosaique has become as it was once dreamed. That's not supposed to sound cheesy now, but it's often even more beautiful, more lively and in any case much crazier than I could have ever imagined.



But what exactly is the mosaique? That's the first question we're asked continuously and it's at the same time very easy and very difficult to answer.

We always say that the mosaique lives the vision of a peaceful world in which different origins, different cultures and ideas are seen as something positive and desirable. A place in which we can shape our community together with people from different countries, but also from different social backgrounds and regardless of age - of course always based on mutual respect, human rights and the basic law.

But it is somehow much more than that. If you break it down, further you can say: The mosaique is a place shaped by the people who are there right now. A place where certain things just happen coincidentally and a place that gives you space to create and live your ideas.

But sometimes even that sounds pretty abstract for people who don't spend much time at that place. So here is a brief insight of what happens in our everyday lives at mosaique:

#### What happens exactly?

We are open every weekday from 2 pm until 7 pm. Additionally, we host lots of events in the evening and on weekends outside business

hours. The events are based on a simple donation principle: Everyone gives what they are able or willing to give. The organisation is managed by a team which consists exclusively of volontareers which I'll now introduce you to:

Each weekday, Doro and Rainer give German courses. Their students value their effort which is accompanied by a lot of love and patience. There's Rami, who offers Arabic courses on a regular basis as well as Aura and Mila, who organize Spanish and English regulars' tables.

We're happy to have Ahmed in our team he sews clothes and there's Tarek, who plays guitar with beginners. And I'd like to introduce you to Regine, who offers a drawing course. Adding to that, part of our team are Wout, Christina, Saud, Clément and Stefan, who are responsible for creative fitness, dance and theatre workshops taking the dancefloor with people from all over the world, of all ages and health conditions five times a week.

And may I introduce you to Rena, who offers yoga and Jan, who shows us that life could be a pony farm?

Keeping with the motto: **"The mosaique gives you space for your ideas"**, new events and workshops are being added all the time.

But the most beautiful things are in the little things. I've got a vivid example: One day, Ibrahim, who was just about to drink his coffee, was incidentally listening to Sarah and Tom chatting about the wall behind the garbage cans in the kitchen being so dirty, planning to put mosaique tiles on that. He suddenly objected: "I was a tiler in Syria. I can do that". Finally, the three of them worked out their idea with more helping hands to create a new reality of the mosaique in the truest sense of the word. Sometimes, it's as simple as it is!

#### Organization:

The second question we are asked continuously is: How do you organize everything? Well, this time, it's easy to explain: We are a non-profit association consisting of six teams, each with a contact person who takes care of the overall plannings. Let's give a few examples for a better understanding:

Please forgive me for not being able to name everyone interacting at mosaique. We actually have more than 250 people in the mailing list for our volonteers, who are free to help shaping the mosaique according to the motto "everyone does as much as they want". Every single person as part of the mosaique deserves standing ovations for what he or she does; that's for sure anyways!

First of all, there is the so-called "Saaldienst" ("hall service") team. These are the people taking care of the house every weekday from 2 to 7pm, creating a lively meeting place. Manon is the contact person for this team, conducting over 70 people. I'd also like to introduce you to Sven, who takes care of the whole house meticulously and incredibly reliable. Furthermore, we've got our interns Karo, Jonathan, Mila and our federal volunteer Aura from Mexico as well as Siegfried, Anne, Andrea, Sarah, Antje, Nico and many more, who do not only cook coffee, clean up and pay attention to waste separation, but also advise people, listen to everyone's concerns and who are always patient and therefore have a decisive influence on the atmosphere in the house.

Secondly, we've got our consulting team around Obaid. He works with Mehmet as well as with Edda, Dorothea and Assad (from the welcome initiative) and many more. They always have an open ear and bring lots of patience to their meetings. If they don't have an advise themselves, they help you to find other professionals, for example at the women's circle organised by Franzi, Imke and Aisha



#### which takes place every Wednesday.

Thirdly, there's our event team including Mark, Cathy and Renke. They keep the contact to many of our cooperations and partners and as a team with other volunteers, they already managed to organise over 100 events in the last year, from theatre evenings and jam sessions to informative sessions and special highlights such as a disco called "Faltenrock" (english: "Pleated Skirt) organised by and for +/- 70 year olds.

In the fourth place, I'd like to mention the apartment team around Julia, in which our 15 residents\*, who are as international and cross-generational as the mosaique as a whole, organize themselves and their shared living. They are very keen about carrying the vision of mosaique into their shared apartments.

Number five is the press and public relations team around Eva, who is an organisational talent with a steadily clear head. This team is not only responsible for our Facebook, Twitter, Newsletter and website, but also features - together with Cherie, Cathy, Nadine, Claus, Christina, Jonathan and Henrike - a mosaique magazine, which you can have a look at in the entrance.

And last but not least, we've got our finance team around Cora, who spends some of her nights writing project grant applications. She is always reliably supported by Marcus, Julia, Hartmut and others. Our finance team always points out that our charitable association can only be active through donations and sponsoring members. Therefore, I was instructed to remind you that we are always on the lookout for sponsoring members. Here is the box, here are the proposals. Our finance team says: Big thanks in advance!

As you can see, we can report a lot of positive things reviewing the past year. Nevertheless,

there were and there will be also lots of challenges and problems which occurred throughout. We meet people seeking for help; people who can't find a place to live; people who have struggles at work or finding a workplace. And even if we try our best, we cannot always help and sometimes find ourselves referring to professional organizations outside our house.

And apart from these kind of challenges, there are always small things leading to arguments in our team. As a matter of fact, that's almost impossible to avoid: we are the biggest living room in Lüneburg and have the largest flat share with, as I mentioned above, over 250 active volunteers. Even beloved ones find themselves arguing about the right place for forks in the kitchen or how to properly put the dishes into the dishwasher.

And yet, if you look back at last year in figures, we can proudly summarize:

#### 274 open days

107 events organised or supervised by external organisers

15 weekly workshops, or in other words 2 workshops per day

#### 102 kg coffee

19 cooperations

## in average **70** people per day at our place

Like I said, it's crazy.

I would like to conclude with a few words: A few weeks ago, friends from France were here, in the annual construction weeks during which we redesign the house.

Their 5-year-old child approached me in the middle of the business and said: "Corinna,

mosaique c'est vraiment une maison magique". In English: "Corinna, mosaique is really a house of miracles".

We often talk about the so-called "spirit" in the team: "Mosaique Magic", which is created by all the diverse people who fill this place with their ideas and enthusiasm infecting others.

Therefore, in this sense: Merci, Gracias, Kiitos!, Tak!, terima and of course

Thank you to all active participants, to all workshop leaders\*, to our advisory board, to all of you, supporting members, supporters\*, guests and of course also to all befriended institutions and partners who place so much trust in us and offer great deals to us. Thank you to all of you!

Let's celebrate ourselves and "la maison magique" tonight. I'm looking forward to the next year that for sure will be just as great as the past one!

Thank you.







## Initiative Compass Help and Consultation

#### Beratung und Begleitung

The "Beratung und Begleitung" group offers independent consultations and support for refugees in regard to everyday and administrative matters. We assist refugees who live in accomodation or private apartments. Our range of services include support at public offices, support in finding accommodation or assistance in arranging language courses. The open consultation hours take place on Mondays and Thursdays, 16:00-18:00 in the mosaique.

Contact: begleitung@willkommensinitiative.de





#### **Checkpoint queer**

"Checkpoint queer" in Lüneburg is a place where the LSB-TIQ\* community is brought to life. Here you will find advice on individual, social and health issues. You can join groups, attend workshops or events and get involved in making our beautiful city even more diverse. We also have a queer library and offer game and film evenings. Stop by or check out www.checkpoint-queer.de for more information.

**Contact:** info@checkpoint-queer.de

Projekt Community Organizing (CO-Projekt)

Arrive - Participate - Belong

"Lebensraum Diakonie e.V." gives refugees in Lüneburg a voice and supports them with the method of Community Organizing in building up a self-organized, migrant network.

Contact: katja.heidmeier@lebensraum-diakonie.de



#### Seebrücke

"Seebrücke" is an initiative that aims at supporting refugees who came to Europe through the mediteranean sea. It brings more public awareness to the the dramatical situation on the ocean and the support of rescue ships. A major goal of Seebrücke is to help refugees by using the existing ressources of Lüneburg. Seebrücke is meeting every wednesday on 8 pm at Böll Haus, Katzenstraße 2 and is open for all dedicated people.

Contact: Lueneburg@seebruecke.org





#### NTFN (Netzwerk für traumatisierte Flüchtlinge)

The "Netzwerk für traumatisierte Flüchtlinge in Niedersachen e.V." (NTFN e.V.) is a network committed to the psychological care of traumatised migrants regardless of their residence status. In Lüneburg, we are a team of psychologists and therapists who offer discussions and art therapy services as well as support in the placement of interpreter-supported psychotherapy.

Contact: info-lg@ntfn.de

### Work and Education

## **Initiative Compass**



#### Koordinierungsstelle Frau & Wirtschaft Lüneburg.Uelzen

The "Koordinierungsstelle Frau & Wirtschaft Lüneburg.Uelzen" supports migrant women, especially refugees, in their professional integration. In addition to seminars, workshops and group consultations, confidential individual consultations can be arranged. Support in the search for employers and in the completion of applications is also offered. If necessary, language mediators will be arranged.

**Contact:** koordinierungsstelle.lueneburg@feffa.de Further information and appointments with Annette Mücke, 04131 303968 and at www.koordinierungsstellen-feffa.de.



#### Work It (Application Training)

"Worklt" is a student initiative that guides refugees personally and individually through the job application process. With workshops and individual training sessions, participants are tought to be equipped for the German job market and supported in their initial job search. Furthermore, worklt offers one-onone sessions to aid with the formulation of individuals CV's, letters of application and job interview preparation. Worklt also provides advice on other questions concerning working life and the job application phase.

Contact: initiativeworkit@gmail.com



#### Bündnis Hochschule ohne Grenzen

We, the "Bündnis Hochschule ohne Grenzen"(BHoG), are committed to facilitating access to higher education for migrants. Our network includes local and university based initiatives that aim to achieve this goal on a structural and personal level. Our long-term mission is free education to be granted with access for all.

Contact: bhog@leuphana.de



#### Bildungswerk ver.di

Since 2015, the "Bildungswerk ver.di" has been offering various German courses at levels A1-B2 for refugees. All language courses include 300 lessons and are financed by the state of Lower Saxony so that refugees can attend our courses for free. In the courses, we focus on the topics of jobs and apprenticeships in order to support the participants in entering the job market. All courses are completed with a free telc exam including a certificate.

**Contact:** natalia.bock@bw-verdi.de Tel.: 04131 6996713



### TAF (Teilhabe am Arbeitsmarkt für Flüchtlinge)

In the "TAF project" of the VHS REGI-ON Lüneburg we advise and support refugees in their search for a job or an apprenticeship. For example, we help

you with the preparation of application documents or the search for a job or internship. Please use the email below to make an appointment. Other options are, visiting our office in the main post office (back entrance!) during our open consultation hours (Mon. & Wed. from 12:30 - 13:30 and 16:30 - 17:30) or approaching us personally on Wednesday afternoons at the mosaigue.

Contact: amara.benaziza@vhs.lueneburg.de

### Initiative Compass Culture and Engagement

#### No Border Academy

The "No Border Academy", established in early 2015, fights for the rights of refugees and migrants, irrespective of their country of origin, asylum status or length of stay. Our initiative's services include mobilization for political demonstrations, organization of event series, such as the "Länderabende", and running the "Welcome & Learning Center" (WLC). The "WLC", formerly located on Bleckeder Landstraße can now be found in the mosaique.

We are also part of the "Bündnis Hochschule Ohne Grenzen".

Contact: info@noborderacademy.org



#### Jugend für Geflüchtete

We are an independent initiative from Lüneburg and consist of a colourful group of young adults between 14 and 20 years of age. Our goal is to bring people of different cultures from in and around Lüneburg together and to eliminate prejudices. Through public appearances we want to politicize and motivate young people to become politically and socially active. In addition, we also offer regular services such as homework assistance and organize large actions such as workshops and demonstrations.

**Contact:** info@jugend-fuer-gefluechtete.de

#### I:si Lüneburg (Internationale Studenteninitiative)

The "Internationalen Studierenden Initiative Lüneburg e.V." oganizes and supervises events for german and international students. Our aim is to strenghen the interculturql exchange and approach of divers nationalities with each other - outside the university. To achieve that, we regulary invite everyone to different events or for exemple the monthly regular's table, the "Diner on the Run" or even city tours. All kind of languages are spoken at our events and often friendships are fromed accross borders.

Contact: isi@leuphana.de



Leuphana African Students Organization (LASO)

The purpose of "LASO" is to promote the sense of community among African students and to support their integration into German society. This is done with the encouragement of mutual acceptance between the German and African community. Registered students of the Leuphana University Lüneburg, of African origin or nationality, who support the goal of "LASO", can be members of the university group.









#### Über den Tellerrand Community

The "Über den Tellerrand Community" aims to bring people with and without migration background together with the help of (cooking) events. We enjoy building intercultural friendship networks and place value on tolerance, openness and respect towards all participants. We look forward to all who wish to become part of our community!

**Contact:** lueneburg@ueberdentellerrand.org

#### 4 players (Fußballturnier)

erfolg integriert

werk

The "4Players" football tournament connects people through sport and makes integration an interactive experience. People can actively experience integration at regular regional events in the Hansestadt and Landkreis Lüneburg.

## Culture and Engagement Initiative Compass

#### Zugvögel

The association "Zugvögel, Grenzen überwinden" aims to reduce institutional racism and global imbalances. We organise voluntary services in Germany for people from developing countries together with partner structures in Ecuador, Mexico, Rwanda and Nepal. With our political action we want to counteract post-colonial structures and overcome borders. Whether organising an intercultural photo exhibition, a lecture or accompanying the volunteers, we invite you to join us.

Contact: lueneburg@zugvoegel.org





#### Kulturgarten

"Kulturgarten Lüneburg" is a community garden that offers all residents a space for communal gardening and get-togethers. The garden aims to promote exchange and reduce barriers between cultures. Collaborative work creates opportunities to approach and get to know one another, communicate on equal footing, learn from one another and most importantly have fun together. Language is no barrier. The gardening takes place every Saturday starting at 14:00.

Contact: kulturgarten@willkommensinitiative.de



#### vor Ort Lüneburg

#### KRASS vor Ort Lüneburg (mobiles Kunstatelier)

We are "KRASS vor Ort Lüneburg" and since 2016 a location of the non-profit association "KRASS e.V." In the form of a mobile workplace, we offer children and young adults from various refugee accommodations and schools a space for creative development. We work with a team of art therapists, educators and volunteers. This way we can give them opportunity to express their experiences in the form of art. The children benefit personally, whilst also improving their social and integrative skills.

Contact: s.born@krass-ev.de



#### INPN (nachhaltige Entwicklungszusammenarbeit)

This university initiative, affiliated with "INPN e.V.", focuses on critical and sustainable educational work regarding developmental political issues. We are a network of people and organizations from different countries. The focus is on sustainable development cooperation. The network can support people who want to set up according projects in other countries.

Contact: siinpn@leuphana.de



#### Netzwerk gegen Rechts

The "Lüneburger Netzwerk gegen Rechts" is an collection of organizations and individuals who are locally active against right-wing violence and agitation, racism, fascism, antisemitism and misanthropy. With its numerous events, it promotes the values of a democratic society and universal human rights.

**Contact:** info@netzwerkgegen-rechts.net



#### Amnesty International Hochschulinitiative

"Amnesty International" advocates against the violation of human rights on a global scale. Every single person can make a difference! We organize lectures, collect signatures and show presence on campus with activities and information stands. Come on over! We meet every Wednesday at 7 pm in the initiative room on campus (C3. 104).

Contact: stud.initiative.amnesty@leuphana.de

## A DAY IN MOSAIQUE

Two o'clock. Mehmet, who is on duty with me, pulls up the curtains energetically and sunlight falls through the windows into the hall.

I turn on the coffee machine and prepare the counter while the first visitors arrive.

It is a group of young men, all of whom I know because they are here almost every day to learn German. They welcome me warmly.

For many, learning German is a reason to come to mosaique, but that's by no means the only reason.

It is a meeting place for friends, a place to get to know new people and cultures, a place to cook, to make music - in short: the mosaique can be a place for almost everything you want.

It's Wednesday today, the German lesson takes place in the office as always. More and more people come into the large hall and start talking.

"Do you have a moment?" Somebody asks me as usual. I fill fresh milk into a jug and nod with a smile. Next, I sit down at a table with the young Syrian who asked.

He needs help with his German homework, which sounds easy, since I am German. But when asked about the dative or any other grammatical rule, I often feel just as helpless as the Syrian, who finds my lack of knowledge quite funny. Fortunately, everyone at mosaique is ready to help and we quickly find someone who has a better idea of the whole thing.

I leave them at it and go back behind the counter and see what to do. First, I decide to update the calendar in the large hall. I paint small pictures of upcoming events and workshops, during which help is offered to me several times by different people. This helpfulness is everyday life here. "You help me, so I help you".

But this is something I can easily do by myself. After five minutes I am done and put on new coffee while talking to other "hall service staff". The atmosphere in the team is just as pleasant and positive as it is in the whole hall. There is a lot of laughter and everyone is happy to be here together.

Meanwhile it is almost five pm.

"Dance Djembel" takes place today, like every Wednesday at that time. This event seems to be very cool and the people obviously have a lot of fun with it. They already come into the hall full of anticipation. That can be said about to pretty much everything in the mosaique; the focus is always on fun and well-being.

We seperate the large hall into two (with a partition wall), so that the dancers remain undisturbed, while we let the normal hall usage continue.

You can hear the African music quietly through the wall, but that doesn't bother anyone.

I sit at a table with my tea and talk to a few young men of different origins. They talk about their hobbies, their family and ask



questions about mine.

Communicating is probably the best way to learn a new language, that's why many people look for a conversation partner when coming to mosaique.

It is always interesting to listen to all those different people in the hall telling their stories.

Since it's almost 7 pm now, I finish up my conversation and start to tidy up and clean a little. Meanwhile the sweaty participants of "Dance Djembel" come out of their room drinking water, before they take the way outside completely exhausted, but happy. The dishwasher is emptied, the laundry is hung up already and slowly the rest of the people disappear from

the hall with a hearty farewell. Now I retract the partition wall, tidy up a bit, close the windows and curtains.

After the light is turned off and the door is closed, I go outside into the cold and talk to some others who belong to mosaique.

After saying goodbye, I walk home and look forward to tomorrow - another great day at mosaique.

> Mila Röver (February 2019)







M enschen machen mit.



S ich selbstbestimmt sozialengagiert

🛦 uszutauschen. Andere Aufgaben,





🔘 uirlig querdenkenden quasi



**U** nabhängigen Untergruppen umsetzend.

**E** ffektiv eingesetzte Energie!

## HUMANS IN LÜNEBURG



### "EVERYBODY TANZ NOW"

Every Monday 17:00-18:30 at mosaique



Dancing has been part of most of my life, I started ballet at 6, attended professional dance school where I practiced almost every day and pursued a degree in dancing. Dancing has brought me to lots of interesting places. I am from the Netherlands but worked in Switzerland, Linz in Austria, Darmstadt and now, I am in Lüneburg. I have been almost three years in Lüneburg , which is a really cute city to me, small and beautiful, and the people are very friendly here.

Every time I move to a new place, in this case Lüneburg, I also encounter some difficulties, but maybe being a dancer helps me in some ways to adapt to the new environment. Expressing yourself in body language often breaks the language barriers between each other. Dancing also helps people to feel freer in their communication. As a foreigner here, making friends and building connections isn't always easy, yet, when you keep yourself open-minded and welcoming towards new experiences, things go easier. I am lucky that I am from the Netherlands, which is a neighbour-country to Germany, so I do not have any cultural shock. Except for the language: the thing that takes the longest to pick up, is the sense of humour.

Spending time at mosaique gives me the opportunity to get to know more people from different backgrounds. I got to know mosaique by coincidence, visiting an event once. I really liked their vision about bringing different cultures together, not only welcoming Germans or making it a migration house, but really open for everyone included. Also I liked the idea of the voluntary basis of the house, so I started to volunteer at the mosaique, not only holding my regularly dance workshop, but also helping on and off in the Saaldienst team, which welcomes and helps the daily guests in mosaigue. The workshop I teach, "Everybody Tanz Now!", is a good experience for me to try something new outside my work in the theatre and share my vision and passion for dancing with others. Dancing with people from different cultures and backgrounds has always been interesting to me.

I still remember that once in my workshop, I told the participants to imagine themselves passing through some invisible objects. And they all showed off different creative moves. Some started to crawl on the floor, some tried to climb up the bar, some did funny movements. People from different backgrounds interpret things differently, sometimes they may even misinterpret and do something totally different. That's so interesting!

"I don't know what the future holds for me, but I'm definitely having a good time in lüneburg!"



## HUMANS IN LÜNEBURG

### a modern host family +

Cherie Wong



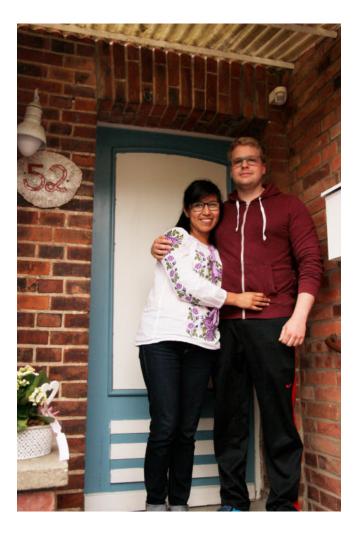
#### Julia, Michael

It is a coincidence that we started being a host family. A friend invited us to become a host family for an organization which was urgently recruiting one and we had an empty room as well. So, we thought: why not! And now, it's been two years already and we hosted two youngsters since then, Louis and Aura.

They are both from South America. Our cultures are apparently different, but aside from cultures, language was a huge barrier for us. Since we live together, communicating successfully is indeed important to build up a relationship. But soon, step by step, Aura picked up the German language and now she speaks it fluently! We are really close now. As an example: Michael knows exactly when Aura wants to drink a beer.

Throughout these two years, there were - of course - times that were not that good, but predominantly we experienced interesting and good times. We celebrated christmas together with Julia's family and Aura. We also went to the Irish Pub together where Aura later on met her boyfriend. What surprised me most was how fast Aura was able to go crazy. For instance, on Aura's birthday party, Aura and her friends (mostly from South America), have just finished preparing the "dance floor" and just then they were already enjoying themselves so hard on it!

Being a host family is not always easy. You should be open-minded, flexible and patient. Maybe it is somehow easier for us to host people, as we both went abroad for studying and working. Anyway, the people that we host are a gift for our family.



"If you'd ask me if I'd also become a host when having the chance to, I'd say: Of course! Regardless of their countries and cultures."

#### Aura

I am here in Germany for one year to volunteer at the mosaique, organized by a collaborated programme among the mosaique house and the place I worked at before in Mexico. Between Mexico and Germany, there are various differences, but the German language is the most challenging part of all. I would not say that it was a problem for me to adapt to a new environment, instead, I treated it as a challenge.

I am really glad that I stayed in this host family because Julia and Michael helped me to understand more about their culture. They are so nice. Rather than parents, they are more like my uncle and aunt with who I like to chat and talk. Although they may not be the traditional model of a host family, they are definitely cool to stay with. We stay close drinking beer or going out together. So, we spend lots of time together, but I also get to have my own space.

## .....

## HUMANS IN LÜNEBURG

"Omas gegen Rechts" Cherie Wona

#### Petra

I am already 67 and I have lived in Lüneburg for more than 40 years now. I just retired and became an active participant in the group "Omas gegen Rechts". Before that, I had a lot of work to do and there wasn't that much of spare time to be active in such a project. But now, I have plenty of time, so that I can do these kind of things again. When I was young, I participated in political activities quite often. But along with my growing responsibilities in work and family, political events were put on the back burner. Seeing the growing tendencies of the right-wing extremism which reminds me of the experiences during the Nazi period and the communist time in Eastern Germany, I started feeling the urge to stand up again. I do not want a repetition of German history that affects our new generations.

I am glad that my family is supportive to my perspectives and actions. Normally, people do not expect us "Grannies" interacting as a political force. We hope, we can change this image. We need to show our faces to the public to let the people know that we care about these issues and that our opinions count as well. I hope that there won't be a day that I need to say: "I don't like my city anymore". So, we are here to speak out loud. Especially in the rising tendencies of right-wing extremism in Germany, we want to contribute to a change. In our group, we discuss various criti-

cal issues including problems in climate change, refugees, equal rights between men and women and racism. Sometimes, we organize demonstrations in Lüneburg and Hamburg. We are here to "Fight for the future". It may sound lame, but yet, it is so important.

## "Omas gegen





## Rechts"

The group "Omas gegen Rechts" (Grannies against right-wing extremism) is a civil society non-party initiative that wants to interfere in the political discourse. With eyecatching symbolism, older women who call themselves grannies due to their age group or who even are grandmothers, raise their voices against the dangerous issues and questions of today. The group started as a Facebook group which connects different "grandmas" in all parts of Germany. In January this year, a branch was also established in Lüneburg. They meet in the mosaique house once a month. They already count around 35 members in Lüneburg alone.



## Where is your home? What belongs to your home? Who or what do you like (most) about your home?

Faris (7): My home is about my mum, my dad and my little sister Mira. I love my huge room!

Tabea (16): My personal home is located in Winsen. My home includes my family. What I like most about my home, is my own room as a kind of hideout.

Mira (5): My home is in Deutsch Evern at my mum's. What I like most about my home are all of my toys and my big brother Faris.

## **CHILDREN IN LÜNEBURG**

Nadine Khoury

Ina (10): My home is in a small village near Lüneburg. I like my room and my wooden horse in our garden.

Kilian (7): My home is in Lüneburg. Malte belongs to my home. What I like most about my home is my clock.

Mathis (15): I live in Vierhöfen, that's 15km away from Lüneburg. My family and people surrounding us belong to my home.

Janno (5): My home is in the Hanse quarter. We have a fireplace and lots of windows. And we have many candles and pictures. I live in a big house with a garden. I like everything about my home. Especially my cuddly toys and my high sleeper.

Tabea (13): My home is located in a small village near Lüneburg. We live in a big house with a garden. With my home I associate my own room, delicious food, my bed and my family. I love the smell when coming home and my soft bed.

Levi (4): My home is in Germany. There are toys. My home is about toys and observing. And about playmobil and mummy.

Frederik (16): My home is located in Egestorf. My home includes my family and my friends. I appreciate having peace for myself and that nobody bothers me here.

Tessa-Mia (9): My home is in Luhmühlen. Eh, my home needs my dog, mum and dad and myself and the house and the garden with all of ist trees. I particularly like the little forest in our garden. My dog Duke and I love to play over there.

## What do you particularly like about Lüneburg? What do you like to do in Lüneburg?

Faris (7): I like Lüneburg, because shopping is great. And I like the cinema!

Tabea (16): I think the old houses in Lüneburg are very pretty. And I particularly like shopping in Lüneburg.

Mira (5): I especially like the Liebesgrund, because I like playing over there and I can sled down the hill in winter. But I also like the bird park where I can watch the birds.

Ina (10): What do I like to do in Lüneburg? I like going downtown and shopping with my friend. We love going to Rossmann – everytime we go to Lüneburg, we visit the Rossmann shop. And I like to go to the cinema, too! Kilian (7): What I like most about Lüneburg are my friends Bennet and Joshi. And I like going to school in Lüneburg!

Mathis (15): I like all the different restaurants and cafés in Lüneburg. I particularly like strolling through the streets, eventually sitting down in a café drinking a good coffee.

Janno (5): I like the swimming pool in Lüneburg and riding my bike. And I like the playgrounds. I like the playgrounds with climbing scaffolds and without. I also like the library!

Tabea (13): I like the old houses in Lüneburg and the beautiful shops. I especially like shopping and eating in Lüneburg.

Levi (4): I don`t know... eating something at mum's university. Eating ice-cream.

Frederik (16): I like going to the cinema with my friends in Lüneburg.

Tessa-Mia (9): Shopping!

#### What is your favorite place?

Faris (7): My favorite place is the "Alcino" (Indoor-Playground) in Adendorf.

Tabea (16): I don't have THE favorite place. But I like being at the lake.

Mira (5): My favorite place is the swimmingpool in Hagen.

Ina (10): My favorite place is downtown Lüneburg.

Kilian (7): Home. I like best being home.

Mathis (15): In Lüneburg there are many beautiful places. For example the crane, the Stint or all those mentioned cafés.

Janno (5): My favorite place is our garden, because I can eat ice-cream there and I can pick up apples from the trees. And I can climb in my garden.

Tabea (13): My favorite place is located at my home in my room or in the living room with my family.

Levi (4): I don't have a favorite place. Not as Ferdinand does (\*Ferdinand – the protagonist of his favorite book - is an ox who has his favorite place under a cork tree).

Frederik (16): My favorite places are places where I am with friends or family.

Tessa-Mia (9): I like spending my time in the paddock with the horses. I generally like being outdoors.

## **CHILDREN IN LÜNEBURG** AND SURROUNDINGS

#### What does diversity mean to you?

Faris (7): Diversity means: A lot of different things!

Tabea (16): Difficult question, but I think diversity is something very important that broadens our minds.

Mira (5): A lot of everything!

Ina (10): I like diversity. If everybody would be the same, it'd be very boring.

Kilian (7): Different people.

Matthis (15): A lot of things in a certain area; for example a good choice of restaurants. Or cinemas where you can choose from a big offering.

Janno (5): I don't understand...

Tabea (13): Diversity means to me: There are a lot of different people and other living beings. Many colors and places and countries!

Levi (4): I don't know!

Frederik (16): Diversity means that different cultures get together. But also different characteristics and abilities of humans – for example someone is good at maths and another is better in doing sports. Also, diversity means differences in our looks – one is tall, the other one rather small.

Tessa-Mia (9): What is diversity? Many things? Many different things? Okay, yes. My home is diverse. I can do a lot of things here. I can play hide and seek and also catch the resin drops from the trees. The trees themselves are diverse and yes, that's what diversity means to me.



CULTURE & EVENTS



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Europe elects – what do you vote for?

Three days ahead of the European Elections – the 23rd of May - the Policy Lab e.V. hosted the event "Europe elects – what do you vote for?" with the collaboration of mosaique. The Policy Lab is an association which engages in political education. Non-partisanship such as diversity are fundamental thoughts of the association, thus, the Policy Lab is motivated by a team with various political and professional backgrounds. It is not entirely about politics but also occupies other socially relevant topics.

Before the European Elections, it was the Policy Lab's intention to provide information about the party's election programs. Seven weeks before the election the PL began with introducing the six biggest parties on the basis of the most present issues. After introducing one party per date in ten minutes of time, we opened up a round of discussion. We take the view that politics subsists on debate.

We, the Policy Lab members, are pleased that many students came to our informational events at Leuphana University. But to not only reach students, we took great advantage of the mosaique for this event. We set up five tables with the following different thematic focuses: labor and social policy, foreign and security policy, economic and financial policies, society and education policy, agriculture and environmental policy. Thereto, we got together in groups and exchanged our opinions on that. We are very happy that different generations and diverse political attitudes and opinions could meet and interact since democracy comes to life by informing, interacting and getting to know different perspectives. A big thanks to all involved who discussed, caught up and eventually elected! We – as a pro-european association – feel very optimistic due to the comparatively large turnout!



## DYING INDIGNITY

Right to Self-determined Death

On the 16th of March this year, Lüneburg's first discussion group of the DGHS (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Humanes Sterben - German Association of Dying with Dignity) took place in the rooms of mosaique. Prof. Robert Roßbruch (Vice President of the DGHS) gave a lecture titled "How does the Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices (BfAM - Bundesinstitut für Arzneimittel und Medizinprodukte) handle suicide applications?". Mr. Hans-Jürgen Brennecke was one of the applicants for suicide applications on-site. He pointed out that he feels harassed by the prevailing bureaucracy. According to the jurisdiction of the Federal Administrative Court, there is a claim to the release of a suicide support. Nevertheless, an authority denies him this right, knowing full well that he has only a limited period of time to represent his case. The authority cynically plays for time and calculates based on the applicant's severely stricken state of health.

Prof. Roßbruch briefly and concisely described the status of the pending proceedings and the partially absurd requirements or unfounded additional demands for BfAM documents. In addition, he put emphasis on the fact that applications to the BfAM were not connected to constitutional complaints that are currently pending against § 217 StGB (German Criminal Code). According to that, the relevant connection, which the Minister of Health Jens Span establishes on a regular basis, does not exist. In doing so, the BfAM tries to disguise their own delay strategy. The lecture was followed by a stimulating discussion, which resulted in capturing that an extension of the discussion group for future cooperation is indeed meaningful.

The second discussion group of the DGHS took place on 22 June. We had an intensive exchange on the topic "Culture of dying in other countries". Participants described, for example, their personal experiences of dying culture in Turkey or Mexico.

You are cordially invited to participate in the discussion group on the topic "How do we want to die" and to contribute your individual ideas and thoughts on the end of life. In addition, there will be information on the sense and purpose of a living will. Who would like to inform already in the apron finds reliable information under www.dghs.de

Kirstin Linck



## CULTURE & EVENTS

Le Goûter francophone s'installe chez mosaique



Dimanche 19 mai, le « Goûter francophone » a eu lieu pour la deuxième fois à mosaique. L'idée était d'ouvrir ces rencontres familiales, après quatre ans et demi d'existence, à un public plus nombreux et plus varié, tout en conservant une fois sur deux des réunions (également ouvertes à tous !) à la Kita WigWam, généreusement mise à notre disposition par l'association Pädln.

En tant que couple franco-allemand, aujourd'hui parents de trois enfants (7 ans, 4 ans et 10 mois), nous, Marie Thiriet, Française de 38 ans et Marius Lack, Allemand de 36 ans, souhaitons mettre en lien les familles francophones ou germano-francophones de Lüneburg et des environs, avant tout pour motiver les enfants à pratiquer le français et les initier à la richesse de la francophonie.

En France, le goûter est une pause gourmande très appréciée des petits et propice aux discussions. C'est le moment que nous avons choisi pour nos rendez-vous se tenant un dimanche par mois entre 15h30 et 17h30, les mets apportés étant souvent vecteur de culture, telle la fameuse galette des rois qui a beaucoup de succès en janvier ! Pour flatter nos papilles ce 19 mai : des cookies, une tarte et des pop-corn, le tout fait maison par les participant.e.s, mosaique mettant à notre disposition des boissons en échange de dons.

Après nous être régalés, nous bavardons, jouons ou lisons avec les enfants, selon les envies et les initiatives du jour. Lors de ce deuxième goûter nouvelle version, nous avons tiré profit des guitares disponibles sur place pour accompagner nos chants dignes d'une veillée autour d'un feu de bois. Et les enfants ont trouvé leur bonheur en farfouillant dans les étagères débordant de jouets, avant de se pelotonner dans un gros canapé pour écouter une histoire... en français bien sûr !

Voilà ce à quoi peut ressembler un « Goûter » ! Même s'il nous arrive d'annoncer une thématique saisonnière, nous restons ouvert.e.s à toutes propositions car ces rencontres se veulent participatives et il y a toujours une part de surprise. Et puisque vient qui veut, sans aucune obligation, nous formons tour à tour une bande bruyante ou un petit comité plus calme, comme ce 19 mai, où nous avons eu grand plaisir à accueillir tranquillement un nouveau couple et leur bébé.

Depuis janvier 2015, près d'une vingtaine de familles a tenté avec nous l'expérience des goûters ! Si vous êtes francophones et souhaitez plus de contacts en français pour vous et vos enfants, n'hésitez pas à nous rejoindre... et à partager vos créations culinaires et/ou vos jeux et livres préférés !

Pour plus d'informations, contactez-nous par e-mail : gouter-francais@web.de Marie Thiriet

### **Theater: Neue Welten**



#### عرض مسرحي بعنوان "عوالم جديدة"

بتاريخ ١١ و ٢٠١٩/٠٥/١٢ قدمنا قطع مسرحية بعنوان "عوالم جديدة" في مبنى الثقافات "موزاييك" في ظل تفاجئنا من عدد الحضور الضخم هناك. في يوم العرض الأول احتفلنا مع الجمهور والأهل والأصدقاء "حفلة العرض الأول" على أنغام الموسيقى والرقص من مختلف الثقافات. وبما أنما العرض كان في شهر رمضان، كان هناك إفطار جماعي أيضا بعد العرض نظراً لصيام بعض المشاركين في هذا العرض المسرحي.

القطع المسرحية التي قدمناها، قمنا بإنشائها بأنفسنا ابتداءاً من الأفكار، النصوص وحتى العرض النهائي عبر مشروع مقدم من مركز "BTO" في "Barendorf" خلال خمس ورش عمل في خمس نهايات عطل الأسبوع تحت إشراف " Birgit Becker" ممثلة في المسرح التربوي من مسرح "Theater zur weiten Welt" هدف المشروع هو تعلم اللغة الألمانية عن طريق المسرح، لذا قد كان إلى جانب ورش العمل دورس لغة ألمانية (يومان في الأسبوع) يقدمه كلّ من "Hannah" و "Ilka".

محتوى القطع المسرحية كان منبثق من الحياة اليومية للاجئين في ألمانيا بمختلف المجالات (في المدرسة، المراكز الحكومية، العائلة والجيران...) ويسلط الضوء على نقاط مهمة تواجههم يومياً كسوء الفهم الثقافي وإطلاق الأحكام المسبقة والعلاقات الاجتماعية في ظل اختلاف الثقافات. لم يخلُ جانب الفكاهة والمرح من المواضيع المطروحة.

لم يكن سهلاً الوقوف على خشبة المسرح عند أغلب المشاركين الذين كانوا يخوضون تجربتهم الأولى في العالم المسرحي، إلا أن الجميع قدم عمل جيد بالفعل وردود أفعال الجمهور أثبتت ذلك، مما أعطاهم شعور الثقة بالنفس وزادتهم رغبة في خوض تجارب مسرحية جديدة. نحن ننصحكم باغتنام فرص المشاركة في المسرح لأنها ستكون تجربة لا تنسى. وأختم بالشكر الجزيل لمبنى الثقافات "موزاييك" الذي فتح لنا أبوابه لنقدم عملنا المسرحي المتواضع ولكل من ساهم وعمل لنجاح هذا العرض وهذا المشروع.



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## CULTURE & EVENTS=



The Power Trio "1999" consisting of Johann Greve, Marcus Theilmann and Lennard Meyer is well-known at the mosaique. You can see and hear their connection to the house of cultures through their song "mosaique" as well as their music video to "Eyes Yet" which was recorded over there.

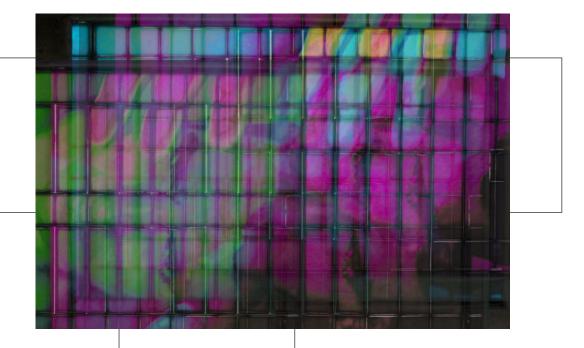
Break something down To create something new Change some lives With your attitude You made me see That there are only open doors So light another cigarette and let the ashes fall on the floor

In the middle of the Night We forgot ,bout space and time Still don't know what's going on But at least where i belong

My restless mind Finds some peace in your eyes My searching soul Knows only one place to go



## **ART & INSPIRATIONS**







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## International Riddle

by Kirstin Linck

- (1) How many windows does the event room of the mosaique have?
- (2) Which continent is the largest continent (area)?
- (3) Syrian writer with 13 letters
- (4) Blind musician with 11 letters
- (5) Arabic dessert with 10 letters
- (6) Captain of the Afghan National Football Team (15 letters)?
- (7) "Hello" in Japanese (10 letters)?
- (8) "Thank you" in Turkish (5 letters)

(1) 27 (2) Asia 44 km<sup>2</sup> (3) Khaled Khalifa (4) Joana Zimmer (5) Faysal Shayesteh (6) Faysal Shayesteh (8) Sagol

## **RECOMENDATIONS**

upcoming events

Was?

Wo?

Wo?

### Solidary Kitchen (Sokü)

Eat for donation. Meet old and new friends

Anna&Arthur, Katzenstraße 2

Wann? Every wednesday at 7pm

### Week of change

Was? Several events thematizing sustainability

Different spots in Lüneburg

Wann? October 2020

### **Open Meeting Space**

Was? Have some coffee or tea and get to know people
Wo? mosaique, Katzenstraße 1
Wann? Monday to Friday from 2 to 7 pm



Welcome to join us!

## MOSAQUE WEEKLY EVENTS

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				•
14:15 - 16:00	14:15 - 16:00	14:15 - 16:00	14:15 - 16:00	15:00 - 17:00
German	German	German	German	Interview
class	class	class	class	training with Work It
17:00 - 18:30	16:00 - 17:00	14:00 - 16:00	15:30 - 17:45	WORK IL
Everybody Tanz now	Spanish	TAF: CV &	Beat and	17:00 - 18:00
	Stammtisch with Andrea	Application	Bewegung	Lindy Hop &
	with Andrea	help		Swing dance
16:00 - 18:00	16:00 - 18:00	15:00 - 17:00	16:00 - 18:00	course (beginners+)
WiKo:	Homework help:	Women	WiKo:	
Advices and	1	from the	Advices and	
support	School	world	support	
	18:30 - 19:45	18:30 - 20:00	16:00 - 18:00	
	Yoga with Marlene	Urban street dance with	General	
			enquiries	
		Catalina	session	
			19:30 - 21:30	
			Dance Im-	
			provisation	
			(Magie)	

