

VORWERK-STIFT CONCEPTION

The following translated statements are not legally binding.

Preamble

The Vorwerkstift supports artists of all artistic venues by providing affordable residential and work space. The project thrives on regular replacement of the inhabitants and their mental and artistic exchange among each other. The priority is its utilization for artistic work. The Vorwerkstift is self organized by the household community and the association Stiftung Freiraum. The development of the house is decided upon by common action of the household members together with Stiftung Freiraum. This cooperation is an elementary component within the life at the Vorwerkstift. The present concept was developed in a common workshop.

Status as of September 2011

I Situational condition:

The Stiftung Freiraum e.V. (a registered association) receives the artist-house Vorwerk-Stift in honorary proprietorship. The building, worthy to be kept as a monument, was donated in 1866 by the Hamburg merchant Georg Friedrich Vorwerk as an asylum for people in need without culpability on their part, as well as the premises, were lent to the association by the City of Hamburg for the duration of 30 years; under the condition to preserve the house and to make habitation available to needy creative artists and scientists, where they could work as well. This special form of facilitation should preferably benefit as many young people as possible, and therefore the duration of stay in the house is limited to three years, however, it can be granted in individual cases and based on a well founded application for extension for five years at most.

The Vorwerk-Stift includes:

19 apartments

3 Guest apartments

The house contains, besides residential units and the common sanitary quarters

1 Event room/Gallery

3 Workshops in the cellar:

- Photo laboratory
- Music area
- Workroom

As well as

- Attic studios
- and a garden

II Conception:

The conception of the Vorwerk-Stift is to make affordable living and work space available for engaged and artistically active people with low income. The intention of the house is to enable a mental and artistic exchange among each other. An elementary component of living at the Vorwerkstift is understanding the common responsibility towards inside and outside. Concretely, this means taking over practical activities as well as the responsibility for decision making among the residents and the communication with the association Stiftung Freiraum.

Intended as users are creatively active persons who are working in the intent to express themselves, to introduce their work in the house and to look for the confrontation with dissenting opinions in addition.

Prerequisite is furthermore a successful application (see VI admission / application).

The utilization has utmost priority. Therefore, utilization contracts are drawn up in due form.

Studios and work space are allocated for the utilization of single projects limited in time by the house-meeting.

The private sphere of an apartment is inviolable.

III Utilization:

Consciousness of the temporary aspect

Apartments:

The apartments are assigned in agreement with the users, in case of doubt per lottery.

The apartments are allocated for three years. The restriction of the contract term is in place to maintain the rotation principle of the Vorwerk-Stift in order to enable access to the Vorwerk-Stift for as many as possible artists. A user is entitled to put forward an application for extension for two more years, four months before the completion date of the appointed contract term with the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. at the latest. A documentation of the previous work and the commitment for the project is to submit with the extension application. The decision is based on an extension presentation before the present users and members of the Stiftung Freiraum e.V.

The vote is anonymous, the weighting of votes takes place equally mathematically between Stiftung Freiraum e.V. and the users, see point VI (vote).

A claim on the continuation of the contractual relationship does not exist. The contractual relationship finishes after a duration of five years at most. Further extensions are excluded. More details regulated by the written utilization contract.

One year after admission, there should be a confirmation of this admission. In case this confirmation is denied, the utilization contract ends and the user must leave the house within three months. The decision over this is determined by the house-meeting, the result must be imparted to Stiftung Freiraum e.V., and it will be decided following the principle „one human being, one vote“. The vote is anonymous. For an extension, a simple majority is necessary. In case of an equality of votes the result of the selection procedure will apply further on.

Guest apartments:

The guest apartments are allocated, based on an application, by the house-meeting. Prerequisite is a permanent residence. The maximum duration of stay amounts to three months. Further details regulated by the written utilization contract.

Attic:

The attic is conceived as a common studio, with a storeroom for all, with a few mobile walls, in order to guarantee a flexible adaptation to the respective spatial needs of any user.

Workshops:

The utilization of the workshops is coordinated by listing.

Event room/Gallery in the Vorwerk-Stift:

The gallery is the central presentation- and showroom and serves mainly to represent the artist-house as well as projects of the users. The area can be put at the disposal of externs for a restricted time. Details, especially a possible regulation of expenses, have to be agreed on with the Stiftung Freiraum e.V.

Halls:

Showings of work in the halls must be comprehended as an exhibition and submitted to permanent change. Thus an insight is enabled into all basic work approaches of the Vorwerkers.

The house-meeting regulates internal utilization of quarters in the case of doubt.

IV House-meeting:

With its users, the concept of the Vorwerk-Stift stands or falls. All users are equally entitled, equally indebted and equally responsible.

Social organization and distribution of tasks inside the house is organized by the house-meeting.

The house-meeting chooses a spokesperson and a replacement. They are the contact partners for the Stiftung Freiraum e.V.

Contact partners for single tasks and projects on part of the inhabitants will be imparted to Stiftung Freiraum e.V.

The house-meetings taking place once or twice per month are compulsory.

Of each house-meeting, a result protocol is to be prepared within a week with a list of presence to post at the bulletin board and to send to the Stiftung Freiraum e.V..

V The function of the supporting association Stiftung Freiraum e.V.:

Administration of the Vorwerkstift and guaranteeing the project.

Following its meetings, the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. will send a protocol to the users and name contact partners for tasks and projects.

VI Admission / Application:

Once per year, normally in April or May, or when required, application proceedings are conducted by the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. for free apartments. The selection of applicants takes place by the users and the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. together. A procedure is designated consisting of announcement, preselection and final selection:

Announcement:

After publication of the announcement by the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. users will be informed directly. Further distribution takes place as a common task, i.e. through posting, proclamation on the website and/or direct invitation. The applicants send their records to the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. Those applications that fulfil the formal criteria named in the announcement conditions, take part in the preselection.

Vote:

Regarding content, applications will be evaluated by the users of the Vorwerk-Stift and the members of the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. The weighting of votes takes place equally mathematically between Stiftung Freiraum e.V. and the users. The votes will be weighted in the manner that the valid votes of each group are multiplied with the number of valid votes of the other group. If no valid votes come about in a group, multiplication is omitted. An application can be successful only when it gets more than half of all possible valid pros.

In principle all applicants are to be assessed in pre- and final selection. The evaluation takes place through a Yes/No-decision in each case. The polls take place so that the result is comprehensible, that is in writing and not anonymous. In the final selection, only those are entitled to vote who have handed over a vote in the preselection beforehand.

Preselection:

The applications are displayed on three consecutive days for sighting and judgment, preferably in the gallery of the Vorwerk-Stift. Those applicants to be invited for a personal interview are determined by the preselection. Prerequisite for this is a majority of pros. Depending on the number of applicants as well as the spaces to be allocated in the Vorwerk-Stift, the invitation can be restricted to the best placed.

Final selection:

In the final selection applicants, who again reach more than half of the pros, are determined during one day. The total number of pros gained decides on the sequence of the allotment of the next free space in the artist-house. The candidacy for a place in the Vorwerk-Stift expires with the beginning of the next application procedure; renewed application is possible.

VII Time of absence:

To maintain the general interest, long periods of absence should be avoided. With an absence of more than six months, Stiftung Freiraum e.V. is entitled to end the contractual relationship.

The stay of a temporary intermediate user will be imparted to the house-meeting and the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. The main tenant remains the contact partner of the Stiftung Freiraum e.V.

The utilization contract regulates the details.

VIII Arrears:

If an user gets delayed with payment of the utilization fee for more than two months or on two following dates with an amount, that exceeds a monthly utilization payment, the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. is entitled to instant termination of the utilization contract. The regulations of the laws of tenancy apply to the termination because of arrears.

IX Departure:

Three months before departure from an apartment, the user should announce this on the house-meeting. The written utilization contract regulates further details.

A special termination right is conceded to the user, regardless of the solid contract terms, to prematurely complete the contractual relationship. The user can quit the contractual relationship with the Stiftung Freiraum e.V. anytime within a period of four months towards the end of the month wanted.

X Guest status:

The Guest status will be reached by moving into a guest apartment or an apartment during the absence of the main user. Intended as guests are artists (as above) that are active in the sense of the house. Their work may refer to the house, the district or the city. The guests attend the house-meetings, but have only the right to vote if they are authorized by the main user to maintain his/her interests during his/her absence.

XI Annual Presentation / Documentation:

Annually, the artist-house Vorwerk-Stift and its users appear in public. The participation in this event is obligatory for all users.

Once per year, during the last weekend of May, an annual presentation of all users will be held. For purposes of representing the project, it is important that Stiftung Freiraum e.V. may produce and use visual and audio material of the showing for the presentation of the project.

Ending the course of the three-year utilization time, just as with premature departure, a documentation of his/her stay and his/her inventive activity is to be handed over by each user in the Vorwerk-Stift to Stiftung Freiraum e.V. for the archive.

XII House rules:

The house rules regulate the details of the use of the building.

XIII Representation and Internet presence:

The Website of the Vorwerk-Stift, www.vorwerkstift.de, shows a common profile for the representation of the project to the public. Its administration and service are dealt with by Stiftung Freiraum e.V., the contents are produced in cooperation with the users.