

Annual Report 2024



**BERLIN
GLAS**
e.V.

INHALT:

- Youth: Kiez Mobil, Kids Blow Glas, Glass Gleams, Melting Pot Luck
- Multaka Workshops
- ISGNE
- University Classes
- Public Classes
- Residencies
- Public Events & Exhibitions
- Supporters

YOUTH

Team Highlights

Maylis du Bot, affectionately known as *Ziggy*, has become an indispensable part of our team. Her seamless organization of workshops and willingness to take on major responsibilities have lightened the load immensely. We're incredibly grateful for her presence, energy, and dedication — it's a joy to work with her!

Glass Art Society Conference 2024

The year kicked off with preparations for the **Glass Art Society Conference** in May. Traditionally, the conference has not included children's programming, but youth engagement is a vital part of our mission. We revived our 2019 initiative, **Kid's Oasis**, collaborating with artists from the Monopol complex to offer creative and welcoming experiences for younger audiences.

To support this initiative, we launched a fundraising campaign on the Berlin-based non-profit platform **Better Place**. While the campaign didn't generate the support we hoped for, we decided to self-finance **Kid's Oasis** — a decision that proved successful, thanks in part to the growth in our annual income from classes.

Project Spotlight: Melting Pot Luck

In October 2024, we proudly launched **Melting Pot Luck**, a new initiative supported by a grant from *Stark Gemacht*.

This project empowers teenage girls from diverse backgrounds through immersive **glassblowing workshops**, with a focus on social inclusion, self-expression, and community building. Participants explore the art of glassblowing from start to finish, building not only artistic skills but also confidence, responsibility, and cultural understanding.

Through this hands-on experience, the girls are encouraged to create their own glass pieces — a powerful metaphor for shaping one's own path. By offering a space to express themselves and connect with others, the program also challenges gender norms in a craft historically dominated by men.

Each cycle welcomes **three participants for one month**, with **two three-hour sessions per week**. The program concludes with a shared studio dinner, where the girls showcase and use the glassware they've crafted — turning their artistic journey into a communal celebration.

We are excited to continue offering Melting Pot Luck and to expand its reach in the coming year.

Kiez Mobil & Kids Blow Glas

Both our mobile outreach program, Kiez Mobil, and the beloved Kids Blow Glas initiative thrived in 2024 — collectively reaching an incredible 499 children.

Our team also grew stronger this year, with three new members joining us in December. Their arrival brings fresh energy and new ideas as we continue building inclusive, creative spaces for young people through the art of glass.

	Place	Time	Instructors	Theme	Nr of ppl
January					
17.01.24	Get Your Guide	16:30-18:30	ziggy&maya&vivi	Glassblowing demo & fusing	18
18.01.24	Gustav-Freytag-Schule	14:00-16:00	ziggy & julia	Chaplin movie 'the kid', scene with the broken windows	12
February					
09.02.24	Multaka	15:30-18:00	ziggy&maya	Pergamon Tour	4
10.02.24	Multaka	10:00-13:00	ziggy&maya	Mosaic with adults	6
27.02.24	Internationale Jugendgemeinschaftsdienste	10:00-16:00	ziggy&julia	Glass fusing & paperweight	6
28.02.24	Internationale Jugendgemeinschaftsdienste	10:00-16:00	ziggy&maya	Mould making	6
29.02.24	Internationale Jugendgemeinschaftsdienste	10:00-16:00	ziggy&francesco	Mould blowing	6
March					
05.03.24	Leibnitz Gymnasium	14:30-16:30	Maya	Kids Blow Glas	4
15.03.24	AGYA	TBD	nadania	Symposium on Glassmaking	22
16.03.24	AGYA	TBD	derek&zigzag	Glass fusing	10
April					
09.04.24	Leibnitz Gymnasium	14:30-16:30	Maya	Kids Blow Glas	6
14.04.24	from ijgd / bday party	14:00-16:00	Ziggy & Julia	Glass fusing	10
16.04.24	Leibnitz Gymnasium	14:30-16:30	Francesco	Kids Blow Glas	3
18.04.24	Deutsches Rotes Kreuz	14:00-16:00	Julia&Amelie	Glass fusing	12
20.04.24	KreativFabrik	14:00-18:00	Ziggy & Julia	Glass fusing	20
25.04.24	Girls'Day @ BGeW Studio	11:00-15:00	Maya & Ziggy & Vivi	Jewelry & glassblowing :-)	9
May					

15-18.05.24	GAS Conference	10:00-17:00	Ali, Julia, Ziggy, Amelie	kids' oasis	
June					
01.06.24	DeutschAkademie Sprachschule	14:00-16:00	Ali & Amelie	Glass fusing	18
12.06.24	Gangway e.V.	16:00-18:00	julia&ziggy	kids' oasis	20
27.06.24	Corning Germany	14:00-17:00	Ziggy & Amelie	Fusing & Demo	14
July					
02.07.24	Phorms School	11:00-13:00	Derek & Ziggy	Glass fusing	10
04.07.24	Deutsches Rotes Kreuz	14:00-16:00	Derek & Julia	Glass fusing	12
11.07.24	Albatros Refugee Home	15:00-17:00	Derek & Ziggy	Glass fusing	12
12.07.24	Private Birthday Party	15:00-17:00	Derek & Ziggy	Glass fusing	10
August					
01.08.24	Albatros Refugee Home	15:00-17:00	ziggy&amelie	Glass fusing	12
15.08.24	milaa gGmbH GU-AKS	KM TO GO	KM TO GO	KM TO GO	
20.08.24	milaa gGmbH AE GCS	14:00-16:00	amelie & interns	Glass fusing	12
September					
14.09.24	Kid's Oasis at BG Monopol Open Studios	14:00-20:00		Coloring books only	5
25 & 26.09.24	Made By GSB	10:00-14:00	ziggy + Amelie	Glass Fusing / Jewelry & Demo	25
27.09.24	LettePlatz Fest	14:00-18:00	ziggy + Derek	kids'oasis	60
October					
05.10.24	KinderKulturMonat	10:00-13:00	Derek + Nick	kids' oasis	30
23.10.24	Katholische Studierendengemeinde Edith Stein	19:00-21:00	Ziggy only	glass fusing	13
21.10.24	Charité	10:00-12:00	ziggy + Amelie	Glass Gleams	5
25.10.24	Charité	10:00-12:00	ziggy + Derek	Glass Gleams	5
November					
15.11.24	Die Arche	15:00-17:00	Amelie&Pippa	Glass Gleams	12

19.11.24	Kids Blow Glas	14:30-16:30	Amelie		3
22.11.24	KreativFabrik	14:00-17:00	Derek&Amelie	Lantern painting and window stickers	15
December					
03.12.24	Kids Blow Glas	14:30-16:30	Amelie		2
03.12.24	Refugee Home Derek	evening	Derek	jewelry	7
09.12.24	Letteplatz	17:00-19.00	Ziggy	lantern painting	6
16.12.24	Käthe-Kollwitz Schule	10:00-13:00	Ziggy&Derek	visit + glass fusing	25
17.12.24	Kids Blow Glas	14:30-16:30	Ziggy		4
18.12.24	Navitas Lübars	14:00-16:00	Nick&Dominik	christmas ornaments	8

MULTAKA

Partnership

At the end of 2022, the Multaka team experienced some staffing changes. While the new team members have been a pleasure to work with, the shift brought challenges that affected the energy and commitment previously seen in our collaborative workshops.

Unfortunately, the connection between the museum tours and the workshops has weakened. Multaka team members no longer attend the workshops following the tours, and Berlin Glas is now responsible for coordinating the events — including writing English and German texts that are no longer translated into Arabic or Farsi. The lack of integration between the museum tours and workshop themes, has left participants confused about the relevance of the tours.

2023 & 2024 Reflections

After a frustrating experience with the two workshops held in 2023, we decided to scale back and conduct just one workshop in 2024.

The theme was centred on art as a communication tool, looking at mosaics and paintings (Icons) from the Byzantine Era, and the corresponding museum visit took place at the Bode Museum. The hands-on workshop was to explore ancient and contemporary mosaic art — a tradition with nearly 4000 years of history, evolving from stone and colored glass to modern reinterpretations using digital media and installation.

While the tour was well-intended, only 4 out of 12 participants joined the tour. The museum guide did not reference the Byzantine mosaic collection or the themes we had discussed beforehand. As a result, the tour felt disconnected and missed an important opportunity to engage participants more deeply with the subject matter.

Moreover, no representatives from Multaka attended the workshop, further distancing the collaboration.

Looking Forward

In an effort to improve the partnership, we suggested offering the guides a custom tour of the relevant museum collections — helping them better understand how the themes link with our workshops at Berlin Glas. While the Multaka team supported this idea in principle, we were unable to coordinate a date in 2024.

We remain committed to making this collaboration meaningful and impactful, and we hope to see real improvements in 2025 — with better alignment, stronger communication, and more intentional integration between the museum and studio experiences.



10 YEARS
BERLIN
GLAS
e.V.

مركز
التحقيق
العلمي

Multaka
Treffpunkt Museum

09-10.02.2024

Let's Talk About It

**FREE PUBLIC WORKSHOP
MUSEUM TOUR & MOSAIC WORKSHOP
BOOKING: INFO@MULTAKA.DE**

ISGNE

(Imagining Sustainable Glass Network Europe)

ISGNE Grant & Partnership Update

Our participation in ISGNE (Imagining Sustainable Glass Network Europe) — a collaborative project supported by Creative Europe with North Lands Creative (Scotland), Stikla Maja / Glass Point (Latvia), and the National College of Art and Design (Ireland) — has unfortunately faced significant administrative setbacks.

The project was scheduled to conclude in May 2023, but in November 2022, the board of directors at North Lands Creative, our lead partner, fired the Director following a vote of no confidence. An interim Director was unable to locate the necessary ISGNE files for final reporting. In July 2023, North Lands Creative declared bankruptcy, and by September, the organization was handed over to liquidators.

Since then, we have received no further information on how the project will be closed or reported to Creative Europe. As a result, Berlin Glas, which was supposed to receive €12,500, has not been paid.

Financial Impact

Creative Europe administrators are working diligently to protect secondary partners like us from being held liable for the missing reports or required to repay grant funds. Unfortunately, because all final reporting must be submitted by the lead partner, and because the necessary documentation is now inaccessible or scattered, all reports submitted independently by Berlin Glas, Glass Point, and NCAD have been deemed null and void.

Per the 2018 partnership agreement, if the lead partner fails to submit the final report, the financial burden may fall on the other partners. Thankfully, the EU is advocating on our behalf to prevent this. We are incredibly grateful for their efforts and support in such a difficult situation. However, the unfortunate consequence is that Berlin Glas has had to self-finance the €12,500 originally covered by the grant.

University Classes

Glassy Fridays — Sponsored by Bocci

In 2024, *Glassy Fridays* successfully implemented a new, structured format that gave each student up to six weeks to prepare for their glassblowing session. This shift paid off: students came in with a clearer understanding of the material and a strong vision of what they wanted to create — thanks in part to insights passed down from participants in the pilot year (2021).

As a result, the sessions leaned more toward intentional production rather than open-ended exploration. The program ran smoothly and fulfilled its goals, so we're excited to say no changes to the format are needed going forward.

Every student created a prototype they expressed interest in producing further. Some even received requests from galleries. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive — many described the experience as mesmerizing. We make a habit of encouraging students to participate in the process hands-on, safely assisting the team. This engagement strengthens both their confidence and their connection to the final outcome.

While funding was originally set aside for team compensation, rising material and energy costs required reallocating those funds toward operational expenses. Berlin Glassworks GmbH graciously sponsored the human resources, with team members completing cold-working during their time off or as paid salaried overtime.

We decided to end Glassy Fridays in 2024. We feel that the three years we ran the program had a strong impact on the students but that we need to focus on Berlin Glas's infrastructure and about a new kiln with the funds that Bocci donated at the end of the year.

Mould-Making / Mould-Blowing Class — Sponsored by Alexander Tutsek Foundation

To expand access to our programs, we applied to the Alexander Tutsek Foundation for a stipend to support 8 students across four workshops between Fall 2023 and Summer 2024. These classes were designed for sculpture students from UdK and Weissensee universities, offering them a focused opportunity to explore mould-making and mould-blowing.

After promoting the opportunity on Instagram and through our newsletter, we receive

around 25+ applications. It is important to emphasize that the course centers on learning a new technique — not producing a finished piece.

Bard College Berlin Collaboration

We're thrilled to have begun what we hope will be a long-term partnership with Bard College of Arts Berlin. In 2024, we began teaching a weekly class covering:

- Classic two/three-part moulds
- Hot-moulds
- Glassblowing

Because we limited class size to 8 students, we discovered we could offer both mould-blowing and hot-glass instruction, transforming the course into a true Introduction to Glassmaking.

Public Classes

Financial Sustainability & Programming

In response to ongoing financial pressures from the post-lockdown period and the energy crisis, we have transitioned all workshops to run through the Berlin Glas e.V. as a means to generate sustainable cash flow.

In 2023, we received no major grants, aside from a small contribution from our local neighborhood management office. This made it necessary to find fast, practical solutions to continue offering our programs without interruption.

To support this shift, we welcomed new team members who are able to teach our Intro to Glass class — allowing us to offer sessions during the week and not just on Saturdays, significantly increasing accessibility.

Residencies

Berlin Glas e.V. AiR 2024

Luke E. Holden

Monica Bonvicini X Bärenglas

Mona Hatoum

Public Events, Exhibitions & Volunteering

- February 12-14 Jury for IFoG in Stourbridge
- May 11th **Open Studio Day** at the Berlin Glassworks Studio, part of Berlin Gallery Weekend at Monopol Berlin
- May 16-18 **Glass Art Society Annual Conference** in Berlin, Germany
- July 15th **Public Demo** to celebrate the end of the Burnt Asphalt master class
- September 14th **Public Demo** at the Berlin Glassworks Studio during Art Week
- December 6th **Public Demo** with Bard College of Art Students, part of their end of semester exhibition
- Creation of a trophy for the Museum of Islamic Art

SUPPORT

- Bocci: Glassy Friday
- QM Lette Platz: Lanterns for Glass Gleams and new brochures
- Alexander Tutsek Stiftung: Mould Making/ Mould Blowing workshops
- Bomma Glass (cullet) – Glass Art Society Conference
- Berlin Glassworks GmbH

On December 9, 2024, Berlin Glas e.V. celebrated its 13th anniversary! We are soon going

to be a teenage studio and as it grows, it continues to flourish. We are all so thankful and look forward to the future!

Nadania Idriss

Nadania Idriss
Founder & Managing Director