

»German SPIELRAUM award«: Specialist panel selects Germany's best themed playground

In 2017, the German SPIELRAUM prize for sports grounds and play areas will be awarded for the twelfth time. With "Themed Playgrounds" as this year's topic, the competition organiser (STADT und RAUM Messe und Medien GmbH) is demonstrating its keen sense for identifying trends and developments in the sector: with 75 entries, a new record for project submissions has been reached.

Ten exemplary recreational spaces and their owners and designers will be awarded the prestigious prize by a panel of experts. In terms of planning and design, these play areas will need to have been created with a focus on a specific theme. This should form the underlying guiding principle, tenet or central idea of the design and also encompass elements of topography, vegetation, equipment, etc. The competition is expressly not intended for projects where isolated thematic components are used on their own with no integration into their surroundings. The highest marks will, therefore, be awarded to those designs that go beyond the unconnected and isolated use of specific items of "themed play equipment" and describe and highlight the design criteria, enabling, encouraging and giving structure to imaginative play. If issues of involvement and participation, gendering or accessibility played a role and were implemented in the planning and execution stages, they should be described accordingly and presented clearly.

The jury will meet on 15 September and the award ceremony will be held on 10 November 2017 in Cologne at the International Trade Fair for Amenity Areas, Sports and Pool Facilities (FSB). Prizes with a total value of around Euro 21,000 will be given out at this event, and members of the jury will introduce each of the winning projects in a short congratulatory speech. The designs will then be presented to the specialist audience for the first time on informative roll-up displays as part of a special exhibition.

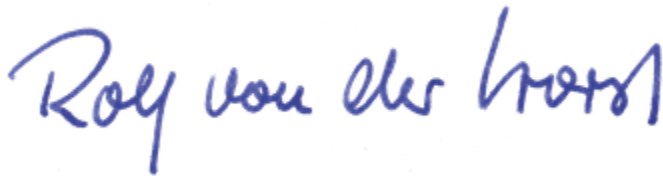
The prize is awarded in collaboration with the German Conference of Municipal Parks and Gardens Directors (GALK e.V.) and the German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB).

Jury members for the 2017 German SPIELRAUM prize:

- Dagmar Gast (freelance landscape architect BDLA, Berlin, and member of the supervisory board at the Berlin/Brandenburg Chamber of Architects Pension Fund).

- Mathias Knigge (“grauwert” consultancy for demographically inclusive products and services, Hamburg; Chairman of EDAD – Europäisches Institut Design für Alle in Deutschland e.V. / European Institute of Design for All in Germany)
- Dr Ronald Kunze (Büro für Städtebau und Kommunalberatung / Urban planning and municipal consulting, Langenhagen; urban development assessor and author of specialist works, editor of “Jahrbuch Stadterneuerung”, the German urban renewal yearbook)
- Tamara Rosenbach (member of the board at Deutsche Sport Jugend, the youth organisation of the German Olympic Sports Confederation – DOSB, Frankfurt am Main)
- Götz Stehr (head of the parks department at Wolfsburg city council; President of the German Conference of Municipal Parks and Gardens Directors, GALK e.V./Association of German Cities, DST)
- Thomas Ostermeyer (Gruppe Freiraumplanung open-space planning office; freelance landscape architect BDLA, Langenhagen)
- Gert Wittmoser (Dipl.-Ing., retired head of green spaces for Lüneburg; Chairman of GALK in Lower Saxony from 1996 to 2011)
- Rolf von der Horst (editor-in-chief and publisher of the trade journal STADT und RAUM, Winsen an der Aller)

Best regards



Rolf von der Horst
Managing Director

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