



YOUNG FORUM

22ND ERLANGEN INTERNATIONAL COMIC SALON
4 TO 7 JUNE 2026

Kulturamt der Stadt Erlangen
Abteilung Festivals und Programme
91051 Erlangen – Germany
Tel. +49 (0)9131 86-1406
E-mail: comicsalon@stadt.erlangen.de
www.comic-salon.de



YOUNG FORUM

22ND ERLANGEN INTERNATIONAL COMIC SALON 4 TO 7 JUNE 2026

Erlangen, October 2025

Dear students and teachers,

From 4 to 7 June 2026 the 22nd International Comic Salon will take place in Erlangen's city centre. The biannual festival, which is organized by the cultural office of the City of Erlangen, is the largest and most significant event focusing on graphic literature and comic art in the German-speaking realm, welcoming more than 30 000 visitors every two years. The comic fair represents the core of the International Comic Salon and provides an ideal platform and meeting point for publishers, artists, dealers, agents, service companies and vendors of products related to comic art, graphic literature, cartoons, manga as well as illustration and animation. In 2026 the Comic fair will once again be located in fair marquees on the Erlanger Schlossplatz and in the Schlossgarten. Besides the fair, the unique four-day programme with more than 200 individual events offers selected high-quality exhibitions, the Comic Podium with lectures, panels and discussions, the Comic Film Fest, as well as readings, performances and workshops. For further information please consult our archive at www.comic-salon.de/en.

Since 2002 the Comic Salon hosts the **Young Forum**, an area at the center of the fair allocated to universities and academic programmes focusing on comics, graphic design, illustration and animation. Free of charge, the departments and students are invited to present and sell their work and to establish and build new networks with other students, professionals and visitors alike.

If you or students of your institution are interested in taking part in the Young Forum of the 22nd Erlangen International Comic Salon 2026, we ask you to submit the following application forms, including a short description of your planned activities, by **31 January 2026**. Once your participation has been confirmed you will receive an individual login which grants access to the exhibitor section of the festival website www.comic-salon.de. You will be able to create your exhibitor profile and order exhibitor badges directly online. In order to generate individual logins, the submission of both the application and **EXHIBITOR LOGIN FORM** is mandatory. Each institution is eligible for up to 20 exhibitor badges, which are exclusively reserved for employees and students of the respective university.

If you wish to contribute to other events, e.g. the Comic Film Fest or the panel and lecture programme, we welcome your suggestions. Programme proposals must be submitted by **1 March 2026** at the latest.

Should you have further questions, we are happy to assist you either by phone +49 (0)9131 86-1406 or e-mail at comicsalon@stadt.erlangen.de. We look forward to welcoming you at the 22nd Erlangen International Comic Salon!

Kind regards
Your team of the International Comic Salon Erlangen

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INTERNATIONALER
**COMIC
SALON**
ERLANGEN

FACTS AND FIGURES

22ND ERLANGEN INTERNATIONAL COMIC SALON 4 TO 7 JUNE 2026

The Festival

The Erlangen International Comic Salon, which takes place every two years, is the most important festival for graphic literature in the German-speaking realm and has played a decisive role in changing the perception of comics in Germany – not only as a mass medium but also as an art form. The Comic Salon presents a programme that brings together art and commerce, mainstream and avant-garde. The Salon is seismograph and engine of the German comic industry and has reflected all the facets of the genre for over 40 years. Around 30,000 visitors are expected for the 22nd Erlangen International Comic Salon in 2026.

The Comic Fair

The core of the Erlangen International Comic Salon is the Comic Fair, located in marquees right in the heart of the city. More than 300 exhibitors – German and international publishers, agencies, comic dealers, comic and illustration classes from universities and comic creators – present their programmes. Numerous new releases are introduced to the public for the first time and nearly 500 artists from around the world can be experienced in person, drawing and signing their books. A press office, information counter, trade visitor services and conference rooms of various sizes offer all the amenities and services to fulfil the professional needs of all visitors.

The Exhibitions

The distinctive feature of the Erlangen International Comic Salon is the numerous exhibitions spread across the entire city centre. The Comic Salon presents solo exhibitions dedicated to international comic stars as well as insights into the German speaking scene, newcomers, thematic exhibitions on comic history and current socio-political issues. The work of artists such as ATAK, Baru, Émile Bravo, Charles Burns, David B., Hendrik Dorgathen, Will Eisner, Anke Feuchtenberger, Flix, Greser & Lenz, Anna Haifisch, Reinhard Kleist, Jeff Lemire, Nicolas Mahler, Marc-Antoine Mathieu, Lorenzo Mattotti, Catherine Meurisse, Moebius, Joann Sfar, Art Spiegelman, Liv Strömquist, Joost Swarte, Jirō Taniguchi, Jacques Tardi and Birgit Weyhe has been featured in exhibitions so far. The Erlangen International Comic Salon also cooperates with local, national and international art institutions.

The Max und Moritz Award

The Max und Moritz Gala in Erlangen's baroque theatre (Friday, 5 June 2026) is the highlight of the Salon. The Max und Moritz Award, presented by the City of Erlangen, is the most important prize for graphic literature in the German-speaking realm. It is awarded in different categories by an independent jury of professionals and plays a decisive role in the recognition of comic art. It recognises the work of outstanding artists, acknowledges exemplary publishing and encourages the debate on graphic literature in general. In previous years, the award for lifetime achievement was presented to Albert Uderzo, Jacques Tardi, Alan Moore, Pierre Christin, Lorenzo Mattotti, Ralf König, Claire Bretécher, Jean-Claude Mézières, Anke Feuchtenberger, Naoki Urasawa and Joann Sfar.

Kinder lieben Comics!

Kids love comics! This is why the Erlangen International Comic Salon, for ten years, has been presenting a diverse programme for young readers, which is entirely dedicated to children's comics – a festival within the festival. The four-day programme with interactive special projects, exhibitions, readings, workshops and live drawing attracts numerous visitors young and old.

The Event Programme

The event programme includes lectures, interviews and panel discussions with artists, authors, journalists and publishers, comic readings, drawing competitions and workshops. In addition to new comic adaptations and documentaries, the Comic Film Fest presents all forms of animated film – from current anime to the avant-garde. The 2024 focus on "Urban Sketching" will be continued in the form of workshops, sketch crawls and live drawings.

Figures 2024

Visitors in total	30.000
Exhibitors Fair and Exchange	325
Registered artists	582
Signing sessions	773
Supporting events	278
Exhibitions	25

Press comments

Well over 30,000 visitors came to the fair tents and the more than 30 venues around the Schlossgarten. This was the International Comic Salon's best-attended edition to date. **Börsenblatt, June 2024**

With over 300 exhibitors, the fair once again moved into the temporary exhibition tents on Schlossplatz and in the Schlossgarten as well as the Redoutensaal. Artists signed books, visitors were able to browse and the scene networked.

Nürnberger Nachrichten, June 2024

Erlangen took an impressive political stance this year. The fact that there were also non-political works on show, such as Steven Appleby's enchanting small exhibition at the Kunstverein or Olivia Vieweg's cleverly presented retrospective, made for an all-round successful festival, which once again attracted around 30,000 visitors despite severe weather conditions.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, June 2024

The Comic Salon shows once again how much is happening in the comic industry, how many fantastic artists there are. Erlangen more than lives up to its claim to be the German capital of comics for the four days of the Salon.

Nürnberger Nachrichten, June 2022

This Comic Salon was unique. The fair took place in three marquees of various sizes, especially erected for the occasion, and Erlangen's beautiful public gardens became an integral part of the festival grounds. The Salon presented itself in the heart of the city, conspicuously benefitting from all its local advantages.

Süddeutsche Zeitung, June 2018

It is the intimacy that makes Erlangen so appealing – the closeness to both the artists and their "products", displaying the various stages of the creative process, as well as the commercial exploitation.

Die Welt, May 2016

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CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION:

31 JANUARY 2026

APPLICATION YOUNG FORUM

**22ND ERLANGEN INTERNATIONAL COMIC SALON
4 TO 7 JUNE 2026**

Institution	
Contact person	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> non-binary
Street, House number	
Zip or postal code, Town	Country
Telephone	Cell phone
E-mail	
Website	VAT-No.

We would like to participate in the Young Forum of the 22nd Erlangen International Comic Salon with a fair booth (free of charge) and plan to offer the following activities as a contribution to the programme:

Brief description of planned participation at the fair
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Please return your application until **31 January 2026** at the latest. An index of all participants of the Young Forum as well as a short profile will be published on the festival website. All exhibitors will receive an individual login and are able to enter their data online. **Please note that in order to receive the login, the submission of both the application and the EXHIBITOR LOGIN form is mandatory.** I hereby accept the terms and conditions printed on the following page.

Place, Date	Signature
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TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION – YOUNG FORUM

22ND ERLANGEN INTERNATIONAL COMIC SALON

4 TO 7 JUNE 2026

1. Duration of the Comic Fair

1.1 The 22nd Erlangen International Comic Salon will take place from 4 to 7 June 2026. The opening times of the comic fair are as follows: on 4 June 2026 from noon until 7 p.m., on 5 and 6 June 2026 from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m., on 7 June 2026 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. The comic fair venues will be open daily from 9 a.m. and until one hour after the end of the comic fair for the exhibitors.

1.2 The organiser shall reserve the right to postpone the comic fair for important reasons, change the duration of the comic fair and the opening times, to cancel the comic fair completely or end it early. With regard to all changes the agreements signed by the exhibitors shall be entirely valid; any claim for booth hire charges shall remain valid unless the comic fair is cancelled due to reasons within the sphere of the organiser.

2. Exhibitors

Any German or foreign academic institution offering programmes with a focus on visual art, comic, graphic design, illustration, animation or film may exhibit in the area reserved for the Young Forum at the comic fair.

3. Exhibited items

3.1 At the International Comic Salon the items exhibited shall only refer to graphic literature, comics and the like including, for example, cartoons, caricatures, cartoon films, merchandise and the like.

3.2 The organiser does not impose censorship, but reserves the right to prohibit the exhibition of items that are discriminatory in nature or incompatible with democratic values.

3.3 It is not permitted to exhibit any items which have been banned from production, distribution or import by courts of the Federal Republic of Germany, or by any existing foreign court decisions, providing these decisions have been declared enforceable by courts of the Federal Republic of Germany. The advertising of any items excluded from the comic fair shall be forbidden as well.

3.4 Any works and the like potentially harmful to minors must not be made accessible to children and young people.

4. Agreement of contract and assignment of location

4.1 Applications for the Young Forum shall be carried out in writing by 31 January 2024 at the latest (final deadline).

4.2 Applications are binding for the exhibitor. The agreement of contract shall become effective once the registration has been confirmed by the organiser.

4.3 Any early registration by letter, possibly including any requests for reservations shall be invalid unless it is confirmed.

4.4 All alterations and provisos on the registration forms (or anything in connection with them), which are carried out by the exhibitor, shall be invalid and shall be regarded as unwritten.

4.5 The conclusion of the contract shall not establish the right of the exhibitor to have a certain place allocated.

5. Website

All exhibitors shall be included on the website at www.comic-salon.de. Inclusion is compulsory; it shall not imply any liability of the organiser regarding the completeness as well as the correctness of the entry.

6. Equipment and fittings of the booths

6.1 Standard fair booths shall be made available by the organiser.

6.2 Any fabric or materials used for the decoration of the fair booths must be fireproof (at least German standard B1).

6.3 Any booth equipment of the exhibitor as well as any advertising media shall under no circumstances exceed a height of 250 cm, exceptions only after prior arrangement with the organiser.

6.4 In the event of contravention the organiser shall be entitled to have any necessary changes carried out at the expense of the exhibitor.

7. Setting up and dismantling

7.1 Setup for exhibitors is possible as of 3 June 2026, 9 a.m.

7.2 Any booths which are not in use on the first day of the fair by 11 a.m. shall be free to be allocated elsewhere by the organiser.

7.3 The fair booths must not be vacated before 5 p.m. on the last day of the fair. The booths must be cleared and cleaned by 9 p.m. In the event of non-compliance, the organiser reserves the right not to accept the exhibitor's application for the following Comic Salon.

7.4 The booth equipment must be returned in perfect condition after the end of the fair.

8. Sale of items

Selling by private contract is permitted without restriction at the comic fair.

9. Exhibitor badges

9.1 Only persons with a special exhibitor badge are allowed to enter the Comic Salon. As standard each institution will receive up to 20 badges per application. Badges have to indicate the holder's name and are not transferable. Misuse of badges will result in the immediate collection without compensation.

9.2 Additional badges can only be provided after prior consultation with the organiser. Where applicable, a fee of Euro 36,14 plus 19 % VAT per badge may be charged.

10. Insurance, liability

10.1 Insurance cover for booth equipment and fittings brought by the exhibitor as well as for the exhibits themselves against burglary, theft, fire and damage by water as well as against damage in transit to and from the Comic Salon is solely the responsibility of each individual exhibitor. Collective or group policies shall not be taken out.

10.2 The organiser is only liable for damage caused intentionally or as a result of gross negligence; in the event of physical injury or damage to health, liability is excluded only in the event of slight negligence.

10.3 The exhibitor is liable in accordance with the legal regulations.

11. Conduct at the Comic Salon

11.1 Every exhibitor is jointly responsible for the success of the Salon. Actions which may disturb or hinder the Salon or any other exhibitor in an unjustifiable manner are therefore forbidden.

11.2 With the exception of the display and distribution of advertising material on the booth itself, the displaying and distribution of any other advertising and printed material in the fair hall is forbidden. Any use of acoustic advertising or mobile illuminated advertising is likewise forbidden as is any other advertising over the site of the comic fair.

11.3 Advertising and sales vehicles or buses with books, etc. may only be parked at the site of the fair for a fee and after consulting with the organiser.

11.4 Receptions, lectures, press conferences, public discussions and draws or raffles, etc. on the fairgrounds require the prior written approval of the organiser.

11.5 It is part of the responsibility of each exhibitor to help prevent theft as far as possible and to help ensure that any theft discovered is liable to criminal prosecution. Irrespective of this, in such cases, the organiser shall institute criminal proceedings.

12. Failure to comply with these conditions

In the event of an exhibitor contravening these conditions and in the event of such conduct which is in breach of contract being continued in spite of warnings, or if any such contravention of the regulations at previous Comic Salons is repeated, the organiser has the right to ban the exhibitor concerned from taking any further part in the Salon and in extremely serious cases also from taking part in future Comic Salons. This also applies when items are exhibited which have been forbidden by court order, or if exhibitors or any of their staff are involved in any criminal acts or incitement to such (for example, theft or intentional violation of copyright laws).

13. Claims of the exhibitors

13.1 All possible claims of the exhibitor arising from the contract concluded with the organiser as well as any non-contractual claims must be entered in writing with the organiser within 10 days at the latest from the end of the Comic Salon. Irrespective of this, they become statute-barred if they have not been claimed in a court of law before the end of the calendar year involved.

13.2 In accordance with a person's right to express their opinion embodied in the Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany, certain disturbances at the Comic Salon are possible and inevitable for a limited period of time. The organiser is not liable for any damage incurred by the exhibitor during such time.

14. Place of performance, jurisdiction, miscellaneous

Place of performance and exclusive jurisdiction for all disputes between exhibitors and the organiser is Erlangen. The laws of the Federal Republic of Germany are applicable. Should any stipulations of these terms and conditions be partly or wholly invalid, the parties to the contract shall seek an amicable ruling which comes closest to the aims set out in the invalid clause.

The other provisions remain unaffected.

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CLOSING DATE:
31 JANUARY 2026

EXHIBITOR LOGIN – YOUNG FORUM
22ND ERLANGEN INTERNATIONAL COMIC SALON
4 TO 7 JUNE 2026

Name of institution (for publication)	
Contact for further enquiries	Telephone
E-mail	Cell phone

Once applications have been processed, participants of the Young Forum will receive an individual online login via e-mail. The login grants access to the exhibitor section of the festival website www.comic-salon.de, where you will be able to update your exhibitor profile and order exhibitor badges. The exhibitor login will be sent to the e-mail address indicated above.

The submission of an exhibitor profile for the online directory of the festival website is mandatory for all exhibitors, please make sure to enter your data by **1 March 2026** at the latest.

The details indicated above are binding and will be used to generate your online login. They also serve as a template for the exhibitor index and profiles in all festival publications. Alterations to these details cannot be accommodated after the application has been processed.

Place, Date	Signature
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IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

22ND ERLANGEN INTERNATIONAL COMIC SALON 4 TO 7 JUNE 2026

Closing date Application Young Forum	31 JANUARY 2026
Submission for programme proposals until	1 MARCH 2026
Closing date Exhibitor Profile	1 MARCH 2026
Closing date Exhibitor Badges	20 MAY 2026

COMIC FAIR

Set-up

Comic Fair, Young Forum	3 June 2026	9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
	4 June 2026	8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Small Exhibitors	4 June 2026	9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Opening hours

4 June 2026	noon to 7 p.m.
5 June 2026	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
6 June 2026	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
7 June 2026	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dismantling

Comic Fair, Young Forum	7 June 2026	5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Small Exhibitors	7 June 2026	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Exhibitor badges

Young Forum	20 badges max.
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Additional badges can only be provided after prior consultation with the organiser. Where applicable, a fee of Euro 36,14 plus 19 % VAT per badge may be charged.