

Expolingua Berlin celebrates a successful anniversary

Berlin. Expolingua Berlin 2007, International Fair for Languages and Cultures, came to a successful end on Sunday, November 18th. On its 20th anniversary, the event was bigger and more diverse than ever before. 215 exhibitors from 32 countries took part in the three-day exhibition. Last year, there were 157 exhibitors from 27 countries. The number of visitors to the event also met the organisers' expectations – 14,822 people came to the Russisches Haus der Wissenschaft und Kultur in Berlin to find out about language courses in Germany and around the world, as well as opportunities to study abroad.

To mark the fair's 20th anniversary, Expolingua was opened ceremonially by the ambassadors of Australia (H.E. Ian Kemish), New Zealand (H.E. Alan Howard Cook) and the Russian Federation (H.E. Vladimir V. Koteney). The ambassadors introduced the focal points of the exhibition and cut the Expolingua birthday cake, together with the fair's project manager, Silke Lieber. A performance of traditional didgeridoo music rounded off the opening ceremony.

Australia and New Zealand, the guests of honour at Expolingua Berlin 2007, were represented by more than 35 exhibitors, including universities, colleges, exchange organisations and the general consulates.

Expolingua Berlin also marked the official end to the 'Year of the Russian Language' and Russian universities, publishers, language institutes and cultural centres were represented in a special area of the exhibition. This was accompanied by a series of seminars and workshops all about the language of honour, Russian.

The extensive seminar and cultural programme, which runs parallel to the fair, was well received. Over 80 presentations informed visitors about the latest developments in language learning and teaching. On Saturday, the entertainer and 'Dinglish' expert, Gayle Tufts, gave a live performance and on Sunday, a series of foreign language films were shown.

The next Expolingua Berlin will take place at the Russisches Haus der Wissenschaft und Kultur from November 14 – 16, 2008.

Expolingua Berlin 2008

November 14 – 16, 2008

Fri – Sun, 10.00 – 18.00

Russisches Haus der Wissenschaft und Kultur

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www.expolingua.com

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Picture gallery:

http://www.expolingua.com/expolingua_berlin/de/presse_portal_gallery.php