Welcome Center Events

► New German Courses starting soon

A new round of German Courses at the University of Bonn is about to start end of October/beginning of November. The online application has to be submitted to www.pro-integration.de on the morning of October 17th, approximately from 9:15 am. Everybody registered with the Welcome Center will receive an email with exact description of the process and a personal ID-code before that date. With this information you can register for any of the courses detailed on our website: Welcome Center/German Courses. The courses take place twice a week in the evenings and run up to the beginning of February 2018. The total course fee is 180,-€ for four hours a week.

Let’s get that German going! 😊

► Friday, 20 October: Behind the Scenes: UN Campus Bonn

Just before the World Climate Conference (6-17 November 2017) is about to start, we will visit the UN Campus and learn more about the work of Bonn's 19 UN organizations.

- **Location:** UN Campus Bonn, Platz der Vereinten Nationen
- **Time:** Friday, 20 October, 12 – 2 pm
- **Public Transport:** Subway: Heussallee
- **Web:** http://www.unbonn.org/de
► Tuesday, 7 November: **Meet the Researcher: Fraunhofer Institute for High Frequency Physics and Radar Techniques**

Discover the *world's largest radome* (radar dome) and learn more about the research on security and defense being performed by almost 300 researchers.

- **Meeting Point:** Bus Stop at the Academic Art Museum (Hofgarten)
- **Time:** Tuesday, 7 November, 5 – 7 pm
- **Web:** [https://www.fhr.fraunhofer.de/](https://www.fhr.fraunhofer.de/)

► Tuesday, 23 November: **Meet the Expert: Family Benefits in Germany**

Do or will you have children? If yes, this event on family benefits in Germany should be of great interest for you. Child and parental benefits are a highly appreciated support offers by the state - but how to apply for it and where does the money come from?

- **Time:** Tuesday, 23 November, 4 – 6 pm
- **Venue:** International Office, Conference Room, Poppelsdorfer Allee 53
Friday, 8 December: Exhibition: Weather Forecast – On Weather Culture and Climate Science. Plus: Visit of the Christmas Market

Join us for the exhibition "Weather Report - About Weather Culture and Climate Science" just two weeks after the World Climate Conference in Bonn. A guide will introduce us to this very up-to-date and interdisciplinary exhibition. Afterwards, we will go for mulled wine on Bonn's christmas market.

- **Time:** Friday, 8 December, 4 – 6 pm
- **Meeting Point:** Bundeskunsthalle, Main Entrance
- **Public Transport:** Subway (Museumsmeile)

**Events in Bonn**

BONNEXPAT Evening at the Opera House

The Invitation by the BonnExpat Team to all expatriates in Bonn reads as follows:

When summer ends, culture boosts in Bonn! The new opera season brings a special highlight: Bizet’s Carmen – with a sneak preview on BonnExpat Evening! World premiere: Opéra Comique, Paris, 1875. Bizet’s masterpiece of the gypsy seductress who lives by her own rules has had an impact far beyond the opera house. The opera’s melodic sweep is as irresistible as the title character herself, a force of nature who has become a defining female cultural figure. CARMEN was a scandal at its premiere but soon after became a triumphal success and has remained one of the most frequently staged operas in the world. Courtesy of the Bonn Opera and General Director Bernhard Helmich, we will enjoy a presentation of the Bonn Opera and attend part of a rehearsal for “Carmen”, followed by drinks in the upper foyer of the opera with its beautiful Rhine view. The drinks are courtesy of the Foundation for International Dialogue of the Savings Bank in Bonn.

**Program**

6.15 p.m. Welcome by General Director Bernhard Helmich, Welcome by Dr. Christian Witbraad on behalf of the BonnExpat Team
6.30 p.m. Guided Tour behind the scenes and introduction to Carmen by opera guides
7.30 p.m. Rehearsal of Carmen
8.00 p.m. Drinks

We kindly invite you to register [HERE](#) for the upcoming BONNEXPAT Evening (Registration closing on Monday, October 23). As the number of places is limited for this special activity, we would like to ask you to register every person separately. It is not possible to include more than one participant in one registration.

BONNEXPAT is a special chance for expatriates as well as interested locals to meet in a relaxed atmosphere while learning more about the city and all it has to offer. For further information, please visit our website at [www.bonnexpat.com](#).

Please save the date: Our next BONNEXPAT Evening will take place on Thursday, 1 February 2018, 18.00 h as our traditional BonnExpat Alaaf Carnival Edition, hosted by the Mayor of Bonn.

We look forward to seeing you at BONNEXPAT!

Best regards,
Your BonnExpat Team"
• **Location:** Bonn Opera (main entrance), Am Boeselager Hof 1, 53111 Bonn  
• **Time:** Thursday, 26 October, 6.00 p.m.  
• **Public Transport:** Subway 66 or 62 (‘Bertha-von-Suttner-Platz), Subway 63 or 16 (‘Universität/Markt’)  
• **Price:** free  
• **Web:** www.bonnexpat.com

► **Saturday, 11 November: St. Martin’s Day**

St. Martin’s Day is a regional tradition that can be found in other parts of Germany as well in a similar form. In the Rhineland on that day (or sometimes another day around that date) in each village or part of town, children and their families gather for a march through the streets with lighted lanterns. The procession is usually led by a man in Roman outfit on a horse. He depicts Saint Martin, who is a symbol of generosity as according to legend (as a Roman soldier) he divided his coat on a cold day in order to share it with a beggar on the street. The lanterns the children are carrying are very often made by themselves, very colorful and imaginative. The processions are also accompanied by marching bands and traditional St. Martin’s songs are sung by all participants. At the end of the procession there is traditionally a big bonfire, and the children receive some baked goods. After the procession children split up into small groups and go from door to door in their neighborhoods, ringing doorbells and singing traditional songs to those who open. People are then expected to give the children sweeties, which they collect in special bags. In regards to family meals it is traditional to eat goose on this day. Also, in some places you find so-called ‘Martinsmärkte’ with stalls of food and drink as well as other trinkets to buy.

So, look out for local announcements on times for the processions, stand on the street to admire the atmosphere and of course be prepared at home with lots of sweeties, for when the Martin’s singers come to ring your doorbell.

• **Location:** Various  
• **Time:** In the late afternoon, after dark  
• **Public Transport:** diverse  
• **Price:** free  
• **Web:** none

► **From End of November, Christmas Markets in the Region**

December is the time for the extremely popular Christmas Markets in Germany. Here you can find lovely (handcrafted) presents and enjoy tradition food and drinks, especially the famous ‘Glühwein’ – This is a mulled wine, warm and spiced that is enjoyed standing outside, in the cold. There will be small and big markets in almost every town and part of town in the region, mostly running from the end of November or the beginning of December until the day before Christmas.

The main Christmas Market in Bonn city Center opens on Friday, the 24th of November 2017.

A great special Christmas Market in the region is also the ‘Medieval Christmas Market’ in Siegburg (which can easily be reached by U 66/67). This opens on Thursday, 23rd November.

A very atmospheric Christmas Market a bit farther away is the one in the historic town of Aachen, which is well worth a visit in itself. The Aachen Christmas Market opens on 24th November as well.

• **Location:** Diverse  
• **Time:** Every day from end of November until Christmas
Discover…

► SEA LIFE Königswinter

SEA LIFE is an impressive aquarium on the other side of the Rhine, in nearby Königswinter. The small picturesque town below the impressive Drachenfels is worth a visit in itself. And the Sea Life takes you into a completely different, underwater world. All in all, a great day out for the whole family.

- **Location:** SEA LIFE Königswinter, Rheinallee 8, 53639 Königswinter
- **Time:** Mon - Fri: 10:00 - 17:00 and Sat - Sun: 10:00 - 18:00
- **Public Transport:** U66 in direction of Bad Honnef, stop ‘Königswinter Fähre’
- **Price:** 8,50 €
- **Web:** www.visitsealife.com/de/de/koenigswinter

► Kölnner Zoo

The Cologne Zoo is very large and hosts a huge variety of animals in a very nice park-like environment. Always a great destination for young and old.
What’s more?

► "German Red Cross Rhein-Sieg goes English" and "First Aid in English" -- four courses before Christmas 2017 in Bad Honnef

The number of English speakers in our local community is constantly growing. Therefore the German Red Cross regional office Rhein-Sieg invites those with limited understanding of German to a First Aid course taught in English language. The syllabus is identical to the German First Aid course and covers the following topics:
- General First Aid requirements
- Approaching the casualty & Emergency Call
- Unconsciousness and recovery position
- Breathing difficulties
- Circulatory collapse and CPR with use of an AED
- Wounds and dressings
- Shock
- Fractures and joint injuries

The one day class is predominantly practical; therefore hard wearing cloths should be worn. The provision of theoretical background information will be kept to an essential minimum. At the end of the course each successful participant will receive a certificate of attendance that can be used for various driving and trainer licenses, as well as for recognition as HSE First Aider at Work.

Registration via Email to ausbildung@drk-rhein-sieg.de or online (see below)

- Location: DRK Ortsverein, Austraße 29 in 53604 Bad Honnef
- Time: Sa 30.09.17 from 08:30 - 17:30; Sa 28.10.17 from 08:30 - 17:30 ; Wed 29.11.17 & Thu 30.11.17 from 17:30 - 22:00; Wed 13.12.17 & Th. 04.12.17 from 17:30 - 22:00
- Public Transport: Tram 66 in direction of Bad Honnef
- Price: 60 € (excluding lunch and refreshments) · English Course manual (optional): 15 Euro
- Web: www.drk-rhein-sieg.de

► Tours of the main University library in English

The Bonn University and State Library is offering guided tours in English language again at the beginning of the upcoming semester. Meeting point will by the foyer of the Library and the tour will take approx. 45 mins.

- Location: Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Bonn, Adenauerallee 39-41, 53113 Bonn
- Time: Wednesday, 11 October, and Wednesday, 18 October, both at 2.00 pm
- Public Transport: Subway 66 or 16 (Juridicum)
- Price: free
- Web: www.ulb.uni-bonn.de
Contact

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Wishing you a colorful autumn!