



APPLICATION



Youth
4 German
Cinema



GOETHE
INSTITUT



Goethe.de/StepIntoGerman
BerlinBeyond.com

YOUTH 4 GERMAN CINEMA PROGRAM

Attention Young Movie Fans!

The **Goethe-Institut's Step Into German** program and the **Berlin & Beyond Film Festival** are seeking students from across the **US, Canada, Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean** (ages 14-18) to participate as jurors in the 13th program of **Youth 4 German Cinema**. This offers the opportunity for young people with an interest in German arts and culture to come to San Francisco and be part of the 30th Berlin & Beyond Film Festival in March 2026. Three to four applicants will be selected.

BEFORE THE FILM FESTIVAL:

Participants will form the Youth 4 German Cinema jury. They will screen selected German films online (with English subtitles), engage in discussions, and choose the winning film to be shown at the festival.



AS PART OF THE FILM FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE:

Participants will:

- Present the Youth 4 German Cinema Award and play an active role in an onstage Q&A with talents from the winning films.
- Walk the red carpet and go behind-the-scenes of North America's largest festival of contemporary German cinema.
- Attend an exclusive workshop by a film arts professional.
- Visit one of the world's most exciting cities: San Francisco!

Participation in this program will not only make a great addition on the students' resumes and college applications, it will also allow students to learn the fundamentals of film analysis, film production, and how to network and make connections for future endeavors.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Applications Launched:

November 21, 2025

Deadline for Application:

January 20, 2026 at 8:00 PM (Pacific Standard Time)

Participants Announced:

January 23, 2026

Screening Period of Films:

January 23-February 1, 2026

Winning Film Announced:

February 2, 2026

Stay in San Francisco:

March 18-22, 2026

TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION:

A very exclusive and grand opportunity: **Each participant will be provided roundtrip airfare to San Francisco, accommodation and food.**



STEP ONE - WRITTEN APPLICATION

Due: January 20, 2026 at 8:00 PM (Pacific Time)

Applicant Information

Today's Date: _____

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Country (circle one): USA Canada Mexico Other (_____)

Level of German Proficiency (circle one): none beginner intermediate advance

Parent/Guardian Consent

Please note that applications will not be accepted without express written consent of the applicant's parent/guardian. While jurors are shown age appropriate films, the festival must inform parents/guardians that some films may contain mature subject matter. Titles and descriptions will be announced when available and any reservations based on content of films may be discussed with the festival administration at any time.

As parent/guardian of (print name) _____ I am aware of his/her application for the Youth 4 German Cinema Jury, and consent to his/her involvement, if selected.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

How did you hear about the Youth 4 German Cinema program? (circle one)

Goethe-Institut Teacher Friend Facebook Instagram Other: _____

STEP TWO - VIDEO APPLICATION Due: January 20, 2026 at 8:00 PM (Pacific Standard Time)

Record a video of yourself to answer both questions below. **Be creative!**

A. Tell us about yourself and why you want to participate. (1 minute)

B. Watch and critique one of these short films. (1-2 minutes)

Tell us what you think about the story, the actors, artistic elements, and why people should see it.

- Choice #1: **Mayday Relay - Directed by Florian Tscharf**



Link: vimeo.com/287019927

- Choice #2: **Der Besuch (The Visit) - Directed by Conrad Tambour**



Link: youtu.be/kjBswyWjE2w

We accept video applications in English, German, French and Spanish.

STEP THREE - SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

IMPORTANT:

- Email completed written application to stepintogerman-sanfrancisco@goethe.de
 - The subject line must include: "Y4GC Application YOUR FULL NAME"
 - Replace YOUR FULL NAME with your full name.
- Upload your video to our dropbox at <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/y4gc>
 - Title your video file with your full name.Videos without the name in the title will not be accepted.

PLEASE NOTE:

We will automatically disqualify an application if the video entries exceed the lengths stated above. We will also automatically disqualify an application if the video file does not have the applicant's full name in the title.