

OPEN CALL

Design Campus, Dresden

Summer School: “Design & Democracy”

18th of July – 28th of August

Do you want to join the first-ever School of Utopias this summer?

This open call invites creatives from all fields to join us in rethinking the future of democracy through design. We are offering three spots in workshops in this year's Design Campus Summer School in Dresden.

The application deadline is: 25.06.2021

Design Campus

The DESIGN CAMPUS is a curatorial-driven, interdisciplinary, and future-oriented platform for rethinking the world's biggest questions through design practices and culture. Rooted in contemporary global issues, in dialogue with historical and transdisciplinary knowledge, we hope to foster big, idealistic, systemic, utopian thoughts back into design practice and to rethink the role of decorative and applied arts museums on the way. Our goal is to explore, searching for better ways forward. We want to challenge the way we navigate the world, in all its complexity, charting a new course and a different direction.

The Design Campus is the Think Tank and R+D platform of the Kunstgewerbemuseum as part of the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden.

Design Campus Summer School

Theme: Design and Democracy

Heads of School, 2021: Amelie Klein and Vera Sacchetti

The Design Campus summer program is a “School of Utopias”, a visionary design school set to explore complex problems, dream bold ideas, and collaboratively build new ways forward.

Curated by a different Head of School each year, the curriculum will explore a specific theme through a series of workshops, lectures, talks, exhibits, and other public programs. The summer school will be a springboard for future projects in the museum, its environs, and its network.

This year's summer school will investigate the many connections between **Design and Democracy**. The six-week-long program will probe design and its involvement in democratic processes, exhibiting the social and political dimension of the discipline. Simultaneously, the program advocates a broader understanding of design, where the borders between disciplinary silos are blurred, and design becomes a tool for translation and mediation. In this way, design is highlighted as an instrumental tool in the unravelling of democracy but also essential for its reconstitution.

With two workshops and several lectures per week, the program is created to explore diverse areas of overlap between design and democracy. Starting with an initial encounter and **assessment of complex, multilayered systems formed by polities and policies** in the first week, we explore **how these can be designed and shaped** in designerly ways. The program continues with an **investigation of how power structures manifest in physical and virtual ways**, both visible and invisible. We will **explore issues of choice and empowerment**, seeking to understand who gets to choose and why and delve into topics of **activism and protest**, exploring the myriad of **ways to resist and change**. The program then investigates **matters of solidarity**, both embodied and in innovative settings, and concludes with a week of **reflection on documenting and archiving the knowledge we share** today. Mentored by designers, architects, curators, writers, and other practitioners, participants in the summer school will ultimately sharpen tools that will enable them to question, reevaluate, and redesign democracy from multiple perspectives.

Please find more information on the Summer School and Workshops [here](#).

Program Duration

The Summer School comprises of 1-week long workshops, guest lectures, guided tours and other fun activities throughout 6-weeks. Check out the program [here](#).

Eligibility

- Have a demonstrable interest in changing the world through design
- (at least) B2 English
- 18 years and over
- Curious, restless, a dreamer of better places, creative, fearless, social, collaborative, interested, engaged, inquisitive, designer, architect, artist, scientist, curator, journalist, engineer, developer, photographer, filmmaker, skilled students, recent graduates or young-professionals, open-minded people: welcome!

How to apply?

1. Fill out the contact form and let us know why you are the right candidate for one of three available spots at the Design Campus.
2. Send us a selection of the best works from your Portfolio. Please submit max. 5 projects and be aware that submissions with more projects will not be considered.
3. Send everything to h.f@viennadesignweek.at by 25.06.2021

Jury

Gabriel Roland, VIENNA DESIGN WEEK

Hanna Facchinelli, VIENNA DESIGN WEEK

Thomas A. Geisler, DESIGN CAMPUS

Aline Lara Rezende, DESIGN CAMPUS