



Dear Comrades, dear Friends,

hereby we would like to invite you to the upcoming „10 years of Queer Easter. We have to know where we come from to know where want to go”

This non-formal educational seminar will take place from 6.-13.04.2008 in Werftpfuhl/ Germany.

The seminar is organized by the education centre Kurt Loewenstein of the Socialist Youth of Germany - Die Falken in cooperation with ECOSY, IFM-SEI and IUSY.

For 10 years we have organized the queer easter seminar. During these years society has changed as have the conditions for queer and lgbt people. During the seminar we want to have a look back in the past years but also to discuss tasks and challenges and to develop strategies for the queer movement.

We want to develop a special focus on the issue of queer identity during the queer easter 2009.

At Queer Easter we strive every year to create a safe environment, where every participant can feel comfortable to talk about their own experiences, and feed into discussions held in an atmosphere of respect and understanding. In talking about such sensitive and personal issues and their relation to the area of politics and society, we are also asking every participant to challenge themselves, and reflect on their own lifestyle and attitudes. For this reason, we ask that every participant comes to the seminar with the willingness to examine themselves, to express their own opinion, and to respect those of others - to question some of those things that are embedded so completely in our societies, those things that perpetuate intolerance and inequality. To change the world, we must first examine, challenge and consciously change ourselves - and for this we ask that everyone remembers the importance of keeping an open mind in relation to this subject, and the process of the seminar.

PROGRAMME

The topic of the seminar will be explored through a variety of workshops, discussion rounds and working groups. Besides this, Queer Easter will also offer the opportunity to learn more about LGBT situations in other countries, and there will be provided a space for exchanging experiences, projects and campaigns that our different organisations are running. And of course we have not forgotten about having fun together e.g. while spending one day in Berlin. A draft program you can find below. Some weeks before the seminar, we will send a description how to reach the educational centre and a last information email with details of what we would like you to bring, what to prepare beforehand and other useful information.

DATES

This 10th Queer Easter Seminar will take place from 6-13.4.2009

VENUE

The venue and accommodation will be at the Educational Centre Kurt Loewenstein in Werftpfuhl in the northeast suburbs of Berlin. The closest airports are in Berlin, from where the venue can be reached with local transport. Exact travel details will be sent to you after registration.

PARTICIPANTS

Participants are expected to:

- To be active in an political youth organisation (either a youth organisation of IUSY or IFM-SEI) or active in an youth organisation dealing with LGBT issues, preferably an LGBT-youth organisation
- to have interest in working on the issue
- to be able to follow the seminar and communicate in English
- to be available for the whole duration of the seminar

We do not ask for sexual orientation identification of the participants but welcome everybody who is interested in the topic of the seminar.

FINANCES

The participation fee depends on the country you are coming from (between 15 - 65 Euro). Please contact Tim Scholz t.scholz@kurt-loewenstein.de for exact details.

This fee includes participation in the programme and accommodation as well as four meals per day for the duration of the event and a day-trip to Berlin.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Due to the difficult financial situation we are unfortunately in general unable to reimburse your travel expenses, except in case of special agreements (please contact the education officer Tim Scholz (t.scholz@kurt-loewenstein.de) on exact details of this).

REGISTRATION

Registration for the Seminar is possible via the attached form.

Registration Deadline is **25.03.2009**

We are asking every participant from your organisation to register separately in order to let them fill in the motivation questions by themselves.

If you are coming with a delegation from an organisation, we ask that you pay attention to the biological sex balance of your group, so that we have a balance at the seminar.

In case participants need **Visa** to enter Germany the deadline is the **15.03.2009**. Please register online as soon as possible since the original personal invitation letters are going to be sent out on the 17.03.09. The originals will be sent to the nearest German consulate. You will get scanned copies of this letters to apply for the visa.

FURTHER QUESTIONS

In case of further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me t.scholz@kurt-loewenstein.de

Looking forward to welcome you at Queer Easter 2009 in Werftpfuhl!