

Review of the Mongolian Celebration

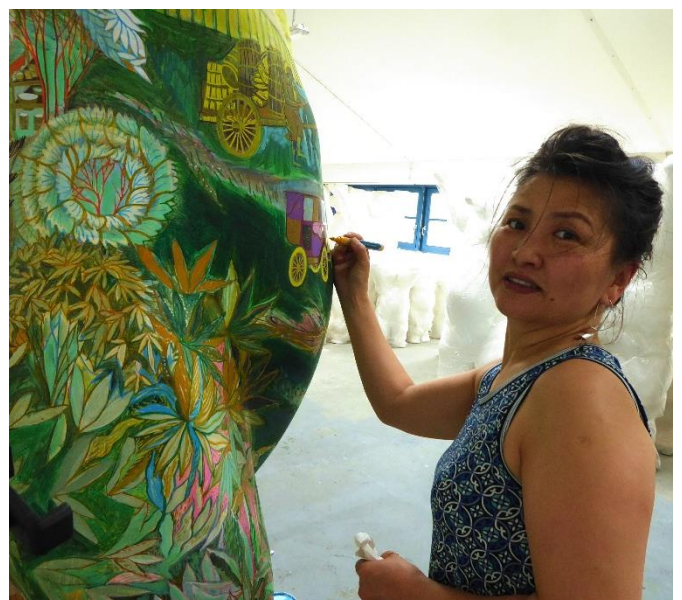


On August 27, 2021, the [ceremonial unveiling](#) of a new Buddy Bear for Mongolia took place at the Tierpark Berlin. From now on, the bear will represent the Asian country in the nations uniting exhibition of the United Buddy Bears. The artist Dolgor Ser-Od, born in Ulan Bator, had created the 2m sculpture over many weeks during the Corona pandemic in a Berlin studio.

The ceremony was given an atmospheric cultural setting by the sounds of traditional instruments played by the Mongolian musicians of Khukh Mongol as well as the performance of a dancer, who also appeared in folkloric clothing.



At the unveiling of the Buddy Bear by Dolgor Ser-Od, a representative of the Mongolian Embassy, the German-Mongolian Society as well as the Cultural Ambassador of Mongolia were present. We were particularly pleased that the zoological director of the Tierpark, Christian Kern, joined the ceremony and drew a connection between the current [exhibition of the United Buddy Bears](#) in Berlin-Friedrichsfelde and the distant Mongolian steppe. The species conservation officer has been accompanying the reintroduction of Przewalski's wild horses in Mongolia for many years.



Little and big cultural ambassadors in Shanghai



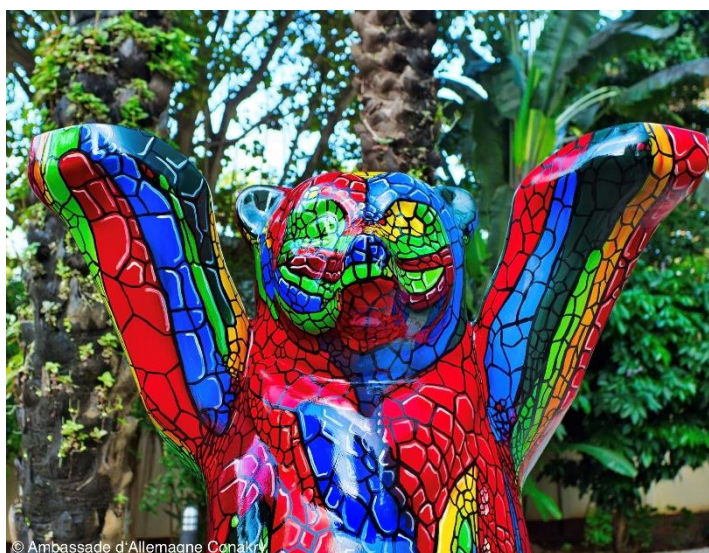
On the initiative of the Consulate General Shanghai, students of the German School Shanghai Yangpu painted ten [Buddy Bear miniatures](#) with Chinese and German motifs. It is precisely this connection between the two countries that the Consulate General was and is committed to fostering. From now on, the Buddy Bears will serve as a gift when employees of the consulate meet with representatives of the host country China. The ceremonial handover of the little cultural ambassadors to the Consul General, Thomas Triller, took place on the residence grounds with the 2m tall "[Embassy Bear](#)" in the background.

"An event full of optimism and connection, with the young female artists and the Buddy Bears as silent but shining cultural ambassadors at the center."

Other Countries, other... Bears!

This year, Germany and Estonia celebrate the 100th anniversary of their diplomatic relations and the 30th anniversary of the restoration of this connection. As a symbol of this special relationship, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany presented the City of **Tallinn** with a [Buddy Bear](#). It is the first sculpture of this kind in **Estonia**. It was designed by the artist Julia Valtanen and has its permanent location in the recently modernized Tuvi Park.

Mayor Kõlvart thanked the German ambassador and said: "Besides being a beautiful new object in the urban space, the significance of this bear as a symbol is even more important – it is a tangible sign that reminds us that we have friends and allies in this changing world."



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In the Malinké language Teria means friendship and Gnabassan something like mixture or fusion. "Teria Gnabassan" is the name of the "Embassy Bear" created in **Conakry, Guinea**. The artist "AC Lion" (Abdoulaye Condé) designed the colorful sculpture on behalf of the German Embassy. From now on, it greets the international guests on the grounds of the residence.



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[buddy_baer_berlin](#)

Little bears for great commitment



It is always amazing what a few people can achieve. We are extremely proud to be able to honor this extraordinary commitment at selected award ceremonies as donor of the trophies.

For example, the [European Award Blauer Bär](#) (Blue Bear) was presented on September 29, 2021. With the Blue Buddy Bears, the **State of Berlin** and the Representation of the **European Commission in Germany** once again honored outstanding voluntary European commitment by Berliners. The nomination and awarding of the Blue European Bears is intended to make this commitment visible, strengthen it and honor it.

The 2021 award winners are:

- Vanessa Schmidt and Milad Tabesch with the project Understanding Europe Germany
- Berit Petzsch and Juliane Springsguth with the project Stadtlichter
- Susanne Zels with the initiative Values Unite

On Instagram we had called for the "[World Clean Up Day](#)", because together you can achieve a lot. Since 2017, the organization **wirBERLIN** has been awarding a Buddy Bear to a particularly committed and inspiring initiative as part of this campaign day, representing the diverse action groups. This year, the neighborhood initiative "Litterpicker" from Wedding was chosen.

Under the motto **#DERWEDDINGRÄUMTAUF** (Wedding cleans up), this initiative has been inviting the neighborhood to clean up together then. every Friday since January 2021. More and more people have joined in since "Machen statt Meckern" ("Doing instead of complaining") is the motto of the initiative, launched by **Anna Wasilewski**.



Photo: Anna Wasilewski



On October 8, 2021, the **Bürgerstiftung Berlin** presented the "[Buddies for Peace](#)" award for peaceable education for the second time at the Tierpark. The award honors initiatives that are significantly carried out by Berlin children and that support peaceful and non-violent coexistence.

The first prize, a two-meter Buddy Bear, went to the project of peer mediators at the Reinickendorfer Grundschule in den Rollbergen. The bear sculpture will be decorated in the course of the school year at the prize-winning school under the guidance of an art educator.

Two 1m Buddy Bears were awarded to the Robert Blum Gymnasium for their "Blum-Prize" and the 5th grade of the Grundschule an der Bäke for their Fairplayer.Manual.

Buddy Bears as bridge builders

Together with the **Becker & Kries** Family Foundation, we were able to implement two very special Buddy Bear workshops. These projects, each of which was led by the Berlin artist **Andrej Wolff**, involved people who would otherwise have found it difficult to get involved in art.

For example, guests of the **Berlin City Mission** (Berliner Stadtmission) took brush and paint palette into their hands and painted a 2m bear sculpture with motifs that tell of their lives. The "[ChancengeBär](#)" (the name is a pun of the German words for opportunity giver and bear) shows small scenes that are about Berlin and the City Mission, about wishes, about hope. It shines in bright colors – full of optimism. After its completion, the [Buddy Bear](#) was set up at the Goerz-Höfe Friedenau.

Another Buddy Bear now stands at the Osrarn-Höfe in Berlin's Wedding district. There, young people had responded to the call of the Gangway street workers, who had invited them to participate in the art workshop. And this is how the name of the Buddy Bear is to be understood, for it reads "[Bearlin on the Street](#)".

We would like to thank Becker & Kries, who sponsored both Buddy Bears and thus made projects possible that opened horizons and brought very different people together.



Buddy Bear Black Friday Fundraiser

The Buddy Bears do not miss out on Black Friday either. For us, however, the focus on this day is not on the highest discounts and the most sales: Instead of the usual 5%, **we donate 10%** of the net sales generated in the [webshop](#) to **children's charities on Black Friday**.

Help us support children in need with your purchase!

Buddy Bear Berlin is committed to Children

BERLIN: Buddy Bear Berlin has stood up for the **youngest in our society from day one** and has continued to expand its support since 1 January 2019: **5%** of all net revenue generated in the [webshop](#) is given **to children's relief organisations**. This applies to all sales at the stated retail price.

Large Buddy Bear sculptures can also be purchased for a preferential price by donating to one of the following children's aid organisations (at the amount specified on the website): [TrauerZeit](#) - Zentrum für trauernde Kinder und Familien; [Die Arche](#) - Kinder- und Jugendzentrum, or [Buddy Bear Help e.V.](#)

[Charity](#)

Since 20th of June 2001, when the first Buddy Bears sprung up on Berlin streets and squares, Buddy Bear activities have been intrinsically linked to helping needy children. Buddy Bears are frequently auctioned off at charity events in support of UNICEF and other children's aid organisations. The total funds generated to date amount to over

2,480.000 EUR (October 2021)