

12 September 2025

Invitation to the 38th Hohnstein Puppetry Festival **29–31 May 2026 – 40 Years of Festival History**

Dear Puppeteers,

from 29 to 31 May 2026, the 38th Hohnstein Puppetry Festival will take place – and at the same time, we will celebrate 40 years of festival history! A traditional and unique event dedicated to puppetry.

In this anniversary year, we aim to present a varied and exciting program – featuring strong contributions from German-speaking puppetry as well as new artistic impulses from both Germany and abroad. We warmly invite you to apply for participation in the festival!

The focus is on daytime performances for children and families, which form the heart of the festival. This program is complemented by special evening events for adults and intergenerational audiences.

In addition to puppetry performances, we also welcome applications from musicians, walking acts, and street performers – and are happy to receive recommendations from your international network.

Who Can Apply?

- Puppeteers – they form the heart of the festival. The focus is on contributions from German-speaking countries, but we also welcome selected international guests who can bring fresh artistic impulses to the program.
- Daytime Program (Children & Families): We are looking for productions that engage children and families – from classic puppetry to imaginative performances, including music, walking acts, street art, and workshops.
- Evening Program (Adults & Intergenerational Audiences): For the festive opening on Friday evening and a special highlight on Saturday evening, we are seeking outstanding performances to complete the festival program.
- Open Formats: Street performances, participatory activities, and spontaneous artistic interventions that enliven the town and make the festival visible in public spaces.





Application

Applications must be submitted exclusively via the online form on the Burg Hohnstein website:
https://burg-hohnstein.de/veranstaltungen/puppenspielfest_en/

Please complete the application form in full. **Note that the deadline for submissions is 28 September 2025.**

This is an open application process. Please feel free to forward this invitation to other puppetry groups and colleagues who may also wish to apply.

Special Notes for 2026

Due to renovation work at Burg Hohnstein, there will be **alternative performance venues** in addition to the established locations. These have already proven successful last year and add to the special charm of the festival. The **recently renovated large castle garden** will also be part of the program.

Organizers

The Hohnstein Puppet Festival is organized by the Tourism Promotion Company of the City of Hohnstein (*Tourismusförderungsgesellschaft der Stadt Hohnstein mbH*), the City Administration of Hohnstein (*Stadtverwaltung Hohnstein*), and the Hohnstein Puppetry Festival Association (*Hohnsteiner Puppenspielfest e.V.*).

Important Note

The Hohnstein Puppetry Festival can only take place if funding approval is granted by the Kulturräum Meißen – Sächsische Schweiz – Osterzgebirge.

We look forward to your applications and to a fantastic Puppetry Festival 2026 in Hohnstein!

With warm regards,
Your Hohnstein Puppetry Fest Management

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