

XR BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

We are looking for companies, start-ups, educational institutions, universities, initiatives, artists or collectives whose extended reality applications deal with how to better shape togetherness, interaction and living together. The following questions are in the foreground: How does technology bring people into contact and dialogue with each other? How can people better communicate, act, plan and trade with each other? Are there approaches to breathe new life into former places of commerce as meeting places? Do you have answers to these questions or are you going on a search yourself with your application? Then become part of the Places Festival 2023 and present your project to the visitors over two days.

Apply via our online form by 28.02. You will be notified no later than by 07.03. whether or not you are one of the teams eligible to present their solutions for better learning with XR at the Places Festival 2023.

HERE YOU'LL FIND THE ONLINE FORM

WHAT IS OUR CALL ABOUT?

The isolation of people in our society is a trend that can be observed across all age groups. In addition, people are separating themselves into small groups, withdrawing into filter bubbles and safe spaces. The reasons for this are manifold and are often proven with technology-critical arguments. What is missing are real places of encounter. Social media are replacing conversations in cafés, busy city centers are dying because of online commerce, and the home offers everything that used to require interaction with other people. We want to shed light on the other side of technology: How can VR & AR help people meet again, how can barriers be broken down digitally and how can filter bubbles burst? Are there technical solutions that can create virtual central meeting and trading places? Can immersive technologies help to make experiences and influences transparent and tangible? Do virtual spaces enable encounters without prejudice? We are looking for applications & projects that serve as bridge builders between people and facilitate and enable good coexistence.



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

We are very open to contributions that approach the topic from different directions. You can think of links to economics, business informatics, sociology, linguistics, art, music, social work, pedagogy, ethnology, political science, cultural studies or communication studies. What exactly you apply with is up to you. Be it an artistic work, a research project, a software application, a game or journalistic work. We are equally open about the technologies used: from AR to VR to mixed media and 360°, everything is possible. The lists in this paragraph are by no means exhaustive - feel free to surprise us!

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

- You will have an opportunity to present your project to the audience during the opening hours of the festival on 05.05. & 06.05.2023. You can choose between two options: Either you are on site in Gelsenkirchen (which we would prefer) or you provide us with your XR application so that we can show it to the audience. We would like to offer this option especially to international applicants who have to travel a long way.
- You will become an official program partner of the Places Festival 2023. This includes publication as a partner on our digital communication channels. (7.5 million media contacts in print, TV, radio, web in 2021).
- You can test your work in a practice test with a real learning group. We provide the participants, document the learning unit and do the evaluation.
- You will receive a ticket contingent for the official opening reception & the award ceremony of the Hackathon on Thursday evening.
- You will have the opportunity to interact and connect with the XR community at the Places Festival.
- You can give a presentation as a speaker as part of the festival program.
- You will receive an expense allowance of 250€ for each team member you bring (max. 750€).

WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM YOU?

- Either you are present in Gelsenkirchen with an interactive stand/set-up during the public hours of the festival (Friday and Saturday). In this case you will provide both the technology and the personnel, or
- you provide us with your XR application in such a way that we can show it to the audience on common output devices (VR headsets, tablets, etc.). Precise instructions and accompanying material are mandatory in this case.

WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE

Tuesday, 28.02.	End of the application period
Tuesday, 07.03.	Latest feedback about your participation
Thursday, 04.05.	Reception at the festival kick-off (optional)
Friday, 05.05.	Morning - practical application of your work with learning groups
Friday, 05.05. 15h00–20h00	Presentation of your work to the festival audience
Saturday, 06.05. 11h00–18h00	Presentation of your work to the festival audience

WHAT DO YOU NEED FOR THE APPLICATION?

In the online form we ask you for a short description of your project. We would like to know who your target group is and what the current status of your project is. You also have the possibility to upload presentation material. You should also have an idea of how you want to present yourself and what the experience you offer the festival audience will look like.

WHAT IS PLACES FESTIVAL?

The Places Festival is Germany's first festival for virtual reality. Since 2018, the event has brought together tech experts, start-ups, young professionals, players from business and science, and the general public. It is based in Gelsenkirchen-Ückendorf, right in the middle of the Ruhr area. The festival is a place to experience innovative applications and real solutions and to discuss the current state of XR technologies. The interdisciplinary exchange is front and center. In 2023, the festival will take place for the fourth time, focusing on „Improved Learning with XR“ as one of five guiding themes. One location of the festival will be dedicated solely to the transformative potential of Extended Reality in regards to learning, pedagogy and knowledge transfer.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Roman Pilgrim directly:
roman@places-festival.de

MAIL TO ROMAN



Ermöglicht durch:



Veranstalter:

