

Press release, December 22, 2008

“Salon of the Sly Foxes” in the Kepler Salon

KinderUniSteyr Makes Its Mark on Linz09

STEYR/LINZ. In conjunction with Linz09 European Capital of Culture, KinderUniSteyr is opening an “outlet” in Linz. A total of 12 lectures and seminars for youngsters age 7-12 will be held in the Kepler Salon. This series of presentations is entitled “Salon of the Sly Foxes” and is a spin-off of the successful SlyFoxAcademies and KinderUniSteyr.

“Of course, we’re very pleased to be able to showcase the KinderUni and SlyFoxAcademies concepts in conjunction with Linz09,” said Andreas Kupfer, director of the IfAU–Institute for Applied Environmental Education in Steyr.

“Best of” SlyFox Projects

“We’ve succeeded in lining up our very best speakers for the ‘Salon of the Sly Foxes’ series, Kupfer said. “These are scientists, artists and experts who have proven their ability to present the complexities of their respective disciplines in a way that kids can relate to.” The list of speakers includes climatologist Helga Kromp-Kolb, director Markus Kupferblum and geneticist Markus Hengstschläger. Linz filmmaker Erich Pröll, who’s currently shooting an episode of the nature show Universum, will provide fascinating insights into the making of such a film.

12 Dates in 2009

The “Salon of the Sly Foxes” events will be held on 12 Saturday mornings (January to May and September to November) in the former residence of Johannes Kepler at Rathausgasse 5 in Linz. Essential to the “Salon of the Sly Foxes” concept is a non-elitist approach. “As with all SlyFox projects, we aim to facilitate attendance by youngsters from across the social spectrum,” said Kupfer. All events are free of charge.

A Successful Concept since 2004

The IfAU has been organizing SlyFox projects since 2004, including the KinderUniSteyr and SlyFoxAcademies in Kirchdorf, Reichraming and Wels. These events are among Austria's most successful "kids' universities." Their cumulative enrollment of approximately 5,500 youngsters since 2004 is exceeded only by Kinderuni Vienna.

Information: www.linz09.kinderunisteyr.at

Program for Winter-Spring 2009:

January 24, 2009: 10:30 AM to 12 Noon

*The Climate in the City: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow
On Environmental Pollutants and Climate Protection*

Prof. Helga Kromp-Kolb

(Seminar, age 9-12, 40 Participants)

February 14, 2009: 10:30 to 11:30 AM

Must One Be Afraid of Hell?

Dr. Michael Hölzl

(Seminar, age 9-12, 40 Participants)

February 28, 2009: 10:30 AM to 12 Noon

The Language of Masks

Masks from Different Countries: Their Expression and Their Meaning

Markus Kupferblum

(Seminar, age 7-9, 40 Participants)

March 14, 2009: 10:30 to 11:30 AM

How Frogs Communicate

Why Some "Croakers" Croak and Others Don't

Prof. Walter Hödl

(Seminar, age 7-9, 40 Participants)

April 4, 2009: 10:30 to 11:30 AM

Universum Linz

Through the Eyes of Animals

Erich Pröll

(Seminar, age 9-12, 40 Participants)

May 23, 2009: 10:30 to 11:30 AM

The History of Space Travel

Science Fiction Becomes Reality

Dr. Martin Tajmar

(Seminar, age 9-12, 40 Participants)

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