

7. our History Mobile and the BUS-eum

The History Mobile is a moveable exhibit in a retrofitted delivery van, which is shown all over Europe. Our goal is to bring people together across generations and cultures. Since 2021, we have been touring Thuringia, Germany, and other regions with the exhibit "Nine Months ÷ Three Systems = Millions of Fates," which examines stories from the last three months of Nazi rule, the three months of US occupation, and the first three months of Soviet occupation in Thuringia. It explores how, in less than 300 days, one people experienced three ways of governance and organizing public life. Rather than answers, we seek to raise questions arising from our interviews with witnesses, 3D documents and other sources.

The "BUS-eum" is a school bus converted into a travelling museum. It has transversed America's Heartland for over two decades, with exhibits on topics which people don't "want" to see but "should", ranging from issues like climate change to historical themes in the US and Europe. It is a place to share individuals' untold stories.



our director and sponsors



Michael Luick-Thrams (born 1962; Ph.D. in Modern European History from Humboldt Universität in Berlin, 1997) divides his time between Germany and his native Midwest. He serves as executive director of a non-profit, educational organization in each country—Spuren e.V. and TRACES, both of which provide history-based public programming to educational and cultural institutions of various kinds.



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HAUS DER SPUREN

in Bad Langensalza



We Connect People!

1.

our mission

TRACES-Spuren e.V brings together people of different cultural origins, with diverse views. We respectfully and expectantly exchange our experiences and points of view in order to build empathy and find consensus. We seek a better world.



Haus der Spuren

3.

Our in-house museum — literally "a place for the muses" — explores human lives during drastic times, marked by war, fear, loss and lamentation, as seen in German-American encounters, 1933-48. It mirrors the journeys of those who came before us, through their letters, diaries, artwork etc.; we continue to gather clues about their experiences and how those might have altered their lives — and subsequently our own.

the Global Salon

5.

The Haus der Spuren has hosted most Thursday evenings an English-conversation series which brings locals and international youth together through timely cultural presentations.



2.

introducing our space

Our project is housed in a medieval "Haus," in a space recently used as a "granny's flat," but now as a reception room and three exhibit galleries, above which lie our archives and the Public Room, where we work as well as hold the Global Salon and celebrations.



4.

Workawayers and interns



Over 100 interns and volunteers from all over the globe have supported our projects through researching, writing, designing exhibits, generating social media and carrying out diverse projects!

the Scattergood Center, our house for refugees

6.

In response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Dr. Michael Luick-Thrams, director of Spuren e.V., bought a house in March 2022. With help from some 40 volunteers from Bad Langensalza and the surrounding area, within a week the empty house was able to become a long-term haven for refugees:

A few days later, a 3-generation family of eight which had fled Eastern Ukraine moved in. Since then, the Phyllis-Thrams-Luick-Haus has hosted over 50 refugees : More will come.

