

New members are welcome!

The Maria Pavlovna Society sees itself as an open association of active, culturally and historically interested people who participate with joy and enthusiasm.

Come and join us. We look forward to seeing you!

Applications for membership in our society can be made online or by post. You are also welcome to fill in the section below and send it to us.

I hereby join the Maria Pavlovna Society:

Name _____

First Name _____

DOB _____

Street _____

PC/place of residence _____

Email _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Maria-Pawlowna-Gesellschaft e.V.

c/o Klassik Stiftung Weimar

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Registration Number VR 131237

Tax Office Jena

Tax Number 162/141/02122

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The Weimar Castle from the south
Historical postcard (Rita Seifert Collection)

Maria Pavlovna Society



Maria Pavlovna

Bust by Johann Peter Kaufmann, 1820

Photo: Klassik Stiftung Weimar

„With our new princess, a good angel
has really moved in with us.”

Friedrich Schiller to Johann Friedrich Cotta,
21st November 1804

About us

The Maria Pavlovna Society was founded in Kromsdorf Castle on the initiative of Wolfgang Knappe (1951-2020) on 9th June 2002.

The statutes of the association define that the non-profit association Maria Pavlovna Society is committed to dialogue and encounter in Europe. Our historical and cultural background is the work of Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna. The Maria Pavlovna Society has set itself the goal of strengthening the public perception of Maria Pavlovna's work and influence and reflecting it into the present.

For the coming period, we will focus our activities on the implementation of the project "Maria Pavlovna Experience Route". We see art, culture and tourism as an instrument for various activities that are integrated into the context of the "Maria Pavlovna Experience Route" project.

Our association organises exhibitions, readings, concerts, lectures, excursions and discussions.

We support the exchange of opinions and understanding and maintain contacts with people and associations that are close to the goals of the Maria Pavlovna Society.

Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna

The Russian Grand Duchess and daughter of the Emperor Paul I of Russia, Maria Pavlovna (1786-1859), came to Weimar after her marriage to the Weimar Hereditary Prince Carl Friedrich on 9th November 1804.

She worked for 55 years in the Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach in all areas of social life with a wealth of ideas, responsibility for state policy and entrepreneurial commitment.

In her work, Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna continued the intellectual tradition in the Weimar royal house and extended it by adding music beside literature. She introduced new creative personalities, above all Franz Liszt, into the Weimar art scene. She also sponsored numerous artists and supported scientific institutions.

Maria Pavlovna set up charitable institutions to provide poor people with food and care in the event of illness. She created educational opportunities for young girls and boys. By founding the Savings Bank, she helped many people to set up their own businesses. Many buildings and parks in the Grand Duchy could be preserved or newly built thanks to her financial help.

Maria Pavlovna Experience Route

The currently most important project of our association is the development of the Maria Pavlovna Experience Route.

The route based upon the main stages of the travel path taken by the young married couple Maria Pavlovna and Carl Friedrich on their journey from St. Petersburg to Weimar after their wedding in 1804. The route goes over a length of more than 2000 km and runs in the current territorial division through six sovereign states - the Russian Federation, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Germany - and, in historical terms, through the territories of the Russian Empire and the German states in 1804. Thus, the route represents the common history of the peoples of these countries and at the same time is the unifying factor between them.

The Maria Pavlovna Experience Route is a cultural route based on the idea of building bridges by means of art, culture and tourism.



Design: Gudrun Illert and Magda Klemp