

Declaration of membership

I hereby declare my membership in the
International Gutenberg Society

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Date, Signature

☐ Trial membership (1 year free of charge)*

Direct debit authorization for...

☐ € 72,- ☐ € 36,- (Pupils/Students)

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☐ I want to receive the monthly newsletter.

☐ I would like to receive my mail by e-mail, if possible.

* The trial membership is free of charge and limited to one year. Afterwards it becomes a regular membership, unless you cancel your trial membership at least one month before expiration.

We will use your data exclusively for the stated purpose and will not pass them on to third parties.

The Gutenberg Yearbook

The Gutenberg Society has published the Gutenberg Yearbook every year since 1926. It is the central scientific publication organ of international Gutenberg research and contains specialist articles in German, English, French, Italian or Spanish.

The topics covered by the Yearbook are wide-ranging and include articles on the history of printing from its beginnings to the present day, on the history of paper, libraries, the book trade and publishing, and on typography, illustration and book binding. In spite of all the scholarship, care is taken to ensure that even the layman can read the book with pleasure and profit.



The high scientific quality of the contributions and the appreciation of the printed book are further emphasized by the careful typographic design and the high-quality layout of the yearbook. Outstanding typographers have been involved in the design of the Yearbook over the years, including Karl Klingspor, Christian Heinrich Kleukens, Max Caflisch, and Ralf de Jong.

Members of the Gutenberg Society receive a free copy of the current Yearbook each year.



Image: Johannes Gutenberg in a posthumous 16th century fantasy portrait.
Image above: Cover Gutenberg Yearbook 2018 (left) and 2021 (right).

Johannes Gutenberg

Gutenberg, the inventor of movable type printing, is the father of mass communication. Born in Mainz around 1400, he developed his pioneering technology in Strasbourg and in Mainz, and from around 1452 to 1454 printed the voluminous 42-line Bible in Mainz, which was named the Gutenberg Bible after him.

From Mainz, the art of letterpress printing spread across the continent at lightning speed: in just 50 years, it was available in around 300 cities. The printing press, as a mediator of knowledge, information and entertainment, became the motor and carrier of cultural and intellectual development. Today, the written communication of the Gutenberg Galaxy continues to expand on the World Wide Web.

International Gutenberg Society



The International Gutenberg Society

The Gutenberg Society is an international association for research into the history and development of printing technology and writing-oriented media. In addition, it provides non-material and material support for the Gutenberg Museum in Mainz.

The Gutenberg Society was founded on June 23, 1901, the day the Gutenberg Museum associated with it was opened, and is one of the most traditional scientific societies in Mainz. Its board is composed of representatives of public institutions (city, state, university) and personalities elected by the general members' meeting. The president is the Lord Mayor of the City of Mainz by virtue of his office.

Today, the Gutenberg Society has about 700 members in about 30 countries. As a scientific association, the Society brings together like-minded people from all over the world. It offers new members the opportunity to become part of this network and to benefit from it. There are many occasions: joint excursions in Germany and abroad, specialist lectures and conferences, the monthly discussion forum Jour Fixe or the regular general meetings, at which the Gutenberg Prize is awarded every two years.

The Gutenberg Prize

Since 1968, the Gutenberg Society, together with the City of Mainz, has alternated annually with the printing city of Leipzig to award the Gutenberg Prize, endowed with 10,000 euros, for an outstanding artistic, technical or scientific achievement in the field of printing that is directly related to Gutenberg's invention.

The winners of this award have set standards with their achievements, particularly in the fields of book illustration, book production, book art and typography.

The Gutenberg Museum

The Gutenberg Museum in Mainz is a treasure house of the art of printing. It offers visitors the sight of two original copies of the Gutenberg Bible, surrounded by other prints from the inventor's workshop: the unique fragment of the Last Judgment, a letter of indulgence, a fragment of the Donat, and a copy of the Mainzer Catholicon.

A wide variety of printed works – from the incunabulum of the 15th century to the press printing of the present day – are displayed in the Gutenberg Museum alongside and in connection with the history of technology: presses, printing presses, casting and typesetting machines, and graphic devices are among the exhibits.

Members of the Gutenberg Society have free admission to the Gutenberg Museum!



Be there

Do you enjoy scientific topics? Do you love books and their history? Are you interested in print art, layout and design? Are you studying book or media studies, a historical subject, or do you work as a media professional? Then you've come to the right place!

Try it out right now: With our trial membership, you can become a member for free for one year. Enjoy all the benefits of a full member for 12 months and then decide if you want to continue.



The office at "Römscher Kaiser"

The International Gutenberg Society has set itself the goal of supporting above all schoolchildren and students who are interested in the history and present of the art of printing. Instead of the annual membership fee of 72 euros, pupils and students pay only half.

Family members of regular members can also join at a reduced rate of just 10 euros. Companies and corporations are asked to pay an increased amount above the minimum contribution.

Your advantages as a member

Meet like-minded people

Network and get to know printers and book artists, bibliophiles, book scholars, typographers and many other interesting people.

Expand your knowledge

Every year, you will receive the current Gutenberg Yearbook free of charge with interesting articles, free access to the older digitized volumes, and all other new publications of the Gutenberg Society.

A wide range of events

You will receive invitations to the Gutenberg Society's extensive program of events, discounts on applicable participation fees, and free admission to the Gutenberg Museum at all times.

Doing good

With your annual membership fee, you not only promote research into the history and development of printing technology and writing-oriented media, but also support the Gutenberg Museum in Mainz.

We have aroused your interest?

Send us the completed membership application right away or contact us at any time without obligation.

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