GOETHEANUM COMMUNICATIONS

Goetheanum, Dornach, Switzerland, 14 November 2019

Bound to Earth

Youth Conference for Climate Change at the Goetheanum

A new youth movement has emerged out of concern for the earth as a living habitat. From 30 January to 2 February 2020, young people will gather at the Goetheanum to discuss ways out of the social and climate crises facing us.

In view of the climate situation, fear and accusations accompany the social debate as to how to sustainably safeguard the earth as a living environment. “But there are also signs of hope and courageous action”, says Johannes Kronenberg, a member of the Youth Section at the Goetheanum. The promise of saving the world with technology is proving to be misleading: The internet also consumes large amounts of energy, and the manufacture of digital devices requires additional natural resources, which are often mined and processed under problematic social conditions – “just to mention a few aspects of these complex connections”, as Kronenberg adds.

Already over 100 years ago, young people in the Wandervogel movement protested against the industrial revolution and the mechanisation of society. Young people today are concerned about the sustainability of their environment; they see that nothing will change without political pressure. That is why they take to the streets and advocate on social media for a responsible approach to dealing with life on earth.

“As the new youth, we want to get involved in the debate on climate change, to understand what is happening at a deeper level, and to think about how we can transform the environment and the world – instead of ‘improving’ what has not worked up to now”, says Kronenberg. “We want to create new horizons and ways of living together and give responsibility, freedom and self-commitment new meaning.”

(1682 characters/JK; translation by Bettina Hindes)

**Conference** Bound to Earth. Freedom, Responsibility and Destiny in Times of Climate Crises, 30 January to 2 February 2020, Goetheanum

**Benefit Concert** with singer Bê Ignacios, 31 January 2020, 8pm, Goetheanum

**Web** www.youthsection.org/events-february-days-2020

**Point of Contact** Johannes Kronenberg, johannes@youthsection.org