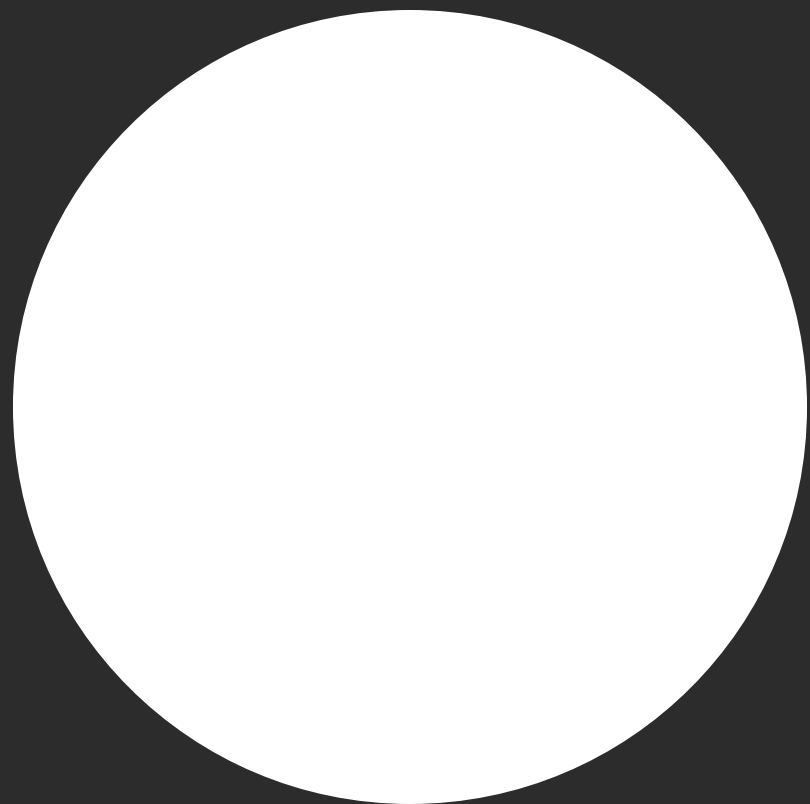


Schaufenster of Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design





Intro

Schaufenster is a website that showcases works and events created and performed at the Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design. The focus is on the digital documentation of student projects from the university's foundation in 1992 to the present day.



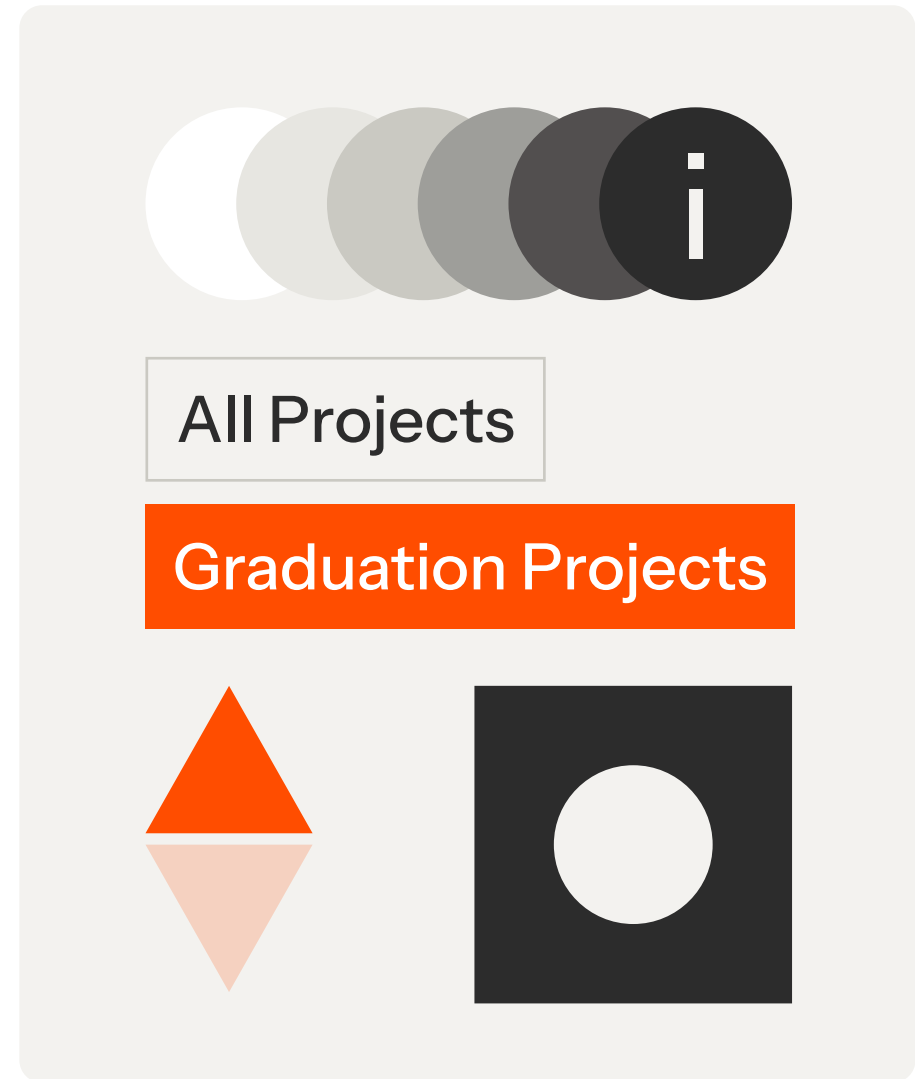
Concept

Schaufenster is the official showcase website of the Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design (HfG). It draws its content from the university's project archive platform.



Student Projects in the Center

Schaufenster offers all students of HfG the opportunity to present their projects to the public online – as an alternative to proprietary platforms and while protecting the copyright interests of the authors. Graduation projects are shown in a highlighted area.





Insights into the HfG

Tannenbaum 5

Docu-fiction 2

Objektbiografie 3

Mycelium 2

Poetic collecting 7

The intuitive usability invites visitors to playfully explore the projects. Filters and searches can be used for specific research. As a window to the university, Schaufenster provides an important contribution to the university's internal and external communication.



Project Archive in a New Light

Schaufenster is an interface for the HfG Karlsruhe project archive platform, not a standalone application. All projects shown here are maintained and digitally preserved in the project archive. All members of HfG hold their own accounts and can independently maintain, complete and archive their projects – and submit them for publication in Schaufenster.



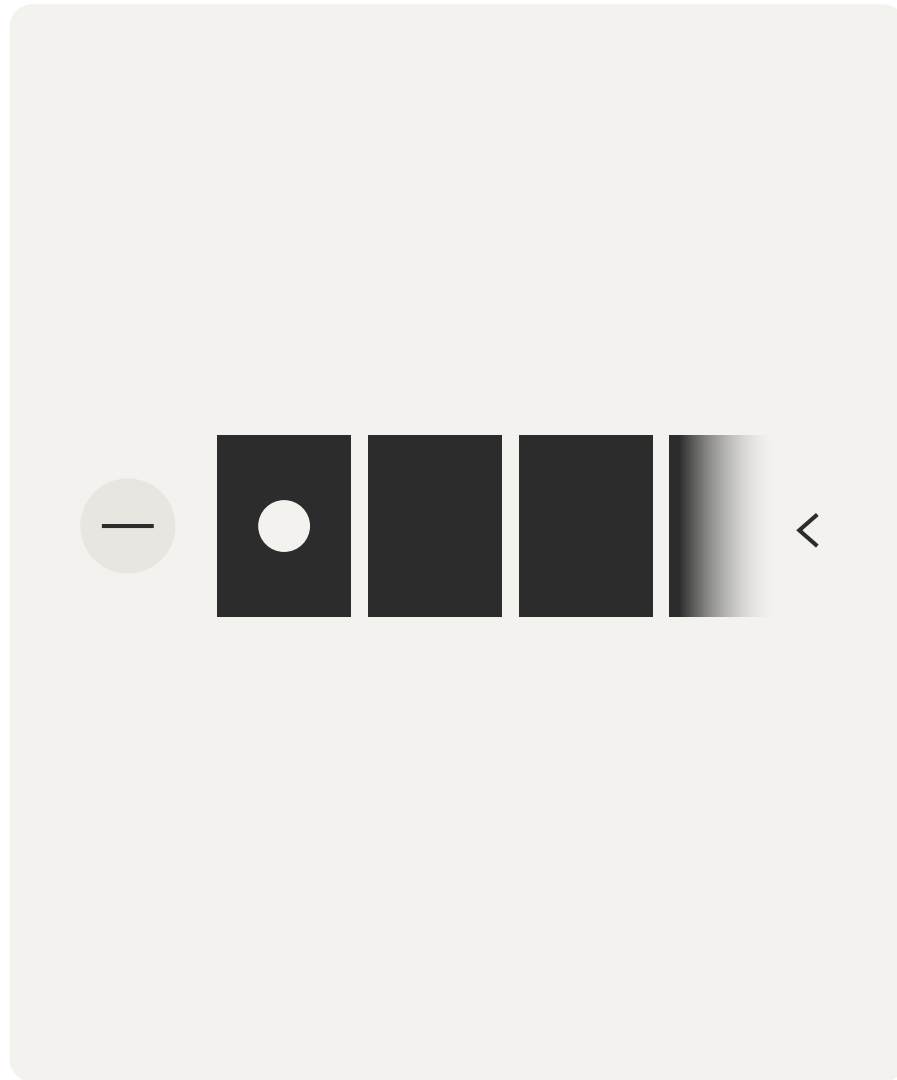


Design

The design was developed by alumni of HfG, Marcel Strauß and Felix Plachtzik. One of the biggest challenges for the design team was to simplify the architecture of the project archive.



Translation of the Complex Structure



Schaufenster presents individual projects from the project archive. Those are, however, linked in sophisticated ways and organized flexibly in the project archive. The design team had to find a way to make this complex architecture intuitively accessible. The solution is the “bottom bar”: thanks to this navigation element, visitors can move straightforwardly through the individual projects and view the associated media in a hierarchical order without getting out of the flow.

The Type Feature

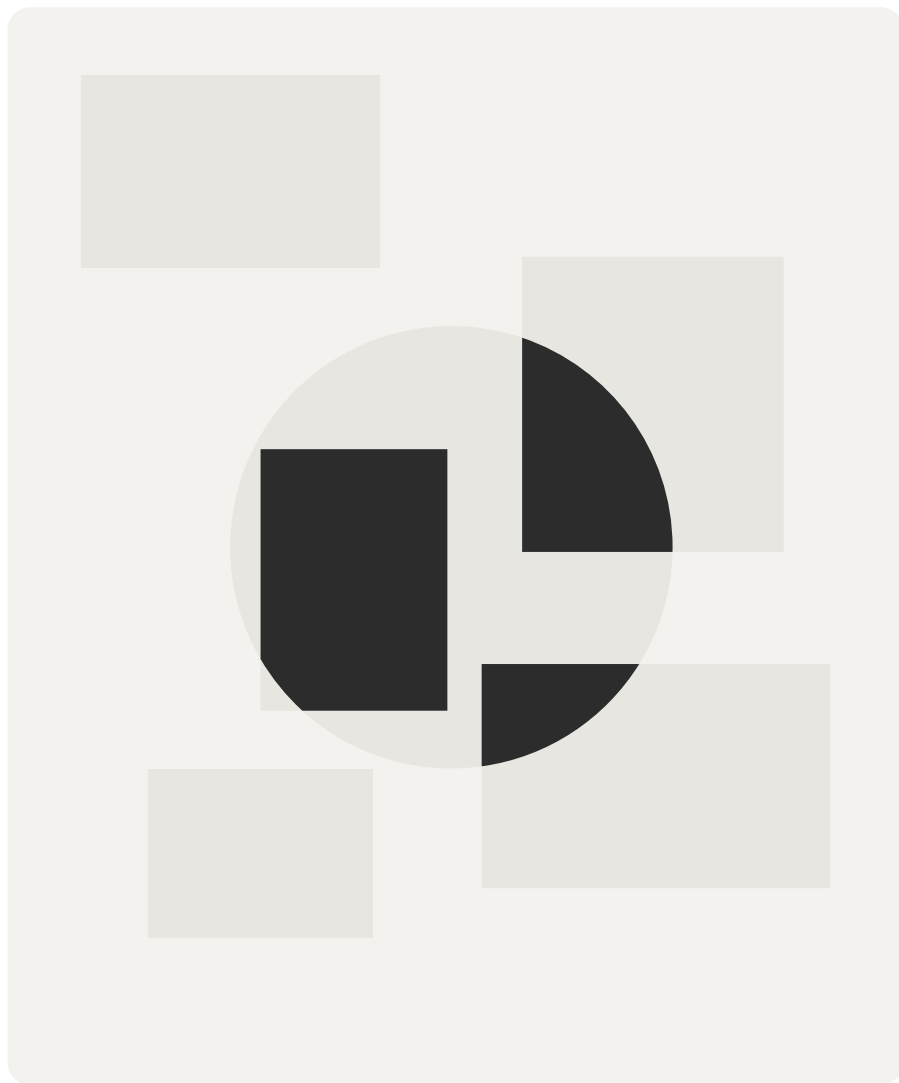
Schaufenster was given a minimalistic design that fits into different visual environments. In addition, the application can be personalized. At the HfG, the Type Feature – the large title fonts that change randomly – refers to the special role that font design plays at the university. All the fonts used in the Type Feature were developed by students of HfG during their studies.



Fig.: *Anthony* by Sun Young, *gqom404* by Calvin Kudufia and *Hbf Display* by Studio FAQ.



Delve into the Projects



The website emphasizes the visual presentation of the projects. Different views flow seamlessly into one another. If you want to delve deeper into a project, you can choose to display information such as descriptive texts and metadata.



Open Source

The Schaufenster code, like that of the project archive platform, is based on free open source software. This means that the software can be used or edited free of charge. The only condition is that the license remains free.



Public Money, Public Code

Schaufenster was realized solely with funds from the Stiftung Innovation in der Hochschullehre. The entire code is publicly accessible and is maintained by the HfG Karlsruhe. It is subject to the GNU General Public License. The publicly funded software is thus available to the public for further use.

```
const publicMoney =  
  allocateFunding({  
    source: "Stiftung  
Innovation in der  
Hochschullehre",  
    purpose: "digitale  
Lehre",  
  });
```



Open Access

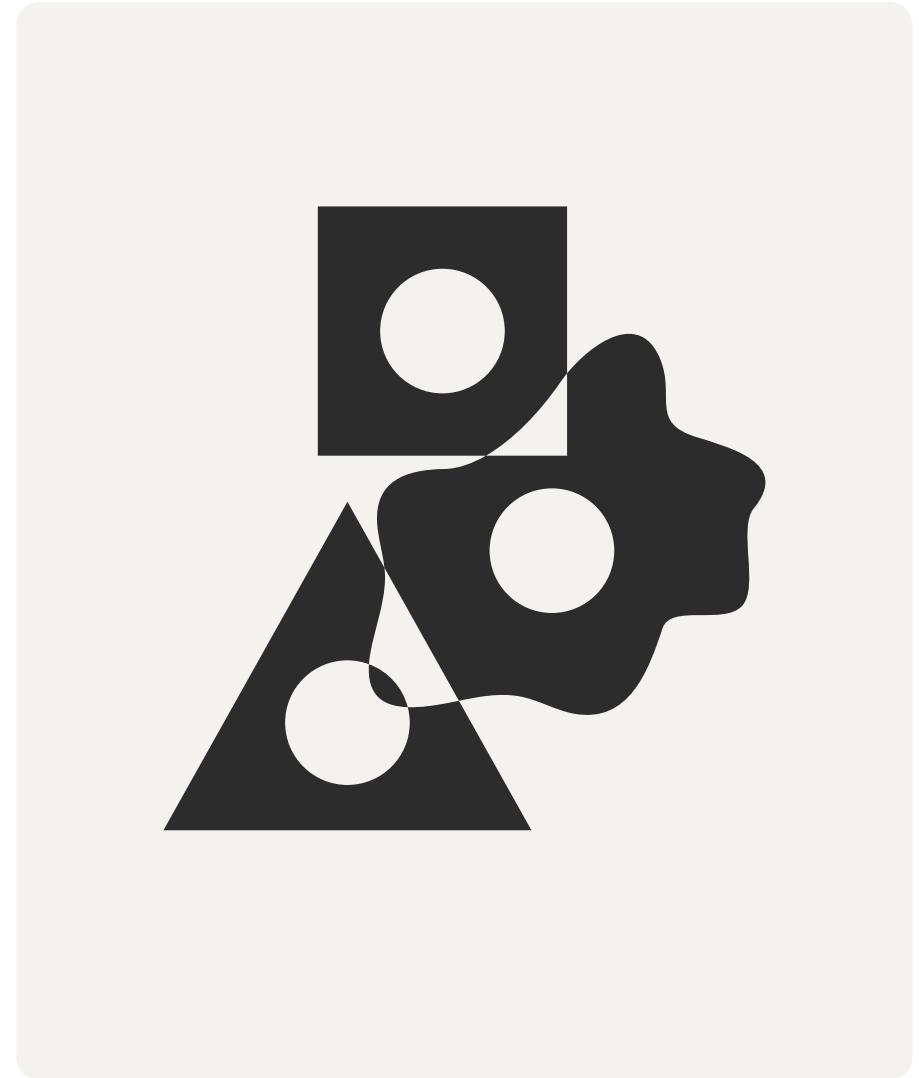


Schaufenster meets all the technical requirements of a modern website, including bilingualism and accessibility in accordance with current accessibility standards. As it presents the projects of users, Schaufenster depends on the quality of the content submitted by them. Only if the authors organize their projects in a well-structured manner can Schaufenster guarantee comprehensive accessibility.



(Open Source) Community

Schaufenster is not an isolated solution, but a community application. Both the design and the architecture of the code focus on connectivity and independence. Other schools, universities or cultural institutions can adopt and further develop the software. Only thanks to a broader user community will Schaufenster have long-term benefits.





Realization

Schaufenster has been conceived and implemented by the HfG Karlsruhe Open Resource Center (ORC). The preparatory work for Schaufenster began in 2022 by obtaining additional funding from the Stiftung Innovation in der Hochschullehre.

Open Resource Center (ORC)



The ORC is a development project of the HfG Karlsruhe, funded by the Stiftung Innovation in der Hochschullehre (October 2021 to December 2025). One of the ORC's goals was to set up the project archive platform and integrate it into the university's infrastructure and workflows. Early on it became clear that for this purpose the software (Madek) needed to be extended.

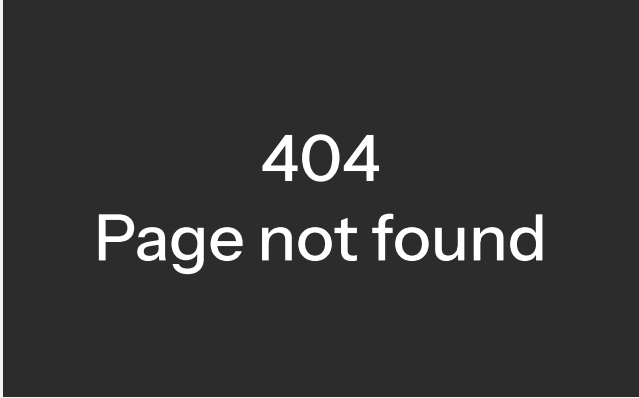
Fig.: The logo of the ORC, designed by Moritz Appich.

Unlocking the Archive

Before 2022, the Madek API was essentially limited to reading functions and it was partially incomplete. The possibilities for connecting applications that interact with the project archive were severely limited. The development of a complete CRUD API was the first step in connecting an application such as Schaufenster to the project archive. The development was carried out in close cooperation with the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) and the IT department of the HfG Karlsruhe.




Obstacles and Successes



404
Page not found

The development of the Madek API v2 and of Schaufenster did not go without obstacles. On the administrative side, it was necessary to deal with an uncertain funding period and a changing budget, while, on the technical side, the connection to the database, the optimization of caching strategies, detailed work on the templates and unforeseeable bugs slowed down progress. By now, the new API v2 has been integrated into the Madek codebase – and Schaufenster was launched with an extended range of functions.



Editorial

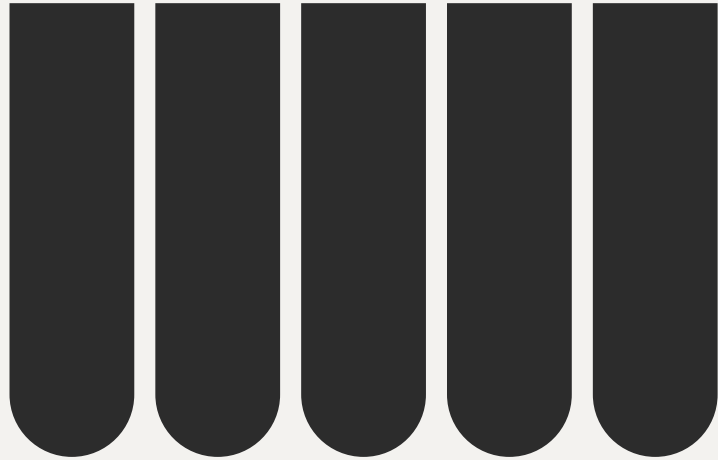
Schaufenster only shows user-generated projects. Before a project gets published, the Schaufenster team reviews the documentation in the project archive platform.

Standards

All members of HfG can submit their projects for publication in Schaufenster via the bottom-up organized project archive platform. Before publication, the Schaufenster team checks their compliance with defined standards, such as completeness or copyright notices. In principle, the projects shown remain the individual responsibility of their authors.



Kiosk



Kiosk is a customizable version of Schaufenster with a reduced set of functions. It is designed for digital exhibitions and presentations and for accompanying digital offers to analog formats. Kiosk is available to all members of HfG. Anyone wishing to use Kiosk for an exhibition or event is welcome to contact the Schaufenster team.

Alumni

The collection of student projects is continuously growing in the project archive. The HfG also collects projects from the past, especially graduation projects. Schaufenster presents projects by students and alumni alike and brings together documentations of works and events that were created and performed at the HfG in different periods of time.

Many thanks to those alumni who have already submitted their projects! All alumni who wish to contribute are invited to contact the Schaufenster team for information and instruction.

2025

2024

2023

2022



Open Call

All users of the project archive can submit their projects for publication in Schaufenster and actively contribute to the application. Please contact the Schaufenster team for any questions.



Open Call

Schaufenster for All

Schaufenster depends on your participation! Students, alumni and teachers are invited to submit the documentations of their projects and make them accessible to a wide audience. The Schaufenster team is also looking forward to receiving further submissions of typefaces for the Type Feature.

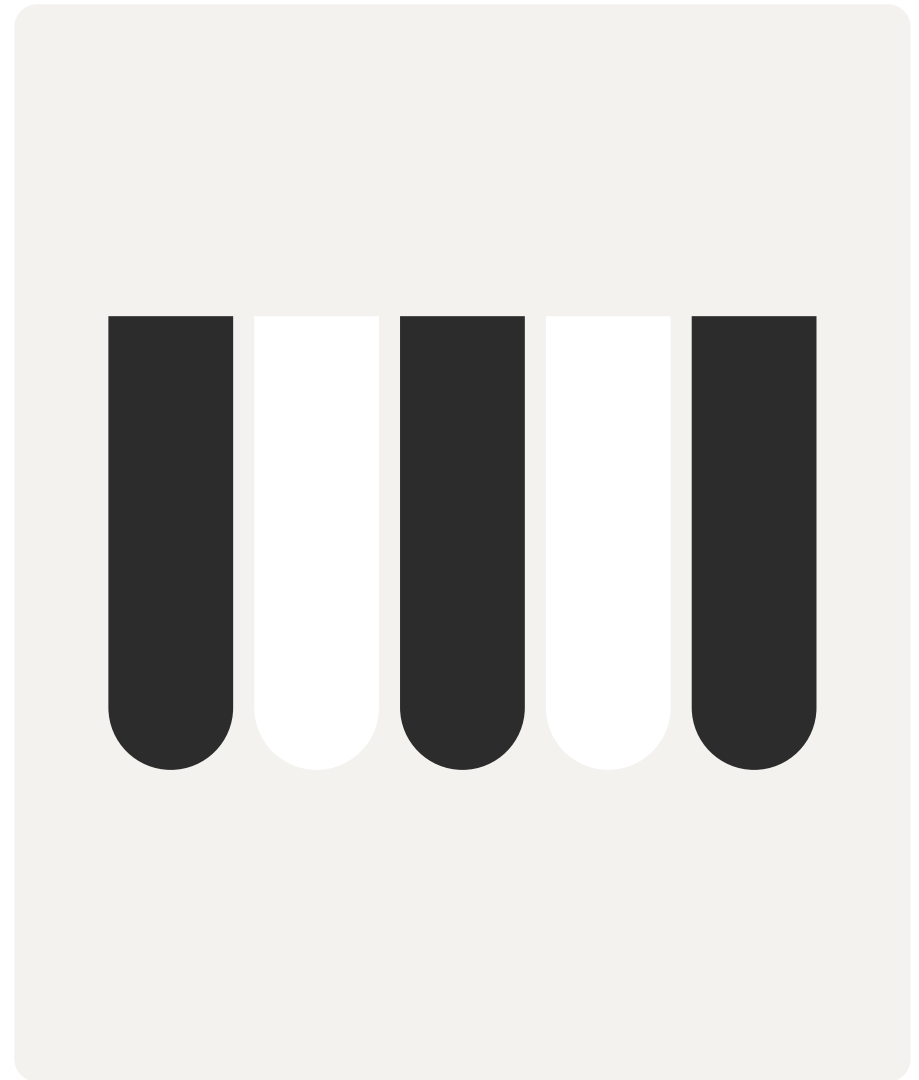




Open Call

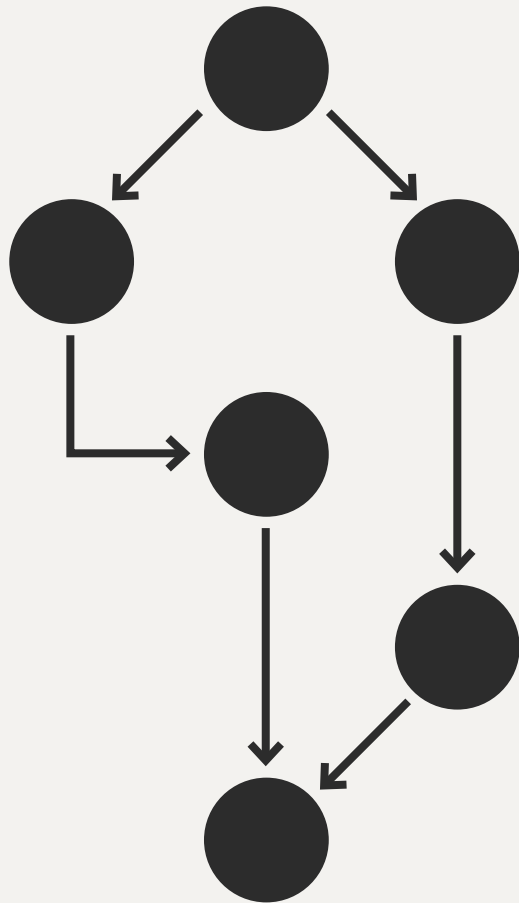
Individual Kiosk

For members of HfG, Kiosk is available as a customizable version of Schaufenster. Kiosk can be used, for example, to digitally accompany an exhibition or an event or to prominently present a specific project. Each Kiosk instance can be accessed via its own URL.

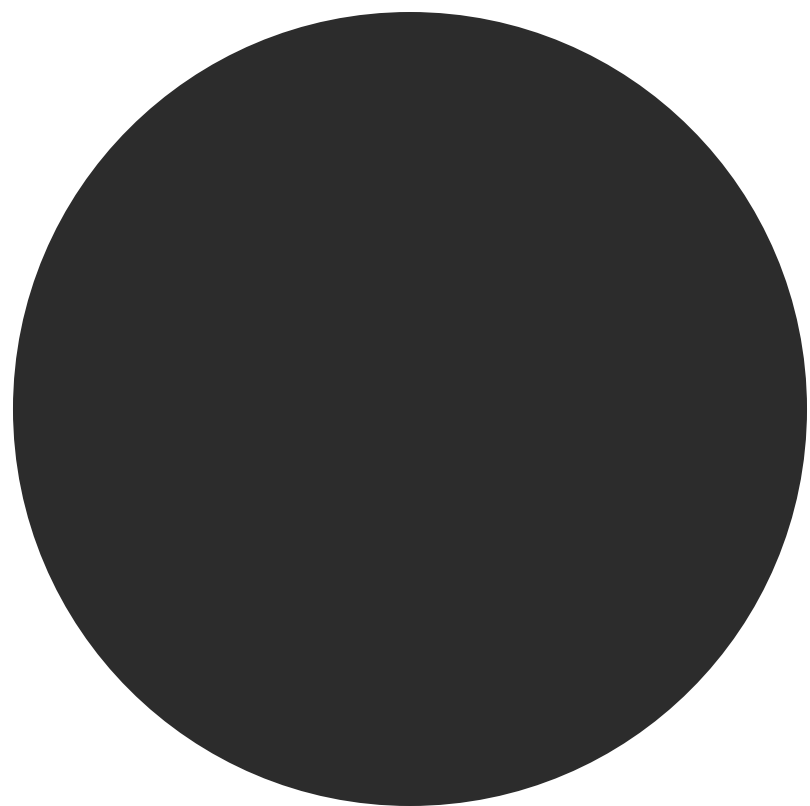




Improve Schaufenster



As a software project, the Schaufenster application depends on participation. The Schaufenster team is open to suggestions for improvement. Ideas for new features are welcome! Of course, implementation depends on the resources available.





Project Archive Platform

The project archive is the central platform for recording, archiving and processing documentation of students' (and teachers') projects at the HfG Karlsruhe. It was set up by the ORC (Open Resource Center) team at the university.

The Madek software on which the project archive is based was developed at the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK). Madek makes it possible to document, share, and archive complex projects and events in the long term. Together with the ZHdK, the ORC has further developed and modernized the software.

Schaufenster is the showcase interface to the project archive.

Schaufenster

<https://schaufenster.hfg-karlsruhe.de>

Project Archive

<https://madek.hfg-karlsruhe.de/?lang=en>

Manual (with Instructions for the Project Archive Platform and Schaufenster)

<https://handbuch.hfg-karlsruhe.de/en/madek>

Schaufenster Codebase

<https://github.com/orc-hfg/schaufenster>

Madek Codebase

<https://github.com/Madek>



Contact and Team

For any questions, comments, and requests regarding Schaufenster, the team of the Open Resource Center is at your disposal. Feel free to write an e-mail or drop by the office (room 313).

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