



The Bregenz Festival: Facts and Figures

(Figures given are for one year as a rounded-off average of the past five festival seasons)

Legal form of company	non-profit-making organisation with limited liability (GmbH)
Shareholder	Bregenz Festival private foundation
Board	Hans-Peter Metzler – president Verena Brunner-Loss – vice-chair of the board Wilhelm Muzyczyn – vice-chair of the board Michael Grahammer, Sabine Haag – members of the board
Chief executives	Elisabeth Sobotka (artistic director) Michael Diem (commercial director)
Total personnel	1,500 people
Annual budget	27 million euros
of which public subsidies	6.94 million euros
of which funds from sponsors and donors	1.3 million euros
Subsidies from	40 % Republic of Austria 35 % federal state of Vorarlberg 25 % municipality of Bregenz
Visitors to the Lake Stage show (basis: visitor survey in 2019, n=14.000)	63 % Germany 23 % Austria 11 % Switzerland / Liechtenstein 3 % other
Seating capacity	Maximum no. of seats (actual no. may differ)
Lake Stage	6,980
Festspielhaus, Great Hall	1,656
Workshop Theatre	1,563
Lake Foyer	168
Lake Studio	330
Park Studio	220
Vorarlberger Landestheater	502
Kunsthhaus Bregenz	150
Theater Kosmos	148
total	11,717

Awards won by the Festival

Year	Award
1998	The Bregenz Festival is the first organisation in the cultural sector to receive the State Prize for Public Relations from the Federal Minister of Economic Affairs of the Republic of Austria – for crossculture, its programme for young people.
2000	The opera at the Festspielhaus in the 1999 season, <i>The Greek Passion</i> – a co-production with the Royal Opera House Covent Garden – wins the coveted "British theatre Oscar", the Laurence Olivier Award , as the best opera production of the year.
2000	<i>A Masked Ball</i> is named Stage Set of the Year by the specialist magazine <i>Opernwelt</i> . It's the first time the Bregenz Festival has won this prestigious critics' award and the first time the award has gone to an open-air production.
2006	The development of the globally unique sound system Bregenz Open Acoustics, BOA, in collaboration with the Fraunhofer Institute, Illmenau (Germany), and the installation of the system on the Bregenz Lake Stage wins the festival the German opera stage award "Opus" in the category Sound Design.
2008	The stage for <i>Tosca</i> is named Stage Set of the Year by the specialist magazine <i>Opernwelt</i> . The blue eye of giant dimensions is not just an apt image for the Puccini opera, but also a striking backdrop with high symbolic value for the TV studio that broadcast the football championships and as a location for the Bond movie <i>Quantum of Solace</i> , according to the magazine.
2009	In association with the respected German weekly <i>Die Zeit</i> the Berlin agency Causales names the Bregenz Festival Cultural Brand of the Year for their branding and corporate communications.
2009	Designer Raimund Bauer and the Bregenz Festival win the German opera stage award "Opus" for the stage set for <i>King Roger</i> , the opera at the Festspielhaus.
2009	The Bregenz Festival's Ernst Krenek retrospective is named Rediscovery of the Year by the specialist magazine <i>Opernwelt</i> .
2009	The Jahrbuch der Werbung , an authoritative yearbook for the media and communications industry, publishes the best advertising campaigns in German-speaking countries. The festival's new marketing strategy is included in the book, in the categories Posters and Integrated Campaign.
2010	The Jahrbuch der Werbung declares the festival's evening programmes the winner in the Cultural and Social Organisations category and the posters are featured once again in the yearbook.

- 2011** *The Passenger (Die Passagierin)*, the previous season's opera at the Festspielhaus, is named **Rediscovery of the Year** by the specialist magazine *Opernwelt*, which surveyed 50 critics from several European countries and the USA. The results of the survey appear in the yearbook, published in Berlin at the start of October.
- 2011** The Bregenz Festival wins gold in the **2011 Export Awards** in the Tourism category. The Austrian Export Awards were initiated by the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber in 1994 and are awarded to Austrian companies that are successful on foreign markets. Export performance of the previous two years is assessed.
- 2012** The Festspielhaus production of *The Passenger (Die Passagierin)* is nominated for the **Laurence Olivier Award** in the category **Best New Opera Production**. The Olivier Awards are the most prestigious theatre award in the United Kingdom and are considered equivalent to the Tony Awards on Broadway and the Oscars.
- 2014** The Festspielhaus opera *The Merchant of Venice* is named **Best New Production** at the International Opera Awards in London.
- 2015** The Bregenz Festival is named **Festival of the Year** at the **International Opera Awards**, London.
- 2016** In autumn 2015 the Bregenz Festival receives the **2016 German Design Award** in the category **Excellent Communications Design – Integrated Campaigns and Advertising** for its new posters and corporate design
- 2019** At the **Austrian Music Theatre Prize** ceremony, Karl Markovics was awarded a Golden Schikaneder in the category Best Director. The actor, author and film director made his directorial debut in the field of opera at the 2018 Bregenz Festival with the world premiere of *The Hunting Gun*.
- 2020** The Bregenz Festival wins the **German opera stage award "Opus"** for *Rigoletto*, which celebrated its premiere on the Lake Stage in the summer of 2019.
- 2020** Gábor Bretz and the 2019 Festspielhaus production of the opera *Don Quichotte* won the **Austrian Music Theatre Prize** in the categories Best Male Performer in a Leading Role (Don Quichotte in *Don Quichotte*) and Best Opera Production.
- 2021** Nicole Pleuler was awarded the **Austrian Music Theatre Prize** in the category Best Design for her costumes for *Impresario Dotcom*.
- 2021** The Bregenz Festival was awarded the **European Culture Prize** of the European Foundation for Culture, Pro Europa, for its excellent work promoting young artists.



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