

A Stage for the Peterhof Cellar

What would a cultural center be without a stage? Thanks to alumni funding, the university has renovated the Peterhof Cellar into a new cultural center with a stage.

The Petershof is a building on the university's city center campus formerly owned by the St. Peter Monastery in the Black Forest. In its current form, the building goes back to construction and renovation measures carried out by Abbot Gallus Vögelin from Mindelheim in 1587.



Today the Peterhof Cellar serves as a captivating venue for cultural events.

The Chapel of the Holy Cross, a masterpiece of mannerist architecture, was built in 1587 as a private chapel. In 1731, Abbot Ulrich Bürgi had the entire building renovated. The identity of most of the artists who worked on the Petershof over the centuries is a matter of speculation. The unique stucco decorations from 1556 in the Chapel of the Holy Cross are attributed to Wendel Nufer, while the plans for its renovation in 1731 are thought to have been proposed by the famous Austrian architect Peter Thumb. All parts of the building except for the chapel suffered considerable damage in 1944. The Peterhof was acquired by the University of Freiburg in 1957. The building was rebuilt in its original form in 1960 and fit out for use by the university's Institute of Psychology.

The cellar was reopened in 2002 following careful renovations. Alumni Freiburg e.V. provided substantial funding from donations to support the project. Since the renovations, the large cellar with vaulted ceilings and the columned cellar have been used for theater, music, and cabaret performances as well as social events.