

## **museumssterne\*\*\* – basel museums open for and to people with disabilities**

Basel-City is an open-minded Swiss canton, a forerunner in the matter of equal opportunity for people with disabilities. Although the Swiss federal law on the elimination of inequalities affecting people with disabilities came into force in 2004, the canton of Basel-City had forged its mission statement “Adults with a disability”, and formed a specialist department, “The department for the equality and integration of persons with a disability”, one year before.

One outcome of this new department, in collaboration with the Museum Services Basel, a cantonal department which is responsible for coordination between the Basel museums, is the project museumssterne\*\*\* – basel museums open for and to people with disabilities. The project challenges local and regional museums to implement the requirements of the new law regarding the elimination of inequalities affecting people with disabilities through innovative exhibits.

### Get involved

Wherever people campaign for others, quality of life increases. This is especially important for people with disabilities. Step-free entrances, wide hallways, large-print lettering and clear descriptions make it easier for people with disabilities, as well as the elderly, to participate in cultural life. These implementations also signalise that the disabled are welcome.

### and get an award

Museums which are sensitive to the needs of people with disabilities and the elderly, who include them creatively, are awarded a museum star. This distinction honours the museum's dedication and enhances its image and role model function. The prize money supports the realisation of the museum's project.

Consultant: Beat Ramseyer, Project Director «museumssterne\*\*\*»  
Further information on [www.museumssterne.ch](http://www.museumssterne.ch)

### **Beat Ramseyer**

Project Director «museumssterne\*\*\*»

Lives and works in Basel, Switzerland

Contracted polio in 1948, was diagnosed with Post-polio syndrome (PPS) in 1990.  
Mr. Ramseyer is physically disabled.

After thirty years of teaching music and art to young adults, Mr. Ramseyer works today as an independent mediation and supervision coach, and as a conflict management and personnel trainer.

2006 – 2010 Director of the project «museumssterne\*\*\* – basel museums open for and to people with disabilities», a collaboration of two departments of the Kanton Basel Stadt: «museum services basel» and «Basel office for equal opportunity for and integration of people with a disability».

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