

# The Helmut-von-Kügelgen Foundation

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## Projects Supported by the Foundation:

International Early Childhood Conference in Brazil

Training Projects of the International Association for Steiner/Waldorf early Childhood Education

Whitsun Conferences of the German kindergarten movement

DVD Project on infant and early childhood education by Helle Heckmann

Research Project of IPSUM GmbH (Institute for Pedagogical, Sensory- and Media Ecology) on school enrollment age and health development

World Early Childhood Conference 2012 in Dornach (Switzerland)

You may find the actual reports and projects under [www.waldorfkindergarten.de](http://www.waldorfkindergarten.de), by clicking the button "Helmut von Kügelgen Stiftung"

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Bank für Sozialwirtschaft

Account number: 7709900

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The  
Helmut-von-Kügelgen  
Foundation

## *The Helmut-von-Kügelgen-Foundation*

In 1969 Dr. Helmut von Kügelgen created the International Association for Steiner/Waldorf Early Childhood Education. Since that time, more than 1800 kindergartens, day care centers, day nurseries and other childhood programs have joined.

This formed a new focus within Steiner/Waldorf education in relation to the first seven years and their impact on later development.

At the time of Helmut von Kügelgen's death in 1998, societal conditions were changing, and it was becoming increasingly difficult to find donations and financing for social projects serving the little child. As a result, at the beginning of the twenty-first century, the board of the International Association decided to create a foundation to develop new possibilities for financial supporting the diverse activities of the Steiner/Waldorf kindergarten movement. It seemed quite appropriate to name the foundation after Helmut von Kügelgen.

The purpose of the foundation is to foster Steiner/Waldorf pedagogy in the first seven years and to support it through training, courses and practice. Though the focus is on early childhood, which was of particular interest to Helmut von Kügelgen, later phases of life are not excluded. The activity of the foundation also supports the development and production of video-supported instructional materials that can be provided to all who are interested.

An essential element is the international context: the foundation is devoted to the little child – regardless of where on the globe the child is living.



## *Who was Helmut von Kügelgen and what did he live for?*

Helmut von Kügelgen (1916 to 1998) always looked back to his childhood and youth with enormous gratitude. A journalist by profession, he experienced the entire Second World War from the front lines, from 1939 to its end.

In 1946 he returned to Germany from American captivity and decided to become a Waldorf teacher, after becoming acquainted with Waldorf education through his wife, Gisela. After emigrating to Stuttgart he was active not only in reconstructing the Stuttgart Waldorf School, but also in the reconstruction of the Anthroposophical Society in Germany, and the establishment of the publishing house "Freies Geistesleben", the magazine "Erziehungskunst", and the Free Youth Seminar.

With only one sabbatical year – which he spent serving the Waldorf movement in Mexico- he led his school classes from the first to the eighth class until his retirement.

Later it was his greatest pleasure to be able to assist in the establishment of the world kindergarten movement and, by founding and directing the state-recognized Waldorf Kindergarten Seminar in Stuttgart, to be able to be active in early childhood training.

He wrote countless letters by hand to kindergarten teachers around the world, in which he often shared in the smallest details of their joys and sorrows, both professional and personal. Many still today have vivid memories of his lively lectures and lessons.



## *What is special about a foundation?*

Non-profit organisations are obliged to use donations they receive within two years for the purpose for which they were given. However, many projects need ongoing financing over the course of a number of years.

This is the particular speciality of foundations: the foundation's investment or endowment is kept intact for the future –only the accumulated interest on the investment and donations are used to achieve the goals of the foundation.

If assets are transferred to a non-profit foundation, these funds remain undiminished.

### *Tax-deductible donations*

In general, donations to the foundation are tax-deductible; please check the requirements for tax-deductible donations in your country.

### *Data Protection*

We will use your address information only for our donor services and information. This information will not be shared with a third party.



*Receive the child in reverence,  
educate the child in love,  
release the child in freedom.*

*Rudolf Steiner*