

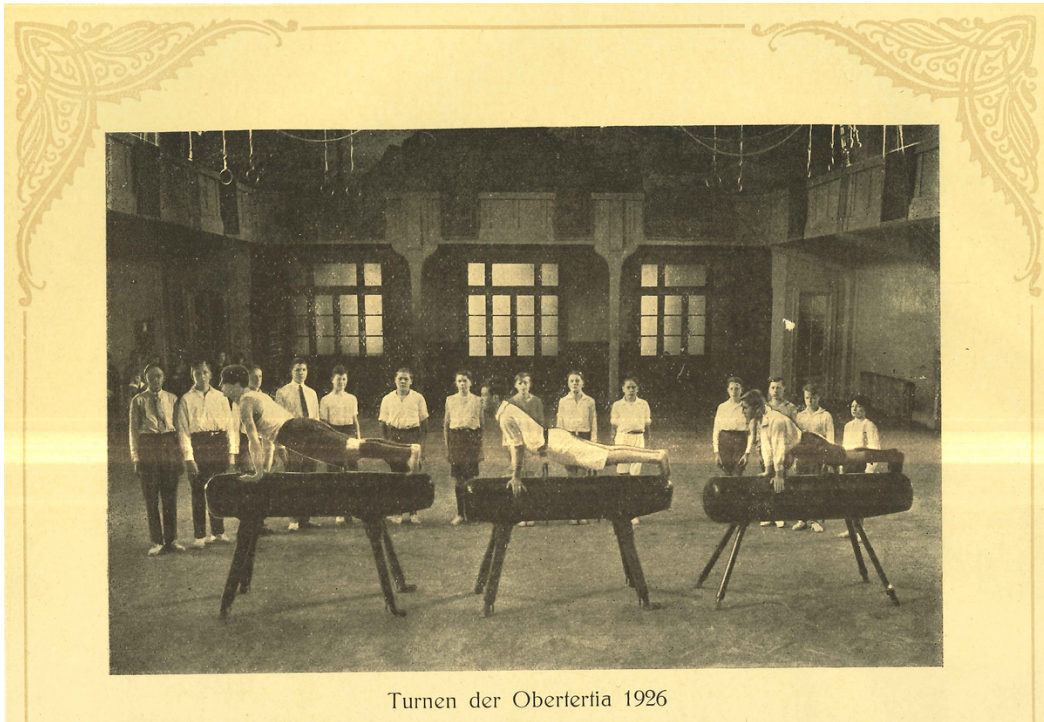
Gymnastics as Cultural Heritage: The Gymnasium of the Belgrano School, Buenos Aires (1927)

Abstract

Since the nineteenth century, Argentina has been home to German communities that are as politically, socially, and religiously diverse as Germany itself. By around 1900, there were already sixty-five German schools in Argentina, and hundreds by the 1930s. The Belgrano School was an elite German school in Buenos Aires. Its longtime director, Wilhelm Keiper, advocated inculcating a common German culture in the young Germans of Argentina. Other directors took a different approach, aiming instead to prepare youngsters for their lives in Argentina by offering Spanish lessons. The Belgrano School's gigantic gymnasium signaled that skill in gymnastics/calisthenics [*Turnen*] was considered a marker of Germanness.

Source





Turnen der Obertertia 1926

Source: Wilhelm Keiper, *Die Belgrano Schule in Buenos Aires, 1897–1927*. Buenos Aires, 1927, n.p.

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