

David Bowie Honored with Parisian Street

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Inauguration /ɪˌnɔːɡjuˈreɪʃən/ - The formal beginning or introduction of something.
Example: The president's inauguration ceremony was a grand event.
2. Tribute /ˈtrɪbjʊːt/ - An act, statement, or gift that is intended to show gratitude, respect, or admiration.
Example: The concert was a tribute to the legendary musician.
3. Unveil /ʌnˈveɪl/ (Verb) - To reveal or make known something that was previously concealed.
Example: The artist will unveil a new sculpture in the park.
4. Arrondissement /əˈrɒndɪsmənt/ - An administrative district in some countries, especially in France.
Example: The Louvre is located in the 1st arrondissement of Paris.
5. Shame /ʃeɪm/ (Noun) - A painful feeling of humiliation or distress caused by the consciousness of wrong or foolish behavior.
Example: He felt a deep sense of shame after the mistake.
6. Legacy /ˈlɛɡəsi/ - Something handed down or received from an ancestor or predecessor.
Example: The historic building is a legacy from past generations.



On January 8, 2024, Paris honored David Bowie by naming a street after him in the city's southeast. The street was named Rue David-Bowie and it would have been Bowie's 77th birthday. The **inauguration** of the street was first announced in 2020 by Jérôme Coumet, mayor of the 13th arrondissement, who is also a David Bowie fan. Bowie died of cancer in 2016.

What did Paris do to honor David Bowie on January 8, 2024?

The **tribute** celebrated Bowie's first Paris performance in 1965, which was his first performance outside the United Kingdom. It also celebrated his impact on music, fashion, and culture. David Bowie was a British singer and songwriter who was known for changing both his image and his musical style many times during a career that lasted over 50 years. He was widely seen as one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century.

Who was David Bowie and what was he known for?

Bowie sold more than 100 million records during his life and was one of the best-selling musicians of all time. His influence on music, with hits like "Space Oddity" and "Let's Dance," and on fashion, are permanently recognized in the Paris city landscape. Mayor Coumet **unveiled** the street sign and said, "Long live rock, long live pop, long live David Bowie and long live Paris." The celebrations also included a concert and an exhibition of photography and paintings dedicated to Bowie at the 13th **arrondissement** town hall.

What did Mayor Coumet say during the unveiling of the street sign?

One fan who attended the event told BFMTV that it was a **shame** there was no housing on the street because she would like to live there. The development reflects the ongoing transformation of the 13th arrondissement district, which now celebrates the **legacy** of Bowie along with other notable figures.

What does the development of the 13th arrondissement district reflect?

DISCUSSION

1. If you could have a street named after you, what would it be called and why?
2. If you could choose any artist to have a street named after in your city, who would it be and why?
3. What qualities do you think make an artist deserving of having a street named in their honor?
4. Imagine attending a concert on a street dedicated to an iconic figure. Who would you want performing, and what songs would you hope to hear?
5. Street names often reflect the history or significance of a place. If you had the chance to name a street after a cultural icon, what would you choose as the theme or inspiration?
6. If you were organizing an event to celebrate a legendary artist, what activities or attractions would you include to honor their legacy?
7. The article mentions the ongoing transformation of the 13th arrondissement district. If you could contribute to the transformation of a neighborhood, what cultural or artistic elements would you introduce to enhance its character?