

Newsletter

American Association of Teachers of German, Inc.

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# **From the President**

t is time – or nearly time – to breathe again. As another school year comes to an end, we reflect on the lives we have changed. We consider how we could have instructed our units just a little differently. We know we provided the best education for our students this year, but something inside still calls us to reflect and restructure for the next group of students. We did not become educators of German because it was the easiest professional experience available. We are dedicated and passionate about our content and want our students to become as passionate as we are. Thank you for continuing to provide the best quality education for our students.



We use summer to recharge our batteries. We give so much of ourselves to our students and our institutions. We find time to rejuvenate and think about how to implement the new ideas we have been too

busy to fully develop. Some of us will be traveling with students; some extending our professional development; and still others will be reading, viewing films, and considering how to make the next academic term the most magical one for students. Though our experiences will vary, may we all start the next school year eager to shape new minds.

I will have the honor of representing you in Graz, Austria at the third ACTFL/CEFR conference. It will be exciting to be with some of you in Leipzig at our KEFKO and KiDS summer seminars. Look for my reflections on these seminars in upcoming newsletters.

It was my pleasure this spring to see many of you in Baltimore, MD at NECTFL and to be hosted by the Arizona chapter of AATG. I am encouraged to hear your stories of success. It is also important for me to know the challenges facing German educators at all levels. AATG will continue to provide letters of support for programs when needed, but we also would like to know about the good things happening in your institutions and share them in the newsletter.

Inspiration comes to us in many ways. What brought you to the profession of education? Have you recently thanked people who inspired you? I would like to introduce a new initiative. We will have a page in the Newsletter to express gratitude to those who helped make us the dedicated professionals we are today. I encourage you to say thanks with a small monetary donation to the AATG in the individual's name.

I want to thank four very special professionals who made a great impact on my professional development. Without their influence, I would not be in the field of education and, most certainly, would not be AATG President. Frau Irmgard Hegewald has passed. During my freshman year of college, she asked if I would want to be a German major. I said, sure. Case closed. Frau Dr. Christine Totten has continued to be a source of support and encouragement since my undergraduate studies. Ursula Meyer helped me to understand that learning can come alive through authentic materials. Helene Zimmer-Loew challenged me to use my gifts to reach out beyond the classroom to other instructors of German. I will be contributing \$25 for each of these special people to the AATG to honor their roles in my career. I hope that you might join me in saying thank you to a person or two who has played a significant role in your professional experience. Please express your gratitude to those special people in your professional life.

Enjoy the summer. Relax, refresh, reflect. Take time to enjoy friends and family. Be ready to be your best, once again, in the next school term.

Karty & Fegely

Kathy J. Fegely Antietam High School Reading, Pennsylvania kfegely@antietamsd.org

P.S. Remember to register for the ACTFL Convention in Philadelphia, PA this November. The Early Bird Registration Deadline is July 11! We thank the program committee for their work in selecting outstanding sessions for you. The value of the convention experience is incredible. Please join us. You will not be disappointed.

# **Proposed changes to AATG Constitution and By-laws**

n a meeting held by the Executive Council of the AATG earlier this spring, five changes to the AATG Constitution and By-laws adopted October 2010 were proposed. In accordance with **By-laws Section VI. Amendment of Bylaws** the proposed changes are being provided to the membership and may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Council at its next meeting.

The Executive Council proposes a change to Article III, Paragraph 5 pertaining to membership. Currently Article III. Membership, Paragraph 5 states: "The payment of annual dues, as established in the By-laws, shall entitle a member to receive a print copy of either *The German Quarterly* or *Die Unterrichtspraxis/Teaching German*, participate in meetings of the Association, and exercise all other privileges of membership. Access to both journals will be available online to all members." The Executive Council proposes the following revised Article III. Membership, Paragraph 5: "The payment of annual dues, as established in the By-laws, shall entitle a member to receive access to both journals online. Members who wish a paper copy of *The German Quarterly* will pay a fee."

Additionally, the Executive Council proposes changes to Article IV. Officers, Paragraph 5 The Treasurer (c) which currently states: "The Treasurer shall have the responsibility of examining the financial records of the Association, which shall be audited annually by a Certified Public Accountant. The Treasurer shall submit a report on the financial status of the Association and the auditor's report to the Executive Council at least once a year. These reports shall be published in an official journal of the Association." The Executive Council proposes changing the last sentence of Article IV. Officers, Paragraph 5 The Treasurer (c) to read: "These reports shall be published by the Association."

Changes have also been proposed to the **By-laws, Section II. Elections, Paragraph 3** which currently reads: "There shall be at least two nominees for each office. All candidates for office must have been members of the Association for at least the two years prior to their nomination. No current member of the Executive Council shall be eligible for nomination to an elective office." The Executive Council proposes deleting "at least" from the first sentence so that **By-laws, Section II. Elections, Paragraph 3** would read: "There shall be two nominees for each office. All candidates for office must have been members of the Association for at least the two years prior to their nomination. No current member of the Executive Council shall be eligible for nomination to an elective office."

By-laws Section IV. Remuneration for Service, Paragraph 1 currently reads: "All Officers of the Association shall serve without pay. Officers, members of the Executive Council, Project Directors, Committee Chairpersons, Editors of official journals of the Association, or other designates may receive allocations for such secretarial assistance as is required in the performance of their duties and may receive reimbursement for such expenses as they may incur in the execution of their duties. Such expenditures shall be authorized by the Executive Council and are subject to audit." The Executive Council proposes the elimination of the following clause: "may receive allocations for such secretarial assistance as is required in the performance of their duties and". The revised Bylaws, Section IV. Remuneration for Service, Paragraph 1 will read: "All Officers of the Association shall serve without pay. Officers, members of the Executive Council, Project Directors, Committee Chairpersons, Editors of official journals of the Association, or other designates may receive reimbursement for such expenses as they may incur in the execution of their duties. Such expenditures shall be authorized by the Executive Council and are subject to audit."

**By-laws Section V. Establishment of Committees or** Special Projects, Paragraph 2 currently reads: "No person shall be appointed by any committee or project for a term of more than three years, nor be reappointed for more than one consecutive additional term, without special approval by the Executive Council. All committees and projects of the Association are under the authority of the Executive Council, to which they shall report regularly. The Executive Council is empowered to discontinue any committee when that committee has completed its specific duties or is no longer essential to the welfare of the Association." The Executive Council proposes revising By-laws Section V. Establishment of Committees or Special Projects, Paragraph 2 to read: "All committees and projects of the Association are under the authority of the Executive Council, to which they shall report regularly. No person shall be appointed to any committee or project for a term of more than three years, nor be reappointed for more than one consecutive additional term, without special approval by the Executive Council."

# **AATG's Professional Partners Program**



AATG has launched new efforts to develop professional partnerships with companies and organizations that provide services of benefit to the AATG membership. Along with our long standing great relationships with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Goethe-Institut, the Pädagogischer Austauschdienst, and the Austrian Cultural Forum, the AATG announces new partnerships with DJH City-Hostels in Cologne & Düsseldorf, Statista, and Cornelsen Verlag.

"We are excited about the great benefits that AATG members are getting from our new Professional Partners," said Keith Cothrun, AATG Executive Director. "Our aim is to make sure that AATG's members are well supported."

## AATG members stay free at DJH City-Hostels

The professional partnership with DJH City-Hostels in Cologne & Düsseldorf comes with incredible new benefits for AATG members when traveling to those cities. As an AATG member, you'll enjoy up to 3 free overnight stays in hotel-quality accommodations at one of the DJH City-Hostels in Cologne or Düsseldorf when visiting on their own during site inspections. When traveling with a group of 10 or more

students, AATG members stay free! AATG member accommodations are in a single room and breakfast is included.

Enjoy up to 3 *free* overnight stays in hotel-quality accommodations at one of the DJH City-Hostels in Cologne or Düsseldorf !

A non-profit organization, DJH City-Hostels is known for modern facilities starting at 28 Euros per person in a multi-bed room and 49.50 Euros for a private double or single room. DIH City-

Hostels is also offering its customized program planning services free of charge to AATG members. These include concierge services and individual and group ticket sales for local attractions and entertainment – often at huge discounts.

"We want teachers to save money and time, and everyone to discover a new Germany experience," said Rainer Perry, DJH City-Hostels Marketing & Sales Manager North America. "That's why we invite US groups to Cologne and Düsseldorf and offer free

overnight stays, free program planning assistance for teachers, and of course the most important feature of all: simple luxury accommodations that feel like hotels but are priced like hostels. This way, everyone wins."

DJH City-Hostels are not the hostels of your youth. They offer such great value and quality that Fortune 500 companies use for corporate meetings and overnight stays. Their clients include Bayer, Daimler Chrysler, Pfizer Pharma, McDonald's Germany, Siemens, General Aviation Manufacturers and many others.





# **Great New Benefits for AATG Members**

## **Destination Düsseldorf**

Called "Little Paris" by Napoleon, Düsseldorf has emerged as one of the most exciting hidden gem destinations in Germany. The Media Harbour is one of its many highlights, a hip and recently renovated riverfront work and nightlife Mecca with stunning buildings designed by superstar architects such as Gehry and Chipperfield. Add to this 17 world-renowned museums and hundreds of galleries, the elegant shopping boulevard Königsallee, and no fewer than 20 castles located in and around the city, and you have a winning recipe for a dynamite destination with much to discover.

One of the most modern hostels in Europe, the DJH City-Hostel in Düsseldorf offers innovative architecture and modern interiors that dazzle and reflect the image of the city. It is located right on the Rhine, offers panoramic views, and is just minutes away from Düsseldorf's Altstadt, shopping, and nightlife. The hostel just underwent a major renovation, features outstanding rooms and meeting facilities.

## Two hostels in Cologne

You can't miss Cologne's famous cathedral. It's Germany's number one tourist attraction and focal point of the skyline and the city center. Cologne is home to one of Germany's most popular shopping districts, Hohe Strasse and Schildergasse, as well as cafes, and restaurants on the Rhine. Cologne is home to the famous Schokoladenmuseum and the ruins of Roman settlements. The city has a vivid art scene, museums, and night life. Cologne is easy to reach, and its railway station is Europe's hub.

"We want teachers to save money and time, and everyone to discover a new Germany experience."

The ultra-modern DJH City-Hostel Deutz is located right on the banks of the Rhine and offers views of the cathedral. The cathedral and Altstadt are a short scenic walk across the Rhine. All the major attractions, shopping, and restaurants are just steps away.

Located just minutes away on the same side of the river as the cathedral is the newly renovated DJH City-Hostel Cologne Riehl. Its location makes it ideal for exploring the city and its history, monuments, and museums.

"Firsthand experience with language and culture is life changing, and AATG's professional partnership with DJH City-Hostels provides

incredible benefits to our members in two of Germany's greatest cities." said Cothrun. "Travel to Germany seals the connection to the German classroom—we're hoping that GAPP programs and undergraduate study abroad programs take advantage of this great offer."

For more information on DJH City-Hostels, contact Rainer Perry, Marketing & Sales Manager North America, DJH City-Hostels in Cologne & Düsseldorf, New York, NY; phone: 212-975-6653, email: rainer.perry@djh-rheinland.de; or visit www.city-hostel.de.





# **Great New Benefits for AATG Members**

## Free access to Statista

than 10,000 European

Free unlimited access to both the English and German databases at Statista.com and Statista.de for two months!

With headquarters located in Hamburg, Germany, Statista is expanding rapidly outside of Europe and has a growing presence among American universities. Licensed at multiple Ivy League institutions and a wide variety of flagship public universities throughout the United States, the cooperation between Statista and AATG will serve as a valuable resource for teachers and students seeking to incorporate relevant facts and statistical data in the German language into assignments, presentations, and lectures.

Statista was chosen in 2008 as "Start-Up of the Year" and received the Founder's Award from Financial

Statista, the leading online statistics portal, is also a new professional partner. Statista provides statistics, facts, and market data from more

sources. Statista provides students and educators with direct access to statistical data on German culture, demographics, politics, and economicsrelevant instructional content in the German language.

As an exclusive offer for all AATG members, Statista is providing free unlimited access to both the English and German databases at Statista.com and Statista.de for two months. In order to participate, simply register for a free Basic Account at <u>www.statista.com</u> and enter "AATG" in the coupon code field. After two months, the account will be automatically downgraded and requires no notice of cancellation.

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Times Germany. In 2010 Statista was elected as a "Place of Innovation" and subsequently as the European winner of the Red Herring Award in the same year. Statista also yearly publishes the book "The World in Numbers" in German, in cooperation with the publishing house brand eins.

Statista works closely together with various reputable companies and institutions. Strategic partners include the Deutsche Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, the Institut für Demoskopie, Allensbach, the Einzelhandelsintitut EHI, Creditreform, as well Mashable, Venturebeat, the Dow Jones Publishing Group and the publishing group Handelsblatt.

For additional information about the Statista offer, please contact Michael Majoris at <u>michael.majoris@statista.com</u>.

# **AATG/PAD Study Trip Awards**

## Germany, here we come!

Thirty-nine students from across the US are traveling to Germany as recipients of the AATG/PAD Study Trip Award from the 2012 National German Exam. The students all scored above the 90th percentile on the AATG National German Exam, and were selected as finalists through the local AATG chapters after an interview and selection process. A national committee selected the trip winners.

The students are preparing for the trip of a lifetime! On June 27, thirty-nine students will fly to Germany for a three-and-half week adventure. There they will live with a host family and experience school life at Markgraf-Georg-Friedrich Gymnasium in



Kulmbach, Melanchthon-Gymnasium in Nürnberg or Martin-Behaim-Gymnasium in Nürnberg. The American students will be able to improve their skills in special German language classes and also visit regular classes with their host.

AATG/PAD Study Trip Award winners are Arunraj Balaji, Southern California; Sarah Blumrich, Connecticut; Ellen Brennan, Indiana; Ryan Browning, Louisiana; Michaela Culley, Western Pennsylvania; Martha Daniel, Hudson Valley; Claire Dockery, Northern Illinois; Erin Equall, Montana; Anna Fennell, Kentucky; Michaela Harrington, Massachusetts; Clark Harris, Indiana; Sadie Haun, Rhode Island; Jennifer Hausler, North Carolina; Annelie Herrmann, Michigan; Sarah Hibbert, Central Pennsylvania; Natalie Howard, Massachusetts.

Nikhil Kandpal, Philadelphia; Nicholas Karavolias, Long Island; Ushna Khan, Central New York; Michael Kithcart, Alabama; Henry Landis, Metropolitan New York; Cira LaPerriere, Michigan; Tessa Laschober, Colorado; Benjamin Liu, South Carolina; Edward Lu, Missouri; Devon Mason, Northern New Jersey; Kelsey Murphy, Minnesota; Francis O'Neill, Maryland; Tyler Patterson, Northern Illinois; Bryan Peacker, Florida; Deena Rodecap, Kansas; Brian Schappals, Washington; James Sheeley, Iowa; Michael Sportiello, Wisconsin; Monica Theibault, Southern New Jersey; Laurel Tieman, Wisconsin; Zachary Willis, Northern New Jersey; Kristen Wong, Arizona; and Alyssa Ziemba, Nebraska.



Five seniors are also traveling to Germany in July as recipients of the AATG/PAD Study Trip Award. The seniors will travel in an international group during their four-week study program. In addition to a two-week homestay and school program, students will attend special seminars in Köln/Bonn, Berlin, München, or Hamburg. Senior recipients are Mariya Krutkova, Ohio; Jacob Hogan, Southern New Jersey; Janet Phan, Northern California; Nandita Venkatesan, Northern Illinois; and Robert Lawson, South Carolina.

The study awards are funded thanks to the generosity of the Auswärtiges Amt of the Federal Republic of Germany, and are organized

by the AATG and the Pedagogical Exchange Service (*Pädagogischer Austauschdienst*), a department of the *Secretariat* of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in Germany. The AATG and PAD have been working together to provide high school students this educational opportunity for over 50 years.

Chapter finalists who were not selected as study trip winners received the 2012 GLOW Award. GLOW Award winners receive a \$25 gift card from Barnes and Noble and a one-year subscription to *German World* magazine. Recipients are Chandler Bair, Oklahoma; John Banovetz, Minnesota; Autumn Bartholetti, Philadelphia; David Best, Virginia; Kara Bledsoe, Tennessee; Taylor Bouchier, Idaho; Jessica Chang, Indiana; Austin Foster, Virginia; Ian George, Ohio; Alina Guido, Southern California; Riku Imanishi, Kentucky; Ian Kennaugh, Houston; Sarah Ketcham, Central New York; Zachary Keyt, Iowa; Siori Koerner, Tennessee; Delaney Lake, Louisiana; Victoria Moore, Georgia; Jason Phan, Northern California; Samuel Raimann, Wisconsin; Jacob Sprunger, North Dakota; Estelle Tian, Philadelphia; Nancy Wu, Northern New Jersey; Aaron Yanich, Michigan; Joelle Young, Mississippi.

# **News and Notes**

### Read Die Unterrichtspraxis on the go!

You can access Die Unterrichtspraxis/Teaching German on your iPhone! Education Spotlight is a unique mobile app for education researchers and educators available for free for iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch. Whether you want to keep track of broad trends across the educational field or focus in on German, Education Spotlight is a great tool for research and teaching.



You can download *Education Spotlight* at iTunes for free : http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/education-spotlight/

### The German Quarterly Graduate Student Paper Award

The AATG announces an award for the best research paper by a graduate student on any topic related to German Studies. A selection committee (including members of the German Quarterly editorial board) will choose the winning paper, which will be published in the German Quarterly. The award recipient will be announced at the 2012 AATG Annual Meeting in Philadelphia.

Any student enrolled in an M.A. or Ph.D. program at the time of submission is eligible to submit one previously unpublished paper, either in English or in German. Papers should be between 3,500 and 9,000 words in length (including endnotes).

An electronic version of the paper should be submitted to James Rolleston, editor of German Quarterly, as an email attachment (german.quarterly@duke.edu). Please include a cover sheet with author's name, institutional affiliation, contact information, title of the paper, and word count. A faculty endorsement of the essay must also be submitted via e-mail. Deadline for submissions is July 1, 2012.

### German-American Hall of Fame Student Scholarship Essay Contest

he German-American Hall of Fame (GAMHOF) Board of Trustees is pleased to announce an exciting new initiative, the GAMHOF Student Scholarship Essay Contest.

With separate competitions for college and high school students, the essay contest will offer cash awards totaling \$3,000 for the winning students in 2013. The two first prize winners will take home \$1,000, with runners-up winning \$500 each.

# GAMHOF



**GERMAN-AMERICAN HALL OF FAME** 

The mission of GAMHOF is to highlight the contributions of outstanding Americans of German ancestry, underscoring the tremendous positive impact of America's largest immigrant group. Such notable Americans as President Eisenhower, Babe Ruth and Albert Einstein have been inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Founder and Chairman William Hetzler said that "GAMHOF is pleased to announce this essay competition, encouraging students to look into the lives and contributions of outstanding German-Americans, and then to write about them. We expect to see some fine research and writing that will bring alive the amazing impact of this group of 70 million Americans."

This year's student essay contest asks each applicant to write an essay about an American of Germany ancestry that the student finds especially compelling. Then, the student will elaborate by writing about the subject's impact on the United States, or a region or institution.

To view and access the application for the GAMHOF Student Scholarship Essay Contest, visit <u>www.gamhof.org.</u> The deadline for all applications is **December 31, 2012.** Students who might be interested in applying and writing an essay about an outstanding German-American can access the application and other information on the website.

# **News and Notes**

## New Summer On-line Methods Course for Elementary School World Languages

owa State University will offer "Methods in Elementary School World Language Instruction," as an online course in Summer 2012 for practicing teachers and pre-service teachers who have studied a world language extensively. Lori Langer de Rámirez, Ed.D., who is Chair of the ESL and World Language Department at Herricks Public Schools, New Hyde Park, New York, will serve as the instructor for the course, which will begin June 11 and end August 3, 2012, pending enrollment of 18 pre-service and/or in-service teachers. Marcia H. Rosenbusch, Ph.D., Adjunct Associate Professor, Iowa State University, who conceptualized this unique online course, invited a team of 14 leading national experts in elementary school world language education, including Dr. Rámirez, to teach course components in their areas of expertise. The collaborators, who include practicing teachers and teacher trainers, represent both the commonly and the less commonly taught languages. The course is available for three credits of undergraduate or graduate credit and meets requirements for the Iowa Endorsement in K-8 World Language Education. Check with your State Department of Education to see if this course meets requirements for endorsement or certification in your state. For more information visit http:// courses.elo.iastate.edu/wlc/486/XW/overview or contact Marcia H. Rosenbusch: Email: mrosenbu@iastate.edu: Office: 515-294-6454. This course will be taught Fall 2012 and Spring 2013.

### New Graduate Program for Language Educators

A CTFL and University of Maryland University College (UMUC) are excited to announce a new education alliance. ACTFL members will now have the opportunity to earn a specialized online graduate certificate in Instructional Technology Integration that is designed for individuals teaching languages on the K– 12 level.

The program provides a highly interactive online classroom community, with a focus on helping teachers more effectively connect with today's digital learners, meet students' diverse learning needs, and prepare students for a rapidly changing and interconnected world. Find more information about this program.

## AP German Language & Culture Workshop Stipend



The AATG in collaboration with the College Board's Advanced Placement Program<sup>®</sup> is again offering financial assistance to participate in a full day workshop for AP<sup>®</sup> German Language and Culture held in conjunction with the AP Annual Conference in Lake Buena Vista, FL in July 18-22, 2012. This professional development opportunity is funded through a generous gift from an AATG member.

In this College Board workshop, participants will engage in a professional exchange of ideas surrounding the revised AP German Language and Culture course. Participants will examine components of the AP Curriculum Framework including learning objectives, descriptions of expected student performance and themes. They will discuss instructional design for the course that integrates cultural content into language lessons and connects the modes of communication in meaningful ways. Participants will review various types of authentic audio and print texts to be used as stimulus materials for the revised AP German Language and Culture exam and examine sample questions for multiple choice and free response sections of the exam.

This workshop will be presented by Beth Smith of Plano, Texas. Beth Smith has been teaching German since 1969 and has been teaching AP German since 1991 at Plano Senior High School. She has served as table leader and a question leader for the AP Reading and has been presenting workshops on the teaching of AP German since 1993. Beth is past president of the AATG and was honored in 2006 with the AATG Outstanding German Educator Award.

The AP German workshop is a pre-conference workshop to be held on Thursday, July 19 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Financial assistance in the amount of \$555.00 will cover fees for the AP German workshop, as well as registration for the conference. Deadline for application is June 15, 2012. <u>Further details and application form</u>. Alle lemen Deutsch

## **Diversity for the Classroom**

Jung und Moslem in Deutschland is a four part DVD series produced by Medienprojekt Wuppertal. Medienprojekt Wuppertal produces classroom materials of interest to young people ages 14-28 in Germany and abroad. DVDs are available in the AATG store www.aatg.org/store



Jung und Moslem

in Deutschland





*Teil 2* focuses on three generations of an Egyptian family living in Germany, the experiences of three generations of an Alevite family, the impact of Islam on courtship, a Turkish wedding, and celebrating Ramadan.



*Teil 3* deals with prejudice among Moslem and non-Moslem youth, the stories of three young Moslem school girls from Morocco, Syria, and Somalia and one German convert to Islam, and portraits of women studying in Germany and their relationship to Islam, education, and integration.



*Teil 4* introduces contrasting beliefs through portraits of three Moslem men, an Iranian student travels back to Iran to explore his religious and cultural roots, a Syrian student exploring where to live, four Moslem girls living between two worlds, religion in daily life, and the repressive aspects of Islam under an Islamic regime.



Ich bin ich presents the perspectives of girls in a Gesamtschule who come from Morocco, Poland, Bosnia, Turkey and Germany. They discuss their identity, their cultural roots, their alliances, how they deal with people of other religions, national and ethnic backgrounds, and how people deal with them.

# Also available on DVD

Ich und ich-DiasporAfro presents a group of black youths from various African countries living in Germany who describe their personal experiences with discrimination. Their stories are illustrated through rap and images.





## Meet Outstanding German Educator Wendy Brennan



Karen Fowdy, member of the Deutsch an Schulen (DaS) Committee, had the pleasure of speaking with Wendy Brennan, the winner of the 2011 AATG K-8 Outstanding Educator Award. Wendy teaches in Millard North Middle School in Omaha, NE. She inspires German teachers of all generations.

Deutsch an Schulen: Why did you choose to become a German teacher?

**Wendy Brennan:** While my ancestors come from Germany, none of my living relatives can speak German. I've always thought that this was kind of a shame; I think we should understand our roots. At the same time, I always wanted to be a teacher, so becoming a German teacher was a logical conclusion for me.

**DaS:** What do you hope your students will be able to know and do when they leave your program?

**WB:** I want my German I students to go to the high school with a passion for the German language and culture. I want them to feel comfortable when someone speaks German to them, even if they have to respond in English at first.

**DaS:** You have expanded the German program at your school from 5 eighth graders taking German 1 in 2002 to 119 seventh and eighth graders taking German 1 in 2012. How did you build German enrollment?

**WB:** I watched the really successful teachers I knew and implemented their ideas. I asked them how they taught a given unit. I went to workshops and conferences and curriculum development meetings, and I networked with colleagues to learn the best teaching techniques. I begged, borrowed, and stole the best of the best ideas. And the more I learned, the more I realized how much more there was to learn.

DaS: How does your membership in AATG support you and your students?

**WB:** I have learned so much from the AATG workshops I have attended. Without the AATG, I would not have found out about the terrific professional development courses available to German teachers through the Goethe-Institut. The AATG provides invaluable opportunities for German teachers to network and to gain great new ideas from their colleagues.

DaS: What do you think is the most important issue facing the profession today?

**WB:** Whenever I hear about a German program in danger of closing, it makes me worry. We German teachers have to stick together! We need to reach out to our colleagues for support and best practices to keep our programs vibrant. It takes a lot of effort, networking, forging relationships with our students, their families, our co-workers, and our administrators, but all this hard work does enhance our profession.

**DaS:** You work closely with pre-service teachers. What advice do you give them?

**WB:** New teachers need to join their professional organizations! These organizations provide support, networking opportunities, and professional development: three ingredients of a successful teaching career. I send in their membership forms, I make sure they know about upcoming workshops, and carpool with them as necessary. I mentor them on how to build their resumes and introduce them to other world language teachers in the building, district, and state.

DaS: You have accomplished so much in your first 10 years of teaching. What are your goals for the future?

**WB:** I am the immediate past president for the Nebraska Chapter of the AATG, and that was a terrific experience. Right now, my goal is to be a behind-the-scenes resource for my current local world language leaders – I want to provide support as necessary. I also want to continue adding tips and tricks to my own professional toolbox – I am never done learning.

DaS: Your story inspires us! Who inspires you?

**WB:** My students inspire me. At the end of the day, if I can't honestly say, "That lesson was awesome," I've got work to do. They deserve my best. My colleagues inspire me: I believe that German teachers are among the hardest-working teachers in the country, and I know that I can count on them for support.



"German teachers are among the hardest working teachers in the country."



# **InfoBlatt Goethe USA**



#### Liebe Kolleginnen, liebe Kollegen,

Das Goethe-Institut New York wird 2013 eine Kooperation mit der *Frankfurter Allgemeinen Zeitung* beginnen. Im Zentrum steht die Frage, wie Schüler und Studenten diesseits und jenseits des Atlantiks die Zukunft ihrer Stadt New York bzw. Berlin gestalten würden.

Wir werden Sie weiter informieren, wenn sich das Projekt konkretisiert.

Am 15. April erschien in der Sonntagsausgabe der New York Times ein Artikel von Sam Dillon über die Lage von Deutsch in den USA und die Förderinitiative des Auswärtigen Amtes. Auch die letztjährige Sprachkonferenz wird hier wieder aufgegriffen. Good News, würde ich sagen. Der Link zum Artikel: www.nytimes.com/2012/04/15/education/edlife/ german-in-a-multicultural-world.html? r=1&ref=samdillon

Herzliche Grüße Ihre

Dr. Eva Marquardt Leiterin Spracharbeit Nordamerika



### **NEU:** German Advocacy Tool Kit

Der neue German Advocacy Toolkit, ein Gemeinschaftsprojekt von Goethe-Institut und AATG, ist ab sofort online und gibt Lehrkräften und Administratoren ein Werkzeug an die Hand, mit dem Deutschprogramme noch zielgerichteter beworben und unterstützt werden können. Einige Unterpunkte sind noch im Aufbau befindlich und werden in Kürze freigeschaltet. Da wir den Toolkit kontinuierlich anreichern und aktuell halten möchten, sind wir sehr an Ihrem Feedback sowie an Testimonials, Erfolgsgeschichten und Materialien interessiert. Die Kontaktdaten finden Sie auf der Homepage des Toolkits:

### Ausstellung, Workshops und Lesungen rund um das Thema Märchen



1812 erschien die berühmte Märchensammlung der Gebrüder Grimm. Aus Anlass des
200-jährigen Jubiläums feiert das Goethe-Institut das Märchenjahr mit einer Ausstellung und
Märchen-Workshops. Die Workshops an den
Goethe-Instituten Chicago, New York und San

Francisco haben zwar schon stattgefunden, aber die interaktive Märchenausstellung für 8-18-jährige Lerner läuft noch vom 29.5.-15.6. am Goethe-Institut Los Angeles, 5750 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90036 (auch geöffnet am Sonntag, den 3. Juni von 10:00-15:00); Link:

www.goethe.de/ins/us/los/kue/en8936012v.htm

## Die Facebook-Seiten der Goethe-Institute in den USA

facebook

ebendig geht es auf Goethes Facebook-Seiten zu. Die Institute in Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco und Washington sowie das Goethe-Zentrum in Atlanta haben alle ihre eigenen Kanäle, auf denen sich ihre Fans online zusammenfinden. Neben den vielfältigen Veranstaltungen der einzelnen Institute gibt es hier jede Menge interessante Angebote rund um deutsche Sprache und Kultur zu entdecken. Die User können live aktiv werden, sich untereinander austauschen, Fragen stellen und an Wettbewerben teilnehmen. Unsere Facebook-Seite finden Sie hier: <u>www.facebook.com/</u> <u>goetheinstitut.nyc</u>

## Die Sendung mit dem Elefanten – Filme für den DaF-Unterricht in der Primarstufe



Für den DaF-Unterricht in der Primarstufe gibt es neben Hans Hase nun auch den blauen Elefanten und Knacks, den Waschbären. Erhältlich ist die DVD im Online Shop des Goethe-Instituts: www.goethe.de/shop



# InfoBlatt Goethe USA

#### Die neueste Kampagne: GerMan

Nach unserem erfolgreichen Zungenbrecher-Wettbewerb "German Jungle – Twist Your Tongue" im letzten Jahr gibt es auch 2012 wieder eine weltweite Facebook-Kampagne mit dem Ziel, das Interesse für DaF zu wecken: Herzstück des Social Media-



Projektes "GERMAN" ist ein kurzes Webvideo, das in sechs Sprachfassungen angeboten wird und den Anschein eines typischen Hollywood-Kinotrailers hat. Die User können den vermeintlichen Trailer mit ihren eigenen Fotos individuell gestalten und mit ihren Facebook-Freunden teilen. Inhaltlich geht es um den Superhelden GerMan, einen passionierten Deutsch-Fan, der sich auf den Weg nach Berlin macht, um dem mysteriösen Verschwinden der deutschen Sprache Einhalt zu gebieten. Hier finden Sie mehr: <u>http://german-theemovie.goethe.de/de/index.html?</u> wt sc=german-the-movie

# Sprache clever lernen: Mindmaps, Eselsbrücken und mehr

D as neue Heft der Zeitschrift "Frühes Deutsch" für den fremdsprachlichen Deutschunterricht an Vor- und

Grundschulen widmet sich verschiedenen theoretischen und praktischen Lösungsansätzen zu der Frage, wie Lernmethoden entwickelt werden können, die den individuellen Lerngewohnheiten und -bedürfnissen aller SchülerInnen gerecht werden können. Nähere



Informationen zu dieser und älteren Ausgaben unter www.goethe.de/fruehes-deutsch

# NAFSA Jahrestagung vom 27. Mai-1. Juni 2012

A uf der diesjährigen Jahrestagung der NAFSA im George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas, wird das Goethe-Institut am Stand des Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienstes (DAAD) # 1501 vertreten sein. Weitere Informationen zur Tagung:

www.nafsa.org/annualconference/default.aspx



### Ticket nach Berlin

Für die Spielshow TICKET NACH BERLIN suchen Deutsche Welle und Goethe-Institut neun abenteuerlustige Leute, die zwischen 18 und 28 Jahre alt sind und deren Muttersprache nicht Deutsch ist. Erforderlich sind Deutschkenntnisse auf B2-Niveau. Die Teilnehmer werden zehn Tage lang auf unbekannten Wegen durch Deutschland reisen. Dabei bekommen sie kniffelige Aufgaben, begegnen interessanten Menschen und entdecken eine ganz neue Seite von Deutschland. Eins ist garantiert: Viel Spaß! Wer mitmachen will, kann sich bis 28. Juni 2012 hier anmelden: www.goethe.de/Irn/prj/tnb/deindex.htm

### Fernstudieneinheit Neu: "Unterrichtsbeobachtung und kollegiale Beratung"

Die neu bearbeitete Fernstudieneinheit ist eine hervorragende Anleitung für die Vorbereitung, Durchführung und Auswertung von Unterrichtsbeobachtungen. Das Buch und die drei beiliegenden DVDs beinhalten Mitschnitte von neun vollständigen Stunden Deutsch-als-Fremdsprache Unterricht an Goethe-Instituten im



Fremdsprache Unterricht an Goethe-Instituten im In-und Ausland sowie an Schulen, Beobachtungs-

und Auswertungsbögen als pdf sowie den Mitschnitt eines Fortbildungsseminars in der Zentrale des Goethe-Instituts. Bestellungen unter <u>www.langenscheidt.de</u>

### Internationale Deutschlehrertagung 2013



S chon jetzt möchten wir auf die 15. Internationale Deutschlehrertagung hinweisen, die vom 29. Juli bis 3. August 2013 im italienischen Bozen stattfindet und

unter dem Motto "Deutsch von innen – Deutsch von außen" steht. Weitere Informationen zur Tagung und den Anmeldeformalitäten finden Sie hier: www.idt-2013.it/de/home/default.html

# **2012 ACTFL Convention**

Register before the July 11 early bird registration deadline!



Join us in Philadelphia in November for the AATG Annual Meeting, held in conjunction with the ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo! Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to learn about the newest developments in foreign language education! Attend sessions on a wide range of topics, visit the exhibit hall to see the latest materials and instructional technology, meet new colleagues and old friends. As an AATG member, you can take advantage of the early bird registration rate of \$180 if you register by July 11. Non-members pay \$275. Membership has its advantages!

**Enhance your convention experience by adding a half-day pre-conference workshop!** AATG is offering two exciting workshops this year. Workshop registration fees are \$80.

### **Engaging Students through German Music**

Thursday, November 15, 2012, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Music inspires German students of all ages. This workshop will focus on how German songs—from pop to hip-hop, rap to classical, heavy metal to lullaby—can be used to engage students in language instruction. Participants will learn how to present grammatical concepts and explore cultural concepts through music. Conducted in German.

*Presenters:* Mohamed Esa, McDaniel College and Ingrid Zeller, Northwestern University

#### **Increasing Majors in Your Language Program**

Thursday, November 15, 2012, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Learn how to strategically promote, defend, and design your college language program to assure success. The presenters will detail highly successful initiatives that have greatly increased language majors. Learn specific advocacy strategies and develop a ready-to-use action plan for your program. Applicable to all languages; conducted in English.

*Presenters:* Astrid Klocke, Northern Arizona University and Alain-Philippe Durand, University of Arizona

# **2012 AATG Annual Meeting**

### Don't miss these AATG Sessions at the ACTFL Convention and World Languages Expo!

#### Assessment

- Assessment for AP German Language and Culture and Beyond Going to the "C" of Culture Assessment: A Language-based Approach
- Backward and Onward: Lesson Planning for a Theme-based Curriculum
- Gemeinsamer Europäischer Referenzrahmen

Reinvigorating the College German Curriculum through Texts Preparing Students for the German AP Exam through All Levels

#### Culture

Intercultural Learning – Opportunities and Challenges Models for Mediating Friedrich Hölderlin through Translation and

Teaching

Comedy Across Cultures and the Curriculum

In der Kürze liegt die Würze: Teaching Short German Films

- Teaching 18th/19th Century German Women Authors: Why and How?
- More than Germany: Including Switzerland and Austria in the Classroom
- Fernsehen Up Close: Bringing Culture to the Classroom through Television
- Crossing Swiss Borders: New Transcultural Texts for the German-Speaking Classroom
- German Schlager As Tools To Teach Cultural Competence

"Culinary German": Austrian Cuisine in Linguistic and Literary Context

German for Professional Purposes: Teaching via Crisis Issues Establishing and Making the Most of Your Exchange Program Wie sieht man das auf Deutsch?

"Green" German Projects for the Future Curriculum

Teaching Culture Before, During and After the Exchange Experience

"1968 Movement" in Germany: A Content-based Language Learning Experience

Jüdisches und türkisches Leben in Berlin: Damals und heute

Integrating Türkisch für Anfänger in Third-year German: "Voll krass mutig, ey!"

Teaching German Culture and Civilization Courses in English Graphic Novels in the German Classroom

Berlin als interkultureller Text: Migration, Integration, and Intercultural Exchange

#### Professionalism

Building on Our Successes: Plans for the Future

Teaching Business German: Strategies and Models

Goethe-Institut Programs and Services: E-Learning and Mobile Apps

Effective Advocacy: From Novice to Superior

Transatlantische Kooperation in der Evaluierung mündlicher Handlungsfähigkeit (KEFKO)

Teachers of Heritage Languages: Profile, Issues & Perspectives

Sustaining and Growing University German Programs through Consortium Building

What Role Does History Play in the Undergraduate German Curriculum?

Addressing Articulation: Transitions that Work

The Future of German Language Study in the United States

- Saving Language Programs through Saturday Immersion Schools and Community Service
- Graduate Teacher Education: Responding to "Educating the Future FL Professoriate"

#### Research

Word: A Vocabulary-centered Approach to L2 classroom Acquisition What Develops in FL Writing and How Do We Know? Journals of the AATG

Beyond Method and Truth: Drama in the FL Classroom

#### Technology

Community Colleges Challenges and Preparedness for Successful Online Teaching

Best Practices in Online and Distance Education in German Classrooms

Cultures, Communities and Connections: Technology for Intercultural Citizenship

Connecting German to STEM

Basing Distance Language Courses on the Communicative Classroom When Homework Makes a Difference

Technologenie- Make your Students Think you are a Technological Genius

Digital Storytelling: Technology as a Medium for Creativity

#### The Learner

The Target Language Linguistics Course as Capstone Course Harry Trapped in Time - Deutsche Welle's New Animated Series Grammatik Thematisiert

Computer-Assisted Creative Writing: Two Authors and a Dozen Teaching Ideas

Poetry in the Language Classroom: Let the Creative Juices Flow! The New AP German and Articulation: Lessons from Year One

Love Story? Crime Story? Literature? Learn German with Audio-Books!

Teaching Strategies for Presentational Writing: Preparing for AP German

Advancing Linguistic Competence through Teaching Internships Abroad

Die Lorelei lebt: Bringing Poetry to Life!

Tired of the Textbook! Alternatives for Upper Level German Classes Linking German Language Teaching to Broader Movements in Higher

Education Zero to 300: AP Articulation From the Beginning

German Summer Schools in the US: Methods and Models

Short and Sweet: Animated Short Films in the German Language Classroom

Not Your Basic Fairytale: Gaining Proficiency and Intercultural Skills AATG's Programs for High School Students

Motivating Students to Speak German: Strategies for Practicing Interpersonal Communication

LingoTech Deutsch

## **AATG Executive Council**

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The mission of the AATG is based on the belief that bringing the language, literatures and cultures of the German-speaking world to all Americans is a vital humanistic endeavor which serves essential national interests. It's the only national individual membership organization dedicated to the advancement and improvement of the language, literature, and culture of the German-speaking countries.

With 5,000 members, the AATG serves teachers of German at all levels of instruction and all those interested in the teaching of German. AATG is an allied organization of the Modern Language Association, a constituent member of the Joint National Committee for Languages/National Council for Languages and International Studies, the National Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations, and an organizational member of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the National Network for Early Language Learning, and the Internationaler Deutschlehrerverband.

The AATG Newsletter is a publication of the American Association of Teachers of German, Inc. Correspondence and news items should be sent to the editor at: AATG, 112 Haddontowne Court #104, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-3668.



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Barbara Hartman Shipping Coordinator Have some good news to share with your colleagues? Have a teaching tip that will benefit others? Has a recent advocacy effort proven successful?

We're looking for ideas for feature articles. Send your comments and suggestions to <u>headquarters@aatg.org</u>.



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