

AATG

Maryland-DC Metro

Chapter Newsletter

Februar 2019

This month's focus is on chapter-level **scholarships, awards and a contest** for students. Your Chapter is at work for you and your K-16 students!

aatgmddc.weebly.com



Daniel Klein, 2018 AATG-PAD Study Trip Winner, enjoying his program in Nürnberg

Three-Way Cross-Cultural Exchange

My trip to Germany was an eye-opening experience. For the first time I was able to live with another family from a completely different culture. I was in *Nürnberg* at the *Martin-Behaim Gymnasium*. Martin Behaim was a sailor who is credited with creating the globe. I lived with a family near the school. They were originally from Turkey and had 3 sons. The AATG group I was with had approx. 10 people. Most were from cities, but spread across the nation. I loved the trip and was able to improve my German, especially my accent and my understanding of current German culture. My host brother is coming this summer to America and I can only hope to improve his English, and his knowledge on America, as much as he did mine.

- Daniel Klein

German Society of Maryland's Gerhard Meinzer Summer Study Trip Award

Moises Alvarez, Dematha Catholic H.S., won the GSM's 2018 Gerhard Meinzer Summer Scholarship, which covered all costs for participating in the **AATG German Summer Study Program for High School Students**—including airfare. Moises lived with a family in Leipzig for three weeks and visited Berlin, Dresden and Weimar too. When asked for his best memory of the trip, he replied: "On June 16, we visited Berlin. It also happened to be my 17th birthday. When I woke up early in the morning to get ready and catch the train on time for the excursion, my host family surprised me with a chocolate cake for breakfast. I blew out the candles, ate a piece of cake, and went to the train station. At the train station, our group of Americans with their German host brothers and sisters waited for me and surprised me with a "Happy Birthday" song and a "*Zum Geburtstag viel Glück*" song. The German teacher, Frau Schreiber, gifted me a box of chocolates. I had a great time that day in Berlin, and I very much enjoyed the weeks to come!" When asked about the benefits of the trip, he replied: "The immersion into German culture gave me an insight on how life is as a German. The interactions and conversations I had with the German people improved my conversational German skills. I picked up some German expressions like, "Ach so" and "Naja." I learned about the famous German monuments and cities as well as the history of the country. I learned how German "Gymnasiums" are like from going to school in Germany. I experienced a typical German household lifestyle from staying with a host family for three weeks. I became great friends with some awesome German people during my time there."

The **deadline for the 2019 application is Feb. 28**. Visit <https://www.germansociety-md.org/education> for more information and the application.

- Marian Graham

The German Society of Maryland's Merit Awards for College Students

In 2018, the German Society of Maryland (GSM) awarded a total of \$5,000 to college students majoring and minoring in German. Nicholas Brazones, U. of Maryland, College Park (UMCP), Nicholas Gross (UMCP) and Jessica Clingerman, the Catholic University of America (CUA), received \$1,000 merit awards for German majors. Tusannah Marie (aka Hannah) Krauss, McDaniel College, Lauryn Hoppers, U. of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), Annalise Humm and Elizabeth Horstkamp, both students at Townson U., received \$500 merit awards for German minors. All are pictured here.



How are these students using the funds? Responsibly, of course! Jessica Clingerman, a religion major, established a volunteer service with Quaker Voluntary Service after graduation, and used her award to help pay down the interest on her college loans. Betsy Horstkamp will put the funds toward a trip to Germany. Hannah Krauss, who will pursue a master's in library and information science at UMCP, used some of the funds to apply to UMCP's graduate school; the balance will go toward a trip to Germany. In fall 2018, Lauryn Hoppers applied the funds toward her study abroad experience in Lüneburg, where she completed her German minor and enjoyed learning more about German culture and improving her language skills.

For the past 25 years, the GSM has funded the Chapter's annual cash awards program for 9-12th grade students scoring at the 85th percentile and above on the AATG National German Exam, for a running total of + \$100,000 to date. This partnership was the work of Dr. Mohamed Esa, chapter board member and past president of the AATG. The 2019 Awards Ceremony will take place Sunday, May 5, 2019, in the *Adlersaal* of Zion Church, Baltimore.

The 2019 application deadline for both awards is **March 22, 2019**. For further information and to download the application, visit GSM's website: <https://www.germansociety-md.org/education.htm>.

- Marian Graham

The American Goethe Society's Goethe Prize



For the last 12 years, the American Goethe Society (AGS) has organized the Goethe Prize essay contest to honor outstanding advanced high school students of German in the area. The 2018 topic was “*What makes Germany a global leader?*” First, second and third place prizes were awarded to students from across the Maryland-DC Metro Chapter.

William Taft, Robinson Secondary School (Instructor: Carolyn Ostermann-Healey) won first prize with his essay "Deutschland: Ein wirklicher Weltführer" (Germany: A True World Leader). Andrea Scheiner, Lake Braddock Secondary School (Instructor: Sarah Zaniello) won second prize with her essay, "Der weltweite Erfolg von Deutschland: Die Umweltverantwortung" (The worldwide Success of Germany: Environmental Responsibility) and Stephanie Haigis, North County High School (Instructor: Katrina Griffin), won third prize with her essay, "What makes Germany a global Leader?"



Ms. Brigitte Fessenden (former AGS President), Dr. Julie Koser (current AGS Treasurer), Miss Andrea Scheiner, Ms. Sarah Zaniello, Mr. William Taft, Ms. Carolyn Ostermann-Healey, Dr. Mary Helen Dupree (former AGS President) (left to right)

The 2019 essay topic is *Why does learning German remain important in our English-dominated world?* The deadline for submissions is **April 12, 2019**. For further details and to download the application, visit: www.americangoethesociety.org

Chapter Scholarship

Your very own Maryland-DC Metro Chapter has scholarships too! Annually the Chapter awards a \$300 scholarship to a high school and a college student of German. For further information and to download the applications, visit our website: <http://aatgmddc.weebly.com>. Students will need to submit their applications to Marian Graham at mgrah4@verizon.net by **March 1, 2019**.

We hope this issue of the newsletter has made its point: Maryland-DC Metro Chapter efforts mirror those of AATG National. The Chapter establishes partnerships, promotes the teaching and learning of German and works to preserve the diverse cultural and linguistic heritage of the Middle Atlantic States... and we couldn't do it without you. We invite you and your students to volunteer for Board service and to collaborate along with us. Join us on the journey. Finally, we look forward to seeing all of you at the events below and wish you happy teaching-and-learning moments this winter, when students experience their deepest leaning.

- Marian

Important Dates and Deadlines:

- 2 – 3/2019: NGE exam results (L2-4) released, AATG study trip applications due, Chapter study trip interview session
 - 02/28/2019: Application Deadline for the GSM Summer Study Scholarship for H.S. Students
 - 03/01/2019: Application Deadline for Maryland-DC Metro Chapter H.S. Award
 - 03/01/2019: Application Deadline for Maryland-DC Metro Chapter College Award
 - 03/22/2019: Application Deadline for the GSM Merit Awards for College Students
 - 03/30/2018: MFLA Spring Conference at McDaniel College (Westminster, Md)
“March on with Proficiency”
- Stay tuned for information on a Chapter reception!**
- 04/01/2019: Application Deadline for AATG National need-based scholarships for H.S. Students
 - 04/12/2019: Submission Deadline for the AGS Essay Contest
 - 05/05/2019: AATG Maryland-DC Metro Chapter Awards Ceremony (Baltimore, Md)
 - mid 10/2019: German-American Day at McDaniel College (Westminster, Md)
 - 11/21/2019: ACTFL Pre-Convention Workshops
 - 11/22–24/19: ACTFL (Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC)!!!

