



Vestal Central School District

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Vestal High School's German American Exchange Program back on after pandemic pause

After a two-year gap, the Vestal High School's GAPP, German American Exchange Program, will resume this month! German students from the Katherinen-Gymnasium, VHS' partner school in Ingolstadt, Germany, in the state of Bavaria, will arrive on Sunday, October 23, 2022.

The German students in grades 10 and 11 will stay with families of Vestal students. They will shadow their American peers throughout the school day, experience what it is like in an American school, and enjoy the cultural aspects of American life.

During this time, they will engage in culture-based learning with their new classmates in German classes by using German to learn more about topics in which they have a particular interest.

Culturally, the students and their partners will take trips to Niagara Falls, the Corning Museum of Glass and, closer to home, Stoughton Farm. As part of the exchange German and Vestal students also complete a joint GAPP project, and the trip to CMOG will be important to this. The GAPP project will focus on how glass is made in both Germany and the United States.

They will also experience the tradition of an American Halloween and enjoy other organized activities, such as bowling and German Club.

Vestal German students will say "Auf wiedersehen" to their friends from Ingolstadt on November 3, but in the Spring, they will have an opportunity to see them again. The American part of the exchange is scheduled for April 7 – 24, 2023, when Vestal HS students will travel there to experience German culture, shadow their German counterparts, and finish the glass-making project in Germany.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: If you are interested in this story, you are invited to cover the Welcome Dinner that is being held at 5:30 p.m., Monday, October 24, in the Vestal High School cafeteria. Another opportunity is at Vestal HS German Club, 3 p.m. Wednesday, October 26, in Room 236 at Vestal High School. The club activity includes creating Berlin Wall paintings. Finally, the Vestal & German students will be working on their GAPP project together during the school day at the following times: 8:45 – 9:30 a.m. / 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. / 2 – 2:45 p.m. Please email Regina Felice (*email in Contacts, above*) if you intend to join us for any of these opportunities. Thank you!

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