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Our Mission

THE HALLE FOUNDATION seeks to promote understanding, knowledge, and friendship between the people of Germany, as seen in its European context, and those of the United States. To this end, the Foundation supports initiatives in the fields of culture, science, technology, commerce, language, scholarship, and international relations that take place under the auspices of Emory University, the Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center, and other not-for-profit institutions which the Trustees may select from time to time.

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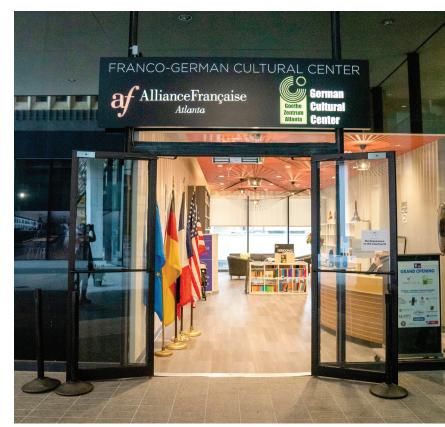
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In 2022, The Halle Foundation was pleased to support eighteen distinct organizations with funds totaling over \$1.2 million.





The entrance to the new Franco-German Cultural Center, one of only three joint locations in the world.

Germany Comes to Peachtree

Goethe-Zentrum opens its doors in downtown Atlanta's Peachtree Center

GOETHE-ZENTRUM, Atlanta's longtime home for German language instruction, heritage preservation, and arts and culture programming, opened its doors in June at a new location in downtown's Peachtree Center. This exciting new space, which Geothe-Zentrum shares with its French counterpart, Alliance Francaise, is 24,000 square feet of Europe in the heart of Atlanta.

The new center houses ten classrooms. But the space is designed to be much more than a center for instruction—the

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organization aims for it to function as the preeminent collaborative hub in the southeast for individuals and organizations interested in all matters German. In addition to classrooms equipped with the latest teaching technology, the facilities include shared workspaces, a sunlit lounge, a kitchen, and a large event center. No language lessons are required to visit; anyone with an interest in matters German (or French!) can stop in to visit the extensive library, chat with peers, or enjoy a kaffee on the outdoor terrace.

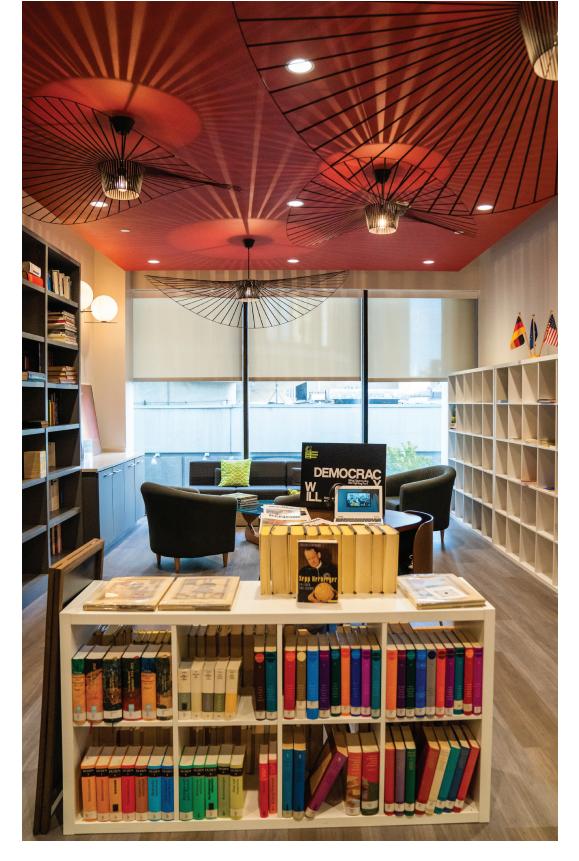
Atlanta's original center for German cultural education and language instruction was founded in 1976 as a branch of the Goethe Institut. The Institut, established and funded initially by the West German government, served many of the same roles as the current Goethe-Zentrum: it offered language courses and examinations, along with a variety of German arts and educational programming. For a time, the Atlanta center thrived, with eight full-time staff working in its concourse level offices at Colony Square. However, after »

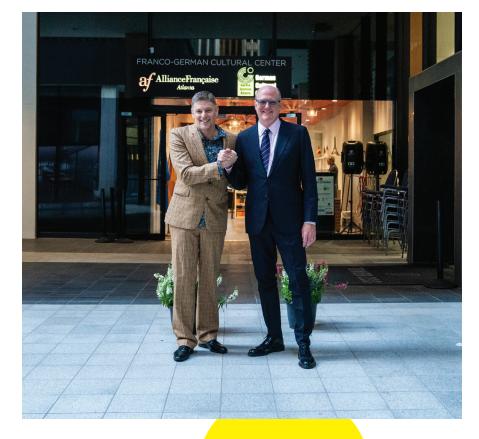
The organization aims
to be the preeminent
collaborative hub
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the fall of the Berlin Wall and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the newly unified German government began to prioritize budgetary resources with a focus on newly opened regions to its east, and away from the United States and other western countries. Unfortunately, the Atlanta Institut was one of the first locations to be impacted by the decrease in support.

As government funding for the Atlanta location began slowly to dwindle, resulting in staff and programming reductions, key members of the German community in the southeast, including The Halle Foundation founder, Claus Halle, became concerned this important resource would eventually be allowed to perish. Thus, a group of supporters, led by BMW, and including both Halle and current Foundation Chair, Dr. Eike Jordan, created the Friends of Goethe, a privately funded, nonprofit organization designed to continue the work of the Institut. Over an 18-month period, the Institut was officially shuttered,

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Oliver Gorf, Executive Director of Goethe-Zentrum, and Richard Keatley, Executive Director of Alliance Francaise, celebrate the grand opening of their new joint space.

and its work was transitioned to its successor, Goethe-Zentrum, under the leadership of Maggie Hauschild. While not an official branch of the Goethe Institut, Atlanta's Goethe-Zentrum received the blessing of the German government, and has maintained its high standards in language instruction, testing, and cultural programming.

A second key inflection point for the Center came in 2020. After 35 years at Colony Square, Goethe-Zentrum lost the lease on its space there. The unexpected loss of a physical space coincided with two other challenges: the departure of long-time executive director Miriam Bruns and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic (forcing a quick transition of much of the teaching function to a remote learning model).

Atlanta's Goethe-Zentrum received the blessing of the German government, and has maintained its high standards in language instruction, testing, and cultural programming.

After considering a number of options, the Center's board of directors responded decisively to these challenges. In addition to quickly adapting the organization to a remote learning model, the board hired Oliver Gorf as Executive Director in October of 2020, along with veteran German teacher

Angelika Otte as Language Program Director in August of 2021. The board also made the decision to relocate the Center to a new home at the street level of Peachtree Center.

In-person language courses have always been Goethe-Zentrum's "bread and butter." The loss of a permanent physical location » » FEATURE STORY «

created an opportunity to reexamine about how to best offer that service in a future likely changed forever by the pandemic and by rapidly evolving teaching/ learning technology. The center will offer language instruction at two venues. The first, and largest, will be at the new downtown location. Additionally, Goethe-Zentrum opened its first satellite location in Roswell in the fall of 2021. This location serves residents and workers in Atlanta's northern suburbs and others without the ability to conveniently visit downtown for classes. Thus far, classes at the satellite location have been well-attended, moving from an initial offering of two classes to three, with further growth expected. Class formats now include fully

virtual classes, as well as hybrid classes in which some students join a class remotely and others are present in person.

Looking forward, Gorf notes that Goethe-Zentrum, while physically located in Atlanta, has a much wider potential catchment area and hopes to be able to service the needs of students and others throughout much of the southeast.





The new downtown location is complete with a kitchen, where Mr. Gorf hopes people in the area will pop in to experience some European culture and engage in dialogue.





A sunlit hallway takes you through the various classrooms and common areas at the new space.



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One of Goethe-Zentrum's classrooms, equipped with the latest technology to support in-person, hybrid, and virtual learning options.







The grand opening featured performances by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, food and beverages, and Foundation Chairman, Dr. Eike Jordan.

Currently, out-of-state students make up 20% of enrollment, and the Center aims to keep growing enrollment by students outside of Georgia. To that end, the new space is designed and equipped with the latest in remote teaching technology.

In addition to expanding the geographical reach of the center, Gorf hopes to serve an ever more diverse group of potential patrons and supporters. The Peachtree Center location provides potentially easier access to those living and working in the south and west of Atlanta. Additionally, the

downtown location will provide more convenient access to students, staff and faculty at Georgia State University, as well as younger urban professionals who work and live in the downtown area. (One offering being explored for these patrons is the possibility of abbreviated lunchbreak classes.) German language knowledge provides tangible career benefits, and Gorf is confident that reaching working professionals is a promising realm of expansion.

For anyone who would like visit or get involved with Goethe-Zentrum, Gorf promises a warm welcome. Language instruction (and

certification) at all levels abound. Additionally, the Center offers a rich and diverse variety of cultural events (reflecting in part Gorf's professional background in theater and the arts). This fall and winter, patrons can expect collaborations with the Atlanta Opera and Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, a European film festival, an exhibition on Thomas Mann and the future of democracy, and, of course, World Cup viewing events for both German and French matches. We encourage all of our readers to visit the space and indulge in a bit of Europe in the heart of Atlanta!

» SPECIAL FEATURE «

New German Community Master Calendar



GermanEvents.org

WANT TO KEEP UP with Atlanta's German events? Goethe-Zentrum has launched GermanEvents.org, an online calendar for organizations around the state to post upcoming happenings of interest to the local German community. Here, you can stay abreast of events sponsored by Goethe-Zentrum,

the German-American Chamber of Commerce, the German Saturday School, the German departments of local colleges and universities, and many more. The Center hopes this collaborative tool will be useful in helping people find out about interesting events and help organizations broaden attendance.

The Halle Foundation Welcomes New Trustee

welcomed Professor Christoph
Ehland as the newest member of
its four-member board of trustees.
Dr. Ehland was appointed to the
board by the American Council
on Germany. (Three of the four
Foundation trustees are appointed
by other charities—the other two
appointing organizations being
Emory University and the Woodruff
Arts Center.)

Dr. Ehland serves as Chair of English Literature and Cultural Studies at the University of Paderborn in central Germany. Raised in Bremen, he was educated both in Germany and the United Kingdom and holds a master's degree from the University of Edinburgh and doctoral degrees from the University of Wuerzburg. He is the faculty representative on the University's committee for internationalization and has been instrumental in establishing new partnership programs with universities in Europe, Asia, and the United States. Among the programs he holds responsibility for, universities in the southeastern U.S. and the Atlanta area represent the focal point.

Although new to the board,
Dr. Ehland is not new to the
Foundation and has organized and
led numerous Foundation-funded
student exchange trips between
Paderborn and both Kennesaw State
University and Piedmont University



over the years. Dr. Ehland's personal and professional interest in the United States was initially piqued in high school by a travel opportunity to the United Statesan experience much like the many high school and university exchange programs currently supported by the Foundation. That experience—which involved travel in California and other parts of the majestic American West—inspired an ever-growing fascination with this country, and he has been working ever since to kindle the interest of others in both the natural beauty and the cultural, economic, and social richness of the United States.

Willkommen Dr. Ehland! ■

» SPECIAL FEATURE «



Passion in Practice

Long-time educator Patrick Wallace inspires love of German language and culture in students and the broader community

WHEN ASKED to describe Patrick
Wallace, coordinator for the Georgia
Department of Education's World
Languages and Global Workforce
Initiatives, one person chuckled and
replied: "Patrick is the Leslie Knope
of state government." For those not
familiar with television's popular
series Parks and Recreation, Knope
was a local government employee
in a fictional midwestern town.
Despite being surrounded by a
cast of quirky co-workers and
facing the usual bureaucratic
impediments to getting the

job done, she maintained an unwavering belief in the capacity of local government to improve citizens' lives, was absolutely devoted to the community she served, and was never afraid to deploy "unconventional" solutions to problems (often to great comedic effect!).

As most anyone who knows him will attest, Wallace, like Knope, has exemplified all the virtues of the model public servant to a tee in his job at the Department of Education. However, he was in

fact a remarkable force in public education long before arriving at DOE, not only in teaching but in advocating for the importance of the US-Germany relationship and exposing Georgians to German language and culture.

An Atlanta native, Wallace's professional journey began while a student at Shamrock High School in DeKalb County. As he planned on attending college, he knew he would have to satisfy a language requirement and made the unconventional choice to take

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(Left) Celebrating Whitewater High School being recognized as a German Center of Excellence in 2016.

(Right) Visiting a local Grundschule with American exchange students.

Wallace has been a remarkable force in public education, not only in teaching but in advocating for the importance of the US-Germany relationship and exposing Georgians to German language and culture.

German in high school. His older brother had previously taken German at Shamrock and so he was confident in the teacher and interested in the subject; further, he was (and still is!) someone who likes to go against the grain and try new things, so he was excited to take the less traveled route instead of making the far more common language choice of Spanish or French. He quickly found that he had made the right decision: he enjoyed German and was good at it, ultimately exceeding the requirement by taking four years of classes, including AP German, before graduating and heading to college at Georgia Southern University.

While he wanted to continue to perfect his German language skills, he did not see German as part

of a future career. Coming from a military family, he considered joining the army, even initially exploring GSU's ROTC program. Over time, however, he discovered he was more interested in education and imagined he would become a history teacher, his other main area of study. In his sophomore year, though, he visited Germany for the first time, flying alone to Munich excited to try out his language skills. He ultimately spent two weeks in Germany, practicing the native language and making friendships, and knew that this was his path forward. Upon graduation, he immediately began a master's degree in German at GSU with the intention of teaching in Georgia's public schools. While completing that degree, he got his first classroom experience, volunteering



Welcoming German exchange students to Atlanta.

Interns from Paderborn University assist Mr. Wallace with German Instruction at Whitewater High School.



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» SPECIAL FEATURE «





Celebrating AATG Awards with German students.



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to teach German at rural elementary schools in the surrounding area.

Before embarking on fulltime teaching, an unexpected opportunity arose for Wallace. While in the master's program at GSU, he had applied for the Fulbright Scholarship, the United States' most prestigious and competitive international scholar program for students and young professionals and received a call at the last minute that he had been chosen off the waitlist. Of course, this was an opportunity he could not turn down; as the recipient of this award, he spent a year studying at the University of Vienna and volunteering as an English teacher at a local volkschule.

Upon returning to Georgia in 1996, Wallace took his first full-time teaching job in the Georgia public school system in what was to be the start of an exceptional career. His first position was in Walker County, in the state's northwestern corner, where he worked as a German teacher at two

Discussing Agricultural Education Connections with the German Consul General in 2022.



local elementary schools. There, he developed one of his most creative and effective teaching methods:
German instruction through song and poetry, incorporating all sorts of self-written music and poems into his curriculum (and eventually publishing a volume of poetry).

At the end of 1998, however, in a story all too familiar to German educators in the state, the funding for his position was cut, and he moved to the Griffin-Spalding County school system, where he would remain for 13 years. There, he hit his full stride as an educator. In addition to his exemplary service in the school system, for which he was named Teacher of the Year at Griffin High School in 2008, he established both a student and a faculty exchange with a school in Sachsen-Anhalt: the first such exchange between Georgia and the former East German state.

Perhaps Wallace's biggest contribution at this time, though, was his pioneering effort in remote learning. He created a website for his students (now gone dark, sadly) and created a variety of YouTube videos focused on German language instruction – the first educator in the Western hemisphere to do so. He later built out Facebook groups (German Language Learners) and a Twitter page for German students, both of which he still maintains for a follower base in the tens of thousands. More formally, he was a leader in the development of a German curriculum for the Georgia Virtual High School, where he both created the content and taught the offered courses.

In 2011, he decided to leave for Fayette County, where he was tasked with founding a German program at Whitewater High School. While at Whitewater, Wallace continued to burnish his reputation for both teaching excellence and innovation. He was Whitewater High School's Teacher of the Year in 2011 and was recognized by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) as Teacher of the Year in Georgia for 2013. By 2015, his German program was named an AATG German Center of Excellence, the only high school program in Georgia to receive this award at that time. In 2016, Whitewater led the state in the number of students taking the DSD exam.

Wallace also led the way in introducing a variety of new programs and initiatives that have continued to this day. He became an advocate for the German apprenticeship model of workforce development and actively supported the Skills Initiative Road Show to encourage its acceptance by employers and students. He launched a program

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at his high school which helped provide internships for his upperlevel German students with German companies in the area.

He also initiated an innovative program which brought over Teaching Assistants from the University of Paderborn to assist in German language and culture instruction at Whitewater High School.

When a leadership position at the Georgia Department of Education opened in the winter of 2016, Wallace believed it would be the perfect opportunity to implement,

closely with his peers in neighboring states, and serving as President of the National Council for State Supervisors of Foreign Languages.

What does the future hold for Wallace as he approaches his 30th year of service in public education? He and his wife (also a language teacher) have moved to Seminole County in far southwestern Georgia, and he acknowledges he has not made up his mind on a next step professionally. With this record of accomplishment, he could certainly retire and have much to be proud of. Given Wallace's boundless energy and passion for

One of his most creative and effective teaching methods is German instruction through song and poetry, incorporating all sorts of self-written music and poems into his curriculum (and eventually publishing a volume of poetry).

on a state-wide basis, various initiatives he had helped develop. His accomplishments there are numerous and ongoing, including overseeing the launching of Georgia's Seal of Biliteracy Program, supporting the International Skills Diploma Seal program, and fostering the continued growth and success of Georgia's Dual Language Immersion Programs. He has also been active in spreading and supporting these programs across state lines, working

education, for Georgia, and for all things German, this seems unlikely. While the future may be unclear, what is certain is that Wallace has been a tireless and remarkably effective and influential force, through his work as both a teacher and administrator, in promoting, in Claus Halle's words, "knowledge, understanding and friendship between the peoples of Germany and the United States." For this, all Georgians should be grateful.

Wish Granted

In 2022, The Halle Foundation was pleased to support eighteen distinct organizations with funds totaling over \$1.2 million.

Agnes Scott College

\$**7,500**

Agnes Scott College \$7,500 to support a book reading by noted author, Andrea Wulf, and other educational events in connection with Ms. Wulf's visit to Atlanta. The author, who was raised in Germany, is the award-winning author of several books, including a New York Times best-selling biography

to organizations organized and operated in both the United States and Germany. Funding is largely limited to U.S.-based public charities exempt under section 501(c)(3) and to German organizations which are the tax equivalent of such charities.

In keeping with the founder's

THE FOUNDATION MAKES grants

In keeping with the founder's preference, most U.S. grants are made to organizations and institutions operating within, or with some discernable connection to, the state of Georgia.

These eighteen standout organizations were the recipients of funding in 2021, supporting their endeavors to bring Americans and Germans together in tangible ways.

of German naturalist, Alexander von Humboldt. The project, focused on Wulf's most recent book, "Magnificent Rebels: the First Romantics and the Invention of the Self", was co-sponsored by Goethe-Zentrum Atlanta and the College, and drew students and faculty from secondary schools and colleges and universities across Atlanta.



American
Association of
Teachers of German

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of Teachers of German received grant funding from the Foundation of \$45,925 per year for three years to fund ten scholarships for the AATG Summer Study Program, a threeweek home stay and gymnasium (school) experience for Georgia high school students. This program is designed to engage secondary school students currently learning German who have not had the opportunity to travel to Germany.

Atlanta Chamber Players

29,000

FIRST-TIME GRANTEE, the Atlanta Chamber Players, received a \$29,000 grant to support performances in 2023 and 2024 of works by German composers, Franz Schubert ("Trout Quintet") and Ludwig van Beethoven ("Septet for Winds & Strings"). Additionally,

the ACP will commission two select composers to write companion pieces to be performed at the same concerts. Ancillary cultural and educational events may include publicly accessible lectures and Q&A with the composer and experts on German classical music.

The Atlanta Opera

\$250,000

A FOUNDATION GRANT of \$250,000 will help The Atlanta Opera produce and present the first two operas of German composer Richard Wagner's epic Ring cycle, "Das Rheingold" and "Die Walkurie", in the 2022-23 and 2023-24 seasons. This ambitious effort, with an overall \$3.5 million budget and projected audience of over 30,000, will be accompanied by symposia, lectures, and a variety of other cultural and educational events aimed at deepening audience understanding and appreciation of these iconic works.

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» FEATURE STORY 2021 GRANT RECIPIENTS « PEATURE STORY «

Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange

\$25,000 to support a 10-day senior leadership training program in 2023 for five senior German police officials. Attendees will learn about policing in the United States, constitutional grounds for police action, home rule and civilian accountability.

World Affairs Council of Atlanta

\$14,000 / \$39,830

THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL, a non-partisan, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a forum for informed discussion of the global affairs that impact metro Atlanta and support the city's transformation into an international economic hub, was awarded \$14,000 to underwrite a four-part speaker series focusing on Germany and Europe. The Council was also

awarded funding for a week-long international leadership travel seminar to Germany for promising young Atlanta professionals who demonstrate a strong interest in Germany and have potential to foster German-U.S. relations. The trip will include ten of the Council's under-35 Young Leaders, one Council staffer and the Council president.



American Association of Teachers of German, Georgia Chapter

\$29,820

THE GEORGIA CHAPTER of the American Association of Teachers of Germans was awarded a threeyear grant to fund travel to Germany and intensive language training for the High School Student of the Year and College Student of the Year. This award further includes funding for travel and professional development in Germany for the High School Teacher of the Year, and a small research stipend for the Professor of the Year.

American Council on Germany

⁵66,320

THE AMERICAN COUNCIL on Germany was awarded funding for a two-year bilateral exchange in which eight key, young Georgia experts in farming, agriculture, and sustainability will visit their peers in Germany for 12 days to discuss ideas, challenges, and solutions. The following year, eight German counterparts will visit Georgia for 12 days to do the same. Funding will also be used for a weekendlong strategic planning retreat of the 25 Warburg chapter directors to be held at the Halle Estate. ACG operates 22 Warburg local chapters across the United States.

Atlantik-Bruecke

\$47.525

ATLANTIK BRUECKE, one of the oldest and premier organizations in promoting the transatlantic exchange, was awarded funding for its New Bridge program. This program sends a cohort of 15 young professionals from underrepresented backgrounds on a fully-funded

ten-day program that begins in Washington D.C and continues to Europe for a five-day stay in Berlin and a two-day stay in Brussels. The goal of this program is to involve typically underrepresented populations in the transatlantic partnership.

» FEATURE STORY 2021 GRANT RECIPIENTS « PEATURE STORY «

Carl Duisberg Centren

^{\$}12,774

CARL DUISBERG CENTREN, a leading education center in Germany, received funding to host a total of 40 students from Chamblee High School's and Atlanta International School's Dual Immersion programs in Germany for a two-week, home stay, educational and cultural experience.

Community Health Aligning Revitalization Resilience & Sustainability

\$<mark>40,00</mark>0

CHARRS WAS AWARDED funding for a one-week summer camp for minority youth to virtually connect with German youth in an environment where Georgia and German students will learn about climate change and meet and hear from various Atlanta and Germany-based experts on sustainability and the German-US relationship.

EELIV EECHENDACH WAS

\$30 180

Berufskolleg

FELIX FECHENBACH was awarded an extension of the Halle Exchange Program, a longstanding bilateral exchange with Atlanta Technical College sending a total of 24 students and six faculty to Germany and Atlanta, respectively. Students and technical college faculty spend

two weeks in the host country, with one week in attendance at a technical college and the second week shadowing at relevant local employers. During the two weeks, students are placed with host families, and participate in a variety of cultural activities.

Georgia Gwinnett College

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Felix Fechenbach

\$40,000

GEORGIA GWINNETT College's Center for International Business & Exchange (CIBE) was awarded funds to send 10 faculty and staff to Germany for a week to explore possible partnerships for a permanent exchange program, observe teaching methods, and gain a greater understanding of German business and education. Georgia Tech

\$84,000 \$43,740

\$43,740 degree Cultur

of funding for the Claus Halle
Graduate Assistantship, which
provides financial support for
six graduate students pursuing
degrees in Global Media and
Cultures, Applied Languages, and
Intercultural Studies. Georgia Tech
was also awarded three additional
years of funding for its LBAT
Scholarship program, a two-month
summer study abroad program in
Germany with stays in Düsseldorf,
Munich, and Berlin. Students can

earn up to nine credits in German,

GEORGIA INSTITUTE of Technology

was awarded a continuation

and complete a homestay in the Düsseldorf portion of the trip. These funds will support a total of 45 students over three years. Finally, the University was awarded funding to support a total of six students over three years to receive the Claus Halle Gateway Fellowship. This fellowship supports undergraduate students with an interest in pursuing German at the graduate level by paying tuition for those students to participate in six credits of relevant graduate-level courses.

Seminole County Middle-High School

\$<mark>8,400</mark>

SEMINOLE COUNTY Middle-High School is pioneering a virtual exchange in which agriculturallyfocused students in southwestern Georgia are connected to agriculture students at the Fachoberschule Schönbrunn in Landshut, Bavaria, culminating in a yearly joint project. Seminole County will send local teachers and school administrators on a one-week trip to visit their peers in Bavaria and cement this partnership.

Goethe Institut Transatlantic Outreach Program

^{\$}58,244 / ^{\$}86,785

THE GOETHE INTSTITUT received funding to organize a one-week study tour in Germany for key stakeholders in Georgia's adoption of the German workforce development model. The goal of this tour is to increase buy-in and participation in apprenticeship-type training models among Georgia industry leaders and technical colleges. The Goethe Institut was also awarded funding to take 15 Georgia, HBCU-based, student-

teachers on a two-week study trip to Germany where themes of study include the German education system; apprenticeship; remembrance culture; Holocaust education; Afro-German history; refugee integration; history of peaceful protests; and democracy education. The goal is to have these student-teachers incorporate these influences, and a transatlantic perspective, into their future curricula and classrooms.

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University of Georgia

\$36,000

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
was awarded a three-year grant to
subsidize two three-month student
internships per year (a total of
six) at the Georgia Europe office in
Munich, where students majoring
in International Business, Political

Science, and/or International Affairs can gain professional experience in their chosen field, language skills, and a deeper connection to the German-US partnership.

University of West Georgia

\$25,000

THE UNIVERSITY of West Georgia was awarded funding to support internships for 10 current students with a major or minor in German at German employers in the summer, fall, and spring semesters.



OUR FOUNDER

CLAUS HALLE was an international business executive and philanthropist. Born in Germany, Mr. Halle was conscripted as a young teen into the German army during the latter part of World War II, and in March 1945, swam across the Elbe River to surrender himself to Allied forces. After completing high school, he began a remarkable career with The Coca-Cola Company as a truck driver in Essen, Germany. Over the next 45 years, he rose to the most senior ranks of the company, including service as President of Coca-Cola Germany, President of Coca-Cola Europe and President of Coca-Cola International. He opened hundreds of new global markets for the company during his career, thereby adding immense value to one of the world's most wellknown brands.

Having experienced first-hand the horrors of war, and as a citizen of both the United States and Germany, Mr. Halle came to believe that, in his words, "[t]here is nothing more important for peace and prosperity in our hemisphere than the friendship between the United States and Germany." Following his retirement, he devoted himself tirelessly to numerous philanthropic

organizations and causes that he believed strengthened the relationship between the two countries. He served as a trustee of numerous national and local organizations, including The Carter Center, the Woodruff Arts Center, the Southern Center for International Studies, the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, the German American Chamber of Commerce, and Friends of Goethe. In 1986, he founded The Halle Foundation, which carries out his legacy today of promoting peace, friendship and understanding between the peoples of the United States and Germany. Among other honors, Mr. Halle was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, an honorary doctorate from Emory University, and was named Georgia Philanthropist of the Year in 2001.

Mr. Halle devoted enormous energy and resources to promoting international awareness and cooperation. His work in the field of international philanthropy sought to encourage Americans to learn more about the views and ways of thinking of others and to become global as well as national citizens. He was a man of broad vision, quick intellect, charm, wit, and deep international insight.

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