

The Concordia Trust

Cultivating and promoting the German language and cultural experience **Volume 2, Issue 1**

The Concordia Trust, created in 2001, is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable foundation that focuses on promoting and subsidizing German language education, scholarship and cultural programming.



Courtesy of Society for German-American Studies

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Making Philadelphia a German Town: Looking Forward to German-American Day

Irish-Americans have St. Patrick’s Day, Mexican-Americans have Cinco de Mayo and Italian-Americans have Columbus Day. Not wanting to be left out, German-Americans will have a re-tooled and re-energized way to celebrate German-American Day on October 6, 2007 and everyone is invited to participate! There is much to celebrate and this is why!

The 325th anniversary of the arrival of the first German families to America and the founding of Germantown, PA, after which approximately 8,000,000 inhabitants from German-speaking countries followed, will be celebrated on October 6, 2008. This gives the German-American community the perfect opportunity to showcase 325 years of contributions made by German immigrants and their descendents to many aspects of American life.

These innumerable contributions to the American mosaic have been well documented. In his 1993 German-American Day Proclamation, President Clinton proclaimed

“All of us can take pride in the accomplishments of German Americans – as soldiers and statesmen, scientists and musicians, artisans and educators. It is fitting that we set aside this special day to remember and celebrate how much German Americans have done to preserve our ideals, enrich our culture, and strengthen our democracy.”

Many still reminisce about the German-American Tricentennial observance in 1983, when the academic, educational, musical, cultural, historical and business communities collaborated to offer a rich variety of programs and

events commemorating these contributions. The German American Day Celebration Committee will recreate this model, using October 6, 2007 as a dress rehearsal for the 325th celebration in 2008. Organizations like the University of Pennsylvania, the German-American Chamber of Commerce – Philadelphia, the German Society of Pennsylvania, the German-American Committee of Philadelphia, Historic RittenhouseTown, the American Association of Teachers of German – Philadelphia Chapter, the Immanuel German School, Immanuel Lutheran Church, the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Concordia Trust have already enthusiastically committed to sponsoring events. To this end, a diverse and innovative calendar of events is being planned for the weekend of October 6, 2007 concentrating in Center City Philadelphia, but also including the neighboring counties.

The current calendar of events for October 5-7, 2007 includes:

- “Mayor Street’s Reception” at City Hall,
- “Uwe Kind Concert” for middle and high school students of German, sponsored by the AATG – Philadelphia Chapter. (Uwe Kind is an international communicator who escaped from the former East Germany to the West in 1960. As a German teacher at the New School in New York City, Uwe Kind developed SingLing, a language learning technique based on familiar tunes, which he later refined as a graduate student at Harvard University.)

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Excellence in German Awards

Immanuel German School students **Stephanie Mewes** and **Martina Trommler** received the "Concordia Trust Excellence in German Awards" for their high scholastic achievement during the German School's Awards Assembly on May 19. Stephanie and Martina, a high school sophomore and junior respectively, received cash awards in the amount of \$100.

Elizabeth Lakata received an "Excellence in German Award" at the May 22 Awards Night program for Lower Moreland's graduating seniors. This award, in the amount of \$250.00, is given to the graduating senior who has completed six years of German and has maintained the highest academic average in Advanced Placement German. Consideration was given to students who plan to continue their study of German at the university level.

Elizabeth's academic record is well known and highly respected at Lower Moreland High School, from which she will graduate as Salutatorian, having achieved the second highest grade point average in her class. She was a National Merit finalist and a Presidential Scholar finalist. Elizabeth sought opportunities that would expand her knowledge and experience by participating in summer programs at Arcadia, Cambridge (England), Georgetown and Villanova Universities. This summer, she will attend the National Youth Sciences Competition before attending the University of Pennsylvania in the fall, where she plans on studying biomedical engineering. She is Concert Mistress of the high school orchestra and enjoys playing chess.

The award was given in memory of Mrs. Ida Wasyliw by Ida and Frank Macri.



Elizabeth Lakata accepting her "Excellence in German Award" from Concordia Trust President, Marlene Stocks.

Certificate of Achievement Awards

The American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) Awards Ceremony on April 28 at the German Society of Pennsylvania was the venue for the Concordia Trust to present six students with awards for their outstanding German language proficiency. Marlene Stocks presented the \$100.00 cash awards to:

Russell Martin – Pennsbury High School West

Sean McEntee – Westtown School

Michael Meyers – Central Bucks East High School

Brian Laraia – Pennsbury High School West

Christa Cochran – Pennsbury High School West

Kristin Dauer – Pennsbury High School West



German Society of Pennsylvania Scholarship recipient and Immanuel German School student, Thomas Golanoski, with Dr. Christina Frei, Principal of the Immanuel German School, after the AATG Awards Ceremony.

Danke schön

Thank you so much for your generous gift! As soon as I received it, I decided I would save it to put towards a future trip to Germany. I am hoping to go this coming year or the next along with my older brother, who also studies German. Once again, I am very grateful to you for your gift. Danke schön, *Sean McEntee*

I would like to thank you very much for your generous gift. I have put it into my college fund in order to defray the cost of books. I plan to attend Ursinus College in the fall, and plan to major in biology. After graduating college, I plan to attend medical school. At one point in my college career, I would like to study in Germany. Sincerely, *Brian Laraia*



Marlene Stocks with Christa Cochran and Kristin Dauer at the AATG Awards Presentation.

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Concert Duo of Karlsruhe Performance

The internationally acclaimed *Concert Duo of Karlsruhe*, featuring Dagmar Hartmann, piano, and Reinhard Armleder, violin cello, showcased its award-winning talent and rich chamber music repertoire during a late afternoon concert on Saturday, October 28, 2006 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, in the Somerton section of Philadelphia.

These two young artists have thrilled their audiences with a stylistic and varied repertoire featuring works from Bach to Piazzolla. The German print media has praised both virtuosi for immersing themselves into their work with fascinating emotion while displaying their exemplary talent and perfect instrumental training.

This concert, the only Philadelphia performance of their US tour, featured a diverse program including works from the baroque, classical, romantic, impressionistic and modern eras. Spirited jazz, as well as expressive Tango and

Spanish selections complemented the program.

The Concordia Trust co-sponsored this concert with the Immanuel Lutheran Church.



More Thanks ...

I wanted to sincerely thank you for the generous trust award—I was so excited to receive it. I truly love studying German. Because of this gift, I will be able to purchase a train ticket to visit my former exchange student in Oldenburg while I am in Europe this summer. I'm very excited to practice the language skills that I have learned. I hope to continue my study of German next year and in college. I hope to spend time in Germany in the future. Thank you again for the generous award.

Sincerely, *Kristin Dauer*

Danke schön für das Deutsch Senior Geschenk. Es war sehr nett von Ihnen mich dem Programm mit mir und meinen Eltern zu reddem. Nächstes Jahr werde ich Biomedical Engineering studieren, aber ich hoffe, dass ich auch etwas im Penn Deutsch Klub machen kann. Ich interessiere mich vielleicht für eine Deutsch Literatur Klasse. Haben Sie einen guten Sommer und viel Glück mit der Deutschschule.

Elizabeth Lakata



Kalmus Scholarship Presented to Immanuel Student at School's Award Ceremony



"I will see you in September when German School starts. I would not have it any other way."

Michael Fricker,
Immanuel German
School student

The 32nd school year of the Immanuel German School came to a close on May 19 when students, faculty, sponsors parents, grandparents, and friends gathered in the auditorium of the Lower Moreland High School to recognize the achievement of the program's 130 students. Certificates of attendance were presented to the 30 adult learners earlier in the day.

Marlene Stocks, Head of School, observed that "the Immanuel German School is like a giant mosaic or better said, an orchestra, where the strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion instruments all play a very vital role in, figuratively speaking, the music that is created here on Saturday mornings. I am sincerely grateful to our sponsors, the teachers, the parents and grandparents and the students themselves for their enormous contributions and interest."

The students, who distinguished themselves with outstanding achievement, were recognized with certificates, book prizes and cash awards from numerous sponsors including the Consulate General of Germany, presented by Honorary German Consul Barbara Afanassiev, the American Association of Teachers of German, the Hans R. Haug Memorial Fund, the Sigrid Wiswe Memorial Fund and the Concordia Trust. James Schwartz, German-American Police Association President awarded Laura Blankenhorn of Meadowbrook, PA with a scholarship to the Immanuel German School for next year.

This year's highest award, the Gerhard W. Kalmus Scholarship, was presented to Thomas Golanoski, an Abington High School senior. The \$1,000 scholarship will be used to fund Tom's education at Temple University where he "enthusiastically looks forward to majoring in German language and culture". While at Temple, Thomas plans to participate in the study abroad program. "I want to immerse myself in German culture and experiences and fully utilize my German language skills both in the classroom and conversationally with new friends. After completing his college studies, Thomas hopes to return to Immanuel to teach German.



Dr. Gerhard W. Kalmus, the sponsor of the Kalmus Scholarship, and Thomas Golanoski during the Immanuel German School's Award Ceremony.



Immanuel Lutheran Church Council President Barbara Hannon and Thomas Golanoski display the Kalmus Scholarship plaques with Dr. Gerhard Kalmus.



Honorary German Consul, Barbara Afanassiev presenting the outstanding student awards on behalf of the German Consulate General in New York to Ian Ochs and Daniel Sergejev.



The 2007 Hans R. Haug Memorial Award Recipients, Alexandra Möller and Ian Ochs with Marlene Stocks, Head of School of the Immanuel German School.

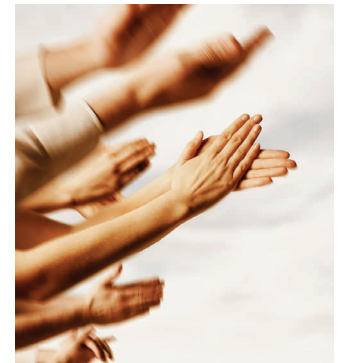
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*"I'm happy to support
what I consider good
and important work."*

George Shuster



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Experience the German Language and Culture

The Concordia Trust

invests in the future of German language instruction and scholarship by ...

- Providing financial support to the Immanuel German School
- Presenting language awards to deserving high school students of German
- Promoting German cultural programming

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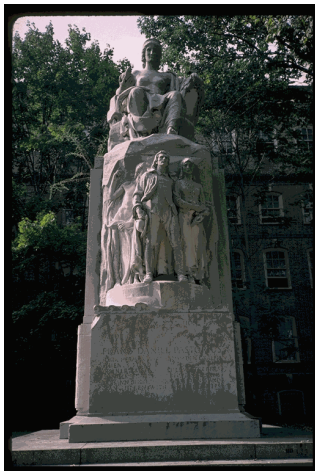
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Making Philadelphia a German Town:

(continued from first page)



Pastorius Monument

Photo courtesy of R. L. Stocks

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within the Commonwealth 1-800-732-0999.

- “German Fair”, sponsored by the Immanuel German School
- “Restaurant Promotion” with German beers and foods
- “German Film Evening: *Das Leben der Anderen*”, sponsored by the German Society
- “Colonial German Cooking Program”, sponsored by Historic Rittenhouse Town
- “Bier und Wurstfest”, sponsored by the German Society
- “Sing-a-long of German Folksongs”, sponsored by the German Society
- “Susanne Linke Lecture and Dance Demonstration”, sponsored by the German Society. (The internationally renowned Viennese choreographer will share her background, style and dance philosophy through a moderated discussion, dance video and demonstration by Jeanne Ruddy Dance dancers. Ms. Linke unites in her dance both her origins in the historic German dance tradition and the development of contemporary German dance theatre.)
- “Cabaret Performance”, sponsored by the German Society
- “Beck Brass Band Concert”, sponsored by the German Society
- “Wine Tasting with Marjie Old”, sponsored by the German Society
- “Ecumenical Worship Service”, the Immanuel Lutheran Church
- “Culinary Event”, sponsored by the German-American Chamber of Commerce-Philadelphia
- “Lecture”, sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania
- “5K Walk/Run”, in collaboration with the Liberty Bell Wanderers and the United German-American Committee to benefit the National Heritage Center in Washington, D.C.

For more current and detailed information, please visit www.GermanAmericanDay.org.

Benjamin Franklin may well have articulated it best when he observed, *"America cultivates best what Germany brought forth."*