

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

From Goethe to GAPP: Celebrating U.S.-German Ties through Language, Culture and Education

U.S.-German student exchange program and cultural institute celebrate milestones for promoting public diplomacy over the decades.

NEW YORK CITY (February 21, 2022)– The German American Partnership Program (GAPP) will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2022. Administered by the Goethe-Institut in the U.S. and the Pädagogischer Austauschdienst (PAD) in Germany, funded by the U.S. Department of State and the German Federal Foreign Office, and sponsored by the Joachim Herz and Max Kade foundations. This year, Goethe-Institut celebrates 70 years of bringing together people all over the world through language, culture and education. With six locations across the U.S., the Goethe-Institut is committed to working together with partners at all levels to ensure high quality standards in teaching and learning of German.

“Establishing and fostering connections between the U.S. and Germany in culture, arts and education is the main goal of the Goethe-Institut,” Director of Goethe-Institut Washington and Regional Director for North America Andreas Ströhl said. “We have been proud administrators of GAPP since its founding in 1972.”

This year, Goethe-Institut also celebrates a milestone: 70 years as a cultural institute that brings together people all over the world through language, culture and education.

Goethe-Institut initiated its first abroad program in Athens in 1952. By 1961, it had opened 53 more programs in far-flung locales like Ghana, Bangladesh, Algeria and Iran. In 1953, it also offered language courses, with individuals from all over the world traveling to Germany to learn High German and local dialects. Two years later, Goethe-Institut published a standard German textbook with millions of copies in print.

For more about GAPP, its 50th anniversary and 2022 events, including the celebrations and more, visit goethe.de/gapp50.

The German American Partnership Program

GAPP, the largest and most successful bilateral student exchange program in the U.S., is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2022. As the only short-term German-American exchange program to receive financial support from the U.S. government, GAPP coordinates more than 800 partnerships with high schools and technical colleges on both sides of the Atlantic. More than 400,000 German and American students have participated in the free program since 1972. GAPP is funded by the U.S. Department of State and German Federal Foreign Office, administered by the Goethe-Institut in the U.S. and the Pädagogischer Austauschdienst (PAD) in Germany, and sponsored by the Joachim Herz and Max Kade foundations. For more, visit goethe.de/gapp50

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