

We are welcoming 16 high school students from one of our Sister Cities (Radebeul, Germany) from 6-27 April, 2023. We would like to ask the Mayor and any Council Members to provide a short welcome prior at the Hauser Museum and would like to ask when you would be most easily available. We are asking that this happens at your convenience during the week of 10-14 April.

Overview of the Sister Cities Association of Sierra Vista:

The Sierra Vista Sister Cities Association works for the Sierra Vista City Council with the intent of creating and promoting cultural and humanitarian partnerships with international communities. To achieve this goal, we partnered with Cananea, Mexico in 1989, and Radebeul, Germany in 1998 to conduct cultural, educational, and goodwill exchange programs. Each year we focus our efforts around three main pillars: the conduct of high school student exchanges, humanitarian outreach, and the celebration of cultural diversity.

Our high school student exchanges form the centerpiece of our program, which is a cultural exchange and not simply a series of international vacations. Each Fall we enable eight local youth to join eight others from Cananea on an exchange for two weeks as student diplomats to experience daily life in Germany. They are hosted by German families; visit local high schools, local and state government offices, factories, and make day trips to neighboring Prague and historic Berlin.

In return, our students host German students for a week and a half in the Spring as they tour southern Arizona. We have been able to chaperone trips to Ft Huachuca (museums, B-Troop, and German Liaison Office) and Davis-Monthan Airbase (toured the flight line and sat in A-10 aircraft), the state capital and museum, the University of Arizona, the Grand Canyon, San Xavier Mission, the Arizona Desert Museum, and local attractions such as Buena High School, Tombstone, Bisbee, Coronado Cave, and Brown Canyon Ranch. Finally, the German students travel to Cananea for a week and stay with the families of students they hosted in Germany the previous Spring.

To make this possible we coordinate between the City and the local school board, as well as their counterparts in Cananea and Radebeul. We help match students with host families and manage chaperones (each able to speak at least two languages). We also provide for transportation within Germany, health insurance while there, and this year started to provide scholarships for deserving students who couldn't afford the trip.

The cost to the Commission for the exchange is usually around \$5000 per year, and the families only must provide a portion of the airfare for their child (this year \$342). We do ask that the students fill out a questionnaire and write an essay explaining why they should be chosen to attend the exchange, as well as what they hope to learn from the experience. Students must attend regular meetings at the high school and must help with fund raising events that help their trip and their hosting experience. Finally, we require those that go on the trip to create and give a presentation to the local school board and to the city council.

The second pillar of our program is humanitarian outreach to our Sister City in Cananea. To that end we and the students in our program have collected medical supplies (canes, crutches, wheelchairs, etc.), jackets, back packs, school supplies, and even heaters for classrooms in Cananea. This is ongoing and is often the result of targets of opportunity.

The third pillar is our support for and celebration of cultural diversity at all levels. We provide a constant presence at events such as Christmas Around the World, the West End Fair, the Cultural Heritage Celebration (Diversity Fair), and the annual Oktoberfest celebration, at which students are required to attend and represent both themselves and our organizations. This year we were able to partner with Cochise College to provide a day-long cultural immersion trip to Cananea, which included five students from Cochise College, five students from Buena High School, and several adults who carpoled behind the city van. They toured the copper mine, ate at a local restaurant, visited City Hall, and spent some time shopping.

We know that we make a difference for a small group of students each year. The relationships created by mutual hosting continue long after the year is over (each student who goes on the exchange must host that family's child in return). At the end of each segment of the exchange we have family events, and here in Sierra Vista we have students and families from all three countries attend a potluck and formal goodbye. It is a truly emotional event indeed.

Our students also experience global citizenship at a particularly personal level. Our Mexican and European sister cities are no longer faceless abstractions that they hear about on the evening news. Instead, they become less and less an expression of "them", and more of an expression of "us." When the students begin to say "we" without hesitation, it is our turn to get emotional. In the end, that is what motivates us.

RESOLUTION 2018-074

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA; ESTABLISHING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA AND THE SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION; AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER, CITY CLERK, CITY ATTORNEY OR THEIR DULY AUTHORIZED OFFICERS AND AGENTS TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES AND INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, The Sister Cities Association of Sierra Vista Inc. 501(C) (3) ("SCA") was created as a nonprofit organization serving the same mission, vision, and goals as the Sister Cities Commission; and

WHEREAS, The SCA and the City of Sierra Vista ("the City") have created a strong partnership; and

WHEREAS, together, the SCA and the City acknowledge that continuing a partnership for services would be beneficial to the community. The attached agreement defines the terms of the partnership, amenities, and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1

It is the practice of the council to approve agreements with entities that supports and advances the mission of the City of Sierra Vista.

SECTION 2

The attached agreement between the City of Sierra Vista and the Sister Cities Association is hereby approved.

SECTION 3

That the staff, City Clerk, City Attorney, or their duly authorized officers and agents, are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of this resolution,

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA THIS 25th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2018.



FREDERICK W. MUELLER
MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



JILL S. ADAMS
CITY CLERK



NATHAN J. WILLIAMS
CITY ATTORNEY

PREPARED BY:
LAURA WILSON
Director, Leisure and Library Services

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN
SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION AND THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA**

The Sister Cities Association (SCA) and the City of Sierra Vista (City) agree to work together in good faith to provide services and opportunities in support of the City of Sierra Vista's Sister Cities mission.

A copy of the approved Resolution between Sister Cities International and the City of Sierra Vista shall be provided to the SCA for their records.

Whereas, the SCA share goals of international cooperation, mutual prosperity, and world peace with its sister cities located at Cananea, Mexico and Radebeul, Germany; and

Whereas, the City believes it to be a matter of public benefit to support the mission of SCA; and

Whereas, they place similar values on cultural understanding, youth leadership, exchanges to educate citizens, etc.; and

Whereas, the City is committed to supporting the goals and mission of the SCA, namely: cultural exchanges, youth leadership, educational opportunities, etc.; and;

Now, Therefore, We, the Mayor of the City of Sierra Vista and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the SCA, do believe that this agreement will further contribute to the cause of world peace and to the development of friendly relations between the peoples of Mexico, Germany and the United States; and

NOW THEREFORE, the City of Sierra Vista Agrees to the following:

- A. The City will provide partnership amenities and services to the SCA to include, but not limited to:
- 1) Staff Support
 - 2) City Facilities
 - 3) Vehicles
 - 4) Fuel
 - 5) Drivers (if CDL required)
 - 6) Food Trailer
 - 7) Sister Cities International Annual Fee for the SCA
- B. The City will provide resources and services to the SCA in order to support the SCA's commitment to accomplish the goals and objectives as it directly relates to the City's established Sister Cities (Cananea, Mexico and Radebeul, Germany), subject to availability. Should the City deny a request for such services or resources, a reason for the denial will be provided to the SCA in writing.

- C. The City authorizes its Director of Leisure and Library Services, or his/her designee, to represent the organization in the oversight, negotiation, and implementation of this agreement to include approvals, fee waivers, support, and the resolution of conflicts and situations not specifically identified in this agreement.
- D. The Mayor's Office will provide policy, mission direction, and decisions regarding the Sierra Vista Sister Cities program to the SCA as needed.
- E. The City agrees to reimburse the SCA for student exchange insurance for approved student exchanges, up to \$1,000.00 per fiscal year. Policies are available through Sister Cities Travel Insurance:
<https://www.internationalinsurance.com/sistercities/>.

NOW THEREFORE, the Sister Cities Association Agrees to the following:

- A. The SCA agrees to conduct the City's Sister city Activities, which include the annual student exchange, participation in the Arizona Sister cities organization, liaison with counterparts in Radebeul and Cananea, and any other activities which are concomitant to full participation as a Sister City, subject to financial and personnel constraints within the SCA.
- B. The SCA is responsible for procuring its own liability insurance (General Liability, Directors and Officers, and Workers Compensation, as applicable) with respect to its activities under this Agreement, and shall indemnify the City against and hold the City harmless from any and all claims, including attorneys fees, arising out of the SCA's activities under this Agreement, unless such activities are undertaken as a direct result of or in conjunction with the City as part of an official City function or "event".
- C. Requests by the SCA for City amenities and services shall be made in writing to the Leisure Division Manager for consideration and approval by the Leisure and Library Services Director. Requests should be made as early as possible to avoid conflicts but no less than two weeks in advance.
- D. SCA members who wish to drive City vehicles must have an approved, completed City of Sierra Vista volunteer application on file with the Department of Leisure and Library Services.
- E. SCA authorizes its Board of Directors, or its designee, to represent the organization in the oversight, negotiation, and implementation of this agreement, to include resolution of issues not specifically identified in this agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, both parties agree to the following:

- A. Neither party shall conduct negotiations or conclude agreements with any other entity regarding the Sister Cities program without the full participation and consent of the other party.

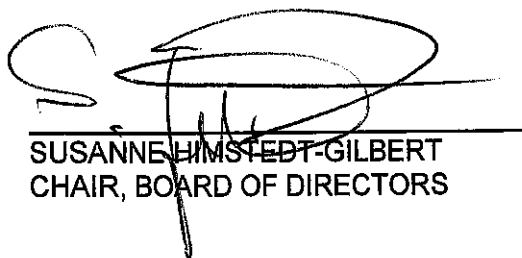
- B. Both parties agree to provide the other a list of their key personnel and to advise the other regarding changes to personnel on a regular basis.

This agreement shall take effect on the date it is entered into below. It shall remain in effect in perpetuity unless bilaterally amended, terminated by either party by giving the other a minimum of 30 calendar days' notice, or superseded by a future agreement.

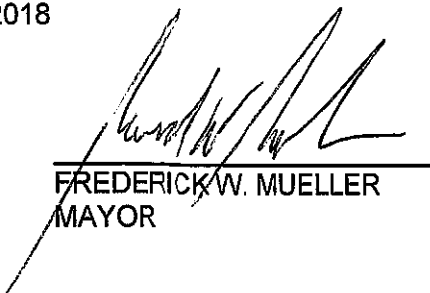
MISCELLANEOUS TERMS

1. It is mutually agreed upon and understood by and among the Parties of this Agreement that:
 - a. In no way does this Agreement restrict the Parties from participating in similar agreements with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
 - b. Except as otherwise provided for herein, nothing in this Agreement shall obligate either Party to the transfer of funds. Any endeavor involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the Parties will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the Parties involved and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This Agreement does not provide such authority.
 - c. This Agreement is not intended to and does not create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility.
 - d. This Agreement will be effective upon the signature of both Parties.

APPROVED THIS 11TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2018



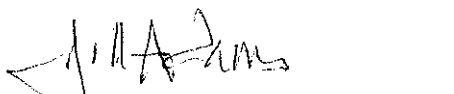
SUSANNE HIMSTEDT-GILBERT
CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS



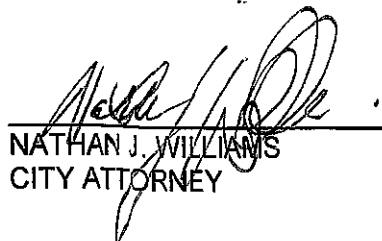
FREDERICK W. MUELLER
MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM



JILL S. ADAMS
City Clerk

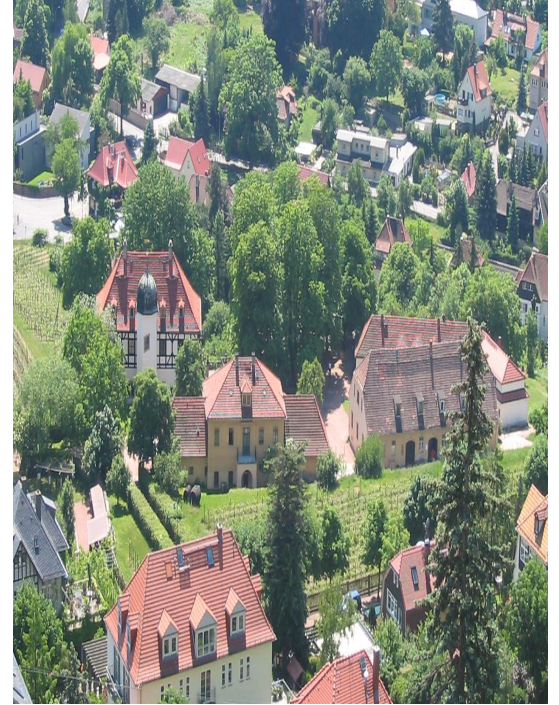


NATHAN J. WILLIAMS
CITY ATTORNEY

October 2022 Sister Cities Student Exchange Program



The Program







Oberschule

Roman Lieber



German School

- ❖ Germans operate on a block schedule
- ❖ Classes tend to start either at the same time as American school or later
- ❖ German kids have to be nearly fluent in at least one other language (usually English)
- ❖ Different types of schools based on capability and interest in certain career fields



Our Experience

For our first two days in Germany we attended the school of some of our host students. For the first day we sat in class and listened to lessons being given in German. For the second day we sat outside the classroom while the German students wrote essays in English and once they finished we offered assistance with the grammar of the essays.



Berlin

Trinity Johnson

Berlin Pt. 1

After leaving from a bus in Dresden, we had made our way to our first city in Germany; Berlin! When we arrived at the train station, we made our way to the hostel we were staying at. After we put away all our luggage, we all walked to the German Parliament Building. Here, they have meetings for federal assembly. After looking around there, we walked to Brandenburg Gate, which was beautiful. The teachers let the students have a little free time, and in mine, I went to go and grab some starbucks, (the line was incredibly long). After Brandenburg Gate, we made our way back to the hostel for our next adventure. Our first day consisted of visiting monuments and lots and lots of walking.



Berlin Pt. 2



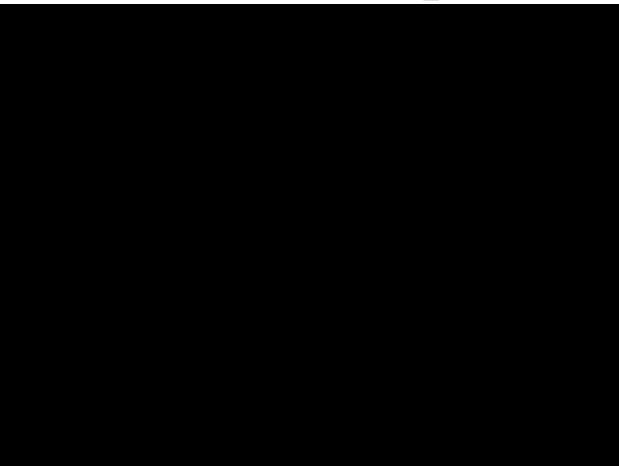
Once the students made it back to the hostel, our teachers let us have the rest of the day for ourselves in Berlin. The students could go anywhere they wanted to if they 1. Had a German Student with them and 2. Buddy System: Never go alone anywhere. We had a curfew of 9:30. I went with Helene, my German student, two other Americans, three Mexicans, and four other German students to explore the shopping district of Berlin! We went to various stores, one being a store that sold Berlin merchandise and a gorgeous boutique named Subdued. After shopping, the other students and I stopped by a grocery store to buy snacks and such. After our grocery run, we made our way back to the hostel. The night life in the city was my favorite part of Berlin. The next day, we all packed our luggage, had a meeting at the Bundenstag, and hopped on the next bus back to Dresden, where we continued our two-week trip in Germany.

Festung Königstein

Samira Vidot Tekin



Transportation



On October 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., all of the exchange students gathered to leave for Festung Königstein. We took two forms of transportation: a train on tracks and a train on a road. When we finally arrived to our destination we began to walk around and explore the fortress.

Exploring

After the short train ride, everyone began to explore the fortress. First everyone took a picture in front of a yellow building and then my small group and I went to look at a church. The walk to the top was very steep, so we had to be careful. Many others wanted to enjoy the food first but my group and I took pictures, and admired the scenery before admiring the yummy food.





FLICKS





Prague

Rachel Lee

Going to Prague

Prague was really near Germany. The bus drive took about 2 hours, and all the students were able to talk to each other.

As soon as we came to Prague, the scenery we saw was very beautiful and unique. There were many historical sites and buildings as well as roads filled with many different kind of shops and restaurants. The deserts were fantastic.

Everybody on the trip was able to see the Orloj strike noon. The Orloj is one of the oldest astronomical clocks in the world, made in 1410. It was fascinating to see all the intricate detail in this fascinating building in Prague's Old Town Square. A video will be inserted in the next slide



Not my
video,
wasn't sure
how to
insert it.

→

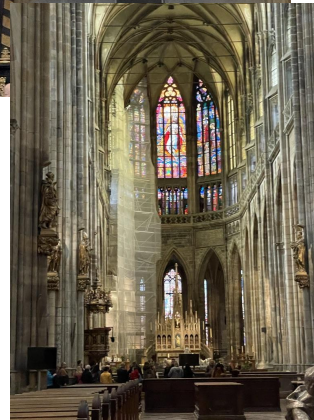
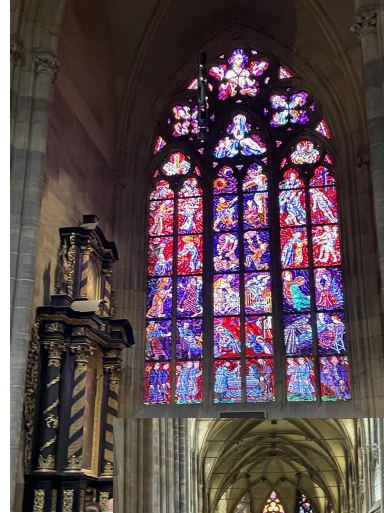


The Charles Bridge and Prague Castle

Few of the places the students went to were the Charles Bridge and Prague Castle.

The Charles Bridge was really extravagantly detailed with many religious stone statues with gold accents including the crucifixion of Jesus from the Bible, Virgin Mary, angels, etc. It was a very divine view.

The Prague Castle was on the very top of this steep hill, filled with many shops as well as the St. Vitus Cathedral which was just INSANELY gorgeous. The castle was majestic and grand.



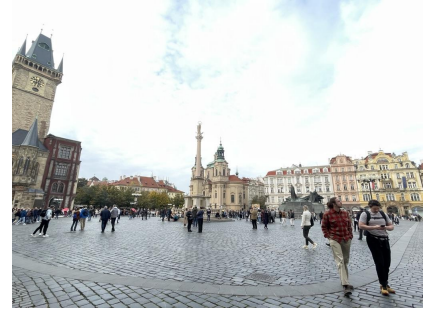
Personal Experience

Especially because I have a big passion for historical art, taking in all the beauty of each building and statue was a dream.

All of the food and shops were just so delicious, and the atmosphere of the people and places were just amazing.

Prague left such a lasting impression on me and really made me love Europe and the trip so much. I had so much joy in getting to know and learn different cultures, languages, and geography.

Overall, 100/10 experience.



DATE		ACTIVITY			COST	
6-Apr		Airport				
10-Apr		Mayor at Hauser Museum, B Troop				
11-Apr		Ramsey Canyon			\$40.00	
12-Apr		Biosphere 2			\$350.00	
12-Apr		Skate Country			\$100.00	
14-Apr		Sonoran Desert Museum			\$200.00	
16-Apr		Depart City Hall with Mexican Hosts				
17-Apr		Mexico				
18-Apr		Mexico				
19-Apr		Mexico				
20-Apr		Mexico				
21-Apr		Mexico				
22-Apr		Return from Mexico to City Hall				
23-Apr	Grand Canyon trip	Musical Instrument Museum and State Capitol Museum			\$240.00	
23-Apr	Grand Canyon trip	Hotel Phoenix			\$1,200.00	
24-Apr	Grand Canyon trip	Grand Canyon			\$70.00	
24-Apr	Grand Canyon trip	Hotel Flagstaff			\$1,200.00	
24-Apr	Grand Canyon trip	Hotel Flagstaff--dinner for kids			\$300	
		Montezuma Castle			\$300.00	
26-Apr		Farewell Party				
27-Apr		Airport				
??		Young Eagles over Sierra Vista			\$400.00	

Expected Costs

\$4,400.00

INFO			
Request city bus transportation from airport to City Hall			
Request bus transport from Buena High School			
Under 17 FREE, \$8 (5 adults); request bus transport from Buena High School			
Adult \$25 Child (5-17) \$15; request bus transport from Buena High School			
3-6 pm \$5 per person			
\$10 per person; request bus transport from Buena High School			
\$8 per person			
\$35 per vehicle			
Request city bus transportation from City Hall to airport			