



GERMANIC AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
301

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



## OUR VISION

The Germanic-American Institute is the premier institute for language, authentic culture, and heritage of the German-speaking people. It is a gathering place for people of any age to learn the German language, connect with their heritage, engage in art, food, and cultural traditions, and deepen their understanding of shared global issues.





## Message from the Board Chair and Executive Director

*Liebe Freunde,*

The year 2020 is right around the corner, and with it comes a third generational shift for the Germanic-American Institute. Similar to what the Volksfest Association Board of Directors faced in early 1990s, when the decision was made to transform from a social club to a non-profit institute, we must again ask the question “How will the future generations meaningfully engage with the GAI?”

Millennials and the generations to follow have always lived in a globally connected world and most are much further removed from their German, Swiss, and Austrian heritage. How people communicate has radically changed, how they volunteer has changed, and how they support an

“How will the future generations meaningfully engage with the GAI?”

organization’s mission has changed. We and the Board are undergoing a process of deep reflection and analysis of how the GAI too, must change and adapt to a rapidly changing society.

Paired with this analysis is the reality of the rising cost to maintain our historic property. We would love to put in an elevator and make the Haus more accessible. We have known for years that the parking lot is in dire need of paving. Those two projects alone total over 2 million dollars, far exceeding our entire annual operating budget. And

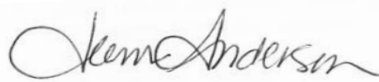
while the proposals and cost estimates from our architects can be deeply discouraging, we are reminded of those generations before us who overcame far more to build this tremendous legacy.

The GAI was built on a very strong foundation of community, hard work, and generosity. Yes, we have major challenges ahead of us as we continue to restore the Haus and carriage house, and “business as usual” is not an option if we want to be sustainable. But we are confident that those values upon which we were built will successfully carry us into a new era as we continue to grow and flourish.

*Mit herzlichen Grüßen,*



Nancy Zinter, Board Chair



Jeana Anderson, Executive Director



# LIFE-LONG LEARNING

From preschool to retirement—language programs for all ages



GAI has language learning programs for almost everyone—from preschoolers immersed in German songs and games at Kinderstube German Immersion Preschool, to teens preparing for the AP test; working adults who need German for business, or travelers wanting to brush up on phrases such as, *“Ein Bier, bitte”*.

## Language Services highlights

- Language programs are taking over the Haus—with creative use of spaces from the Ratskeller to the Ballroom, 2017 brought new programs including Schnupperkurs, Freitag Feierabend, and FallVernügen.
- South- and west-metro residents are now able to take classes such as German for Travel and German Genealogy through our partnership with Apple Valley and Hopkins community education.
- Language Services hosted several language and culture events: KinoKneipe and Familien Kino—German movies at the GAI, and *“An evening with Prof. Weiss—Erich Kästner stellt sich vor.”*
- In partnership with GACC Midwest, GAI began an ongoing initiative to bring German education models to the US. Language Services hosted a symposium on the *“New Apprenticeship Model”* and a well-received industry round table discussion.

*“To speak a language is to take on a world, a culture.”*

—Frantz Fanon

## Programs for Kids

Kinderstube German Immersion Preschool  
Summer Camps  
Samstagsschule  
Familien Kino

## Programs for Adults

Summer, Fall, and Spring Classes  
Schnupperkurs  
Freitag Feierabend  
FallVernügen  
KinoKneipe  
Community Education



# SHARING CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

## Increasing our reach beyond the Haus

Concerts, workshops, exhibits, and celebrations—from Deutsche Tage to Holiday Open Haus—the GAI offers year-round cultural programming. Savor German “soul food” at the Pork & Kraut dinner, introduce your children or grandchildren to the tradition of St. Nikolaus at Holiday Open Haus, or dance the polka and sip a beer at Deutsche Tage.

### Cultural program highlights

- We are increasing our reach beyond the familiar surroundings of the Haus, holding St. Paul Oktoberfest and the soon-to-open Goethe-Institut traveling exhibition, *Geniale Dilletanten*, both at Schmidt Artist Lofts.
- Partner organizations help us find new audiences for classes and programs—Balkanicus Institute, Sandbox Theatre, World Without Genocide, and many more.
- In the past fiscal year, GAI has hosted or produced more than 80 events and programs, taking to heart our mission to *foster appreciation and understanding of the culture, language, arts, and ongoing history of the German speaking peoples.*

“We are very excited to see the GAI continue to grow. We are always greeted warmly and feel very welcome.”

—Walter & Bernadette Kopischke,  
GAI Legacy Society members



# MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

You make the world go round



“The Germanic-American Institute was built on a very strong foundation of community, hard work, and generosity.”

—Nancy Zinter, Board Chair

## **Welcome, world citizens!**

Although German is the largest ancestry group in Minnesota, our members hail from far and wide. As nations become more connected and companies do business around the world, we are reaching out to welcome people of all backgrounds as members and volunteers.

Whether you're interested in modern German, Austrian, and Swiss culture, food and drink, heritage and traditions, or learning the German language, you are welcome to join our community of global citizens.

GAI has many dedicated volunteers who give 20 to more than 100 hours per year of their time and skills, doing specialized work from Haus maintenance to pitching in with potato peeling for Helga's potato salad.

## **2020 and beyond**

In the coming years, GAI will face a generational shift that will impact the organization's "business as usual." We will face the question of how millennials and the generations to follow connect with the GAI, generations who have always lived in a globally connected world but who are further removed from their German heritage.

Our challenge is to embrace change and continue to grow and flourish as a prominent, internationally recognized German cultural center. We hope to do that with your encouragement and support.



# CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

## Lake Ebbie and other projects

“As always, sessions end with lunch and beer!”

—Jim Gruetzmann, Haus & Grounds Leader

### This old Haus

Although the Haus & Grounds committee does excellent work maintaining our historic mansion, there are major projects on the horizon that require input from engineers and architects.

Last spring the GAI Board of Directors approved exploring paving the parking lot. The results showed that an extensive storm water management system would have to be installed, increasing the project price to over \$500,000. The next step is to investigate alternatives to improve the lot without paving, keeping “Lake Ebbie” at bay.

Both the Haus and the carriage house are reaching a critical age when major restoration work must be undertaken. The entire sum of the GAI’s reserves could easily be depleted, just to complete the necessary restoration and repairs to the carriage house.

With an (almost) new slate roof over our heads that will last 80 to 100 years, the GAI continues to look for partnerships with preservation specialists and funders. We will also rely heavily on contributions from members as we continue to restore and maintain our home for future generations.



ANNUAL FUND 2019

Our goal: \$60,000

The GAI’s growth cycle points to clear, thirty-year generational shifts. Your financial support is more important than ever as we lay the foundation for the next 30 years. With your support, GAI will continue to grow and flourish as a prominent, internationally recognized German cultural center. Make your donation today!

# PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

## We thrive on your contributions



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American Council on Germany  
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Winzer Stube Restaurant  
World Without Genocide  
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# LEGACY SOCIETY

## Legacy gifts ensure our future

Anonymous (6)  
Fred Aderhold  
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Christine & Markus Berger  
Todd & Laurie Brand  
Eberhard & Ern  Bulach  
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Allan\* & Arlette Siekmeier  
Tony & Gayle\* Stelter  
Ted Taylor\*  
Robert Voigt  
Paul & Helga Wittig  
Nancy & Rick Zinter

\* Deceased

## Heartfelt Thanks!

The Germanic-American Institute's Legacy Giving Program was established to support the sustainability and long-term impact of the GAI. These dedicated members are a driving force in sustaining the GAI's growth and development for the future.

With deepest gratitude, we acknowledge the incredible generosity demonstrated by our Legacy Society members. Thank you for ensuring the continued health and vibrancy of the GAI for generations to come!



# ANNUAL FUND 2018

Thank you, Annual Fund donors, for your support of the GAI mission to foster appreciation and understanding of the culture, language, arts, and ongoing history of the German speaking peoples through public educational and cultural programs.

## **Summit Circle (\$2,500+)**

Anonymous

## **Goethe Society (\$1,000-2,499)**

Carol M. Fellner

Kevin O'Malley & Marcia Steyaert

Michael & Kathleen McGuire

Michael & Patricia Rose

Nancy & Rick Zinter

Phil Powell

Todd & Laurie Brand Donor Fund

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## **Mozart Society (\$500-999)**

Anonymous (2)

Arthur Paulson

Danika Hoffmann and Floyd Olive

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Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter

Helga Parnell

Jenneke Oosterhoff & Ron Okenfuss

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Walter & Bernadette Kopischke

## **Schiller Society (\$250-499)**

Anonymous (2)

Anthony & Gayle\* Stelter

Bernt von Ohlen & Tom Nichol

Beth & Kent Horsager

Bill & Marian Eisenmann

Bob & Debbi Riggs

Bryan & Kim Volk

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## **Brecht Club (\$100-249)**

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Allan Siekmeier

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### **GAI Freunde (\$1-99)**

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Allan Thoennes  
Andrew & Lisa Westberg  
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### **Corporate & Volunteer Matching Gifts**

3M Foundation  
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*If you donated to the 2018 Annual Fund  
and your name is not included here,  
please contact the GAI office so we may  
acknowledge your gift.*

\* Deceased

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Gerry & Barb Wildes  
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Paul & Helga Wittig  
Manfred & Sieglinde Wormuth  
Jan & Jon Zeipen  
Nancy & Rick Zinter

## In Memorium

Sophie Beneke, in memory of  
Frank Parnell  
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Diana & David Betts, in memory of  
Kaiser Bruce Larson  
Phyllis & Hugh Bredenbeck, in memory  
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Eberhard & Erne Bulach, in memory of  
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in memory of Kaiser Bruce Larson  
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Katharina Fleischhacker, in memory of  
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Vera Killian, in memory of Frank Parnell



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 Gayle Stelter  
 Inge Laffin, in memory of Frank Parnell  
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 Michael & Sandy Nollan, in memory of  
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 Helga Parnell, in memory of  
 Gayle Stelter  
 Ruby & Roger Pietsch, in memory of  
 Frank Parnell  
 Nikolas & Nicole Richards, in memory of  
 Kaiser Bruce Larson  
 Elsie Roepke, in memory of  
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 Heike & Jackie Rucker, in memory of  
 Frank Parnell  
 Myron & Heidi Sass, in memory of  
 Frank Parnell  
 Arline Satrom, in memory of  
 Frank Parnell  
 Donald & Ursula Schmeling, in memory  
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 Sharon Schmidt, in memory of Kaiser  
 Bruce Larson  
 Marcia Shaw, in memory of Frank  
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 Ruben & Dorothy Soruco, in memory of  
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### **Corporate & Volunteer Matching Gifts**

3M Foundation  
 SeaTec Services LLC  
 Securian Foundation  
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 U.S. Bank Foundation

### **Special Thanks**

Eberhard Bulach: Parking lot regrade  
 Dominion – Schmidt Artist Lofts:  
 Off-site event space  
 Phil Gagne: Schmidt Brewery collection  
 GAI Damenklub: Year-round fundraising  
 Jim Gruetzmann and Haus &  
 Grounds team  
 John & Mary Neeser: Plants & gardens  
 Helga Parnell and the Stammtisch team  
 Mike & Pat Rose: Plants & gardens  
 Strege Family: Karneval Tanzparty  
 event support

### **Deutsche Tage Personal Sponsors**

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 Glenn Klapperich  
 Jeff & Judy Koniges  
 Walter & Bernadette Kopischke  
 Philip Powell  
 Hilke & Vincent Riechardt-Martinez  
 Mike & Pat Rose  
 Jackie & Robert Sorenson  
 Mark & Kelly Staller  
 Nancy & Rick Zinter



## Fiscal Year Ending June 2018

### Summary of Audited Financial Statements

<b>Statement of Activities</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Total Revenue	\$1,419,449	\$1,205,708	\$ 965,741
Total Expenses	\$1,361,527	\$1,080,716	\$ 936,617
<b>Total Net Gain/Loss</b>	<b>\$ 57,922</b>	<b>\$ 124,992</b>	<b>\$ 29,124</b>

### Statement of Financial Position

#### Assets

Checking/Savings	\$ 5,013	(\$ 1,050)	\$ 5,671
Legacy Giving Funds (3)	\$ 200,706	\$ 106,545	\$ 88,087
Endowment Fund	\$ 17,139	\$ 24,131	\$ 24,940
Endowment Investment Fund	\$ 63,220	\$ 50,864	\$ 39,576
Other Current Assets	\$ 14,590	\$ 76,471	\$ 27,268
Fixed Assets	\$ 359,787	\$ 353,779	\$ 224,762
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 660,455</b>	<b>\$ 610,740</b>	<b>\$ 410,304</b>

#### Liabilities

Line of Credit	—	—	—
Other Current Liabilities	\$ 90,389	\$ 52,792	\$ 54,745
Deferred Revenue	\$ 103,770	\$ 147,374	\$ 89,778
Long Term Liability	\$ 17,600	\$ 19,800	—
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 211,759</b>	<b>\$ 219,966</b>	<b>\$ 144,523</b>

<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 448,696</b>	<b>\$ 390,774</b>	<b>\$ 265,781</b>
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The full audited financial statement is available upon request.  
Please contact the office to receive a copy: 651.222.7027



# GAI Board of Directors 2018

## OFFICERS

Nancy Zinter, *Board Chair*, Securian Financial Group (ret.)  
Karin Magill-Cuerden, *Vice Chair*, White Bear Lake School District #624 (ret.)  
Dustin Massie, *Secretary*, Baillon Thome Jozwiak & Wanta LLP  
Hilke Riechardt-Martinez, *Treasurer*, Canvas Health

## DIRECTORS

Eric Brotten, Optum  
Ines Davis, Ameriprise Financial, Inc.  
Ryan Doubet, Accenture  
Tom Felling, Felling Executive Search  
Ron Gerdes, 3M  
Danika Hoffmann, WinWin Strategy LLC  
Jeff Jones, AREA Corporate Real Estate  
Laurence Reszetar, Minnesota Trade Office

## GAI Staff

Jeana Anderson, Executive Director  
Claudia Aurand, Director of Language Services  
Bettina Dehnhard, Communications Coordinator  
Linda DeRoode, Director of Cultural Programs  
Katrin Erdmann, Director of Catering and Event Services  
Erin Howlett, Office Manager  
Emily Ruggles Johnson, Kinderstube Assistant Director  
Babett Larimer, Director of Kinderstube Preschool  
Lisa Matejka, Finance Manager  
Cynthia Miller, Membership Coordinator  
Georgia Schneider Mundt, Volunteer and Events Coordinator

## Contact Us

### GAI Office

Staff offices are located on 2nd floor of the Haus  
Phone: 651.222.7027 | Fax: 651.222.6295  
[office@gai-mn.org](mailto:office@gai-mn.org)

### Language Services

Phone: 651.222.2979 | [language@gai-mn.org](mailto:language@gai-mn.org)

### Kinderstube German Immersion Preschool

Director's phone: 651.353.5147 | [preschool@gai-mn.org](mailto:preschool@gai-mn.org)  
[kinderstubepreschool.org](http://kinderstubepreschool.org)

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