



Auswärtiges Amt

Auswärtiges Amt des Freien Deutschen Hauses
Offizieller Bericht zu den Tätigkeiten des Freien Deutschen Hauses

*Lass dich nicht vom Bösen überwinden,
sondern überwinde das Böse mit Gutem.*
Römer 12:21

Introduction

This is a report on the activities of Deutsches Haus for the past few years, ending in January of 2008. We have categorized our activities into three groups: Deutsches Haus-wide German cultural activities, Deutsches Haus-wide non-German cultural activities, and German cultural activities in which our individuals, but not our whole house, were involved. Each category has notable and exciting events, including having several distinguished persons speak at German House on cultural topics, as well as more informal events like German movie nights. Please note that we have ordered the events in descending importance. Also please remember when reading the estimated attendance column that our house has 24 residents total, thus, even 10 people is a significant portion of the house. This has been a fun and educational year for the residents of German House and we are looking forward to building on and expanding our activities for the next year.

German Events

| When? | What? | Estimated Attendance |
|--------------|---|----------------------|
| April 2007 | Hansjorg Schertenleib, a visiting author from Switzerland, came to German house for dinner and discussed German Literature and Swiss culture. | 14 |
| May 2007 | Hansjorg Schertenleib again came for dinner and discussed Swiss culture as well as helped translate German operas. | 16 |
| March 2007 | Bernd Widdig, former director of the MISTI program visited German House for dinner and discussed MISTI opportunities. | 17 |
| October 2007 | Sigrud Berka, director of the MIT-Germany program visited German House for dinner and discussed opportunities in Germany. | 16 |
| May 2007 | Swiss Party – We joined French House to celebrate Swiss culture with traditional Swiss food from a Swiss Bakery. | 37 |

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|--------------------|---|----------|
| Recurring Events | Nightly Cook Crew – German House members cook in teams and serve the rest of the house 6 nights a week. | ~ |
| September 2006 | German Movie Night in New House – Students from all over New House enjoyed the classic Lola Rennt | 13 |
| October 2006 | Parents Weekend – German House served traditional German and Yiddish dinner to freshmen and their parents | 35 |
| January – May 2007 | German exchange student Max Kleidinger lived here for five months. We enjoyed conversing with him daily in German and learning from a real German about German culture. | 25 |
| April 2007 | German House served traditional German food at New Houses’s Tower of Babel international party. | ~55 |
| Recurring Events | House members enjoy teaching each other German and helping each other with homework. | ~ |
| August 2006 | German House cooked and served traditional German food to over 100 perspective freshman during REX. | Over 100 |

Non-German Events

| When? | What? | Estimated Attendance |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| September 2006 and 2007 | Camelot Cabin -- German House went camping in the wilderness of New Hampshire. | 17 |
| November 2006 and 2007 | Skit Night -- German House members prepared and enacted humorous skits of everyday life in front of an audience of peers. | 21 |
| April 2007 | German House CPW | 12 |
| December 2007 | German House cooked and served traditional Jewish food eaten for Hannukkah at the New House Holiday Celebration. | ~60 |

Individual German Activities

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Recurring Events | Many members of German House have participated in MIT-Germany including: Austin, Jason, Daniela, Madison, Marcelo, Sven, Mahalia, Stella | 8 (in past couple of years) |
| May 2007 | Literature night at Swiss Consulate - Four members of German House (17.4 % of the House) read their own German short stories and poems in front of an audience at the Swiss Consulate as part of Hansjorg Schertenleib’s class. | 35 |
| February 2007 | Jazz Night – We enjoyed attending a Jazz concert with Max Kleidinger and subsequently conversing in German about German culture in nearby European style Coffee House. | 6 |

| | | |
|------------------|--|------|
| May 2007 | Max's going home celebration – We celebrated the departing of our new friend Max with German treats. | 23 |
| Recurring Events | Every two weeks German House enjoys a movie in our Lounge. These movies are often in German. | 6-12 |
| October 2006 | Members of German House went to a traditional German Resutaurant for dinner. | 9 |

Conclusion

The past few years has been fun and educational for Das Deutsche Haus residents. We have had extensive contact with many native Germans here at MIT as a dormitory and also abroad on an individual level. We have learned about and experienced the culture of Germany in a way that other non-cultural dorms cannot. Not only have we expanded our cultural horizons, but we have also had a lot of fun. We are looking forward to building on the successes of the past year with repeats of many of the past year's events in addition to new events. The state of Das Deutsche Haus is strong.

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