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**AREA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AWARDED SUMMER STUDY TRIP TO GERMANY**

Emma Shepherd a student at Neuqua Valley High School in Naperville, IL, has been awarded an all‐expense‐paid summer study trip to Germany.

Emma was selected as a national winner after scoring in the 99th percentile on the Level 3 2022 National German Exam for High School Students sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG). Over 11,900 students participated in the program. After qualifying with a high score on the National German Exam, she submitted responses to several short essay questions in German and in English and was then interviewed by a committee comprised of high school teachers and college professors of German.

Emma is one of 48 outstanding German students selected from across the US to receive the award, along with 8 additional students who are receiving a similar award. The study trip includes round‐trip air transportation to Germany from New York or Newark, a homestay in a host family, and excursions to places of cultural and historical significance. The study trip, now in its 61st year, is made possible through a grant from the Federal Republic of Germany.

“This year’s prize winners are some of the finest students in the US,” said Michael Shaughnessy, Executive Director of the AATG. “The prize is a great reward for excellence in learning German—and the best way to better get to know a fascinating language and culture through firsthand experiences living with a German family and attending school.”

Emma and the other winners will travel to Germany this summer. She a student of Karen Calvert, German teacher at Neuqua Valley High School.

Founded in 1926, the AATG represents German teachers at all levels of instruction. The AATG is dedicated to the advancement and improvement of the teaching of language, literature and culture of the German‐speaking countries.

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