Dear alumni and friends of JYM,

With this issue of the newsletter we want to highlight and express our most sincere gratitude to JYM alumni and friends of the program who have greatly improved our ability to offer scholarships to incoming JYM students. Because of your generosity and gifts to JYM, today we are able to offer nearly $60,000 in JYM scholarships annually to 20 students in need of financial assistance.

But it hasn't been an easy road to travel. Twenty-one years ago, when I became JYM Program Director, our alumni records were in quite a state of disarray. We were transitioning to the digital age, but our records were all on 14-inch reels of tape and on typed paper lists. More recent students who were actually in “the system” couldn’t be identified as JYM alumni. We therefore had no choice but to begin anew and reconstruct everything as best we could. And with only the two of us in the JYM office in Detroit, that was a daunting task. Although it’s still a work in progress with many of our alumni still “lost,” at least now most JYM alumni have a presence on the Wayne State database, even if not a valid address.

With an alumni base of nearly 5000 former JYMers, we imagined that great things could be accomplished to help deserving students finance their JYM experience. And we were right!

Compared to twenty years ago, when we only had one JYM scholarship fund to draw upon, today we have seven endowed and annual JYM scholarship funds, plus two outside sources of scholarship funding we can count on each year.

Thanks to the loyal support of JYM alumni and friends of the program, of the 1,210 students who have gone on JYM since 1995, we have been able to help 445 of them (37%) with JYM scholarships totaling more than $1 million ($1,045,968 to be precise!).

As you know, JYM creates memories that last a lifetime. JYM makes a big difference in the lives of students who are fortunate enough to go on the program. JYM fulfills dreams and for many turns out to be the foundation for exciting and enriching careers.

Unfortunately, there are always deserving students, who have been accepted to the program, but who ultimately lack the financial means actually to participate when September comes around. Although we are able to help many students with scholarship assistance, sometimes it’s just not enough.
For that reason we strive to keep our Program Fee as low as possible. JYM has consistently remained the lowest-priced study abroad option in Germany among our competitors. After going 6 years without raising our Program Fee, we've finally had to do so. Beginning fall 2017 the JYM Program Fee (which includes tuition, housing and insurance) will be $22,100 for the year. But that will still keep our Program Fee well below that of comparable programs in Germany such as the Junior Year in Heidelberg ($25,650), Lewis & Clark Year in Munich ($38,832) or Dickinson College's Junior Year in Bremen ($60,870). Our ability to offer JYM scholarships is unique among comparable programs and makes JYM all the more competitive and affordable.

What's next on our fundraising agenda? Before I retire, I would love to see JYM's future secured by an endowed program fund that would support the expansion of curricular, instructional and experiential opportunities in Munich, so that we would not have to resort to increasing the Program Fee to sustain the program and make new initiatives possible.

I would also love to assist JYM alumni living in Germany create a "Friends of the Junior Year in Munich, e.V." so that alumni in Germany who have expressed an interest in giving back to JYM, might have an appropriate avenue to do so.

Finally, I simply must say that I am truly humbled by the many JYM alumni who have included JYM in their yearly and long-range gift-giving activities, from responding to our annual end-of-year letter to replenish scholarship funds and utilizing employer matching gifts to double the impact of their annual gift, to the transfer of stocks and securities to JYM, designating JYM as a beneficiary of their life insurance policies, or by including JYM in their wills and estate planning. 445 JYM scholarship recipients in the past twenty years have benefitted from your generosity, which truly underscores what Frau Dr. Riegler said of the students when she accepted the honorary doctorate degree from Wayne State at the 50th anniversary of JYM: "They are the Junior Year in Munich!"

With all best wishes and kind regards,

Mark Ferguson, Ph.D.
Program Director

This year is Dr. Mark Ferguson's 25th anniversary as Senior Lecturer at Wayne State University! 21 of those years have been spent as director of the JYM Program. Clearly, JYM would not be the same or nearly as successful without all that he has invested! Congratulations to Mark from the entire JYM staff, students and alumni!
**Spotlight on JYM Scholarships and Donors**

The JYM is so fortunate to have such supportive and generous alumni and friends of the program. Ever since the first scholarship was awarded in 1954, each year many students depend on scholarship assistance in order to participate in the program. In recent years, we have been able to award approximately $60,000 annually in scholarships to 20-25 incoming students who would otherwise not be able to afford to spend a year with JYM. This year we wanted to give an overview of the scholarship funds and honor our donors for their continuing support and generosity in “giving back” to the JYM.

**German American Cultural Center of Detroit Scholarship**

First things first: Members of the German American Cultural Center of Detroit were the original underwriters of the JYM program when it started up at Wayne State University in 1953 under the sheer drive and determination of Professor John F. Ebelke. Without the support of the GACC at that time, the Junior Year in Munich may never have come into existence. In 1954, the Center provided funds for the first scholarship ever for a JYM student. It was awarded to Mr. George Bevers who has sadly now passed away, but who was a good friend to the program. To this day, the GACC continues to provide scholarship funds for one or more JYM students so that they may benefit from the once-in-a-lifetime opportunities which the JYM makes possible. We are truly indebted to the members of the German American Cultural Center in more ways than one!

**Junior Year in Munich Alumni Scholarship**

This scholarship fund has been the backbone of our funding sources since the program began. Funding for this scholarship award is made possible by you, our generous alumni and friends of JYM, in response to our annual fund-raising letter. It is really gratifying that so many former Program participants believe that their year or semester in Munich was such a formative and invaluable event in their lives. Many alumni report that their JYM was the best year of their lives and they are glad to give back so that others may have the opportunity for a similar experience. We thank you most sincerely on behalf of so many students who have come after you and who have benefited from your generosity. In particular, we would like to give a shout-out to Phil Fantle from the JYM class of 1978-79 who makes a generous annual gift in support of students from his alma mater, the University of Minnesota, to encourage their participation in JYM. Each year we award between $8,000 - $12,000 in JYM Alumni scholarships.

**Dr. Marianne Riegler Endowed Scholarship**

Dr. Marianne Riegler’s career with the Junior Year in Munich first began as an instructor in 1955 and would ultimately span four decades. During Dr. Riegler’s thirty-three years as Resident Director of the program from 1961-1994, thousands of JYM’s former students gained from her unwavering commitment to the lasting benefits of study abroad. In recognition of her dedicated service to the Junior Year in Munich program and the lifelong impact she had on so many of its students, in 2005 the JYM Class of 1968-69 initiated a successful campaign to establish an endowed scholarship fund in honor of Dr. Marianne Riegler. The “FDR” endowment has grown to a current market value of over $128,000 which generates over $5,000 in scholarships each year. When selecting students for the FDR awards, we try to identify those who most exemplify Dr. Riegler’s standards of excellence: a superior academic record, excellent grades in German, and an intelligent and thoughtful application essay.

**The Junior Year in Munich Alumni Scholarship has been the backbone of our funding sources since the program began**

**Timothy Dolan Memorial Scholarship**

Timothy Dolan (1959-2001) was a participant in the 1980-81 JYM program. His classmates remember him for the enthusiasm with which he embraced life and how his drive to excel and inspire others was contagious. Always dreaming up new group activities, he was able to bring people together at the last minute to jump on a train for a weekend trip, or a late night swim in the Eisbach under a full moon on the last evening of JYM. Tim’s enthusiasm for life taught others to discover, even in the smallest event, an occasion for their own personal growth. He reminds us never to forget that it is often those small memorable moments which really make life enjoyable, interesting, and worthwhile. This annual gift makes significant scholarships possible for 8-10 students. It is funded by a gift from a JYM alumnus who was inspired by Tim Dolan’s example to provide financial assistance to students who could most benefit from such an award and make possible their participation in the Junior Year in Munich.
MARVIN S. SCHINDLER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP
Professor Marvin S. Schindler (1932-2003) was the Program Director of Wayne State's Junior Year in Germany (Freiburg and Munich) programs from 1975 to 1993, and Professor and Chair of the Romance and Germanic Languages and Literatures Department. A beloved teacher and scholar, with many accomplishments to his credit, Marvin Schindler is also remembered for his keen intellect, brilliant wit, and wonderful sense of humor. Above all, he was utterly committed and absolutely devoted to the JYM/F programs. He was a fierce believer in the value of study abroad and the promotion of strong German-American relations. In memory and in honor of his commitment to education abroad, his wife Professor Roslyn Abt Schindler established an endowed scholarship fund in his name. Currently, the endowment generates more than $1,600 in scholarship funds each year. We have been delighted that Roz Schindler has been able to nominate one or more of her own students for the award each year since she currently teaches German in the Dept of Classical & Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures here at Wayne State. Professor Schindler will be retiring at the end of the Fall 2016 semester, but the “Schindler Legacy” will continue to inspire us just as the Marvin S. Schindler Endowment will continue to support our students. Thank you, Roz!

Ron Strube Memorial Scholarship
Ron Strube was a member of the JYM class of 1978-79. Ron attended the University of Wyoming in Laramie, where he completed his BA after spending his junior year in Munich. He graduated from the University of Colorado, Denver with his JD in 1982 and remained in the city where he practiced law. Ron was an admired and loved member of the 1978-79 JYM class. He had a large group of friends and was active in many LGBT associations and an advocate for civil rights and LGBT issues. Thanks to the initiative of his classmates and friends from the JYM Class of 1978-79, an annual scholarship in Ron’s memory was created in November 2014. At the beginning of this year, the fund had grown to $9,800 and we are delighted to report that the first two “Ron Strube Scholarships” were awarded to students accepted to the 2016-17 JYM program.

Max Kade Foundation Scholarships
Since 1980, the Max Kade Foundation has provided a grant to JYM for scholarship assistance to students participating in the program. Over the years, hundreds of our alumni have benefitted from the generosity of the Foundation and many of you will surely remember being the recipient of a “Max Kade Scholarship.” The Max Kade Foundation has the goal of furthering cultural understanding between the United States and German speaking countries, and it believes that helping students participate in our program enhances this goal. We cannot begin to thank the Foundation enough for its generous and continuing support of our students.

This Year We Are Thrilled to Report Two New Endowed Scholarships and a Bequest to Support JYM!

Howard Adler Endowed Scholarship
The Howard Adler Endowed Scholarship was established by Mr. Adler himself, a JYM alumnus from the class of 1971-72. In his own words, Mr. Adler believes that his year in Munich with JYM was one of the most incredible and best years of his life in so many ways. We love to hear this! He has created this endowed scholarship to help give future students the opportunity to experience a year or semester with JYM. We are delighted to report that the first “Howard Adler” scholarship was awarded to a student accepted into JYM for 2016-17. On behalf of the students who will continue to benefit from your generosity, we thank you, Howard Adler!

Susan Henrichsen Thompson and Robert W. Thompson Endowed Scholarship
Both Susan and Bob Thompson studied abroad their junior year in college, Susan with JYM and Bob with his own college’s program in Fribourg, Switzerland. After her JYM, Susan returned to Munich to work as Frau Dr. Marianne Riegler’s assistant in the JYM office, an experience she cherishes. Bob and Susan only met each other years later but both felt an immediate bond upon learning that each had studied an entire college year in German-speaking lands. Because they both feel passionately that studying abroad in Europe was one of the major highlights and turning points of their lives and subsequent careers, and that their experiences shaped their future selves profoundly for the better, they decided they wanted to play a small part in helping others have a similar life-changing opportunity. We are so delighted and grateful that Susan and Bob Thompson’s gift and bequest will benefit the JYM program and its students well into the future. Their generosity will make possible what they consider to be the “precious opportunity” to study, live, and become acquainted with a culture and people with a different way of life and thinking from one’s own. We salute you, Susan and Bob Thompson!

- By Louise Speed, Assistant to the Director
Donors 2015

Our sincere thanks to alumni and friends of JYM whose gifts in 2015 made JYM scholarships possible for students on the 2016-17 program and beyond!

Ruth Abel
Howard Adler
American Endowment Foundation
Bronwen Anders
Christopher Aquilino
Andrew Armbruster
Rita Arthur
Corwin Atwood
Juergen Barbusca
Alice Barrows
Roslyn and Ara Basherian
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MaryEllen Van Wie
Abraham Vandermeulen
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Donald Verity
Christine von Klencke
Vivienne West
Kenneth Wiggins
Williams Group 1
Jean Wolf

Vielen herzlichen Dank an alle!

For more information on how to give a gift, visit the Give to JYM page of the website: www.jym.wayne.edu/giveJYM - Thanks!
NEW CERTIFICATE FOR INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE!

As of the academic year 2014-2015, JYM students now have a unique chance to earn a Certificate for Intercultural Competence Study and Training awarded by the Institut für Interkulturelle Kommunikation (IKK) at the LMU. To receive the certificate JYM students must successfully complete two LMU Munich courses, *Einführung in die Interkulturelle Kommunikation* in the first semester and *Theorien der Interkulturellen Kommunikation* in the second semester. Alongside the lectures, JYM students attend a tandem seminar at JYM where they analyze the lecture material together as a group.

Current Student Perspective

“One interesting point brought up in lecture was that the question “Where are you from,” asked in English in the U.S., can elicit a very different reaction than the question “Woher kommst du,” asked in Germany. In surveys, people were revealed to feel much more negatively about the question “Woher kommst du,” and the theorized explanation for this difference in reaction was that in a more homogenous, less immigrant-oriented culture like Germany’s, the question is usually directed at an individual’s ancestry, not their hometown. Therefore, the question can create a sort of in/out-group dynamic, wherein someone born in Germany of non-German ancestry is implicitly, even if not intentionally, accused of not being entirely German, and this in turn can cause the negative perception of the question. The same phenomenon can occur in the U.S. as well, but the question itself is less pointed and is usually directed at an individual’s hometown and is therefore perceived as less negative. Learning this explanation in Germany was particularly rewarding, because I have in fact heard people respond to “Woher kommst du” by explaining their ancestry, and IKK offered a great insight into why this may be more common in Germany than back at home.”

- Nathaniel Ver Steeg, Harvard University

Continued next page

Dr. Ivett Gunterdsorfer joined JYM in 2012 as a language instructor and has been teaching the IKK accompanying seminar. JYM interviewed her about the courses as well as the certificate program she coordinates.

-by Somner Forschner

**What exactly is intercultural communication as a discipline?**

Intercultural Communication is a multidisciplinary field, which studies culture through the lens of psychology, ethnology, linguistics, communication theories and neuroscience.

**What are some main topics covered in the IKK lectures at the LMU?**

Both lectures are held by LMU Professor Alois Moosmüller and focus on communication in an international setting or simply with strangers, who do not belong to one’s own cultural frame of reference. The so-called micro dimensions such as stereotypes, the psychology of misunderstandings and our own self-reflections are taken into consideration along with the equally important macro dimensions, e.g. globalization, integration and the idea of national cultures. The course deals with both theoretical and practical aspects.

**What is the aim of the accompanying seminar at JYM?**

The seminar at JYM covers the most important topics presented in the lecture but the focus is more on self-reflection, a highly important tool for developing intercultural competency. In the course, we focus on comparisons between German and US-American culture and recent changes and cultural developments in these two countries in terms of globalization. We not only discuss the theories presented in the lecture but analyze them in our own words and critique them. It is a great pleasure for me to challenge my students’ views and help to expand their horizons, or “Horizontweiterung” to use the wonderful German expression for this process. Students are taught to become aware of their own cultural setting and recognize different cultural patterns in intercultural situations. In German, the process of reaching this stage of sensitivity or adaptability is aptly termed “Kultursensibilisierung”. This is not only important for students in adapting to German culture during their year abroad but is
also crucial to intercultural competency for other countries as well. Students develop practical skills as well as a life-long mindset.

**What is the idea behind providing certification?**

Many international companies appreciate and look for people who can demonstrate competency managing in intercultural settings. This certificate gives our students something in the hand which shows their extra qualification and is also proof that they did something very useful during their stay in Germany. This program is the first of its kind in Germany – only JYM offers this certificate! The IKK Certificate Program for JYM has been so successful in the eyes of both university scholars and the LMU administration alike, that the IKK institute will be expanding this to a university-wide certificate program at the LMU starting this upcoming academic year. I will have the pleasure of assisting in this process!

**What do you witness in terms of students developing in their intercultural competence over the course of the year?**

I see a significant development of my students: They are not only becoming more informed about German culture but make a huge step in their critical thinking and learn a great deal about themselves – which is the first step in understanding any intercultural situation. Their essays and self-reflections attest to this, and the occasional Facebook posts that I am privy to underline this assumption. I have also observed that students who have attended the Intercultural Communication seminars tend to end up working in an international setting after completing their degrees in the US.

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**Current Student Perspective**

„When enrolling in the course, I thought I would simply gain more insight into German culture, but then I found myself also reflecting on and analyzing my own culture including my own cultural assumptions and values. I found it exciting to take an in-depth look at differences that come up in everyday life between various cultures—in the workplace, family-life and relationships. I learned something new every class session and discussion that helped me on a daily basis in adjusting. One difference I hadn’t considered before was how friendships develop in Germany as opposed to the US. The analogy comparing Germans and Americans as “Coconuts versus Peaches” (considering Germans to be tough to crack but soft on the inside, etc.) was immediately helpful in making German friends. The realization was a “wow moment” for me as I observed the tendency first hand. In total, I learned to observe and respect the nuances and differences between all cultures or even larger cultural groups, e.g. Eastern Europe vs. Western Europe. In my opinion this type of course is pretty much a MUST for any student studying abroad.”

-Austin Kerns, Truman State University

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► 14 JYM students from the Class of 2015 received the IKK Certificate at Graduation! ◄

**Moriah Early-Manchester (2014-15)** writes “Participating in two Intercultural Communication classes last year at LMU and afterwards obtaining the certificate was one of the highlights of my study abroad. Already having a deep appreciation for culture, this field of study enriched my understanding of how to effectively communicate with people of different backgrounds. The courses helped to answer the "why" behind people's thought processes and actions. Of course this knowledge and awareness is so important in today's world. Rather than widening divides, intercultural communication promotes understanding, prevents misunderstandings and fosters dialogue. It is a very practical tool and I have certainly been able to use it in real life situations, especially since I have friends from all over the world. Now I am interested in pursuing this subject further, hopefully eventually obtaining a Master's degree in it. My dream is to start an organization that applies many of the principles of ICC. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in the courses at the LMU. They certainly enriched my thought and life and gave me a sense of direction in regards to my future.

*Moriah is returning to Germany in August for a one-year internship at the International School of Stuttgart. Congratulations, Moriah!*

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**Evan Marshall Binford (2014-14)** writes: “My experience in Germany during the Junior Year in Munich program would have been a drastically different one if I had not enrolled in the two semesters of Intercultural Communication at the LMU—that's a fact. The benefits were clear inside and outside of the classroom, whether it was gaining a broader perspective of the definition and manifestation of culture or providing clarity in my everyday interactions in a foreign country. The course helped shed light on a great number of stereotypes and misconceptions that I had initially, some of which I was completely unaware of. After viewing these from a theoretical perspective and addressing many issues common to American expats, I could properly reflect upon my own degree of intercultural sensitivity and adjust my outlook to better get along in the then very foreign environment. This mode of reflection has stayed with me since and continues to shape the way I view culture as a whole, the foreign culture which I find myself in and most notably my own.”

*Evan is currently living in Munich and studying ethology at the LMU.*
Thursday evening, Sept. 2, 1971, an Air France charter flight departed Logan International Airport in Boston bound for Frankfurt with virtually all of the students who would spend the next 11 months participating in the Junior Year in Munich and the Junior Year in Freiburg. I was fortunate to be seated next to Steven Hagenau from Brown University; we were to become close friends in Munich.

I remember trudging through the Frankfurt airport the next morning staring at the blue and white signage and thinking repeatedly, “I used to know what that German word means”. It was clear my two years of college German had only “fundamentally” prepared me for what lay ahead, and I wondered if I had made a mistake in deciding to spend a year studying in Munich.

After collecting our bags and clearing customs, we JYMers boarded tour buses and headed south for Bad Mergentheim, a beautiful spa community on the Romantische Strasse, where we would spend the weekend, getting over jet lag, meeting one another, and beginning our orientation. Again, I was quite fortunate to take a seat on the bus next to Corinne de Cholnoky from Radcliffe College. Corinne’s mother was Viennese, and Corinne arrived in Germany with native fluency in the language. I envied her. She and I also became good friends. JYM instructor, Christoph Burgauner, had come to Frankfurt with Frau Doktor Riegler (FDR) to meet our class, and that weekend over beers he, Corinne, Steve Hagenau, Warren Viertel and I began close friendships with each other that saw us through the entire year.

On Monday we boarded buses and headed to Munich. FDR had driven her car to Frankfurt to meet our group, and not wishing to drive alone, asked if one of us would volunteer to ride with her. Standing next her, I raised my hand and was selected to ride with her.

Arriving in Munich, we were dropped off at our respective Studentenheimes. Mine was in Schwabing in the Fallmerayerstrasse. It was a dark and forbidding place that my German roommate, who was to arrive later, once characterized as “eher ein Altersheim als ein Studentenheim.” Helmut and I never spoke English with one another. I was truly immersed in the German language.

Late that afternoon of our arrival in Munich there was a reception for all of us new students in the JYM office in the Leopoldstrasse. I remember being so impressed that Terri Herz, that year’s program secretary, and Herr Holler, FDR’s Verwaltungsassistent, greeted each of us students by name as we entered the office. How did they do that?

I walked into my dorm room one afternoon in early October to be greeted by my German roommate, Helmut Schenk. He was a first year student from Straubing studying at the Technische Hochschule (now the Technische Universitaet). He and I were extremely well matched. His girlfriend (now his wife of almost 40 years), Maggie Hohenberger, a first year art history student at the LMU, rounded out the trio of close friends we became.

Late November I was puzzled to receive a letter at my dorm bearing a return address in Augsburg. Everyone in Germany who knew me was part of the Junior Year. The letter was from Friedel Foerster, a 65 year old woman, whose aunt had left Germany in the 1920’s, settled in Ohio and was now (in 1971) the housekeeper for my grandmother’s closest friend in Florida. Friedel had learned I was in Munich from her “Tante Ida” and was inviting me to spend Christmas with her. It was the beginning of a dear friendship that lasted until Friedel passed away in 1994. Upon receiving my acceptance, Friedel asked her American acquaintances (many Americans were then stationed in Augsburg) about the traditional Christmas meal. She managed to get a turkey from the Army BX and roasted it to perfection. Herrs remains the only Christmas tree I’ve ever seen adorned with burning candles.

Throughout the year several of us JYMers would meet on Friday evening to play poker. The group regularly included Corinne, Steve Hagenau, Terry Smith (from Austin College), myself and later Linda Mueller (from Carroll College). Linda proved to be a great poker player and a hoot. The games were always low stakes and lots of beer.

Corinne had a car. Five weeks into the Sommersemester she approached Terry Smith and me and asked if we would like to drive to Vienna with her the next weekend to visit the city and her grandmother. It was a wonderful adventure, until Corinne’s car broke down during our return trip on Monday, forcing us to spend the night in a Pension in a small town.

“We were brothers and sisters in a grand adventure. I actually have stronger emotional memories of my time with the JYM than I do of the three years I spent on my college’s campus!”
I remember well the day I wrote my last JYM final exam. It was a Saturday morning exam for German Romanticism with Christoph Burgauner. That afternoon several of us “retired” to the top of one of the buildings in the Studentenstadt Freimann for sunshine, poker and, of course, beer. I had terribly conflicted feelings. I was elated at having survived the year, gained exceptional fluency in German, learned so much from my courses, and made many dear friends.

Yet, it was all coming to an end, and I began to painfully wonder if I would ever see any of these people again. Was this one year simply a fleeting page in my life now almost turned? The culture shock of returning home was setting in before I had even left.

Before I left Germany in early August, Helmut, Maggie and I piled into her VW beetle and made a twelve day trip through southern Germany. It was important to all of us to spend that time visiting parts of southern Germany I had not yet seen. We covered quite a bit of territory, and I still remember many of the events and topics over which we laughed.

Two Indelible Memories

Two of the many indelible memories occurred during my participation on the “Berlin Seminar”. At the time the BRD provided all foreign students studying at German universities the opportunity to spend a week in Berlin - kostenlos. About six other JYMers and I went with a larger group in mid-May 1972. Crossing Checkpoint Charlie into East Berlin included a “stop” in a small building just inside East Berlin for passport control and to purchase the requisite minimum five East German D-Marks. After initial review, all passports were taken to the rear of the building for closer examination. We told her we were studying at the LMU. She said she had heard Munich was beautiful. We told her it was spectacularly gorgeous in preparation for the Olympic Games, which were a scant 3 months away. Then this young East German woman said wistfully, “We hope one day to be able to see Munich.” It almost broke my heart.

Three days later the same group of us went back to East Berlin to see a performance of Bertolt Brecht’s “Der Aufhaltsame Aufstieg des Arturo Uri” at the Brecht Theater – still the most riveting stage production I have ever seen. We had bought our tickets in West Berlin and arrived at the theater seconds before the curtain rose on the first act. I had just enough time to spend 15 pfennig of the 5 marks I had exchanged at Checkpoint Charlie for a program. The play was over about 9:30, by which time the streets of East Berlin had all but been rolled up. Three in our group decided to look for a beer on the east side of the wall; Steve Hagenau and I opted to go back to the West.

We entered the small building on the east side of Checkpoint Charlie and presented our passports to the sole East German border official behind the counter. After looking at my passport, he asked if I had any DDR money. I pulled the 4 Marks and 85 pfennig part way out of the right front pocket of my jeans and said, “Nur dies.” The guard told me I could either go back into the city and spend the money or drop the aluminum coins in a canister at the end of the counter which was ostensibly a collection for “The Victims of American Imperialism in Viet Nam”. I opposed the war, but seriously doubted any money in the canister would ever leave the DDR. I looked the guard squarely in the eyes and stated I had hoped to be able to keep the coins as souvenirs. He looked first over his left shoulder, then over his right as he stated, “Das ist aber auusserst verboten!” I replied, “ja, das weiss ich” as I shoved the coins back into my pocket and calmly walked out of the building. I still have the souvenirs.
Both incidents at Checkpoint Charlie impressed upon me that all Germans had been and continued to be victims, first of the Nazi horrors and later of the ideological and political differences between the east and the west. Yet, despite the palpable tension in Berlin, all of us were after all ordinary people.

The annual Thanksgiving dinner held in the Hotel Regina Palast (where Neville Chamberlain stayed in September 1938 while attending the conference at which he surrendered the Sudetenland to the Nazi’s) was a fabulous event. The genuine Thanksgiving meal, complete with roast turkey, dressing and even pumpkin pie, gave us students a meaningful taste of home, at a time I’m sure all of us had longings to be with our families. Attendees included officials from the Uni, professors with whom we were attending lectures, tutors and other people important to the Junior Year. Some of us JYMers were seated with these guests to converse with them and help them feel genuinely honored. I was seated with a couple, whose names I cannot remember. I struck up a conversation with the wife who asked me where I studied in the States. I told her a small private liberal arts college in Florida of which she most certainly had never heard. She asked its name, and I told her. She said, “Oh, my husband and I know it well. The head of the literature dept. there was a colleague of my husband’s at the University of Arkansas. We left the States and came (or returned, I can’t remember which) to Europe after my husband was black-listed by the House Un-American Activities Committee.”

Lifelong Friendships Developed

The Junior Year blessed my life twice. First in 1971-72 as a student. Then in 1974-75 when I was FDR’s Verwaltungssassistent. Given the opportunity, I would gladly go back to Munich and repeat either or both of those years.

I first returned to Munich in December 2006, 41 years after I was FDR’s Verwaltungssassistent. We met for dinner one evening; it was a marvelous experience. We reminisced, shared events that had happened in our respective lives, and laughed. I felt again like I had come home. Sixteen months later, FDR passed away. I’m eternally grateful I shared those four hours with her. It rounded out and completed our relationship for me.

I returned to Dachau, Germany last summer as the guest of my former German roommate and his wife, who was then his girlfriend when we were students. We had not seen or had much contact in 40 years, but it was as if we had only been apart for 10 days. I cherish them and am deeply grateful I am still a special person in their lives. I still have some contact with fellow JYMers and would love to re-establish contact with any of them who have that interest.

Emotionally, we were brothers and sisters in a grand adventure. I actually have stronger emotional memories of my time with the JYM than I do of the three years I spent on my college’s campus here in Florida.

It is no exaggeration when I say that I have no idea who I would be or be had I not participated in the JYM. Not a single clue. I grew up in a community of 5,000, graduated from a small high school, and attended a college of 1000 students 85 miles away from home. I returned from Munich ganz anders. Above everything else, I came back with a Weltanschauung completely different than the one I’d had before. I view America and its place in the world very differently now.

The culture shock upon returning home greatly surprised me. I recall looking at my family members when I arrived home and thinking, “They appear to be 35 minutes older than they were when I left. It’s as if I’ve returned from a brief errand. And I feel 5 or more years older.”

Words of advice for current or potential JYM students:

First, Just Do It! Go to Munich. And go to Munich for the full year, and your life will never, ever be the same again. Many things in Germany have changed since I was there. English is literally everywhere. One almost has to work at avoiding it. That wasn’t the case in the early 70’s. Go with the objective of becoming as immersed in the language as you can. Build friendships with Germans; spend as much time with them as you can, and avoid the numerous opportunities to stay connected to the States and English, i.e., CNN and Social Media, as you can. It will be tough at first, but it will pay huge dividends!

Steve is a regular donor to the program. JYM sincerely thanks him for his enduring interest and steadfast support of the program!
Greetings JYM Alumni,

My name is Renee Remy, and I was part of the JYM class of 2005-06. So much has changed since then and yet, nothing has changed. Here I sit 10 years later, in Munich, just as before. Except now instead of studying at the LMU, I’m teaching English a few hundred meters down the street. After finishing my BA and doing an MA, I returned to Munich in search of a job. Thanks to a recommendation from the JYM director, Hans-Peter Söder, I landed a job at the Fremdsprachinstitut München (FIM) teaching general and technical English to students preparing to become Bavarian state certified translators and interpreters. Fast forward six years...I love the job so much that I’m still employed at the FIM.

Shortly after moving back to Munich, I became president of the German/American Junior Club which I had been a part of during JYM. This was a good way to get in contact with people my age living in Munich. Unfortunately, the club was dissolved a few years later. However, I also managed to meet several other Americans here in Munich. Many are English teachers, some musicians, and others work for various American companies. They are my lifeline whenever I need tax advice, a place to celebrate Thanksgiving, or most importantly – a dose of American culture. Here’s a shout-out to all the JYM alumni in Munich! I know there are a number of us!

Sometimes I still reminisce about the good old days in JYM. I really enjoyed being able to take classes on any subject under the sun at the LMU I even managed to find a class called Magic in the World of Harry Potter and in Renaissance Philosophy – it was by far my favorite! I took as many classes as possible that year. It was nice to have a break from the usual hustle and bustle of American universities. Having the freedom to travel throughout Germany and throughout Europe was the best! I feel I made the most of my year travel-wise. I enjoyed participating in the JYM Scholars Program because it gave me the chance to explore places I may not necessarily have chosen myself, as well as to reflect on the history/architecture/culture of the places I chose to visit. I enjoyed the JYM classes which took me to museums and other cultural sites. The Berlin Seminar, Vienna Seminar, as well as JYM Goes East (Ljubljana) were also highlights of the year. These excursions and “fieldtrips” helped solidify the information we had discussed in class. I also felt like JYM classes were often easier to navigate than LMU classes, since the instructors understood the American university system. The use of German in JYM classes was often molded to a level more appropriate for language learners. The faculty helped clear up any misunderstandings, so that the course material was not “lost in translation”. If I had to make a list of the things which I learned on JYM most applicable to my daily life - the list would be as follows:

1) German language skills. I think this goes without saying. But, I also think some people underestimate the value of having pragmatic and cultural knowledge to go along with and enhance the language skills.
2) How to write a CV in German. It’s one less thing to worry about, if you have one of these ready to go.
3) New ways to deal with confusing and uncomfortable situations. Trying to solve problems in a foreign language adds a new level of complexity.
4) Experience is great, as long as that experience can be backed up with some sort of official document. Germans love documentation.
5) Life abroad varies widely from city to city and from country to country. Friends and family back home will never fully relate to what it is like. Anyone who has never lived abroad can’t even begin to understand. It’s not quite the same as “being on vacation.”

I’d like to extend my thanks to the current and former members of the JYM staff in Munich and Detroit. I could never repay you for all the ways that JYM changed my life. I also want to give all future JYMers a piece of advice: No dream is ever too big. If you want something bad enough, go get it!

Viele Grüße aus München
Renee Remy

“Anyone who has never lived abroad can’t even begin to understand”

Renee with her partner, Manfred, longtime friend of JYM
Remember the Staff?
Remember the Class Trips?

WIEN - NEPTUNBRUNNEN bei Schloss Schönbrunn

HIMMEL ÜBER LJUBLJANA

WWII
Russian Memorial
BERLIN
MaryEllen (van Wie) LeBlanc returned to Germany after receiving a research Fulbright and was in Bonn in 2007-08. She went on to receive a Ph.D. in Germanic linguistics from UC Berkeley. She currently lives in Michigan with her husband and daughters (ages 4 and 1).

Susan Doose writes “After JYM, I returned to the U.S. I received my B.A. in 2007. Shortly thereafter, I travelled back to Munich, where I lived and worked for three years. During my time in Munich, I held various positions in translation, content development, and financial planning. In the fall of 2011, I began a Ph.D. program in German Literature at Rutgers University. As a graduate student at Rutgers, I taught German language courses to undergraduate students for three years—an incredibly enriching, life-changing experience! I am currently working on my dissertation, entitled "Framing Realism in the Works of Gottfried Keller, Adalbert Stifter, and Theodor Storm," a project that investigates the significance of the picture frame as a recurring motif in mid- to late-nineteenth-century German realist prose. I hope to complete my studies by the spring of 2017, and to pursue a career in university administration or publishing. Beste Grüße aus New Jersey!

Jessica Smith-Salzinger returned to Munich in 2007, where she lived in a shared apartment with fellow JYMers Lauren McConvile and Susan Doose. She found her passion for teaching working at a kindergarten at an international school, first in Pullach and eventually in Nymphenburg. Jessica married her JYM sweetheart, Stephan, in 2010. They lived in Munich until Stephan finished his Ph.D. in chemistry and his job moved them to the wine region of the Pfalz. There they welcomed their daughter, Lena Mae, in 2013. Jessica has been using her parental leave to finish a Master’s Degree in Education. She highly values the friendships she made during JYM and hopes to hear from anyone passing by!

Lauren Newland graduated from Kenyon College in May 2007 with a B.A. in German and French. She spent the next year living in Vienna, Austria, where she taught English through a Fulbright Fellowship. After her time in Austria, she moved to Washington, DC, where she lived and worked for two years, after which she moved to New Orleans and taught Kindergarten with “Teach for America”. She writes, “It was during this time that I realized how great the need for social-emotional interventions is, especially in low-income communities, so I went to grad school for social work at Columbia University and graduated with my MSW in May 2014”. Since October 2014, she has been living and working in Montgomery County, MD, just outside of DC. She is a Social Worker and Child Development Specialist for The Lourie Center, a therapeutic center that focuses on early intervention, prevention, and social-emotional wellness of young children and their families. In her role, she does home visits for the Montgomery County Infants & Toddlers Program. She provides parent education, parental coaching, mental health services, and social-emotional/developmental assessments with families who have children aged birth to three, who demonstrate developmental delays. “I can’t believe it’s been 10 years since JYM! I have such fond memories of that time—like HP once said, it really was “die süßeste Zeit des Lebens.”

Eleanor Wakefield had the opportunity last summer to take her husband, Dave Nyland, on his first ever trip to Europe, including a week in Munich during which they stayed with fellow JYM classmate, Chris Peterson. They were also hosted by Jessica Salzinger and her family, and got to see Ty and Renee as well! They even visited Burghausen, the Bavarian town where Eleanor spent her Fulbright year in 2007-2008. She writes, “Since Dave says we can’t afford to visit Germany this summer, I am just working on finishing my dissertation, which is about early twentieth century American sonnets, at the University of Oregon. If any JYM classmates are going to be in the Northwest, I would love to see you.”

Nina Lawrence worked in international education for a long time after leaving JYM. She managed the academic travel program for Queen's University's study abroad center in England, which was based in a fifteenth century castle. She now lives in Massachusetts with her boyfriend and writes historical romances under the name Bianca Blythe.

Kat Jong, M.D. writes, “Dear JYM Friends, I can’t believe it’s really been 10 years since my year in Munich! This spring I went back to Germany for the first time since study abroad and it was wonderful to see familiar faces (also during a visit to JYM and the staff!) and speak German for a few weeks. Many things have changed, but so much is also instantly familiar. Since finishing college I have flipped coasts a few times, first working in Seattle, and then moving back to NYC and Brooklyn to do a Post Baccalaureate program and then attend SUNY Downstate for medical school. This June, I graduated with my MD degree and moved (again) to Seattle, where I am now doing residency in Psychiatry at the University of Washington! My JYM year taught me many things, but most important was definitely to take chances, go on many adventures, and be open to new possibilities. Schönen Grüß!”
The Class of 2006.
Those were the Days!
ALUMNI UPDATES

Gregory H. Forsythe (1961-62) arrived in Germany about a month after the Berlin Wall went up. His parents feared war with the then USSR and almost had him withdrawn from JYM. But that year, he says, ended up being the crux of his life. He writes: “The joy of living that I experienced there remains strong in my soul now 54+ years later. I am so utterly grateful for that life shaping experience! BUT: all my pictures from then have gone missing! Are there any ‘61-’62 JYMers out there who could share some? I and my daughters and my grandchildren would be most grateful. Tschüß!

The following is a response to the Fall Newsletter 2015 article about a ship crew member searching for Susan Schwartz.

Jerry Stonewater (1968-69) was a classmate of Susan and writes: “The JYM newsletter is always a pleasure to receive, but this one was especially poignant for me. The article about Kees Crone trying to find Susan Schwartz was very interesting. I was in the JYM class of 1969 and indeed remember Susan and also Kees. I remember him both from the Statendam and from a visit he made to Munich. In fact, I was sure I had a picture of him at dinner with Susan at 52 Nordendstrasse, where Susan lived (see picture). Kees is the blond man in the left front and Susan is the dark haired woman to his left. Unfortunately, I have no information about Susan. And I have a minor correction to the article: The photo of all of the Munich class could not have been taken aboard ship as the article says because FDR was not with us on board and she is in the photo. I believe the picture was either from our welcoming banquet or our Thanksgiving dinner. Sorry I can't shed light on Susan, but the article certainly took me back a few years!”

Tilde Mariani Giache (1977-78) has been living back and forth between Italy and the USA ever since she graduated college back in 1979. Her last stay was in Florence—for nearly nine years—where she taught Kindergarten at the International School of Florence. She is back now in NYC as of August 2015 because her youngest daughter goes to NYU. She also has three other grown children, ages 24, 28, and 29. She is currently working at her sister's Fashion PR firm in NY – which is quite a different and challenging experience for her. From her 1977-78 JYM group, she has kept in touch with several people, including Dodie Morris, Luke Homan, Dean Davis, Bobby Clarke, and Joyce Steijn, to name a few. She writes, “It is too bad we didn't have email or Facebook back then...I would have to organize some get-togethers for sure!”

Jeffrey Vandreal (JYM 1982-83), now with the Foreign Service Berlin, graciously came and gave a talk in JYM this May. The title of his talk was Reflections of an Alumnus: From JYM to the Senior Foreign Service. Mr. Vandreal shared his many valuable experiences along his academic and career path. Many JYM students attended and those interested in foreign service and international relations were able to talk to Mr. Vandreal afterwards during a Wine & Cheese reception. JYM thanks Jeffrey for taking time out of his schedule for this year's students and leaving such a positive impression!

* Save the Date: Class of 1996-97, 20th Reunion!*  

Brooke (Wess) Gorman (1996-97) writes that several of her classmates have remained friends throughout the years, and several more have even reconnected via Facebook in more recent years. She writes: “It’s hard to believe, but we are coming up on our 20 year mark! We are starting the process of planning a 20 year reunion in Munich for the June/July 2017 time frame, so save the date!” For more info or to re-connect with the group, either request to join the “Junior Year in Munich 1996-97” group in Facebook or email Brooke brooke.wess@gmail.com

Like no time has passed...  

Jen Banish Jones and Jay Jetter (both 1997-98) came together again after 19 years since their Junior Year! These two alumni ended up living in the same state and meeting up this summer in Seattle at the Guns N’ Roses concert. They said it was great to reconnect!

John Ruby (1998-99) is an accomplished actor in Hollywood (website: johnruby.com). He has started a new film project this summer which was successfully funded via kickstarter.com. The film is to be called SOLVER. It is a mystery adventure film dealing with the secret cold war history of MK Ultra. Meanwhile, the film has moved into production, and filming started at the end of July. To learn more about the film and project updates, etc., go to www.kickstarter.com and enter “solver” in the search engine or visit solverfilm.com. JYM wishes John Ruby and his team much success! We look forward to the film’s release!
Robert Johnson (2002-03) writes: “While I was with JYM we went to the Amerikahaus to see and hear Bill Clinton talk about his time in Germany and how prescient he was in terms of how to reunite the DDR and BRD in terms of his predictive policy powers. Of course, everyone wanted to ask the former president a question. The one I ended up asking was ‘Considering the worsening situation in Italy and Greece, and their inability to care for the people landing there, should NATO be assisting in the Mediterranean with preventing people smuggling and assisting refugees?’ The President, who didn't seem to like my question, answered, "No. There's simply no role for NATO in that situation". I was pretty embarrassed. I thought my question had been good, but then I felt like an idiot. The original question I had wanted to ask was ‘When is your wife going to run for president?’ I have thought for years that I should have asked that one instead. We have come full circle. I am no longer embarrassed by my question”. Robert currently lives in Munich with his wife and children.

Nicole Sisco (2000-01) looks back very fondly on her time spent on the JYM program. Not only did she meet her best friend, who remains so to this day, but the Berlin Seminar inspired both of them to move to Berlin to work for four years after the program (and after graduating from their respective US colleges). She also became an international educator professionally, managing customized programs at the IES Abroad Center in Berlin. After earning her MA in England she began managing international professional fellowship programs for Cultural Vistas (formerly CDS International) in New York, including the Bosch Fellowship to Germany. She then moved to Portland, Oregon to work in the Education Abroad Office at Portland State University, and has recently started a new role managing professional development programs for the School of Business.

Anna (Giesen) Hutton (2004-05) and Erin Hutton (2007-08) have a new addition to their family! Little “Sepp” was born this spring on May 22, 2016. JYM wants to congratulate the new parents!

Chance meeting in Namibia
This May, two JYM alumni discovered their shared study abroad program in an unlikely place: the back roads of Namibia, in southwest Africa. Daniel Clausen (2006-07) was touring Namibia on behalf of the Center for Great Plains Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to learn about ecotourism and conservation. Viktoria (Paulic) Keding (1996-97) was the Nebraska group’s guide, in conjunction with her work in education for sustainable development. Keding is the co-founder and director of the Namib Desert Education Trust (NaDEET), an award winning educational camp for Namibian children and adults. Of German parents, Viktoria was raised in the United States and completed her university degree in Environmental Studies at Bowdoin College and is currently obtaining her MSc in Sustainable Development. She is passionate about environmental education and believes that we must all live a sustainable lifestyle to create positive change for our environment. She is a Namibian Climate Change Ambassador and Conservation Ambassador 2014. To learn more about NaDEET visit naDEET.org.

Joshua Shelly 2009-10 made a surprise visit to the JYM office as he was passing through Munich on a break from his Fulbright position in Bonn. After attending JYM in 2009-2010, Joshua graduated from Wayne State in 2011 and then attended the University of Illinois, completing degrees in Library Science and Religious Studies. Last year, he received a Fulbright to teach English in Bonn, Germany, where he’s lived since September 2015. Beginning this fall, Josh will be pursuing a PhD in German Studies at the joint Carolina Duke German Studies program in North Carolina. It was great to see Joshua and learn about all that he has been doing since his year abroad!

Chance meeting at Harvard!
Suri Xia (2013-14) (right) recently graduated from Mount Holyoke college and is currently working full time as an immigration paralegal in downtown Boston. She ran into Caroline Zhang (2014-15) (left) when they were both attending a summer program at Harvard Business School a few months ago. HBS selected about 200 students around the globe this year to try out their classes for a weekend and funny enough, Caroline and Suri were placed in the same cohort. Suri sends greetings from the east coast!

JYM wants to congratulate Morgan (Seiler) Doerge and Johannes Doerge (both 2012-13) on their wedding! They came together on the JYM program as a couple. “MoJo” married this June 2016!

Katie Saslow (2014-15) accepted a spot at the Hertie School of Governance for their Masters in International Affairs program. She moved to Berlin this summer and will be starting her program in September. Best of luck to Katie from JYM!

Jesse Gamoran (2014-15) visited the JYM office in January 2016 while in Germany after having received a stipend to do two weeks of research in the archives in Munich and Berlin to finish his bachelor thesis on German-Jewish history. He promised to keep us updated on future plans and he has! Breaking news on Jesse—see next page!
After a successful year abroad in Munich, a number of students go on to be awarded Fulbright Fellowships after graduation with the support and recommendation from JYM's resident director, Professor Hans-Peter Söder. Here are a few recipients who have reported back to us! We love hearing from alumni when they win Fulbrights. We encourage future candidates and recipients to keep us posted and inform us on their success!

Jeff Bastien (1998-99) was a Teaching Assistant Grantee from 2000-01. He was originally placed in Chemnitz at the Georgius Agricola Gymnasium, but he only stayed there about two months before being relocated to Munich after a “not-so-nice experience with 3 skinheads”. He then completed his Fulbright at both the Willi-Graf Gymnasium and the SophieScholl Gymnasium in Munich. Aside from the one negative experience, he considers his Fulbright year to have been extremely rewarding and is grateful for having had that amazing opportunity!

Megan (Walker) Karklins (2004-05) did a teaching Fulbright in 2006-07 up in Rostock. She says at least two other JYM students from her class did Fulbrights that same year including Kurt Hollender in Hamburg.

Betsy (Garnett) Bernett (2004-05) had a Fulbright teaching assistantship 2006-08 at Theodor Heuss Gymnasium in Recklinghausen.

Katharine Bente Knarreborg (2005-06) did a Fulbright teaching assistantship in 2007-08 at a Gymnasium in Hemsbach, Baden-Württemberg and lived in Heidelberg.

Lauren White (2008-09) got a teaching Fulbright after graduating for 2010-11 and was sent to Sebnitz in Saxony for a year. She extended for a second year and was at a school in Dresden. She still lives in Germany and has landed back in Bavaria after several moves for studies and internships. She just finished her degree in Translation from University of Leipzig and now lives just north of Erlangen, where she has started working as a freelance translator!

Corbin Mathias (2009-10) had a Fulbright teaching assistantship in 2012-13, at the Emil-Possehl-Schule in Lübeck. He is now teaching German at Fishers High School in Fishers, Indiana (suburb of Indianapolis).

Kayleen Hannigan (2010-11) was awarded a teaching Fulbright for 2012-2013 in Quickborn, Schleswig-Holstein. She has lived in Hamburg since then. She was also awarded a Fulbright internship at Haus der Geschichte in Bonn in the summer of 2013.

Darko Gligorovski (2011-12) had a Fulbright in 2013-14 in Berlin and then enrolled at the Humboldt University for Master’s in International Relations starting in October 2014.

Adrienne Violand (2012-13) was awarded a Fulbright English assistantship for the award year 2014-15. Her placement was in Trebur, Hessen at the Mittelpunktschule Trebur.

Erin Lutenski (2012-13) spent one year as a Fulbright teaching assistant at Gymnasium Lohne in Lohne, Niedersachsen in 2014-15 and then got placed for an additional year in 2015-16 in Penzberg—back in good old Bavaria!

Michael Berman (2012-13) had a Fulbright English teaching assistantship for the year 2014-15 in Kitzingen, Bavaria.

Lizzy Matteri (2013-2014) spent the last year 2015-16 in Thüringen for a Fulbright. She visited the JYM office recently while on her new adventure!

Emily Wilkerson (2013-14) began searching for a way to return to Germany immediately after her JYM. She decided the best option would be to apply for a Fulbright. She writes: “In my application essays, I emphasized my experience at JYM, how much I had gained from living in Munich and speaking German every day. I knew that my year abroad made my application that much stronger. I indicated that I wanted to be placed outside Bavaria, simply because I wanted to see a different side of Germany. I ended up being assigned to the Gymnasium Burgdorf, a school outside Hannover. While Munich and Hannover could hardly be more different, I’ve grown to love the latter as much as I do the former. I’ve also found that I really enjoy teaching. Now that my ETA year is ending and I’m going back to the US, I know I’ll miss hearing my students’ perspectives on the US, American culture, and of course, Donald Trump. During this second year in Germany I’ve gotten to do so much – from seeing the effects of the refugee crisis first-hand to chaperoning a class trip to Berlin – and learned even more about this country and its culture. The only question is, when will I come back next?”

Pilar Mendez-Cruz (2014-15) thanks JYM for all the support while in Germany and in her Fulbright application which she was awarded for this coming year, 2015-16! While at JYM she had a job teaching English for 7 months with an organization called Sphairos which inspired her to become a teacher. During her year back in New York she began pursuing a Master’s Degree in Education and taught at a public school in the Bronx. Now she is excited about her opportunity to assist teacher in Munich for a year! She will be working at the Städtische Fachoberschule für Gestaltung starting this September.

Jesse Gamoran (2014-15) was just awarded the Congress Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals this year! He is currently at a language school in Cologne and will move to his final placement in Niedersachsen in October. We congratulate Jesse most heartily!
Research Fulbright Finalist 2016-17!

Noaquia Callahan (2007-08) has received a Fulbright to Germany for this coming academic year 2016-2017! She will spend time at both the Free University of Berlin and the University of Heidelberg, where she will be completing research for her dissertation on African American feminist transnational history, more specifically the collaboration between African-American civil rights leader Mary Church Terrell and German women activists from 1888-1922. She is a Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Iowa (UI), and is one of 13 Fulbright U.S. Student Program grant winners from the UI for 2016-17. UI reports that she was chosen as the top candidate out of this year’s 75 Fulbright awardees to Germany to receive a special Germanic Society of America Fulbright award, “commemorating the past hundred years of collaboration between the United States and Germany”! UI explains that as part of her community engagement, Callahan will work with the German-American Fulbright Commission’s Diversity Initiative to prepare Turkish, Afro-German, Muslim, and other students for study abroad in the U.S. She was awarded a 2011 UI Stanley Graduate Award for International Research funded by the Stanley-UI Foundation Support Organization, received the University of Iowa Jane A. Weiss Memorial Dissertation Scholarship in 2015, and was a Doctoral Fellow at the German Historical Institute in 2015-16.

In an interview with UI regarding her research she pinpoints her exposure to the long and rich history of minority communities in Germany she had while studying abroad in high school and then again with the Junior Year in Munich Program. As she later began to investigate this history more carefully for her master’s thesis at Iowa, she happened upon the German language diaries (1888-1890) of Mary Church Terrell. This discovery helped put her personal and academic experiences in Germany into the context of a larger historical intercultural exchange. She will research the German experiences of Mary Church Terrell, who more than any other African American woman developed ties with German women activists during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. According to Noaquia up to now “Terrell’s work as an activist in the U.S. is well documented; however, the story of her international career remains unwritten”. Noaquia describes her research and academic life as follows: “I have always envisioned myself as a kind of cultural translator, as I have shifted between many domestic and international communities throughout my life and academic career. Fulbright’s dedication to facilitating cultural exchange and promoting mutual understanding is an inspiration. My Fulbright will allow me to serve as a conduit for other underrepresented students in the U.S. and Germany to explore life beyond their respective national borders.” As to future Fulbright applicants she gives this piece of advice: “The Fulbright is not just about your academic achievements. At every round of the selection process, committee members need to be able to visualize you as an effective U.S. cultural ambassador.” Congratulations to Noaquia from JYM for this praiseworthy accomplishment!

FROM THE JYM ARCHIVES:
ORIGINAL GROUP PHOTO
1954-55
(with typewritten list on reverse side)
JYM Alumni News

Visit the JYM website at jym.wayne.edu and click on the Alumni tab where you can:

- Find links to the Facebook groups and the LinkedIn community to reconnect with other alumni.
- View the JYM job board
- Read alumni newsletters or JYM History
- See how JYM is doing in the Academic Year in Review
- Make a gift to JYM!
- Order an official transcript
- Link to the JYM YouTube Channel

Help promote JYM - visit and like the Facebook page Junior Year in Munich Program

To update your contact information, email JYM@wayne.edu