

SOUTH POINT HIGH SCHOOL

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Gastonia, N.C. – Gaston County Schools received a \$10,000 check from the German Language and Culture Foundation of Charlotte to fund a study abroad experience for ten high school students. The scholarships will support the students' two-week visit to Gotha, Germany, which is Gastonia's sister city.

The students who will travel to Germany this summer are Bailey Chavis, Breezy Howe, Emil Gravley, Jaji Watson and Anne-Marie Farrier from Ashbrook High School and Nick Aguilar, Daniel Burgess, Melic Cleveland, Maximillian Flores and Marthaluz Velez from Forestview High School. Ashbrook and Forestview offer five levels of German language courses.

"Students who travel abroad have the opportunity to apply their new language skills in a hands-on situation," said Forestview High School teacher Sabine Schmid-Rankin. "They then bring this experience back to the classroom."

This is the 21st year that the Sister Cities program has offered GCS students an opportunity to study abroad and the fifth year that the German Language and Culture Foundation of Charlotte has offered scholarships.

"Students will live with host families and attend school with their host brother or sister," said Ashbrook High School teacher Hannah Anderson. "They will take day trips to visit famous sites such as Wartburg Castle where Martin Luther translated the New Testament into German, Johann Sebastian Bach's birth house in Eisenach, and the Buchenwald Concentration Camp in Weimar."

Superintendent of Schools W. Jeffrey Booker said, "Gaston County Schools is grateful for the financial support from the German Language and Culture Foundation. We sincerely appreciate their efforts to provide students with a study abroad program that enhances the academic experience."

Home of the Red Raiders



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