



# **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program**

**Administered by Nacel Open Door**



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Vocational Scholarship Program  
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## Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX):

- Program founded in 1983, in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the first German immigration to the United States
- Created to strengthen ties between Germany and the United States through citizen diplomacy
- Funded by U.S. Congress & German Bundestag
- Programs administered through U.S. Department of State ECA and individual NGO student exchange programs: [www.exchanges.state.gov](http://www.exchanges.state.gov)
- 3 CBYX Components: [www.usagermanyscholarship.org](http://www.usagermanyscholarship.org)
  - High School (15-18.5 year olds, 250 participants, reciprocal)
  - **Vocational** (18-19 year olds, 25 participants, only U.S. to Germany)
  - Young Professional (18.5-24 year olds, 75 participants, reciprocal)



## U.S. Department of State Exchange Programs [www.exchanges.state.gov](http://www.exchanges.state.gov)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE ECA Exchanges J-1 Visa Alumni American English EducationUSA StudyAbroad

BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
**EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

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**FIND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

The U.S. Department of State sponsors multiple programs for educational, cultural, and professional exchanges across the world.

Program Location: Enter a location

Programs For: All participant types

**FEATURED PROGRAMS**

The Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange & Study (YES) Abroad 2020-2021 application is now

## Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program

## All 3 CBYX Programs [www.usagermanyscholarship.org](http://www.usagermanyscholarship.org)

**SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY ABROAD IN GERMANY**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM | APPLICATION & SELECTION | PARENTS/EDUCATORS | POST SECONDARY PROGRAMS | NEWS

Program Benefits  
Student Testimonials  
FAQs

**APPLY ONLINE**

To apply, refer a student or learn more about your CBYX regional organization, please select your state below.

Select a State

**ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

**Program Components**

As a Congress-Bundestag scholar, your exchange year will include:

- Placement with a carefully selected German host family
- Admission to a German high school
- Pre-departure training in the United States and orientation programs in Germany
- Meetings with government officials
- Cultural excursions to the German Bundestag and select German cities
- Supplementary language lessons upon arrival in your host community



## **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program**

### **CBYX Vocational Program Qualifications:**

- Graduating high school senior (gap year program)
- 18-19 years old by August 1 of departure year
- Minimum of 2.5 GPA on 4.0 scale
- U.S. Citizenship
- Previous German language study not required, but very helpful
- Willingness to spend a year in Germany, serving as a young ambassador of the United States



## **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program**

### **CBYX Vocational Program Application:**

- Due January 15 of departure year
- Student Application
- Nominator Recommendation
- Activity Supervisor Recommendation
- Personal Interview
- Semi-finalist Application & Parent/Student Agreements

Application overview, instructions, and forms available on Nacel Open Door website:  
[www.nacelopendoor.org/cbyx](http://www.nacelopendoor.org/cbyx) (search "CBYX").



## **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program**

### **CBYX Vocational Program Includes:**

The scholarship provides:

- International group flight to/from Germany
- Medical insurance
- Support from Nacel Open Door in the U.S.
- Support from Open Door International in Germany

Students provide their own:

- Domestic transportation to/from Washington, D.C.
- Personal spending money (\$5,000; need-based financial aid may be available)



## **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program**

### **CBYX Vocational Program Components:**

- Pre-Departure Orientation in Washington, D.C.
- Intensive German Language Course in Bonn
- Host Family
- German High School Attendance
- Internships
- Mid-Year Seminar in Weimar
- Year-End Seminar in Berlin
- Re-Entry Seminar in Washington, D.C.



## **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program**

### **CBYX Vocational Program Format & Timeline\***

- Pre-Departure Orientation: 3 days, August, in Washington, D.C.
- Intensive German Language Course: 7-8 weeks, in Bonn, live with host family
- Move to long-term host family: ~ October, anywhere in Germany
  - German High School Attendance: ~ 3 months / through December
  - Internships: ~ January through May
  - Mid-Year Seminar: ~ January, in Weimar
  - Year-End Seminar: ~ June, in Berlin
- Re-Entry Workshop: 2 days, June, in Washington, D.C.

\* Timeline & details subject to change! While set in basic structure, the program varies from student to student in terms of host family placement, school attendance, and internships.





## Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program

### CBYX Vocational Program Highlights: Washington D.C., Weimar, & Berlin Seminars





## Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program

### CBYX Vocational Program Highlights:

#### Local Activities & Cultural Events



#### Living with Host Families

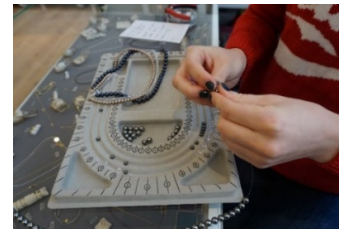
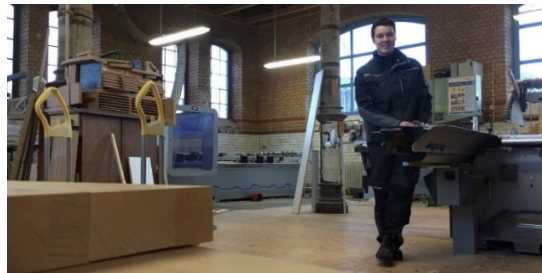






## Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program

### CBYX Vocational Program Highlights: Language School & Internships





## **Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program**

### **CBYX Vocational Program Benefits:**

- Language & cultural proficiency
- Lasting friendships: host family, school & work friends, fellow participants
- Independence & personal growth
- Increased academic & career focus
- Job skills & work experience from internship
  - Exposure to German dual education system and apprenticeship model
- Membership in CBYX Alumni Association
- Membership in U.S. Department of State Alumni Association
  - Access to scholarships, career opportunities, academic journals, research & project grants, educational & vocational seminars



### ANDRÉ BECKETT

CBYX 1997-98

Hometown: Philadelphia, PA  
Field of Interest: Film/Television

*"From my experience working in Germany, I was able to secure jobs working in the same industry in the U.S. ... I credit my success to my experience in the CBYX program. I've made a commitment to serve my community and to champion the ideals of cross cultural exchange programs."*

#### CBYX

André worked for a recording studio in Berlin, where he forged relationships with film and television professionals.

#### NOW

André is currently teaching at a high school for the creative and performing arts. He's been awarded the National Liberty Museum's Teacher as Hero Award. He's also worked on *The Last Airbender* and *Captain America: Civil War*!



### HECTOR FLORES

CBYX 2009-10

Hometown: El Paso, TX  
Field of Interest: Journalism

*"Congress Bundestag Vocational Youth Exchange shaped me into who I am today. ... There's no doubt that CBYX has played a fundamental role in my career and personal growth."*

#### CBYX

Hector went to Germany with an interest in Dentistry, but after interning in a dentist office, decided it wasn't his passion. With a keen interest in soccer, he studied Journalism and Sports Communication upon his return to the U.S.

#### NOW

Hector is currently working in multimedia journalism for Deutsche Welle (Germany's international broadcaster) as a reporter in the sports department, and travels all over Germany (and worldwide) for his job.



### JOYCE DO

CBYX 2017-18

Hometown: Alameda, CA  
Fields of Interest: Psychology, Education

*"Participating in the CBYX program was the best decision I made. It prepared me for college and all in all made me a more open person. It was a great self discovery year. Now looking back on my gap year, it feels as if it was a dream. As cheesy as it sounds, the people I've met and friendships I've created will last a lifetime."*

#### CBYX

Joyce interned at a Kindergarten, which she found fun and engaging, and led to her minoring in Education.

#### NOW

Joyce is currently attending university in California, with a major in Psychology and a minor in Education.





## MEGHAN WOLFGRAM

CBYX 2008-09 • Hometown: Palm Bay, FL • Fields of Interest: Animals, Business

*"It gave me an incredible chance to explore unique vocational opportunities, a new culture and language, and to bring my enthusiasm, and my own culture to the family I lived with, community I lived in, and the people that I worked with. I'm unaware of too many other scholarship opportunities available like that for young, curious, ambitious 18-year-olds!"*

### CBYX

Meghan worked on a prestigious horse farm in Germany. Her experience on the program prepared her for the purchase of her own small horse farm.

### NOW

Meghan is currently the founder and co-owner of SwiftPaws, an exercise program for dogs, where she shares her passion for giving animals the best life they can have.



## OPHELIA ANWAH

CBYX 2015-16 • Hometown: Gainesville, VA • Fields of Interest: Medicine, Sociology

*"Being able to experience a field I thought I might have an interest in, before making a big commitment, was worthwhile. ... (CBYX) taught me that no matter where you go in the world, we're not all that different."*

### CBYX

Ophelia worked in medical internships while in Germany. She started without any knowledge of German and now can comfortably hold a conversation in the language. She also met amazing friends, and gained a sense of self and independence.

### NOW

Ophelia is currently studying Sociology on a Pre-Med track, with a possible minor in German. She credits her CBYX experience for leading to many other opportunities and setting her apart from competition.



## Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Vocational Scholarship Program

### Nacel Open Door

*International Education Opportunities*

[www.nacelopendoor.org](http://www.nacelopendoor.org)

- CBYX Vocational Scholarship  
[www.nacelopendoor.org/CBYX](http://www.nacelopendoor.org/CBYX)
- Be a Host Family  
[www.nacelopendoor.org/host-families](http://www.nacelopendoor.org/host-families)
- Be a Local Rep  
[www.nacelopendoor.org/lrs-and-coordinators](http://www.nacelopendoor.org/lrs-and-coordinators)





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**For more information, contact**

**Nacel Open Door**

**[www.nacelopendoor.org/CBYX](http://www.nacelopendoor.org/CBYX)**

**[CBYX@nacelopendoor.org](mailto:CBYX@nacelopendoor.org)**

**Program Director: Carrie Hess**

**Tel: 651-288-4613**

**Email: [chess@nacelopendoor.org](mailto:chess@nacelopendoor.org)**

**Alumna & Intern: Laura Hankins**

**Deputy Director: Sue Franck**

**Tel: 651-288-4603**

**Email: [sfranck@nacelopendoor.org](mailto:sfranck@nacelopendoor.org)**

**Email: [lhankins@nacelopendoor.org](mailto:lhankins@nacelopendoor.org)**