Sip and sample some opera out on the GAI lawn!

Join Opera on Tap Twin Cities on the GAI lawn for a sampling of German opera arias and art songs on Saturday, August 20. Opera on Tap is a non-profit organization whose mission is to break down the stereotypes about opera and expose new audiences to opera and classical music by performing in non-traditional settings. There are currently 27 chapters throughout the U.S. and Europe (including Berlin and Hamburg!) Local singers of the Twin Cities chapter performed at the Minneapolis nightclub Honey for more than eight years. During that time, there were a variety of themes for the shows including the annual Diva Battle and New Arias on Tap (a collaboration between composers and singers). If you’re not sure you like opera, give us a try, and if you love opera, we have a treat in store for you!

**Opera on Tap auf der Wiese**
Saturday August 20 | 6–8 PM
$20 members/$24 non-members
Ticket includes two beverages (beer, wine or N/A)
Buy tickets at gaimn.org/opera or at the event
Learn more about Opera on Tap at operaontap.org

**INTRODUCING ERYN TVETE**

The GAI's new Office Manager, Eryn Tvete, is a Minnesota native with German heritage and a love for German music. Eryn has held a variety of administrative positions over the years and in her free time she enjoys performing, swimming, spending time with friends and family and finding live music anywhere. You can catch her performing live with the Minnesota Opera chorus or hosting Opera on Tap Twin Cities performances. **Willkommen**, Eryn!
Communities for Ukraine

GAI Board Chair Danika Hoffmann visits Zell

We wanted to provide an update about what your donations have made possible in Zell, Germany—the small town along the Mosel river that has become a prime destination for Ukrainian refugees.

Rhineland-Pfalz (the state in which Zell is located) has taken in over 40,000 Ukrainian refugees, nearly half of whom are children. Zell’s regional district (the Landkreis Cochem-Zell) is supporting more refugees per capita than any other region in the state. The donations from our GAI community have made a tangible impact on the area’s ability to provide safe shelter for refugees and their families.

GAI Board Chair Danika Hoffmann was in Zell in June to meet with Mayor Döpigen and see first-hand what your donations have made possible.

In addition to the renovation and furnishing of homes, our donations have supported a new food shelf, organized and led by Zell’s Second Councillor Rosemarie Mandernach. Ms. Mandernach identified a centrally located space, stocked it with food staples, and staffed it to operate every Tuesday. Each week as the word spread about the food shelf more and more families arrived. It now serves over 150 families, many traveling to Zell by bus. In addition to critical staples like bread, canned goods and fruit, a chocolate bar is offered to every child—and last week there was an additional treat of American candy sent by the GAI. This food shelf is 100% supported by our donations, and because of your generosity the refugees can continue to count on this vital support.

The people of Zell—both Germans and Ukrainians—now know they have many friends in Minnesota, standing with them in steadfast solidarity and a call for peace.

Summer at the GAI

From summer camps to language classes, Stammtisch, Kaffee und Kuchen and summer events, it’s been a busy summer at the GAI. As we move into fall, we hope you can join us at an upcoming event!
Fall session is just around the corner
Fall classes for adults and Samstagsschule for kids begin the week of September 12. Like squirrels gathering nuts, it’s never too soon to start preparing for the changing season (we won’t say winter). Add improving your German and joining our fun community of language learners to your fall to-do list! Registration at gaimn.org/adults and gaimn.org/kids.

Kinderstube has fall openings in Minneapolis
Families looking for quality preschool should look no further than the GAI’s German Immersion Preschool! The Kinderstube program focuses on experiential learning in a play-based, German immersion preschool setting modeled after a combination of the German Kita and the American licensed preschool program. Learn more at Kinderstubepreschool.org.

Our first GAI Summer Scholars program recipient
Madeline Heath, a student at South High School in Minneapolis, was awarded a scholarship for a home stay and school experience in Bovenden, Niedersachsen this summer. She participated in a three-week program offered by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG). Their immersive German language and cultural programs are highly rated by both students and families. In the photo, Maddie enjoys the Turkish-German sandwich, the Döner, in the historic town of Goslar.

AROUND THE HAUS
Haus & Grounds August work session
Haus & Grounds will hold our regularly scheduled work session on Saturday August 13, begin at 9 a.m. and end at noon with lunch and beer! This month we will be doing general maintenance and painting as well as tending to our gardens. If you would like to volunteer or for more information on helping with gardening and maintenance of the GAI Haus, please contact Jim Gruetzman at jgruetzman@gaimn.org or call the GAI office at 651.222.7027.
SAVE THE DATES

St. Paul Oktoberfest—at the GAI
Friday, September 9 | 4–10 PM
Saturday, September 10 | 10 AM–10 PM

Question: Why is St. Paul Oktoberfest held in September?
Answer: Because that’s when Munich celebrates Oktoberfest!

After being modified to run for 16 days and end on the first Sunday in October (because the weather is better in September), in 1994, the Munich event schedule was again changed to always end on October 3, German Unity Day.

At the GAI, we pack two weeks of celebration into two days, so mark your calendars and plan to join us September 9 and 10. Details coming soon!

Become an Oktoberfest Fanklub member!

We rely on our Very Invested Patrons to help support our biggest event of the year, St. Paul Oktoberfest! For $100 per person, you’ll help us transform the GAI grounds into the party of the year! As a thank you for your support, Fanklub members are invited to a special VIP happy hour on Friday, September 9. Your sponsorship also includes an alcohol wristband for both days, two free drink tickets, a wearable (and edible) Oktoberfest gingerbread heart, and recognition on the GAI grounds at St. Paul Oktoberfest. Become a Fanklub member at gaimn.org/fanklub or call the office at 651.222.7027.