DONAUSCHWÄBISCHE STIFTUNG
2026- Weihnachten Edition

2026 Jugendfreundschaftslager - Cincinnati



The weekend of July 9-12 Cincinnati hosted the 2026 Jugendlager, the annual camping trip for Youth Group members from across the country to learn about our culture, have fun, and build friendships. This year the participating cities were Cincinnati, Akron, and Detroit.

Thursday night we welcomed everyone with a Kahoot game that tested all participants on their knowledge of the host city, as well as their own cities! It was a great way to get to know everyone and break the ice. Campers also had a chance to do the now traditional Jugendlager slip and slide.

Friday was our fun day, where the kids had the opportunity to tour Jungle Jim's international market. Each participant had the opportunity to try some new foods during the guided tour, including cheesy crickets. Afterwards they had some time to explore the market on their own and purchase snacks if they chose. This was followed up by the chance to roller skate and play laser tag to continue the fun. The day culminated in a movie night prior to getting some rest before the last full day of camp.



Saturday started bright and early with breakfast, then campers broke out into small groups for a day of culture and learning. Participants learned songs from the Heimat, heard stories and histories from members that grew up in the old country, shared a new dance, and made their own Paprikash for dinner. The highlight of the day was getting to handmake a piece of a decoration for a Kirchweih hat as is still done in parts of Banat! After dinner, we said goodbye to some of our friends who had to make it back to their clubhouse for an event in their city the next day and spent the rest of the evening relaxing and talking with our new friends.

On Sunday, we said goodbye to everyone else and wished them safe travels. We look forward to seeing everyone at the next Jugendlager!



Oma Abt Award 2026

In 2013, the Oma Abt youth heritage award was created in memory of Maria Abt. Each year the youth are given a prompt for their entry. This year's prompt was: "What is your favorite Donauschwaben tradition that your family/club partakes in and why?
The winners:

1st Prize Reese Mueller (Detroit/Los Angeles)
2nd Prize- Lanie Welker (Cleveland)
3rd Prize -Noah Derrickson (Akron)

Danube- Swabian Association of the USA, Inc.

Landesverband der Donauschwaben USA, Inc

https://donauschwabenusa.org

Leibe Landsleute,

Supporting the Danube Swabian Foundation of the USA (Donauschwäbische Stiftung) is far beyond just a donation to a great charity: it's an investment in preserving a unique cultural heritage that connects generations of Danube Swabians across the country.
The Foundation exists to foster, support, and encourage the preservation of the customs, traditions, literature, culture, and history of the Donauschwaben people. From coast to coast, it provides moral and financial backing to clubs and organizations that keep alive the music, dance, song, sport, and food of our ancestors. Without such support, many of these traditions risk fading, especially as younger members seek new cultural experiences.

Your contribution helps fund key programs like the Kulturpreis cultural award, Jugendlager, travel for cultural exchanges both here and abroad, and the nationally recognized soccer tournament. These events are vital for cultural continuity, community bonding, and intergenerational connection. By giving, you ensure that these gatherings can continue, fostering unity and pride among members.
In short, your support:
* Preserves a living heritage that would otherwise be lost.
* Strengthens community ties across the U.S. and the world
* Empowers youth to carry on traditions.
* Honors the legacy of our ancestors.

As we launch our annual appeal, we want to remind our community that every single donation matters, regardless of the amount. There is no gift too small when it comes to preserving our shared Heimat. Whether you can contribute $10, $100, or $1,000 (or more!) your collective generosity forms the bedrock of our cultural survival.

Every gift, no matter the size, safeguards our shared Heimat. As you plan your year-end giving, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Danube Swabian Foundation. Together, we can ensure that the flame of our heritage burns brightly for decades to come

Please, consider donating to our Foundation during this holiday season to keep our traditions alive. Thank you for your continued support and have a very happy holiday season!

Mit herzlichen Weihnachtsgrüsse,
Raymond Martini
CEO, Danube Swabian Foundation
President, Landesverband der Donauschwaben USA

The Danube-Swabian Foundation of the USA, Inc.
Die Donauschwäbische Stiftung der USA, e.V.
6601 Edwood Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio 45224 513-522-3849
https://www.donaufoundation.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

Thank you for your trust and support. Our Foundation has held true to its purpose for the past 44 years. We continue to provide financial support for the educational and cultural activities of all the associated organizations/Vereins throughout the U.S. Those that benefit the most are our youth. We are able to do so because of your donations and sound investments. This year, not only did the youth/groups of every Verein receive stipends for education/German schools, music/blaskapelle, sport, travel and awards, but your Club/Verein received monies to help spread the good news of this Foundation. The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors which includes two volunteers from each Verein. The Foundation is incorporated in Wisconsin for charitable purposes and is recognized as a 501(c) (3) with the IRS. It is with pleasure that these Directors in each Verein share their knowledge and enthusiasm as to the work that is done, the financial status and future ideas the Foundation foster to keep our culture thriving. These Directors may ask you directly, or create a fundraiser, or use their creative genius to solicit donations, giving you the opportunity to give to our culture and receive a tax write off. A win, win. If you would like, it is now possible to give a donation online through the Foundation's website: https://www.donaufoundation.org/. Here you will find all the details, history and cultural connections that make our Foundation shine. Please give generously.

Frohe Weihnachten und ein Glückliches
Neues Jahr
Ed Tullius President



Please send donations to:

Danube Swabian

Foundation, USA
c/o Joe Brandecker, Treasurer
11 Senf Drive
Yardville, New Jersey 08620
OR
Visit
www.donaufoundation.org to
make an online donation.

Donations are fully tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations



Kulturpreis 2026

This award was created to show appreciation of the Society of the Danube Swabians of the USA for all the cultural work which the recipients of this award have performed. These prize winners are nominated and selected by the Landesverband and are each awarded $1,000 by the Danube Swabian Foundation.

Congratulations to this year's recipients:

Rich Toth – Chicago Donauschwaben

Helga Hippich – German Family Society of Akron





HEIMAT GLOCKEN

FUNDRAISER

We gratefully acknowledge our generous donors
June 2026- October 2026



PLATINUM DONORS

Donauschwäbische Vereinigung von SüdKalifornia -*In memory of and to honor our SüdKalifornia Donauschwaben forefathers*
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**Donations from November 1, 2026- May 31, 2027 will be acknowledged in the 2027 Sommer Newsletter. **