



ATLANTA AND NUREMBERG CELEBRATE 25 YEARS AS SISTER CITIES WITH CULTURAL EXCHANGE

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2023 marked the 25th anniversary of the Atlanta-Nuremberg Sister City relationship. Commemorating the occasion, the City of Atlanta welcomed the distinguished Lord Mayor of Nuremberg, Marcus König at City Hall.

The event was a gathering of not just political figures but also a diverse representation of both cities. Joining Lord Mayor Marcus König were City Councilors, City officials, business and university representatives, as well as a youth delegation from the German-American Institute Nuremberg.

Both delegations received a personal tour of City Hall from MOIIA's Community Empowerment Manager, Peter Pimentel, and met with City Council President Doug Shipman to explore the City Council Chambers.

They learned about the structure of the Atlanta City Council and saw how Atlantans participate in lawmaking. This occasion offered a unique opportunity for cultural exchange and dialogue between the two cities.

The youth delegation, a vibrant group of twelve highly motivated teenagers from the Amerikahaus Youth Club, played a central role in this exchange.

They visited Atlanta to foster German-American friendship, learn about U.S. culture and history, and encourage cultural peer-to-peer exchange while participating in an active sister city partnership.

As part of the week-long exchange program, the group immersed themselves in an array of cultural activities.



The itinerary included visits to landmarks such as the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, the Atlanta History Center, the King Center, the Carter Center, and iconic sites like Ebenezer Baptist Church, the Woodruff Arts Center, and the Plaza Theatre. The delegation enjoyed exploring popular destinations like the Atlanta Beltline, the World of Coca-Cola, the Georgia Aquarium, and Lenox Mall.

Despite the packed schedule, the Amerikahaus Youth Club delegation had a diverse range of experiences. Jan, a student from the club, expressed, "My favorite thing was the Georgia Tech game we attended. I had never watched a football game before, and this one made me fall in love with the sport instantly." This lighthearted moment added a unique perspective to the importance of the partnership between Atlanta and Nuremberg.

One of the most memorable experiences for the youth delegation occurred at Benjamin E. Mays High School. MOIIA's Community Empowerment Manager, Peter Pimentel, facilitated an important dialogue among the students, delving into the history of Nuremberg and highlighting the interconnectedness of our two cities.



Amerikahaus Youth Club Delegation at Benjamin E. Mays High School

In reflecting on their visit, Angelina shared, "We took part in discussions about our lives in two very different but also somehow similar cities, especially regarding our history with human rights. In this conversation, I realized why the partnership between Atlanta and Nuremberg is so important for dealing with our past and moving towards the future carrying a global understanding."

The conversations at Benjamin E. Mays High School went beyond historical discussions; they became an avenue for the students to explore and appreciate the distinctions and commonalities in their upbringing. They discussed the contrasts of growing up in Germany versus the U.S., while the Atlanta students provided insight into how youth actively participate in local politics, fostering an enriching exchange of ideas and experiences.

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Atlanta-Nuremberg Sister City relationship, these exchanges serve as a testament to the power of cultural diplomacy and people-to-people connections. The City of Atlanta remains committed to fostering international relationships that not only bridge geographical gaps, but also create lasting bonds of understanding and friendship.



Exploring City Council Chambers with City Council President Doug Shipman