



History of Exchange

Hamburg Chicago's Sister City Since 1994

Chair: Rolf Achilles

Vice-Chair: Johann Christoph Lichtenfeld

1994

July

Focus: Signing Agreement

Mayor Henning Voscherau of Hamburg, Germany, led a delegation of 28 business, government and educational representatives to Chicago to sign the official sister city agreement in July 1994.

Focus: Medical & Social Service

In partnership with the Kőrber Foundation, the Goethe Institute Chicago, Loyola University Chicago's School of Social Work and the Hillel Foundation, the Chicago Sister Cities International Program selected 10 Chicagoans to participate in a nine month international internship program based in Hamburg. The interns worked with local, non-governmental social service institutions as they study the workings of the social service systems in Germany.

Focus: Sports

Eleven gymnasts and coaches from the Lake Shore Academy of Artistic Gymnastics traveled to Hamburg to compete in the German Gymnastics Festival. The festival is held every four years in Hamburg. In addition to performing, the athletes also took part in workshops, sight seeing and social events.

1995

Focus: Education

Brigid Haasen, a DePaul graduate student traveled to Hamburg to work on an exchange between Chicago and Hamburg's State Youth Authority.

Focus: Culture

Chicago Sister Cities coordinated the visit of the internationally renowned Children's Choir of the Hamburg State Opera. The choir performed at the James R. Thompson Center, Daley Center Plaza and Oz Park Festival. They were hosted by families of the Chicago Children's Choir.

Focus: Culture

A "Cultural Conference" was held to open dialogue and encourage collaboration between members of the arts communities in Hamburg and Chicago. Held at the Chicago Cultural Center and sponsored by the Goethe Institute and Chicago Sister Cities, the conference featured discussions on theater, music, exhibition space, and attitudes towards the arts in each city as well as daily trips to arts venues across Chicago. The visiting delegation was led by the head of Hamburg's Department of Culture.

Focus: Culture

A Chicago gospel choir and children's choir were sent to celebrate the 806th anniversary of Hamburg's harbor. The festival, attended by more than one million people, was themed "Chicago" in honor of the sister city relationship between our cities. The Chicago Sister Cities Program helped arrange for special Chicago blues and gospel groups to entertain at the festival.

Focus: Culture

Three Chicago runners were invited to participate in a 10th annual international marathon held in Hamburg. The runners were hosted by the Hamburg sister cities organization and met runners from Hamburg's other sister cities of Milan and St. Petersburg.

Focus: Culture

In a salute to Chicago, NDR-TV of Hamburg taped a special "Hamburg greets Chicago" television show at O'Hare Expo Center. NDR also filmed in and around the downtown area for a segment of a film series on harbor cities around the world.

Focus: Education

The University of Illinois at Chicago and DePaul University signed partnership agreements with a university in Hamburg in February 1995. In addition, schools such as Chicago's Lane Technical High School paired with Hamburg high schools as electronic pen pals.

1996**Focus: Culture**

The Hamburg Committee assisted Mechtild Op Gen Oorth, photographer from Hamburg in organizing an exhibition of her work in Chicago and Hamburg.

Focus: Education

Oliver Bonorden, a student from Hamburg, did an internship at O'Hare International Airport.

Focus: Government

The director of Hamburg's Urban Planning Department brought to Chicago an architectural exhibit highlighting the city's efforts to retain its Old World integrity while introducing new architectural building styles. A Hamburg Committee member arranged exhibit space at the Chicago Apparel Center.

1997

Focus: Culture

Hamburg Alster Fest Benefit at Skate-on-State Benefit highlights included carolers, a children's lantern parade, a silent auction, a speed skating competition, a German buffet, and Illinois Mathematics & Science Academy Orchestra.

Focus: Culture

A World in a Weekend featured Hamburg. Activities included A City in a Suitcase presentation, the Continental Drift radio show, Dank Spatzen Choir; Rheinischer Gesang Verein German Choir. German Folk Dance Ensemble of the Americana Aid Society of German descendants, and the Civic Orchestra's Clarinet Quintet.

Focus: Culture

Chicago welcomed the first international passenger cruise ship in 40 years. The MS Columbus traveled from Hamburg and docked at Navy Pier for two days. As one of the major ports of call, Chicago hosted more than 650 German visitors who ended or began their cruise of the Great Lakes in Chicago. The Hamburg Committee held a morning champagne reception for the arriving German tourists.

Focus: Culture

The Blue Rider Theater and CSCIP presented critically acclaimed composer and performer Marko Ciciliani from Hamburg and Chicago's own Jeffrey Kowalkowski in the Chicago premier of "Bosch tapped the gas pedal and the caprice moved forward..." a performance opera. The two performances were hosted by the Blue Rider Theater.

Focus: Government

Mayor Richard M. Daley led a delegation to Hamburg which included business, community, tourism and education leaders. Delegation members met with their counterparts, took part in a second signing ceremony reaffirming the sister cities relationship between the two cities (the original document was signed in Chicago), toured a school and were hosted by Otto Versand (parent company of Spiegel).

Focus: Sports

Forty soccer players from the Hamburg area spent nearly two weeks in Chicago. The Mayor's Cup took place July 16-20 at Montrose Harbor and included approximately 10 matches. The visiting German players dominated these matches.

1998

Focus: Sports

Chicago runners participated in the Hamburg Marathon.

Focus: Culture

The Hamburg Committee facilitated the exchange of artists from Hamburg's Kunstlerhaur and Chicago's Artemesia Gallery.

Focus: Education

Under the auspices of the German American National Congress, the Hamburg Committee assisted in facilitating an exchange between Chicago and Hamburg high school students.

Focus: General

Sister Cities' committee members from Hamburg and Chicago met in Chicago to discuss long-term goals.

Focus: Medical & Social Service

The Hamburg Committee supported the National Association of Social Workers third annual exchange with Hamburg social workers.

Focus: Music

The Youth Symphony of Hamburg performed in Chicago.

1999**Focus: Environment**

Hamburg Senator of Environmental Affairs met with his counterparts in Chicago.

Focus: Economic Development

The Hamburg Committee assisted representatives of the Brandenburg Economic Development Corporation with meeting in Chicago.

Focus: Education

The Hamburg Committee awarded scholarships to two students for an exchange with Christianeum School in Hamburg.

Focus: Medical & Social Service

The Hamburg Committee, with the National Association of Social Workers, hosted a group of 15 social workers from Birmingham and Hamburg, as part of a three-year, trilateral exchange. This exchange galvanized the entire program to emphasize social services exchanges with Chicago's sister cities, taking advantage of Chicago's position as the cradle of modern social services.

2000**Focus: Culture**

The Hamburg Committee sponsored Christkindlmarket in Daley Plaza, featuring 52 vendors offering seasonal German and other European products. The event was patterned after the famous Nuremberg Christmas market, which dates back to 1545 and has since been imitated all over Europe.

Student representatives from the Chicago Youth Council decorated a tree sponsored by the City of Hamburg with symbols of world peace. This special tree marks the sister cities' relationship between Hamburg and Chicago.

In addition, students from Lincoln Park High School brought letters to their German friends at their sister school Christianeum in the hopes of establishing pen pals, and the D.A.N.K. Spatzen German-American Children's Choir performed.

2001

Focus: Culture

The Hamburg Committee collaborated with the Goethe Institute to present New Voices from Germany, a literary event at Gallery 37.

Focus: Culture

The Helen and Kurt Wolff Translators Prize 2001 was presented at Gallery 37 in collaboration with the Goethe Institute.

April 2- 12

Focus: Education & Medicine

Medical assistant students from Hamburg visited Chicago. The visit was an educational exchange with a similar program in Chicago.

2002

September 14-24

Focus: Education

A group of students from the Christianeum School, a Chicago sister school, visited Chicago to tour the city's cultural offerings and visit various city operations.

2003

June 30-July 12

Focus: Medical

Medical students from Hamburg visited Chicago.

August

Focus: Cultural

Committee member Sarah Ames visited Hamburg, spoke at the American Center on behalf of CSCIP, and met with city officials to discuss plans for the 10th Anniversary of the Hamburg-Chicago Sister Cities relationship.

August 6-10

Focus: Cultural

The committees collaborated in hosting international poets from our Sister Cities participating in the National Poetry Slam. A welcoming dinner party was held at Exchequer.

October 6-15

Focus: Medical

German Medical Exchange

October 11

Focus: Sports

The Hamburg Committee organized a German Runners' Reception for the Chicago Marathon runners.

2005

April 27-29

Focus: Government

The Hamburg Committee welcomed the Director of Hamburg Police Internal Affairs and Anticorruption Unit, the Unit Head for Police Issues, and the Unit Head for Corruption Issues at a dinner reception. The delegation met with representatives from the Chicago Police Department, the FBI, the Chicago Police Board, and the Inspector General to discuss their best practices.

2006

Focus: Government & Culture

As part of their 4th of July celebrations, the US Consulate in Hamburg featured the Sister City relationship, and read a letter from Mayor Daley, played a videoed tape of Rolf Achilles and had phone conferences with city officials.

January 4

Focus: General

The Hamburg Committee visited Chicago Blues Museum to discuss blues tour exchange with Hamburg.

January 22

Focus: General

Four architects from Hamburg toured Frank Lloyd Wright buildings.

March 16-22

Focus: Sports

The Hamburg Committee hosted soccer team scouts and coaches from Hamburg and set up meeting with the Illinois Soccer Association.

April 6

Focus: Art

The Hamburg Committee hosted a tour of loop, the Roger Brown Home and Studio on art and architecture in Chicago to international group of Folk Art Museum directors and curators, including two from Germany.

April 10

Focus: General

The Hamburg Committee gave a tour of Chicago for a German Consulate guest from Hamburg.

May 11

Focus: General

The Hamburg Committee represented Hamburg at the Austrian Consulate EU reception.

May 21**Focus: Culture**

The Committee provided the Keynote speaker at Wright Preservation Trust on Frank Lloyd Wright in Germany, especially his influence in Hamburg and environs.

May 24**Focus: Business**

The Hamburg Committee spoke over lunch to four Toronto-based Hamburg businessmen on Chicago commerce and industry.

June 3**Focus: Government**

Hamburg was represented at the German Consulate reception.

June 5**Focus: Government & Culture**

Hamburg was represented at Goethe Institute's Wolf Prize.

June 7**Focus: Government**

The Hamburg Committee co-hosted a dinner with the German Consulate for the German Secretary of Defense.

July 12-16**Focus: Sports**

The Hamburg Committee hosted a youth soccer team from Hamburg along with parent and chaperons and coaches for Illinois Mayor Daley attended the youth soccer games.

July 20**Focus: Immigration**

The Hamburg Committee participated in a discussion on German emigration through Hamburg at the Chicago Artists Coalition panel discussion in immigrants and the arts in Chicago.

August 3**Focus: Health & Government**

The Hamburg Committee chair co-hosted a breakfast for the Minister of Medicine of Germany.

August 14**Focus: Government**

The Hamburg Committee chair co-hosted a breakfast to discuss Chicago with the German Federal Gov. Finance Committee.

September 6**Focus: Culture**

The Hamburg Committee represented Hamburg at Chicago's German-American Day.

September 4-October 30**Focus: Government**

The Hamburg Committee hosted Peter Lindlahr, Secretary to EU Senator Freytag of Hamburg.

October 10**Focus: Culture**

At the request of German Consulate General, the Committee met with Alderman Schulter regarding the Hamburg Committee's involvement with Berlin Wall sculpture.

October 19-24**Focus: Sports**

The Hamburg Committee hosted 25 Hamburg and German Chicago marathon participants.

October 21**Focus: Sports**

The Hamburg Committee hosted a pasta lunch for sixty German marathon runners and their host families.

October 20**Focus: Social Work**

The Hamburg Committee helped celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Social Work Exchanges, The National Association of Social Workers International Activities Network. The Hamburg Sister City Committee started the exchange.

October 15-November 2

The Hamburg Committee hosted an exhibition and symposium at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hyde Park, "Luther and the Jews of Wittenberg."

2007**March 23-April 1****Focus: Culture**

A delegation from the Lutheran Church in Hamburg visited their Lutheran partners here in Chicago. They requested a meeting to further discuss possibilities to participate in the sister city relationship.

June 2-6**Focus: Culture**

The Hamburg Committee staffed a tourism information booth at the Chicago Sister Cities International Festival on Daley Plaza.

October**Focus: Education**

Twelve students and two teachers from Emilie Wuestenfeld Gymnasium in Hamburg spent three weeks in October at St. Rita High School. In May 2008, students from St. Rita will travel to Hamburg to visit their counterparts.

Focus: Economic Development

Apprentice Iron Workers in Chicago hosted their counterparts from Hamburg. The focus was to exchange ideas and examine how the trade is taught to apprentices.

December 8**Focus: Culture**

Art Historian Rolf Achilles, the chair of the Hamburg committee, conducted a tour of north side churches with significant stained glass windows. A cheese and wine reception followed the tour at the home of committee member Karina Wang.

2008**January****Focus: Government**

A committee member met with Hamburg police officials in Hamburg to discuss a professional exchange between Hamburg's and Chicago's police departments.

March**Focus: Sport**

Two of Hamburg's Soccer Club (HSV) staff members (youth director and coach) were invited to the Illinois Youth Soccer Association soccer Expo, where they manned a Hamburg booth promoting the Chicago-Hamburg soccer relationship. They were hosted by a Committee member.

April**Focus: Sport**

One Chicago runner participated in the Hamburg Marathon 2008 and was hosted by a Hamburg host family.

Focus: Sport

Hamburg Committee booth promoting Chicago and the Chicago Marathon was set up during the Hamburg Marathon Expo. The booth space was provided by the Hamburg Marathon race director Wolfram Goetz.

Focus: Education

The Committee facilitated the visit of a group of students and their professor, Dr. Clott from St. Xavier University (Chicago) Department of Economics, to Hamburg.

April 1**Focus: Arts & Culture**

Community Concerns in the Arts was a series of four panel discussions in April that were inspired by the exhibition of the Keiskamma Altarpiece, a monumental example of community based art on tour from Hamburg, South Africa. The Altarpiece is a 14"x 22' recreation of the 16th century Isenheim Altarpiece by Matthias Grunewald; a startling example of themes and inspirations crossing through time and culture. The unknown causes and effects and social repercussions of the dreadful St. Anthony's Fire in late medieval Europe paralleled the AIDS crisis in Africa.

May

Focus: Media

Hamburg Committee members Rolf Achilles and Johann Christoph Lichtenfeld met with editors of the Hamburg – Chicago electronic newsletter in Hamburg. This newsletter is promoted by the City of Hamburg.

June

Focus: Education

Twelve Saint Rita High School students and two teachers visited the Emilie Wuestenfeld Gymnasium in Hamburg for 3 weeks. The students and teachers stayed with host families.

June

Focus: Culture

The Hamburg Committee participated in the Sister Cities Festival at Daley Plaza, where they distributed information promoting the Chicago–Hamburg relationship: brochures about Hamburg and information about the new Ballinstadt Museum in Hamburg.

July-August

Focus: Sport

Hamburg Soccer Club (HSV) U-15 team (22 players) and 11 staff members visited Chicago for 10 days. The HSV participated for the 5th time in the Chicago International Cup. The players and staff members were hosted for 10 days by Chicago host families and were chaperoned by the Hamburg Committee during their visit in Chicago.

July-August

Focus: Sport

The Hamburg Committee co-organized the trip of the Brother Rice High School soccer team and two coaches to Hamburg for a soccer camp.

July 26-August 2

The 2008 Chicago/Hamburg/Birmingham Social Work Exchange Program, in Chicago, celebrated the tenth exchange, three sister cities learned from cultural dialogue to improve social services in our global community.

Since 1999, annual exchanges alternating between cities have bridged cultural and national boundaries to address common social challenges and “best practices”. Hundreds of social service professionals in these cities from two continents have participated to make sustainable changes such as: redesigning Birmingham’s Juvenile Offender Program; incorporating Hamburg’s ‘harm-reduction’ model into Chicago’s work with homeless; and exploring Chicago Court mediation strategies to involve children and cultural diversity techniques into Hamburg’s Family Court.

Delegates spent time visiting social service agencies including discussing with Chicago Department of Human Services’ Alisa Rodriguez the top social challenges in each sister city and attending a dinner in the spirit of regionalism co-hosted by Hamburg and Birmingham Sister City Committees.

Focus: Education

The Committee Vice-Chair arranged a one year exchange for a Hamburg student at Saint Rita High School (Chicago): August 2008 through June 2009.

September**Focus: Urban development**

The Committee invited Dr. Ing Michael Krog to speak at a Hamburg Committee's meeting about Hamburg's Hafen City building. Dr. Krog is the project manager for the new Amerika Haus in the Hafen City.

September**Focus: Culture**

The Hamburg Committee had a booth at the German Fest on Lincoln Square to promote Hamburg and the Ballinstadt Museum where they also handed out brochure with information about Hamburg.

October**Focus:**

The Committee Vice-Chair Johann Christoph Lichtenfeld was invited by the German President and the Mayor of Hamburg and attended the German Unity Day celebration in Hamburg.

Focus: Sports

Thirty-seven Hamburg runners participated in the Chicago Marathon, 2008. They were hosted by Chicago host families. The Hamburg Committee organized a dinner, post race party, a Chicago River boat ride and tour through the Stained Glass Museum. Hamburg Committee's booth was set up at the Chicago Marathon Expo, promoting Hamburg and the Hamburg Marathon. The booth was provided by Chicago Marathon director Carey Pinkowski.

October 2**Focus: Fashion**

Two German designers will be represented in the World Fashion Chicago, high-end runway show on Thursday, October 2 at Chase North Promenade at Millennium Park.

October**Focus: Sports**

The Committee will host a reception for the German runners participating in the Bank of America Chicago Marathon.

November**Focus: Culture**

The Hamburg Committee hosted its annual social-friendly 'pot luck' get-together of Hamburg Committee members.

December 8**Focus: Arts & Culture**

The Hamburg Committee hosted a German stained glass window tour to highlight the significant contributions German craftsmen and artists have made to Chicago.

There are over 1,000 windows crafted by famous artists such as Franz Mayer Company of Munich, Germany and F.X Zettler, Royal Bavarian Glass Institute of Munich, Germany.

2009

January

Christoph Lichtenfeld, Vice-Chair of the Hamburg Committee, traveled to Hamburg to meet with the Hamburg Chancellery and teachers and principals from Wilhelm Gymnasium and Altona Gymnasium.

February

The Hamburg Committee Vice-Chair Johann Christoph Lichtenfeld visited Hamburg and held several meetings to further support school exchanges, sport exchanges and the visit of the Hamburg Boys Choir to Chicago.

February

Focus: Education

Fifteen Morgan Park Academy students and three teachers visited Hamburg's Wilhem Gymnasium for 10 days. They were hosted by Hamburg's host families. Activities included class room participation, a City Hall visit, a Ballinstadt Museum visit, trips to Berlin and Luebeck, and an invitation to see a professional soccer game. During this visit an exchange structure between Morgan Park Academy and the Wilhelm Gymnasium was designed.

March

Focus: Sports

The Hamburg Committee hosted Jens Todt, HSV youth program and boarding school director, a former German national player, as well as assistant Fabian Wohlgemuth in Chicago. The Committee and the visitors participated at the Illinois Youth Soccer Association award dinner, Expo, and the training session.

April

Focus: Sports

A Chicago Booth was set up at the Hamburg Marathon Expo to advertise Chicago, the Chicago Marathon, and Chicago's bid to host the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. A large TV showed Chicago highlights and the 2008 Chicago Marathon, a large Chicago Olympic 2016 banner was part of the display.

April 9

Focus: Film

In conjunction with the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago, the Lucerne, China, and Hamburg committees' co presented a reception and screening of the film "Bird's Nest Herzog & De Meuron in China" in the Claudia Cassidy Theater at the Chicago Cultural Center on April 9th. "Bird's Nest Herzog & De Meuron in China" described the journey of how the Grand National Stadium for the Olympic Summer Games in Beijing came into being.

April 29

Focus: Government

Senator Anja Hajduk, State Minister for Urban Development and Environment of Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, and Suzanne Malec-McKenna, the City of Chicago's Commissioner of the Department of Environment, signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two cities aimed for cooperation in the areas of environmental protection and "green building". The meeting was also attended by the Chicago Sister Cities Hamburg Committee Chair Rolf Achilles and Vice Chair Christoph Lichtenfeld.

May

Focus: Education

Christoph Lichtenfeld Committee Vice-Chair visited the Am Heidberg Gesamtschule School in Hamburg.

Focus: Government & Education

Committee Chair and Vice Chair attended the 4th annual Hamburg Ambassador meeting in Hamburg. They met with various governmental, education and cultural institutions and represented Chicago at the 3 day event which helped mark the 820th year anniversary of the city of Hamburg as a port city.

June

Focus: Education

Teachers from Sullivan High School in Chicago visited the Gymnasium Altona in Hamburg.

July

Focus: Sports

The Hamburg Committee hosted Hamburg HSV youth soccer team participating in the 2009 World Sport Chicago International Youth Soccer Cup.

August

Focus: Sports

Mayor Richard M. Daley welcomed the Hamburg Youth Soccer Team that was in Chicago for the Youth Soccer Cup.

October

Focus: Education

Two teachers and 15 students from the Wilhelm Gymnasium in Hamburg visited Morgan Park Academy in Chicago for 10 days.

Panel discussion for teachers involved in Hamburg-Chicago school exchanges.

Welcome reception for German runners in the Chicago Marathon.

October 1-4

Focus: Medical

Dr. Norbert Bruellke from Asklepios Klinik Barmbek participated in the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium – Sister Cities Medical Initiative.

Focus: Government

His Excellency Klaus Scharioth, Ambassador of Germany to the United States, Axel Gedaschko, State Minister for Economic and Labour Affairs of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg came to Chicago for meetings.

2010**April 10****Focus: Education**

The group of students and teachers from Hamburg's Altona Gymnasium visited Sullivan High School of Chicago.

April**Focus: Government**

State Secretary Carsten-Ludwig Lüdemann, Commissioner to the Federation, the European Union and for Foreign Affairs attended the RJD Global Cities Forum.

June**Focus: Education**

Two teachers from Am Heidberg Gesamtschule visited Chicago and were hosted by the Ogden International School.

August-September**Focus: Education**

A group of students and teachers from Sullivan High school visited Hamburg and were hosted by Altona Gymnasium.

Teacher Julia Leyden attended Helene Lange School's 100th anniversary in Hamburg.

October**Focus: Sports**

The Hamburg committee hosted 30 Hamburg runners participating in Chicago Marathon. The committee activities extended to organizing the Hamburg booth at the Marathon expo and hosting an annual Pasta Party social event at Rolf Achilles' residence, organizing city tours for the runners.

Member of the German Bundestag, Chairman of German-American Parliamentary Group, Vice-Chairman of Committee of Foreign Affairs and former mayor of Hamburg - Hans Ulrich Close - visited Chicago and met with the head of the Mayor's Office of International Relations Eileen Hubbell, CSCIP Executive director Leroy Allala and Deputy Commissioner of Department of Environment Joshua Milberg.

November 4**Focus: Music**

Contemporary Jazz group The Long Run Development of the Universe from Germany participated in the European Jazz Meets Chicago, supported by the Goethe Institut of Chicago.

November

CSCIP International Program Manager, Ieva Dilyte, completed an Intensive German course at the Goethe Institut in Hamburg and met with the representatives of the Hamburg City government, Green Capital of Europe office and Amerikanzentrum. The visit was made possible by the grant from the Goethe Institut.

2011

February

Focus: Education

Two teachers and 11 students from the Morgan Park Academy visited the Wilhem Gymnasium in Hamburg for 9 days.

Hamburg Committee members Rolf Achilles and Christoph Lichtenfeld met with the Ogden International School student ambassadors and staff to hand over a check for \$600 to help support the student ambassador's trip to Hamburg.

March 31

Focus: Education

The Hamburg Committee hosted its annual panel for teachers involved in Chicago-Hamburg school exchanges at the Goethe Institut. The purpose of the panel was to share information and good practices.

May

Focus: Sports

The Hamburg Committee hosted a group from Hamburg's "Harmonie von 1789" club in Chicago and organized a program of meetings, visits and networking opportunities.

Vice-Chair Christoph Lichtenfeld visited Hamburg and had meetings with HSV (Hamburg's premier soccer club) personnel, the Hamburg Senatskanzlei, the American Consulate and a teacher from the Immanuel Kant Gymnasium.

In cooperation with the Hamburg-Chicago Foerderverein a Chicago booth was set up at the Hamburg Marathon Expo. The booth advertised the Chicago Marathon and Chicago as an interesting place to visit. Forty runners signed up to run the Chicago Marathon and being hosted by Chicago host families for up to one week.

June

Focus: Education

Two teachers and 15 students visited Ogden International School in Chicago for 3 weeks.

July

Focus: Social Service

The Hamburg Committee co-hosted a group of social service workers from Hamburg, and organized a welcome dinner as well as the cultural tour of Chicago.

July

Focus: Government

Hamburg's State Advisor to the State Authority for Work, Social, Family and Integration Services, Jan Poerksen, visited Chicago and held meetings with Alderman George Cardenas, Commissioner of Human Relations - Mona Noriega and Department of Family Support Services.

2012

March

Focus: Education

The Hamburg Committee member Professor Ed Stuart took a group of university students on a trip to Germany, which included a trip to Hamburg.

March

Focus: Sports & Education

HSV soccer coach Marc Meister attended the Illinois Youth Soccer Association expo, included a Hamburg booth at the expo. Mr. Meister spoke at the IYSA award banquet and provided a **soccer skill**.

April

Focus: Sports

Three Chicago marathon runners participated in the Chicago – Hamburg Marathon exchange. The runners were hosted by Hamburg families during the duration of their stay in Hamburg.

April

Focus: Government

Wolfgang Schmidt, Hamburg's representative in Berlin and at the European Union, responsible for international affairs visited Chicago and had meetings with various organizations.

June

Focus: Education

Am Heidberg Schule had an exchange with Ogden International HS in Chicago. 12 students and 2 teachers visited Chicago for two weeks.

June

Focus: Education

Hamburg's Atona Gymnasium had a school exchange in Chicago. 12 students and 2 teachers visited Chicago for two weeks.

August

Focus: Social Service

Kathleen Borland led the 16th Social Workers Exchange between Chicago and Hamburg.

August 6-10**Focus: Culture**

The 7th Annual Chicago Sister Cities International Festival transformed Daley Plaza into an international village filled with merchants, food, music, and dance from Chicago's 28 Sister Cities. Merchant TeaGschwendner sold traditional high-quality tea and souvenirs representing the culture and heritage of Hamburg.

September**Focus: Education**

Hamburg University President Professor Lenz, Senat Kanzlei, and Director Herms and several others visited Northwestern University regarding intellectual exchanges. They also discussed setting up a Hamburg University Alumni, Chicago Chapter.

September**Focus: Education**

Sullivan HS had an exchange with Hamburg's Atona Gymnasium in Hamburg, 12 students, two teachers. This exchange was made possible due to a \$7000 grant from Hamburg's Harmonie von 1789 Club. Members of this club visited Sullivan HS in 2011, met students from a prior exchange.

September**Focus: Education**

Helmut Frahm, Director of Hamburg Occupational Schools, implemented a student exchange that included 30 students and two professors with Robert Morris University.

September**Focus: Sports**

The 'Hamburger SV Supporters Chicago' fan club was founded on the 125 HSV anniversary, two Hamburg Committee members are founding members. The website is 'HSVCHICAGO.COM'.

October 4-7**Focus: Medical**

The 14th Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium was a professional educational event highlighting the most recent clinical and scientific advances in breast cancer research. Dr. Kay Friedrich from Mammazentrum Hamburg participated and represented Hamburg in the 2012 symposium.

October**Focus: Sports**

For the 10th time, 25 Hamburg marathon runners were hosted by 13 Chicago host families. The Hamburg Committee arranged a side program including a pasta party, boat ride, stained glass museum tour. A Hamburg booth was set up at the Chicago Marathon Expo advertising the Hamburg Marathon and Hamburg as a tourist destination.