

DEUTSCHFEST 2007 HELD AT OSU

Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, played host April 2 to Deutschfest, a statewide competition for high school and middle school students of German.

German Online, a service of the OSU College of Arts and Sciences Outreach program coordinated the event. The German Online staff was assisted by OSU German faculty and students, teachers from participating schools, OU German faculty, recently retired high school German teachers, and the Altus High School German teacher (the students were unable to come this year).

350 German students and their chaperones, representing 12 different schools, came from as far away as Howe, Marlow and Altus. There were over a thousand entries as the students competed at various levels in 15 different categories ranging from baked goods, t-shirts and posters to grammar tests, poetry recitation, and musical ensembles.

Also attending the event as observers were 15 students and 2 teachers from Germany. Part of the German American Partnership Program sponsored by the US Congress and the German Parliament, they came with their host school, Booker T. Washington of Tulsa.

Participating schools this year were Jenks High School, Bixby High School, Choctaw High School, Union High School, Monroney Junior High, Midwest City High School, Howe High School, Marlow High School, Nimitz Middle School, Wilson Middle School, Booker T. Washington, and Tulsa Memorial High School. The Altus High School German teacher helped judge events as her students were unable to participate this year.

OSU will host the next Deutschfest on Thursday, March 27, 2008. With additional schools planning to participate, it is anticipated that at least 450 students will be competing. For further information contact Dr. David Nagle at david.nagle@okstate.edu or visit the Oklahoma German teachers' website: <http://okaatg.okstate.edu>