



AYS invites families to host young musicians from Germany this



summer who will be performing at three or four free concerts in the community. We are seeking host families to welcome one or two students in their homes for 3 nights.

### Program Overview

- St. Bonaventura Gymnasium Orchestra & Choir
- 70 musicians & 18 staff touring Midwest; part of the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp International Exchange Program.
- Students ages 13-18
- Three groups including staff: Choir (51), Orchestra (14), Big Band (23)
- Alton will be the last stop before the group returns to Chicago for their flight back to Germany
- Arriving Monday 8/4 – 4:00 pm
- Departing Thursday 8/7 – 9:00 am

### Objectives

- Provide an exciting, educational, rewarding, and enjoyable experience for the young musicians from Germany, host families, and the community at large.
- Provide performance opportunities for groups, free to the public (free will offerings only).
- Provide accommodations (housing, meals, and transportation) for three nights and two days at **no cost** to the visitors
- Showcase the Riverbend area

### For Further Information

AYS Website: [www.altonyouthsymphony.org](http://www.altonyouthsymphony.org)  
Call Barb Strack at Alton Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau 618-465-6676  
Email: [germanmusicians@charter.net](mailto:germanmusicians@charter.net)

## Schedule

Monday 8/4	
3:30 pm	Busses arrive at Millers Mutual Parking Lot
4:30 pm	Welcome Spaghetti Dinner First Presbyterian Church 4th & Alby
7:00 pm	Pair with host families
Tuesday 8/5	
Until 7:00 pm	Time with host families exploring Alton and the Riverbend Dinner with host families
7:00 pm	Indoor performance Faith Fellowship Church Seminary Road
Wednesday 8/6	
11:00 am	Outdoor Performance Haskell Park
2:30 pm	Indoor Performance St. Ambrose Church/School Homer Adams Pkwy, Godfrey
4:30 pm	Dinner with host families
6:30 pm	Indoor performance First Presbyterian Church 4th & Alby
8:30 pm— 11:30 pm	Party for host families and guests at Riverbend Community Center
Thursday 8/7	
8:30 am	Farewell Busses leave for Chicago

Note: performance schedule subject to change

### Information for Host Families

- Homes do not need to be large or fancy, just safe and clean
- Host families are expected to provide meals for Tuesday 8/5 and Wednesday 8/6
- Host families should provide the guest(s) with a sack lunch at departure
- Host families should not allow young people to be left unsupervised
- Blue Lake's Code of Conduct for visitors includes:
  - No phone calls on host family telephones, guests will have calling cards or use public telephones
  - Directors of the group have emergency funds and/or credit cards to cover any medical or other unanticipated expenditures and host families will not be expected to incur any costs other than food and transportation.

### How to be a Host Family

- Use the list of students and staff in this brochure to select members that would best fit in your home.
- The AYS website will be updated as members are assigned to host families.
- Send an email to [germanmusicians@charter.net](mailto:germanmusicians@charter.net) or call Barb Strack at the Alton Regional Convention & Visitors bureau 618-465-6676.
  - ◊ Provide the following information:
    - Name of head of household
    - List the names, ages and genders of children in your household
    - Address
    - Phone numbers
    - E-mail address
    - List pets and/or any other info you would like your guest(s) to know about your family
- You will be provided a member information sheet for your guest(s) which includes a photo and will provide basic information, including an e-mail address that can be used to contact your guest prior to the visit. The students will be visiting Blue Lake camp and touring for three weeks prior to arriving in Alton, so don't be alarmed if you do not hear back during the summer.
- The final schedule and any other important information will be mailed to you prior to the guest(s) arrival.

## About Alton Youth Symphony

The Alton Youth Symphony was formed in 1969 to extend musical opportunities to area youths and is still touching young lives today! The orchestra benefits up to 100 student musicians each year. Believing that an investment in our children's future offers the greatest returns, AYS is the only youth orchestra in the region that does not charge a membership fee for students and offers scholarships for private lessons and music camps to deserving members. Its members are young musicians in grades 6-8 that play string, wind, and percussion instruments in a full orchestral setting. In addition to generous contributions from individuals and businesses in the area, AYS receives support from the Alton Community Service League, Boeing Employees Community fund, and Target Corporation. AYS is partially supported by Jacoby Arts Center and by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

## About Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp

Blue Lake is best known for the Fine Arts Camp it operates each summer in Twin Lake Michigan. Blue Lake's International Exchange Program began in 1969 when a 90-voice

First Name	Gender-Age	English	Voice / Staff	Allergies / Other
Lisa	F-14	Medium	trumpet	Host w/ Sophie cats/dogs
Sophie	F-13	Medium	soprano	coconut, pineapple
Maria	F-16	Medium	saxophone	Host with Alina
Alina	F-13	Medium	saxophone	
Hannah	F-14	Medium	clarinet	Host with Julia
Julia	F-14	Medium	flute	
Jessica	F-14	Medium	saxophone	
Katja*	F-19	Fluent	alto	
Michael	M-13	Medium	saxophone	
Carina	F-16	Medium	alto	
Regine*	F-57	Medium	Leader	
Laura	F-14	Medium	flute	
Storr	F-13	Medium	violin	
Stefan	M-18	Fluent	tenor	

\* = staff

choir toured England, Belgium and Germany. Since then, over 10,000 high school musicians wearing Blue Lake uniforms have visited 650 communities throughout Europe. In return, nearly 10,000 members of 550 European bands, orchestras, choirs and dance groups have performed throughout the Midwest. The Blue Lake International Exchange Program

First Name	Gender-Age	English	Voice / Staff	Allergies / Other
Laura	F-17	Fluent	alto	
Lea	F-15	Medium	flute	
Miriam	F-15	Medium	soprano	raw carrots
Julia	F-15	Medium	soprano	
Johannes	M-16	Medium	trumpet	
Susana	F-15	Medium	alto	
Hannah	F-15	Medium	flute	
Florian*	M-19	Medium	basso	
Nico	M-15	Medium	basso	
Florian*	M-25	Medium	basso	
Celine	F-14	Medium	piano	vegetarian
Florian	M-15	Medium	trumpet	
Lea	F-14	Medium	alto	
Bacherle	F-15	Medium	soprano	dogs/cats/smoke
Julia	F-15	Medium	soprano	
Matthias	M-17	Fluent	trombone	
Lea	F-15	Medium	violin	
Anna	F-17	Fluent	alto	peanuts, caffeine, pollen
Lukas	M-14	Medium	trombone	
Nicolina	F-14	Medium	alto	
Martha	F-14	Medium	piano	pineapples
Ramona	F-14	Medium	violin	
Ann Katrin	F-17	Medium	alto	
Anja	F-17	Medium	alto	
Ann Katrin	F-15	Medium	soprano	
Johannes	M-17	Fluent	violin	
Maria*	F-45	?	violin	
Lukas	M-17	Fluent	violin	cats, grass (moderate)
Alexandra	F-14	Medium	alto	
Judith	F-17	Medium	alto	

is dedicated to the promotion of goodwill and understanding among the people of the world through cultural exchange and the universal language of the arts.

First Name	Gender-Age	English	Voice / Staff	Allergies / Other
Diana	F-15	Medium	clarinet	
Estella	F-17	Medium	soprano	
Sona	F-18	?	violin	
Tobias	M-15	Fluent	bass	
Benedikt	M-16	Fluent	bass	
Johanna*	F-29	Medium	soprano	
Ann	F-13	Medium	cello	
Nils	M-13	Medium	cello	
Hauf*	M-43	Medium	Leader	
Anna-Sophia	F-15	Fluent	piano	
Martha	F-13	Medium	violin	
Matthias	F-15	Medium	vcello	
Anna	F-14	Medium	soprano	
Sarina	F-15	Medium	soprano	
Elena	F-14	Medium	alto	
Melissa	F-17	Fluent	alto	citrus / smoke / slight fructose intolerance
Martin*	M-30	Fluent	Staff	
Laura	F-16	Fluent	alto	
Leah	F-14	Fluent	alto	vegetarian
Liane*	F-53	Medium	Staff	
Emily	F-14	Medium	soprano	
Vanessa	F-15	Medium	soprano	cats, highly allergic
Sarah	F-14	Medium	alto	
Merit	F-14	Medium	soprano	eiderdawns (goose down)
Gudrun*	F-50	Medium	Staff	
Judith	F-15	Medium	soprano	
Maiken	F-14	Medium	violin	vegetarian
Isabella	F-16	Fluent	saxophone	dust, slight asthma
Jasmin*	F-21	Fluent	violin	pollen
Anna	F-17	Fluent	soprano	
Katja*	F-18	Medium	alto	
Lisa*	F-22	Fluent	soprano	