



U.S. Embassy Newsletter for Teachers August 2021

Dear Teachers,

The U.S. Embassy is continuing outreach to teachers via teacher seminars, readings and discussion programs. We are

- reviving the **U.S. Embassy Literature Series** hoping for in-person events;
- relaunching our award-winning national project **Going Green – Education for Sustainability** that perfectly fits the “Saving the Planet” theme in the Berlin and Brandenburg curriculum;
- building virtual programs around the established Going Green curriculum on [TeachAboutUS.org](https://www.teachaboutus.org) featuring outstanding speakers who provide fresh insights into policies, grassroots movements and green themes;
- establishing a **Youth Council** with high school students in Berlin and Brandenburg

We would appreciate if you promoted these programs and initiatives among colleagues and encouraged your students to participate in them as well.

Please mark your calendars and join us for the following events in September and early October:

1. TALKING TEACHING

Wednesday, September 22, 17:00-18:00 (virtual)

Going Green – Education for Sustainability 2021-2022

A Q&A session with the Teach About US team and our regional partners in Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria (in English and German)

We will introduce you to our new regional partnership programs *Baden-Württemberg meets California* and *Bavaria meets Georgia* and briefly talk about our plans to further develop the Going Green curriculum. Check out the Demo courses on <https://www.teachaboutus.org/> and come prepared with questions and suggestions.

Please register [here](#) . You will receive a link to the event via e-mail.

2. TALKING CHANGE

Thursday, September 30, 20:00 (virtual)

Fireside Chat

Women Leadership in Climate Activism – And What We All Can Do to Save Our Planet

with [Dr. Katharine Wilkinson](#), author, strategist, and teacher, and **Prof. Dr. Catrin Gersdorf**, Professor and Chair of American Studies.

Time magazine featured Dr. Wilkinson as one of 15 “women who will save the world” and *Apolitical* named her one of the “100 most influential people in gender policy.” She is co-founder

of [The All We Can Save Project](#) that supports women leading on climate. Prof. Gersdorf's research is located at the intersection of American Studies and the Environmental Humanities.

Please register here: teachaboutus@leuphana.de. You will receive a link a few days prior to the event.

3. TALKING LITERATURE

Thursday, October 7, 20:00 (planned for in-person)

U.S. EMBASSY LITERATURE SERIES - A Reading from *The Rib King*

with Ladee Hubbard, Mary Ellen von der Heyden Fellow in Fiction, American Academy in Berlin, Fall 2021

Moderated by **Anne Potjans**, Department of English and American Studies, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Location: English Theatre Berlin, Fidicinstraße 40, 10965 Berlin

Tickets (€ 8): tickets@etberlin.de or (030) 691 12 11

Free admission for school groups if you register with IRCBerlin@state.gov.

In cooperation with the American Academy Berlin and the English Theatre Berlin | International Performing Arts Center

4. TALKING STUDENTS

We would like to hear from your students! This is why the U.S. Embassy Berlin will establish a **Youth Council** (YC) this fall. A diverse group of ten YC members will have an active role in shaping the agenda and suggesting topics for discussion on youth-related issues and transatlantic relations. They will participate in regular exclusive meetings and activities (virtual and in-person) with American diplomats about once a month. They will also periodically connect with the YC members of the U.S. Consulates Germany-wide for joint events with American experts, young leaders and activists.

Members will be recruited via an essay application process and must commit to participate actively in the YC for the duration of the school year. Since most events will be held in English, good English-language skills are desirable. **We would appreciate if you encouraged your students to apply.**

Interested students in Berlin and Brandenburg may apply for membership until **September 15** by sending an e-mail to

- U.S. Embassy's Youth Outreach Coordinator **Heike Osterburg** at osterburghs@state.gov
- subject line: **Youth Council Application 2021-22**
- adding their name, school address, and name of their English teacher
- attaching a brief essay of about 500 words explaining why they would like to be a Youth Council member for the U.S. Embassy (related to their experiences with and interests in the U.S. such as travels; a high school year; American culture and politics, etc.).

4. LOOKING AHEAD

Save the dates for

- a virtual program with leading U.S. environmentalist [Bill McKibben](#) on October 28, 19:00

- the U.S. Embassy Teacher Academy 2021, November 12-14 currently planned as an in-person event in Potsdam. Invitations will go out in September.

As always, let us know if you have any questions or suggestions. Thank you for your engagement!

With best wishes for a successful new school year,

Dr. Martina Kohl



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