



46th Professional Development Conference

Organized in cooperation with the Saturday School of the German International School of Silicon Valley (GISSV)

Oct 23–25
2026 · BAY AREA, CA

FRI, OCT 23 · 4:00–5:30 PM GLSC Membership Meeting (by invite only) Germania Verein, 261 N 2nd St, San Jose	FRI, OCT 23 · 6:00–7:30 PM Meet & Greet Germania Verein, 261 N 2nd St, San Jose	SAT, OCT 24 · 8:30 AM–5:30 PM Professional Development Conference GISSV, Mountain View Campus	SUN, OCT 25 · 10:00 AM–12:00 PM Networking Tour of San Francisco Advance registration required
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MORNING PLENARY

ALL SESSIONS IN THE AUDITORIUM

8:30 am	Registration, Coffee & Danish
8:45 am	Welcome by GISSV Principal Dr. Wolfram Schrimpf & GLSC President Dr. Stefanie Mischner
9:05 am	Welcome by Franciska Obermeyer , Deputy Head of Mission, German Consulate General San Francisco
9:15 am	KEYNOTE — Stephan Mayer (MdB) & Greeting by Hartmut Koschyk , Stiftung Verbundenheit, Germany
9:35 am	Recognition of GLSC Co-Founder/Past President Dr. Renate Ludanyi and Presentation of Merit Awards
10:05 am	Greeting by Sponsor Thomas Gerkmann & Wendy von Knorre , F. Undütsch GmbH, Germany
10:15 am	German Schools Celebrate their Students: Presentations of the Winners of the 4th GLSC Reading Contest
10:45 am	Group Picture

WORKSHOPS

	STRAND 1 Pre-K / Elementary School	STRAND 2 Middle / High School / Adults	STRAND 3 Best Practices	STRAND 4 Beyond the Classroom: New Perspectives
11:00 – 12:00	Breathing-Based Practices Supporting Early Language Learning and Classroom Communication Dr. Helene Klauser · Breathe Up Kids, Germany	Beyond „Write My Essay“: Teaching (DSD II) Writing with AI as a Thinking Partner Diana Erinna · German Saturday School Boston, MA	Von der Idee zur Praxis – Rhythmus in der Samstagsschule Irene Mrázek · ZfA Fachberatung für Deutsch, Vancouver, Kanada	The Global Seal: Motivating Learners with Meaningful Language Credentials Linda Egnatz · Global Seal of Biliteracy, IL
12:15 – 1:15	Connection Before Education: Recognizing and Supporting Neurodiversity in the Elementary German Classroom Döga Öncü · German School of Fremont, CA	Individuelles KI-Feedback zur Schreibförderung – Tools und Einsatzmöglichkeiten im Vergleich Robert Schatz · ZfA Fachberatung für Deutsch, Atlanta, GA	From Idea to Impact: Effective Unit Planning in German Language Teaching Christiane Schaefer · German School Upstate, SC	The Impact of ÖSD Exams: Inspiring Students Through International German Language Certification Ursula Schoeneich · German School Campus, CA

1:15 – 2:15 pm Luncheon & Bookfair

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2:30 – 3:30	Ganzheitlich und handlungsorientiert: zur pädagogischen Einbettung des Sprachlernprogramms „Hans Hase“ in Kindergarten und Vorschule Dr. Theresa Rosinger · GISSV Samstagsschule, CA	Bridging the Cultural Gap: How to Successfully Engage With Other HL Schools in the US While Preparing Students for the DSD Exam Stefan Luesse · German School of Fremont & GASANC, CA	Adapting Big Curriculum for Small Schedules: AI Tools for Saturday School Language Teachers Dr. Ute Lentz · Deutsche Schule Charlotte, NC	Alle engagiert? Alle dabei? – So gelingt Binnendifferenzierung. Anna Ralston-Schmid · Hueber Verlag, Germany
3:45 – 4:45	Making Grammar and Vocabulary Acquisition Fun Through Games Katrin McManus · GISSV (San Francisco Campus), CA	Accuracy vs. Fluency: A Teachers' Tool Bag Aaron & Cintya Clegg · GISSV Samstagsschule, CA	Lass den Rotstift stecken! Die Schwierigkeit, Texte von Heritage Speakern zu lesen und zu korrigieren Heike Feltes / Pamela Scholz · Bay Area Kinderstube / German-American School of Palo Alto & AATG, CA	Deutsch wird lebendig: Vorlesewettbewerb für junge Leserinnen und Leser Barbara Rellstab / Jo Bussler · Rella's Spielhaus, NY / Deutsche Schule Rochester, NY

Thank you to all our supporters and sponsors

PRINCIPAL SUPPORT

We gratefully acknowledge the support for the 2026 GLSC Professional Development Conference from the **Checkpoint Charlie Stiftung Berlin**, the **Stiftung Verbundenheit mit den Deutschen im Ausland** and the **Bundesministerium des Innern der Bundesrepublik Deutschland**.



HOSTS & LOCAL PARTNERS

We would like to thank the **German International School of Silicon Valley**, its **Saturday School** and the **German-American Club of San Jose** for their valuable assistance in organizing the conference and for providing us with the use of their facilities.



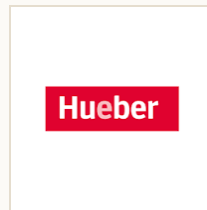
EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

We also extend a special thank you to the **Fachberatung für Deutsch** of the **Zentralstelle für das Auslandsschulwesen** and the **Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst**.



CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Many thanks to our conference sponsors **F. Undütsch GmbH**, **Hueber Verlag** and the **University of Cologne**.



4TH READING CONTEST SPONSORS

And to all the sponsors of the 4th GLSC Reading Contest — **Teddy Hermann**, **Rutgers Law School** and **European Deli**.

