

## **“Meet US” in the Leipzig Consular District**

Thank you for your interest in the United States and the Meet US program organized by the U.S. Embassy and U.S. Consulates in Germany. Below are guidelines to help teachers and students have a more enriching and beneficial experience with the program.

The Meet US program aims to provide young people with an opportunity to exchange ideas about U.S. society, history and culture with American conversational partners. Meet US events may take place at a school or at the U.S. Consulate (maximum space: 40 guests total including students and teachers).

Meet US events are interactive. We do not provide formal lectures, but instead encourage discussion on U.S. related issues and topics. Typically, a Meet US visit with a U.S. citizen lasts 60-90 minutes and follows the following pattern:

- A brief personal meeting on the morning of the Meet US event, or prior email exchange with the presenter about the topic should take place. The teacher should give some indication of the students’ prior knowledge of the suggested topic and provide information about student interests and language ability.
- On the day of the program, a teacher or student briefly introduces the class at the beginning of the Meet US program. This may include a description of the school and its surroundings, the class and their interest in the U.S., and particular expectations about the visit.
- The Meet US presenter gives a 20-30 minute briefing on a U.S. related topic preferably in English
- A question and answer session follows, which should lead to a discussion on a wide range of topics

Students should prepare in advance for the visit with their teacher. In the past, it has proven to be very helpful to be ready to ask questions in English ahead of time. This helps facilitate the students’ active participation in the discussion and English practice. A short article for the school or town newspaper or connection to a school project is highly encouraged in order to get the most out of the Meet US visit.

School visits via Meet US are free of charge, but if the presenter is traveling, assistance with transportation to and from the train station or parking is expected. Assistance with technology for a slide presentation may be needed, depending on the topic. Presenters’ travel time should be considered in requesting a Meet US day and time. For instance, if the presenter must travel extensively, it is unrealistic to expect an early morning arrival at school. Applications for a Meet US should be made 6-8 weeks in advance, and it may not be possible to accommodate all requests.

Please send the Meet US application form by mail, email or fax to:

Ms. Heike Mead  
U.S. Embassy Berlin  
Public Affairs Section  
[MeetUS-berlin@usembassy.de](mailto:MeetUS-berlin@usembassy.de)