German Program Commemorates Fall of the Wall 25th Anniversary

Kate Schaller, second-year German studies master's program student, was interviewed by Lansing's WLNS-TV 6 news about the Fall of the Wall observance.
Observance included Berlin Wall replica installation, student competition, gala. During fall term 2014, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the November 1989 fall of the Berlin Wall, the German program in the MSU Department of Linguistics & Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages installed a replica of a segment of the wall in the Wells Hall B-wing lobby for one day each week from the end of September through mid-November. German-language students worked with MSU Department of Theatre staff members and students to create the replica wall segment in the MSU scene shop.

"In addition to the replica installation, the commemoration included a Fall of the (Berlin) Wall Weeks special film series that screened seven films through November 11," says Professor Tom Lovik. "We also had a competition for students studying German language, and a closing gala on November 6."

Funded in part by the generous support of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Washington, D.C., the MSU German program's Fall of the Wall commemoration activities were tied to the "Year of Remembrance" being conducted by German Missions in the United States: "This year is filled with events and ceremonies commemorating the fall of the wall, as well as reflections on a formerly divided Germany. The year-long campaign will take a close look at the events of November 9, 1989, providing historical context that gives greater meaning to that fateful day."

More info on the German Missions in the United States' "Year of Remembrance" is available at: www.Germany.info/fallofthewall.

About Linguistics and Languages
Housed within the MSU College of Arts and Letters, the Department of Linguistics & Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages focuses on linguistics, cultural studies, and language learning and teaching, and is dedicated to quality teaching, research and outreach. Collectively, departmental teaching and research reflect continuing concern for the local, national and global community.

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