

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Affton High School Becomes 33rd Mosaic Ambassador School

Affton High School has become the 33rd Mosaic Ambassador School, with a long list of ways to engage and highlight their diverse community. In partnership with Fontbonne University, Affton High School offered a Bosnian American Studies course to its students this year that focused on improving reading, writing and thinking skills and examined past and present Bosnian and Bosnian American culture and history.

Affton High School's Bosnian American Studies students have shown their outstanding dedication to the community by placing boxes at each building in the Affton School District to collect donations for the International Institute. Recently, Affton students have also participated in diaper drives for refugee families through the International Institute and taken field trips to tour the International Institute. The High School hopes to continue this collaboration by becoming a permanent donation site for the International Institute.



Affton High School also supported Fontbonne University's Bosnia Memory Project and Mustard Seed Theatre. The Mustard Seed Theatre puts on multiple Bosnian-themed productions to celebrate Bosnian culture. Bosnian culture is celebrated with more events such as the Run for Bosnia and Bosnian Heritage Day at the State Capitol in collaboration with St. Louis Bosnians

Inc. The High School also has guest speakers come in from the St. Louis Bosnians organization and an ELL teacher who speaks Bosnian.

A coalition of student leaders at Affton High School partake in Operation Anti-Discrimination which is a movement to create stronger hate crime laws throughout America. A part of the student leaders' effort and contribution to the movement is to work towards raising money for the Anti-Defamation League. The school hopes to continue this welcoming movement by hosting a mini-Festival of Nations in April.

Other goals of Affton High School include creating a mentorship program with Saint Louis University's Bosnia Herzegovina Students Association, collaborating with Mehlville High School to establish a course in Bosnian American Studies, and including one of the Mosaic Project's representatives on its Guidance Advisory Council.

About the St. Louis Mosaic Project

The St. Louis Mosaic Project was launched in 2012 in response to an economic impact report that showed St. Louis was lagging in immigrant growth and highlighted the potential economic benefits of increasing its foreign-born population. The Mosaic Project is a regional initiative that is professionally managed by St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, World Trade Center and a 27-member committee. Its goal is to transform St. Louis into the fastest growing major metropolitan area for immigration by 2020 and promote regional prosperity through immigration and innovation. Learn more at www.stlmosaicproject.org.

About Affton High School

The mission of the Affton School District is to prepare all of our students to become confident and capable citizens through rigorous, customized learning. Affton's continuous journey toward excellence sparks innovative teaching and learning, developing students as responsible citizens prepared for the challenges of the global society. Students grow as highly capable, curious, and confident learners through customized instruction, fueled by technology integration and the passions of the Affton community. Learn more at <http://afftonschoools.net/affton-high-school/>