

Landkreis Kassel, Hessen, Germany

Dane County, Wisconsin, USA

Sister County Partnership



In 2007 Dane County entered into a cooperative agreement with Landkreis Kassel, Hessen (Deutschland) to form a sister county relationship. The purpose of the agreement is to exchange ideas and build economic partnerships regarding:

- Renewable energy
- Regional transportation systems
- Workforce training and continuing education
- Cultural exchanges

Kassel, a county with a population of approximately 193,000, has a regional transport system, is home to a university and the Institute for Solar Energy Technologies. The area hosts a high technology-based economy, particularly traffic, logistics, and renewable energies with its main industries being systems technology for photovoltaics, the manufacturers of train engines, and automotive factories for Volkswagen and Daimler-Chrysler.



Throughout the last nine years, both Kassel and Dane County have remained committed to the goals that were set forth in the cooperative agreement as demonstrated by multiple exchanges between the partners.

2007

A delegation from Dane County went to Kassel to experience and learn about Kassel's commuter rail structure, solar energy initiatives, and the international *Documenta* Art Festival.

2008

Representatives from Kassel came to Dane County to witness water resource management, visit agri-businesses, tour an organic farm, attend a performance at Concerts on the Square, as well as a Mallards baseball game.

2010

The Kassel Fine Arts Curator and local officials brought a Brothers Grimm artwork exhibit to the Dane County Regional Airport terminal.

2012

Kassel invited an artist from Dane County to be part of an international contemporary art show. Michael Velliquette represented Dane County.

2014

Dane County welcomed an artist, Christian Schauderna from Kassel, as an Artist-In-Residence at Edgewood College. He created a new work in the Edgewood College Gallery.

2015

A Dane County chamber orchestra, *con vivo!*, traveled to Kassel to participate in the Kultursommer NordHessen Arts Festival, then performed other concerts in the Kassel area.