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***GERMAN-AMERICAN HALL of FAME* ADVISOR FRED HOFFMANN  
AWARDED TOP MEDAL from PRESIDENT of GERMANY**

A major presentation took place at City Hall in Dearborn, Michigan, where the Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Chicago, Dr. Wolfgang Drautz, presented Frederick Hoffmann with one of the highest awards his nation can bestow on a non-German. The “Order of Merit” was bestowed by the President of Germany, though it was presented by his Consul General from Chicago, Dr. Drautz.

Dearborn Mayor Jack Reilly and Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano expressed their appreciation for Fred Hoffmann’s efforts in economic development and cultural preservation. Other elected officials and leaders of the German-American Chamber of Commerce also rose to praise Fred Hoffmann.

Mr. Hoffmann has been a leader in supporting the German Language (Deutsche Sprachschule) School in Michigan, along with Germanic musical groups and other cultural efforts. He was also appointed as Honorary Consul General in Michigan for the Federal Republic of Germany.

Fred Hoffmann joined the Advisory Board of the *German-American Hall of Fame* (GAMHOF) in 2006, and participated in the selection of GAMHOF’s “first ten” inductees in 2007.

“I am so pleased that the German government has chosen to recognize Fred Hoffmann,” said GAMHOF Founder and Chairman William Hetzler. “It is altogether fitting that Dr. Drautz has presented Fred with one of the highest honors his government can give to a non-German citizen. Fred has done so much to keep German traditions and language alive in Michigan and beyond, and we have been honored to have his presence and his counsel on the Advisory Board of the *German-American Hall of Fame*,” added Mr. Hetzler. “Fred, congratulations on this award and thank you for your many years of leadership and voluntary service,” he concluded.

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