



American
International
School
Vienna



GlobeSpotter

The AIS Vienna Alumni Magazine

November 2024



**American
International
School
Vienna**

Our Mission

At the American International School Vienna, we empower each student with the skills and character strengths necessary to be positively impactful global citizens who strive for personal growth and excellence in an ever-changing world.

Our Vision

A community of innovative learners realizing their chosen futures with courage, curiosity, and joy.

Our Values

Respect

We will be kind, considerate, inclusive, and thoughtful in our interactions with others and the environment.

Aspire

We will pursue our passions, imagine possibilities, and make them real.

Achieve

We will apply ourselves to the best of our ability with effort and ingenuity, and strive for personal growth.

Strategic Plan 2021-2026

Priority Areas

01

Teaching & Learning

Empowering students to strive for personal growth and excellence.

02

Character & Community

Cultivating ethical, purposeful, and balanced citizens of a diverse community.

03

Facilities

Creating spaces to support innovative learning.

04

Finance

Stewarding resources to support current and future students.

Environmental Ethics & Sustainability

The AIS Vienna community is committed to developing an environmentally friendly school by raising environmental awareness, making environmentally friendly decisions, including environmental action and education in our daily routine, and supporting the environmental policies of Austria.

Key Facts



STUDENTS **780**

NATIONALITIES **80**

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AMONG STUDENTS **52**



STUDENT MACBOOKS & IPADS **1:1**



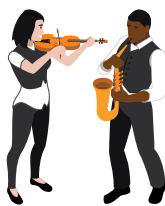
FAMILIES **518**



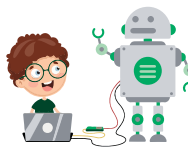
CLASS OF 2024 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE RATE **100%**



ATHLETIC TEAMS **40**



ARTS EVENTS **55**



CLUBS & ACTIVITIES **75**

ALUMNI NETWORK MEMBERS **13,983**

CAMPUS AREA **45,000 m²**

YEARS IN EXISTENCE **65**

EMPLOYEES **194**

*All data as of October 2024

A Letter from the Director

Halfway through our 65th school year, I have immensely enjoyed reflecting on the rich history of the American International School Vienna. For six and a half decades, AISV has fostered global citizens who have gone on to make significant contributions to our world. This special 65th anniversary edition of the *GlobeSpotter* highlights a handful of our alumni and their contributions to science, literature, media, and beyond (pages 11-18).

Our alumni form an integral part of the AISV community, and your achievements continue to inspire us. Your stories of success, innovation, and compassion demonstrate the power of an AISV education. We are grateful for your ongoing support and engagement, which helps us maintain our position as a leading international school.

As we look to the future, AISV is embarking on an exciting new chapter. We are thrilled to announce the launch of a major facilities project that will completely reimagine our heart of campus and athletics facilities.

This transformative initiative will provide our students with state-of-the-art learning and athletic spaces, further enhancing their educational experience. You can learn more about our plans in *AIS Vienna Tomorrow* (pages 30-31).

We invite you to stay connected with AISV and follow our progress on this ambitious project, as well as the countless other areas that AISV students continue to thrive. Your support and enthusiasm are invaluable as we shape the future of AISV and continue to provide exceptional educational opportunities for generations to come.



Kathy Miner, DEd
Director



A Letter from the Community Engagement & Advancement Coordinator

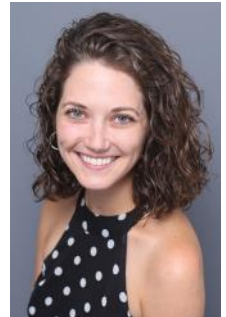
Welcome to the 65th Anniversary Edition of the *GlobeSpotter*! Our team has worked to create a special keepsake that celebrates our journey so far and shows a map of what lies ahead. In addition to snapshots of current student life, we had the chance to connect with a handful of alumni spanning a variety of decades that shared stories of how AISV has impacted their life trajectory.

I'm excited to see 120 of you at the 65th Anniversary Alumni Reunion in New York City in December! In partnership with Kate Brennan and Mackenzie Dawson (AISV alumni and Board members of the AIS Vienna Foundation), this will be our first school-sponsored alumni reunion for US-based alumni in more than 15 years! This special event will bring together alumni from all

corners of the globe to reconnect, reminisce, and celebrate our shared experiences at AISV.

Beyond the reunion, we are actively working to create a variety of engagement opportunities for alumni worldwide, including our ever-growing Alumni Portal and Alumni Database. It's been a true joy to see so many of you reconnecting and networking thanks to this new (to AISV) technology.

Thank you for staying connected to the school you once called home, and for contributing to the legacy of AIS Vienna. Our alumni are at the heart of our success over the past 65 years, and we are thrilled to celebrate all you've accomplished.



Stephanie Hilliard
*Community
Engagement &
Advancement
Coordinator*



A Letter from the Alumni Affairs Manager



Zeynep Gürkök-Müllner '87
Alumni Affairs Manager



My Dear AIS Vienna Alumni,

At AIS Vienna, we focus on providing students with the best education in the best environment possible. No matter where they want to excel, we strive to make sure all our students have the tools and resources they need to prepare them for tomorrow's workforce. Of course, none of this would be possible without the generous support from our community. Be assured that we appreciate all your help and look forward to your continued involvement with the AIS Vienna family. As alumni, you are part of a very special group, and as we celebrate our 65th Anniversary during the 2024-25 school year, you all deserve a huge THANK YOU for just being you!

If you are planning a trip to Vienna or happen to be in the 19th district, please remember to drop by the

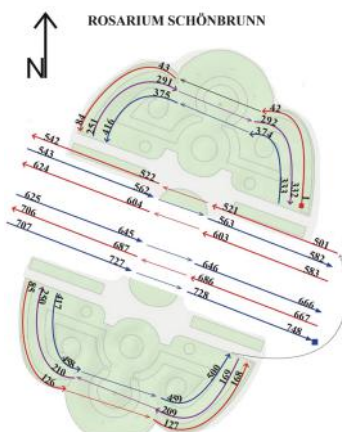
school. AIS Vienna keeps changing constantly. There is always something new to see or a teacher to visit. Make an appointment with the Alumni Office and I will take you on a tour while we talk about the past and look into the future together. Campus visits are only possible upon appointment.

If you have any questions concerning updating your contact details, tracking classmates, seeing upcoming reunions - all in our new Alumni Portal; or simply promoting the good name of our school, please contact the [Alumni Office](#).

Until we meet again, stay in touch, stay safe, and keep spreading that incredible Knights' spirit wherever you go.

Servus from Salmansdorf!

P.S. Before or after your school visit, why not stop by Schloss Schönbrunn? The AIS Vienna Alumni Office has taken over a Patenschaft (sponsorship) of a rose bush (number 399) in the Rosarium Garden of the Palace for the next 5 years. It is best to enter the garden via the Hietzinger Tor. Please be aware that the bush does not have any roses on it yet, since it is quite "young", and needs to grow. Enjoy the sight while sitting on a nearby bench under the royal trees.



The print issue of our **GlobeSpotter** features a number of website links.
Please visit the **AIS Vienna website (www.ais.at)** to access this online content.

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Our Legacy

The American International School Vienna was founded on September 1, 1959. Its predecessor was the Vienna International Community School (VICS), which was founded in August 1955 after the closing of the American and British army schools at the end of the allied occupation of Austria.



1959

The American International School (AIS Vienna) is founded by the Embassies of the United States and Canada at Bauernfeldgasse 40; VICS is dissolved. Enrollment at this time is 234 students representing 17 nationalities.

AIS Vienna is granted access to funding through the Marshall Plan to establish a new campus.

1961

AIS Vienna takes possession of the current 45,000 square meter site on Salmannsdorfer Strasse. Plans for the facilities are in the final stages of preparation.



1962

Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new AIS Vienna campus.

1964

AIS Vienna begins its first school year on the new campus with 357 students representing 28 nationalities.





1977

AIS Vienna becomes the 72nd IB school in the world, and the first in Austria, to be authorized.

2000

The Stemberg Physical Science Laboratory is constructed thanks to a generous donation from Staples® CEO and owner, Thomas Stemberg (Class of '67).



2012

The Theater (formerly known as the Kino) is reopened after significant renovations, thanks to a successful fundraising campaign and the generous support of community members.

2021

The Elementary School Science & Innovation Lab is constructed thanks to a significant donation from a private donor and generous support from the American International School of Vienna Foundation.



2024

AIS Vienna begins its 65th school year with 800 students representing 80 nationalities.

Alumni in the Spotlight



As we celebrate our 65th anniversary, we're excited to shine a spotlight on some of our remarkable alumni. With nearly 14,000 individuals in our alumni database, it was no easy task to narrow down the list for this special feature. However, we're thrilled to introduce five exceptional former students who embody the spirit of our community and have made significant contributions to their fields.

Their stories are a testament to the impact of our education and the lasting bonds formed within our community.

From groundbreaking research to the pursuit of artistic endeavors, these alumni have pushed boundaries and made a difference in the world. We're proud to call them our own and honored to share their accomplishments with you.

As we continue to grow and evolve, we remain committed to fostering a strong and supportive alumni network. Your achievements are a source of inspiration for current and future students, and we look forward to celebrating your successes for many years to come.

Tova Marr

Class of '99



A Writer's Journey

Tova Marr (Class of '99) fondly recalls her time at AISV, saying, "I remember so many amazing teachers and having friends from so many different countries. Sports trips were always amazing and I will never forget traveling to Egypt for a softball tournament. What an experience!" The school's multicultural environment left a lasting impression on her, inspiring her to embrace different cultures and perspectives.

After her time at AISV, Tova embarked on a global journey, moving to Moscow and Toronto before settling back in Vienna. This city, with its rich history and vibrant culture, has become her home.

Tova's passion for storytelling led her to pursue a career as a writer. She has authored six books, including her latest, *Tram Come Now*, which delves into the lives of famous Austrians.

When asked about her advice for current AISV seniors, Tova encourages them to embrace opportunities and live in the moment. "Don't stress too much about the future. Have as much fun as you can and always say yes to new opportunities and adventures... you never know what can end up happening!"

Juliana Hilliard Class of '11



Revolutionizing the World of Drug Discovery

Since graduating from AIS Vienna, Juliana Hilliard (Class of '11) has embarked on a remarkable journey that is reshaping the future of medical research.

A Foundation Laid at AISV

"I vividly remember the friendships I formed at AISV," Juliana recalls. "It's a unique environment that brought us all together and I remain very close to the friends I made there." Juliana shares that the friendships she fostered back in Kindergarten at AISV have grown into support systems that she still calls upon today.

A Global Pursuit of Knowledge

After graduating from AISV, Juliana pursued higher education in the United States and Germany, earning a graduate degree and building a deep understanding of scientific research. “I then moved back to the United States to experience what it was like to work at a small startup in San Francisco, knowing that someday I would likely want to start my own company. That happened much faster than I expected and I came up with an idea that I felt had to exist in the world and started a company around that idea.” Juliana’s passion for innovation led her to co-found Parallel Bio, a groundbreaking company that is revolutionizing the world of drug discovery.

Parallel Bio: A New Era of Drug Discovery

Parallel Bio leverages cutting-edge technology to create miniature human organs, enabling researchers to test drugs more accurately and efficiently. As Juliana explains, “Our goal is to replace animal models with human models and dramatically increase the success rate of drug development.” This innovative approach has the potential to significantly accelerate the development of life-saving treatments.

When asked how her professional journey led her to this idea, Juliana explains, “I worked in a lab in Vienna during graduate school that invented a way to grow mini 3D human brains in a lab which was a huge leap forward in modeling diseases of the brain. The company I joined in San Francisco asked me to build out their drug discovery platform based on the mini brain technology that I was working on in Vienna. I thought while this approach was great, there was a critical piece missing which was the immune system. It just so happened that my flat mate in San Francisco was working

on a similar approach with a group at Stanford, so when COVID hit and the two of us were locked down in San Francisco, we started coming up with ways of fixing the world of drug discovery by combining our backgrounds.”

Juliana further explains, “Parallel Bio uses arrays of mini human organs to generate clinical trial-like data on drugs before they reach patients. Currently, creating and testing a new drug costs \$2.8B, takes 12.5 years, and has a 5% success rate. This is mostly because animal models are used to predict human outcomes, but unfortunately animals don’t have the same biology or diseases as humans. Our technology uses human systems to solve this problem. We currently work with numerous pharmaceutical companies to design and test drugs in humans from the start. We started with the immune system to fix a critical gap and intend to bring together other organs as well. Our goal is to fully replace animal models with our technology and flip a 95% drug failure rate to a 95% success rate.”

Juliana’s remarkable achievements are a testament to the power of an AISV education. Her story inspires us all to dream big and follow our passions.

Juliana’s advice to future graduates? “Lean into your experience at AISV as you navigate the world ahead. Your experiences with different cultures and different perspectives are invaluable. Stay open to new ideas and new experiences as much as possible. Remember that your ability to connect with different people, adapt to new environments, and communicate across cultures is unique and will set you apart. These are skills that you will be able to use wherever life takes you.”

Thomas Binder Class of '78



A Lifelong Learner

Thomas Binder (Class of '78) fondly recalls his formative years at AIS Vienna. "I vividly remember all the friendships I made," he shares, emphasizing the enduring impact of those connections. For Thomas, AISV was more than just an educational institution; it was a place where he developed the foundation for his future.

"AISV was a defining part of my life," he says. "It laid the foundation for my career and shaped who I am today." He fondly reminisces about field trips, class projects, sports events, and the camaraderie of the soccer team. "As an Austrian, attending AISV felt like a privilege," he adds. While he may not have been the top student, the school's emphasis on effective learning and social skills proved invaluable. "I always felt that the teachers truly cared about us and gave us the space to grow without too much pressure," he recalls.

After his time at AISV, Thomas pursued a career in medicine. His work at the Medical University of Vienna exposed him to the cutting

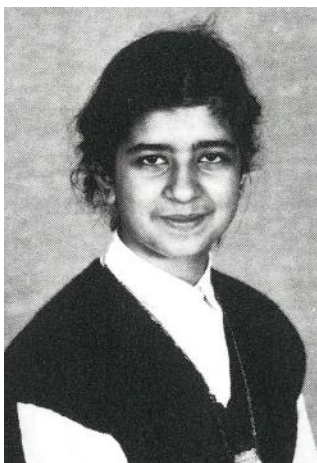
edge of cardiology and ignited his passion for ultrasound technology. This passion, coupled with his desire to share knowledge with fellow medical professionals, led him to establish 123sonography.

123sonography provides online educational content for doctors and sonographers worldwide, specializing in diagnostic medical ultrasound. The platform aims to democratize access to knowledge and empower healthcare professionals globally.

When asked for advice for current AISV seniors, Thomas offers a thoughtful perspective. "Don't give up on your dream to live on Mars!" he says. However, he cautions against blind perseverance. "Perseverance, or GRIT, is crucial, but it only makes sense if the goal you're pursuing is truly worthwhile, if you have the capability to achieve it, and if there aren't better paths available." He emphasizes that giving up doesn't always equate to failure; sometimes, it's about redirecting energy towards more meaningful pursuits.

Shabnam Rezaei

Class of '91



A Global Visionary

Shabnam Rezaei (Class of '91), carries fond memories of her time at the school. As she recalls, "My best childhood memories in Vienna are from AISV. I remember the warm feeling of the school, the kindness of the teachers, the vast friendships and fun times with friends on sports trips, speech and debate, math team and hiking trips."

After moving to Vienna from Tehran, AISV became a sanctuary for Shabnam, providing a sense of community and belonging. "Being away from home, family, friends, and familiar foods was very difficult but AISV took the place of all of that for me," she shares. "I learned so much there and made friends for life. I cherish them every day."

Following her graduation, Shabnam pursued higher education in the United States, attending the University of Pennsylvania and later earning an MBA from NYU. Her career took her to Wall Street, where she worked in finance. However, the tragic events of September 11 profoundly impacted her life, inspiring her to embark on a new path.

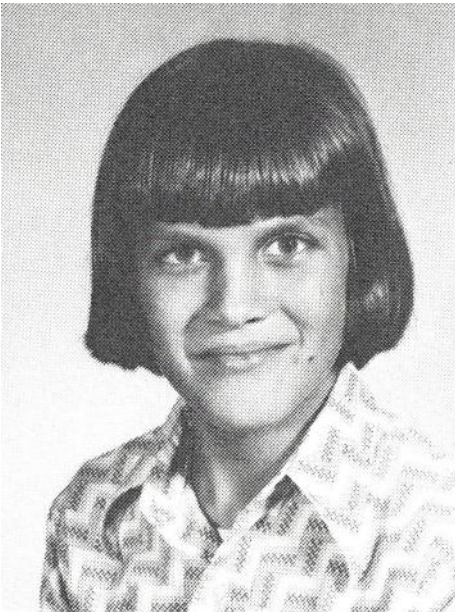
Driven by a desire to challenge stereotypes and promote cultural understanding, Shabnam founded Big Bad Boo Studios. This animation studio produces children's TV series with

purpose, aiming to educate and entertain young audiences while addressing important social issues. As Shabnam explains, "After 9/11, where all Middle Easterners were labeled terrorists, I wanted to affect change and shine a light on cultures that are othered. I first started an online magazine to showcase Iranian culture in a positive way, which led me to animate a film for kids about the Persian New Year, Norooz. This led to the start of Big Bad Boo Studios."

Their shows, including 1001 Nights, 16 Hudson, The Bravest Knight, and Galapagos X, have been featured on major networks like Hulu, CBC Kids, Discovery Kids, Disney, and PBS Kids. "At Big Bad Boo Studios, we produce animated children's TV series with purpose," Shabnam says. "Our latest TV show, Galapagos X, teaches kids about climate change through an action-adventure series where four kids from the future come to the present to prevent disasters from happening."

Shabnam's advice to current AISV seniors is to seize the day and embrace every opportunity. She encourages them to live life to the fullest and make the most of their time at AISV. "You've got one life: enjoy every minute of it!"

Grant Anderson Class of '81



From AISV to the Milky Way and Beyond

Grant Allan Anderson (Class of '81) vividly remembers his time at AISV as a period of immense growth and personal freedom. "Freedom and friends, and sports trips," Grant reminisces. This freedom stemmed from the ability to navigate Vienna independently using public transport. "Starting in 7th or 8th grade I could hop on a bus or tram and be anywhere in the city," he recalls, "It helped me grow and become self-reliant."

Another defining aspect of his AISV experience was the incredible diversity of his classmates. “Friends, because with social media, I’ve been able to keep up with them all over the world,” Grant shares. “Israelis, Lebanese, Egyptians, Kenyans... the list goes on! It’s amazing getting birthday wishes from New Zealand to Mexico, a testament to the global connections formed at AISV.”

Sports also played a significant role in Grant’s school life. “Sports trips!” he exclaims. “How many kids can think back on trips to Paris, Frankfurt, London, Brussels – and that was just one season?” These experiences provided him with a rich foundation for a life filled with adventure.

When asked about the word that comes to mind when he thinks of AISV, Grant replies simply, “Growth.” He credits the school with fostering his independence, global perspective, and passion for exploration.

Life after AISV took Grant on a remarkable journey. After graduation, he pursued his love of engineering at Stanford University, earning degrees in both Mechanical Engineering and Aeronautics & Astronautics. His fascination with aviation began during his first flight across the Atlantic in 1971, and never wavered. While still a student, he gained practical experience working on airline startups and supporting overseas corporate aircraft.

Grant then embarked on a fulfilling career at Lockheed Missiles and Space (now Lockheed Martin), working on classified programs he still can’t discuss today. He later transitioned to the Space Station program, eventually becoming

the Lead Design Engineer for the Space Station Solar Array Program. “It’s nice to watch my work go by high in the sky on a clear night,” he remarks with pride.

A pivotal moment was attending the International Space University summer session in 1991. Inspired by the future of space exploration, he co-founded Paragon Space Development Corporation ([ParagonSDC.com](https://www.ParagonSDC.com)) in 1993, while still at Lockheed Martin.

Paragon’s mission resonated deeply with Grant. “The desire to work in a multidisciplinary environment, requiring all engineering disciplines, biology, chemistry, and innovation,” he explains. The company also fosters a unique culture, prioritizing a healthy work-life balance and respect for women in STEM fields.

“Paragon’s business territory is the Milky Way Galaxy (for now!),” Grant declares with a touch of humor. They have become a leading innovator in the space industry, contributing to every US human spacecraft design since the late 1990s, including Orion, Dragon, Starliner, and Dreamchaser. They’ve collaborated with leading figures like Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos, and even helped break the skydiving altitude record.

Grant’s experiences have shaped his advice for current AISV seniors. He emphasizes living a life of purpose and fulfillment: “Life is about finding out what you want to do, developing the skills to DO what you want to do, and finding a way to make a life out of those two things.”

Recent Alumni Events

Winter Reunion December 2023 in Vienna



Class of 1994 Reunion June 2024 in Vienna



**Class of 2014 Reunion
June 2024 in Vienna**












**Class of 1971 +/- Reunion
September 2024 in Vienna & Herceg Novi**



Character Traits & Dispositions

As an extension of our core values, we have set expectations of what it means to be an AISV citizen in a community that embraces diversity, equity and inclusion, building on the foundation of ethical character, purposeful action and international mindedness.

These are the Character Traits & Dispositions of the ethical and purposeful AISV citizen.

Respect	Aspire	Achieve
Empathetic 	Curious 	Determined 
Ethical 	Courageous 	Persistent 
Accountable 	Creative 	Reflective 





Conditions for Learning

At AIS Vienna, we believe high-quality learning results in the application of knowledge, concepts, and skills in a variety of contexts.



On-going Assessment

Utilizing the cycle of feedback and reflection, we know where we are in our process of learning, where we still need to go, and how we will get there.



Authentic Contexts

We recognize what we're learning and why we're learning it, and we seek relevant and engaging challenges throughout the process.



Personalization

We maximize our strengths, proactively take steps to improve upon our areas of challenge, and claim ownership of our learning through opportunities for personal choice.



Collaboration

We appreciate that learning is a social process, and we respect diverse perspectives and ways of knowing.



Persistence

We embrace opportunities to take risks, and we view setbacks as learning opportunities.

PK-12 Philosophy of Assessment

At AIS Vienna, we know on-going assessment and feedback is essential to the learning process and allows us to evaluate a student's ability to apply knowledge, concepts, and skills in a variety of contexts. A variety of assessment tools empower the student to demonstrate their strengths and areas of growth which enhances metacognition and facilitates individualized support.



Technology for Learning

Our Technology Vision

American International School Vienna students are empowered responsible digital citizens who thrive in a rapidly transforming technological world. Our students think creatively and critically; construct knowledge and design solutions; communicate and collaborate effectively; and engage responsibly with technology as respectful future-minded members of the global community.

Our Technology Philosophy

We believe technology and innovative practice stimulates curiosity and creativity, inspires the joy of discovered passions, and provides students with the tools and skills to confidently meet future challenges. Technology is fundamental in providing equal access to learning for all students.

1:1 Device Program

AIS Vienna is a 1:1 Apple school. Our students learn and collaborate with interactive SMARTboards, Apple TVs, iPads (1:1 program in Elementary School), and MacBook Airs (1:1 program in Middle School & High School).



DEIJB Commitments & Practices

Our Strategic Plan prioritizes the action of setting and reinforcing *expectations of what it means to be an AIS Vienna citizen in a community that embraces diversity, equity and inclusion, building on the foundation of ethical character, purposeful action and international mindedness*. This is the basis of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging work at AISV.

To support this action item, our leadership team continues to engage with DEI consultants who are experts on DEI topics and best practice in international schools. We have an active Belonging Team (made up of faculty, staff, parents, Board members, leaders, and students) who create, implement, and monitor an action plan to move us forward.

At AIS Vienna, we aim to recognize and celebrate our complex identities and shared humanity. International-mindedness is a lived value that emphasizes understanding and appreciation for diverse cultures, languages, and perspectives. Through open dialogue and empathy, we foster a community of informed citizens with a sense of responsibility and respect for others and our world.

It is in this spirit that we created and adopted our [AISV DEIJB Statement](#) to guide and inspire us in cultivating a community of belonging.

Higher Education Placements Awarded to the Class of 2024

Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

As of September 2024, our students had been accepted to the following universities. The number following the university indicates the number of students accepted (if greater than one).

The students from the Class of 2024 received **184** acceptances at **119** institutions in **13** countries/regions.

Austria

FH Campus Wien
IU Internationale Hochschule
Lauder Business School
Modul University Vienna
University of Applied Arts - Vienna
Webster Vienna Private University (2)
Wirtschaftsuniversität WU Vienna University of Economics and Business (2)

Canada

Bishop's University
Concordia University
Dalhousie University
McGill University
Queen's University (2)
St. Francis Xavier University
University of British Columbia (2)
University of Calgary (2)
University of Ottawa (2)
University of Toronto (4)
University Victoria (2)
University of Waterloo
Western University
York University

Denmark

Copenhagen Business School

France

EDHEC Business School
ESCP Business School

Germany

EBS University of Business and Law (2)
TU Berlin

Ireland

Trinity College Dublin - The University of Dublin (2)

Israel

Reichman University

Italy

Bocconi University (2)
Luiss University (2)

Netherlands

DELFT University of Technology
HZ University of Applied Sciences
Leiden University
Maastricht University (2)
Tilburg University
University College Utrecht
University of Amsterdam (2)
University of Groningen
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Norway

BI Norwegian Business School

Spain

Escuela Superior de Administracion y Direccion de Empresas ESADE (4)

IE University (3)

IE Business School, Segovia
Instituto de Empresa Business School

United Kingdom

Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London
Imperial College London (2)
King's College London (4)
Kingston University
Queen Mary University of London (3)
Royal Holloway, University of London
University College London (UCL) (4)
University of Bath (2)
University of Cambridge
University of Edinburgh (6)
University of Glasgow (2)
University of Manchester (2)
University of St. Andrews (3)
University of Sheffield
University of the Arts London
University of Warwick (7)

United States

Babson College
Binghamton University
Boston University
Carnegie Mellon University
Central Washington

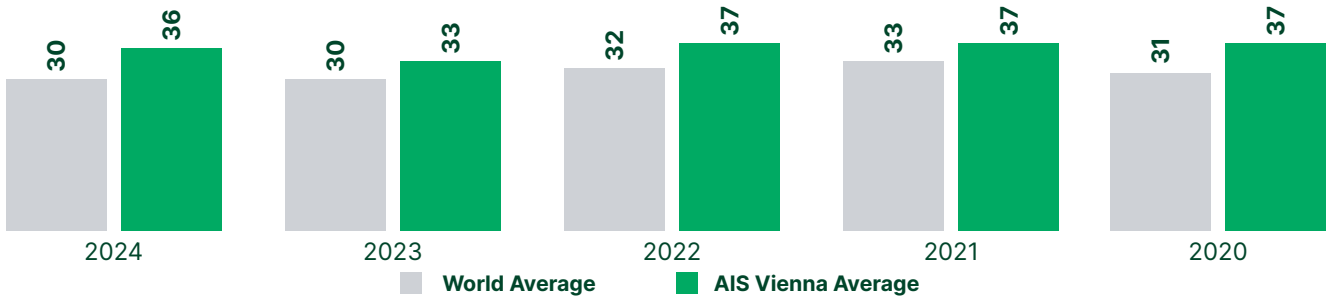
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine (2)
University of California, Los Angeles (2)
University of California, San Diego (2)
University of Colorado, Boulder (3)
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
University of Colorado, Denver
University of Florida (2)
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (2)
University of Maryland
University of Miami
University of Montana
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puget Sound
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Utah (3)
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (3)
Western Washington University
Williams College

Celebrating Achievement: Our IB Results

Congratulations to our Class of 2024 High School students and teachers for a terrific set of scores on this past school year's IB exams! As an inclusive, open enrollment program within which students have an opportunity to achieve at all levels, we are thrilled to announce we have a 100% pass rate for the class of 2024!

Our May 2024 cohort received an average score of 36 including one perfect score of 45.

Average IB Diploma Points Awarded 2020-2024



Teacher Facts & Figures

We pride ourselves on the quality of our teaching and we celebrate every one of our internationally diverse teachers. They are fully committed to upholding our Core Values - Respect, Aspire, and Achieve - which are directly linked to student learning at AIS Vienna.

Facts & Figures About the People Who Help Make AIS Vienna Special

Faculty Members	105
Countries Represented	15
Teachers with Advanced Degrees	88%
Student-Teacher Ratio	7:1

Welcome to the Extraordinary

As guided by our Strategic Plan, AIS Vienna is committed to continuously investing in spaces that support innovative learning. We are excited to be preparing for a new project that will optimize numerous areas across our campus for future generations of Knights.

Over the coming years, AIS Vienna will begin construction on a completely reimagined heart of campus, which we will gain access to through the development of a new Athletic Center.

Throughout the 2023-2024 school year, we participated in a thorough feasibility study to gauge community interest in such an ambitious project. Thanks to feedback from current and former families, AISV's capital campaign will prioritize learning spaces, specifically the expansion of Middle School and High School classrooms, labs and common areas. These upgrades will include a spacious gathering area for the entire school and an upgraded Cafeteria. Moreover, replacing the existing Sports Hall ("Bubble") with a purpose-built Athletic Center will enable us to repurpose both on-campus gyms to create additional learning spaces for students.

Bringing this project to fruition will be a collective endeavor. We intend to garner support from the entire AISV community. While a portion of our funding will stem from reserves and financing, we also aspire to conduct a fundraising campaign to secure generous contributions. If you are interested in learning more about how to support our efforts, please contact our Advancement Team at Advancement@ais.at.

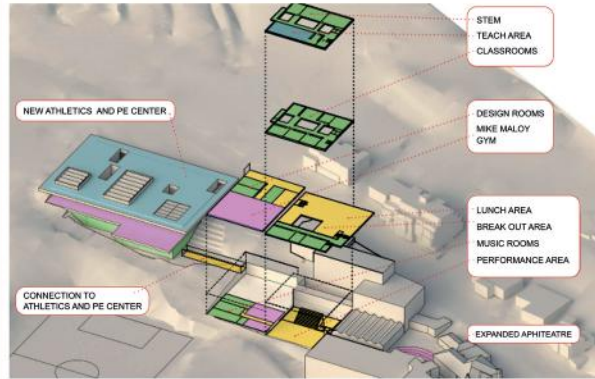
We are excited to explore countless opportunities for our learners as we transform our campus into a modern learning environment.





American
International
School
Vienna

One Project Two Phases



Phase One A Majestic New Athletic Center

2025-2027

- 3 Large and 2 small gymnasiums
- 1 Dance room
- 2 Fitness rooms
- 1 Bolder room
- Meeting rooms
- Change and shower facilities
- Athletic offices
- Additional learning spaces
- Café
- Break out, hang out and open spaces
- A beautiful winter garden
- Forest playground

"The new Athletics Center will serve as a beacon of excellence, setting new standards in sports and educational facilities across Europe."

Kathryn Miner, AISV Director

Phase Two

A New Heart of the School with Expanded Facilities

2025-2027

- Expanded classrooms for interactive learning
- 19 Additional learning spaces
- A breathtaking new atrium which can be used to advance the visual and performing arts
- State of the art robotics and technology labs
- New communal spaces for events and performances
- Expanded break out, hang out and open spaces
- Additional canteen and cafeteria space



"This transformation is more than just a physical upgrade; it's about creating a campus that strategically adapts to the changing needs of students. The changes aim to improve our facilities, enhance the learning experience and provide more opportunities for our children. It's about making our environment more engaging and suited to the unique needs of each student."

Matthew Werner, Chairman of the Board, AISV



- Universal design and fully accessible campus
- Climate fit buildings to KlimaAktiv standards
- A carbon neutral footprint
- Nestled in the AIS Biosphere and the Vienna Woods

Truly Visionary · Truly Vibrant · Truly AISV

Time to Say Goodbye



Class of 2024: Congratulations, Graduates!

Our Seniors have found new ways to learn, grow, connect and express themselves and have met challenges with curiosity and courage. We celebrate their accomplishments and their time with us at AIS Vienna. We know they have cultivated important skills and values for a successful future. As we watched them during their last year, they are truly a community of innovative learners realizing their chosen futures with courage, curiosity, and joy.

Our students' achievements are many and they are thrilled as they transition to university. Many thanks to our amazing counselors who supported Seniors and their parents in their search of their best fit universities to ensure a successful year and transition to the next phase of their lives. Thank you to our faculty who guided students through the academic challenges of senior year.

University acceptances from the previous five years can be found in our [High School Profile](#).



Retiring Staff & Faculty

People are at the center of our work, and AIS Vienna has said goodbye to a great number of faculty and staff over the years who had huge impacts on our program. In June 2024, we said farewell to four beloved faculty and staff members. We wish them the very best in their future endeavors and look forward to seeing them again someday.



Susan Seekirchner
MS/HS Instrumental Music
32 years at AIS Vienna



Peter Forsgren
MS Physical Education & Coach
20 years at AIS Vienna

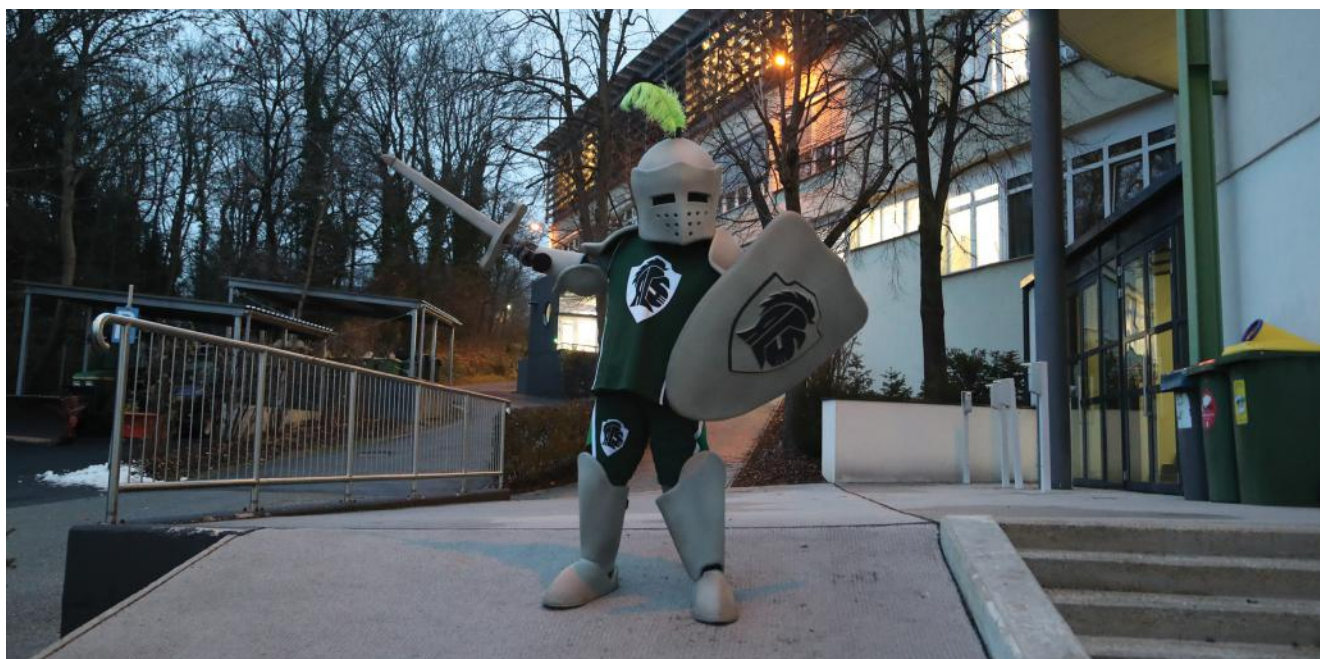


Zübeyde Bozkurt
Cleaning Staff Supervisor
25 years at AIS Vienna



Karin Hackl
Events Coordinator &
Assistant to the Events Office
16 years at AIS Vienna

Once a Knight, always a Knight!



Sad Farewells

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of our following fellow Knights. Our thoughts are with their families and friends. We will miss them dearly.



Keith Oshins
Class of '73



Kyle Morrison
Class of '77



Andrew E. Eckrote
Class of '82



Vicki Preyer
Class of '86



Eric Olsen
Class of '87



Rebecca Dawn Sexton
Class of '93



Karen Becher

Former Assistant to the High School Principal



Patricia Sellars

Former English & Theory of Knowledge Teacher



Janet Paton

Former English Teacher



Cindy Beitmen

Former Music Teacher



Sharon Ann Ligons

Former Elementary School Staff Member



Michael "Mike" Marinucci

Former Drama & English Teacher



Ryan D. Ashley

Former High School Counselor

Alumni Portal

The [AIS Vienna Alumni Portal](#) is run through our School Information System (Veracross) and offers alumni easy access to an alumni directory, news, photos, and more! Providing current contact information enables alumni to reconnect with former classmates, make professional networking connections, and stay in the loop with upcoming reunions and school events. Please contact alumni@ais.at if you have any questions about accessing the Alumni Portal.

Alumni Class Reps

Thank you to all of our Alumni Class Representatives for representing your class so well! For the complete list of Class Representatives, log in to the [AIS Vienna Alumni Portal](#).

Giving To AIS Vienna

Friendships. Mentors. Moments of personal growth. The AIS Vienna experience doesn't last long, but it accounts for an extraordinary amount of lifelong memories.

During this time of year, when it's typical for all of us to look back on those special people and places that have shaped our lives, please help us to keep the Knight experience unforgettable by making your gift to AIS Vienna today.

Regular contributions by alumni, friends, parents, faculty, and staff provide the standard of excellence that makes attending AIS Vienna an unforgettable, life-changing experience.

Your gift every year makes a difference every day!

[Learn more](#) about giving back to AIS Vienna through gifts of time, talent, and treasure.





AIS Vienna Networks

To keep up with the latest happenings at AIS Vienna, follow us on the channels below. (We post great stuff, trust us!)

	For Everyone	For Alumni
	www.facebook.com/AISVienna	www.facebook.com/AISViennaAlumni
	www.instagram.com/ais_vienna	www.instagram.com/ais_vienna_alumni/
	www.youtube.com/aisvienna	www.youtube.com/aisvienna
	www.linkedin.com/school/aisvienna/	www.linkedin.com/groups/1137727/profile

The print issue of our GlobeSpotter features a number of website links. Please visit the AIS Vienna website (www.ais.at) to access this online content.







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