

AFS Expands Exchange Programs that Address Global Challenges



Antoinette and Kahalia (both front row, center) are Quest students from St. Louis!

AFS continues to find new ways to transform short exchange programs into content rich learning labs for young active global citizens. So far in 2019, hundreds of students participated in these programs in 40 countries, exploring the UN Sustainable Development Goals, STEM challenges, as well as human rights and language learning.

TACKLING SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT IN GHANA



The UN Sustainable Development Goal 6, which calls for ensuring availability and the sustainable management of water inspired AFS organizations in Ghana and USA to partner with Safe Water Network to help young people learn about the water filtration systems and technology. During the program in Ghana, AFS-USA students visited two water filtration and treatment stations in Greater Accra and the Volta region, helped local operators test the quality of the water before distribution, and presented their ideas on how to make clean water more accessible.

Program participants lived with Ghanaian host families to enhance their language and intercultural skills and take full advantage of experiencing the richness of Ghanaian culture and history. Outings included visits to the Cape Coast Castle, where they learned about the devastating history of the Transatlantic slave trade. On the brighter side, participants enjoyed the fund side of Ghana, including drumming, dance lessons, and making tie-dye fabric. The students also spent time with their younger peers at a local school primary school. Both AFS and Safe Water Network are interested in continuing the collaboration in future years.