

Background of the Bavarian Hall of Fame

In 1842 King Ludwig I established the Bavarian Hall of Fame (Valhalla) to honor German-speaking persons. The following have been honored for their unique contribution to Germany.

- ❖ In his lifetime 100 busts and 64 plaques were added.
- ❖ Subsequent rulers brought the total to 187: only nine were women. These nine women were added during Ludwig's lifetime and include:
- ❖ Velleda (Germanic oracle, first century A.D.) Theodelinde (Queen of the Lombards, ca. 570-628) Mechthilde (Wife of King Henry I and Mother of Otto I, d. 968) Roswitha von Gandersheim (Poet, ca 935- after 975) Hildegard of Bingen (first German mystic, 1098-1179) Elizabeth of Thuringia (Countess, 1207-1231) Amalia (Countess of Hessen-Kessel, 1602-1651) Maria Theresa (Archduchess of Austria, 1717-1780) Catherine II (Czarina of Russia, 1729-1796)
- ❖ Mother Theresa was the first woman so honored in over one hundred years. She joined the nine other women who have been inducted into the Valhalla:
- ❖ The honorees included Beethoven, Mozart, Charlemagne, Luther, Goethe, Schiller, Einstein, St. Boniface, St. Albert the Great, and others.