



YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING Intercultural Exchange Programs



HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT and get ready for a life-changing experience! This is a chance to share your story, your traditions and your customs while learning about others. When you open your home and heart to a YFU international exchange student, you'll develop a fresh perspective, make memories and gain a new family member for life. Apply online at yfuusa.org or call us to learn more. Our dedicated staff and volunteers will be there every step of the way.

TYPICAL YFU STUDENTS ARE

- from one of 70 countries
- proficient speakers in English
- eager to learn about your family
- medically insured and have their own spending money
- able to share a room with another host sibling
- sure to become an integral part of your family

YFU PROVIDES

- orientations and workshops throughout the exchange year
- local support volunteers
- 24-hour emergency support

ASK YFU ABOUT

Study Abroad discounts for hosting families

Xingchi 17 Year Male from China

Student #: 2019-128-003-0046

Xingchi, or Jason as he likes to be called, is a 17-year-old boy from China! Outgoing, active, and energetic are adjectives that best describe him. A very good student, Jason credits his family for encouraging his interest in learning about other countries. Together, they have traveled to many different places, met new people, and learned about new cultures. In the future, Jason hopes to pursue a career in Science & Technology. He is looking forward to experiencing the technology that America has to offer. As you can see, Jason is a dedicated student, but he has another side that shows an interest in basketball, spending time outdoors, reading, computer programming, watching movies, and calligraphy, which he would love to show his host family. At home, Jason helps his parents by cleaning his room, washing his clothes, and taking care of his little brother. Let this young man who is eager to meet his future host family find a new home with your family!

Samuel 15 Year Male from France

Student #: 2019-146-003-0015

Samuel is a 15-year-old boy from France who is dynamic and full of energy! He is an excellent student who likes many subjects - languages, Math, Biology, Physics, and Economics. He thinks he might pursue a career in engineering. Badminton is one of his major interests - both playing and watching matches. He and his dad play together, while he and his Mom swim and bike together. Watching the FIFA World Cup is high on his list, and (of course) he cheers for the French team. Samuel has played the piano and has been a Scout, where he enjoyed camping and outdoor activities. He enjoys spending time with friends, playing video games, board games with his family, and eating "good food." Samuel and his family have visited the USA and he looks forward to meeting his host family to experience daily American life. Samuel thanks you for opening your home to him!

Boyang 15 Year Male from China

Student #: 2019-128-003-0047

"A friendly guy" is the way that 16-year-old Boyang from China, or Bob as he likes to be called, describes himself! His teachers and peers also use that term, as well as warm-hearted, active, humorous, helpful, studious, curious, and easy to get along with. Bob likes to volunteer and help foreign students with their Mandarin, or be a docent at the local museum. He loves to explore new places with his parents, and to discover new ideas with his teachers and peers. A very good student, Bob understands and writes English better than he speaks it, but a year of being surrounded by Americans should change that. He enjoys playing sports such as badminton, basketball, and table tennis for fun, though he would like to join his host school's basketball team. Bob lives a simple and quiet lifestyle. During the school year, he goes to school and meets with friends afterwards to play a sport, jump rope or maybe swim, go for a bike ride or see a movie. Then it's home for dinner, homework, and chatting with his parents. During summer and winter vacations, he and his family take a trip somewhere where they buy a souvenir to commemorate, such as a refrigerator magnet. Bob is grateful that you will welcome him into your home!

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Shaofan 16 Year Male from China

Student #: 2019-128-003-0023

Learning new things and creating something new from what he has learned is a passion for 15-year-old Shaofan, aka "Luke," from China! Competing in robotics is also a real passion for Luke, belonging to a robotics club and being quite skilled in physical engineering. Luke is an excellent student, and despite his skills in robotics, his favorite subjects are English and Geography. Described as an outgoing, creative, and friendly teen, Luke loves to spend time with his friends on the weekends. They enjoy playing sports like badminton, soccer, or basketball together (he even has a favorite NBA team!), or watching movies - favorites are Star Wars and Marvel movies. Luke also finds time to volunteer in his community, assisting the elderly. During his exchange year, Luke is looking forward to learning more about the American culture and how to communicate with people from different backgrounds. Will you welcome Luke into your family?

Maria 16 Year Female from Poland

Student #: 2019-211-003-0001

Maria is a 16-year-old girl from Poland who describes herself as kind and positive! An excellent student, she is considered by her teachers to be a role model for her peers as she is highly motivated to learn. Maria's positive attitude makes her well-liked by both teachers and fellow students. Maria says her family is very close, and she describes them as "loud and a little crazy" - but always supportive of each other. They are active in their church, and Maria hopes to attend both her church and her host family's while in the USA. Among her interests are playing the guitar and horseback riding, which she would like to continue, if possible. An avid reader, she particularly enjoys fantasy and science fiction. Maria also expresses her creative nature by drawing. She says she is patient and calm, and enjoys taking care of children - and adds that they like being with her. Spending a year as an exchange student is Maria's dream, and she looks forward "to having a new family!" MUST BE PLACED IN CALIFORNIA

Yemao 17 Year Male from China

Student #: 2019-128-003-0039

Seventeen-year-old Yemao from China likes to go by his nickname of Jack! He is described as a very outgoing, positive, and confident young man who has a great sense of humor and is always smiling. Jack is a passionate lover of music, and plays several instruments and sings. He has been playing piano since he was a young child, and although he took a long break, he is back to loving it again. He has also played the tuba for 8 years, and has just started playing the drums. Jack lives with his parents who are often busy at work, so music helps him fill his time and find contentment. To be active, he enjoys badminton, basketball, and playing Frisbee. Jack also enjoys cooking and baking, animals, computer games, hanging with his friends, and traveling. He and his friends like to visit many different restaurants and food stalls sampling different foods. So far they have visited 50 different restaurants, so to say he is a foodie would be accurate! Jack has traveled to the USA several times with his parents, and now he wants to experience America on a deeper level. He wants to know the real American culture, the food, the family life, the sports, and especially the high school life. Jack is very excited to start his exchange year in the USA!

Carlotta 15 Year Female from Germany

Student #: 2019-149-003-0070

Following in her father's footsteps, 15-year-old Carlotta is excited to leave her home country of Germany and begin her new life in the USA! She is eager to experience the American culture and to meet her host family. Carlotta's favorite subjects at school are Economics, Politics, and Law. Carlotta works in a law office one day per week, which has inspired her to study law once she graduates from high school. She also finds time to babysit for children in her neighborhood, and offers them help with their homework. Favorite hobbies for Carlotta include playing tennis, working out at the gym, and reading magazines and blogs about fashion. Family is very important to Carlotta, and her family is very loving and supportive of her new adventure to the USA. Carlotta enjoys spending time with her friends as well, whether that entails shopping, going to the movies, or having fun sleepovers. Carlotta wants to thank you for allowing her to be a part of your family. She cannot wait to meet you and start school so that she can experience the world-famous American "school spirit!"

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Daniel Christopher 16 Year Male from Finland

Student #: 2019-145-003-0015

Daniel, a 16-year-old from Finland, is passionate about sports! In the winter, he plays hockey and ice skates with friends. During the summer months, he boats, swims, and cycles. However, his favorite sports are soccer and floorball, a form of hockey played on a gym floor, with no ice or skates required. Given the chance, Daniel would like to continue soccer or ice hockey in the USA since he knows floorball is uncommon here. With his family, Daniel also plays golf for fun. One of the best things about sports for Daniel is spending time with friends, family, and teammates, for Daniel possesses excellent social skills, probably strengthened by both sports and travel. Three family trips to the USA have fueled Daniel's desire to learn more about the multicultural society he has seen on those visits. "Traveling and experiencing new things is our way of life," writes Daniel. "Being open-minded about other people and their cultures and backgrounds is a staple value." Now, Daniel is ready to experience the American lifestyle, not as a tourist, but as a member of his new American family!

Nike 16 Year Female from Germany

Student #: 2019-149-003-0002

Nike is looking forward to experiencing the "school spirit" at an American school, spending time in after-school activities, and becoming a true member of her host family during her year abroad in the USA! This 15-year-old girl from Germany describes herself as "friendly, reliable, and open-minded." Nike is sporty and active. To keep active, Nike plays floor hockey, swims, enjoys downhill skiing, and she is very open to trying new activities while she is in the USA. She would like to experience playing floor hockey in the USA, if possible, and would also like to learn to play tennis, lacrosse, or ice hockey. Nike also enjoys cooking and baking, which is an activity she does at home with her younger sister and with her friends. Her favorite subjects at school are Math and Chemistry, and she really enjoys learning new languages. Nike is close with her family, and looks forward to their travels together during the holidays. In particular, they have traveled to the United States together twice, which sparked Nike's interest in our country. With friends, Nike likes to shop, go to the movies, listen to music, and take pictures. Nike can't wait for this opportunity to come to America and get to know our culture!

Laurits 15 Year Male from Denmark

Student #: 2019-137-003-0046

Laurits from Denmark, aka Lau, loves working with his hands, such as repairing and renovating old mopeds, and spending time outdoors! In fact, 15-year old Lau writes, "I have Adventure as an elective, where we ride mountain bikes, climb, or go kayaking or many other things." Lau enjoys attending his school, where students are offered regular academic classes along with activities uncommon in a traditional Danish high school. He looks forward to quality family time spent on the weekends, playing games and watching movies together. Lau offers his help with the household chores by walking his dog and helping with the dishes. Always ready for outdoor activities and sports, Lau enjoys fishing, soccer, judo, and badminton, and is interested in joining a soccer, football, or wrestling team in the USA, if possible. This caring, active, down-to-earth teen plans on joining the military after college, and hopes to be able to sail the world. Meanwhile, he looks forward to a year with his American family where he can learn about the American culture and have American adventures!

Quirin 15 Year Male from Germany

Student #: 2019-149-003-0184

Fifteen-year-old Quirin from Germany is a young man with a variety of interests and qualities! First of all, he loves all sports, especially team sports. He plays soccer with friends, and loves to watch it as well. In addition, he likes skiing, tennis, running, swimming, bicycling, and basketball. During his down time, he likes to play chess, watch movies, play cards or walk his dog. Quirin shares a close relationship with his family, which consists of his parents and two older sisters. They always try to eat meals as a family, and spend quality time together playing cards, watching movies, traveling, and going to church every Sunday. Quirin has dreamed of going on exchange to the USA after speaking with friends who have come home from an exchange year with great stories to tell. Quirin decided on his own to do this, and has his family's full support. While in America, he would like to improve his English, learn about a new culture, and see the many sights of the USA. Quirin is willing to help with household chores in his host family's home, and is very grateful to them for opening their home to him!

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Enzo 14 Year Male from France

Student #: 2019-146-003-0031

Spontaneous, kind, and full of laughter are just a few words to describe 15-year-old Enzo from France! He is an avid soccer player, and would love to continue playing during his exchange year. Enzo also enjoys working out at the gym, specifically CrossFit training. He likes to spend time with his friends playing video games, listening to music, watching sports, and doing outdoor activities. Enzo looks forward to time spent with family going to the movies or going out to restaurants, and he describes his family's lifestyle as fun and cool. Enzo believes that living in the USA will be an extraordinary experience. He is looking forward to improving his English skills while in the USA, which will be helpful for his future professional life so that he can be understood throughout the world. Enzo is excited to discover the American lifestyle and culture through his host family. "I hope you are the family to share this wonderful experience with me," says Enzo!

Lisa 16 Year Female from Germany

Student #: 2019-149-003-0181

Friendly, funny, and self-confident Lisa, a 16-year-old from Germany, has interests ranging from baking to swimming! "I really like to cook and to bake, to be creative and to try new recipes and flavors." It is something she also enjoys doing with friends, especially baking cookies. As for swimming, Lisa says "I love water and to be free in it and the silence that is always there." She also enjoys playing the guitar and singing. Lisa lives with her mom, dad, two younger sisters, one younger brother, and two dogs. "We are a big family so it's never quiet and action is always there." Her favorite subjects in school are Biology and Chemistry, and one day she would like to be a pediatrician. Her main reason for going on an exchange is to meet new people and to be part of the American way of life. "I want to know how it is to be in a new family and to know where the cultural differences are. I would be so glad and grateful if you would let me be a part of your family," says Lisa!

Arthur 16 Year Male from France

Student #: 2019-146-003-0028

Coming to us from France, 16-year-old sporty Arthur considers himself to be kind, generous, funny, and honest! Arthur loves to play basketball with friends, or they often go bowling, shopping, or to the movies. In the summer, they enjoy swimming together in Arthur's pool or visiting the sea nearby. Arthur loves surfing in the summer, and skiing in winter. On weekends, his family enjoys going to the movies, visiting museums, trying new restaurants, or spending time with extended family and friends. Friday nights are spent with the entire extended family for a religious meal. When finished with school, Arthur plans to study medicine to become a doctor or scientist. While on exchange, he hopes to meet many new people and experience new things. Arthur thanks you for opening your home to him!

Qianshu 16 Year Male from China

Student #: 2019-128-003-0026

Qianshu, who goes by Michael, is a 15-year-old student from China with a diverse range of hobbies! An active boy, Michael enjoys fishing, skiing, swimming, and playing basketball - all activities that he would be interested in continuing during his exchange year. He also likes anime, both watching and painting characters himself. During quieter moments, you might find Michael reading or listening to music. When he has finished school, Michael is interested in one day becoming an international photographer. Michael is looking forward to making new friends and getting to know more about the American lifestyle during his exchange year!

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