

Hosting



Intercultural Exchange Program

We are looking for host families for the 2018/19 school year. If you are interested in learning about other cultures, view our exchange students that are waiting for a host family by clicking on “Meet The Students” on our website or use this link:

<https://online.yfuusa.org/host-a-student/meet-the-students.php>.

Go to www.yfuusa.org and click on HOST A STUDENT to begin your application.



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

Jaakko 16 Year Male from Finland

Student #: 2018-145-003-0004

Active and outgoing Jaakko will be 17 when he arrives from Finland for his exchange year! Described by his friends as “very open and easily approachable,” Jaakko is interested in robotics and programming and also loves photography and aerial filming with his drone. His teachers describe him as one of their best students and say that he is very active in school events. Jaakko lives with his parents and younger brother and enjoys spending time cycling and skiing with them and also chilling with them at home. He spends time with his friends at the gym, playing sports, and barbecuing on the weekends. Jaakko likes to cook for friends and family and says he is quite good at it. In addition to other sports, Jaakko enjoys longboarding, and describes being able to roll down the streets while listening to music as freeing. He hopes to try American football or surfing while on exchange. Jaakko is looking forward to the new experiences that his exchange year will bring and hopes that his new host family is excited to share the adventure with him!

Moe 16 Year Female from Japan

Student #: 2018-171-003-0005

Cheerful, positive, and honest are words that best describe this ambitious girl from Japan! Listening to stories of being on exchange from her mother who was an exchange student has helped fuel Moe's dreams of living abroad since she was five years old. She is eager to become part of your American family! Ballet and rhythmic gymnastics are Moe's passions and she enjoys spending time with her friends while doing these activities. She has even danced at local festivals! Enjoying nature, hiking and camping are activities she likes to do with her family and friends. Singing is a family tradition as both her mother, older sister, and she sing in choirs. Moe hopes to join a choir while in the USA and hopes to learn many more English songs from her new host family! Trying new sports is also a priority for Moe - perhaps a try at softball while she is here? She loves following baseball and is sure to cheer on your favorite team! She has many things to share with her new family and can't wait to get here!

Looking to volunteer your time, and you enjoy working with teenagers? We are always needing volunteers to be a mentor to a student and family during their exchange year! Go to www.yfuusa.org and click on VOLUNTEER.



YFU is a volunteer based organization, which means that 75% of our non-profit is ran by volunteers, so we don't really have "local offices" but we do have local volunteers. We strive to educate and train our volunteers to be knowledgeable in working with the other cultures and doing mediation. Probably one of the biggest conflicts between a host family and student is the cultural differences.

YFU is a private non-profit that is certified by CSIET (Council on Standards for International Educational Travel) and the U.S. State

Dept. We offer in-person, one-on-one, group conference calls and webinar trainings to prepare you in your potential YFU volunteer role. The initial orientation training explains the basics of YFU and is an hour long via a conference call---and then I will also set up additional training with you throughout the year. All YFU volunteers will also be certified through the Dept. of State to work with exchange students and host families. At no cost, you will take a course and test online and receive a certificate after you have completed and passed the course. This also looks great on your résumé! We ask that you stay committed as a volunteer for at least a year if you are serving as a YFU Area Representative or mentor...we also have several other positions that are seasonal or more short term depending on availability of volunteer opportunities and your schedule, so you can set your own schedule and amount of time you are capable of volunteering. The vetting and training process can be lengthy due to working directly with minors, but the reward is truly worth it.

From conducting student orientations to making classroom presentations, problem solving with international students and their host families to arranging social activities, there is truly a place for everyone with YFU. Whether you are a young professional, a parent, a retired person, or a college student - we welcome people of all backgrounds to work with us. Whatever your skills and interests are, there is a volunteer opportunity to match them! Training is provided by YFU staff and volunteers.



If these YFU volunteer opportunities sound interesting to you, please visit our website and submit a volunteer application. This is the first step! After receiving your application, I will connect with you.

If you are ready to take the first step, please submit a volunteer application here:

<https://crm.yfu.org/default/yfuCreateAccount.action>

Thank you! We look forward to hearing from you.

Melanie Moseley

Studying Abroad



Applications to study abroad for the 2018/2019 program year or fall semester are accepted until March 15, 2018.

Applying to become an exchange student is a lengthy process, but can be great practice for college applications. First the student needs to find the right program that fits their needs, so some research is necessary. Once a decision is made on the program, there is an online application that takes about an hour to complete. Once an application has been submitted, the student must



provide school documents for grades along with a teacher recommendation, health documentation and a parent agreement. Scholarship students must also submit three short answer essays. All students participate in an interview that will be arranged by a volunteer or staff member as a part of their application process. After acceptance to program, students will receive host family information and attend a local pre-departure orientation, and after their return, a re-entry orientation.

Here are a few deadlines coming soon:

- Jan 1st- Is the deadline for our Financial Aid program. Several partial scholarships, based on financial need are available for programs all over the world. Take a look at our YFU Financial Aid Fund Page to see if you qualify.
- March 15th- Is the deadline for non-scholarship applicants to complete their application to Study Abroad and pay the tuition price provided on the bottom of the country pages. However, please be aware that our programs fill on a first come, first serve basis. This means that our most popular country choices are filling up now!
- NOW- Is the time to start fundraising for your exchange! Check out our Fundraising Guidelines for some creative ideas.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at **(903) 771-1295** or email me at mmoseley@yfu.org.

Oh, one more thing! Families who host an international student with YFU for 6 months prior to your program departure may be eligible for the YFU Community Grant.

Melanie Moseley
Youth For Understanding USA
www.yfuusa.org