

YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING Intercultural Exchange Programs

PRESENTATION PACKET

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND YFU ALUMNI

District:	
Field:	
	Name:
	Phone:
	Email:

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APPENDIX

National Scholarship Flyer

Summer Study Abroad Flyer

Hosting Flyer

Study Abroad, Host and/or Volunteer Flyer

Lead Slips

Student Sign Up Sheet

Ideas on Where to Present

If possible, present in advance of a Virtual Information Night (an online informational session run by staff to share more about YFU and answer questions live.)

VIN Schedule: yfuusa.org/vin

In the community:	In the classroom:	At school:
- Scout Troops	- Languages	- School Clubs
- Youth Groups	- Social Studies	- Teacher Training Days
- Boys and Girls Club	- History	- Career Center
- International Festivals	- College Prep	- PTA Meetings
- Service Clubs		- College Nights
		- Parent Conferences

Dear Students and Alumni,

Please help us to carry on the YFU tradition of finding new students and host families for next year by committing to present at your high school or other local community events!! The following Recruitment and Presentation Packet contains information about studying abroad, volunteering, and hosting, which will help you to outline your YFU presentation.

Use this information to promote YFU programs in your school and community. Share your YFU story, talk about study abroad with your friends, tell your teachers about YFU scholarships. Most importantly, encourage a family you know to volunteer and host; they can host for the whole school year, a semester, or for a few weeks as a Welcome Family. YFU would not be possible without dedicated volunteers and host families.

Your work as a student ambassador helps build stronger YFU communities around the world. The relationships you build today are the foundation for YFU's future. Thank you for making a positive difference, for encouraging study abroad, and for promoting hosting and volunteer opportunities with YFU in your local community.

Sincerely,

Brian Wiehr

Senior Director of Study Abroad

"What basics do I need to know when presenting?"

1 Set Up for Public Speaking

- Pass out Information Slips (see Appendix) for those interested in learning more about hosting and study abroad.
- · Write on the board:

YFU USA

yfuusa.org

P: 1.800.TEENAGE (1.800.833.6243)

admissions@yfu.org

- facebook.com/YFU.USA.Fan
- youtube.com/yfuusa
- **9** @YFU_USA
- @ @yfuusa

Your Name and Phone Number

- · Make the presentation as participatory as possible.
- Invite American alumni, international students or host siblings or parents to present with you.
- Publically post and pass out flyers (see Appendix). Pass out brochures or bookmarks (request a supply through your District Office 1.866.493.8872.)

2 Order of Presentation

- About YFU
- My YFU Story
- Study Abroad
- Volunteer
- Host a Student

YOUR YFU STORY

Make it personal. Tell them about a very specific experience such as that time you got lost or used the wrong word. Talk about the first time you tried a traditional American meal with your Host Family or your first Halloween.

DID YOU KNOW...?

Since 1951, more than 250,000 students have exchanged globally through a YFU program.

"What do families and students need to know about the organization?"

- · YFU is a global leader in student exchange.
- Families around the world trust YFU because of our strong reputation for quality, high safety standards, and knowledgeable local support network.
- YFU has exchanged over 260,000 students in 70 countries since 1951.
- As a volunteer-based organization, unpaid host families are motivated to participate for all of the right reasons:
 - · genuine interest in different cultures
 - · confidence in the many benefits of global exchange
 - · willingness to build international bonds of friendship.
- YFU staff and volunteers are available to answer questions about study abroad, volunteering, or hosting from the application process, to on-program support, to post program follow-up.

TELL YOUR
YFU STORY

You and your story are interesting! Engage your audience:

- · Introduce yourself in your native/foreign language.
- · Use a video or powerpoint to create an exciting visual display.
- · Share about your culture and explain the big differences.
- · Host a "show and tell" featuring (from native countries):
 - · Music
 - Sports
 - Food
 - · Native Vocabulary
 - Cultural Differences
 - Academic Systems
 - · Government/Politics
 - · Social Activities
 - · Family Activities
 - · Holidays
 - · Clothing Style

STUDY ABROAD AVAILABLE PROGRAMS

"Does YFU have a program to fit my needs and interests?"

BENEFITS OF EXCHANGE

"What lessons will I take from this experience and how will it change my life?"

YFU students gain intercultural understanding, learn mutual respect, and develop a sense of social responsibility

- Develop leadership competencies necessary to meet the challenges and benefit from the opportunities of a fastchanging global community.
- Students learn resilience and independence of thought; program participants are less likely to unquestioningly accept something that someone else tells them.
- A second language; There is no better way to learn a second language than total immersion into a culture especially when living with a host family.
- Self-reliance, resourcefulness, and confidence; without parents, siblings, teachers, and coaches to fall back on, you have to rely more on yourself.
- It's a profound educational experience; beyond language skills, learn cultural intricacies, which can only be gained through experience not simply taught in the classroom.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE!

Actors Bradley Cooper and Joseph Gordon-Levitt are both fluent in French. Soccer player David Beckham and actor Will Smith know Spanish while actress Natalie Portman and actor Edward Norton can both speak Japanese.

YFU PROGRAMS

- There are more than 100 outbound programs in 40+ countries on 5 continents.
- Programs include two-week summer short term, summer, semester, or academic year, gap year, volunteer and teach abroad.
- In many countries, students can choose a specialty study program. For example, in Sweden students can study music and dance; in Lithuania, students can attend a basketball academy.
- · Though some programs require prior language study, most do not have a language prerequisite.
- · All programs and requirements are listed on YFU's website yfuusa.org.

GAP YEAR PROGRAMS

- Gap: a period of study abroad after graduation from high school.
 (Gap can also be time off during college. Some of our programs accommodate this, although most do not.)
- Students attend high school or college-level classes or can participate in volunteer projects.
- · Top colleges and universities encourage gap years.
- For students who are burned-out from a stressful Senior year; Freshman year of college begins with renewed vigor and focus.

"Once I am accepted to college, will I be allowed to defer enrollment?"

• Almost all colleges will approve a gap year if students are participating in a structured educational gap year program.

ENCOURAGING GAP YEAR PROGRAMS

- The Dean of Admissions at Middlebury College observed that the average GPA for Middlebury students who had taken a gap year was consistently higher than those who had not.
- Harvard University's acceptance letter actually encourages students to consider deferring admission to take a gap year.
 According to Harvard's website, each year 50-70 students take advantage of this option.
- Princeton University has its Bridge Year Program.
- The University of North Carolina -Chapel Hill has a Global Gap Year Fellowship program.

APPLICATION PROCESS

"How easy is it to apply?"

- · Begin an online application at yfuusa.org.
- · The application does not have to be completed all at once. Save your progress and submit when ready.
- · Essay questions vary by program and scholarships.
- · Admissions Counselors are available to walk you through the process should you have any questions.
- · Most scholarship deadlines fall between December and February.
- Regular applications for summer departure are due April 1. Spring Semester and Winter Departure applications are due October 1.
- · All applicants are interviewed by a member of the YFU community.
- · Submitted scholarship applications are reviewed by a volunteer panel of evaluators.

"Where are the dollars going?"

- Program costs are itemized by country and program.
 General program pricing and total cost is available at yfuusa.org/studyabroad.
- Tuition costs vary from program to program and include:
 - · airfare (domestic and international)
 - orientations
 - language training (some countries)
 - background screening of host families (standard YFU practice)
 - student insurance (some countries)
 - school enrollment (semester/year long programs)
 - group round-trip domestic orientation in early July (semester/year long programs)
 - special activities (trips or classes for some programs)
- YFU Admissions Counselors are available to speak with you about fundraising opportunities and any other questions you may have about covering tuition.

"Do I qualify for a YFU scholarship?"

- YFU offers \$1.6 million scholarships to American students each year funded by corporations, governments, foundations, and individuals.
- Students are encouraged to apply for multiple scholarships; complete information is available on the website at yfuusa.org.
- There is no additional cost to apply for multiple scholarships.

"My year in Denmark was remarkable and completely changed my perception of the world, for which I'll always be grateful. I learned as much there as I have in four years of college."

- Megan, Year-long YFU exchange to Denmark

FUNDRAISING

- Tuition covers most expenses during your program orientation, travel, housing, food and support. Plan on extra spending money for unexpected costs, souvenirs, visas, school fees and residence permit expenses in some countries.
- Apply for multiple scholarships to increase award chances.
- · YFU Admissions Counselors are available to discuss creative ways to fund your program abroad.
- Speak directly with your Admissions Counselor about fundraising ideas or request a copy of the YFU Fundraising Guidelines by sending an email to admissions@yfu.org or calling 1.800.TEENAGE. To view the YFU Fundraising Guidelines online, please visit bit.ly/YFUFundraisingGuide.

SCHOOL CREDIT

- · Speak with the school counselor about earning credit while abroad.
- While abroad, maintain contact with the school counselor keep him/her posted on academic coursework.
- · Keep all graded assignments and syllabi.
- · US students should ask international teachers for recommendations.
- YFU has resources to help. Email your Admissions Counselor at admissions@yfu.org.

EXPERIENCE A FOREIGN CLASSROOM!

Finnish students start going to school a year later than American kids, and they do less homework on average. Standardized tests are rare, and yet, in 2006, Finnish teenagers ranked first in math and science among 30 OECD countries.

*Brilliance in a Box: What do the best classrooms in the world look like? (slate.com)

BEYOND EXCHANGE

YFU programs strengthen your college application. Ask any college admissions office!

Studying aboard not only opens the world to students, it also enhances college applications and future job opportunities. In the college application process, your time abroad is best reflected through analysis and appreciation. Share how your YFU experience changed you for the better. Highlight your knowledge and experiences in a meaningful way.

CAREERS

At its core, YFU is a catalyst for positive global change and person to person diplomacy, making cultural exchanges increasingly valuable in our interconnected world. US President Barack Obama even agrees. In 2014, global conversations amongst world leaders have highlighted the need to focus on educational exchanges. Including a new program announced by President Obama and Japanese Prime Minister Abe, which aims to double the number of youth exchanges between Japan and the US by 2020; a speech from First Lady Michelle Obama to American and Chinese students on the importance of studying abroad; and during a bilateral meeting between President Obama and President Mujica of Uruguay, the leaders expressed aligned interests in further expanding student exchange opportunities.

Exchange allows participants to experience tremendous personal growth, and at the same time, the impressions made by the students themselves as well as the broadened perspectives of host families ripple through schools and across entire communities and this reenergized focus on intercultural education opportunities couldn't come at a better time. We know that personal opinions ultimately change public opinion; public opinion influences elected officials who draft public policy which informs international diplomacy. What starts with a single person, over time, influences nations. Through cultural exchange, YFU is able to act a catalyst for positive global change by helping to humanize diplomacy, taking it beyond the public face of protocol, policy, and politics, and allowing for powerful interpersonal experiences.

VOLUNTEERING

YFU USA is a volunteer-based organization. Volunteering with YFU USA opens the door to rewarding experiences and great benefits. YFU volunteers are the vital link between students, families and the YFU network worldwide – providing a safety net of support.

- Directly impact the lives of teenagers from the US and over 60 other countries.
- Be exposed to foreign cultures and have an opportunity to share your own culture.
- Broaden awareness of yourself, your community, the US and the world.
- · Aid your community in broadening their cultural awareness.
- · Receive enhanced training in areas such as leadership, listening skills and conflict resolution.
- · Learn more about yourself!

Opportunities with YFU

As a YFU USA volunteer, you can choose from a number of opportunities to suit your interests, needs and schedule. YFU volunteers can conduct student orientations, make community presentations, problem-solve with international students and their host families and/or arrange social activities.

"My reason for volunteering was to say thank you to the people who have been kind to us in our travels. An added bonus is that working with YFU has qualified me for a challenging new job!"

- Judy, YFU USA Volunteer

HOSTING

"How can my family here in the U.S. share in the unique, international experience?"

Hosting a YFU student is a chance to share your story, your traditions, and your customs while learning about others. Your ordinary life is extraordinary to an exchange student.

- Hosting opportunities are long or short term. Serve as a welcome (6-12 weeks) or temporary family for students inbetween permanent placements.
- International students come from one of over 60 countries and attend a local high school for an academic year or semester. International students bring their own spending money and insurance and live according to their host family rules.
- In the true spirit of exchange, U.S. families are encouraged to host while their American teen studies abroad.
- · Host families are eligible to receive a \$1000 scholarship towards Study Abroad tuition.
- · If you are interested in having a host brother or sister call YFU (1.800.TEENAGE) to start the conversation.

EDUCATORS

"How can I help promote international exchange in my classroom?"

Teachers know the YFU experience is an education unto itself - helping students...

- · Develop effective learning habits
- · Prepare for intensive studies in higher education
- · Hone cross-cultural communication skills
- · Better understand themselves and their world

Educators and parents take comfort in YFU's comprehensive support structure – SAFETY IS ALWAYS YFU'S TOP PRIORITY!

Educators can nominate students to represent their school, community and country abroad. Nomination forms and additional information are available at: **yfuusa.org/resources**.

YFU USA is the only U.S. exchange organization to receive Full Listing in three CSIET listing categories: Inbound Long-term, Outbound Long-term and Outbound Short-term programs. This singular achievement reflects YFU's global commitment to quality, and consistent application of CSIET standards throughout the international YFU network.

CSIET is a not-for-profit organization committed to quality international educational travel and exchange for youth at the high school level. (csiet.org)



RESOURCES

On the web: yfuusa.org/resources

- · Public Service Announcement Video
- PowerPoint Presentation
- Program and Country Flyers Post the flyers on community boards in schools, coffee shops, at work, at grocery stores or anywhere that has a community board!
- · Teacher Resources on Cross-Cultural Curriculum
- · Information on Foreign Countries

Educator Nominations

Ask teachers to nominate students: email educators this quick link to instantly nominate students online at **bit.ly/ YFUNominateStudent**

NEXT STEPS

- Invite the audience to fill out an Information Slip (appendix) for more information. Scan or return slips to the local Field Director (refer to cover page for sending information) and to Admissions at Admissions@yfu.org.
- · Join a Virtual Information Night (VIN).
 - · Once a month, YFU Volunteers and Staff host Virtual Information Nights.
 - · This interactive webinar is a great opportunity to learn more about YFU programs and hosting.
 - · Sign up for a VIN at yfuusa.org/vin and join the conversation!
- Speak directly with an Admissions Counselor at 1.800.TEENAGE or email admissions@yfu.org with specific program questions.
- Questions about Hosting or Volunteering? Call your local Field Director at 800.872.0200.
- · Learn more about program options, scholarships and requirements at yfuusa.org.



CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG YOUTH EXCHANGE

Amount: Full

Program: Germany Year

Eligibility: IN, IL, MI, MN, WI, IA, MO, NE

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, this year-long program is for motivated high school students to live with a host family while attending school in

Germany.

FINLAND-US SENATE YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Amount: Partial

Program: Finland Summer Eligibility: Nationwide

A unique summer program featuring a visits to the US and Finnish senates, the Finnish embassy and ambassador's residence, and a cultural tour of Helsinki.

JAPAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP SCHOLARS

Amount: Partial

Program: Japan Summer **Eligibility:** Nationwide

This scholarship is for students with Japanese language experience or who are motivated to learn Japanese, and includes a unique pre-departure orientation at the University of California at Berkeley.

JAPAN-US SENATE YOUTH EXCHANGE

Amount: Partial

Program: Japan Summer **Eligibility:** Nationwide

This scholarship requires no previous language experience, and includes a unique pre-departure orientation at the University of California at Berkeley.

OKINAWA PEACE SCHOLARSHIP

Amount: Partial

Program: Japan Summer **Eligibility:** Nationwide

This program places students with host families on the island of Okinawa, and includes a pre-departure orientation at the University of California at Berkeley and a post-arrival orientation in Tokyo.

YFU COMMUNITY GRANT

Amount: Partial

Program: Any country, any length

Eligibility: Nationwide

The YFU Community Grant is available to alumni, their children, and children of qualified host families and volunteers and can be applied to any youth YFU program.

View the full list of available scholarships online at yfuusa.org/scholarships!

Applications for scholarships are due on **December 1, 2015** and are subject to change. Please check **yfuusa.org** for updates.

For details and requirements of these and many other scholarships, please visit us on the web, contact us at admissions@yfu.org or call us at 1.800.TEENAGE.

ALL PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- · Placement with a carefully selected host family
- Enrollment in high school (year and semester programs)
- Preparatory materials
- 24-hour student support
- · Regional orientation for participants

Youth For Understanding USA, consistent with its commitment to international understanding, does not discriminate in making its admissions and placement decisions on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, religion or gender. Students with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply, and will be accommodated to the best of our ability. YFU USA is an IRS 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Only U.S. Citizens and permanent residents may apply. Year/Summer program applicants will be notified of their status by mail by May. Winter program applicants will be notified in November. All programs, scholarships and prices are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. © 2015, Youth For Understanding USA. All rights reserved.





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YFU summer programs offer you the opportunity to experience culture like no tourist could. Most YFU summer programs are traditional homestay programs, where you'll live with a host family and participate in family activities throughout the summer. Imagine spending the summer exploring the wonders of China with a local family, shopping for food in a marketplace in Greece, or finding your way to the beach in a sunny Spanish town. You'll learn how another culture lives, works and learns from the inside. Summer programs range from three to eight weeks; most leave in mid-June.

SPEND YOUR SUMMER IN:

ARGENTINA | BRAZIL | CHINA | ECUADOR
FINLAND | FRANCE | GERMANY | GHANA | GREECE
HUNGARY | JAPAN | KAZAKHSTAN | KOREA
SOUTH AFRICA | SPAIN | SWEDEN | THAILAND |
TURKEY | URUGUAY | VENEZUELA

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

MARCH 15, 2016*

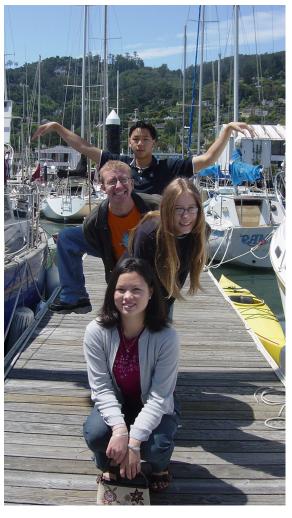
*Deadlines are subject to change. Programs may fill up before deadline. Apply early!

Please check **yfuusa.org** for updates.

For scholarship details and requirements, please visit us on the web, contact us at **admissions@yfu.org** or call us at 1.800. TEENAGE.

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YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING Intercultural Exchange Programs

HOST A STUDENT

When you open your home and heart to a YFU international exchange student, your family develops a new perspective, makes memories and gains a new family member for life.

STUDY ABROAD

Immerse yourself in a new culture while learning to see with fresh eyes and developing a sense of appreciation for other cultures and ways of life.

VOLUNTEER

Do you enjoy working with young people and families and want to make a difference? As a YFU volunteer, you'll provide essential support to students, families, schools and other volunteers in a variety of ways.

HOST | STUDY | VOLUNTEER | YFUUSA.ORG | 1.800.872.0200

CALL US TODAY!
1.800.872.0200
YFUUSA.ORG

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PLEASE SEND ME INFO ABOUT:	PLEASE SEND ME INFO ABOUT:
Becoming a YFU exchange student A school presentation Hosting a YFU exchange student	Becoming a YFU exchange student Hosting a YFU exchange student
Name: Grade:	Name:
Address: High School:	Address:
City: Zip:	City: Zip:
Email:	Email:
Phone: Date of Birth:	Phone: Date of
Countries of Interest:	Countries of Interest:
Please hand in at the end of the presentation. Check out YFU's website at yfuusa.org or call 1.800.TEENAGE .	Please hand in at the end of the presentation. Check out YFU's website at yfuusa.org or call 1.800.TEENAGE .
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PLEASE SEND ME INFO ABOUT: Becoming a YFU exchange student A school presentation	PLEASE SEND ME INFO ABOUT: Becoming a YFU exchange student
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Countries of Interest:	Countries of Interest:
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YFU's website at yfuusa.org or call 1.800.TEENAGE.

YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING Intercultural Exchange Programs

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YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING Intercultural Exchange Programs

SEND ME INFO ABOUT:

Date of Birth:	:High School: Zip:	SE SEND ME INFO ABOUT: Becoming a YFU exchange student A school presentation Hosting a YFU exchange student Grade:	and in at the end of the presentation. Check out bsite at yfuusa.org or call 1.800.TEENAGE . JSA.Fan (2) @YFU_USA (3) @YFUUSA (1) Intercultural Exchange Programs	Date of Birth:	Zip:	:High School:	Becoming a YFU exchange student A school presentation Hosting a YFU exchange student Grade:
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INTERESTED IN YFU? Fill this out to receive more information about YFU USA programs and scholarships.

FULL NAME	EMAIL	ZIP CODE	PHONE NUMBER
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