

What parents and students say about their experience

"Our Japanese student was a pleasure. She was very well mannered and kind. We most enjoyed learning about her home and school life in Japan and how it differs from life in Iowa. We enjoyed watching her experience new things that we don't think about because we see them everyday."

"The program is great! I hope that we can do this again!"

"We are quite impressed with our Japanese student. He has many great qualities & his English is getting better. There were a few times he could not get us to understand what he was saying but we easily worked through it and eventually figured it out. We see it as a learning experience and not a problem."

"We learned so much and had a wonderful time! Our daughter cried after her Japanese buddy left. That's a sign of a great friendship!"

"I would absolutely recommend this program to other families."



How to sign up or get more information

We are currently accepting applications from warm, welcoming families interested in hosting one of our visiting Japanese students. Our Japanese students are just completing **10th Grade** in Japan (approximately 16 years old). If you have a child in either grade 10 or 11 and can provide a safe and nurturing homestay experience you are eligible to host a student from Japan.

Our local program coordinator is Mr. Ken Rew. Ken grew up in Iowa City and has been a teacher in the area for many years. If you would like to host a Japanese student or are interested in learning more about this program please contact Ken. Please inform your school principal that you are interested in hosting a Japanese student.

Phone: 1-319-330-8963

Email: kenrew@gmail.com

The students are from Numazu, Shizuoka, Japan

(Numazu is on Pacific coast, at the foot of Mt Fuji)



Host a Japanese student for two weeks this spring

February 25 - March 11, 2017

Invite a Japanese student to be a member of your family for two weeks.



- Connect with students from Japan and broaden your cross-cultural understanding.
- Experience the "transformative impact" of hosting a foreign student in your home.

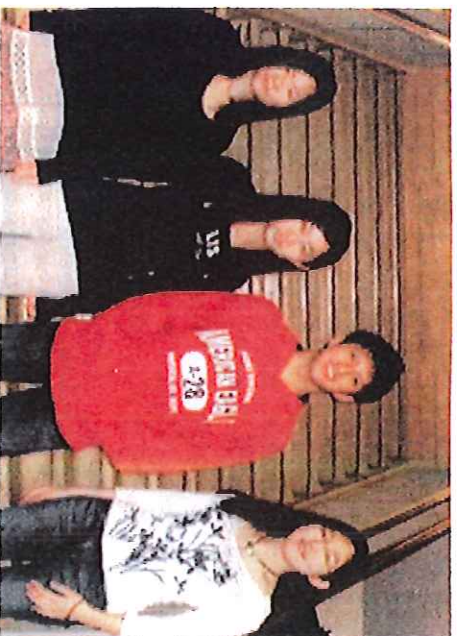
The Iowa Trip

For the past seventeen years, junior and senior high school students from Japan have been visiting Iowa for several weeks every March. A Japanese student is paired with their Iowa "buddy" and together they attend school and learn about each other's culture. The students are accompanied by an American teacher, from their school in Japan, who is available to support both parents and students during the three week period.



Why are we coming to Iowa?

Most of our students have limited experience outside of Japan, so they are keen to learn more about the US and to experience life here. While in Iowa our students are able to practice their English and hopefully develop meaningful friendships with students their own age. Through this cultural exchange, we hope that both students and host families are able to broaden their understanding of other cultures and create lasting international friendships.



Iowa Trip Details

Date of Visit: Sat, Feb. 25 — Sat, March 11, 2017

Expectations for Buddies & Host Families:

- 1) Family must have a child in senior high school (preferably gr. 10 or gr. 11). We match students by age, gender and interests.
- 2) Treat your Japanese student as a member of your family by including them in daily family activities and weekend or spring vacation plans.
- 3) Allow the Japanese student to "buddy up" with your child and attend the same classes at school.
- 4) Pick your student up at the airport when the group arrives (February 25th) and return the student to the airport at the end of the trip (March 11th).
- 5) Provide a safe and secure homestay experience with meals and a bed (sharing a room with a sibling of the same gender close in age is fine).

Gyoshu Jr & Sr High School



All of the Japanese students are from Gyoshu Junior & Senior High School. The school is a large private Japanese school located in Numazu-city, Shizuoka-prefecture about one hour south of Tokyo. Our students are enrolled in our Bilingual International Baccalaureate Program, which means they take classes in both English and Japanese. Our students have a good level of conversational English, and are comfortable communicating in an English speaking environment.

To find out more about our school visit our
Homepage!

http://www.bi-lingual.com/js_high.php

Gyoshu Junior & Senior High School

Mission: "To nurture students to become active, wise and caring shapers of our multilingual, multicultural world."

