

International Student Host Family Opportunities 2010-11

Plan Now!
Students arrive
in August!



Bup-Jin



Hae-Ni



Anh



Hee Yeon



Takuma has a home!



Nika



Romain has a home!



Gaelle



Christopher



Maxime

Youth for Understanding and UW-Marinette



Bup-Jin, 22, is from Seoul, South Korea. He wants to make his host family good kimchi soup and is eager to share Korean culture with them. He studies at Ajou University as a Civil Engineering student and just completed his junior year. Bup-Jin picked this major because of his father's

occupation as Samsung's engineering supervisor. Right now, Bup-Jin is studying hard and finishing his military service in Korea. He learned the importance of cooperation, sense of independence, and patience while fulfilling his duty in the military. In the future, Bup-Jin hopes to become an engineer and to work for a construction company. In his spare time, he plays soccer and participates in the university soccer team. His sense of humor earns him many friends. Bup-Jin and his friends go to the movies together.

Anh is a good son and hardworking 18 year-old student from Hanoi, Vietnam. In the future, he wants to become a businessman like his parents. To that end, he plans to study abroad in the US to improve his English. He feels it is his responsibility to become a good son and helps his parents with housework. Anh's family often comes together to eat dinner, talk, and watch television. His favorite subject is math, and he enjoys playing soccer in his free time. Anh looks forward to his American experience very much!



Interested in Hosting?

Please Contact

Lynn Hass

Home: (906) 863-7162

Cell: (920) 227-3833

or

Tina Oman

Work: (715) 735-4355

Cell: (715) 596-0007

E mail: tina.oman@uwc.edu

What is the most exciting part of hosting?

"Getting to know many International students who are all anxious to share their cultures with us. I have many people I want visit in their own countries when they get settled back home. I believe that their invitations are genuine and I will try to discover even more when I do."

Romain lives in a small village in Belgium with his family. He is 19 years old. He describes his family life as animated and lively. He feels lucky to have a close family and really enjoys time spent with his parents, brothers and sister, as well as his friends. He is thoughtful and helpful towards others and likes to laugh. He looks forward to being a part of his American host family and learning about the many ways he believes life in the US is different from life in Belgium. He also can't wait to meet American and other international friends. At home he plays soccer, bicycles and hikes. He is eager to learn about popular American sports such as football. Like most of his peers, Romain likes to spend some of his free time listening to music and surfing the web.



Hae-Ni was born in Seoul, South Korea and is 21 years old. She is the older of the two girls in her family, which is why she likes children and wants to take care of them. Also, both her parents are principals of a kindergarten, so Hae-Ni often offers to help take care of kids. On weekends, everybody in the family gets together and dines out or goes shopping. Every Sunday, her family volunteers at church. Hae-Ni plays guitar, her sister plays the piano, her father plays the cello, and her mother sings in the choir. In her free time, Hae-Ni plays billiards or watches baseball or soccer. Her friends call her the "smile girl" because she wears a smile on her face most of the time. Her easy-going personality earns her a lot of friends and helps her adapt to new situations easily. She wants to have beautiful memories about her stay in the US with her host family.

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What was the most unexpected surprise or experience?

"It has been a lot of fun getting to know our exchange student and learning about her culture. She has been so easy to have in our home. She is kind and considerate and has really blended well into our family. She seems to really like my cooking too, which has made me feel like Martha Stewart herself."

Korean student Hee-Yeon is 19 years old and is majoring in Electronic Engineering. Hee-Yeon hopes to work for the electric company in Korea and start her own business someday. She comes from a coastal city in Korea and loves the sea because it cheers her up. If her host family has a chance to visit Korea, she will take them to her city and let them see the beauty of the sea. Hee-Yeon's family is harmonious and happy. Although her father is very busy with work, he makes time to be with them and to be a good father. Hee-Yeon also has a good relationship with her younger brother. Unlike most brothers and sisters, they seldom fight or quarrel and take care of each other all the time. All family members go to church on Sundays every week. Hee-Yeon teaches young kids singing in the choir. Sunday is her busiest day but also the most enjoyable to her. Hee-Yeon is a little shy with strangers, but she is determined to change before she comes to the US.



Takuma is from Tokyo and is 18 years old. He plays various sports such as baseball and golf and would like to do sports with his host family when he has a chance. He is also interested in doing community activities, going to church, and helping his host family with housework. He is coming to the US to learn English because being able to speak English enables him to explore different subjects while he is a community college student, and will help him to find out what he wants to do in the future. Specifically, he is interested in psychology and business management.

How did the hosting experience change or influence your family?

"I think this has brought my family a little bit closer. My kids ask her questions everyday. She has taught the kids some Korean words – "I love you", "Hello", and "Goodbye". My kids also help her with some homework as well as phrases such as, "I will get a ride home" instead of "I will ride my friend home." We all are learning from each other."

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Nika is a cheerful 20 year-old girl from Japan. She is an Agrobiological Resource major at the University of Tsukuba, and she likes cheerleading, watching musicals, and traveling. Her favorite movies are *Legally Blond* and *High School Musical*. *Wicked* is her favorite musical. Nika says that she wants to study abroad because she is curious to learn how her life would have been different if she had been born in the US. Although she is living alone at school, she wants to see if she can manage living abroad. Nika thinks leaving Japan and coming to the US will make her appreciate Japan more. Last, but not least, Nika's dream is working abroad, and to do that, she needs to be able to speak English. So her goal is to learn English and live the life she wants!



Maxime is a 17 year-old French student who is looking forward to discovering the US. In his essay, he describes how he learned to appreciate life when his father nearly died in a motorcycle accident. When his father returned home, Maxime took care of him and says the experience made him grow stronger. In his free time, he plays the guitar, reads manga, and loves to write books and poetry. For sports, he enjoys playing handball. Maxime says he is quite good at cooking and looks forward to making French cuisine for his future host family! Future career goals include hospitality or journalism.

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How did the hosting experience change or influence your family?

"It keeps me young, makes me feel good to be able to help someone, to provide a safe, loving, and caring place for them to learn more about our country and our language."



Gaelle is 20 years old and is the middle child in her family consisting of her parents, an older sister, younger brother and her cat. She is typically a happy young woman who focuses on positive things. She may seem a little shy when you first meet Gaelle, but it won't take long before her friendly, funny personality shows through. Gaelle is rarely alone and really likes to be around other people. She enjoys listening to music and learning about art. She likes going to the theater and experiencing different cultures. She is used to doing some chores at home such as ironing and occasionally fixing dinner for her family. Gaelle enjoys traveling and

visiting museums with her family. She is looking forward to living in a new city and country while also having the opportunity to study English and maybe even some subjects that aren't typically offered in Belgium.

Christopher, age 20, had an interesting experience in Canada. His family was staying on top of a tower hotel when the fire alarm went off at 4 a.m. He stayed calm and grabbed his passport before climbing down the stairs. There was panic everywhere but not in his family. His courage and sensibility can be traced back to his experience in the Swiss Air Force where he completed his military service. Meanwhile, he works in a bank and enjoys it. He wants to work for the financial industry in the future. Chris is a big fan of sports. He plays all kinds of sports including motocross! In his spare time, he likes listening to music. Believe it or not, Chris has more than 6,000 songs in his Macbook Air and iPod! Chris says he wants to be in an English environment so that he can improve English to the greatest extent. He can't wait to come to the US and tour this beautiful country.



Why did you decide to host a YFU exchange student?

"We live in a global society and I hear so much on the news about other countries – some good, some tragic. I believe that it is important for each of us to try to understand more about those from other countries who are different in many ways while at the same time they are really similar. Having the opportunity to host a young student from one of these other countries is an ideal opportunity to do just that."

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