



United States Department of State
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20522

April 2012

Dear School Administrator,

Thank you for considering the enrollment of a U.S. government-sponsored international exchange student at your school through one of the following U.S. Department of State programs:

- Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (**YES**), for students from countries with significant Muslim populations
- Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (**CBYX**), for students from Germany
- Future Leaders Exchange (**FLEX**), for students from Eurasia and Central Asia
- American Serbia and Montenegro Youth Leadership Exchange (**A-SMYLE**), for students from Serbia and Montenegro

Each year, more than 2,000 students from nearly 50 different countries come to United States high schools through U.S. Department of State programs. Exchange participants are selected through a highly competitive, merit-based process: thousands apply for each place, and those selected are carefully screened and vetted. Due to our comprehensive process, these participants generally have above-average scholastic achievements and English skills.

Students live with an American host family, which helps students integrate into a new community. Local support representatives also help students find community service opportunities, and they serve as points of contact for you and your teachers.

As you consider accepting an international exchange participant into your student body, we hope you will also help connect your American students to the U.S. government's scholarships programs, which offer high school students a chance to live and study abroad. Information about all of these programs can be found at <http://exchanges.state.gov/youth>.

Thank you again for considering this opportunity. Through classroom discussions and personal interaction alike, we believe everyone involved will be enriched.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Deane Connors".

Mary Deane Connors
Director
Office of Citizen Exchanges