



**Intercultural
Programs *USA***

Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

Bring the World
Home with an
AFS Exchange
Student



Public Diplomacy Initiatives



YES student Mohamed from Kenya shares a moment with his host family.

“The experience was more than any of us could have hoped for. For us, having Benny as part of our family has fulfilled the goal of creating a more just and peaceful world— one family at a time.”

— *Tammy Salzieder, Host mom of Benny, CBYX student from Germany*

“We have learned so much about a small country in Central Asia— Kyrgyzstan—and can appreciate more how interconnected we all are.”

— *Timothy & Kristen Lachenmeier, Host parents of Raima, FLEX student from Kyrgyzstan*

“We have ... been given ‘new eyes to see’ the world! The gratitude (and love!) goes both ways.”

— *Dawn Fuchs, Host mom of Martin, YES student from Ghana*



The Manecke family visits Mount Rushmore with Marta, FLEX student from the Ukraine.

Become a Global Family

Each year, more than 2,300 international high school students from more than 90 countries come to the US with AFS-USA to study in high schools and live with host families. These outstanding young people are eager to experience life in America.

Hosting an international student means more than providing a bed and meals. As an AFS Host Family, you'll welcome a new family member into your home, share your everyday lives, and learn and grow as you get to know one another.

Learn more about becoming an AFS Host Family. Go to: www.afsusa.org/hostfamily



Welcome a Cultural Ambassador

A select number of exchange students receive full merit-based scholarships awarded by the US Department of State. In order to come to the US on these scholarships and become a member of a family, school, and community, students engage in a highly competitive selection process in their home countries.

These youth serve as ambassadors to build bridges of understanding between their countries and the US. As they learn about American society, students share their own customs and cultures. They also develop leadership skills through enrichment activities and orientations. When they return home, they draw upon their experience to help increase intercultural awareness about the US.



**Students
come from:**

Albania
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Bosnia and
Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Cameroon
Egypt
Gaza
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
India
Indonesia

Israel (Arab
Communities)
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kosovo
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lebanon
Liberia
Macedonia
Malaysia
Mali
Moldova
Morocco
Mozambique
Nigeria
Oman
Pakistan

Philippines
Qatar
Russia
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Sierra Leone
South Africa
Suriname
Tajikistan
Tanzania
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Ukraine
West Bank
Yemen



Raima, FLEX student from Kyrgyzstan, enjoys being a “big sister” to Gabe.

Support Government Sponsored Scholars

Public Diplomacy Initiatives embrace the mission of AFS to build a more just and peaceful world through international exchange. These programs include:

Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX)



The Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Program was launched in 1983 by the US Congress and the German Parliament (Bundestag) and is one of the oldest US

Department of State-funded programs. Annually, AFS hosts 57 German CBYX scholars in US communities and provides scholarships to 50 US high school students from the Northeast to spend one year in Germany.

Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX)



The Future Leaders Exchange Program originated in the FREEDOM Support Act, which was sponsored by US Senator Bill Bradley and passed by Congress in 1992.

It provides full merit-based scholarships to students from the countries of the former Soviet Union to study abroad in the US for a year.



YES participants explore the sights of Washington D.C. during their arrival orientation.

Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES)



The Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Program was established in 2002 to build bridges of understanding between Americans and people in countries with significant Muslim populations. YES provides full merit-based scholarships to students from 39 countries to study abroad in the US for a semester or year. Additionally, 55 students from the US receive scholarships to study for up to one year in select YES countries through YES Abroad.

National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y)



NSLI-Y is a unique program for learning languages not commonly taught in US high schools. Students learn critical languages through immersion and intensive language courses in a location in which the following languages are spoken: Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Persian, Russian and Turkish.



Recognized Worldwide Leader

Since 1947, AFS has matched host families with high school students from all over the world. More than 370,000 families and students worldwide have experienced the lifelong rewards of becoming a global family. More than 36,000 volunteers worldwide make the work of AFS possible.

Learn more about hosting a student:
www.afsusa.org/hostfamily
1-800-876-2377



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