

# Share Your Home, Change the World, Host a YFU Exchange Student

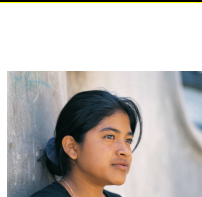


**All Students are coming for the 2012 – 13 School Year (more choices on the web!!)**

Take a leap of faith this year! Consider opening your heart and your home to a Youth for Understanding high school exchange student for the school year or a semester! You would provide a place to live, three meals a day, encouragement, guidance and love to your new exchange son/daughter. It is a typical family living experience--NOT a tourist/travel opportunity. Families come in all shapes and sizes, with and without children of all ages. The students come with their own spending money, health insurance, and the commitment to live according to the rules and values of your family and Youth for Understanding ([www.yfu-usa.org](http://www.yfu-usa.org)). Students can share a room with a host sibling.

**For detailed information on these kids (AND MORE) and to see if hosting might be right for you,**

**Call Barb Kilkka at 248-932-0811 or Email at [Kilkka@yfu.org](mailto:Kilkka@yfu.org) today!**



Zubenyamaly, or **"Yamaly"** for short, loves to play volleyball. This **16 year old Mexican girl** is confident, hardworking, and fun to be around. Yamaly sings in her **school choir**, loves **horseback riding**, and **volunteers** distributing food and clothes to the poor. At home, she helps with dishes, cleaning, and **takes care of her younger cousins**. Yamaly would like a career in environmental engineering. She travels to the US with her family every year, and used to live in California when she was little. Besides having excellent English, she also takes **French**. Yamaly does not eat pork or shellfish due to her **Jewish faith**. Yamaly **likes to cook**, though, so perhaps she can make some great food for you! She's looking forward to this great opportunity, ready to share her culture and give to her host community and family.

**Therese's** parents say that this **15 year old girl from Germany** is independent, reliable and sociable. A straight "A" student, she says she is tidy and you can count on her to manage school and her jobs in your family reliably and on her own. In addition to her favorite hobby of **swimming**, Therese also participates in the **school choir and has performed in some musicals**. She writes that she likes the combination of **acting and singing**. Therese helps out her **swim team** by teaching swimming to younger kids. She likes to work with children and thinks **she wants to become a teacher** someday. Therese lives with her mom, dad, younger brother and older sister. Her older sister is currently a volunteer teacher in China for 1 year. They enjoy going to the cinema together and traveling. Therese also likes to ride horses. Therese is looking forward to experiencing real life as an American teenager!

**Monika, 16, from Denmark** is a popular girl because of her happy, positive attitude! If you have a lonely **piano**, Monika would give it some company! She plays occasionally because she **loves music**. She also does **Karate** since her uncle persuaded her to try and inspired her interest in it last year. Now she loves it. But she loves many kinds of sports as well. Monika likes school because it is a place to both have fun with your friends and learn new stuff. Monika's favorite subject is math since she loves to learn about trigonometry. But she also likes to learn about "old" things and go to **museums**. She and her mom visited Pompeii and she thought it was amazing! Monika also loves **painting, skiing**, and spending time with her friends. She says she really likes animals but she **is allergic to cats**. She could live with a dog, but not in her bedroom. Monmon, as her friends call her, is really looking forward to meeting and hearing from you!

Sincere and perceptive, **Anna-Tabea, 16, from Germany** says that music is a great part of her life. When she was a child, no one could stop her singing. Now she **sings in a choir, plays the flute in an orchestra and acts in a little theater group**. She also plays the **guitar** every day. A creative girl, Anna likes modeling with clay as well as many other **crafts**. Anna-Tabea bubbles over with **positive regard** for all the people in her life! With family, she enjoys rock climbing and paddle tours. Anna and her mother **cook and practice yoga** together. The family plays **cards** and makes music together. An excellent student, Anna enjoys many different subjects. She would like to spend a year after school working in another country in some area of social services. Anna also enjoys **bicycling, snow skiing, ice skating and volleyball**. Although not religious, she is interested in learning about other faiths and religions and willing to attend church with her host family. She would be very interested in living in a **diverse host family with minority roots**. Anna loves to speak English because it's "a beautiful language." She says her friends would describe her as cheerful, ambitious and strong - with a few quirks as well. "I would love to be a member of your family. Thank you for giving me a chance to experience a whole new life with precious memories." **(Call Barb for more info—I've met this girl!)**

**What kind of exchange student would appeal to your family? Don't see him or her here? Give a call and tell me what you're looking for as there will be many more kids coming on the system. Approximately 400 to be placed in Michigan!**

**For detailed information, Call Barb Kilkka today!! 1-248-932-0811 or [kilkka@yfu.org](mailto:kilkka@yfu.org)**

An excellent student who someday hopes to learn to speak English more fluently, **Yuga, 17, from Japan** studies hard so that he can make his dream come true. Yuga is enrolled in his high school's specialty "English course" as he loves learning foreign languages and learning about different cultures. Yuga enjoys **playing volleyball, listening to music, and spending time with his friends**. He has a close relationship with his family, which includes both a younger brother and an older sister, and he especially loves Sunday, or "**family day**". He loves spending time with his family, and they enjoy visiting some of the small islands around Japan where he admires the **beauties of nature**. Yuga admits that he can be shy, but he promises to make a lot of friends in the US, and he realizes how lucky he is to be given the chance to make his dream come true.

**Renee, 16, from Germany** is passionate about music! She plays the **clarinet** and is a **member of her school orchestra, and she also loves to sing in the school choir**. She can't wait to join the music program at her new school! Renee is an excellent student with very good English skills because many of her courses are taught in English. In her free time, she loves to read or do puzzles, and she **volunteers with a social organization** that allows her to spend time with the elderly. At home, Renee is responsible for caring for her pet rabbits, and she enjoys **monthly board game** afternoons with her grandma. Renee says that her friends describe her as friendly and helpful. She is looking forward to learning first-hand about how friendly Americans are, and learning American traditions.

Enthusiasm bubbles from **Aoi, 16, from Japan!** She is very close to her family and loves to spend time with them--her mom and dad as well as her family's exchange student!. In fact she and her mother have taken **dance lessons** together and her father goes to cheer them on. Aoi loves modern dance and has been practicing since she was 11 years old. She has also learned to perform the Japanese Tea Ceremony. Aoi is active in a **volunteer club** at school as well. With **excellent grades**, her favorite classes are history, PE and English - she likes conversational English class the best. Besides English, she has also had three years of **French**. Aoi likes to listen to music, watch movies, and read novels. Aoi is determined to make you proud by being a great student and good member of your family! Aoi is a **Catholic** girl willing to attend your religious services weekly. Aoi can't wait to tell you all about Japan and learn all about life in the United States!

**Lukas, soon to turn 15, is a German scout** who is interested in learning about American scouting. He now attends weekly scout meetings and has even attended a Boy Scout Jamboree in Sweden with his troop! Both of his parents are teachers. He has an **8 year old brother** who he watches whenever his parents go out. As you might expect, he enjoys school, where his favorite subjects are history; German, English, and French; and physical education. He notes that he especially likes to discuss 'themes' involving English speaking countries. No doubt dinner conversations could be very lively! Interestingly, he'd like to be a **police detective** someday! Around home, in addition to his babysitting, he does kitchen chores and keeps his room clean. He plays the **drums** regularly, does **martial arts, and loves kayaking and swimming** in the summer, plus snow **skiing** in the winter, and **jogging** year-round. His family travels regularly, and **camping** is a favorite activity.

**Jae-Hyeok from Korea** is **bonkers about soccer!** He loves everything about the sport – playing, watching, reading about it, and talking about it; he is one of FC Liverpool's biggest fans! Jae-Hyeok, **who turns 16 this summer**, plays on his school team but you can also find him kicking around the ball at the park with his family on Sundays. Jae-Hyeok lives with his parents and older brother in a busy, crowded city. In school, Jae-Hyeok enjoys learning Korean **history** because he can learn about the lives of his ancestors; he says he loves feeling as if he is a part of the past. When he grows up, Jae-Hyeok hopes to become a **diplomat**, as he is passionate about learning and experiencing other cultures. Next year when he is an exchange student, Jae-Hyeok is especially excited about participating in school and community service activities! Jae-Hyeok is **Presbyterian, but will attend whatever services his host family attends**, as often as they do.

**Laura, 16, volunteers for the German Red Cross** and is considering a medical career in the future. She already qualified as a First Aider from attending trainings and assisting with blood donations. **Sports and playing the flute** are other activities Laura likes to do. Maybe she can join **your band**? Sometimes she feels creative so she **draws, writes, or reads a book**. Laura says the family garden is her favorite place to be. Her family spends a lot of time there but they also watch TV, cook and **work out at the gym** together. **Hiking** in Austria or climbing mountains in Slovakia are ways she and her parents vacation. Laura helps with chores and **cooking**. Laura is a very successful student with high English proficiency. She is interested in sports and wants to feel the American school spirit while on exchange. Laura is certain she will develop herself and her personality during her year and that will be largely due to the kindness of her host family.

From **Brazil, "easy-going" Victor, age 15**, might seem a bit shy as a first impression, but you will soon discover that he is playful and a lot of fun. An avid sportsman, Victor has a great sense of humor and loves jokes. He **loves basketball and soccer the most but also plays tennis, table tennis and spends time at the beach**. He interacts well with both teachers and fellow students. He and his family enjoy watching tv together and sometimes going to the beach. He hopes to follow his grandmother's career path and become a **chemistry professor** in a university. If this is impossible, he is interested in becoming an architect or physical therapist. Victor also points out that he **loves pets, especially dogs, but he thinks cats are "cool" too!** Victor hopes to become more independent and mature. Victor says "I know I will love being with you during my exchange year." He's sure to bring fun into your home!

**What kind of exchange student would appeal to your family? Don't see him or her here? Give a call and tell me what you're looking for as there will be many more kids coming on the system. Approximately 400 to be placed in Michigan!**  
**For detailed information, Call Barb Kilkka today!! 1-248-932-0811 or [kilkka@yfu.org](mailto:kilkka@yfu.org)**

A scout, drummer, climber, Red Cross Youth volunteer, Michael is one diversified young man! His dream in life is to become a physician and with his drive and varied experiences, he will fulfill his dream. **Michael (15) lives in Germany** with his parents and younger sister. As a family, they enjoy watching sports, **cross-country skiing, swimming, diving and wind surfing.** Michael belongs to the Royal Scouts (a Christian scouting group), is a recently trained group leader for scouts, a member of the climbing club and the **paramedic team** at his school and is trained in water rescue. Michael also plays drums at his church; he would be very interested in being able to play at his new high school and/ or church. To Michael it is important to be able to **attend church** during his exchange year. If possible, he would like to be involved with **scouts and sports** too plus he is very open minded to try new and different things too. Michael is excited to discover a new school system and family!

A surprisingly mature and "very together" young man, **Gerrit (almost 15) from Germany** lights up with his easy smile when talking about the upcoming year abroad. He has already had a taste of being an exchange student, as he has enthusiastically completed **two short exchanges in France.** Gerrit enjoys sports and especially loves playing **volleyball,** but he is interested in **trying other sports** as well. He also plays the saxophone and says he'd LOVE the chance to march in an **American marching band!** **An all-A student,** Gerrit has a very close relationship with his family, which includes an older brother and a younger sister, and also hopes to be a big brother in his new family! They all pitch in to help out with the chores, and Gerrit is the one who looks after the rabbits. Gerrit is a member of a **church youth group,** and would be happy to attend church services with his host family. Gerrit says "I am open for all new kinds of activities....I often try new things and have a lot of fun with most of them." This happy, easy-going guy will bring joy to the family lucky enough to host him! **(Call Barb for more info—met Gerrit!)**

**Miss Personality!** That's **Shiori, 17, who comes from a tropical island in Japan** where she lives in a family that spans four generations under the same roof. She enjoys shopping and travel with her family. **Baking and making sweets** is her specialty. A very good student, Shiori is the **class leader** and is helpful with her classmates. She enjoys time with her friends, but she also enjoys **younger children.** She describes herself as a "quite cheerful and social person" who really enjoys talking and laughing with friends. She is especially fond of singing and would enjoy being part of an **American Gospel Choir** - she believes that there is much to be learned about religion and culture through music. She would also enjoy singing in an **American High School Choir.** Allergic to cats. With her host family she is looking for a warm harmonious relationship. She wants to talk with you and wants very much for you to talk with her and thus, she's waiting to hear from her warm loving host family--and create many wonderful memories with you! She is the recipient of a government exchange scholarship.

**Annabell** hopes to **sing and dance** throughout her exchange in America! This **energetic German 16 year old** will bring a unique perspective on her upcoming exchange because she and her family are currently hosting a foreign exchange student from Mexico. Like many young ladies her age, Annabell enjoys the time she spends with friends, but also **swimming and biking** in the summer and **skiing** in the mountains near her home in the winter. She **sings in a choir with her mother** and takes **modern dance** lessons with her friends. A very good student, she hopes to one day pursue a career in law. Besides learning English, she also has taken **two years of Spanish and now tutors younger kids** in Spanish. She and her twin brother will both be on exchange this year to different parts of the U.S., so she knows that her year will hold a lot of new experiences. While dance and music play a big part in her life, she hopes to expand her cultural horizons. "America is my first choice for my host country," she says. "I was always fascinated by the American lifestyle."

Caring, sporty and well-liked, **Henriette, 16, from Norway** loves **music, working out, all kinds of skiing, dancing, martial arts, playing and marching with her clarinet and even playing the piano!** She can't wait to join high school activities or sports! Henriette is a good student, helps at home with house cleaning and keeping her room clean, loves to spend time with her family and friends, she cares deeply for them! Her family often goes on holiday together and **they hike and swim and ski!** This active young lady loves science and math and P.E. at school, and even is a member of the directors of her band. She is excited to come to the US to broaden her horizons and improve her English. Though she may be shy at the start, Henriette will certainly become a big part of your family and wiggle right into your heart!

An excellent student and scholarship winner, **Moritz D, 15, from Germany** loves **sports, music, and the theater!** Moritz is an avid **soccer** player, but he also enjoys playing **tennis, windsurfing, skiing and snowboarding.** Besides playing soccer, he also participates in a **theater group** at school, and in his free time likes to play the **guitar.** Moritz has a good relationship with his family, which includes an older brother and younger sister. He occasionally helps to look after his younger sister, and as a family they enjoy cooking together and visiting **museums or going to concerts.** Moritz loves history, and enjoys going to museums or attending lectures to learn more about it. He's also fascinated with learning the **Spanish language.** He describes himself as outgoing and fun, and he assures his host family that "you can have a lot of fun with me!" **CONGRESS BUNDESTAG SCHOLARSHIP WINNER**

Ready for the unique experience of living with an American family, **Alex (16) from Spain** is the oldest of four boys. As a family they have all sorts of fun: **skiing, boating, going on excursions, riding mountain bikes, visiting places,** etc. In this all-guy environment, Alex shares that "my mum gets bored when we speak about cars" and motorbikes and other guy things. Alex shares that he has a good relationship with everyone in the family, and he helps out by taking care of the garbage, clearing the table and doing things with his brothers. He writes his strengths are being very responsible, organized and tidy. There are many things to do in his area - "parks, night clubs, restaurants, shopping centers, sports clubs, cinemas, library museums." And **Sunday is a day for family!** But now he's eager to experience something different - going to school in English, playing sports with new friends, and giving his best to the family who opens their home to him!

**What kind of exchange student would appeal to your family? Don't see him or her here? Give a call and tell me what you're looking for as there will be many more kids coming on the system. Approximately 400 to be placed in Michigan! For detailed information, Call Barb Kilkka today!! 1-248-932-0811 or [kilkka@yfu.org](mailto:kilkka@yfu.org)**

Gotta dance! So says **15 year old Yvonne from Germany**. She can often be found making up dance routines in her room. Her favorite style is **Modern Dance/Jazz**. She has been dancing since 2000 and is part of a group which participates in an annual tournament. At school her favorite classes are biology, chemistry and sports. She wants to try **new sports** while in the US. Career-wise, she would like to be a forensic biologist because she thinks the job would be interesting with many different tasks. Weekends are spent with family and friends. Her grandmother lives in the apartment below their house so they see her daily. Her family spends time together doing sports, playing cards or **board games** and reading. She and her friends like to go shopping or to the movies. In the summer they go swimming. Listening to music is important to Yvonne, she does this almost every day. Yvonne has a slight allergy to cats and dogs but can live with them just as she does at home. Her greatest wish is to see and get to know the US.

Get **this Filipino boy** to a Pistons game! **Basketball and the NBA** are a passion for **Al-Rayyan, age 15**. He loves to play basketball and watch the games with his friends on TV. An athletic boy, this 15-year-old boy also enjoys playing **soccer and performing martial arts**. It's not a surprise that he is the **sports editor of his school newspaper** and dreams about becoming a doctor, specializing in **sports medicine** and work for a basketball team. Al-Rayyan is a cheerful and friendly boy who holds an officer role for the **Science Club and Math Club** in his school. After school, Al-Rayyan spends time with his friends, chatting or playing Frisbee or chess. Being the only boy in the family (he has 2 older and 1 younger sister), he helps washing up the dishes. For him, family life is important and he hopes to bond with you soon. Becoming an exchange student has been a lifelong dream of his and he describes this as a unique experience that money can never buy. While he can't eat pork for religious reasons, he eats everything else. He's excited to be an ambassador of the Philippines to your town. **AL-RAYYAN IS A YES SCHOLARSHIP WINNER.**

Cheerful and outward-oriented, **Rachel, 15, from Germany** will continue to find many friends not only through her interests in sports and music but also through her **well developed social skills**. Rachel enjoys sports such as **soccer, track and field, bicycling, and volleyball** but her favorite sport is handball because she loves to function in a group and motivate her teammates. She also loves music, especially rock and reggae, and **enjoys playing the flute in two different orchestras**. Rachel has wanted to become an exchange student since her older sister went on exchange 9 years ago. Rachel is described by her friends as friendly and honest, but she would describe herself as tolerant and respectful. She has a strong relationship with her **large family** of 8 people, especially with her twin sister, Clara. Rachel's parents have taught her the importance of team spirit, respect, tolerance, determination, and of helping each other. An all-A student, Rachel has had instruction in some subjects (such as history) entirely in English. **(CALL BARB FOR MORE INFO-MET HER!)**

From **Germany, Moritz, 15**, is a stellar student who is excited to be in the United States during the year of a presidential election. He is the **editor of the school newspaper** and writes outstanding articles in addition to working with a team who does the lay-out of the product. He exhibits great leadership qualities as he coaches his **school's table tennis team**. Moritz **volunteers in the school's first-aid services** taking care of medical emergencies. Moritz works as a **homework tutor** for younger students to earn money. **Cooking** is part of Moritz life and he would especially embrace the idea of cooking for and with his host family. He sees this as an opportunity to take back recipes to Germany and share American dishes with his family. Moritz's family loves to play **board games** and, even though each member is very competitive, they have fun laughing and talking during the intense strategic winning plays. Moritz is very interested in how the United States high schools develop "school spirit". Moritz is looking forward to experiencing the "American way of life" and having a wonderful year with his host family. **CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG Scholarship winner!**

Soon to turn **16, Benjamin from Chile** makes friends easily. He is good hearted and cares for others. One of his main interests is sports. Since he was very young, he has been active in sport—sometimes with friends or family and sometimes as a member of a team. **Tennis, soccer, basketball, skating, snowboarding** are just some of the sports he loves. Music is another hobby, and Benjamin plays both **guitar and bass**. An excellent student at a German School, Benjamin enjoys most of his classes, almost as much as he does sports. At home he helps out by keeping his room clean and neat and by mowing the lawn. A good family member, he is planning to join his father in his engineering firm. Sometime a little shy at first, he is basically a happy person who wants to learn more about other cultures, play a little competitive sports and “learn to speak and write English fluently.”

Open-minded, curious and creative are just a few of the ways to describe **Jule, 16, from Germany**. Jule's **passion is acting**; she is a member of her school's theater group and has even played parts in German TV shows. Jule hopes to one day work in film (or have a job with **young children**, which she also adores). Another of Jule's favorite past-times is **windsurfing**. Jule has taught kids wind-surfing in exchange for the chance to practice it herself. In school, Jule has served for four years as **class president** where she helps organize the school's exchange program with Spain and links tutors with kids who need help. Jule has many friends and together they visit cafes, theaters, museums and sometimes have sleepovers. Jule's parents taught her to form her own opinion, build trust with others and try things first before you judge them. And Jule feels these principles will help her as she embarks on her exchange. Jule can't wait for the new experiences she'll have with you.

**What kind of exchange student would appeal to your family? Don't see him or her here? Give a call and tell me what you're looking for as there will be many more kids coming on the system. Approximately 400 to be placed in Michigan!**  
**For detailed information, Call Barb Kilkka today!! 1-248-932-0811 or [kilkka@yfu.org](mailto:kilkka@yfu.org)**

Sociable, friendly, and responsible, **Farah, 16, from Tunisia** looks forward to expressing herself in her favorite languages, English and French! She lives with her parents and her two brothers and she looks forward to one day being a **math or physics** university professor – her mother teaches primary school. With the younger of her two brothers, she enjoys **dancing Salsa**. Farah likes to call herself a **professional painter** since she's been painting for three years now and has seven paintings she is really proud of because a lot of people admire them. She also loves designing clothes, styling for people, and decorating things. **"If it's art, it's definitely my thing,"** she says. Besides improving her English, Farah is looking forward to learning how to be independent and more confident in herself, learning about a new nation, and meeting new people – and she is looking forward to a nice year together with your family, filled with joy and happy moments! FARAH IS A YES SCHOLARSHIP WINNER.

Sevi will capture your heart with song! If you are seeking an open minded and creative young lady who values family and friends, meet **Sevtap. "Sevi", as she prefers to be called, is a 16 year old from Germany** who is grateful for the opportunity to become a member of your family. **Art and music are her passions! Drawing and photography** are favorite hobbies because she uses her imagination. Another passion of Sevi's is **singing**, and she enjoys singing for others! Sevi is described as cheerful, social, thoughtful, flexible and resilient. She dedicates time to her studies taking advanced courses in English and Art which results in her good grades. During the week, she enjoys cooking dinner to lighten her mother's household responsibilities. With friends, **shopping or going to a café** are preferred activities. Learning two different cultures growing up, German and Turkish, Sevi is looking forward to the cultural discoveries that await her in America.

You need to get this history fan to the **Renaissance Festival!** This is just one of many interests for **Minze, age 16 from China. Nicknamed "Bobby"**, he also plays the **violin and piano (and would love to join the school orchestra!)**, enjoys **skiing, basketball, hiking and jogging**. Through his diligence and desire to meet challenges, Bobby receives excellent grades and is a member of the **Model United Nations** school program. He has organized activities at school to emphasize the importance of protecting the environment through recycling. At home, he assists with **cooking and caring for his 7 year old brother**. He is willing to share his culture by cooking for you. Bobby really admires his parents---especially his dad's sense of humor! Described as friendly, responsible, open minded, enthusiastic, cooperative and considerate, he would be a wonderful addition to your family.

**Felix, 16, from Germany** is a typical teen boy. **Sports, family and friends** are high on his list! He enjoys playing handball but is aware that this sport is not available in the U.S. That's why he's eager to **play soccer** again, another favorite sport that he also loved in Germany. He knows that sports will help him become a part of school life at his new school. With a career goal of becoming a lawyer, a high interest in politics and **an interest in our government** system, this election year is the perfect time for Felix to be here with us. Felix only knows America from the movies and school so he is anxious to experience things here for himself. His own creative skills have an outlet in **movie-making**. Felix's older sister and brother are away at school so more house chores have come down to him. Walking the dog and cleaning up are expected and not a problem. This adaptable, friendly and ambitious young man will help in his new home too. Your home !

**What kind of exchange student would appeal to your family? Don't see him or her here? Give a call and tell me what you're looking for as there will be many more kids coming on the system. Approximately 400 to be placed in Michigan!**  
**For detailed information, Call Barb Kilkka today!! 1-248-932-0811 or [kilkka@yfu.org](mailto:kilkka@yfu.org)**