

Oregon 4-H International Exchange Outbound Programs

4-H International Exchange Ambassador Programs

4-H International Exchange Ambassador Programs are 3-8 week opportunities for young people to experience living with host families in other countries. These programs enable young people from around the United States to increase their global understanding and to improve their leadership and communication skills. Participants either explore the international aspects of the 4-H program or concentrate on cultures as they live with host families and gain language ability.

4-H Outbound exchange programs provide Oregon teenagers with the opportunity to travel to other countries as part of a fully chaperoned program. These programs offer a great deal more than a trip to Mexico, Japan, Finland, Australia, or other countries. Participants live with a local family and experience a world that tourists never see. They share everyday life and activities and meet relatives and friends in the community.

Regardless of what each delegate does, sees or learns most find the experience to be life changing. Participants return home with a greater understanding of themselves and their place in an increasingly global society.

*"The 8 weeks I spent in Japan were the best 8 weeks of my life so far. The whole trip was all that I had hoped for and more. Going to Japan was a great experience and I encourage others to try it."
--Jennifer Peterson, 2004
Outbound Participant from Grant County to Japan*



~ 2009 Countries ~

Australia

Costa Rica

Finland

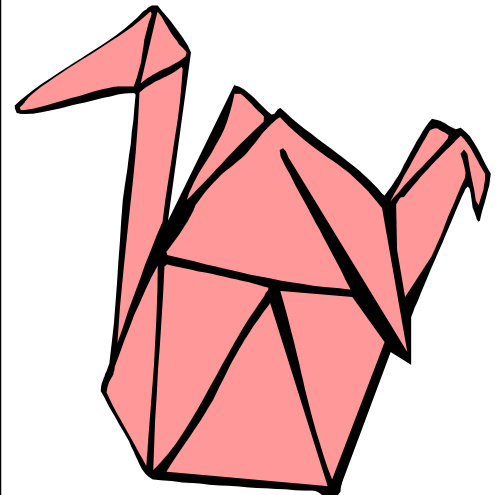
Japan

Mexico



"When a tourist visits a country, they experience the culture but only a little, just barely skimming the surface. IFYEs, however, do a cannonball straight into the cultural heart of a country, diving in and immersing them completely. I am a very shy person, but I think this trip has helped me grow in many ways-I am much more confident and I can handle situations better. I find that since I've come home from Finland I've been able to met new people easier. I've forged good friendships with many people in Finland, whom I will never forget. I've got so many good memories and experiences because of that trip and I will never be the same."

--Mimi Gunderson, 2006 Outbound Participant from Hood River County to Finland



Summer Outbound Program Information – Australia

Australia: Oregon youth ages 16-19 will have the opportunity to apply for this rural host family experience. In 2009 the program is scheduled for June 17-July 16 (exact dates may change, but will remain from mid-June to mid-July). Approximate cost will be \$2800 plus the cost of the roundtrip airfare from Oregon to Australia, including the following stopovers: Los Angeles, Melbourne, Sydney, Los Angeles. *Application deadline (postmarked by) is January 7, 2009.*

Summer Outbound Program Information – Costa Rica

Costa Rica: Oregon youth ages 15-18 will have the opportunity to apply for this suburban host family experience. In 2009 the program is scheduled for June 20-July 18 (exact dates may change, but will remain from mid-June to mid-July). Approximate cost will be \$1400 plus the cost of the roundtrip airfare from Oregon to San Jose with a stopover in Houston. *Application deadline (postmarked by) is January 7, 2009.*

Summer Outbound Program Information – Finland

Finland: Oregon youth ages 15-19 will have the opportunity to apply for this rural host family experience. In 2009 the program is scheduled for June 13-July 14 (exact dates may change, but will remain from mid-June to mid-July). Approximate cost will be \$1400 plus the cost of the roundtrip airfare from Oregon to Helsinki via Chicago. *Application deadline (postmarked by) is January 7, 2009.*

Summer Outbound Program Information - Japan

Japan: The 4-H Japanese Exchange summer outbound program is organized with our three Japanese partners, LABO, LEX, and UTREK. Two options are available to those interested in traveling to Japan, a 4-week program and an 8-week program.

- The 4-week program runs from July 8 - August 6 (approximate dates). This time period coincides with the Japanese school system's summer vacation. American students live with one Japanese host family and participate in normal, daily activities. Students can request to stay with the family of one student they have hosted in the past.
- For those 4-H members interested in a longer stay in Japan, the 4-H exchange program offers an 8-week program. This program begins about four weeks before the one-month Japanese Exchange Summer Program on June 11 (approximate date). This program, offered by the LABO Japanese Language Research Institute, provides intensive, innovative, and fun language instruction. Students stay with host families in the Tokyo area and attend classes at the LABO Center. At the end of this program, students join the four-week summer exchange students for the four week home-stay. During the second homestay, students can request to stay with the family of a student they have hosted in the past.
- Total costs for the four-week program will be *approximately* \$3900-\$4100. The cost for the eight-week program will be *approximately* \$4900-\$5100.
- Anyone between the ages of 13 and 18 is eligible to apply. Applicants must be at least 14 to apply for the 8-week program. We recommend that youth complete the eighth grade before participating on either program. *Application deadline (postmarked by) is January 7, 2009.*

Summer Outbound Program Information – Mexico

Mexico: Oregon youth ages 15-18 will have the opportunity to apply for this host family experience. In 2009 the program is scheduled for July 2-July 25 (exact dates may change, but will remain in July). Approximate cost will be \$2200. *Application deadline (postmarked by) is December 19, 2008.*

Details—Ambassador Programs

- To apply for the Summer Outbound Program, youth must submit the application materials to the State 4-H Office, postmarked by January 7, 2009 (please note the earlier deadline for the Mexico program). Families interested in the summer outbound program should contact their County Coordinator, Extension 4-H agent, or the State 4-H Office at (541) 737-1316 with any questions. **Late applications will not be accepted.**
- Complete information is available on the state 4-H website: <http://Oregon.4H.oregonstate.edu>. Click on Things To Do, and then on Travel Abroad.
- All programs are group experiences, one or more adult group leaders travel with the delegates.
- Youth not currently enrolled in 4-H must do so before submitting their application.
- After applications have been processed, each applicant will be contacted to schedule an interview. Two people from the state staff will interview each applicant. The interview will take place over the phone, at the County Extension Office, as a conference call. Interviews will be held in mid-January.
- After the interview, applicants will be notified if they have been selected to participate in the program.

4-H International Exchange Youth Development Programs

In addition to having the opportunity to experience living with host families in other countries, participants in Youth Development Programs will work with the cooperating youth program in their host country. Depending on the host country, this work could include helping with camping programs, studying youth development issues, or working with formation of 4-H type clubs in various settings around the country. **Complete information on Youth Development programs is available on the state 4-H website: <http://Oregon.4H.oregonstate.edu>. Click on Things To Do, and then on Travel Abroad.**

4-H International Exchange Japanese Intern Program

The Intern program is an opportunity to spend a full year living and learning in Japan. This year-long program allows college students to live with a Japanese family while working with one of our Japanese partner organizations. Job responsibilities vary, but usually include assisting with workshops, camp, and group activities for members in Japan, and helping with orientation programs for Japanese students traveling to the U.S.A. and American students traveling to Japan. Interns are also expected to complete a major independent study project or other structured learning experience involving one or more areas of Japanese culture. Covered expenses include airfare, lodging with a Japanese host family, medical insurance, and a monthly stipend. Applicants must be:

- At least 18 years old by January 1 of the program year for which they are applying and no older than 25.
- High school graduates (one year of college is preferred).
- Interested in learning to communicate in the Japanese language.
- In addition, past participation in a 4-H short-term exchange program in Japan is desirable.

Applications are due December 15, 2008* and are available through the State 4-H Office.

*Subject to final details from the hosting Japanese organizations.

World Citizenship Activities

International Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide.

This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is part of our efforts to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the United States.

For additional information visit the following Website:

<http://iew.state.gov/quiz.htm>

We encourage the participation of all individuals and institutions interested in international education and exchange activities, including schools, colleges and universities, embassies, international organizations, businesses, associations, and community organizations.

The dates for **IEW 2008** are November 17 - 21.

The dates for **IEW 2009** are November 16 - 20.



Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) is organized by Youth Service America with the Global Youth Action Network as its key partner and a consortium of international organizations and over 120 national coordinating committees in participating countries. GYSD is an annual global event that highlights and celebrates the contributions of youth to their communities through volunteer service.

During Global Youth Service Day, youth around the world organize community service projects to address local needs. GYSD is held during a weekend every April. In 2008, the event will be held on April 25-27. GYSD is celebrated in over 100 countries in every region of the world.

Within each country that recognizes Global Youth Service Day, a National Lead Agency convenes a coordinating committee of multiple organizations. Together, they do outreach at the national level and organize service projects for GYSD. A GYSD Secretariat located in the United States, with the advice of an International Coordinating Committee, provides support through communications, resources and materials.

Youth participate in GYSD to address the needs of their local communities through service, to be recognized for their contributions, and to be a part of a global youth service movement.

Save the Date: Global Youth Service Day 2009 is April 24-26

Website: <http://ysa.org/GlobalYouthServiceDay/tabid/254/Default.aspx>

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