



□ OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS !

Visit Japan in 2014

The Sister City Association of Huntington Beach is seeking high school students as Ambassadors of Goodwill to Japan.

*Freshmen, sophomores and juniors who live or attend school in the Huntington Beach Union High School District are eligible.*

Ambassadors host their student counterpart for two weeks in Huntington Beach in early July, 2014 and travel to Japan the first two weeks of August, 2014 in a reciprocal exchange.

For more information, please call (714) 846-7685 or  
*gerber@socal.rr.com*

*Applications are available at City Hall, Central Library,  
and the high schools.*

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2014**

ENJOY TRAVEL AND INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIPS  
THROUGH THE HUNTINGTON BEACH  
**SISTER CITY YOUTH EXCHANGE**

**ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE**

Any entering 9-11<sup>th</sup> grade high school student who resides in Huntington Beach **or** attends a Huntington Beach Union School District school is eligible to apply. **Specifically**, applicants must be no younger than age 14 (by December 31, 2013 **and** have entered the 9<sup>th</sup> grade by September, 2013 and no older than age 17 (by September 1, 2013).. *This age is a criterion which follows the agreement between Huntington Beach and Anjo, Japan.*

Consideration is given to qualities such as self-assurance, maturity, host responsibility and an interest in learning about a foreign country and its people.

**OBJECTIVE**

The program strives to provide an opportunity for our students and families to develop an understanding and long-lasting friendships with citizens of Anjo, Japan through a reciprocal family living experience. The youth exchange was initiated in 1982.

Four students will be selected to become Huntington Beach Ambassadors of Goodwill during the summer of 2014. Reciprocal two-week home stays are arranged with the student counterparts of Anjo..

**ANTICIPATED DATES**

Anjo students and chaperone visit Huntington Beach for two weeks in late June/early July, 2014, and the Huntington Beach students visit Anjo for two weeks in late July/early August 2014.

**SPONSOR**

The Sister City Association of Huntington Beach is a nonprofit organization, which in addition to conducting the youth exchange, entertains foreign visitors and maintains an ongoing art exchange. We encourage and assist in developing personal relationships with the citizens of Anjo. The organization is composed of volunteers and operates under the Community Services Department of the City of Huntington Beach.

**FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Expected transportation costs are between \$1100-\$1400, a portion of which **may** be paid by the Sister City Association. Added to these costs will be the expense incurred in hosting a visiting student (entertainment, food, etc.), gifts for host families abroad, and miscellaneous expenses (souvenirs, etc.).

## **WHAT YOU WILL HAVE TO DO**

1. Discuss this opportunity with your parents.
2. Completely fill out the two-page application and include:
  - a. One passport or school photo.
  - b. Personal statements by applicant – In a typewritten statement, on a separate sheet, please tell us about yourself. Some topics you may want to include are:
    - ✓ Your personality; how you see yourself.
    - ✓ Your interests; what is important to you.
    - ✓ Your relationship with members of your family and your friends.
    - ✓ What you hope to gain from the exchange experience.
    - ✓ Challenges you may anticipate as an exchange student and your willingness to be a full time host when your counterpart is in Huntington Beach.
    - ✓ Plans for your future.
  - c. Statement by parent or guardian – in a typewritten statement of approximately 100 words, on a separate sheet, please describe your son/daughter. Acknowledge your willingness to host an exchange student for two weeks and have an adult available for the activities.
  - d. Letters of recommendation – ask two present or former school faculty members, or other adults who know you well, to mail a brief letter of recommendation to the address below.
  - e. Application fee of \$35 – payable to Sister City Association of Huntington Beach. The fee is refundable upon request if the student is not selected to participate in the program.

**Mail completed application to:**                    **Carmen Erber, President**  
   **17301 Wild Rose Lane**  
   **Huntington Beach, CA 92649**

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE – FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2014**

QUESTIONS? (714) 846-7685, or [gerber@socal.rr.com](mailto:gerber@socal.rr.com)

You will be notified of a personal interview for you and a parent(s) in March, 2014.



Attach a recent photo here

## STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

### STUDENT APPLICATION FORM

I AM INTERESTED IN GOING TO:

**Anjo, Japan**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last Middle

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Street City Zip

PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ MALE \_\_\_ FEMALE \_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Grade Level Length of Huntington Beach Residence

MOTHER: FATHER: PARENTS: I LIVE WITH:  
Living \_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Separated \_\_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_  
Deceased \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_ Stepmother \_\_\_\_\_ Stepfather \_\_\_\_\_  
Guardian other than parent \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Cell Phone

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Employer

MOTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Cell Phone

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Employer

Either parent's home address (if different from yours)

Stepparent/Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Name First Name Cell Phone

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Employer

BROTHERS SISTERS  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

List school/church/community services in which you participate.

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Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

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What are your current plans or commitments for next summer: vacations, work, camps, summer school...?

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What are your plans for the future (education and career): \_\_\_\_\_

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Foreign Languages studied: \_\_\_\_\_ For how long: \_\_\_\_\_

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Have you ever applied to participate in this or a similar program before? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any friends or family living in Japan? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Has your family ever hosted a foreign exchange student? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, please explain below.

**READ CAREFULLY THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS BEFORE SIGNING**

I understand that, if chosen, I shall abide by all rules of responsible conduct expected of me. I shall live in Huntington Beach for the next year, will be in town during the 2 weeks of the June/July, 2014 visit, and will participate in the planned activities. I am free to travel to Japan in late July/early August, 2014 for a 2-week stay.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2014**

**Parent Authorization for Child’s Application to Huntington Beach Sister City Student Exchange Program**

Standards for Participants in Student Exchange Program

The Board of Directors of the Sister City Association of Huntington Beach has established the following rules and responsibilities for host parents and student ambassadors participating in the Sister City Student Exchange Program.

The rules and responsibilities of the Student Exchange Program are based upon the guidelines set by Sister Cities International, the umbrella organization of all sister city organizations, and our 30 years experience of student exchanges between Huntington Beach and Anjo, Japan. The rules and responsibilities serve to maintain goals of the Association as well as standards of respect and safety.

1. Student visitors are to be with their Huntington Beach host student 24 hours per day every day during the visit. Exceptions must be approved by the Board of Directors. **Extensive obligations (i.e., summer school, camps, part or full time jobs, etc.) are not permitted during the Student Visitors’ stay.**
2. Student visitors are to be supervised by adults at all times (chaperones or host parents).
3. Student visitors are not permitted to drive with anyone under the age of 18.
4. Student visitors are not permitted to travel more than 100 miles from Huntington Beach. For reasons of liability, safety, and suitability shorter trips are subject to approval by the Board of Directors when the schedules of activities are submitted to the Board.
5. Host parents are expected to supervise and help with activities on at least five (5) full daytime periods, during the Student Visitor stay in Huntington Beach. **Exceptions may be made for single parents.** Host Parents are also expected to be present during all overnight periods while the Student Visitor’s stay in their home.
6. **Host parents can host a student of either sex, unless otherwise stated in the initial parent interview.**

Please remember that these standards are conveyed to the host families in Anjo. If your child was left alone in a foreign country, or shuttled from family to family, or their host student had activities they would rather do than be with your child, then your child would not feel welcome or comfortable. Each year these rules and responsibilities are discussed with student applicants and their parent(s) at the time of the selection interviews.

If you are unable to fulfill the obligation to which you had agreed, the Sister City Association will be disappointed, but you must inform us as soon as possible. If you cannot fulfill your obligations, you will be responsible for reimbursing the Sister City Association \$200 to cover the costs of finding another student and host family.

Each year, many volunteers donate a great deal of time and effort to raise the funds necessary to make the student exchange program affordable. Additional volunteer hours are spent to select and prepare our student ambassadors and coordinate the program.

The Student Exchange Program is always an exciting time of discovery and sharing for everyone involved. Previous participants have all gained personal insight and new, in many cases, lifelong friendships. However, you will only get out of the exchange program what you put into it.

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I have read and understand the above standards and responsibilities of participation in the Sister City Student Exchange, and by signing this document I give my permission for my child to be considered for selection as a participant in the Sister City Student Exchange Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dated