
* SISTER CITIES OF GREENFIELD, INC. *

Youth Exchange Program Student Participant

Each year the Sister Cities of Greenfield organization chooses a group of 7th grade through 11th grade students from Greenfield-Central Schools to travel to our sister city in Kakuda, Japan, and live with a host family for approximately ten days. Adult chaperones will accompany the group.

While in Japan, the students learn and experience, firsthand, the culture of another country. They will tour Japanese schools and businesses, as well as, meet with city government officials. The students will also speak to a number of groups during their stay. Many times, they will answer questions from their Japanese student counterparts about American lifestyles. The students also will enjoy wonderful fantastic sightseeing trips and festivities. At the end of the trip, the students visit one of the world's largest cities: Tokyo.

Many students and adults who have traveled to Japan through this exchange in the past have commented that this trip is an once-in-a-lifetime experience. The value of firsthand experience with a different culture, as well as how the USA is viewed from another country cannot be understated. While the Sister City program realizes that the events in our nation and world within the past few years have changed our lives, we believe it is important to continue to offer this cultural exchange program.

Costs for this once-in-a-lifetime experience are minimal. Many expenses are paid through donations by local business and civic organizations. *All participants pay a fee of approximately \$950 due when the travel arrangements are confirmed.* They will be responsible for obtaining a passport and other travel expenses, as well as providing any spending money they wish to take. While in Kakuda, most meals are provided.

The current travel schedule for the Greenfield delegation is planned for June or July 2013. Student applications are only available on the Sister Cities of Greenfield website www.sistercitiesofgreenfield.org. Applications must be mailed to Kim Kile, 1114 Grayson Drive, Greenfield, IN 46140 and the envelope must be postmarked no later than midnight **December 15, 2012. Completed applications will not be picked up in school offices.**

Selected students will be called for an interview with the selection committee, and participants will be chosen by February, 2013. All participants will be required to attend a series of language and culture classes in order to prepare for their trip. All chosen will be responsible to attend all classes with one excused absence. Failure to attend will eliminate your opportunity to travel. **Please note:** during the following year, the wing delegation will also represent Sister Cities of Greenfield, Inc. at area civic meetings and will present and speak publicly about their Sister City experience.

For further information, please contact Kim Kile at 462-4073 or kkile@att.net.

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Student Travel Application 2012-13

(Please print or type)

Today's Date: _____ Male Female (circle one)

Name: _____ Student E-mail: _____

Address: _____
(Including City and Zip Code)

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Parents' Names: _____

Parents' Phone: _____ Parents' E-mail: _____

Name of Greenfield-Central School Attending: _____
Current Yr. in school _____

School Activities (include any offices held): _____

Community Activities: _____

***Please write a one-page essay: Why I would like to visit our Sister City.
Attach essay to this application.***

Names of two current teacher references you have in school this year:

1) _____ School _____

2) _____ School _____

The selection committee will contact your references for further information regarding your application to travel with the Sister Cities of Greenfield exchange program.

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Student Travel Application 2012-13, page 2

(Please print or type)

Name: _____

Do you have any food allergies? No Yes (please list) _____

Do you have any medical issues that our chaperones will need to be aware of?

No Yes (please list) _____

Are you currently taking any medications?

No Yes (please list) _____

Please note: Several common, American over-the-counter and prescription medications are illegal in Japan and should not be taken into the country by any traveler. Other prescription medications used for anxiety and depression are also illegal. If you are selected to be a Sister Cities of Greenfield student traveler and are currently taking one of these medications, please be in contact with your doctor regarding this situation. You will also want to review the guidelines outlined on the following websites for more information. You must also let the outgoing wing director know what types of medication you will be taking with you. ***All prescriptions should be in their original containers and prescribed for the traveler. Sister Cities of Greenfield will not be responsible for the consequences of a traveler taking medication to Japan.***

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- It is illegal to bring into Japan some over-the-counter medicines commonly used in the United States, including inhalers and some allergy and sinus medications. Specifically, products that contain stimulants (medicines that contain Pseudoephedrine, such as Actifed, Sudafed, and Vicks inhalers), or Codeine are prohibited. Others include, but are not limited to, Tylenol Cold, Nyquil, Nyquil Liquicaps, Advil Cold & Sinus, Dristan Cold ("No Drowsiness"), Dristan Sinus, Drixoral Sinus, Lomotil, Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAO) used in any anti-depressant capacity - such as Moclobemide marketed as Aurorix, and any conventional Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI).

<http://japan.usembassy.gov/e/acs/tacs-medimport.html>

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/topics/import/index.html>

Signatures and Consent Page

Student Pledge and Signature

I understand that if I am selected to travel to our sister city, I will become a representative not only for the citizens of Greenfield, but also of Indiana and the United States. I understand I will be required to prepare for my trip by attending weekly language and culture classes. I will be responsible to attend all classes, being allowed only one excused absence. More than one absence will eliminate my opportunity to travel to Japan. I understand that there will be assignments given to complete during our trip. I understand I will be expected to conduct myself with the highest standards and to reflect with honor the people I have been chosen to represent. I understand that my family will be responsible for all of my travel costs incurred by Sister Cities of Greenfield if I am sent home due to disciplinary or legal issues while in Japan. I further understand that I am committing for the period of one year to be available, upon request, to speak to community organizations in Greenfield and share my experiences. These duties will involve public presentation and speaking.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Permission and Signature

I certify that I have read the above application. I understand the responsibilities my child will undertake by becoming a representative for Greenfield in a foreign country. I understand that I will be responsible for all travel costs incurred by Sister Cities of Greenfield if my child is sent home due to disciplinary or legal issues while in Japan. I have discussed these responsibilities with my child, and my child understands these responsibilities. I hereby give my consent to the Sister Cities of Greenfield, Inc. for my child to participate in the youth exchange program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I hereby grant permission to the Sister Cities of Greenfield to use my photograph on its World Wide Web site or in other official printed publications without further consideration, and I acknowledge the organization's right to crop or treat the photograph at its discretion. I also acknowledge that the organization may choose not to use my photo at this time, but may do so at its own discretion at a later date.

I also understand that once my image is posted on the Sister Cities of Greenfield website, the image can be downloaded by any computer user affiliated or non-affiliated with the organization. Therefore, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless from any claims to the following:

*Sister City of Greenfield Board of Directors
All sponsors of the Sister Cities of Greenfield Program
All members of the Kakuda Wing, in Kakuda, Japan*

I also allow the Sister Cities of Greenfield to share information about me and my family to members of the Kakuda Wing for reasons related to hosting and participation in the program.

Signature of Student Traveler: _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date _____