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\* SISTER CITIES OF GREENFIELD, INC. \*

## *Youth Exchange Program Student Participant*

Each year the Sister Cities organization chooses a group of 7<sup>th</sup> grade through 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

There the students learn and experience, firsthand, the culture of another country. They will tour Japanese schools and businesses. They will meet with city government officials, and the students will speak to a number of groups during their stay. They will also answer questions from their Japanese student counterparts about their lifestyle in America. The students also will enjoy wonderful fantastic sightseeing trips and festivities. 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 comment 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 \$750 due before departure.* They will be responsible for obtaining a passport, other travel expenses, and for any spending money they wish to take. Most all meals while in Japan are provided.

**The current travel schedule for the Greenfield delegation is planned for early June 2009. Student applications are only available on the Sister Cities of Greenfield website [www.sistercitiesofgreenfield.org](http://www.sistercitiesofgreenfield.org). Applications must be mailed to Kim Kile, 1114 Grayson Drive, Greenfield, IN 46140. The envelope must be postmarked no later than midnight December 15, 2008. Completed applications will not be picked up in school offices this year.**

Selected students will be called for an interview with the selection committee, and participants will be chosen by February 2009. All participants will be required to attend a series of language and culture classes 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. For the following year, the 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.



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**Student Travel Application 2009**

(please print)

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Male/Female

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 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 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.*

**S i g n a t u r e :** \_\_\_\_\_

**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 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** \_\_\_\_\_