

# Ohio 4-H International Programs



# Peace Your World Together!



~ Families ~ Invite the World Into Your Home! ~

~ Youth ~ Travel the Globe! ~

## Contact Information:

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Visit our website at [www.ohio4h.org](http://www.ohio4h.org) to obtain applications and information.

# 2009 Ohio 4-H Hosting Opportunities!

\* Host Family Applications will be accepted until May 15<sup>st</sup> or until all exchangees are placed (usually April for Japanese Girls and May for Japanese Boys).

PROGRAM	# OF PARTICIPANTS VISITING OHIO	AGE GROUP	LENGTH OF STAY	HOSTING DATES	APPLICATION DEADLINE*
<b>2009 Labo Japanese Month-Long Youth</b> (Offered every year)	95	12-18	3 ½ weeks with 1 host family	July 23 - Aug. 18, 2009	2/28 (1 <sup>st</sup> Choice) 5/15 (Final) *
<b>2009 Labo Japanese Adult &amp; Older Teen Chaperones</b> (Offered every year)	5-10	18 – 20 <u>or</u> 30 – 60	12 days each with 2 host families <u>or</u> 4 weeks with 1 host family	July 23 - Aug. 5 <u>or</u> Aug. 5 - Aug. 18, 2009 <u>or</u> Both Periods	2/28 (1 <sup>st</sup> Choice) 5/15 (Final) *
<b>2009-10 Labo Japanese Year-Long Youth</b> (Offered every year)	5	15-18	10½ months with 1 host family	July 31, 2009- June 20, 2010	2/28 (1 <sup>st</sup> Choice) 5/15 (Final) *
<b>2009 Youth from Costa Rica, Finland and Norway</b> (If interested, please consider the Japanese program as your 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice, due to the small number visiting Ohio.)	1-2 total from all 3 countries	15-19	4 weeks with 1 host family	Costa Rica: June 21-July 18 Finland: June 15 - July 13 Norway: July 8 - August 6	2/28 (1 <sup>st</sup> Choice) 5/15 (Final) *

# 2009 – 2010 Ohio 4-H Youth Travel Opportunities!

\* Scholarships of \$500 to \$1,500 offered by Ohio 4-H and the Japanese Labo Foundation. Each selected youth receives \$500 ~ additional funding based on previous hosting.

PROGRAM	# OF PARTICIPANTS	AGE GROUP	TRIP LENGTH & DESCRIPTION	TRAVEL DATES	COST	APPLICATION DEADLINE
<b>2009 Delegation to Japan (Labo)</b> (Runs "Odd" Years Only) (Optional Language Training, also)	Unlimited	12-19 (but still 18 on Jan. 1)	Homestay + 1 week Camp	July 8 to August 6, 2009	Appx. \$4,290	January 20, 2009
<b>2009 Labo Internship in Japan</b> (Runs Every Year)	1-2 Previous Japan travel preferred	18-25, with High School Diploma	1 Year Homestay while working in Labo Offices	Sept. 2010 – Aug. 2011	Appx. \$300 (Interns receive Salary while in Japan)	December 1, 2009
<b>2009 Delegation to Finland</b> (Runs Every year)	15	15-19 (on travel date)	Homestay + Estonia Day-Trip	June 13 to July 14, 2009	Appx. \$ 3,500	January 20, 2009
<b>2009 Delegation to Costa Rica</b> (Runs Every year)	15	15-18 (on travel date)	Homestay + 4-Day Camp	June 20 to July 18, 2009	Appx. \$2,600	January 20, 2009
<b>2009 Delegation to Australia</b> (Runs Every Year)	15	16-19 (on travel date)	Homestay + Sydney Field-Trip	June 17 to July 16, 2009	Appx. \$ 5,500	January 20, 2009
<b>2010 Delegation to Norway</b> (Runs "Even" Years Only)	15	16-19 (on travel date)	Homestay + 1-Week Nordic Camp	June 30 to August 4, 2010	Appx. \$4,300	January 20, 2010

# 2009 Ohio 4-H International Calendar

## January

- 15 ICC Nominations Due from 4-H Educators
- 20 Youth and Adult Chaperone Applications due for 4-H Travel Programs to Finland, Australia, Costa Rica and Japan
- 24-25 Selections for 4-H Travel Programs to Finland, Australia, Costa Rica & Japan – Columbus
- 31 ICC Annual Training, Columbus

## February

- 21 International Session and Exhibit at Ohio 4-H Teen Conference, Columbus
- 28 Host Family Applications Due  
(For first choice placements)

## March

- 14 International Session and Exhibit at Ohio 4-H Volunteer Conference, Columbus

## April

- ◇ Exchangee/Host Family Matches Begin

## May

- 1 Host Family Applications Due ~ Final  
(Unless some exchangees are still unplaced)
- 30 Orientation for 4-H Travelers to Japan, Finland, Australia and Costa Rica – Columbus
- ◇ Labo Month-Long Host Family Orientations held throughout the state (Various Dates)

## June

- 11 Ohio 4-H Nihongo Delegates depart for Japan
- 13 Ohio 4-H Delegates depart for Finland
- 17 Ohio 4-H Delegates depart for Australia
- 20 Ohio 4-H Delegates depart for Costa Rica
- 20 08-09 Labo Year-Long Exchangees to Ohio Return to Japan
- TBA 09-10 Labo Year-Long Host Family Orientation, Kenton
- ◇ Labo Month-Long Host Family Orientations held throughout the state (Various Dates)

Revised 4/20/09

## July

- 8 Ohio 4-H Delegation to Japan Departs from OH
- 14 Ohio 4-H Delegation to Finland Returns to OH
- 16 Ohio 4-H Delegation to Australia Returns to OH
- 18 Ohio 4-H Delegation to Costa Rica Returns to OH
- 21 Japanese Month-long Exchangees arrive in Columbus for Orientation
- 23 Japanese Month-Long Exchangees go to their Ohio Host Families
- 30 Japanese Labo 09-10 Year-Long Exchangees Arrive in Columbus for Orientation
- 31 Japanese Labo 09-10 Year-Long Exchangees go to their Ohio Host Families

## August

- 2 International Day at the Ohio State Fair, Columbus
- 5 Labo Japanese Adults Change Host Families
- 6 Ohio 4-H Delegation to Japan Returns to OH
- 18 Japanese Labo Month-Long Exchangees Return to Columbus for Pre-Departure Meeting
- 19 Japanese Labo Month-Long Exchangees Depart from Columbus to Japan
- TBA 08-09 Ohio 4-H/Labo Intern Returns to Ohio

## September

- TBA 09-10 Ohio 4-H/Labo Intern(s) Depart for Japan

## December

- 1 2010-2011 Labo Internships in Japan ~ Applications due to Labo Seattle Office
- 5 Labo Japanese 09-10 Year-Long Mid-Point Meeting, Columbus or Kenton

## January, 2010

- 30 ICC Annual Training, Columbus

## June, 2010

- 20 Labo 09-10 Year-Long Youth Return to Japan



# 2009 Ohio 4-H International Program ~ By the Numbers!

Revised 4/20/09

## LABO EXCHANGE (Japan)

- ♣ In 2009, **110** Ohio 4-H families will host a Japanese youth or adult for 1 month or 1 year.
- ♣ In 2009, **15** Ohio 4-H youth and adults will travel to Japan and live with host families for 1-2 months.
  - \* Since 1980, **3,066** Ohio 4-H families have **hosted** Japanese youth and adults for one month.
  - \* Since 1989, **173** Ohio 4-H families have **hosted** Japanese youth for one year.
  - \* Since 1980, **209** Ohio 4-H youth and adults have **traveled** to Japan for one month.
  - \* Since 1980, **9** Ohio 4-H older teens have **worked in Japan** as Labo Interns for one year.

## OVERSEAS HOMESTAY PROGRAMS (Finland, Norway, Australia & Costa Rica)

- ♣ In 2009, **2** Ohio 4-H youth will travel abroad to live with host families on these 1-month programs, and **3** Ohio 4-H host families will host youth and adults from these countries.
  - \* Since 2006, **4** Ohio 4-H youth have traveled to Finland on these programs.
  - \* Since 2006, **2** Ohio 4-H families have hosted Finnish youth for one month on these programs.

## OHIO YOUTH STUDY TOURS (Many Countries Around the World)

- ♣ In 2012 (tentative), **15** Ohio 4-H youth and adults will travel for 2-3 weeks through Europe, Great Britain, or New Zealand, then live with a local host family for 4-7 days.
- ♣ In 2011 or 2013, **15** Ohio 4-H families will host a youth from one of the above countries for 2 weeks.
  - \* Since 1994, **93** Ohio 4-H youth have traveled to Scandinavia, Australia, Europe and Costa Rica for 2-4 weeks, then lived with host families from those countries/continents.
  - \* Since 1995, **113** Ohio 4-H families have hosted Youth Study Tour exchangees from Denmark, Estonia, Costa Rica and the former East Germany for 2-3 weeks.

## IFYE EXCHANGE (Many Countries Around the World)

- ♣ IFYE, the oldest 4-H exchange, began operation in 1949. The Out-Bound portion was discontinued in Ohio in 2004, and the In-bound portion was discontinued in 2008.
  - \* Between 1949 and 2007, **860** Ohio 4-H families hosted IFYE Representatives (ages 19-25) and Ambassadors (ages 14-19) from around the world for 3-6 weeks each.
  - \* Between 1950 and 2004, **253** Ohio 4-H alumni ages 19-25 traveled abroad as IFYE Representatives for 6 months, and **60** young people ages 14-19 traveled abroad as IFYE Ambassadors for 6 weeks.

## INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS (ICCs)

- ♣ **35** middle-manager volunteer International County Coordinators (ICCs) will assist Ohio 4-H in developing and conducting our international programs during 2009.

## INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS

- ♣ In 2009, over 1,000 Ohioans will attend a 4-H Cross-Cultural Educational presentation. Since 1949, **217,000** Ohioans have attended a 4-H Cross-Cultural Educational presentation.

# ~ INVITE THE WORLD HOME ~ BE A HOST FAMILY! ~

Can't find the time and money to travel? Enjoy the exposure to different cultures which traveling brings? Looking for a low-cost project or experience in which the whole family can participate and grow together? The Ohio 4-H International Program allows families to gain the benefits of international travel right here at home by hosting an exchangee from a foreign country. Families often find they are drawn closer together and see their lives in a whole new perspective as they welcome a new son, daughter, brother, or sister into their circle. 4-H offers numerous hosting programs, ranging in duration from two weeks to one year. Exchangees come from around the world, include both youth and adults, and are usually members of clubs similar to 4-H in their home country. In 2009, more than 100 Ohio families will take advantage of this unique opportunity. And ... non 4-H families automatically become 4-H members through their participation!

## ~ *Month-Long Youth from Costa Rica, Finland or Norway* (Dates Vary; see page 2) (Ages 15-19)

These youth are placed in homes where there is a **host sibling of the same gender and approximate age**. Only 1-2 of these youth will visit Ohio; therefore, you may want to consider hosting a Japanese youth as a 2<sup>nd</sup> choice in the event you are not matched with this program.

## ~ *Labo Japanese Month-Long Youth* (July 23 – August 18) (Ages 12-17)

Labo Month-Long Youth are also placed in homes where there is a **host sibling of the same gender and approximate age**.

## ~ *Labo Japanese Older Youth Chaperones* (July 23 – August 5) OR (August 5 – 18) OR (Both)

Two older youth aged 18-22 will accompany the Labo month-long group, and will stay for 2 weeks with 2 different host families, or will spend the entire homestay with one host family.

## ~ *Labo Japanese Adult Chaperones* (July 23 – August 5) OR (August 5 – 18) OR (Both)

Four adult chaperones aged 30-60 will accompany the Labo month-long group, and will stay for 2 weeks with 2 different host families, or will spend the entire homestay with one host family.

## ~ *Labo Japanese Year-Long Youth* (July 31, 2009 – June, 2010) (Ages 15-18)

This in-depth family opportunity allows exchangees to become true members of the family, school & community!

Applications received by our **February 28<sup>th</sup>** deadline will receive first preference for age, gender and nationality requests. Applications will continue to be accepted until all exchangees are placed, usually by **Mid-March** (girls) and **May** (boys). Returning the application does not obligate your family, nor does it assure assignment of an exchangee. Apply today ~ and **open your world!**

Being a 4-H international host family is easy, fun, rewarding and educational. Just welcome the exchangee into your home and treat him or her like one of the family. The exchangees will want to join in everyday activities, help with chores and otherwise fit in as a brother, sister, son or daughter. No special activities need to be planned, although most families and visitors enjoy the opportunity to take occasional sightseeing trips to local attractions and landmarks during the visit. Host families appreciate the chance to develop friendships which reach around the world. They find that the exchangee teaches them not only to understand other ways of life, but to understand and appreciate their own way of life as well.

Ohio 4-H is looking for all types of families to give exchangees a broad perspective about life in our state. Urban families, rural families, two-parent or single-parent families, older couples, singles, couples without children, and families with varied religious and ethnic backgrounds all have something to offer visitors from other cultures. (Please note above that some programs require a host sibling of the same gender/age.) Support is provided to families by State and Local 4-H Offices and a team of volunteer ICCs around the state.

Host families are asked to provide lodging, meals and snacks for their exchangee, as well as pay for their costs during family activities. Exchangees bring their own personal spending money, and the program provides medical and other insurance. Year-long exchangees ~ who can bring extraordinary joy and cultural learning to their hosts by truly settling in and becoming family members ~ also pay for their own school and activity fees, including things like prom expenses.

Host Family Selection and Matching, completed in the spring, is based on a family's application, references, home visit, background check for those family members aged 18+, and how well an exchangee matches a family's preferences and interests. Selected families receive detailed information about their exchangee, and families and exchangees write letters and emails to become acquainted prior to arrival. Host Family Handbooks are distributed and Host Family Orientations are held around the state during May and June.

The host family experience doesn't end when the exchangee returns home. Usually, the friendships last a lifetime! Further visiting (both ways) sometimes occurs, and for host families, the world is forever a smaller place. If your family would like to host a 4-H exchangee please complete the Host Family Application located on our website or at the end of this booklet, and send it to: 4-H International Programs, 2201 Fred Taylor Dr., Columbus, OH, 43210.

## ~ 2009 OHIO 4-H DELEGATION TO JAPAN ~

Participating in the Ohio 4-H Delegation to Japan gives Ohio young people the opportunity to learn more about themselves and the lives of others. Delegates live with a Japanese family for one month and take part in Labo camps and activities with host brothers and sisters. Many Ohio youth stay with the family of the Japanese youth who has previously visited them in Ohio, although this is not a requirement. Language fluency is not a prerequisite, but basic language study is required in advance of departure. Applicants need not be 4-H members to apply ... in fact, they become 4-H members through participation on this exchange!

**Ohio sends a delegation to Japan on "odd" years only, so the next group after 2009 will travel in 2011.** 4-H members and others aged 12 to 19 (but who will still be 18 on January 1, 2009), who are willing to prepare for the exchange by studying the language, country and culture of Japan are invited to apply. Delegates should be willing to become an active member of a Japanese host family. (*Important Note: The upper age limit for this program is being lowered after 2009: future youth must still be age 18 at time of travel.*)

**Program Dates** are **July 8 through August 6, 2009**. In addition, all delegates plus at least 1 parent are required to attend Selection Interviews and Orientation #1 in Columbus on January 24-25, 2009, as well as Orientation #2 in Columbus on May 30.

The fee for the 2009 Ohio 4-H Delegation to Japan will be appx. **\$4,290**. This price includes: program support from staff in Ohio, Seattle, and Tokyo, orientations in Columbus (2), Seattle (overnight) and Tokyo (overnight), guidebooks, medical insurance, round-trip airfare from Columbus to Tokyo, all transportation taxes, travel to and from the Japanese host family, program expenses in Japan, 1 week at Labo Camp, final consultation and sightseeing in Tokyo, (2) 4-H shirts & luggage tag, a \$30-yen packet upon arrival in Japan, and 24/7 chaperone coverage beginning at gateway city. (There will be one chaperone for every 15-20 youth on the exchange.) Additional price for those choosing the Nihongo program is **\$1,100 (see below section)**.

**Labo Scholarships:** The Labo Foundation offers scholarships for Ohio youth who have hosted a Labo exchangee in the past — \$1,000 per year-long exchangee hosted, and \$100 per month-long exchangee hosted (up to a maximum of \$300), with a maximum scholarship per traveler per year of \$1,000. Scholarship "credits" can only be used once. A "Scholarship Application Form" is part of the general application packet.

### **Optional "Nihongo" Language Program**

An optional opportunity for those who would like to become conversant in Japanese is the intensive three-week Nihongo language program. Labo offers this program in Tokyo from **June 11 – July 8**. Participants will then join the regular Ohio delegation for the month-long homestay until **August 6**. Nihongo students live with a Tokyo host family and attend classes during the day. The cost is **\$1,100** and covers tuition and books. In addition, weekday lunches must also be purchased. Host families provide lodging and all other meals.

**How to Apply / Required Selection Interviews** ~ Please notify us that you plan to apply (614-292-6941 or [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu)) and visit [www.ohio4h.org/youth/international](http://www.ohio4h.org/youth/international) for an application packet. Application materials and payments are due **January 20, 2009** and required Selection Interviews (for youth and at least 1 parent) will be held in Columbus on **January 24** (scheduled day) **or 25** (snow day). Hope you can join us!

## ~ OTHER OVERSEAS HOMESTAY PROGRAMS! ~

# Ohio 4-H Delegations to Australia, Costa Rica, Finland and Norway

Exciting News! We are pleased to announce that in addition to Japan, Ohio 4-H now offers overseas homestay programs in four other countries! Australia, Costa Rica, Finland and Norway\* host small groups of (15) older teen 4-H'ers from around the U.S. each summer. (Exception: Norway only operates on "even" years, so will next travel in 2010.) These programs resemble the former IFYE Ambassador Programs which operated from 1980 – 2005. Participants live with a host family for one month, participating in their "regular life" and becoming full family and community members.

The Ohio 4-H Delegation to Finland first traveled in 2006, while the Delegations to Norway, Costa Rica and Australia began in 2008. Delegates are accompanied by a U.S. chaperone beginning in their gateway city (usually Chicago), and are provided with Orientations both in the U.S. and on-site once they reach their host country.

Participants must be older teens on the date of travel ~ please see the chart on page 2 of this booklet for each country's requirements. Language fluency is not a prerequisite, but basic language study is required in advance of departure. Applicants need not be 4-H members to apply ... in fact, they become 4-H members through participation on this exchange!

These programs are coordinated overseas by the 4-H organization in the host country, or through schools and community groups. Each country's program has distinctive features. Those traveling to Costa Rica will enjoy a 4-day camp in the rain forest. The Finland program includes a day-trip to the neighboring country of Estonia. The Australia program is mainly rural and includes a day-trip to the capital of Sydney. Norway participants will experience a week-long rustic tent-camping experience near the fjords.

These Overseas Homestay Programs mainly operate from mid-June to mid-July and approximate costs range from \$2,600 to \$5,500 ~ please see pages 2-3 of this booklet for dates and details.

**How to Apply / Required Selection Interviews** ~ Please notify us that you plan to apply (614-292-6941 or [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu)) and see our website for an application packet ([www.ohio4h.org/youth/international](http://www.ohio4h.org/youth/international)). Application materials and payments are due **January 20, 2009** and required Selection Interviews (for youth and at least 1 parent) will be held in Columbus on **January 24** (scheduled date) and **25** (snow date).

## ~ NEW OHIO 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOUTH TRAVELERS! ~

Ohio 4-H is pleased to announce that beginning in 2009, partial scholarships will be awarded to all Ohio 4-H youth selected to travel overseas on one of our homestay exchange programs ~ including Japan, Australia, Costa Rica, Finland and Norway. Selections will be based on the quality of the application form and essays, reference checks and Required Interviews on January 24 (Snow Date: January 25) in Columbus (each youth plus at least one parent must attend). Each selected youth will receive a base scholarship of \$500, plus an additional scholarship based on hosting history with Ohio 4-H. Please contact Mary Lynn for more specific information about our scholarships and how they intersect with the Labo Scholarships mentioned on the previous page. We offer our *sincere* thanks to the wonderful donors who made these Ohio 4-H Scholarships possible:

**Cecil H. and R. Eloise Robinson Endowment Fund  
Ohio 4-H International Programs Endowment Fund  
Individual Donors to the IFYE Support Fund**

## ~ THANK YOU TO OHIO'S ICCs! ~

These exceptional volunteers, called "International County Coordinators" (ICCs), will assist you with every aspect of your international hosting and/or traveling experience. 4-H is a volunteer-supported organization, and we could not continue our efforts toward international understanding without our ICCs. We salute and thank them for their time and dedication toward providing international experiences for Ohio's families and youth on the local level! Interested in becoming an ICC? Please contact your County Extension Office or Mary Lynn Thalheimer at the State Office @ 614-292-6941 or [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu). The annual ICC Training is always held in Columbus on the last Saturday in January and this year, will be January 31, 2009.

## ~ OHIO 4-H YOUTH STUDY TOURS ~

Ohio 4-H Youth Study Tours are designed to provide participants with an intensive exposure to another country's life and culture, including the arts, architecture, the environment, family life, religion, major sites, food and customs. Led by an Ohio 4-H professional and volunteers, the 2-3 week programs combine travel and culture learning with a homestay experience. Pre-trip orientations and cultural reading materials assure that participants have a solid knowledge basis for what they will see and experience, creating the ultimate in "learning by doing." Language proficiency is not required, but language study is strongly encouraged.

Study Tours operate on some "even" years, with the next experience tentatively scheduled for 2012 ~ either late June to mid-July, or December. The 2012 tentative tour is planned for Great Britain, New Zealand or Europe, at an approximate cost of \$4,500. A group of youth from the country we visit will then tentatively travel to Ohio the following year. See future booklets for the destination and other program details.

## ~ THE IFYE REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM ~

The International 4-H Youth Exchange (IFYE), founded in 1949 and the oldest 4-H exchange program, went on hiatus in 2003 so the program could be evaluated on the national level. The decision that emerged was that the program would no longer be sponsored and coordinated nationally since it does not serve youth of 4-H age. Ohio also no longer participates due to a lack of applicants for the program and a lack of resources to coordinate the program without national assistance. We cannot thank you enough for your support of the IFYE program these many years, and we appreciate our many donors who have shifted their financial support to our other important exchange opportunities for 4-H age youth. *Danke, Gracias, Merci and Tak to our IFYE donors!*

## ~ INTERNATIONAL FAIR AND CONFERENCE EVENTS ~

**International Day at the Ohio State Fair**, scheduled for **August 2**, is an annual opportunity to celebrate all international aspects of 4-H. Host families, exchangees, 4-Hers who have traveled abroad, ICCs, "And My World" project members, and anyone associated with international programs is invited to exhibit! Contact [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu) for information.

**The Ohio 4-H Teen Conference (Feb. 21) & the Ohio 4-H Volunteer Conference (March 14)** are state-wide educational events designed for current, former and prospective 4-H members and volunteers. Plan to stop by the *international exhibit* and attend the *international session* at both events, where you will learn about our exchange programs, travel options, volunteer positions, and cross-cultural understanding. Contact your Extension Office for registration materials.



# 2009 Ohio 4-H Host Family Application



- ENCLOSE PHOTO
- PRINT NEATLY OR TYPE!

HOST FAMILY INFORMATION			(FOR 4-H OFFICE USE ONLY)	
FAMILY LAST NAME			ORGANIZATION	
STREET ADDRESS			NAME	
CITY	OHIO	ZIP:	ID CODE	
COUNTY:	FAX: ( )		GENDER	AGE
HOME PHONE ( )	CELL: ( )		Host Sibling's Email:	
FATHER'S NAME:		OCCUPATION:	WORK TELEPHONE	BIRTHDATE
FATHER'S EMAIL:			( )	
MOTHER'S NAME:		OCCUPATION:	WORK TELEPHONE	BIRTHDATE
MOTHER'S EMAIL:			( )	

OTHERS IN HOME (If applying to host a Month-long Youth, place an "X" to the left of the Ohio youth who will be hosting the exchangee.)

"X"	NAME	GENDER	BIRTHDATE (M/D/Y)	GRADE	AGE as of 8/30/09	HOBBIES / INTERESTS / PERSONALITY TRAITS

Location of Home: City Small Town Rural Non-farm Farm (# acres \_\_\_\_\_) Suburb  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Have you or your family been involved in 4-H? Yes No Type of Crops: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Animals: \_\_\_\_\_ Domestic Animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Are animals allowed in the house? Yes No If yes, what animals?: \_\_\_\_\_

Population of Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ Is there a piano in your home? \_\_\_\_\_ (This question helps us with matching)

Family Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Check boxes which apply: Smoking household Non-smoking household Smoking forbidden in our house  
Single family house Mobile home Apartment Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

If both parents work outside the home, who will assume responsibility when both parents are away? \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain ALL health concerns (physical, psychological) in the family. (For information of exchangee only) \_\_\_\_\_

Would your exchangee be expected to attend church with you? Yes No Religion: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Regarding meal preferences, would you be able to accommodate special diets (vegetarian, no dairy, etc.)? Yes No

Foreign Languages Spoken: \_\_\_\_\_ Has your family hosted an exchangee before? Yes No

If "yes," Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Country(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Length of stay(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Why do you want to host? \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED!** You *must* include a recent family photo with members identified. Okay to email to: [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu)

PREFERENCES FOR EXCHANGEES (Please check ALL of the types of exchangees your family would be able to host)

If our first choice is unavailable, we will accept a different age:  Yes  NO ~ a different gender:  Yes  NO

We know a specific exchangeee we would like to host. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Japanese Youth (ages 12-18) for 1 Month (July 23 to August 18)  Male  Female  Either Age Preference: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Must have your own child of same gender and approximate age.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Japanese Older Teen or Adult Chaperone (ages 19-60) for 2 Weeks or 1 Month in late July or August  
Gender Preference:  Male  Female  Either  
Date Preference:  July 23 - August 5  August 5-18  Either  Both (July 23 – August 18)

Other Exchangees: (Only 1-2 available. Must have your own child of same gender and approximate age. Please rank order. Also, check (rank order) above if willing to host a Japanese youth if you are not matched with one of the exchangees below.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Finland Youth (age 15-18) for 1 Month (June 15 to July 13)  Male  Female  Either Age Preference: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Costa Rica Youth (age 15-18) for 1 Month (June 21 to July 18)  Male  Female  Either Age Preference: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Norway Youth (age 15-18) for 1 Month (July 8 to August 6)  Male  Female  Either Age Preference: \_\_\_\_\_

WE UNDERSTAND/CONFIRM ~ Parent(s) and main Host Sibling MUST initial each Item.

Parent(s) and Main Host Brother/Sister MUST Initial Each Item. Thank You.

\_\_\_\_\_ Host Family applicants will receive notification of selection as soon as possible by the State Coordinator (usually late April). Selection is based on references, application, home interview(s), ability to closely match exchangees and families, and background checks (for those who did not host last year). Families will be sent information about whether or not they need background checks after submitting this application. Applying does not obligate you to host nor does it assure assignment of an exchangee.

\_\_\_\_\_ (For the Labo Month-long Program) The Ohio youth matched to host the exchangee must keep this exchange uppermost in mind during the hosting month, and ensure that the exchangee feels comfortable around friends and feels included in activities.

\_\_\_\_\_ If selected as a host family, we will be expected to treat the exchangee as a family member. We will communicate with the exchangee prior to arrival. Our exchangee will be included in all family activities. Lodging, all meals, and family activities will be paid by us.

\_\_\_\_\_ If our family owns any guns, they must be locked and kept out of sight during the homestay. (A visible but locked gun cabinet is OK.)

\_\_\_\_\_ No special arrangements for entertaining or traveling are expected. The program emphasizes the normal family life experience that can be gained from a host family stay. Our family must be flexible, patient and able to communicate both verbally and non-verbally while hosting.

\_\_\_\_\_ Orientations will be held and orientation materials will be sent to us. We will read the information and familiarize ourselves with it. We are required to attend an orientation if we did not host with Ohio 4-H last year. (Note: All Year-Long Host Families must attend an Orientation, regardless of when they last hosted.) We are also encouraged to attend one mid-point activity during the homestay, if offered in our area.

\_\_\_\_\_ We will contact the State Coordinator or the local ICC or County 4-H Educator immediately if illness or a problem/concern is evident. We understand and accept that in certain instances an exchangee must be removed from a home after placement.

\_\_\_\_\_ No member of our family has ever abused drugs or alcohol, or been convicted of child or spousal abuse, or any other felony criminal offense. (If past drug/alcohol abuse applies, you will not necessarily be precluded from hosting. Please include a note of explanation.)

\_\_\_\_\_ We give permission to The Ohio State University, OSU Extension, Ohio 4-H, Labo and Worldwide to use in public awareness programs any photos, voice and video images or activities in which the exchangee and the host family participate.

Parent Signature: (Required) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

State 4-H International Program Manager @ OSU: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Your application will be returned to you if the information below (or any other info on this form) is not complete! Thank you.

REFERENCES ~ List complete information for three individuals (non-relatives) who can be contacted . One person must be your 4-H Educator or Advisor. If you are not in 4-H, include someone from your school system. Be sure to include work phone when applicable.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_