

~ Ohio 4-H International Programs ~ Celebrating 63 Years!

At-A-Glance!



Open Your World! Ohio 4-H International Exchange Programs are among the largest and most successful in the country. Ohio families host exchangees from around the world, and Ohio youth & adults travel abroad to live and tour in a variety of countries. Host Families & Youth Travelers do not have to be 4-H members ~ in fact, they automatically *become* members by participating!

2011 Host Family Opportunities

Don't have 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, as they welcome a new son, daughter, brother or sister from another country into their homes. Host families come in many shapes and sizes and are responsible for lodging, meals, and family activities. Exchangees bring personal spending money, as well as medical and other insurance coverage. Host families are asked to "live their everyday life," and to simply treat their exchangee as a member of the family, with the same responsibilities and privileges as other members. **Note:** Families hosting any Month-Long Youth must have their own child of the same gender and approximate age.

Host Family Applications should be submitted as soon as possible; by February 28 for first-choice placements. Applications are accepted until all exchangees are placed, which is usually March for girls and May for boys.

The 2011 exchange visitors to Ohio will include:

γ	Japanese Labo Youth for 1 Month	July 21 to August 16	(Ages 12-17)
γ	Japanese Labo Older Teen for 2-4 Weeks	July 21 – Aug. 3 <u>or</u> August 3 – 16 <u>or</u> Both	(Ages 18-21)
γ	Japanese Labo Adult for 2-4 Weeks	July 21 – Aug. 3 <u>or</u> August 3 – 16 <u>or</u> Both	(Ages 30-55)
γ	Japanese Labo Youth for 1 Year	July 30, 2011 to mid-June, 2012	(Ages 15-18)
γ	Costa Rican, Finnish or Norwegian Youth for 1 Month	Dates Vary, Mid-June to Early August	(Ages 15-18)

Only 1-5 of these youth will be visiting us. If interested, please consider choosing the Japanese program as your 2nd choice due to the small number coming.

2011-2012 Travel Abroad Opportunities

γ Youth Travel Scholarships!

Generous Ohio 4-H donors provide travel scholarships of at least \$600 to all youth selected for any travel program. Labo and Ohio 4-H offer additional scholarships of \$100-\$1,000, based on the number of exchangees previously hosted.

γ Overseas Homestay Youth Programs to: Australia, Costa Rica, Norway, Finland and Japan!

(See next page ~ not all programs are offered every year.)

Get on board with these exciting travel opportunities! Language learning, cultural exploration and personal growth are offered through a **1-month host family stay** and other activities. Adult chaperones accompany each group beginning at the gateway U.S. city. Youth need not be 4-H members to participate. Youth must be willing to learn basic foreign language skills. Orientations will be held in Columbus (Japan program) or by phone conference call (all other programs). **Application Deadline: January 18, 2011.** (Applications for non-Japan countries *may* be accepted after 1/18 if spots remain.) Japan accepts an unlimited number of youth; other countries are limited to 15. **Required Selection Interviews** are in Columbus for youth and 1 parent on either **January 22, 23 or 30, 2011** (hold all dates). Participants are announced in mid-February.

2011-2012 Travel Abroad Opportunities (cont.)

γ **2011 Japan** (*Runs every "odd" year*) **Appx. Cost: \$4,000**
Youth ages **12-18** (on travel date) will be selected to visit Japan from **July 6 to August 4, 2011**. This 1-month exchange offers a unique program of language learning, cultural exploration and personal growth through a 3-week host family stay plus 1 week at Labo Camp. Travelers may request to stay with the Japanese youth they hosted in Ohio. Youth need not have language fluency, but must be willing to learn basic language skills. An optional 1-month intensive Japanese language class ("Nihongo") is also offered from **June 9 to July 6, 2011** for an additional \$1,100 + week-day lunch costs. Applications are due **January 18, 2011** and required Selections will be in Columbus on **January 22, 23 or 30, 2011**. Required Orientation will be in May or June in Columbus.

γ **2011 Australia** **Ages 16-19** (*on travel date*) **June 15 – July 14** **Appx. Cost: \$5,200**
(*Usually runs every year*) Host Families will be rural and live in the state of Victoria. About 70% of the families will be farmers hoping to host youth with an interest in Agriculture. A 3-night trip to Sydney is also included!

γ **2011 Costa Rica** **Ages 15-19** (*on travel date*) **June 18 – July 16** **Appx. Cost: \$2,750**
(*Usually runs every year*) A visit to the rain-forest, plus a 4-day camp with 250 Costa Rican youth, is included in this trip to the beautiful country of friendly people, laid-back culture and spectacular nature.

γ **2011 Finland** **Ages 15-19** (*on travel date*) **June 12 – July 13** **Appx. Cost: \$3,200**
(*Usually runs every year*) Day-trips to Helsinki & Estonia are included in this visit to the dramatic land of the midnight sun, where the sun shines almost 24 hours a day! Soak up the culture of this beautiful northern European country.

γ **2012 Norway** **Ages 16-19** (*on travel date*) **July 1 – August 5** **Appx. Cost: \$4,300**
(*Usually runs "even" years*) Includes a 1-week camp (tent-sleeping) in the gorgeous Norwegian countryside!

γ **2011-12 Labo Internship in Japan** (*Runs every year*)
Would you like to spend a year in Japan, living with various host families and being paid to work for Labo? Applicants must be 18-25 years old as of 12/15/09, have a high school diploma, be seriously committed to Japanese culture and language, and preferably have traveled to Japan previously. Application deadline is **December 15, 2010** and Internship dates are **Sept., 2011 to August, 2012**. Visit : www.labo-exchange.com

Volunteer!

Volunteering as an International County Coordinator is a "hands-on" and rewarding way to participate in the Ohio 4-H International Program. Adults who are interested in becoming an ICC for their county should contact their county OSU Extension office or the State 4-H Office for more information. ICC Training is always held the last Saturday in January. The **2011 ICC Training** will be held **January 29, 2011** at OSU in Columbus.

Applications and More Information

Please see our website, or the Ohio 4-H International Programs Booklet (*mailed each January to past host families & travelers, and available from your county OSU Extension office*), or contact: **Mary Lynn Thalheimer, Manager, Ohio 4-H International Program, 2201 Fred Taylor Dr., Columbus, OH 43210, Phone: (614) 292-6941, Fax: (614) 292-5937.**

www.ohio4h.org/youth/international

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Revised 1/27/10
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