



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MCCC SEEKS HOST FAMILIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

MONROE, Mich. – Monroe County Community College’s Youth For Understanding international exchange student program is seeking Monroe County residents willing to serve as host families for international students.

YFU is one of the world’s oldest, largest and most respected international exchange student programs. Since 1951, YFU has exchanged approximately 200,000 students around the world.

Families participating in the YFU program may choose to act as an arrival family for one month or as a permanent placement family for one to two semesters. Host families receive a \$200 stipend per month to assist with the cost of hosting. In addition, host families with teenagers automatically become eligible for a host-family discount if those teens wish to travel abroad with the YFU program. A host family may consist of a traditional two-parent home, single-parent home, “empty nesters” and couples with or without children.

“The YFU exchange program is a great and enriching opportunity for the students, host families and the community as a whole,” said Megan McCaffery-Bezeau, MCCC’s YFU coordinator. “MCCC is very fortunate to be a part of this successful program. International travel is not necessarily a priority for people right now, so this is a great way to get a little ‘taste’ of it right at home.”

(more)

This year, the international students will include:

- Dominem, a 17-year-old from Belgium. He is currently studying information technology management and learning how to design Web sites. In his spare time, he loves to mix music and also enjoys wakeboarding and playing baseball.
- Axel, an 18-year-old from France. He attends an international school where students can study languages of their heritage. Axel's mother is from Sweden and his father is from France so he studies both Swedish and French. Meeting new people, improving his English and learning a new lifestyle are on the to-do list for his stay in the US. He plays tennis and also enjoys creative activities such as theater, acting and movie-making.
- Joo-Young is a 20 year-old from Korea. She is an elementary education major at Seoul National University. Since the age of 6, Joo-Young has played the piano. She also plays guitar and is a member of a band at school. Joo-Young enjoys music and sports such as badminton, baseball and cycling.

Deadline for host family signup is July 30. The international students will be arriving in Monroe the week of August 18.

For more information on the YFU program at MCCC or to learn about becoming a host family, contact McCaffery-Bezeau at (734) 384-4258 or mmccaffery-bezeau@monroeccc.edu. Also, visit MCCC's YFU international exchange student program Web site at www.monroeccc.edu/yfu.

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