

Summer 2024 – Japan

Marlboro Township Youth Exchange Program



# Would your child like to travel the World to explore and experience other cultures? They can travel to Japan or China as part of the Marlboro Township Youth Exchange Program!

# These programs have been successfully opening a door for Marlboro students to foster a sense of global understanding by experiencing a new culture. Both programs are seeking Committee Members and volunteers to join them at any time.

#### **Students Travel and Host**

- Registration is open to Marlboro students for 13-18 years
- Travel to Japan for 2 weeks AND Host Japanese students in their Marlboro home for 3-7 days
- Must be a Marlboro resident
- Exact dates TBD (July/August)
- Optional to host only and not travel to Japan

#### Chaperones

- Registration is open to anyone who is interested in hosting 2 adult Japanese chaperones for 3-7 days
- Host Japanese chaperones by providing a bed and breakfast during their stay
- Registration is open for chaperones to travel with our group of Student Ambassadors representing the Marlboro Township

Please join us for an Information Session

On Wednesday, January 10, 2024 7:15PM - 8:30PM at the Marlboro Recreation Center

For more information about a specific program:

*Marlboro-Nanto Japan Program* Ilana Kats at 732-674-4989 or ilana\_kats@yahoo.com

*Marlboro-Wujiang China Program* Wai Yuen at 732-372-8234 or onlywai@gmail.com



The Marlboro-Nanto Youth Exchange Program has forged a relationship between Marlboro Township and Nanto City, Japan. The intent of the program is to appreciate cultural differences and foster a sense of global understanding among the students and their families.

- Founded in 1991
- History of membership in Sister-Cities International in Washington, D.C.
- Non-profit organization that relies on community fundraising

## **Marlboro Host Families**

Over 200 Japanese students have been welcomed into the homes of over 100 Marlboro host families. Nanto City students visit Marlboro every other summer. Typically, two Nanto City students will stay in a home with a host child of the same gender. The host child is typically between the ages of 13 and 18.

- Students visit for one week typically arriving late in the summer
- Students and host families get to know each other at a Welcome Reception
- Students receive a photo ID for the Marlboro Swim Club for their stay and an optional day at the swim club is often organized for everyone
- A day trip to New York and another to Philadelphia are scheduled during the visit for the students and interested host family members
- Other activities are organized including a tour of Marlboro municipal buildings and schools
- During the times when no structured activities are scheduled, the students get a glimpse of the life of a typical American family
- A Sayonara Dinner Party ends the week where the students put on a special performance to thank the host families

## Traveling to Japan

Over 100 Marlboro students have traveled to Japan as student ambassadors representing the township as part of this program. During the two week trip, Marlboro students tour Kyoto, the former imperial capital of Japan, Hiroshima, and the metropolitan city of Tokyo with chaperones from Marlboro, in addition to their week long home stay with families in Nanto City. Typically, two Marlboro students will jointly stay with the host family. During the home stay, Nanto City provides trips for all Marlboro students to various places of interest in the area. The week concludes with a Sayonara dinner party where our Marlboro student ambassadors thank Nanto City with a presentation. In preparation for the trip, Marlboro students meet regularly as a group to learn about the culture and language of Japan. This tremendous opportunity is offered every other summer to students who are selected to represent Marlboro Township as young ambassadors. Consideration for students to travel to Japan include:

- Written essay
- Hosting of Nanto City students
- Participation in fundraising activities and events

The costs incurred by the family for the trip vary based on various factors including the air fares and the exchange rate. Travelers are expected to participate in fundraising activities and to represent the program at various events both before and after hosting the Japanese students, including a Town Council Presentation of their trip.

To Host Students from Japan or For More Information Contact:

Ilana Kats at 732-674-4989 or ilana\_kats@yahoo.com