

Here's Your Opportunity to Host an Amity Intern!

8 New Interns arrive in late January 2009

What is the Amity Institute?

Amity is a nonprofit organization located in San Diego, CA. Amity's mission is to build international friendship and cultural understanding through teaching exchange. Founded in 1962, the Intern Teacher program is based on the belief that language learning and cultural exchange are essential to building international friendship within our global community. Interns are here to bring their languages and cultures to life, to engage and motivate students and leave them with new confidence in their ability to communicate across borders. Interns inform and inspire, helping students better understand other parts of the world. Our Interns will shape your community's perspective on their country, its culture and people.

Who are Interns?

Interns are single and between the ages of 20 and 30. They are students or graduates of institutions of higher education in their home countries. Some of them have teaching experience or have worked with youth. The personal qualities we seek in Interns are friendliness, openness, maturity, adaptability, motivation and enthusiasm.

Why are Interns here?

Interns are here to represent their language, culture and country, to share experience, to contribute knowledge and ideas, to learn first-hand about American culture, and to improve their English. Interns are considered teaching assistants and/or temporary faculty of the Host School. Interns are volunteers who are role models, ambassadors of good will, active community participants, and integrated members of their Host Family or school living environment.

The Benefits of Hosting an Amity Intern:

The Amity Intern Program allows you to help **support TCGIS' low teacher/student ratio** and help to maintain our rich, engaging German language program. By volunteering your home, you are allowing all TCGIS students to benefit from having an Amity intern in their classroom.

This experience will allow your family to **develop a meaningful relationship with someone from another culture**. Interns will interact with your family, friends and neighbors, creating international friendship and cultural understanding on a local level. Your memories will last a lifetime!

Hosting provides the opportunity for your family to **learn about another country and culture** through food, music and personal interaction with your Amity intern.

By opening your home you will **create an unforgettable experience for your Amity intern** allowing him or her to see the best that US culture has to offer.

Finally, hosting an intern allows you to **learn about yourself and your culture** and see the US through the eyes of an international visitor, creating an invaluable educational experience for yourself and your family.

Note: In past semesters we have been able to accommodate all families who were interested in hosting an Amity intern. Be assured that if we have more families than interns this semester, we will need families to host new interns again next fall and spring! We will keep you on a waiting list for next year's hosting opportunities.

How to Become a TCGIS Amity Host Family

Step 1: Apply □ Your family will be asked to fill out an application, which provides details about your family members, interests, home life and family rules. You will be asked for non-family references who can attest to your suitability as a host family. This application becomes a "letter" to your future Amity intern, sent to the intern with pictures you provide that will introduce him or her to your family.

Step 2: Family Interview □ All family members should be present when the hosting coordinator visits your home. The hosting coordinator must be sure that your family understands the responsibilities of hosting, see the room where the student will sleep and determine that all family members agree to share the experience. The hosting coordinator must be able to answer a resounding "Yes!" to the question, "Would I place my own son or daughter with this family?"

Step 3: Choose a Student □ After you have been accepted as a host family, you will be able to choose the student you would like to welcome into your home. The coordinator will show you profiles of different students and help you find one whose interests and background are compatible with those of your family.

If you are interested in hosting this semester or in the future, please contact one of our Hosting Coordinators:

Kate Wagner 651-917-5375
Nicole Grenz
Chris Weimholt
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