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Japanese One-Month Host Family Opportunities Available Through 4-H Host Families Needed for Summer Exchange Program

New York families will have the opportunity to welcome a young person from Japan into their home for one month this year through the States' 4-H International Exchange Program being offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H.

Host families are needed for 20 Japanese youth (aged 13-17) and their adult chaperones, who will visit New York from July 22 through August 15, 2024.

Host families provide the exchange youth with room and board and a chance to experience daily life in America. Families are urged not to alter their daily routines or lifestyles during their visitor's stay. Exchange youth provide their own spending money, and the sponsoring organization furnishes comprehensive insurance and 24/7 support to families at the state and county levels.

All types of families are welcome to apply to become hosts, including urban, rural, single-parent, and non-4-H families. One requirement is that families must have their own child of the same gender and approximate age as the international visitor. A 4-H volunteer will conduct an interview in the home of the prospective host family and they must attend an orientation before the arrival of the Japanese youth.

Last year, 28 New York families from across NYS hosted delegates and greatly enjoyed the cultural exchange opportunity. As one host mother said, "I think it sparked interest for the kids to see new places and cultures. It will remind us to look outside the box we live in."

Those interested should contact Autumn Lavine 607-731-5075 or email aml84@cornell.edu

To apply, please visit <http://states4hexchange.org/host-families/> and complete the online application. For more information about this and other 4-H international exchange programs, please visit <http://www.states4hexchange.org/>.

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any special needs.



Japanese delegate, Kotomi, introduces her host sibling, Ella Davison, to traditional Japanese attire. Photograph by Gail Davison

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