



# You could bring a student like this into your home!

## Meet Silke from Belgium



Service Ref: 18-00924  
Gender: Female  
Age (at arrival): 18 years  
Program length: Year  
Graduate: No  
Religion: non-religious

GPA: Good  
Quartile: Not Available  
ELTIS: 223

Silke has a passion for dancing and she likes to try out all sorts of styles and rhythms. At school her favorite subjects are science and languages of which she is learning English, German, French, and Spanish. Her teachers describe her as an intelligent and attentive student with a pleasant and cheerful character who is always ready to help her classmates. Currently Silke is also learning to play the piano. The other hobbies of this athletic young woman are hiking, bicycling, sailing, going to the gym, skiing, and swimming. Silke is very social and loves spending time with family and friends.

## Good to Know

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No cats indoors, No dogs indoors

## Student Audio Introduction

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To learn more about Silke in her own words, please go to [//www.youtube.com/embed/ccLMPF-QMII](https://www.youtube.com/embed/ccLMPF-QMII).

For more information, contact: **Kathy Harenski**

412-848-3952 | [kharenski@icloud.com](mailto:kharenski@icloud.com)

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## Letter to Host Family

Dear host family,

This letter is probably the first message you'll be reading from me. I will try to give you an idea about who I am; I hope you will like it.

My name is Silke and I am 17 years old. I live together with my two brothers and parents in a small village in Belgium. For me it is difficult to describe myself. Actually, I hope I will find myself during this exchange. I still want to discover a lot, meet new people and make new friends. If I ask my nearest friends and family they would say that I am happy and enthusiastic most of the time. On the one hand they would tell you that I am caring and helpful, and that I am very compassionate. But on the other hand I can also be a bit chaotic and moody. And I sometimes need some time for myself. Time to think, write things down or listen to music. When I met new people, I am a bit shy and I don't say much, but after a while I will talk more and feel more confident, but I think that's normal.

In my spare time I go dancing in a dance studio, each year I try to practise another style, so I would really like to learn a dance style from your country. I also started learning to play the piano. And once or twice a week I go to the fitness. I also practice a lot of sports during the vacations, for example swimming, hiking, cycling and sailing in the summer, and skiing in the winter. I really like practising sports. Besides all these sports, I am concerned with hand lettering. I write beautiful quotes in different styles and sizes.

My family and friends are really important to me. I have a small, but cozy family. I have an aunt and an uncle, two cousins, and four grandparents. And of course my two brothers, mum and dad. My parents are busy people and work hard. So I quickly learned to be independent. With my cousin Elise I have a strong bond. She is the same age as me and we can talk about everything. She is always there for me, when I need her. In addition, my friends are very important to me as well. After school we do a lot of things together, like going to a party or to the cinema or going shopping. We have lots of fun.

Other important things are my studies and carrier. I study hard but I also make time for my friends. It's important for me to relax, enjoy life and do the things you really want to do.

## Letter to Host Family

During the year I have to go to school. In Belgium it is mandatory to go to school until the age of 18. I go to a public school and I study contemporary languages and science. So sciences (biology, chemistry, physics) and languages interest me, but I also like music and sports. Going to school is not my favourite occupation, I have to get up early and I don't like that. So sometimes I can be a bit late. But school can be also interesting and I like the social contact.

I hope you now know something more about me. Hopefully I can meet you soon. I think this will be a great experience. I will learn a lot and I will see how people live on the other side of the world. Meeting new people, a new culture, a new language seems fantastic to me. I think this year will probably be one of the best years of my life. I really can't wait!

Kind regards  
Silke



# You could bring a student like this into your home!

## Meet Aleyda from Germany



Service Ref: 3860402  
Gender: Female  
Age (at arrival): 16 years  
Program length: Year  
Graduate: No  
Religion: non-religious

GPA: Good  
Quartile: Q3(Middle-low position)  
ELTIS: 263

"I know communication is the key," says Aleyda, who is anxious to be a family member in the US. She's outgoing, ambitious, and spontaneous. Of Turkish heritage, she attends a bilingual school and is fluent in English, German and Turkish. She's played soccer for years and wants to see an American football game. During her spare time she goes out with friends, reads, listens to pop and old school music and shops. Although her parents are divorced, she has a large extended family and a younger sister and loves kids. She looks forward to integrating into your family and being a real daughter!

## Good to Know

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Cats & dogs ok

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Dear host-family,

my name is Aleyda and I am 15 years old. My parents are divorced, therefore I live together with my mum and my little sister. Even though my parents aren't together anymore, I have a good relationship to my dad and his family. A big part of my family still lives in Turkey (where also my parents originally come from), so I really enjoy visiting them.

Before I start introducing myself, I want to thank you for giving someone the opportunity to live in your home, while exploring the American life.

Since I was a child, it has always been my dream to spend a year abroad in the USA. I don't just want to travel to the USA, I want to live there, to have the possibility to explore America with all its sides. I can imagine to live in another country than Germany, for example in the USA. So I hope, that this new experiences will help me to find out, if the USA is the right place for me to live. I'm in a bilingual class since 9 years, so I am familiar with the English language. At the moment I visit the 10th grade of a grammar school.

In my free time, I enjoy going out with friends, reading books, going to the theatre or shopping. I love sports, especially football (soccer). Since I was a child, football has always been a part of my life, so I would be happy to have the chance to play football in the USA too. Because I always see how American people enjoy American football and I've never seen one in Germany before, I would love to go to an American football game! My family and friends would describe me as an open minded and funny person. Since I was young, I love challenging myself and exploring new things. I think I am a nice person, who likes to meet new people. I also love listening to music, especially pop and oldschool music.

I think it would be very interesting to me to get to know the American system of school by myself. My stepsister has also been in the United States, near Washington DC for ten months and told me how beautiful and loving American life and people are. That pushed me more to make a motion for making a year abroad in the USA. Family is very important to me, because you can always count on family. So I hope to spend my time in the USA with a family, that thinks like that too. I hope that I can learn new things from my host-family. I love travelling and exploring new places and I hope to see a lot of sights with my host-family.

Some people told me, that a year abroad could be boring sometimes but I am a patient person and I think I will always find a possibility to spend my time on finding out new and interesting things.

I hope that you could win an insight of me and we will spend a great time together! I will do my best to be integrated in yours. If you have children, I don't want any special treatment, I'd just enjoy if you look at me as another daughter.

I look forward for hopefully seeing you soon.

Yours, Aleyda



# You could bring a student like this into your home!

## Meet Aesa from Iceland



Service Ref: 19-00066  
Gender: Female  
Age (at arrival): 18 years  
Program length: Year  
Graduate: No  
Religion: unknown

GPA: Good  
Quartile: Q2(Middle-high position)  
ELTIS: 227

Aesa is the youngest of four children and is following in her oldest sibling's footsteps by spending an AFS year abroad. She enjoys family activities such as camping and travel, going to the swimming pool, and hanging out with friends and family. She is interested in photography, and has also traveled a bit, including living for several years with her family in Denmark before returning to Iceland. Aesa was diagnosed with dyslexia a few years ago and now that she is aware of this, has been able to accommodate it well and perform well in school. She is very interested in theater and languages

## Good to Know

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Allergies, Cats & dogs ok

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Dear host family

Thank you for considering me becoming a member of your family for one year.

My name is Aesa and I'm going to turn eighteen in July this summer. I am very excited going to live abroad with the AFS program. I have lived with my family for five years in Denmark, which I loved. Since I moved back to Iceland five years ago, I have wanted to go and explore the world, as I love meeting new people and getting to know other cultures.

I love my friends and family more than anything. I am very close to my family and can talk to them about everything. My friends are all very lovely and sweet and they all love my parents, which I find very funny. Sometimes I think my friends come over just to chat with my parents, but who can blame them, they are great.

I have three siblings, two sisters and one brother, and I am the youngest one. My brother Tumi, who is now 27 years old, went to Venezuela with AFS for one year and he absolutely loved it. My brother and I are pretty similar in terms of traveling, we yearn to go out and see the world. My brother is a pilot and lives in France with his girlfriend, so he is kinda living my dream.

Both my sisters are very accurate like me. Viktoria, who is 30 years old, is a lawyer and has just had a lovely babygirl last year with her boyfriend. Nadia, who is 26 years old, is becoming a psychologist in the end of this semester. I am very proud of all my siblings.

I have many interests and tried a lot of hobbies over the years, whether for a short or a long term. I often have a problem choosing what I like the most. Right now I practice the gym. When I was a kid, my mother was very good at finding all kinds of diverse courses, which gave me many benefits. Additionally, I work a part time job two days a week in an icecream shop with my best friend, which I absolutely love, ...and by the way, it's very common in Iceland that teenagers have a paid side work.

In my everyday life, I try to be as active as I can and meet my friends as often as I can. My friends and I have many common interests. Go swimming, watching good movies in the cinema and going to the gym is some of the many things I love to do with my friends. However, I find it very relaxing listening to good music, baking and taking pictures where I can spend my time in peace and quiet.

I pretty much listen to music every day from all different countries. My parents say that I have a very developed music taste and I often get compliments about the music I listen to. I think music makes life brighter and more fun. I kinda listen to everything except rock, but I find inspiring music with lyrics that I can connect to awesome. I like to sing along with the music and really get into it. So you can just imagine how awesome I find musical films. I can't choose which movie I like the best, but La la land is definitely one of my favorites.

In the 9th grade I was diagnosed with dyslexia. Although it was difficult to get the news, it was actually a great relief for me. I had a hard time learning to read as a kid. I was both trying to master reading in Danish and Icelandic, since I lived in Copenhagen in Denmark from the age of eight to thirteen. So you can just imagine how that went. After being diagnosed, I have received a lot of help in my education and in school in general, which means everything to me.

My family and friends have often told me that I am a cheerful and positive person. I consider myself open minded and like trying out all kinds of new things, although I maybe

find them a little scary at first. I practice drama in school, which I love and therefore I find it easy talking to new people. I have really worked on myself and made myself the person I want to become. I find it very important to see the good things in people and focus on that. Not just in other people but in me as well. It is so easy to judge and break down confidence, which I think is sad. It takes time to learn to accept and love yourself, and that's what I'm working on.

In the future, I want to go and explore the world and just enjoy living. I am very interested in learning languages, so I dream of being a language teacher. I find AFS incredibly interesting and exciting and I am convinced it can open up insights into a completely new reality and expand my comfort zone.

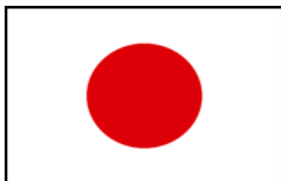
Sincerely yours,  
Aesa





# You could bring a student like this into your home!

## Meet Rizu from Japan



Service Ref: 18-03048  
Gender: Female  
Age (at arrival): 15 years  
Program length: Year  
Graduate: No  
Religion: None

GPA: Very Good  
Quartile: Q1 (Top position)  
ELTIS: 230

Rizu is a friendly, sincere, and hard-working student from central Japan. She lives with her parents and her older brother. Her favorite hobby is playing table tennis (ping pong), and she has many friends on her team. Rizu also competes in table tennis competitions and tournaments. She considers herself to be studious and enjoys going to school. She is part of the Library Committee at school, and she loves reading. In the future, she hopes to work in international affairs. Rizu can't wait to learn a new way of life, practice her English-speaking skills, and meet her American host family!

## Good to Know

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Cats & dogs ok

## Student Audio Introduction

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To learn more about Rizu in her own words, please go to [//www.youtube.com/embed/DR04kcd90W8](https://www.youtube.com/embed/DR04kcd90W8).

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Dear Host Family,

Hello! Let me introduce myself. My name is Rizu. I am a girl of fifteen. I am a third-year secondary school student. I live in central Japan. The city where I live is near the big city and many people live there. I love sports, and above all, I am a Table Tennis player.

Let me introduce my family. I have a family of four. I live with my parents and my brother who is two years senior to me. My father works very hard. He works until midnight for his company and his family. I am thankful for that very much. My mother always listen to my worries. Therefore, I enjoy my life without any trouble. My brother has a wide range of knowledge. He teaches me how to solve the problem when I cannot handle the problem. My family is on good terms so we often talk about many things, for example, my school life, club activity, hobby and so on. We usually have dinner together on weekend. I love that time very much because on weekdays, we are busy so we cannot eat meals together.

I am often told by my friends that I am a sincere and hard-working person. Actually, I think I am serious. I always try to make an effort. This is my strength point. I study very hard, and I always finish my homework by the due date. Also, my friends often say to me that I am friendly to anyone. I enjoy talking with my friends. Because of table tennis, I have many friends from other schools. Most friends are my table tennis team. When I play a game in the tournament, I make friends with the opponent so the more I play games, the more friends I get. On the day of the tournament, I see my friends and we talk a lot about each other's school life.

My hobby is of course playing table tennis but also reading books. I belong to the table tennis team. I practice it about five times a week. This sport can be played regardless of the physique, and this is one of the fastest ball games. These are reasons why I like table tennis. I enjoy playing it very much. Also, I enjoy reading books, too. I like any genre of books except horror novels. I have been reading books ever since I was a little child. I am very busy recently so I have no time to read a book, but I read one book in one month. By reading books, I learned new words and I can inspire my imagination. Therefore, I love reading books.

At school, I am a member of the library committee. I usually participate in volunteer work that the committee holds. I communicate with the other committee members across grades there. I help at the public library once a month as well. Student helpers from others school are also there, so I can talk with them about books. We meet once a month, but it is fun to talk about each other's hobby.

I have experienced some difficulties before. It was the time when I could not play table tennis well. I was not able to stop making the same error, which made me so nervous. I was so miserable, but I never gave up. I began to do morning training, and I conquered my weakness. Nowadays, I achieved my table tennis goal that I had set for myself two years ago. I think by overcoming my weakness, I was able to achieve my goal.

I think it is important to have a challenging mind. In the past, I did not try

anything. When I had no confidence, I gave up right away. For example, even though an interesting event was held, but I never participated in it so I did not emotionally grow and I just repeated the same life. However, I was able to widen my view and now I am enjoying myself when I got trying something. I sometimes make mistakes as a result of trying, but I think I can get something. Therefore, having a challenging mind is of importance.

I want to see things from a new point of view. This is the reason why I have decided to study abroad. Getting new ideas means realizing that I did not realize till now. I think I will learn a different culture during study abroad. I want to know some different cultures, and I want to get many new ideas. The reason why I want to go to America is because a lot from different races live in the USA. I expect to get many different ideas. Then I want to become a person who has various ways of thinking, and want to come back to Japan. In addition, I have wanted to go abroad to study since I was an elementary school student. I want to experience foreign country life, because I have been interested in foreign countries after I watched foreign films. Of course I want to make progress in English.

I do not have any ideas about what I want to become in the future yet, but I want to work a job related to foreign countries. I will try everything, and I would like to broaden the possibilities of my future.

Thank you for reading my letter. I hope I can see you soon.

Sincerely, Rizu



# You could bring a student like this into your home!

## Meet WIMONNAT from Thailand



Service Ref: 18-03155  
Gender: Female  
Age (at arrival): 16 years  
Program length: Year  
Graduate: No  
Religion: Buddhist

GPA: Very Good  
Quartile: Q1 (Top position)  
ELTIS: 221

Wimonnat, nicknamed "Bee," follows the motto that what you are is worth more than what you have. She enjoys having a close relationship with her family, which includes her parents and two older siblings. Bee likes to swim with her sister and always trusts the advice of her brother. Her whole family enjoys watching thriller movies together! Bee specializes in math and science at school, but is deeply interested in making healthy choices and hopes to grow her own business that will focus on healthy foods. Bee is very excited to experience winter sports, like snowboarding, and American holidays!

### Good to Know

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Cats & dogs ok

### Student Audio Introduction

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To learn more about WIMONNAT in her own words, please go to [//www.youtube.com/embed/yxoP9oIIztM](https://www.youtube.com/embed/yxoP9oIIztM).

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Letter to host

Dear my host family

Hi, my nickname is Bee. I live in Thailand. I'm 15 years old. My birthday is 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2003. I'm a generous, kind and friendly person. I study in high school. I am studying in grade 10. My major is Sci-math (EP). My hobby is listening music. My favorite sport is swimming. I want to visit USA, France and Switzerland. My favorite food is porridge and mushroom soup. My motto is "Your worth consists in what you are and not in what you have". In my free time I love to watch video about visiting many place because I have passion to travel lots of places or every countries and will make my channel on Youtube. Similar, viewers travel together and enjoy with my videos.

There are 5 members in my family which is my father, my mother, older sister, older brother and me. We like to do different activities. My brother like to play football with his friends, but sister and I love swimming. We swim four times a week in the evening. And we like to make dessert such as Bua Loy which is Thai dessert, Dango which is Japanese dessert made from flour and eats with sauces. We do it twice a month and have a really great times. I think that making dessert helps practice concentration. Even though my sister is the most understanding person in my family, I mostly consult or ask for suggestion from my brother who is very clever. I usually ask him about my study because I don't stay with my parent. Even though my mother who is a banker and my father who own his business work hard, they visit their children in every weekend and mostly have great times for their children. So when there are trouble such as life, future or making decision, I likely ask them. They give top notch advices. For example, once they told me before my piano test that "Don't worry of what has not yet happened, you will be fine if you do your best" and sometimes they share their experience with me which help me learn a lot. In family time, we mostly watch thriller movies. My responsibility in my house is to wash the dishes and iron the clothes twice a week. The rough times happened a year ago when I had to decide about changing major. I had to work hard to adapt, learn and make new friends. During that time, I did activities and talked more with friends. Until few weeks later, I was settled and had made many close friends and we had great times together.

In my social and school, my home town is countryside but I live in city that locate in central of Thailand. Because my parents though good school make me to have great future, I live in that to study. It is very crowded but it is civilized city. There are many tourists to travel in this city. People are kind and cheerful. I study in public school. My school have approximate 3,000 students. It is separated 3 programs. I'm in grade 10 English program (Sci-math). There are 30 students in my class. The number of students is very less than other classes so we are close. We like to do activities together. For example, the English camp which is exciting activity for English program's student and each of classes have to perform talent show. It makes us close more but the best activity is sport day because of rather serious activity in school. We have to have unity and cooperation in the class. Therefore, in that time we start to understand more about lots of things. There are 4 of my best friends that we usually hang out and sometimes work together in school project. We occasionally go to beautiful place to take photos and picnic in weekend. We always review subject matter before an exam at café. The best our game is werewolf that is almost played after school. We often consult problems and tell stories when someone invited interesting place. We often walk in the yard of school after lunch and then we go to shop to eat chocolate ice cream. That is a favorite flavor. We spend time together more. My friends are. All of activity that we do together make me to have great times. In studying time, I like to study action learning more than theory learning because I think that practical studying is easy to understand. My math teacher is very kind. In my opinion, he can teach from hard unit of math to becoming easy unit. Including, he gave advice that I should select some activity or club that I am interested in. I like about mathematics and management. So I select bank of school club. I serve to everybody in school inclusive of teacher, janitor and housekeeper as. They can deposit and draw money. I have learned how to balance my time for do this and for studying. Therefore, I usually get scholarship and certificate. I make benefits and



goodness to social and school. I am glad to have exchange and I gain new experience. I am proud of myself that I get to do this.

I know one of my senior friends at my school who was an exchange student. She told me that she got a chance to travel to lots of beautiful places. Before being an exchange student she was a shy person but became more confident after her exchange student year. And that inspired me. I want to visit a lot of beautiful places and want to have friends from other countries. Therefore, I am interested in becoming an exchange student. I start to learn more about USA which has various cultures and it is a big country with many places to travel to so I find USA interesting. Once I knew that I want to go there, I started practicing English by studying with native speaker, listening to English music and watching movies otherwise, I tried to be more responsible by cooking food by myself and doing my own laundry. When I will be living with my host family, I will make the great time while I am exchange student. Even though, I am Thai and I see that Thai culture is very different from other countries and it is rather complicated. Having various sectors and I think that Thai food and language is interesting and amazing but I'm pretty sure that I can blend in. For example I will cook Thai food for my family host. I would like you try to it because it has intricate taste that there are sour, sweet and salty in one dish and it is completely different taste from American food. Also is good smell. And I would like to teach Thai language because I want you to know how beautiful the language is. Moreover, with my host family, I want to get new experiences and find what I am really interested for my future getting to live. Therefore, I aim to do in USA. I would like to have friends from many countries to learn how different Thai people are. I would like to learn cultures particular lifestyle. For example, what American breakfast is without bread, ham and sausage and try to be American. I want to visit beautiful place and make picture album from travelling to keep memories. I would like to play winter sports which I not used to play before such as snowboard. I would like to have great time in special day such as Christmas, National day or Halloween day. And I have other things that I would like to do. After I come back to Thailand, I'm pretty sure that I will gain some experience that could be benefit to myself and even community. In my future, I will go to study in university. Faculty of International Business Administration is my goal. English score such as SAT, IELTS are needed to apply. I think that being exchange student will help me get better score. Moreover, I bring experience as a tool to improve others. All of this, I would like to teach English language to foundation for children in need. I want children who in need of education to have opportunity for studying English because most of them don't know about it. So I will teach it, they have great futures. And I have one thing that I expect to do. I will give suggestion for preparing for being exchange student. I think they concern with spending life and many things.

For my family, I was raised in business family. My father's work is selling corn, paddy and other agriculture goods. So I am interested in doing business. In my opinion, owning business is like being my own boss and I like to make own my idea about my work. Therefore, I always help my father job. Once, I find what I interested. Healthy product is thing that I am interested. The reason why I want to make healthy is I think food is an essential part of our life. Nowadays, majority of Thai people are sick from bad eating and highly fat or drinking high sugar beverage. Therefore, I want to make healthy food. I have passion to make healthy food business famous. I want my business to gradually grow. I aim to earn enough money to support myself and my parent. But at the moment, I am skillful to reach my goal. I want to go as much experience as possible so I plan to become an exchange student because by studying abroad, I will make friends, learn to cope with difficult problems and make connection. I hope that I will grow up to be a smart strong person independent woman like I wish to do.

Finally, I am ready to learn about your cultures or traditions and adjust to you. I would like to learn a new life in USA. I have many goals that I want to do that. I hope we have great times and make them to the best memories in my life. I am excited to see you. I thank you for accepting me to be your daughter.

Yours sincerely,



# You could bring a student like this into your home!

## Meet THANATCHAYA from Thailand



Service Ref: 18-03930  
Gender: Female  
Age (at arrival): 16 years  
Program length: Year  
Graduate: No  
Religion: Buddhist

GPA: Very Good  
Quartile: Q1 (Top position)  
ELTIS: 231

Thanatchaya, who goes by the nickname New, is an outgoing and good-humored young woman who lives with her parents on the outskirts of a city in Northern Thailand. New has many hobbies, including playing piano and violin, singing, rapping, dancing, and photography. She has many friends, and enjoys activities with large groups of people. She studies at a science and math-focused school, where her favorite subjects are English and chemistry. During her year with AFS, she is interested in trying cheer leading and learning about American culture. She is excited to become a part of your family!

### Good to Know

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No dogs indoors

### Student Audio Introduction

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To learn more about THANATCHAYA in her own words, please go to [//www.youtube.com/embed/COTphr9QKAo](https://www.youtube.com/embed/COTphr9QKAo).

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## Letter to Host Family

Candidate Name: Thanatchaya Chaninwanish Home Country: THAILAND

Dear my host family

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. First of all, let me introduce myself. My name is Thanatchaya Chaninwanish you can call me New and I am 15 years old. I was born on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2003 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. I live with my parents in Chiang Mai, which is a big province in the north of Thailand.

My characteristic is a little girl with dark eyes, medium long hair. I am really easy to get along with and see myself as a hilarious person. I am a talkative person, outgoing and friendly. I like doing activities with lots of people. I also enjoy playing with cats because they're very cute, I love cats so much. I have many hobbies. I like playing music instruments, especially classical music such as violin. I have played violin for many years. I learned a Trinity lesson and Yamaha lesson. I got a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in Trinity lesson. Now I am studying for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. I like to listen to music, I interested in American rap music. I like dancing, I used to cover dance with my friends and I want to be a cheerleader. I like to surfing the internet in my freetime. I am interested in travel to other places and take lots of photos.

About my family, I live with my family in Chiang Mai, province in the north of Thailand. My family has three members; my father, my mother and me. My father's name is Thananop Chaninwanish. He is 60 years old. He is a retired government official. Before my father retired, He was a manager of pawn shop. He worked at a pawn shop in Chiang Mai. He is a hardworking and hilarious person. He likes to gardening and feeding our pets in his freetime. My mother's name is Thatcha Chaninwanish, her nickname is Oor. She is 55 years old. She is a government official, and she works in the education department of Chiang Mai Municipality office. She is hardworking. She loves housework, gardening, playing with our pets and cooking. So, we usually have very delicious meals at home. I enjoy watching TV dramas with my father. And I enjoy go shopping with my mother. We have a house with a yard and we have two dogs and three cats. On holidays, we usually stay at home to take care our pets.

Now, I am a student at Montfort College which is a school part of the St. Gabriel foundation. I'm studying in Grade 10 or Matthayom4. I'm student from the Math and Science Program in the Gifted science class. It has three gifted science in classrooms; Physics Chemistry and Biology. I am in gifted chemistry. So I'm good at chemistry. My favorite subjects are mathematics and chemistry. Me and my classmate like to go to study extra classes after school or on weekends. I like to go to read a book at cafés with my friends during school holiday before exam. All my classmates like to celebrate after the exam. Sometimes I would like to invite my close friends to a party at home after the exam. And we like to go to the mall and watch movies or sing songs. In my school record in last semester I got a score of 3.75 and I am in a group of people who are rather good at the school record. In the future, I want to be an accountant because I like mathematics. My school doesn't give me much about such education but they teach me how to be a good person in society and take care of myself, this school give me a chance to show my abilities like in contests with other schools. when who need some advice I feel proud of myself when I can be a supporter. I used to play the violin for the school orchestra when I was in 5th grade. But I quit because I had to study hard and would not have time to practice after school

All of my life, until now, My problem is that I stress about my study because I am in the Gifted Science room, which has got a lot of geniuses in my classroom. it's a lot of pressure to get a great score. I have to study hard to get great grades. I always sleep late every night because my extra classes are quite late and I have a lot of school work to get done. So I have to manage my time and don't work without breaks but sometimes it is very important project to done. Sometimes when I study hard and dedicated time for exam but I get low scores it makes me discouraged. Most time if get stressed, I will stay alone in my room keep calm or cry and afterwards I will feel better because I can overcome it and I have flushed it out. I am



comforting myself every day that "no one is perfect". Sometimes it becomes a big problem so it's time to change it for the better. I will seek advice from my seniors because they passed it all and they will give me inspiration and then I feel better. Sometimes, I will tell my parents to help me solving problems. Every time when I'm stressed about my study, I try to think that I'm good enough in class. I do not need to be more stressed on some things. Try to think positively and relax. I will play and relax with my favorite hobbies and activities.

I've heard about AFS Scholarship since, I was young. I saw many of my seniors becomes an exchange student, and I become interested. I looked up information and prepare of myself to be an exchange student. I thought to myself I hope that someday I'll be an exchange student. In Grade 10 or Mathayom 4, that I 've passed the exam and interview. I'm going to be a represent who will exchange culture in grade 5. I would like to be an exchange student because I would like to become English better enough. I would like to practice English in every day. I want to learn other languages and cultures and differences of Thailand. I would like to try to study at new places and a new social surrounding. I would like to get new friends and relations abroad. And I want to learn from new experiences. I think I am a little bit shy so I want to become a self confident person. I'm very glad and very proud of my success. Surely, I can be a good exchange student and learn new experience from this opportunity. At the same time, I also have a chance to learn and understand more languages and different amazing cultures. I promise I will follow the AFS rules as finish this program. I want to learn how foreigners live and attend classes. I hope it will bring knowledge, skills and experience from being an exchange student. My career plan is to become an accountant so that is why I want to learn another language to study in university because I think language is very important for the future. If I can speak many languages it will become an advantage over others. Living with me is really easy as I am not a demanding person. I do respect you as my parent and I have will your house rules. If something works not quite as it should, I prefer to talk about it instead of ignoring things. I feel excited to see you soon and shortly I will be a member of your family. I thank you for your consideration. I'm very glad and very proud of my successful. Surely, I can be a good exchange student and learn new experience from this opportunity. At the same time, I also have a good chance to understand more languages and different amazing cultures. I promise I will follow the AFS rules as finish this program. I want to learn how foreigner live and attend classes. I wish I will bring knowledge, skills and experience from being an exchange student. My career plan is accountant so that why I want to learn another language to study in university because I think language is very important so everyone need to communicate to each other. If I can speak many languages will be advantage over others. Living with me is really easy as I am not a demanding person. I do respect you as my parent and that I have follow your house rules. If something works not quite as it should, I prefer to talk instead of ignoring things. I feel excited to see you soon and shortly I will be a member of your family. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Yours,

Thanatchaya Chaninwanish



# You could bring a student like this into your home!

## Meet THAMONWAN from Thailand



Service Ref: 18-04470  
Gender: Female  
Age (at arrival): 16 years  
Program length: Year  
Graduate: No  
Religion: Buddhist

GPA: Outstanding  
Quartile: Q1(Top position)  
ELTIS: 227

Meet Thamonwan from Thailand, but you can call her Numking! She currently is in boarding school and finds that it has helped her become more independent. She loves being with friends, whether it be going out for meals, being part of clubs or just being around them! She is a foody and loves trying new foods and believes that it can bring people together and help learn about other cultures and families. She looks forward to her exchange and to improve on her English. She would love to participate within her host family activities and get involved in the community. She can't wait to meet you!

### Good to Know

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Cats & dogs ok

### Student Audio Introduction

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To learn more about THAMONWAN in her own words, please go to [//www.youtube.com/embed//jjBynfmWV\\_8](https://www.youtube.com/embed//jjBynfmWV_8).

For more information, contact: **Kathy Harenski**

412-848-3952 | [kharenski@icloud.com](mailto:kharenski@icloud.com)

**[afsusa.org/host](http://afsusa.org/host) | 1.800.AFS.INFO**

In accordance with US Department of State Regulations, host families of J-1 exchange students must be fully screened and accepted before viewing actual student photos. To initiate the screening process, start our hosting application today.

My name is Numking. I'm 15 years old girl from a province in the southern region of Thailand. I am studying in grade 9<sup>th</sup> in school.

I stayed in School's dormitory with friends from another place and different background. The same things that we have in common are our lifestyle and skill for self-studying under supervisory from our parents. Life in dormitory is not really bad because the school treats its students as the family. The quality of school and learning atmosphere are the reasons I want to study in this school. At the first time I came to school, I was so excited with the colorful buildings and the natural surroundings. In addition, the school provides opportunities for students to think, learn and do anything by themselves. Many students have found themselves from extra activities such as New Year Day, Halloween Day, National Day, Christmas, and many more events because school believes that studying makes the job, activities teach people how to live and work. I'm the one of students who like and enjoy many activities. As the head of class, it's obliged to control people in the class to do the activities with according their specialty - who can dance just dance, who can sing just sing. My part in activities are speaker, emcee, and administrator. My inspiration to perform these roles is to manage many tasks for good teamwork that make good result. My class had won most of time. The activities make teachers see my Thai skills that make me often go for Thai essay competitions and encyclopedia opening challenges. Each round of competition will be successful if I keep on practicing.

Friendship management is always big problem to me because many people take part on it. There are 7 people in my group. I am so happy when we do anything together and share many things that we found in a day. But months ago, one of my close friends was frustrated because she was forgotten by others to have a meal. I felt bad so I apologized her but our others friends didn't want to. I tried to convince them to talk to each other for weeks, but nothing happened. I had become stressful. I was given a supportive counseling from my parents. They told me I had done my best for the situation. A month later, that friend changed to different circles until she found a good one. This story taught me that some problems take time to be resolved and everyone will find the right place for them.

There are many subjects I'm interested in. Astronomy is one of them. It began with when I looked into the night sky. Many stars were shimmering and shining above me. I was curious. To be a member of school astronomy club, I learned that those stars tell us a story. And they can connect as constellations. Late of 2018, InSight Lander has landed on Mars. I awaked and watched it till 3 AM. That night was a great moment of my life and for humankind.

I'm also interested in food and eating. I think, each country has different culture and we can feel about it when we try. It is different due to the weather, terrain, art and character of people. Food isn't just thing that fulfill the stomach, but it conveys the story as the magic door that get me to go around the world to learn people's life. Some foods may be not delicious for someone but they let us know the problems and learn the new experiences. And some way, food is also the bridge that make people who eat can touch about love and attention in cooking.

My parents aren't much intensive and pressure in their children, but give the freedom to think and learn by doing but careful about the public mind while we enjoy the life. They always remind us when we walk the wrong path. Anytime I have the problem, I can tell them everything if I wanted to do, problems such as issue about my friends, my study, or teenager life because my parent they foster their child like a friend that will close the gap between us. I



think the family is important thing, it's my first school, and most of things that I like inspired by my family. My father and my mother are good in different things. My father is a policeman. He likes to run in marathon so he practices to run every day. He also loves to listen to music I think he has good taste in music and I like many songs that he opens from the player. I know many old songs from different music genres, they all have good meaning and beautiful melody. In addition, my father is good at social history, geography and politics that is opposite of my mother. She is a science teacher for middle and upper school. She likes to read many books. She is the one who took me to see the night sky. Because we lived in the countryside, so we could see many beautiful stars. She also taught me about the zodiac and suggested me to read the stories of stars.

I would rather focus on the family when I come back home. I think it's time to rest and relax. We like to watch movie together or to take a joyride in the small town at night – it's so peaceful and comforted me. During some weekends, we like to go to the natural places, such as mountain, lagoon, and waterfall. We believe that nature provides more oxygen amount than the town. Sometimes we travel by car, but sometimes by bicycle. We always bring our dog with us. My mother loves her and treat her as another child.

Recently, I learned about the quality of studying abroad or about to be an exchange student. I saw many senior students in my school came back from AFS program. They were success about language improvement, life management, and personality development. They had good attitudes on anything that they do like it's easy. I think that the AFS program introduced them to gain more experiences and make me interested and want to experience the moments which I can't do in the classes. Studying abroad in my mind is worth and valued thing for my life as an opportunity to improve my life skills, such as creativity, idea and problem solving. The most important reason that I want to be an exchange student is to improve my language skill because my English is not good. It's very hard for me because I don't use it in daily life - just study in English classes and then I will forget it. If I can use it every day, my English will be better and better. To me, English is an international language that people use around the world. People who are fluency in English will have advantage in the social and better career. Although I'm not uncertain about my future occupation but I think better English skill is good fundamental for every occupation. I also hope that the exchange student program will make me find myself from living in new environment with host family and new friends.

After passing from the AFS program and I come back to Thailand, I hope that I will have new experiences and better English skills included of speaking, listening, and writing. And I will be ready for next stage of my education. I also hope to share my experiences to other.

Sincerely yours

Thamonwan.

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