



2013  
Student Exchange Application

## **TEMPE SISTER CITY CORPORATION 2013 STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

**THE SISTER CITY CONCEPT:** City affiliations between the United States and the other countries became a national effort when President Eisenhower proposed the People-to-People program at a White House Conference in 1956. To date, 1,200 American cities representing all 50 states have affiliated with 2,100 cities in 125 countries around the world. The objective of the program is to create goodwill and further international understanding at the community level on a continuing, long-term basis. It is not a movement to convert others to our democratic ideals, but rather a way to help learn about the people of other countries, their customs, their similarities as well as differences, and help chart a better road to understanding in the world. The Sister City program provides a vehicle by which cities in the United States can find a forum for this interchange of information, ideas, and people through the process of affiliation with cities of similar interests in other countries. The President of the United States has historically been the Honorary Chairman and the program has widespread support from the State Department down to the local City Council. Former Tempe Mayor and former United States Congressman, Harry Mitchell, is Vice President of the Tempe Sister City Corporation. Tempe's sister city relationships began with Skopje, Macedonia in 1971 and has grown with the affiliations of Regensburg, Germany in 1976; Lower Hutt, New Zealand in 1981; Zhenjiang, China and Timbuktu, Mali (Africa) in 1990; Beaulieu sur Mer, France in 1997; Carlow, Ireland in 1998; and Cuenca, Ecuador in 2009. Tempe Sister Cities sent two student delegates to Trollhattan, Sweden in 2010 and 2011.

**PURPOSE OF EXCHANGE:** To provide an opportunity for Tempe students and families to develop understanding among the people of Regensburg, Skopje, Lower Hutt, Zhenjiang, Beaulieu sur Mer, Carlow, Cuenca, and Trollhattan through a family living experience. The Tempe Sister City Corporation Selection Committee makes the final decision regarding the city to which each student will travel.

**TIME COMMITMENT:** During the selection process, absence from an interview or selection activity will result in being disqualified. Once selected, all delegates are required to attend orientation and, if applicable, language classes prior to departure; participate in, and play an active role, in the Tempe Sister City Youth Group and its activities; give talks about the exchange experience; work at the organization's fundraisers and, in general, promote the exchange program.

**RESPONSIBILITY ABROAD:** To be cooperative at every point of family living; to be helpful with the household and family duties; and to assume the same responsibility as the other members in the family. Each student is expected to participate in as many activities as possible and relate learning experiences of living in a host country to others upon his/her return to Tempe.

**COST:** All travel expenses will be paid by the Tempe Sister City Corporation and all delegates will be home hosted. Delegates are to provide their own spending money. All delegates home host their "brother/sister" for five weeks upon their return to Tempe. Group activities and fundraisers are planned to reduce the cost of hosting.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Each applicant must be a United States citizen, live in Tempe, be a junior in high school, be in good health (and, upon request, be able to supply a doctor's statement of verification), and commit to live in Tempe for his/her senior year of high school.

**APPLICATIONS:** Applications can be downloaded at [www.tempesistercities.org](http://www.tempesistercities.org) and are available at public high schools in Tempe and at private schools throughout the Valley, and the Tempe Clerk's Office, City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. Completed applications must be mailed or delivered in person and received no later than 5:00p.m., December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012. Deliver to: City Clerk's Office, City Hall, Second Floor, 31 East Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona 85281. Mail to: City Clerk's Office, City of Tempe, P.O. Box 5002 Tempe, Arizona 85280. Allow four days for mailing.

**RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS OF EXCHANGE STUDENTS:** The Tempe Sister City organization and the Selection Committee need the support of the parents. Membership in the organization is required of the parents of the students selected for the program, at a cost of \$35.00 per year for the family. All delegates' families are required to home host the international "brother/sister" for approximately five weeks in July and August. The parents should be aware of the need to have their student available to participate in all activities and events upon their return home. Additionally, it is expected that the parents will participate in the organization's fundraising activities, which include, but are not limited to the Tempe Sister City Way Out West Oktoberfest and activities at the Hackett House.

**SELECTION PROCESS:** All applicants will participate in one group interview and individual interviews conducted by the Student Exchange Selection Committee. Applicants will also be required to attend an informal dinner party and a social function with their parents. Final selection will be made on March 1, 2013.

**SPECIAL NOTES:** The Tempe Sister City Corporation Board of Directors, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to revoke the selection of any delegates prior to departure and also to determine the need for an early return to Tempe of any delegate at their parent's expense, due to any misconduct.

**PASSPORTS:** Obtaining a passport and any visas required is the responsibility of the delegate and his/her family. The passport must be received prior to May 1, 2013. It is recommended that delegates apply immediately following their selection.

### **2013 Selection Committee Schedule**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| September 8th, 2012 – December 21st, 2012 | Applications available   |
| November 8th, 2012 (5:00pm – 7:00pm)      | Information Session for prospective applicants and families<br>Harrison Middleton University<br>1105 East Broadway Road Tempe, Arizona 85282 |
| December 21st, 2012 (5:00pm)              | Applications due: City Clerk's Office<br>City of Tempe<br>31 East Fifth Street<br>Tempe, Arizona 85281                                       |

### **APPLICANT and/or PARENT ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING EVENTS**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| January 9, 2013      | Orientation for <u>applicants and parents</u> at Tempe City Council Chambers,<br>31 East Fifth Street, Tempe, <b>7:00pm</b> |
| January 12, 2013     | Group Interviews at Harrison Middleton University<br>1105 East Broadway Road, Tempe   |
| January 26-27, 2013  | First Individual Interviews at Harrison Middleton University<br>1105 East Broadway Road, Tempe                              |
| January 27, 2013     | First Cut (The number of applicants will be reduced)  |
| February 2, 2013     | Information Dinner for <u>candidates</u> at Hackett House<br>95 West 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Hayden Square, Tempe           |
| February 9, 2013     | Social Function for <u>candidates and parents</u> at Hackett House<br>95 West 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Hayden Square, Tempe  |
| February 23-24, 2013 | Final Individual Interviews at Harrison Middleton University<br>1105 East Broadway Road, Tempe                              |
| March 1, 2013        | Final Selection followed by delegate party at Hackett House<br>95 West 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Hayden Square, Tempe, 5:00pm |

\*Dates are subject to change, depending on the availability of meeting facilities and Committee members' schedules.





16. Hypothetically, as a Tempe Sister Cities delegate to Regensburg, Germany, you want to purchase lederhosen as a souvenir. You find the right size and color for 90.45 Euros all inclusive. Assuming the exchange rate is 1.23 USD = 1 Euro, how much USD will you spend? Please explain your reasoning.

---

---

---

---

---

17. Hypothetically, as a Tempe Sister Cities delegate to Lower Hutt, New Zealand, you want to call your family in Tempe and share with them the Maori chant you just learned. Assuming that you call from Lower Hutt and that your mother will pick up the call on the second ring at 7:00pm Saturday night in Tempe, what time and day will it be in Lower Hutt when you call? Please explain your reasoning.

---

---

---

---

---

18. **CAREFULLY READ** the following statement before signing.

**I understand that if chosen, I must abide by all rules of responsible conduct expected of me while living with a host family. I further understand that I am expected to live in Tempe during my senior year in high school.**

---

Signature of Applicant

My son/daughter has my permission to apply for and participate in the Tempe Sister Cities Exchange Program with Regensburg, Germany; Skopje, Macedonia; Lower Hutt, New Zealand; Zhenjiang, China; Beaulieu sur Mer, France; Carlow, Ireland; Cuenca, Ecuador; or Trollhattan, Sweden. I (we) have read and understand the attached sheet explaining the program and our responsibilities. As the applicant's parent and/or guardian, and in the event my son/daughter is selected for the student exchange program, I hereby agree to authorize the host family in the above mentioned cities to act for me in an emergency or accident or illness.

---

Signature of Parent and/or Guardian

**19. SELF PROFILE**

In a typewritten personal statement of at least 500 words, but no more than two single spaced pages, please:

- a. Describe yourself and your family.
- b. Describe a day in your life during the summer.
- c. Describe a day in your life during the school year.
- d. Describe your interests.

**20. TO BE ANSWERED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN**

In a typewritten personal statement of at least 100 words, but no more than two single spaced pages, please describe your son/daughter.

**21. TEACHER EVALUATION**

Give the attached Teacher Evaluation form and a stamped, addressed envelope to a present or former high school teacher . (The envelope should be addressed to the address shown below on the checklist.)

**22. CHECKLIST**

- a. A check or money order in the amount of \$35.00 payable to Tempe Sister Cities Corporation. This fee is for a one year family membership in Tempe Sister Cities (not required if 2013 membership has been paid).
- b. A recent black and white or color photograph, sharp and suitable for reproduction, that is no larger than 2 ½” by 2 ½” in size.
- c. Parent’s statement
- d. Student’s statement
- e. Parent’s signature on application
- f. Student’s signature on application
- g. Deliver or mail application and attachments, allowing four (4) days for mailing, to:

**Deliver To:**City Clerk’s Office  
City Hall, Second Floor  
31 East Fifth Street  
Tempe, Arizona 85281

**Mail To:**City of Tempe  
City Clerk’s Office  
P.O. Box 5002  
Tempe, Arizona 85280

**Note:** Please do not staple the pages of the application together or place them in a report cover.

**EVALUATION FORM**  
**Tempe Sister City – 2013 Student Exchange Program**

The Tempe Sister City Corporation was incorporated in 1971 and has since been selecting high school juniors to represent Tempe in one of our eight sister cities. The students live with a host family for five weeks and then host a student in their home in Tempe for five weeks, making it essential that the students selected be capable of adapting to many cultural differences. The students who apply are all qualified, making the final selection very difficult. We value your comments, and as you complete this form, be assured that the information given will be confidential and available only to the Selection Committee members.

**APPLICANT:** Fill in your name and the name of the reference that you have chosen to provide the recommendation. The form is to be given to the reference with a stamped, addressed envelope with a reminder that the evaluation is due by 5:00p.m. on December 21st, 2012.

**REFERENCE:** (Please allow four (4) days for mailing.)

**MAIL TO:** City Clerk’s Office, City of Tempe, P.O. Box 5002 Tempe, Arizona 85280

**PLEASE USE BLACK INK ONLY**

Applicant’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known this student and in what context? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the first words that come to your mind that would describe this student? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the appropriate box:**

| <b>RATING</b>           | <b>No Basis</b> | <b>Below Average</b> | <b>Average</b> | <b>Very Good</b> | <b>Excellent</b> | <b>One of Best Ever</b> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Maturity                |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Motivation              |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Communication Skills    |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Flexible Attitude       |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Sense of Humor          |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Self Confidence         |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Leadership Abilities    |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Consideration of Others |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Independence            |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |
| Reliability             |                 |                      |                |                  |                  |                         |

**SPECIFIC QUESTIONS (answer only if you feel qualified to do so):**

1. How do you think this applicant would adjust to living with a foreign student for the summer?

---

---

---

2. From your observations, how do other people perceive this student socially?

---

---

---

3. Are there any specific reasons we should select this applicant?

---

---

---

4. Are there any specific reasons we should not select this applicant?

---

---

---

5. Other remarks.

---

---

---

---

Reference Signature

Date