

Area families needed now to host exchange students

Area families are needed immediately to host 35 French, German, Spanish and Mexican boys and 22 French and Mexican girls arriving next week.

The 57 unplaced teens are part of a group of 190 French, Spanish, German and Mexican youngsters scheduled to arrive Tuesday and Saturday. They have purchased their tickets and packed their bags.

If there aren't enough offers to host them, it will be the first time Nacel exchange students who have chosen to stay with Michigan families will have to be turned away.

Evelyn and Julian Prince of West Bloomfield are state coordinators for Nacel Cultural Exchanges, the largest summer homestay program between Europe and the United States.

Call Evelyn or Julian Prince at 628-6641 or the Nacel national office at 1-800-622-3553 immediately if you can host one or more of these students.

"If you've got enough space in your home and love in your heart, you should welcome a student," Evelyn Prince says. "Through organizing Nacel Exchanges since 1976 and hosting many times, we know this is a terrific program. Wonderful friendships are formed that continue through the years."

"Although hosting is a gift of great kindness to your student, it

also makes the summer rewarding and exciting for your own family."

Program organizers match students with families according to general interests and specific activities they would like to participate in. Families must be willing to introduce the student to teenagers. Hosts need not speak a foreign language since students, ages 13-18, have studied English and want to use it.

The students bring pocket money and their parents pay for transportation and insurance. Some American families take their guests on trips; others share everyday lifestyle.

Telephone the Princes at 628-6641 or the Nacel national office at 1-800-622-3553 immediately if you can host one or more of these students.

New writing camp books area kids

Why would 88 Oakland County students troop to Oakland Schools for three hours each day for two weeks for camp?

These campers were working on their skills as writers in the first annual Summer Camp for Young Writers, which ran through July 9.

A highlight was a visit from Michigan Sen. Carl Levin.

The campers were third-12th graders representing 20 of Oakland County's 28 school districts. Teachers were hand-picked to work in teams with them. They included Kathleen Hayes-Parvin and Laura Schiller from Birney Middle School in Southfield; Barbara Rehbeck from North Farmington High School and Heidi Wilkins from Walled Lake Elementary.

Grouped into three camps (grades 3-5, 6-8, & 9-12), the students explore writing "in a positive environment of two teachers to 20 kids for the pleasure of it," says Laura Roop, Oakland Schools secondary language arts consultant and one of the camp's coordinators.

Roop adds, "The kids found out how writing can help them learn about themselves and their world. The nine teachers are all alumni of the Oakland Writing Project, which has been going on at Oakland Schools every summer for the past 12 years. These teachers are themselves writers and they create an atmosphere for the students in which writing becomes an important part of life."

Area students who participated are:

■ Birmingham — Adam Blatt, Matthew Erard, Margaret Hazel, Marin Hoplamazin, Meghan Millford, Alice Oh, Natalie Shaheen, Robert Dillon, Nina Mehra, Meredith Miller, Emily Posner and Ken An.

■ Bloomfield Hills — Jocelyn Frank, Patrick Kang, Kori Kapadia, Andy Kuo, Lisa Robinson, Patricia Shay, Ane Kuo and Christina Shay.

■ Farmington, Monique Pothoff, Shoshanna Cohen and Carrie Lee Christoph.

■ Southfield — Leigh Bauman, Erica Schiller, David Amos, Emily Schiller and Camille Spencer.

■ Troy — Christine Millush, Brian Samuel and Serada Shah.

■ Walled Lake — Adrian Allen, James Allen, Mara Garrett, Melissa Maturi, Melissa Mittelsaetd and Kara Sokol.

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