



Who – YOU!

Whether you are married, single, have children, or have no children, you have something to offer! My job is to try to match a student with you, based on your hobbies and interests.

Apply Now

What you need to apply:

First and foremost — be willing to share your life with another, which means

- Opening your home and heart to a stranger
- Having a compassionate and open-minded attitude
- Willingness to grow in your understanding of the world
- Having a delightful time with a talented, motivated and engaging young person!

Second, you need to fill out an application. This ensures a good match with your student.

KGU Program

While the majority of our students are on campus during the school year and do not require housing, there is one group from Kanto-Gakuin University (KGU) in Japan that arrives in McMinnville a week before school starts each year. Each student from KGU needs a place to stay for only one week until campus dormitories open. This is the only time we look for host families for students to stay with. We ask that the host families provide transportation to and from the campus on weekdays, and provide breakfast and dinner for the students every day for that week. The one weekend that falls in that week will be spent with the host family. The host families will be paid a stipend for their effort.



For more information or to request an application, please contact
Program Coordinator: Shannon Dunn
503-883-2381 or sdunn@linfield.edu.

She is available to speak to community groups or schools, during the day or evening and can bring couple a of students with her.

Linfield University

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LINFIELD FRIENDSHIP FAMILY PROGRAM



Austria, Burma, China, Costa Rica, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, Norway, Sri Lanka, Thailand, The Netherlands, Turkey, Vietnam . . . what do all of these countries have in common? Students have attended Linfield from all of these countries. And what do these students desire when they come to college in McMinnville? They would like someone in our community befriending them and sharing our culture. Hence, the Friendship "Family" Program!



NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARRIVE AT PDX





What to expect:

Each year students from around the world come to Linfield to broaden their education.

- Some come for a four year-degree program
- Some come for a one semester program
- Others come for a one-year program

All students have a desire to know about American life. International students bring with them fascinating histories and fresh perspectives, which can enable you to learn and better appreciate the different cultures that encompass the world around you.

The students live on campus. They are busy with classes and campus life and all we ask of our friendship families is to have contact with the student at least once a month around your schedule. You could go out to dinner, to an athletic activity, or even just run to the store. Some students say it takes a little bit of their homesickness away.



"I always treat my Friendship Family more like my own family; in other words, another family in the States, that never lets me feel that I'm alone or thousands of miles away from my home in Malaysia. Thank you for always being there for me and being my emotional support. Thank you, Linfield IPO for this fun program."

-Xin Wei (Serena) Ong-

Here's what Families are saying:

Sagers Family

The Sagers family, including John, Wendy and their sons Robert and Thomas, has been a Friendship Family since 2002. They have made friends with over a dozen students from Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, and mainland China. "We feel it enriches our family," says John and Wendy. "We both lived overseas after college and appreciated the people who took time to befriend us. We enjoy celebrating holidays together, eating together on 3rd Street in MAC, and introducing them to charity fundraisers." Thomas, 16 years old, thinks being a friendship family is "awesome, because the students are nice." Robert, 18 years old, says, "It's really fun. I like teaching the international students about our culture and learning about theirs."



CULTURE SHOW 2017, LINFIELD COLLEGE

Drickey Family

Linfield Associate Dean Nancy Drickey and her husband Ron are also long-time Friendship Families. "We treasure our experiences with Linfield international students. Each student we bring into our home helps us appreciate other cultures and traditions. It is surprising how much we learn from the students. We look forward to our times together which are usually spent cooking, going out to eat, shopping or attending concerts or other Linfield events. We know they appreciate having someone care about them and provide help when needed, especially as it gives them a sense of belonging to a family when they are so far from home."

Sherman Family

Dick and I think the Friendship Family Program at Linfield is the greatest! We have hosted seven students over the years and enjoyed every one of them and their friends. Students have been from Malaysia, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands. We have gone to the pumpkin patch, Portland, Seattle and the beach. Some students don't want to be so involved and that is ok. I tell them we are here for you if you need to get off campus or just want a home cooked meal. Two of our students have lived with us, one after she graduated and was taking more classes and one spent the summer with us. I think the most exciting part is when they return to see you. We attended a wedding this summer in Portland of one of our students. Advice ---- go for it, it will give you a whole new love of our world. We would have NEVER gone to Malaysia but when one of our student's family invited us, we went and what a journey. When you sign up to be a Linfield Friendship Family, open your door and heart and hold on for the ride of your life. It will be a wonderful adventure!