

From: tangq@sidwell.edu
Subject: homes needed for next year's exchange students
Date: May 26, 2011 at 11:33 AM
To: tangq@sidwell.edu



Dear parents of Chinese language students,

John Flower, our Director of Chinese Studies, is currently looking for host families for our three exchange students next year. Any family can host, but it's always a particularly nice fit when one of the children in the family is learning Chinese. If you are interested in an in-depth cultural experience for the whole family, and an opportunity for your child to practice Chinese outside of class, please consider hosting a student next year. I've pasted John's announcement below; please contact him with any questions.

Best wishes,

Lea Ekeberg

Sidwell Friends School is very fortunate to have three exchange programs that bring students from our sister schools in Beijing, Shanghai, and Ramallah to live and study with us for the school year. The students stay with host families from the Sidwell community, without whom the exchanges would not be possible.

We need families to host students beginning in September 2011: the 11th grade girl from Beijing, Shuo Zhang (Carol), the 11th grade girl from Shanghai, Xiaoye Jiang, and the 10th grade girl from Ramallah Friends, Ranim Amra.

If you have any interest, we will do our best to accommodate your family's schedule. We hope to find families from the Upper School who could each host for one semester or even for the whole year, but we welcome interest from families with students in Middle School, and from families who would prefer to host for shorter periods, whether two-three months or just an occasional weekend.

The exchange with the Number 2 High School attached to Beijing Normal University and the high school attached to Fudan University is a longstanding program going back over 25 years, and a key component of Chinese Studies at Sidwell. The program with Ramallah is now in its fifth year of Friends School-to-Friends School exchange. These programs are vital components of Sidwell's global outreach and they deeply enrich the diversity and educational environment of our community. The relationship with the host family is always the most lasting experience for the international students, and families find the hosting experience to be rewarding. It is important to remember that none of the exchanges would be possible without the generosity of host families in our community. With the increasing pressures placed on family time and the increasingly hectic pace of life, it has become more and more difficult to find families willing and able to host, but the programs will not be able to continue without host families. If you are in a position to host an international student, please consider this opportunity to make an exceptional contribution to our community—we will be very grateful!

Please contact John Flower, Director of Chinese Studies and Global Programs, flowerj@sidwell.edu (202) 537-8181, for more information.