



HOBSONS BAY INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

STUDENT GUIDELINES

Criteria

- The preferred age for students to be considered for this program is 14 -17 years of age (years 9, 10 and 11). Students older or younger will be considered but preference will be given to those students falling within the preferred age bracket.
- Live within the municipality of Hobsons Bay.
- It is not a requirement to be able to speak Japanese.
- Must hold a current Australian Passport.

Responsibilities and requirements

- Host a Japanese student for approximately 10 days in July and participate in events and excursions.
- Visit Anjo as a Hobsons Bay ambassador for approximately 2 weeks in August.
- Contribute \$1000 towards the cost of the program.
- Participate in a 10 week program (approximately 2 hours each week) to prepare a group performance and a short speech in Japanese.
- Attend HBIFA meetings (approximately 4 per year).
- Assist in a fund raising activity.
- Present a report to the Association of their experience in Japan.

Finance

Successful students are required to contribute \$1000 towards the cost of their Anjo visit. The Association will cover the remaining cost of flights to and from Japan. Accommodation and meals whilst in Japan are met by the host family and the Anjo Friendship Association. Expenditure on personal items and activities not arranged by HBIFA are to be met by the student's families (e.g. activities on free days). HBIFA will cover arranged excursion costs for both the Hobsons Bay and Anjo exchange participants. Participant's family members who wish to attend any organised activities may be required to pay as determined by the Association. The Association has its own Public Liability Insurance which covers all members of HBIFA, including the new student and Chaperone delegation.

Languages

It is not a requirement when applying for this program, to be able to speak or be studying Japanese, however successful applicants will be required to participate in a weekly 2 hour

program to prepare a group performance and a short speech in the Japanese language. This program is arranged free of charge by the Association during a 10 week period from April to July.

Behaviour

All students selected for this program will, in effect, be an ambassador of Hobsons Bay. Students will therefore be expected to maintain a high standard of behaviour.

Volunteer Working with Children Check

If the Applicant is successful, a *Working With Children Check* which includes a Police Check must be obtained by any person 18 years and over residing within the household. This is a free service obtained from Australia Post.

Successful applicants will be briefed on other relevant details following completion of all interviews.



HOBSONS BAY INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

STUDENT INFORMATION

In October 1988, the City of Altona formalised a sister city agreement with the City of Anjo, Japan and signed a further agreement under the City of Hobsons Bay after the amalgamation of the former Cities of Altona and Williamstown. The common objective of the two cities is to develop friendship and goodwill and, through the sharing of information, promote a deeper understanding between the nations of Australia and Japan.

One of the main functions of the Association is the Student Exchange Program which provides the opportunity for students in Hobsons Bay to experience at first hand, the culture and lifestyle of countries other than Australia. Four students and a Chaperone are chosen each year to participate in the program. The Association has successfully conducted student exchange programs since 1989 enabling our young people to experience at first hand Japanese customs and cultures.

The Association also conducts a Cultural Exchange Program where a piece of art is donated to Anjo from various artists within Hobsons Bay and likewise from Anjo every three years. A citizen delegation from Anjo also visits Hobsons Bay every three years where members of the Association offer homestay accommodation. The Association has hosted more than 500 participants in its 30 year history comprising students, Chaperones and the citizen delegations.

The successful applicant will provide homestay for the Japanese student during their stay in Hobsons Bay for approximately 2 weeks in early July which will include the school holiday period. The Association arranges an itinerary for the Japanese students and their Chaperone during their stay in Hobsons Bay. The students and Chaperone are expected to participate in all Hobsons Bay International Friendship Association arranged and privately arranged activities together with their families.

Successful applicants involved in any sporting organisations, group or work commitments are required to make arrangements to ensure they can participate in all activities arranged by the Association during the visit of the Japanese exchange students and during the preparation lessons. The return visit to Anjo by the students and the Chaperone is expected to be late July - early August.

Applications Close 28 February. For more information contact Joy Martin (President) on 0407 523 483 or via email to hbifasecretary@gmail.com