



World Learning

Lead Organization



Funder

**U.S. PARTICIPANT and HOST FAMILY APPLICATION
Iraqi Young Leadership Exchange
Program 2011**

**July 28 – August 22, 2011
(Home Stays – Aug. 5-16, 2011)**

A Program of the Office of Citizen Exchanges, Youth Programs Division
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, U.S.
Embassy in Baghdad

Prepared by Global Youth Leadership Institute



Home Stay Coordinating Organization for
Boston and Milwaukee

**Due April 1 – HOST FAMILY APPLICATION
Due March 1 – U.S. PARTICIPANT APPLICATION**

IYLP Program Description:

In partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Youth Division and the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, World Learning and its U.S. community partners (**Global Youth Leadership Institute - GYLI - is the "partner" for Milwaukee and Boston**) will administer the **Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program (IYLEP)**. IYLEP is a four week youth leadership exchange based in the U.S. for Iraqi and American teenagers ages 15-17 and several Iraqi adults educators. The program aims to develop a cadre of young adults in Iraq and the United States who have a strong sense of civic responsibility, a commitment to community development, an awareness of current & global issues, strong interpersonal leadership skills, willingness to foster relationships among youth from different ethnic, religious, and national groups in Iraq, and to promote mutual understanding, respect and collaboration between the United States and Iraq. Students will begin their program in Brattleboro, VT at the SIT Graduate Institute, spend two weeks with host families across the U.S and conclude the final program segment, a civic education week in Washington, DC, which will allow the students to use Washington as an experiential classroom, integrating what they have learned in the previous month with the sights and experiences within the nation's capitol.

The participants are selected based on academic achievement, community service involvement and English language competency. In the U.S., participants will focus on the program themes through site meetings, experiential learning activities, leadership trainings, civic participation at the community level, mentoring by community, business and NGO leaders, and volunteering with local organizations. Highlights will include homestays with local families, cultural events and outdoor leadership activities.

Participants will be required to implement follow-on activities upon their return home that will help the participants stay in touch with each other and reflect on their experiences and integrate that learning into their day-to-day lives at home. An important goal of the program is that the student leaders, now empowered, will train other student leaders through student led community oriented service projects.

Note:

U.S. Participants – GYLI will be accepting 3 U.S. students for each (Milwaukee & Boston) of the IYLEP programs it is coordinating. These students will be full participants in the program from **July 28 – August 22, 2011**.

Host Families – GYLI is seeking families in Milwaukee and Boston that are interested in hosting an Iraqi student during the home stay portion of IYLEP – **August 5-16, 2011**.

The goals of the program are:

- 1) To enable the participants to understand civic participation and the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy;
- 2) To develop leadership skills among high school students and adult leaders appropriate to their needs;
- 3) To foster understanding and build relationships across ethnic, religious, and national groups; and
- 4) To promote mutual understanding between the people of Iraq and the United States.

Expenses:

There is no application fee for applicants. This program is **free** for students selected as all program fees are covered by a grant from the U.S. Department of State.

Covered costs: program orientation, program and administration fees, site visits and seminars, dorm lodging and meals, some cultural activities, educational materials, and a modest amount of pocket money.

The program **does not cover** 1) domestic transportation to and from U.S. airports 2) expenses involving tips, laundry, telephone calls, postage, gifts, and beverages not customary to part of the meals 3) any required immunizations 4) any expenses related to the application process (copying, mailing, photos, etc.)

Who is eligible to apply?

Student applicants must:

- Be at least 15 years old and not more than 17 years old at the time of the exchange;
- Have a high school graduation year of 2012 or later; **current seniors are not eligible**;
- Have permission from either a parent or legal guardian to participate in the four-week program; and
- Submit a complete application, essays, including photograph and letters of recommendations.

What are the criteria for selection?

Students will be evaluated on the following characteristics:

- A demonstrated interest in and commitment to volunteer and civic activities;
- Ability to work cooperatively in diverse groups and tolerate the opinions of others;
- Leadership potential;
- Good social and communication skills;
- Good academic performance;
- An energetic, positive attitude; and
- Ability to implement projects that benefit the applicant's school and/or community.

If selected...

- Additional information and materials will be provided by your local hosting institution and World Learning.

Applications may be mailed or e-mailed by **THE DUE DATE(S) LISTED ON THE COVER PAGE OF THIS DOCUMENT** to:
Global Youth Leadership Institute
135 N 76th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53213
414.290.8142 (phone)

mfonseca@gyli.org (Marinés Fonseca – Director of International Programs)

For information pertaining to specific questions about the program, please contact GYLI at the above phone number or email. Prior to the program, if you have questions for the staff members coordinating each program, they can be contacted at the email addresses listed below.

jennifer.lishansky@gmail.com (Jenn Lishansky, Co-Coordinator of Boston IYLP)

johnson.dh@gmail.com (David Johnson, Co-Coordinator of Boston IYLP)

jesseblom@gmail.com (Jesse Blom, Co-Coordinator of Milwaukee IYLP)

map493@gmail.com (Michelle Pomoroy, Co-Coordinator of Milwaukee IYLP)

U.S. PARTICIPANTS and HOST FAMILY APPLICATION Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program 2011

Are you applying to be: host family US participant both

HOST FAMILY Application

PARENT 1/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name	
Last	First

Date of Birth		Age		Sex	Male	Female
Month/Day/Year				Circle One		

Place of Birth		Country of Citizenship	
City and State/Country			

Permanent Address				
Number	Street	City	State	Zip Code

Permanent Telephone	
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Name of Employer	
Work Address	
Job Title	
Telephone/Email	

Cell phone	
Email address	

PARENT 2/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name	
Last	First

Date of Birth		Age		Sex	Male	Female
Month/Day/Year				Circle One		

Place of Birth		Country of Citizenship	
City and State/Country			

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Please list/describe your interests or hobbies, including the hobbies and interest of your child/children

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Please describe the physical environment of your home.

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Have family members lived/traveled/studied abroad? If so, please describe whom, where, and when.

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Please list any pets you have in your home.

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Are there any additional comments you have?

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Please list two personal references.

Name					
	Last			First	
Permanent Address					
	Number	Street	City	State	Zip Code
Permanent Telephone					
Business Telephone					
Relationship to you					

Name					
	Last			First	
Permanent Address					
	Number	Street	City	State	Zip Code
Permanent Telephone					
Business Telephone					
Relationship to you					

HOST FAMILY APPLICANT APPROVAL

I agree that all of the information in this application is true and I agree that if chosen to participate, I will abide by the *Homestay Guidelines*. Moreover, I and any household members over the age of 18 agree to undergo a background check as is required by the program.

Printed Name	Signature	Date

Printed Name	Signature	Date

US PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Name		
	Last	First

Date of Birth		Age		Sex	Male	Female
	Month/Day/Year				Circle One	

Place of Birth		Country of Citizenship	
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School Name		School City	
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Where did you first hear about the exchange program?

Why do you and your family wish to participate in this exchange as a participant?

Indicate foreign language background.

Describe other experiences that have prepared you for the IYLP?

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Describe a time you dealt with a difficult obstacle.

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US PARTICIPANT APPLICANT APPROVAL

I agree that all of the information in this application is true and I agree that if chosen to participate, I will abide by the *Homestay Guidelines*. Moreover, I and any household members over the age of 18 agree to undergo a background check as is required by the program.

Student Printed Name	Signature	Date

If under 18, Parent Printed Name	Signature	Date