

Oregon-Costa Rica High School 4 Week Program

This is a request for permission for a Costa Rican student of the Partners of the Americas Program to take part as an auditing student, shadowing their host student in classes for 4 weeks. Each winter, 25 Costa Rican high school students, who have been carefully and competitively selected to represent their communities and country, come to Oregon to live with host families and attend high school with their host sibling. The student DOES NOT ENROLL in the school. Instead, the student audits classes by shadowing their host sibling for a four week hosting block.

Costa Rican students on the Partners program travel with valid passports and visas, health insurance, and comply with State of Oregon Health Department immunization requirements. They are accompanied by two English-speaking chaperones who remain in Oregon for the duration of the 8-week program. The Partners of the Americas Exchange Committee and the Costa Rican chaperones work together to ensure that families, schools and students have a mutually beneficial experience.

Who are we?

Partners was founded in 1964 as the "people-to-people" component of the John F. Kennedy Administration's Alliance for Progress. Today, it is a private, **nonprofit organization**, enjoying the support of countless individuals, international corporations and foundations. Oregon and Costa Rica are partnered in this program, and the High School Exchange between Oregon and Costa Rica has operated successfully for over 50 years.

How will this benefit your school?

- ★ Promotes international understanding and friendship between the people of Oregon and Costa Rica
- ★ Provides students from both countries the broadening educational experience of other cultures
- ★ Serves as resource for schools as exchange students come prepared to share a presentation about Costa Rica to any pertinent classes and offer support to Spanish language classes as a native speaker.

Historically Participating Schools

Canby High School

- Hillsboro School District
- Neah-Kah-Nie High School

- Salem-Keizer Public Schools Eugene School District 4 J
- Corvallis High School
- Clackamas High School
- Portland Public Schools
- Hidden Valley High School

Please feel free to reach out to the Hosting Coordinators listed below, or the other schools listed above, with any questions or concerns regarding the program. Thank you in advance for the opportunity to share the culture and history of Costa Rica with your high school students.

Sincerely,

Jani VanPelt 971-212-7506 Jennifer Gingerich 530-201-5331 POA - Hosting Coordinators

Email: hostatico@gmail.com Website: https://www.partnersorcr.com/

SCHOOL PERMISSION FORM

Partners of the Americas Oregon-Costa Rica High School 4 Week Exchange Program

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH HOST FAMILY APPLICATION

On behalf of this student, and the student's host family, we request your signature on this form to indicate your agreement to have the Costa Rican student shadow his/her host sibling for four weeks at your school and to waive any tuition payments for said student.

This family has selected (please circle) the following session:

1st Session: Dec. 7, 2019 – .	Jan. 4, 2020 OR 2nd Session	n: Jan. 5, 2020– Feb. 2, 2020.
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High School Name	High School Address	School District
/	I	<u> </u>
Host Brother/Sister Name	Host Brother/Sister Address	Telephone # of Host Family
		/
	Signature of Sch	ool Official Date
		1
	Printed Name	Title
*Note: If your school district off acknowledge this permission sli	ice is required to approve this request, ip below.	please have them
District Official's Signature	Printed Name & Tit	e

Important Information Provided to the School:

Prior to the exchange, the host sibling will notify each of their teachers with a letter from Partners of the Americas regarding the Costa Rican student who will be shadowing for 4 weeks, including the dates. This letter makes clear that teachers do not need to do any additional work or grading for the student. Additional letters will be provided for Spanish teachers.

On the first day that the host student attends your school, they will check in at the office with their host sibling and be introduced to administration if possible. The host student will provide the school with an information page which will include: student information, host contact information, emergency and chaperone contacts, the host student's class schedule, and any allergies or pertinent medical information.