

WHO IS LIMA SISTER CITIES

Lima Sister Cities Association (LSCA), Established in 1995, is a not-for-profit, volunteer led organization with an active sister city relationship. The mission of LSCA is to foster relationships between people of the Lima area community and our Sister City Harima-Cho to promote friendship, peace, and prosperity.

The youth homestays began in 2001 when the Lima Sister Cities Association sent the first group of eight Lima-area high school students to share American culture with Harima-cho Junior High students. The Japanese Junior High school curriculum includes the study of English. Unfortunately, these Japanese students do not get much opportunity to interact with native English speakers. The Harima-cho International Friendship Association requested a Youth Home-stay exchange to provide an amazing global cultural opportunity for both Japanese and American students. The 2001 visit was a great success. The Youth Homestay exchanges were repeated in 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 2018 and 2023.



COMMON QUESTIONS

1. What are the dates for each exchange?
-Each exchange differs in dates and every year they are not the same.. The average timeline for Lima to Visit Japan is early June
2. Is there a chaperone for the high school exchanges?
-YES, There will be 2 adult chaperones for the youth exchanges, an Adult Male and Female .
3. How much does the exchange cost?
-The average cost is estimated to be \$4000, depending on current airline prices, transport fees and more. Price can change from time of printing.
4. What are some other costs we may incur?
-Other costs include spending money for gifts, souvenirs, food, tours, and obtaining a passport ect.
5. What is provided while abroad?
-For the high school exchanges, accommodation and meals will be provided by the host family. When site seeing as a group LSCA covers lodging major transport (train Passes), admission fees, group meals. (These cost are figured into our trip budget)
- 6.. Are there group activities planned by Sister Cities?
- Yes, both in Lima and overseas the committees will plan several group activities.
7. What if I/my child gets sick while abroad?
-Your host family or the Sister Cities committee in the other country will take care of anyone who gets sick. We ask that you check with your insurance company before you depart to make sure you are covered for international expenses. (may be required to have insurance)

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**YOUTH
AMBASSADOR
PROGRAM**

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INFORMATION GUIDE

Ambassador Program Overview

Allen County high school students in their freshman, sophomore, and junior years may apply to serve as a Youth Ambassador to our Sister City. Upon selection, students will be invited to participate in our Youth Ambassador Exchange Program, where they will develop leadership skills, global and cultural awareness, and represent not only Lima but the state of Ohio and the United States. Youth Ambassadors will receive unique training through our Academy Sessions, held once a month leading up to their departure. In these sessions, students are taught valuable skills in diplomacy and communication, while also learning about their host country and what to expect abroad. Prior to the exchange, Youth Ambassadors will participate in event planning committees, community outreach, and fundraising activities.

This prestigious opportunity also enhances college applications, highlighting students' leadership, cultural engagement, and commitment to community service.



THERE IS A CHARM IN GOING PLACES TO SEEK INSPIRATION, JAPAN IS BUT ONE OF THE MANY PLACES.

TRADITION //

Youth Ambassador will depart in the summer to spend approximately 1-2 weeks in Japan where they will be fully immersed in the culture. They can expect an eye-opening experience as they discover new places, build new international relationships, and learn more about themselves.

MUSEUMS //



Bustling cities and cutting-edge technology, Japan provides rich cultural experiences. Visitors can enjoy world-class cuisine, witness traditional arts, and engage with a society known for its hospitality, cleanliness, and efficiency.



FOOD //



PARKS //

On our trip, we visit historical sites that offer a deeper understanding of the city's rich culture and heritage. These visits provide a meaningful connection to the past, enriching the experience and enhancing cultural awareness.

HISTORY //



Sister city exchanges foster meaningful friendships by connecting people from different cultures and backgrounds. Through shared experiences, participants build lasting bonds, gain new perspectives, and strengthen global ties.

FRIENDSHIPS //



CULTURE //



Experience hands-on learning during our sister city abroad trip, where students immerse themselves in a new culture, visit museums, and explore immersive experiences

DATES AND FORMS CAN BE FOUND @ LIMASISTERCITIES.COM