7-23-2010

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Recommended Citation
University Relations, "Sign up for the International Student Program's Adopt-a-Student program" (2010). University Relations News Archive. Paper 1506.
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Sign up for the International Student Program’s Adopt-a-Student program

Summary: The program pairs community members with international students new to campus, Minnesota, and the United States.

(July 23, 2010)-The University of Minnesota, Morris International Students Program invites residents of the Morris area to participate in the Adopt-a-Student program. Its primary purpose is to promote and facilitate cross-cultural friendships, to help students adjust to Minnesota living, and to introduce them to welcoming communities. Students will be paired with friends—individuals, couples, families—for one semester. The international students receive an informal introduction to life in the United States, and the American friends receive an opportunity to learn about their students’ cultures.

This fall, the Morris campus will have 60 new international students from China, Malawi, India, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and France. The students are very interested in the Adopt-a-Student program and are excited about meeting their American friends.

Friends will be expected to contact their students soon after they arrive and to maintain regular contact throughout fall semester by phone or e-mail. Friends and students may wish to plan simple excursions and activities such as picnics, farm visits, hiking, biking, country drives, canoeing, flea markets, antique stores, garage/yard sales, shopping, potlucks, church programs, winter activities, shopping, social and civic gatherings, lakes and parks visits, movies, sporting events, and campus and community activities.

A Welcome Potluck will be held for all students and friends at 6 p.m. on Friday, August 20, 2010. Contact the International Students Program to sign up for the program at 320-589-6094 or e-mail.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.