



Lakewood Sister Cities Program

PO Box 260861, Lakewood, CO USA 80226 • 303 231-9177 • www.lakewoodsistercities.org

If you have a longing for travel, a desire to broaden the horizons of your family, if you want to take personal steps toward better international understanding, then Lakewood Sister Cities has a program for you. Started in 1977, Lakewood Sister Cities Program provides foreign travel and enriching experiences for hundreds of Jefferson County Residents. Sponsoring many diverse and exciting visitations and exchanges for adults, couples, families, professionals, musicians, and students in both high school and grade school, Lakewood Sister Cities Program involves the entire community. All activities include home stays in your choice of England, Australia, or Germany. Reciprocal visits and exchanges are organized for home stays in Jefferson County. Experienced volunteers supervise all programs. Lakewood Sister Cities Program offers you the opportunity you've been looking for to participate directly in improving knowledge and understanding around the world.

Lakewood Sister Cities Program was founded by Win Schendel to promote world peace through student exchanges, adult home visits, working exchanges, and other multicultural events. We have Sister City relationships with Sutherland Shire, Australia, Stade, Germany, and both Portsmouth and Chester in England. Lakewood Sister Cities Program is a nonprofit, volunteer organization of Jefferson County residents, who are working for a more peaceful world through direct family communication across international boundaries.

Lakewood Sister Cities Program is a member of Sister Cities International. It enjoys the support of the City of Lakewood and a City Council Representative is a member of the Board of Directors. It works with the cooperation of local Chambers of Commerce and the Jefferson County School District. It draws individual and family members from all over Jefferson County. Lakewood Sister Cities Program offers you travel, personal contact, and family involvement in cultures all over the world.

Sutherland Shire



A suburb of Sydney, Australia's largest city, Sutherland Shire, is in New South Wales. It is bordered on the north by Botany Bay and on the east and south by world-famous surfing beaches and the Royal National Park. Sutherland Shire is a quiet area of single-family homes and small businesses. The climate resembles southern California and is an oasis for water sports. National sports are soccer and rugby leagues while koalas, kangaroos, and opals are national symbols. Visitors return overwhelmed by the hospitality of the Australians and awed by the expansive beauty of a vast continent.

The Exchange Program is organized and supervised on both sides of the Pacific by parents and students who have participated in previous exchanges.

If you're curious about some of our other programs, please visit our website at

www.lakewoodsistercities.org
or give us a call at **303-277-9681**.



The Lakewood
Sister Cities
Programs



The Sister City
Committee of
Sutherland
Shire, N.S.W.,
Australia



The Sister City
Committee of
Portsmouth,
England



The People to
People
Association of
Chester,
England



The Sister City
Committee of
Stade,
Germany



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Australian Student Exchange

Since 1978, Lakewood Sister Cities Program has sponsored a High School Exchange Program with Sutherland Shire in Australia. Over the years, this student exchange has developed into one of the most successful programs in the Jefferson County school system. Applications are accepted from students in grades 9 & 10 each year in January.

This exchange is unique in two respects. First, the American student and family participate in a lengthy application and interview process to be selected. Following selection, the student and family are paired with an Australian student and family. Secondly, this exchange is reciprocal. The Aussie student arrives in midsummer, to spend six months living with the American family and attending Jeffco schools. Then, both students leave in January to spend six months in Australia, living with the partner's family and studying at a high school in Sutherland Shire. This is a real student exchange, when an American teenager can host a foreign student and then become one in six month's time. The Exchange Program is well supervised on both sides with many planned activities, and some of the costs are defrayed by group fund-raising activities.

Eligibility

Students that want to apply for the Student Exchange Program must meet and maintain several requirements:

Applicants **MUST**:

- ❑ Have a current GPA of 2.75 or better.
- ❑ Be enrolled in a Jefferson County High School and be a Jefferson County Resident.
- ❑ Be in grade 9 or 10 to travel the following year in grade 10 or 11.
- ❑ Be prepared to assist in promotion and recruitment of the program the following year.



Be sure, this is not just a student exchange. This will involve your entire family. Lakewood Sister Cities is a totally volunteer organization made up of folks just like you - parents, families and students from previous exchanges. So, the families of the applicant must also meet and maintain several requirements:

All families **MUST**:

- ❑ Be willing to host an Australian student the first semester of next year.
- ❑ Be able to participate in all of the required events of the next 1-1/2 years.
- ❑ Be able to provide transportation for the student to all of the required events.
- ❑ Be willing to head a committee to organize events for the exchange group.
- ❑ Be resilient, flexible, accommodating, and tolerant in the *strangest* situations!





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Typical Schedule of Events:

America

Applications Due	mid-January, 2010
Interview Meetings (3)	Starting mid-February
Selections Final	mid-March
Pairing Potluck	1 st Sat. April
6 Toastmasters/Parent Planning Meetings	April-May
Aussie Arrival Orientation	July
Aussies Arrive	mid-July
Welcome Barbeque	July
Camping Trip	August
Mayor's Banquet	mid-September
PowWow I & II	September & November
Southwest Trip (Aussies only)	mid to late-October
Liaison Weekend (Aussies only)	early to mid-November
Ski Trip	Early-December
Farewell Party	early-January, 2011
Aussie Departure	early-January, 2011
Yanks Departure	mid-January, 2011

Australia

Australian Welcome Barbie	mid-January, 2011
Camping Trip to Bristol Point Beach	February
Mowbray Park country trip	February
Toastmaster's Banquet	March
Liaison Weekend to Nelson's Bay	April
Australia's Outback/Ayer's Rock	May
Presidential Debutante Ball	May or June
Farewell Party	July
Great Barrier Reef trip	July
Yanks Arrive Home	mid July



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Cost Estimate: Australian Student Exchange Program 2010-2011

Lakewood Sister Cities isn't just for rich people! Fund raising opportunities are available to cover the most of the cost of the airline tickets, medical insurance and ground package.

Estimated Costs and Expenses	Approximate Costs
Application Fee	\$35
Lakewood Sister Cities Family Membership Dues - 2 years	\$80
Program Fee (Administrative costs/copying costs, food, cost of reservations for meetings, parties, camping, etc.)	\$500
Group Uniform	\$100
Roundtrip airline ticket & trip to Cairns/Great Barrier Reef	\$2700
Air& Ground Package (trips to Outback, farmstay, beach. etc)	\$3400
Misc. Expenses:	
Passport, Australian Medical Insurance, etc.	\$150-250
Camping Trip: 3 family members, Aussies paid	\$60
Ski Weekend: 3 family members, Aussies paid	\$250
Mayors Welcome 3 family members, Aussies paid	\$ 30
Estimated Total:	\$7300-7400

Fund Raising:

GarageSale, Safeway/KSoopers Food Cards, Car Washes, etc. **\$ You Decide**

Fund Raising can offset almost the entire cost!

For more information, please contact the Student Exchange Coordinator:

Peggy Moulton 303-277-9681

