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PROGRAM RULES & REGULATIONS

Below is a list of the rules and regulations which all students sponsored by OCEAN are required to follow throughout their sojourn. Please read and place your initials next to each clause and sign on the last page.

Host Family's Name: _____

Clause	Initials
First Clause: The participant must follow rules, regulations and guidelines as specified by OCEAN's staff, throughout his/her sojourn, from the date of acceptance into the program, until departure from the U.S.A. and/or dismissal from the program.	
Second Clause: The participant must obey all local, state and federal laws while in the U.S.A. and agree to hold the program harmless from all liabilities arising from the violation of any of these laws.	
Third Clause: The participant must accept, respect and obey the host family's house rules, respect the host father and host mother equally, have the same understanding and comprehension that he/she has with his/her natural parents and peers and not to expect special privileges.	
Fourth Clause: It is the responsibility of the participant to care for his/her luggage and personal properties. OCEAN is not responsible for theft or loss during the participant's stay and/or travels in the U.S.A. We will not act as a courier or make arrangements to have the student's luggage sent back to his/her home country.	
Fifth Clause: The participant is prohibited from traveling throughout the U.S.A. without adult supervision during his/her sojourn. To travel with adults other than the host family, the student must first acquire written authorization from the natural parents, host family and appropriate OCEAN staff. This must be completed thirty (30) days prior to travel. No exceptions will be made. OCEAN will NOT approve frivolous travels or travels that are not conducive to a good sojourn, such as visiting family members or friends during holidays and/or school breaks or traveling with other exchange students on trips organized by another exchange organization. The student is NOT allowed to travel to the U.S.A. prior to the scheduled orientation date without OCEAN's written authorization. If a student travels to the U.S. before the orientation without OCEAN's prior permission, he/she will be dismissed from the program.	
Sixth Clause: The participant's natural parents, family members and family friends are not permitted to visit him/her during his/her sojourn in the U.S. The host family cannot authorize anyone to visit the participant without OCEAN's knowledge. If a student is visited either by his/her natural parents or family members without OCEAN's knowledge or consent, he/she will be dismissed from the program and returned to his/her home country. Exceptions will be made only in cases of health-related emergencies where the participant must be hospitalized for a period longer than 3 days.	
Seventh Clause: OCEAN will relocate a participant to a second host family <u>only IF</u> it finds that there is lack of compatibility and that the student did not contribute in any way, manner or form to the incompatibility. In addition, OCEAN must be certain that the participant has made significant efforts to remain with the assigned host family. OCEAN may remove a student from his/her host family and relocate him/her to a different community in emergency situations and/or if we feel that it is in his/her best interest to do so. The student must accept his/her relocation.	
Eighth Clause: The participant agrees to contact exclusively, OCEAN staff members whenever he/she needs additional assistance in situations that are not resolved within the host family. OCEAN must be informed of all problems prior to contacting the natural parents. The participant must follow OCEAN's suggested line of communication. The participant's natural parents are not authorized to make direct contact with any of OCEAN's staff or representatives in the U.S.A.	
Ninth Clause: The participant must attend and participate in all scheduled classes and maintain passing grades (C average or better). Attendance is absolutely mandatory. The student must behave in a courteous and respectful manner towards his/her teachers, counselor, principal, school staff members, etc.	
Tenth Clause: The participant is prohibited from involving him/herself with selling, buying, exchanging or consuming alcoholic beverages and any illegal drugs, including, but not limited to hallucinogens, narcotics, toxins, amphetamines or barbiturates of any kind, as well as smoking cigarettes.	
Eleventh Clause: Students are prohibited from bringing medications with them from their home countries. If a student is required to take any prescription medications during his/her participation in the exchange program, it must be noted on his/her Student Health Record. All medications must be accompanied by a prescription which has been officially translated into English. The name of the medication on the prescription must match the name of the medication on the bottle or packaging. No exceptions. If the student arrives at the host country orientation with medications that are NOT accompanied	

<p>by a prescription, which has been officially translated into English, the student will NOT be allowed to take these medications to his/her host family. If it is absolutely necessary for the student to take a medication which he/she has brought with him/her, but he/she does not have the properly translated prescription, he/she will NOT be allowed to travel to his/her host family and will be required to remain at the orientation site until OCEAN has received the required documentation. The student and his/her natural parents will be responsible for all of the costs related to the student's hotel accommodations, as well as fees charged by the airline to change his/her flight reservations. If the required documentation is not received by OCEAN in a timely manner, the student will be dismissed from the program and returned to his/her home country. The student's natural parents are prohibited from mailing any medications to their son/daughter while he/she is participating in the exchange program.</p>	
<p>Twelfth Clause: If the student is diagnosed with a new medical condition after he/she has been accepted to participate in the program, OCEAN must be notified immediately. OCEAN will re-evaluate the student participant's application and reserves the right to cancel his/her participation in the program based on this information.</p>	
<p>Thirteenth Clause: Students are not allowed to self-medicate or take any medications to school unless permission is obtained from the school nurse. If at any time OCEAN discovers that the participant is taking prescription medications, to include birth control pills, or if any pre-existing conditions, such as eating disorders, psychological treatment, etc. were knowingly omitted from the Student Health Record, he/she will be dismissed from the program. In addition, all allergies must be confirmed by a physician (Fear of pets does not constitute an allergy.) If the participant must be treated for a pre-existing condition or any illness or injury not covered by the health insurance, it is the responsibility of the natural parents to pay for the treatment and any related expenses.</p>	
<p>Fourteenth Clause: It is the responsibility of the participant to receive all required immunizations prior to departing for the U.S.A. If upon arrival, the school district or health authorities require additional immunizations or booster shots, the student participant must receive them at his/her own expense. Refusal to receive the required immunizations will likely keep the participant from attending classes, in which case he/she would be in violation of the Ninth Clause.</p>	
<p>Fifteenth Clause: The participant is prohibited from handling or carrying weapons of any form (guns, knives, clubs, martial arts devices, etc.) This includes discharging any firearms either at a firing range or as part of a hunting trip. Speaking of guns, bombs, or other weapons in a threatening manner or inferring that they might be used to harm others is strictly prohibited. In addition, fighting and physical violence will not be tolerated.</p>	
<p>Sixteenth Clause: The participant is prohibited from driving any type of motor vehicle (including lawn mowers, ATVs, snow mobiles, motorcycles, jet skis, etc.) except as part of a Driver's Education course at the school which he/she is attending. The student is not allowed to secure a driver's license while participating in the program. The participant is also prohibited from hitchhiking.</p>	
<p>Seventeenth Clause: The participant is prohibited from involving him/herself in sexual activities of any kind. In addition, the participant must NOT take dating seriously. The viewing of magazines, materials, videos and Internet web sites containing pornography, as well as the use of foul language is prohibited.</p>	
<p>Eighteenth Clause: If the participant is a victim of physical or sexual abuse perpetrated by any member of the host family, or if he/she feels uncomfortable with sexual innuendos within the host family setting, the participant must immediately report the incident(s) to OCEAN. The student is strictly prohibited from involving outsiders or anyone not directly related to OCEAN unless it is necessary for the student to contact proper authorities or healthcare services in an emergency situation. The student is prohibited from making false accusations against anyone.</p>	
<p>Nineteenth Clause: The participant is prohibited from involving him/herself or anyone else with the affairs of other participants sponsored by OCEAN, as well as any other international exchange student program.</p>	
<p>Twentieth Clause: The participant is prohibited from maintaining frequent contact with other participants or persons from his/her native country residing either within or outside of the United States.</p>	
<p>Twenty-First Clause: The student participant will be allowed to use a personal cell phone exclusively with the permission of OCEAN and his/her host family. The use of this cell phone is limited to contact with the host family, and it may NOT be used for excessive communication with friends and/or family members in the student's home country. OCEAN reserves the right to revoke the student's use of the cell phone if he/she abuses his/her privileges. OCEAN may send the student a warning letter or place him/her on behavioral probation for abusing the use of the cell phone. Neither OCEAN nor the host family will be responsible for any costs related to the use and possession of a cell phone, to include activation fees, roaming charges, long distance fees, monthly fees, etc. It is the responsibility of the student to pay any fees relating to the use of his/her cell phone.</p>	
<p>Twenty-Second Clause: The student participant may possess a personal laptop computer while in the U.S.; however, it may only be used with the permission and close supervision of OCEAN and the host family. OCEAN reserves the right to revoke the student's use of the computer if he/she abuses his/her privileges. Excessive use of the computer and/or Internet may result in the student being sent a warning letter or placed on behavioral probation. The host family must be reimbursed by the student for any costs related to the inclusion of the student's computer in the host family's Internet access plan. The student is prohibited from downloading and installing programs on any computer (host family, school, etc.) without written authorization from OCEAN, the host family and/or school. He/she is also prohibited from visiting adult and/or pornographic websites.</p>	

<p>Twenty-Third Clause: The participant is prohibited from actively seeking a change in religious beliefs or becoming a member of what are normally considered anti-social groups and becoming engaged or wed without explicit consent of the natural parents, legal guardians and OCEAN.</p>	
<p>Twenty-Fourth Clause: The participant is prohibited from applying for or accepting any form of scholarship and must return to his/her country of origin once the exchange program has been completed. The program is not to exceed two consecutive school semesters. The participant is prohibited from pressuring school officials for the purpose of graduating or receiving a high school diploma. The participant is also prohibited from placing undue pressure on the host family and/or school officials by requesting assistance with the completion of tests, such as the ACT, SAT, PSAT, TOEFL, etc. or college or university interviews. The participant is not allowed to pressure the host family and/or school officials to assist him/her with applications to change his/her visa status or for requesting acceptance at any American high school, college or university for the purpose of continuing his/her education in the U.S.</p>	
<p>Twenty-Fifth Clause: The student participant is prohibited from loaning monies to or accepting loans from anyone, including the host family, in any way, manner or form. No exceptions will be made. OCEAN will not be responsible for any loss of funds due to these inappropriate loans.</p>	
<p>Twenty-Sixth Clause: The participant may not be employed on either a full or part-time basis, but may accept sporadic or intermittent employment, such as baby-sitting or yard work.</p>	
<p>Twenty-Seventh Clause: The participant is not allowed to make changes in personal appearance, either on a short-term or long-term basis, that in effect distinguish him/her from the mainstream. In addition, he/she must NOT arrive at the host country orientation with an appearance that sets him/her apart from the mainstream. (For example: hair dyed purple or orange, nose piercing, tongue piercing, tattoos, etc.) The participant must wear appropriate attire at all times.</p>	
<p>Twenty-Eighth Clause: The participant is prohibited from participating in high risk sports, including but not limited to, scuba diving, horse jumping, hang gliding, skiing or snowboarding outside of maintained trails or slopes of ski resorts, mountaineering, use of firearms or air/spring powered guns, parachuting, ice hockey, judo, karate, wave running, bobsledding, riding or driving a motorcycle, etc.</p>	
<p>Twenty-Ninth Clause: The participant must complete all student evaluation reports that are sent to him/her and return them to OCEAN's main office in a timely manner. The participant is also required to complete the Cultural Search Questionnaire by the assigned deadline. Failure to complete the Cultural Search Questionnaire may result in the student being placed on probation or dismissed from the program.</p>	
<p>Thirtieth Clause: The participant must accept all decisions made by OCEAN, to include complete loss of all rights as a program participant, and immediately return to his/her home country for violation of any one or more of these rules. There have been cases in which we found it necessary to place a student on probation at the orientation meeting in the U.S. Should we find sufficient cause to place the participant on behavioral probation at the orientation meeting, he/she may be dismissed from the program and returned to his/her home country. The participant must become well-acquainted with these rules and regulations as he/she will be tested on them at our orientation in the U.S. prior to his/her departure to the host family. If a student must return home early for any reason, the natural parents will be responsible for any fees involved in changing the return airline ticket.</p>	
<p>Thirty-First Clause: This clause applies to students whose home country education system requires the official recognition of transcripts. It is the responsibility of the student to acquire an official copy of his/her transcript from the school and forward it to OCEAN's main office. If the transcript is not available at the time of the student's departure, he/she must authorize the school to issue it and forward it to OCEAN's main office. If the student must authorize the school, OCEAN cannot guarantee that it will be validated and mailed to the student in a timely fashion. Under these circumstances, OCEAN will do its best to expedite the validation, but it must be understood that OCEAN will not be responsible for the time involved in the acquisition and validation of the transcript, and that an additional cost will be incurred by the student for postal services and validation fees. This cost varies depending upon the fees charged by the validating agency or consulate.</p>	

Host Father's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Host Mother's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____