

AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

An  
open door to  
understanding  
and  
friendship



"WALK TOGETHER, TALK TOGETHER,  
O YE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH:  
THEN AND ONLY THEN  
SHALL YE HAVE PEACE."



## AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE

313 East 43rd Street, New York 17, N. Y.

AN AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP is an open door which leads to understanding and friendship among the peoples of the world. Through this door pass students from more than 60 foreign countries to attend American secondary schools in more than 2,000 communities for a school year of study and first-hand experience, as well as American teenagers from practically every state to study and live with families abroad—a two-way program of seeing and showing. In this way, young citizens of the world learn to recognize and to respect the similarities and differences of those who, though they live in different countries, have dreams and efforts similarly directed toward the goal of a peaceful and useful life.

### STUDENTS FROM ABROAD

Those who pass through the door into America are teenagers, 16 to 18 years old—when students are most adaptable, open-minded, and eager to learn. They have been screened, with the co-operation of educators in their own countries, for personality as well as intelligence, in order that the students chosen be those best qualified to make the experience enriching, both for themselves and for all with whom they come in contact.

#### *Their Activities*

AFS students are encouraged to participate wholeheartedly in the life of their American community, where they attend the senior year of high school and live in carefully selected homes as members of their U.S. families on the same basis as the other young people in the home. While they learn first-hand of many different aspects of our life—of our customs, ideals, interests, and problems—they also broaden our horizons by telling of their own countries and daily life in their own homes.

"It is an honor as President of the United States to welcome you, who will in the coming months and years bear the great burdens of leadership in your country. . . . It is going to be your destiny, I hope, to serve in the interest of peace as a bridge between the best parts of my country and your people. I hope that you go from here not merely as a friend but understanding our faults and our assets. . . . We want your friendship, and I hope that you will be the seed which will build a better life for all our people."

—John F. Kennedy

#### *The Bus Trip*

As a dividend, at the end of the school year AFS, in co-operation with the Greyhound Corporation, organizes bus trips to broaden the students' picture of the United States. Volunteer groups in communities across the nation are hosts for short parts of the three-week period, both showing them places of unusual interest and offering their facilities for wholesome relaxation and enjoyment. It is heartwarming to see, in addition to the bonds of affection formed among AFS students and the Americans they meet and live with, the growth of important friendships among students of many different countries.

#### *When They Go Home*

After the students have sailed for home, as they must at the end of their year, they continue as members of the American Field Service, which keeps in touch with returnee students by letters, visits, and a quarterly magazine (*Our World*). The returnees, to the limit of their available time, follow through by spreading word of their experience in articles and speeches and put into practice wherever they can what they learned from their time abroad. They have formed committees to advise on the selection of future students. And on their own initiative they instituted the Americans Abroad programs.

### AMERICANS ABROAD

After a community has sponsored a foreign student, it may nominate that year candidates from the participating high school for the AFS Americans Abroad programs. These students are juniors in good standing and

good health who have had two years study of a foreign language, are at least 16 years old, and fulfill other qualifications.

### *The Summer Program*

The AFS Summer Program enables selected juniors to spend six to ten weeks during the summer living with a family abroad. AFS committees in more than 30 countries have assumed the responsibility of acting as hosts to the young Americans—finding suitable families for them to live with, watching out for them while they are there, and arranging for them to receive full cultural and educational experiences of the countries they are visiting.

### *The School Program*

In 1957 the AFS sent the first small group of American secondary school students to live with European families while attending the first semester in local secondary schools. This proved successful, as did the same idea for the second semester in the southern hemisphere. The AFS School Program is now active in 19 countries, and in both hemispheres has been expanded to a full year.

## THE BACKGROUND

Friendship and increased understanding among their fellow men have been the aims of the American Field Service since 1914. It was founded as a volunteer ambulance service with the French armies and carried thousands of wounded in World War I. The AFS instituted graduate fellowships for French universities between the wars, and after serving again in World War II with the Allied Armies, and therefore with men of many nationalities and beliefs, it revived the idea of a peace-

### MONEY

The community's participating contribution of \$700 per student is approximately 60% of the total cost for the average student. Of the rest, part is paid abroad by the students' families, and much comes as direct charitable donations from individuals, foundations and corporations. All donations are tax deductible. Every dollar helps to expand the program.

	Students to America	Students Abroad Summer	School
1947-48 .....	52		
1948-49 .....	84		
1949-50 .....	72		
1950-51 .....	209	9	
1951-52 .....	206	24	
1952-53 .....	235	107	
1953-54 .....	265	253	
1954-55 .....	445	367	
1955-56 .....	653	605	
1956-57 .....	769	696	
1957-58 .....	1,039	724	46
1958-59 .....	1,170	834	76
1959-60 .....	1,524	960	149
1960-61 .....	1,846	966	274
1961-62 .....	2,222	950	250
1962-63 .....	2,559	759	318
1963-64 .....	2,822	854	265
1964-65 .....	2,904	834	304
<b>TOTALS .....</b>	<b>19,076</b>	<b>8,942</b>	<b>1,682</b>

time program to further the basic friendship which exists among all men.

In 1947 it began its new work on the teenage level, as being most likely to accomplish the objective. The American Field Service is a private educational organization, and it has no religious or political affiliations.

### *Many Helping Hands*

Many organizations, as well as individuals, contribute to the AFS program, which could not have grown as it has without their generous co-operation. The State Department offers its facilities for the screening of candidates abroad and has made grants to cover the expenses of some students and AFS offices abroad. Schools waive non-resident tuition and other fees. Family circles are enlarged willingly and without pay to welcome the students, who are treated like the other young people in the home. Communities form volunteer chapters to look after the students and pool their resources to raise the participating contribution for each one. And the general public contributes additional necessary funds. Thus the American Field Service has the co-operation of many helping hands in its effort to open wide the door to a friendlier world.

**"This kind of exchange, as it grows and grows, will have a better effect on advancing the peace of the world, of giving greater promise to each of us, young and old, to live fuller and better lives, free of the burdens of armaments, free from the fears of attack, living together in the confidence that humans can trust and believe in other humans."**

**—Dwight D. Eisenhower**

**If you are interested in sponsoring a foreign student through the American Field Service, you must form a chapter, raise the money, get a school interested, and find a family. For detailed instructions, write to American Field Service for their booklet "How to Sponsor a Foreign Student."**