



An Introduction
For
Prospective Member Schools

For the 2012/13 Academic Year



The ASSIST Mission

To promote mutual understanding, cultural interchange and a more peaceful world, ASSIST provides opportunities for outstanding international students to attend the finest American independent secondary schools on one-year scholarships, and for students and teachers from these schools to engage in educational experiences abroad.

The Work of ASSIST

ASSIST serves the independent secondary school community by placing outstanding international students on scholarship at excellent boarding and day schools throughout the United States.

We have a current, strong presence in 20 countries overseas, where employees, volunteers and alumni leaders help us to identify Scholarss who thrive in American independent schools. Once students are thoroughly screened and selected, they are placed carefully at member schools for one academic year – with ongoing support from ASSIST.

ASSIST students are models of achievement at their American schools, where they add to the academic vitality of the community, make contributions to the artistic, athletic, community service and other programs, and share willingly their own unique cultural backgrounds.

Since our first class in 1969/70, more than 4,000 students from 48 countries have studied in the States as ASSIST Scholarss. In most years, 90+% of the students submit honors or high honors academic work, taking the most demanding courses, and with no formal adaptations required owing to language. These are students whom educators love to teach, and they add a vibrant perspective to classes that reflects their own unique cultural backgrounds.

Students remain for one year, after which they must return home to complete their secondary education, appreciative of their experience and with a deep understanding of American values and culture. As they become leaders in their own countries in the years ahead, we believe that America will have a cadre of friends abroad with whom to build a foundation of mutual understanding and diplomatic accord.

Independent schools in the U.S. are attracted to ASSIST because we help them extend their reach to new countries of interest. Schools remain loyal ASSIST members because of the outstanding contributions made by intelligent, motivated and endearing student ambassadors who are eager, willing and equipped to make the very best use of this life-changing experience.



Benefits of Membership

- Enroll leading scholars with significant academic credentials who enliven classrooms and add to the vitality of your academic program.
- Enroll students from countries underrepresented in your student body – extend the knowledge of other cultures within your school community to students, faculty and host families.
- While scholars first, ASSIST students are selected because of their ability and instinct to contribute to other programs of importance to your school.
- After enrolling a student on full scholarship, enroll additional, talented students on partial scholarships.
- Our careful, personal selection and placement protocols provide a student who is an excellent match for your school.
- You will have continuous access to the full support of the ASSIST staff in the U.S. – as well as the staff overseas for liaison work with parents.
- ASSIST thoroughly prepares each candidate prior to departure – and upon arrival in the U.S. at a special, four-day ASSIST Orientation. ASSIST also manages the J-1 visa application process for member day schools that cannot facilitate the F-1 visa.
- ASSIST students are a pleasure to teach, coach and come to know. They will thankfully and cheerfully earn the scholarship that you invest in them.



Requirements of Membership

- ASSIST member schools must be fully accredited members of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).
- Prospective schools are visited by ASSIST staff and/or Board members. Returning schools reenroll annually in the fall, after which offers of membership are made to prospective schools based on capacity and on the projected size of the applicant pool.
- Each school pays a modest membership fee for access to all ASSIST programs and support (\$640 in 2011/12).
- Member schools reserve a place and offer at least one full scholarship to an international student identified and placed by ASSIST.
- The scholarship includes tuition, room and board for a boarding student; tuition and volunteer host family for a day student. All other expenses are the responsibility of the candidate's parents or guardian (some students receive funding from generous donors to underwrite personal expenses).
- We ask schools to eliminate or limit expenses (enrollment fees, technology fees, comprehensive fees) that are burdensome to scholarship students.
- With guidance from ASSIST, schools recruit and steward volunteer host families for each student.
- Scholarships are offered for one year only, after which each Scholar must return home to complete his or her secondary education.
- Each school designates an ASSIST Representative, who serves as a liaison between ASSIST and the school and who works with ASSIST to ensure compliance with Department of State regulations.

ASSIST Countries 2011/12

Australia
Austria
Bulgaria
China
Croatia
Czech Republic
Germany
Hungary
Lithuania
Moldova
Palestine
Poland
Slovakia
Spain
Sweden
Turkey
Vietnam

One of Dick's initiatives in his first year was to arrange for an ASSIST student at the school – our first. We've had one or two more every year since. Everyone here agrees that the quality of these students has been consistently OUTSTANDING. You really are doing a fabulous job of recruiting and placing students. Best wishes for continued success.

School Membership 2011/12

Albuquerque Academy, NM
Asheville School, NC
The Baldwin School, PA
The Bear Creek School, WA
Berkshire School, MA
Bishop's School, CA
The Blake School, MN
Bullis School, MD
Canterbury School, IN
Chadwick School, CA
Chatham Hall, VA
Christ School, NC
Colorado Rocky Mountain School, CO
Culver Academies, IN
Darlington School, GA
Deerfield Academy, MA
Emma Willard School, NY
Episcopal Academy, PA
Episcopal High School, VA
Ethel Walker School, CT
Fountain Valley School, CO
The Galloway School, GA
Greenhill School, TX
Greenhills School, MI
The Haverford School, PA
Hawken School, OH
Head-Royce School, CA
Hebron Academy, ME
The Hill School, PA
Hockaday School, TX
Holton-Arms School, MD
Hotchkiss School, CT
Indian Springs School, AL
Kents Hill School, ME
The Key School, MD
Lancaster Country Day School, PA
Landon School, MD

The Lawrenceville School, NJ
Maret School, DC
The Masters School, NY
Maumee Valley Country Day School, OH
Mercersburg Academy, PA
Miss Hall's School, MA
Miss Porter's School, CT
Morristown-Beard School, NJ
National Cathedral School, DC
North Shore Country Day School, IL
Overlake School, WA
Parish Episcopal School, TX
Peddie School, NJ
The Pennington School, NJ
Phillips Exeter Academy, NH
Porter-Gaud School, SC
The Potomac School, VA
Princeton Day School, NJ
Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, GA
Salem Academy, NC
Salisbury School, CT
Sandia Preparatory School, NM
Santa Fe Preparatory School, NM
Sewickley Academy, PA
Shady Side Academy, PA
Sidwell Friends School, DC
St. Albans School, DC
St. Andrew's School, DE
Saint Andrew's School, FL
St. Andrew's-Sewanee School, TN
St. Christopher's School, VA
St. Luke's School, CT
St. Mark's School of Texas, TX
St. Paul's School, NH
St. Timothy's School, MD
Stony Brook School, NY
Suffield Academy, CT
The Taft School, CT
Trinity Preparatory School, FL
Wasatch Academy, UT
Washington International School, DC
The Waterford School, UT
Wayland Academy, WI
Westminster School, CT
The White Mountain School, NH
Wyoming Seminary, PA

What School Heads Are Saying

Over the years I was headmaster, our ASSIST students more dramatically affected the student body of Taft than did any other group of scholarship students. The ASSIST program brings home the shrinking size of our world; the vitality, the creativity and differences that exist in other cultures; and the fact that at the core of all human aspiration lie common hopes and dreams.

Lance R. Odden
Headmaster Emeritus
The Taft School (CT)

Each and every year, St. Andrew's welcomes an ASSIST student to our community, and each and every year at graduation, we realize that the School has been transformed and enriched by the spirit, grace and intelligence of these students. Those of us who have been affiliated with ASSIST have always known that America and American schools need international students to contribute to the diversity of their communities. ASSIST students learn so much and enjoy their year away with us. But we learn so much more.

Daniel T. Roach, Jr.
Headmaster
St. Andrew's School (DE)

From the moment we joined ASSIST in its inaugural year, ASSIST has been a gift to St. Paul's School. The real gift for us has been the students who have shared their talents, their culture, and their friendship with our students and faculty. The ASSIST program was ahead of its time when 58 years ago it began to send students to member schools. Now, as the world understands better how flat this planet needs to be, ASSIST continues to broaden perspectives and to create friendship across borders. Thank you, ASSIST.

William R. Matthews, Jr. '61
Rector Emeritus
St. Paul's School (NH)

Our ASSIST scholars have made a tremendous impact on the life of our school and the way our students view the world. They arrive intent on making the most of every experience and depart having left an impressive mark on our school community. They are serious students and significant contributors to our arts, athletics and other programs. Most importantly, however, they are eager to share their cultures and traditions with their new student peers. I have been impressed with their "can-do, will-do" attitude, zest for life and complete lack of any pretense. They exhibit the very qualities we hope to instill in all of our students: courage, open-mindedness, resilience, curiosity and compassion.

F. Robertson Hershey
Headmaster
Episcopal High School (VA)

What Faculty Are Saying

Elena's growth this year was simply phenomenal, and I'm not sure that I've ever used that last adjective in a student report before. No student worked harder, and even her apparent exhaustion could not dampen Elena's sense of humor... Elena's contributions to the discussions were heartfelt and altruistic.

I have never had a student, for whom English is a second language, do as well as Vratko in AP US History. He has a combination of drive and ability that I've only seen in a handful of students in my thirty plus years of teaching.

It has been such a delightful experience to meet Malin and to be her advisor, Honors Physics teacher, and work-study monitor. She can be described in one word: "Excellent." Everything she does is done with the utmost care and diligence; she has been a very good role model for the other students in class because she does everything with a smile on her face and with great attention to detail. She really seems to love learning new material. We were very lucky to have such a wonderfully bright young lady with us this year.

I really can't believe that I have to give Christiane back to you! She has been an outstanding concert master – and an inspiration to all the other students in the string orchestra. More importantly – she is simply a beautiful person, both inside and out, and I will miss her terribly.

Georgi always strove for excellence in all his endeavors. His friendly disposition and charisma allowed him to relate well to his classmates and teachers. He has a strong work ethic and was always willing to do a little extra work to make his projects and assignments really shine. He is also among the most promising young musicians that I have ever met.

A sadness overcomes me as I write this comment because it is the last that I shall write you as your English teacher. You have been a wonderful addition to our class this year—your comments and sense of the literature have both been wonderful.... I have enjoyed working with you in every aspect of the class.... I know that you will someday become an important factor in the development of a stronger Moldova.

What more can I say about Josef? He has been such a gift to our school community in general, and I have appreciated our association this year. His year-end awards, including the Sacred Studies Award, bear witness to his scholastic prowess. But there is so much more. Josef is a man of conscience and a wonderful ambassador from the Czech Republic and ASSIST.



What Scholars Are Saying

I think the United States is regarded with a mixture of admiration and fear, or, in any case, there are many prejudices out there. All I can say is – don't speak without knowing what you are speaking of. To me America is no longer a headline in the news but the place that welcomed me and let me flourish – a place where they recognized what I had given up to be there and that rewarded me most fairly in return.

I love how this exchange has made me so thirsty for knowledge, craving to know more and more. My ambitions are bigger now and I have had more time to look deep into myself and to discover what I want to do with my life. I have a goal now, and defining a goal is the first step toward achieving that goal. I am now ready to climb mountains, literally and metaphorically speaking...My prejudices of other people are reduced to the minimum, and I'm proud of it. I owe that to the boys and girls, men and women that participated in this journey of mine.

My impression of America is very positive. It has been a really wonderful experience that has helped me to mature and get to know myself better. I met people that I usually would not have been able to meet. I experienced different cultures that I was able to compare with my own. I got to show the Croatian customs to people who were not able to come to Croatia, so I brought Croatia to them. It showed me that there is a world outside of the Croatian borders.

ASSIST: Thank you so much for everything you have done for me. This year has been (and still is!) an incredible experience. It is really hard to put down my feelings on paper, though I tried really hard to give you some idea of what is going on in my head and in my heart. I am a changed person. The decision to come here was the best I have ever made. I have six weeks left and I will get as much out of them as possible. But my excitement to return home and to show my family and friends what I have experienced is growing as well.

College Enrollment Sampling ASSIST Alumni

Harvard (36)
Columbia (15)
Stanford (11)
New York Univ. (10)
Mount Holyoke (8)
Johns Hopkins (7)
Mass. Inst. of Tech. (7)
Yale (7)
Univ. of Pennsylvania (7)
Princeton (6)
Berkeley (6)
Brown (5)
Furman (5)
Hamilton (5)
Bates (4)
Cornell (4)
Georgetown (4)
Univ. of Richmond (4)
Univ. of the South (4)
Tufts (4)
Univ. of Virginia (4)
Amherst (3)
Grinnell (3)
Lafayette (3)
Wellesley (3)
Colgate (2)
Davidson (2)
Duke (2)
Emory (2)
Kenyon (2)
Lawrence (2)
Macalaster (2)
Middlebury (2)
Univ. of Notre Dame (2)
Reed (2)
Scripps (2)
Vassar (2)
Univ. of Washington (2)
Wesleyan (2)
Williams (2)
American
Bowdoin
Colby
Univ. of Chicago
Dartmouth
Haverford
Northwestern
Oberlin
Smith
Swarthmore
Trinity

Leadership of ASSIST

In January 2000, the ASSIST Board of Directors appointed Robert A. Stanley, Jr., as the third president of ASSIST. Mr. Stanley served in American independent schools for 13 years and has previous experience in the corporate world. He manages the staffs of the affiliate offices around the world and is responsible for the

daily operations of the organization. Mr. Stanley is a graduate of Suffield Academy, Brown University and Yale University Divinity School.

J. Martin Milne is Vice President for School and Family Relations. Mr. Milne has served in independent schools in the States and abroad for 13 years and is a graduate of Eaglebrook School, Deerfield Academy and St. Lawrence University.

Meg Moulton is Vice President for Advancement. Ms. Moulton is an accomplished professional with her own consulting practice and was the founding Co-Executive Director of the National Coalition of Girls' Schools. She is a graduate of Wheaton College, and has studied both abroad and in Harvard's Executive Education Program.

In addition to other colleagues stationed in ASSIST's international headquarters in Suffield, CT, the organization maintains a part-time employee or volunteer leader in seventeen countries overseas. Each colleague promotes the program, prescreens applicants, helps prepare Scholars for their ASSIST year, and serves as a liaison with the natural family during the placement year.

ASSIST is also fortunate to have a worldwide network of hard-working and stellar volunteers. Beginning with a committed, generous and active Board of Directors, ASSIST extends its reach through the active participation of alumni, alumni parents and friends around the globe. To operate successfully and with expertise, we believe it is critical to have a support structure in place that allows ASSIST to discover the world's finest Scholars, to place them and prepare them well, and then to support them thoroughly during the exchange year.



Meg Moulton, Bob Stanley and Martin Milne

ASSIST Board of Directors

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Chair of the Board

Head of School Emeritus

Washington International School, DC

Andrew Wooden

Vice Chair of the Board

Head of School

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Philippa M. Bond '89

The Taft School, CT

Partner, Proskauer Rose LLP, CA

John R. Eidam

Dean of Admission

Wyoming Seminary, PA

Robert Fleishman

Partner

Steptoe & Johnson, DC

Ulrich Graebner '84

Deerfield Academy, MA

Managing Director, Leonardo & Co.

Sean T. Harris '95

St. Andrew's-Sewanee School, TN

CEO, C.B. Shoes GmbH, Germany

Aukse Jurkute '93

Deerfield Academy, MA

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Washington International School, DC

Frederick H. Wandelt III

Assistant to the Headmaster

The Taft School, CT

Stephen C. White

President

Mystic Seaport, CT

Priscilla Winn Barlow

Head of School Emerita

The Brearley School, NY

Yi-ming Yang '87, M.D.

The Taft School, CT

Cardiologist

Lenox Hill Hospital, NY



ASSIST is a nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status and is incorporated in the state of Vermont. ASSIST is designated by the United States Department of State as an authorized Exchange Visitor Program. ASSIST is

also able to facilitate the issuance of the J-1 visa under which our students study in the U.S. for one academic year on Exchange Visitor status.

ASSIST does not discriminate, nor does it condone harassment on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, age, sexual orientation or any other basis proscribed by applicable policies or laws.



Robert A. Stanley, Jr
President

J. Martin Milne
Vice President for
School and Family Relations

Meg Moulton
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