



Morgan Hill – San Casciano, Tuscany, Italy Cultural Exchange & Host Family Application

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Every summer, Sister Cities of Morgan Hill organizes a high school student exchange between Morgan Hill teens and teens in San Casciano, Tuscany, Italy. The San Casciano Exchange Program offers students a wonderful opportunity not only to learn and practice new language and cultural skills, but also to explore another culture first-hand.

The program operates in two phases: one summer American teens travel to Italy; the following summer Italian teens travel to Morgan Hill. Each American student is matched with an Italian high school student. While abroad, each student lives with that student's family in San Casciano for approximately two weeks and takes part in all group and family activities. The following summer the American student hosts the Italian student in his or her home in Morgan Hill, taking part in group and family activities. While abroad adult chaperones travel with students and attend to any needs the students may have during their stay. There are planned group trips and activities both in Italy and in the U.S., as well as free days with nothing scheduled.

The exchange usually begins at some point in July and ends in early August. Exact dates are usually available in February, as they are dependent on airfares. This exchange provides an exciting, educational, and overall unforgettable experience in which students have the opportunity to make lifelong friends with both foreign and local students.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Students and parents must complete and sign all forms, following instructions carefully, and return it to Morgan Hill Sister Cities by **December 7**. Applications will be reviewed and accepted or rejected by mid January. As a condition of being accepted into the program, a criminal background check will be done for adult family members living in the home.

Between February and July, students and parents will attend orientation sessions, which allow families to meet, discuss program activities, expectations, and get questions answered.

It is strongly recommended that you keep a copy of your completed application for your reference.



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Exchange Program Rules

As a participant in the Morgan Hill Sister Cities San Casciano Exchange Program, students act as ambassadors for the nonprofit, Morgan Hill, and the United States of America; and, therefore, are expected to maintain a high standard of behavior. Students who violate the program rules may be sent home if participating in the overseas portion of the exchange and/or dismissed from the program in the U.S.

- **No Alcoholic Beverages**
I acknowledge that Morgan Hill Sister Cities and the San Casciano Exchange Program have forbidden all exchange participants to consume any alcoholic beverage, including beer and wine, following local laws.
- **No Illegal Drugs**
I acknowledge that Morgan Hill Sister Cities and the San Casciano Exchange Program have forbidden the use of any drugs by the participants, save those prescribed by an examining physician and/or noted on the medical form.
- **Improper Behavior**
I understand that any student whose behavior, in the sole judgement of the San Casciano Exchange Program, chaperone(s), and Morgan Hill Sister Cities, is inappropriate or dangerous, or reflects unfavorably on the exchange program and administrators, may be sent home immediately, lose housing privileges, and/or dismissed from the program. The student's return from overseas will be at the family's expense and without supervision, after proper notification of the student's parent(s) and/or legal guardian.
- **Remaining in Host Country**
I understand that no student will be allowed to remain in the host country after the group has left unless specific arrangements have been made with the San Casciano Exchange Program administrators before travel.
- **Criminal Background Check**
I understand that in the course of determining the suitability of a family for hosting an international student, Morgan Hill Sister Cities will seek relevant information in the form of a criminal background check for all adults living in the home.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____



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Cultural Exchange Agreement

STUDENT PARTICIPANT

I, the undersigned, _____, agree to:

- Receive my Italian counterpart with warmth and friendliness, and do my best to make him/her feel welcome when I host.
- Try to make my exchange counterpart’s stay in the U.S. as beneficial, productive, and enjoyable as possible.
- Participate in all group activities, accompanying my exchange counterpart.
- Notify parents, chaperone(s), and/or exchange program manager(s) in case of any problems or concerns.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

PARENT / LEGAL GUARDIANS

As parents, we agree to support and assist our son/daughter, in participating with the San Casciano Exchange Program commitments. This may include parent volunteer hours, help with preparations, or other activities. I, the undersigned, _____, agree to:

- Receive in my main place of residence during the U.S. portion of the program my son/daughter’s exchange counterpart.
- Be responsible for the lodging and family activities of my son/daughter’s exchange counterpart.
- Be responsible for all food, both at home and out of the home, including bag lunches and money to purchase meals on day trips and on free days.
- Provide transportation to day trip drop-off locations, or to the destination, and to activities on free days and evenings.
- Be responsible for and treat our guest as an important visitor, and pay particular attention that he/she not be left alone.
- Try to make my son/daughter’s exchange counterpart’s stay in the U.S. as beneficial, productive, and enjoyable as possible.
- Notify the chaperone(s) and/or exchange program managers in case of any problems or concerns.

I/We agree to the use of group photos and names for recognition and publicity purposes only, in the US and Italy. I/We agree to have our contact information shared with the chaperones and Morgan Hill Sister Cities officers for the purpose of communication and transportation arrangements. No soliciting will be allowed.

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

When you are at home, what does your family do together?

When your family goes out, what do you like to do?

What are your own personal interests, hobbies, activities?

School Related:

Community Related, Including Working

PETS

Do you have any pets in your home? Yes No

If yes, what kinds of animals?

SMOKING

Does anyone in your family smoke? Yes No

FAMILY DESCRIPTION

Describe your home: Apartment Townhouse Single Family Home

To Be Completed By Parent or Legal Guardian – Please attach a separate sheet for additional information:

HOSTING A STUDENT

Would you be willing to host a student of the opposite sex? Yes No

Has your family ever hosted a foreign exchange student? Yes No

Can you host more than one student? Yes No One Only Two Students

Would you accept an exchange student who is a smoker? ? Yes No

Will parents/guardians be working during the U.S. hosting portion of the program while the foreign student is living in the home? Yes No If yes, full time or part time? _____

What arrangements can you make to ensure that your child and the foreign student can get to field trips, activities, and local entertainment? _____

Confidential Information. Has anyone living in the home ever been convicted of a crime? ? Yes No
If yes, please give a brief explanation that gives the date and the description of the offense for which convicted.

DRIVING INFORMATION

Does your child or a sibling drive? (ie. Have their full license.) ? Yes No

If yes, will they be driving their exchange counterpart for various activities? Yes No

Is the vehicle(s) that you and/or your child will be driving during the exchange insured at least to California's minimum liability levels? Yes No

Has anyone living in the home ever had his/her driver's license suspended or revoked? Yes No

If yes, please give brief explanation with the date the license was revoked, reason, and date of reinstatement.

Please list the driver's license information for all individuals living in the home who have a license:

Driver #1

Name: _____ State of Issue: _____ DL #: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Restrictions: _____

Driver #2

Name: _____ State of Issue: _____ DL #: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Restrictions: _____

Driver #3

Name: _____ State of Issue: _____ DL #: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Restrictions: _____

Driver #4

Name: _____ State of Issue: _____ DL #: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Restrictions: _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Mother's Information: _____

Full Legal Name

Full Street Address

Email Address

Occupation

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Work Phone

Father's Information: _____

Full Legal Name

Full Street Address

Email Address

Occupation

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Work Phone

Other Adult Family Members Living in Home:

Full name	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Relationship	Occupation
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Full name	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Relationship	Occupation
_____	_____	_____	_____

Other Children Living in Home:

Full name	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Age	Grade	School
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Full name	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Age	Grade	School
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

HOST FAMILY HOME

Does anyone in the family speak Italian? Yes No

Another language? If so, which? _____

Describe the accommodations you are offering (ie. sharing a bedroom, sharing a bathroom, etc.)

RELEASE

I, _____, the parent / legal guardian of _____, hereby agree with Morgan Hill Sister Cities (“MHSC”) to the following by affixing our signatures below on this date, _____. In connection with my/our child’s participation in the San Casciano Exchange Program (the “Program”), I understand and acknowledge the nature and extent of the activities that will be involved in the Program and assume the risks inherent in such activities on behalf of myself/ourselves, and on behalf of our child/children. I voluntarily waive any and all claims, costs, liabilities, expenses (including attorney’s fees), and judgements against MHSC, its directors, officers, employees, servants, subcontractors and agents, and hereby release, excuse and discharge the MHSC, its directors, officers, employees, servants, subcontractors and agents from all claims, costs, liabilities, expenses (including attorney’s fees), and judgements which may arise out of my child’s/children’s participation in the Program and all aspects attendant thereto. The undersigned further agree(s) to indemnify and hold the MHSC, its directors, officers, employees, servants, subcontractors and agents harmless from any and all claims, damages, actions, liabilities, expenses (including attorney’s fees), and judgements which may arise out of my child’s/children’s participation in the Program.

I/We have read, considered, and fully understand the contents of this agreement.
I/We agree to comply with the terms and conditions of the agreement, as written.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____



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REVIEW

I hereby declare that I have reviewed the packet / application and that I am aware of and accept the program requirements for participation. I further declare that I have reviewed my son's/daughter's application, that it is complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that it is submitted with my consent. I understand that completing this application does not guarantee acceptance into the exchange program.

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Printed Name _____

Date _____

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Printed Name _____

Date _____

San Casciano Exchange Program Contact:

Morgan Hill Sister Cities

Attn: Amy Whelan

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amywhelan7@gmail.com

408-465-2412