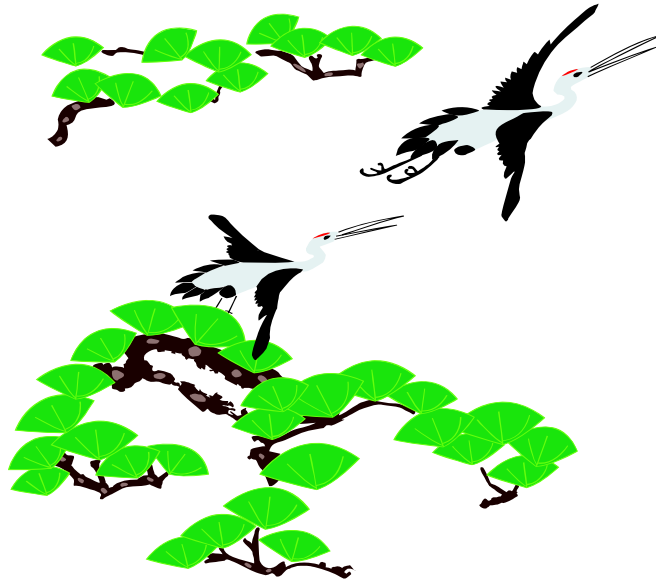


# HOME AWAY FROM HOME



**Host Friends and Families  
For McDaniel College International Students**

The ***HOME AWAY FROM HOME*** program at McDaniel College helps to ease the transition for new international students and offers them a view of American life and culture. This non-residential program pairs each international student with host friends or families from the campus community who are interested in the opportunity for cross-cultural exchange. The program enriches the experience of international students at McDaniel and provides an additional source of support, connectedness, and interaction. Hosts introduce students to U.S. culture and life off campus; at the same time, students introduce their hosts to a new culture and events that take place on campus.

The ***HOME AWAY FROM HOME*** program is coordinated through the International Programs Office (IPO). All faculty, staff, and administrative members of the campus community are invited to serve as hosts to an international student at the College. The Director of International and Off-Campus Study will identify suitable hosts for the international students and arrange for introductions at an informal social, as part of International Student Orientation each semester. On-campus members of the International Club will also attend the social. Students who are at McDaniel for successive years will be assigned a new host each year.



## **Who?**

Host friends and families come in all shapes and sizes and embody the rich diversity of American culture—married or single, families with or without children, younger or older couples, people from different backgrounds and ethnicities. All of them have something to share and learn from participating in the program.



International undergraduate students at McDaniel come from countries all over the world: Turkey, China, Israel, Albania, Hungary, Poland, Viet Nam, Germany, France, Argentina, Nigeria, Cyprus, Serbia, Zambia, Myanmar, and Mongolia. They are encouraged to participate in the program (though participation is voluntary) and to share their customs, traditions, and perspectives about their native country with their hosts.

## **What is expected?**

International students are eager to get off campus on occasion and share a little time with a host friend or family who can make them feel less lonesome for their own family so far away. The relationships between hosts and students may involve social get-togethers, outings, meals, and companionship. International students and their hosts should expect to meet a few times a semester to interact and have fun together.

## Suggested Activities

- a meal at home
- cultural outings to Baltimore, Washington, or other cities
- other activities—*e.g.*, hiking, biking, music or sports events, picnic, birthday celebration
- Thanksgiving dinner / caring for the student during a holiday when necessary
- shopping trips to local malls or other centers
- watching a movie together
- playing football or soccer, softball or cricket

If you are interested in participating in the Host Friends and Families Program, contact:

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