

Dear colleague,

Welcome to the Autumn edition of HOST's ISA newsletter. We are at our busiest time of the year again, welcoming **many** new student applications. Have a read through as we have a few important updates and exciting announcements for you!

HOST UK Team

Student feedback

For the first time this year we have compiled your students' feedback from HOST visits!

As a subscriber to HOST you will receive your students' feedback for the year (October 2010 to September 2011) together with the quarterly invoice (June-September 2011). Feedback will include responses (both positive and negative) from students who have submitted their feedback forms to HOST and you might also get some insight into the hosts' comments, provided they have offered them.

Administration fee increment

Just as a reminder as of 1st of October 2011 the application fee is now £50.00 (£60.00 inclusive of VAT). The Provision of Services for 2011/2012 can also be found on our website in the Institution section:

http://www.hostuk.org/inst_home.html



Christmas and New Year HOST visits

We are in the mids of recruiting new hosts all around the UK. We hope to be able to offer more **Christmas** and **New Year invitations** this year. With this in mind HOST hopes to extend the deadline for festive applications till the end of November but we will keep you informed by email.

We have received a good number of festive applications already this year and are working hard to place them as they come. So please encourage your students to apply as places are filling up fast! Last year HOST arranged 384 Christmas and 74 New Year visits.

Changes to staffing at HOST UK HQ

Kasia Musial, our Students and Volunteers Coordinator is here full time now. **Kim** and **Joss** have joined our team as Administrator Interns and are making a great contribution to our work. Kim will also join us as a member of staff from 1st of November.

Contact details

Kasia Musial's Email:

Musial@hostuk.org

Tel: 020 7739 6292

Fundraising

We have launched some fundraising schemes this year: **Charity Greetings** – order a card for your loved one, a friend or a colleague through our charity website and raise funds for HOST, **Recycle4Charity** — a scheme through which everyone can recycle their old phones, printer and ink jet cartridges whilst helping HOST raise funds. For bags to be sent to you for distribution please email info@hostuk.org. Remember: Every little helps!

DAY visits

We are working on a DAY visit scheme which will soon be set up on our database, so if you think your students might benefit from going on a DAY visit with a local family instead of spending a whole weekend with a host please get in touch. It will be a Pilot Project, running alongside our usual weekend visits, with the same high standard of vetting of hosts and the application process for students. Loughborough and Canterbury Christ Church University were the first Institutions to have expressed an interest.

The advantages to the Universities: we have hosts and established methods for finding new hosts and volunteers to vet and monitor the quality of visits. An application process is already in place, so please contact Susie (Susie@hostuk.org) if you think your Institution might be interested.

Cook Book

For our **25th birthday** next year, we are planning a HOST Cookbook. We are looking for recipes from around the world, with pictures and food-related anecdotes, to celebrate the importance of food on a HOST visit. Please encourage your students to send these in.

Fresher's Events

HOST UK attended **36 orientation events** for the new intake of students in **September/October period**. **10** of them also included a presentation or a talk as well as a quiz!

Internship opportunities at HOST

HOST is offering internships for graduates in the following areas: Administration, PR/Marketing/Fundraising and Events/PR. Interns will have the opportunity to work with nationwide network of volunteers and gain plenty of experience whilst helping HOST UK thrive. They will be able to work within a friendly, passionate and dedicated office team in London. Please note potential applicants will have to live in London, preferably locally. We pay travel and lunch expenses. Minimum 4-5 days a week for 3-6 months. The intake will be in January and March.

Previous interns have said:

"Internship with HOST meant that I was given the opportunity to gain experience which many other companies did not offer. I was able to gain experience in a variety of officer tasks meaning I was constantly learning something new. This enabled me to gain confidence within the office environment which I previously did not have."
Laura

"During my three months at HOST UK I learnt a lot. My achievements by the end really did improve my employability. The HOST UK Team are really friendly and I would recommend the experience to anyone who is looking to gain valuable work experience." Jon

Well Done!

In the academic year 2010/11, you helped nearly 2800 students, some with families, make a real connection by having a HOST visit!

The institutions with the greatest number of applications are...

3rd Place - University College London—189 applications

2nd Place - University of Leicester—215 applications

1st Place - University of Warwick—331 applications