



# Academic Year Program **SELECT ACCESS**



## SELECT OPTIONS

- **SELECT THE REGION**

For students who love to live in town versus those who want to have greater access to outdoor activities, simply select the region that best meets your lifestyle goals.

Space is limited in each region, so early application is vital to secure your placement in the region of your choice.

- **SELECT TO STUDY INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB)**

For our IB students, you can select to continue your IB studies while on an exchange program to the United States.

**SELECT ACCESS: GREATER CONTROL TO  
CREATE THE EXPERIENCE YOU WANT!**

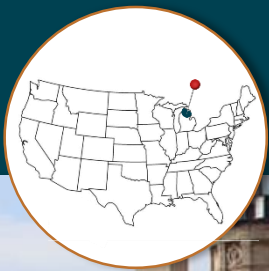
Nacel Open Door is  
excited to offer  
**SELECT ACCESS**  
as a special add-on  
feature to our popular  
Academic Year Program.



### Why are We Offering this Great Opportunity?

We understand some students want added control over selecting the region of the country that best suits their lifestyle and interests. The SELECT ACCESS program lets you do just that!

We also understand that to some of our students it is very important to continue their International Baccalaureate (IB) studies while enjoying their cultural exchange year. Our IB Program will allow students to do just that!



## Select Access NORTHERN MICHIGAN

### ABOUT THE REGION

Explore one-of-a-kind destinations in the northern reaches of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Near the northern shores of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron, there is no lack of picturesque scenery – from coastal dunes, inland lakes and beautiful greenways – Northern Michigan provides the perfect back drop to an academic exchange year.

For outdoor enthusiasts, there is no shortage of activities, for all seasons. From water sports, hiking, and fishing to snowboarding and ice skating, and more, Northern Michigan has it all.



### FUN FACTS

- ♦ Michigan is the only state in the U.S which consists of two peninsulas and touches four out of the five great lakes, more than any other state: Huron, Michigan, Erie and Superior
- ♦ Built in 1957, the Mackinac Bridge is one of the longest suspension bridges in the world. Connecting the upper and lower peninsulas, it spans 5 miles over the Straits of Mackinac, which is where Lake Michigan and Lake Huron meet
- ♦ Keweenaw, Michigan set the record for the states snowiest winter, with 356 inches, or 29.5 feet, in 1978
- ♦ There are over 3,000 miles of snowmobile trails in Northern Michigan, (that's the equivalent of snowmobiling from Orlando, FL to Seattle, WA)

**It was nice to be able to meet all the students. Really enjoyed the school and all the sports and loved participating. I knew I was safe and I was happy. ~ AYP Student**

### Meet the NOD Coordinator: Chris Wacholz



Over the years, Chris Wacholz has hosted and represented many students. She keeps in touch with all her former students, visiting when she can and hosting their return visits.

Chris is extremely dedicated to her students providing them with her full attention always. They love this about her and she loves it because it keeps her young and active. Chris enjoys hiking in the fall when the leaves are turning color, skiing in the winter and of course, traveling.



# Select Access TWIN CITIES, MINNESOTA

## ABOUT THE REGION

Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and the surrounding counties are called the “Twin Cities”. St. Paul is the capital of Minnesota, and it is known for its historic sites and classic architecture. Minneapolis is the largest city in Minnesota, and it is known for its music and arts scene and for being very bike-friendly.

The Twin Cities is home to one of the largest malls in North America – the Mall of America. In addition to amazing shopping, the Twin Cities is home to multiple professional sports teams, culturally diverse cuisine options, music, arts and theatre.

Minnesotans are known for their love of outdoors so it comes as no surprise that parks, forests, rivers and other beautiful green spaces can be found in great numbers.



## Fun Facts

- Minnesota is referred to as “the land of 10,000 lakes”
- A bicyclist’s dream with over 4,000 miles of paved bicycle trails
- The population of the Twin Cities is about 3.5 million and spans about 6,364 square miles
- Minnesotans are known for being very friendly, which is referred to as “Minnesota nice”
- The Twin Cities is home the largest indoor shopping center, the Mall of America

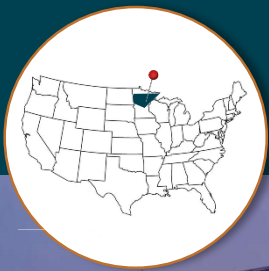
**“It was wonderful. It changed my life in a good way. It lead me in the right direction.”**

**~ AYP Student**

## Meet the NOD Coordinator: Faith Richardson



Faith Richardson has been with Nacel Open Door since 2003, beginning first as a host mom before becoming a Local Rep and now Coordinator. Faith has five children (all grown) and six grandchildren. She enjoys working with each student and host family and is the first to tell you that her students and their families are not only her job, but they are her world. Faith cares very much about her students and wants to be a part of their experience here in Minnesota.



# Select Access CENTRAL MINNESOTA

## ABOUT THE REGION

Central Minnesota's charm is in their small towns that offer close-knit communities that warmly welcome everyone who comes to visit. With specialty shops, art galleries and dining of all kinds, you won't feel like you are missing anything from a big city, except maybe the hustle and bustle.

Many towns are surrounded by clusters of lakes, with family-friendly resorts and campgrounds along their shores. Music festivals, heritage experiences and town celebrations are great fun for all ages.

Highlights of the region include some of Minnesota's largest lakes, the headwaters of the Mississippi River, the magnificent Lake Superior, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and the freshwater-based Voyageurs National Park.



## Fun Facts:

- ◆ Duluth, Minnesota is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest city in the state and is situated on the largest of the five Great Lakes in North America, Lake Superior
- ◆ Lake Superior is the world's largest freshwater lake, it has an average water temp of 40°F and could cover all of North America in water three feet deep
- ◆ The headwater of the Mississippi River, the longest river in the United States, is located in Itasca State Park, which can be found in Northern Minnesota
- ◆ Famous American's who grew up in Northern Minnesota include: Rock n Role Hall of Famer Bob Dylan, Judy Garland, who played Dorothy in the movie "The Wizard of Oz" and Guardians of the Galaxy Actor Chris Pratt

**At school, I went to a football game, and I almost cried, since it was exactly like in the movies.**

**~ AYP Student**

## Meet the NOD Coordinator: Diane Japke



Diane Japke, originally from London, England, relocated to Minnesota over 40 years ago, knows first-hand what it is like to live in a foreign country with different customs. This is one of the reasons she has enjoyed working with international exchange students over the past three decades. Diane and her family have even hosted 50 students over the years.

Diane enjoys traveling, spending time with her children and grandchildren, and taking advantage of the beautiful weekends at her lake home boating and swimming well into the Fall. She also coordinates an exciting trip to Washington D.C., New York City and Niagara Falls for her students to participate in. Diane is dedicated to ensuring her students have the best experience possible.



# Select Access NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA (D.C. AREA)

## ABOUT THE REGION

The National Capital area combines cosmopolitan skylines and country star-lit skies. Nestled near the U.S. capital, the surrounding towns are reminiscent of colonial times, equestrian farms, cobblestoned streets, and other historical gems.

Rich in both culture and natural wonders, students will have access to explore history while enjoying the benefits of a modern world.

The region is also near to the Northeast corridor, a short drive to New York City and Boston.



## Fun Facts

- ♦ A section of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah National Park is perfectly picturesque and features waterfalls and rolling hills aplenty
- ♦ The blossoming and blooming George Washington & Jefferson National Forest located in the Appalachian Mountains can be explored by foot or on mountain bike
- ♦ Civil War history can be found at nearby Gettysburg and Antietam National Battlefields
- ♦ Lying on the banks of the Potomac River, is the beloved home of President George Washington, Mount Vernon and includes his final resting place

**My favorite memories will be feeling a part of my host family and feeling a sense of belonging to my high school. I really enjoyed feeling appreciated on both the volleyball team as well as on the softball team.**

**~ AYP Student**

## Meet the NOD Coordinator: Pam Boyett



Pam has been a coordinator for exchange students for over 20 years. She is a former high school teacher of 10 years, and now teaches and writes courses at the college level in information technology. She traveled extensively while serving in the US Air Force and was trained in adapting to differences in culture. She understands the challenges of adapting to different cultures and how communication can smooth the transition.

Pam has a lot of interests outside of work. She is lucky to be able to experience all the cultural activities of our country while living in the national capital region, also known as the Washington DC area. She plays Irish whistle and flute, likes to swim, watch movies, jet ski, craft, and make quilts.



# Select Access NORTH CAROLINA

## ABOUT THE REGION

New Hanover County region of NC includes Wilmington, North Carolina, NC's River District and Island Beaches. This region is a wonderful place to live in with its abundant natural beauty situated on the Atlantic Ocean. Downtown Wilmington – recently named one of “The South’s Best Cities” by Southern Living magazine – is home to one of the best riverfronts in America, featuring cobblestone streets and a boardwalk with easy access to cafés, candy stores, boutiques, galleries, museums, and more.

The Cape Fear River is one of the region’s natural beauties, where water enthusiasts can enjoy a kayak out on the river, exploring salt marshes and cypress groves. History buffs will not be disappointed, as the area is rich in historical sites from the Revolutionary War to the Antebellum years to the Civil War and beyond.



## Fun Facts

- ♦ Home to some of the nation’s best beaches, whether you’re a surfer, fisherman or just find peace and tranquility on sandy shores you will find your happy place here
- ♦ Wilmington is nestled between the Atlantic Ocean and Intracoastal Waterway to its east and the Cape Fear River to its west, making for stunning sunrises and beautiful river sunsets
- ♦ Wilmington is referred to as “Hollywood” East, boasting nearly 400 film/ tv credits and has its own movie studio



**At first I thought I came to improve my English. As time went on I realized it was more than that. I learned a lot about myself and what I am capable of.**

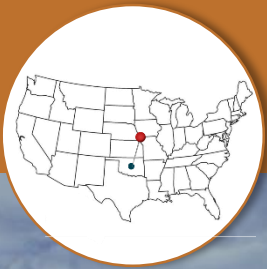
**~ AYP Student**

## Meet the NOD Coordinator: Darlene Mohler



Darlene Mohler has extensive experience working as Coordinator for Nacel Open Door. She has had the pleasure of supporting hundreds of international exchange students throughout the years. She has had the added joy of staying in touch with these students, watching them grow, even marrying and having children of their own.

When Darlene is not spending time with her family or exchange students, she enjoys cross-stitch. She is looking forward to continuing to make this experience of a lifetime a reality for future students.



# Select Access OKLAHOMA CITY

## ABOUT THE REGION

Oklahoma City was recently named one of the 50 Best Places to Travel in 2020 by *Travel + Leisure*. Oklahoma City offers all of the culture, cuisine, attractions and amenities you'd expect in a modern metropolis. It's rugged Western past, working stockyards and title as "Horse Show Capital of the World," it's rich in cowboy culture, as well. From family fun to romantic retreats to outdoor adventures you won't find anywhere else, Oklahoma City has plenty of hustle without all the hassle.

The city is surrounded by wooded hill country gradually transitioning to rolling short-grass. This region was once part of the wild-and-rowdy Great American Frontier. Although Oklahoma's territorial frontier days have ended, the remarkable spirit of this thriving crossroads region embodies the feisty independence of bygone days. Today, new frontiers are emerging in a renaissance rooted in the best of the past and the bright horizons of the future.



## Fun Facts

- ◆ 39 tribes call Oklahoma home, 5 are considered indigenous: the Osage, Caddo, Kiowa, Comanche and Wichita. Over 600,000 Oklahomans listed themselves as solely or part-Indian
- ◆ Home to professional basketball team: Oklahoma City Thunder (NBA)
- ◆ Nickname: Sooner State. Sooners is the name given to settlers who entered the Unassigned Lands in what is now the state of Oklahoma before the official start of the Land Rush of 1889
- ◆ Country music legends like Carrie Underwood, Blake Shelton, and Gareth Brooks were all born in Oklahoma
- ◆ The National Cowboy Hall of Fame is located in Oklahoma City

**I have many happy memories and will remember all of the times with my family and my friends. It has all been such a good experience for me.**

**~ AYP Student**

## Meet the NOD Coordinator: Pam Boyett



Pam has been a coordinator for exchange students for over 20 years. She is a former high school teacher of 10 years, and now teaches and writes courses at the college level in information technology. She traveled extensively while serving in the US Air Force and was trained in adapting to differences in culture. She understands the challenges of adapting to different cultures and how communication can smooth the transition.

Pam has a lot of interests outside of work. She is lucky to be able to experience all the cultural activities of our country while living in the national capital region, also known as the Washington DC area. She plays Irish whistle and flute, likes to swim, watch movies, jet ski, craft, and make quilts.



## Select Access EASTERN SOUTH DAKOTA

### ABOUT THE REGION

Natural beauty and wonder await you in South Dakota. Across the state, you will be inspired to expand your journey in the west from the Black Hills and Badlands, to the northeast to explore the glacial lakes and outdoor adventure. Along the way, you'll follow the Missouri River as it flows down through central South Dakota and experience the history of Lewis and Clark. Discover the land of the southeast and its bustling cities, quiet country escapes and family attractions. As you venture back home, you will know you truly made memories that will last forever.



### Fun Facts

The western side of South Dakota is home to a number of American Icons, including:

- ♦ Mount Rushmore where the likeness of four U.S. presidents is forever emblazoned in granite
- ♦ Badlands is an ancient sea floor rises and swallows the plains, a colorful and surreal preservation of the past
- ♦ Crazy Horse Memorial emerges from granite and iron is the likeness of a legendary leader
- ♦ Historic Deadwood, a gold mining town equally famous for the infamous figures who passed through, represents the lore of the American West
- ♦ Custer State Park captures the best of nature's beauty in its clear mountain waters, granite splays, emerald splays and windswept prairies where herds of wildlife roam free



**It's gone by so fast and its been such  
an incredible experience**

**~ AYP Student**

### Meet the NOD Coordinator: Julienne Antes



Julienne has a long history in exchange, placing students for over a decade and hosting for more than 20 years. She has always been active in youth leadership and educational ventures – whether for her own children or others.

She enjoys learning about other cultures and helping students fulfill their dream of coming to the USA for a year abroad. Learning about each student and helping them to be successful is important to Julienne.





# Select Access DALLAS, TEXAS

## ABOUT THE REGION

While the name alone may bring images of cowboy boots and horses, Dallas is where Texas tradition meets modern luxury. From museums, to culture and arts to great restaurants that include, but go beyond Texas barbeque. For outdoor enthusiasts, combine the perfect weather with a visit to White Rock Lake to enjoy kayaking, paddle boarding or go hiking at Katy Trail.

As one of the fastest growing cities in the U.S., Dallas has a strong job market continuing to draw transplants from around the country as well as internationally, creating a diverse community.



## Fun Facts

- ◆ Spring and summer months bring warm days and chilly nights, with mild winters.
- ◆ Dallas averages 1 inch of snow per year. (The US average is 28 inches of snow per year)
- ◆ For the sports enthusiast, Dallas is home to the Dallas Cowboys (American Football), Dallas Mavericks (basketball), and Dallas Stars (Hockey)
- ◆ Nearby Fort Worth, provides a truly Texan experience – Cowboy boots, ten-gallon hats, and plenty of Tex-Mex foodie options

**I would like to share that I really truly have the best host family. I am glad that they chose me. I really love everything that we shared this year together.**

**~ AYP Student**

## Meet the NOD Coordinator: Pam Boyett



Pam has been a coordinator for exchange students for over 20 years. She is a former high school teacher of 10 years, and now teaches and writes courses at the college level in information technology. She traveled extensively while serving in the US Air Force and was trained in adapting to differences in culture. She understands the challenges of adapting to different cultures and how communication can smooth the transition.

Pam has a lot of interests outside of work. She is lucky to be able to experience all the cultural activities of our country while living in the national capital region, also known as the Washington DC area. She plays Irish whistle and flute, likes to swim, watch movies, jet ski, craft, and make quilts.



# Select Access CENTRAL WISCONSIN

## ABOUT THE REGION

Come to Central Wisconsin, relax and enjoy the quiet beauty of the north woods, This area of Wisconsin is filled with picturesque roads, rolling hills, lakes and streams for you to enjoy. Central Wisconsin is known for its small towns and unmatched hospitality.

Take advantage and experience things you can't anywhere else. Watch the toughest and most skilled woodsmen (*and women*) compete at the Lumberjack World Championship each year! Visit Wisconsin Concrete Park, this outdoor museum is home to 230 figures of mythical and real characters and bas relief slabs. Explore the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore along with windswept beaches and sandstone cliffs, it's a stunningly beautiful place where water meets land and sky!



## Fun Facts

- ♦ Wisconsin Dells is the best spot in the state for fun at waterparks, it is actually the "Waterpark Capital of the World." Here you will find the very first indoor water park, and it houses the biggest concentration worldwide of indoor and outdoor waterparks
- ♦ Celebrities born in Wisconsin include: Actor/Comedian Chris Farley, Marvel Actor Mark Ruffalo better known as *the Hulk*, and Race Car driver, Danica Patrick
- ♦ The original Barbie Doll is from Willows, WI. Barbie's full name is Barbie Millicent Roberts.
- ♦ Harley-Davidson – The motorcycle company, is a Wisconsin company, named after its 1903 founders, William Harley and the Davidson brothers

**"I enjoyed EVERYTHING! I'll always remember going to homecoming and prom, going camping and having all those snow days that we don't have in Spain."**

~ AYP Student

## Choose Your Coordinator:

**Didi Jakubowski:** Didi has several years of experience working with international exchange students as both a local representative and host mother. She loves helping these students experience an adventure they will never forget. In addition to getting to learn about different places and cultures, sharing her own home, Didi enjoys reading, crocheting, crafts, riding her bicycle, swimming, and most of all, traveling.

**Diana Herzog Boesch:** Diana has been with Nacel for nearly a decade as a local representative. It is her goal to see you have a wonderful year with your future host family and enjoy your educational and cultural experiences at your new school. She will support you every step of the way. She loves to travel, to read, do photography, and spending time with her family, friends, and her students.





# Select Access SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

## ABOUT THE REGION

Southern Wisconsin is known for its small-town charm. Friendly, quaint, engaging and delightful, are words that come to mind when you think of these communities. Southern Wisconsin isn't just home to Madison, the capital of Wisconsin, here you'll also find the Waterpark Capital of the World in the Wisconsin Dells. After you've played at any one of the Dell's eight indoor or three outdoor parks (with more than 200 water slides and 16 million gallons of water to experience!) take in the views from atop the bluffs at Devil's Lake State Park, or explore Cave of the Mounds, a natural wonder 500 million years in the making. Southern Wisconsin's cold and snowy winters allow for a variety of winter sports, and the warm summers appeal to thousands of vacationers each year. If you choose this region, you will truly experience and come to love all four seasons!



## Fun Facts

- ♦ Wisconsin Dells is the "Waterpark Capital of the World." Here the very first indoor water park was pioneered and today houses the biggest concentration worldwide of indoor and outdoor waterparks in the world
- ♦ The first ever ice cream sundae was served in Two Rivers, Wisconsin in 1881
- ♦ Wisconsin's state symbol, the badger, doesn't refer to the animal but instead to the 1820s lead miners who traveled for work and dug tunnels to sleep in and keep warm, much like a badger
- ♦ The unmanned Soviet satellite Sputnik IV fell out of orbit in September of 1962, and, while most of it burned up on re-entry, one 20-lb. chunk of metal crashed to the ground in Manitowoc.

**"It was such a wonderful experience that helped me to improve my self, I will never forget this I will remember it for ever."**

**~ AYP Student**

## Meet the NOD Coordinator: Barb Dean



Barb has been working with international exchange students since 2007. She dedicates her time making sure that her students have the best experience possible. Being centrally located in Wisconsin, Barb's students have the opportunities to visit many large cities including Madison, Milwaukee, Chicago, Dubuque, and other many cities in Wisconsin, Iowa & Illinois.

Barb loves planning outings for all of her students and host families, such as a welcome and farewell picnic, trip to Chicago, visit to the Mall of America in Minnesota, and so much more. She loves to share the American culture and her family's traditions.



# Select Access SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN

## ABOUT THE REGION

Welcome to America's Dairy land!

The southeast region of Wisconsin consists of an area of eight counties, and it is home to the largest city in the state, Milwaukee. Southeast Wisconsin houses around one-third of the entire state's population. It also is home to two of the three professional sports teams – the Milwaukee Brewers (baseball) and the Milwaukee Bucks (basketball).

Southeastern Wisconsin has a youthful and energetic vibe. It is bordered by Lake Michigan, one of the five Great Lakes of North America. This shoreline helps create incredibly beautiful views, and it makes this Midwestern region feel coastal while located in the heart of America. It is also about two hours away from Chicago, Illinois, the third largest metropolitan area in the U.S.

Southeast Wisconsin is a good choice for students that are interested in living in a central location, sports and outdoor adventures.



## FUN FACTS

- ♦ Lake Michigan is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest freshwater lake in the world
- ♦ Wisconsin is the top producer of cheese in the United States
- ♦ The state gets its nickname of "The Badger State" from 19<sup>th</sup> century miners who would dig into hills for shelter
- ♦ The populations of Southeast Wisconsin is about 2.1 million and spans about 6,028 square miles
- ♦ Average seasonal snowfall totals range from 40 to 50 inches across much of central and northeast Wisconsin

**"Thank you for this amazing experience, I had so much fun and learned so much, I loved it!"**

**~ AYP Student**

## Meet the NOD Coordinator: Carrie Schultz



Carrie Schulz has been a Local Representative for Nacel Open Door since 2002. Carrie is a former language (French and Spanish) high school teacher. Carrie has traveled extensively internationally, so she has a keen respect for some of the unique challenges our exchange students face acclimating to a new home and school.

Carrie has many interests. She enjoys dancing, including belly dance, ballet, flamenco, salsa, and ballroom. Of course, she also loves music and can play the guitar and even a bit of piano. She enjoys activities such as ice skating, horseback riding and also swimming especially in the thermal waters of Peru.



# INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

## CONTINUING YOUR INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE EDUCATION

Similar to International Baccalaureate (IB), Nacel Open Door is dedicated to promoting international understanding. As such, NOD has partners with several IB high school programs to provide prospective international exchange students with the opportunity to continue their IB studies while also exploring their world by studying abroad for an academic year.

Studying abroad enriches both the student, as well as the community hosting this student. This is a cornerstone to NOD's mission and is fundamental the IB program. Globalization has changed the way the world works and it is critical to the preparation for future leaders to have strong international skills and real-life expertise.



### Requirements

- ♦ Must be currently enrolled and participating in an IB program
- ♦ Student is responsible for providing an advisor approved list of course requirements
- ♦ Choosing to continue IB curriculum while studying in the U.S. ensures the school will offer the courses you need, but schools are located in a variety of areas, and placement will depend on a variety of factors. Location can not be preselected by students.

