



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.

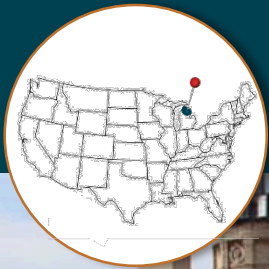
**SELECT ACCESS: GREATER CONTROL TO
CREATE THE EXPERIENCE YOU WANT!**

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 that some students want the 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, such as Sleeping Bear 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 Skiing & snowboarding at three different resorts, ice skating, and more, Northern Michigan has it all.

"Winter, Spring, Summer or Fall, Northern Michigan has it all!"



FUN FACTS

- ♦ Michigan is the only state which consists of two peninsulas and touches four 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)

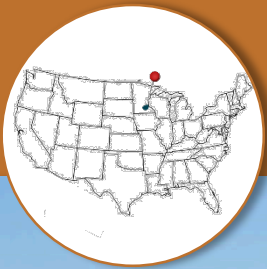
I have been given the opportunity to spend a very special year in northern Michigan, which will accompany me all my life, especially through hopefully lifelong friendship with my great host family and many friends.. ~ AYP Student

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 planning weekend excursions for her students.



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 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 Minnesota State Fair, held at the end of August each year, is the largest state fair in the United States by average attendance

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

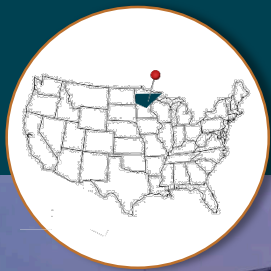
~ AYP Student

Meet the NOD Coordinator: Kimberly Morvig



Kimberly Morvig started as a host mom over 18 years ago before becoming a Local Rep and now Coordinator. Kimberly has 4 children, two of whom are adopted (19,14,14,13).

Working with exchange students and host families is not just a job for her but a true passion. Kimberly is very active and involved with her host families and students. She cares very much about her students and families wanting to make sure everyone is having the best 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 5th 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.

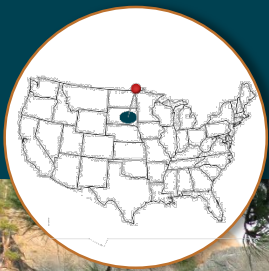
~ AYP Student

Meet the NOD Coordinator: Diane Japke



Diane Japke, originally from London, England, relocated to Minnesota over 40 years ago, and 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 students over the past three decades. Diane and her family have hosted more than 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 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, and 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
- ♦ The Badlands are an ancient sea floor that rises and swallows the plains, a colorful and surreal preservation of the past
- ♦ Crazy Horse Memorial is the world's largest mountain carving, though it's still a work in progress
- ♦ 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

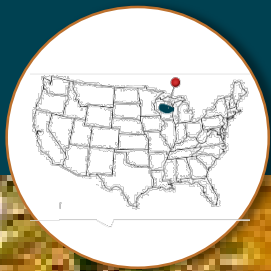
~ AYP Student

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 CENTRAL WISCONSIN

ABOUT THE REGION

Come to Central Wisconsin, to relax and enjoy the quiet beauty of the north woods. This area of Wisconsin is filled with picturesque roads, rolling hills, lakes and streams where you can go skiing, fishing, or boating. 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 Concrete Park, an outdoor museum which 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, as well as 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
- ♦ Wisconsin is Home to the Green Bay Packers Football team and Tittletown
- ♦ 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 her students experience an adventure they will never forget. In addition to getting to learn about different places and cultures and sharing her own home, Didi enjoys reading, crocheting, crafts, riding her bicycle, swimming, and most of all, traveling.



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 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

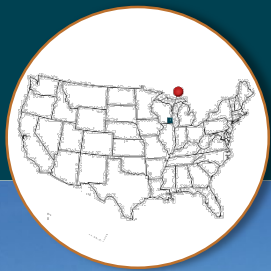
Meet the NOD Coordinator: Barb Dean

Barb has been working with international exchange students since 2007. She dedicates her time to making sure that her students have the best experience possible. Being centrally located in Wisconsin, Barb's students have 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 & host families. Some of these outings consist of a welcome picnic, a trip to Chicago and another to the Mall of America in Minnesota. Each year she hosts a Christmas Party in December. They visit the House on the Rock, have a pizza bowling party, and ending the year with a farewell picnic for students and their Host families.

Barb enjoys working with her schools, host families and exchange students to share with them all what life in America is all about: the family life, school life, sports life, holiday's in America and to show the students how proud American's are of America and our America Flag.





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 great choice for students that are interested in living in a central location, with sports and outdoor adventures.



FUN FACTS

- ♦ Lake Michigan is the 4th 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 19th century miners who would dig into hills for shelter
- ♦ The population 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 Schulz



Carrie Schulz has been a Coordinator for Nacel Open Door since 2002 and Local Representative for several years before that. 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.



ABOUT THE REGION

Florida is the southernmost state in the continental United States. It's the 22nd largest and 3rd most populous state in the nation. Florida is a peninsula—that means it's almost completely surrounded by water. Its northernmost edge borders the states of Alabama and Georgia. Florida has the longest coastline (1,197 statute miles) of the lower 48 states in the U.S., including 825 miles of accessible beaches to enjoy. Florida is the only state that borders both the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. Wherever you are in Florida, you're never more than 60 miles from the nearest body of salt water.

The northern "upland" part of the state is hilly, but you'll find caves and sinkholes in the northwestern Marianna lowlands. In the south, you can canoe through the famous Everglades National Park, a swampy, wildlife-filled marshland that covers 1.5 million acres. Off the southernmost tip of the state are the Florida Keys, a group of about 1,700 tiny islands called an archipelago. Want to island-hop? No problem. A causeway and 42 bridges connect the various keys

Fun Facts

- ♦ Florida can make an excellent vacation spot, with miles of beaches, and countless theme parks, including 12 in Orlando alone!
- ♦ The state can even take you out of this world ... literally! You can see an actual rocket launch from Cape Canaveral, where rockets have been taking off since 1950.
- ♦ Everglades National Park in South Florida is the only place in the world where alligators and crocodiles co-exist in the same ecosystem.
- ♦ Florida isn't just a great place to visit. Many have called the state home. Author Ernest Hemingway, Actor Wilmer Valderrama, and Singers Ariana Grande and Pitbull are all from Florida.

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



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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 them. 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 needed, 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

