

Mesa Youth Ambassador Exchange 2023 Information

What is this exchange programme?

Upper Hutt City has an established 'sister city' relationship with Mesa City, Arizona, USA. Mesa has forged several sister city relationships with other cities worldwide and has operated a very successful student exchange programme.

The exchange is designed to be an inclusive cultural exchange to further develop and expose our youth to more of what the world has to offer, and to further strengthen the relationship between Upper Hutt and Mesa. All host families are screened before they are accepted for the programme.

Upper Hutt City Council is seeking two students to represent Upper Hutt. The exchange will take place between April and July 2023. The Council will provide for the cost of airfare and travel insurance.

When is the exchange?

Two Upper Hutt Year 13 students will travel to Mesa on or around 13 April 2023 and return on or around 8 May 2023. Then two Mesa students will travel to New Zealand on or around 1 June 2023 and return on or around 27 June 2023.

How does the exchange work?

The two Upper Hutt students stay with a family in Mesa and attend school for approximately one week before the summer break. They will then experience a range of organised activities when they are in Mesa.

The students from Mesa will attend the college that their host student attends for some of the time and the rest of the time they will enjoy kiwi-orientated activities.

How are students selected?

Students wishing to participate must complete an online application form which is available on the Council's website. Interviews will be held after application closes and a home assessment completed.

Two students who will be in Year 13 in 2023 will be selected to participate in the exchange.

Supporting letters

Each application must be accompanied by a supporting letter from the Principal or Dean of the school the student is currently attending. These letters should make comment on:

- Qualities of the student and suitability for the exchange
- Any other factors the Principal/Dean thinks are relevant

Important Dates

Applications Close	5 February 2023
Interview	Week of 13 February 2023
Home Assessments	Week of 13 February 2023
Successful candidates notified	by 27 February 2023
UH Youth Ambassadors leave	13 April 2023
UH Youth Ambassadors return	8 May 2023
Mesa Youth Ambassadors arrive	1 June 2023
Mesa Youth Ambassadors leave	27 June 2023

NB. TRAVEL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO SLIGHT VARIATION

UPPER HUTT CITY COUNCIL STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

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