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Host home sought for visiting student from Czech Republic

By Sora O'Doherty

The next Czech student to attend Miramonte High School in the fall will be Jan, a 17 year-old from Orinda's Sister City, Tabor, in the Czech Republic. He has been chosen after careful selection process to be this coming year's Miramonte visiting student. The Orinda-Tabor Sister City Foundation is currently seeking someone to host Jan in their home for about five months from this August to Jan. 1, 2025.

In the past, families with students at Miramonte have served as hosts to the visiting students, but it is not a requirement that the host family have students at Miramonte or even children living at home. Those who have hosted past Czech visiting students have reported that they really enjoyed the experience.

Jan loves to play tennis and has been playing the cello for 10 years. He also dabbles in piano and guitar. Since he has been studying English since kindergarten, he is amazingly conversational in English. He enjoys flying his drone and also makes videos for local businesses. Jan lives at home with his mother, father and three brothers. His dream is coming to Orinda, making new friends, improve his English skills, and perhaps even learning to surf!

Bobbie Landers, who hosted the last Czech student, says, "If you host a Czech student, your lives will be changed forever. Step out as a Citizen Diplomat as President Eisenhower planned it."

The Eisenhower administration established the Citizen Ambassador Program in 1956 to promote exchanges between private citizens of different cultures, allowing them to gain a better understanding of each other through the sharing of ideas and experiences.

To learn more please contact bobbielanders@yahoo.com; or by telephone at 925-254-8260.

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