Dear Parents,

St. Albans students have the opportunity to participate in the School Year Abroad program during their sophomore year or their junior year. School Year Abroad (SYA) is a nonprofit, study-abroad and home-stay program for American high school students. Established in 1964 by Phillips Academy Andover, St. Paul’s School, and Phillips Exeter Academy, SYA operates three independent American schools in France, Italy, and Spain. Students attend classes with up to sixty other American students for an entire academic year, live with a carefully selected local family, engage in an exciting curriculum that brings the language and history of Europe to life, and travel extensively throughout their host country. A semester option for all countries will be available for a limited number of students beginning in the 2021-22 academic year.

NOTE: If your son is interested in applying to SYA, he must give his name to Ms. Beuchard and return this letter, signed by you, to Ms. Beuchard by December 10, 2020. After reviewing all the interested students, a St. Albans School committee will select the names of those boys who may continue the application process with the SYA admissions office. Depending on how many boys express interest, we may need to limit participation. Students will be informed of the St. Albans committee’s decision before Christmas break. By signing this letter, you are agreeing that – if accepted – your son will attend SYA.

To ensure that students fulfill St. Albans’ graduation requirements while participating in the SYA program, applicants must be willing to make certain adjustments to their academic program. The addendum details the requirements and adjustments by grade and program. After participating in SYA, returning students may be required to take a math proficiency test to determine appropriate placement at St. Albans. All students participating in SYA remain responsible for completing their sixty hours of social service before starting the senior year.

St. Albans parents whose sons are accepted into the SYA program are responsible for the SYA tuition and fees as well as for all expenses related to the SYA Program (e.g. round trip transportation and personal spending money). However, no St. Albans tuition will be due for that year or semester away at SYA. Need-based financial aid is available through SYA only, as St. Albans does not provide financial aid for participation in SYA. In addition to need-based financial aid, SYA offers a range of scholarships (some with specific criteria) to assist families with providing their children the SYA experience. For more information on SYA scholarship opportunities, please visit https://www.sya.org/admissions/affording-sya/scholarships-financial-aid.
Please also note that you can join virtual admissions information sessions on Thursdays at 7 p.m. eastern time on November 19, December 3, and December 17. Sessions will feature recent alumni. Please visit SYA.org to RSVP.

Please note the relevant deadlines:

December 18, 2020: St. Albans informs students that they may (or may not) apply to SYA.
February 12, 2021: Completed application (including transcript, interview and teacher recommendations) due to SYA. Students applying for scholarships should also submit all supplemental materials, when required (e.g., students applying for the Halsey Scholarship should also submit their Halsey Fund Essay).
February 12, 2021: Financial aid application due to SYA.

Detailed information about the program, the curriculum for each school, admission requirements, the application process, financial aid, and merit scholarships may be found on the SYA website: www.sya.org/admissions/apply.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mireille Beuchard at 202-537-2224 or through email at Mbeuchard@stalbansschool.org

Sincerely,

Suzanne Woods
Associate Head of School

Benjamin Labaree
Head of Upper School

Mireille Beuchard
Director of International Student Travel and Exchange Programs
I have read the letter of information, and I agree with the terms and conditions detailed above. I confirm that I would like my son to be considered for the School Year Abroad program for the school year 2021-22.

Please check the appropriate box to indicate which SYA program your son would like to attend:

France □       Italy □       Spain □

Year-long Program □    Fall Semester □    Spring Semester □

**Student Name:** __________________________________________________________

Current Form: ______________________

**Parent (1) Name:** ________________________________________________________

E-mail address: _____________________________________________________________

Parent (1) Signature: __________________________________________________________

Date: ______________________

**Parent (2) Name:** ________________________________________________________

E-mail address: _____________________________________________________________

Parent (2) Signature: __________________________________________________________

Date: ______________________
ADDENDUM

JUNIORS AT SYA

1- Year-away program
- Take a writing course during their senior year.
- Take U.S. History during their senior year.
- The requirement to take American Literary Traditions (ALT) is waived.

2- First semester away:
- Take American Literary Traditions during the second semester and a writing course during their senior year.
- Take a history elective in the second semester and U.S. History during their senior year.
- Take the SYA version of the StA math course they will rejoin and work with the teacher to ensure a smooth transition.
- If desired, take a one-semester StA science elective during the second semester.

3- Second semester away
- Take American Literary Traditions during the first semester and a writing course during their senior year.
- Take a history elective in the first semester and U.S. History during their senior year.
- Take the SYA version of the StA math course they left. Over the summer, work with the department chair on placement for the following year.
- If desired, take a one-semester StA science course during the first semester.

SOPHOMORES AT SYA

1- Year-away program
- The requirement to take World History is waived.

2- First semester away:
- Take one of the SYA history or social studies electives while away and enroll in the required StA World History course in the second semester, working with the teacher to ensure a smooth transition into the course. This will fulfill the 1.0 credit requirement.
- Take the SYA version of the StA math course they will rejoin and work with the teacher to ensure a smooth transition.
- If desired, take a one-semester StA science elective during the second semester. Although not required, taking a chemistry course in junior year and a physics course in senior year would offer the best foundation for future work in the sciences.
3- **Second semester away**

- Take the required StA World History course in the first semester and enroll in one of the SYA history or social studies courses to fulfill the 1.0 credit requirement.
- Take the SYA version of the StA math course they left. Over the summer, work with the department chair on placement for the following year.
- If desired, take a one-semester StA science elective during the first semester. Although not required, taking a chemistry course in junior year and a physics course in senior year would offer the best foundation for future work in the sciences.