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 four independent American schools in China, 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 and Asia to life, and travel extensively throughout their host country.

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 2, 2019. 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. We can offer only a limited number of spaces in the program each year. 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. Junior-year participants must take U.S. History and a writing course during their senior year; the requirement to take American Literary Traditions is waived. For sophomore year participants, the requirement to take World History is waived. 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. 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 there will be an SYA reception at Sidwell Friends School on Wednesday, November 20th, 2019 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm for all parents in the DMV area interested to learn about SYA programs. At the reception you will also meet SYA alums and their parents and SYA Director of Enrollment Rachel Keegan Kelley.

Please note the relevant deadlines:

- **December 2, 2019**: Letter of Interest, signed by parents, due to Ms. Beuchard.
- **December 16, 2019**: St. Albans informs students that they may (or may not) apply to SYA.
- **February 12, 2020**: 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, 2020**: 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](http://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 Benjamin Labaree Mireille Beuchard  
Associate Head of School Head of Upper School 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 2020-21.

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

China □ France □ Italy □ Spain □

Student Name: __________________________ Current Form: ____________

Parent Name: __________________________ E-mail address: __________________________

Parent Signature: ______________________ Date: __________________________

St. Albans School | Mount St. Alban, Washington DC 20016-5096 | 202-537-6435