

Dear future host family,

First of all, I'd like to thank you for participating in the exchange program, for willing to bring a complete stranger into your household and let them be a part of your family for such a long time. You, voluntary host families, give many young people like me an opportunity to gain such an amazing experience and even a chance of a better future. It wouldn't be possible without you and your welcomingness. Thank you.

Now I think it's time for me to tell you a little something about myself...

My name is Alice and I'm currently 15 years old. I live in the Czech Republic which is a relatively small country in the middle of Europe, if I had to compare it to American states, I'd probably say it's almost the size of South Carolina. My family and I live in a small village called Hate. When I say small, I mean really small – it only has around three hundred habitants and there is almost nothing but hectares and hectares of forests and fields. However, it's about 30 kilometers from the capital Prague where I go to school. Although I sometimes get annoyed by the long everyday traveling, I am very thankful for our family house and garden in such a quiet and peaceful village which creates a great environment for us to live in.

That leads me to the next thing I wanted to talk about, which is my family. My parents Michal and Jitka had already had two kids before I was born – my brother Marek and my sister Julie. They have always been amazing friends of mine and even though it's never gone long without a conflict, I would never want to trade them for anything. I could also say the same about my parents. They've been the best to me and my siblings since ever, taught us a lot, supported us in everything we've wanted to do and never failed to be there for us when we needed them.

The last (and most beloved) member of our family is our dog. His name is Cyr and he's a ten year old border collie, which is a breed known for being very clever and teachable. Since he's quite big and has the opportunity to run around the garden all day, we usually don't let him inside the house but I've always been trying to convince parents to let him play with us inside, sleep in our bed etc. I love him, love all dogs and basically everything with fur. :)

What else do I love? Music. I've always loved music and everything that involves music, from singing and dancing to wearing headphones all day long, just listening to my favorite songs. I play the guitar and ukulele, sometimes I paint, draw or work on my cooking and baking skills to destress or just kill time. I love traveling, going on long walks or bike rides but I also love spending time with others – my friends and my family. I love meeting new people and getting to know them. Hopefully, I'll do that in America, find new friends and find out more about them and their lives.

I cannot wait to meet you and get to know you, your country and its culture but also the American education system which is said to be very different from the one we have here in the Czech Republic. I'm also very excited to tell you more about my Czech life and spend a great year with you!

Sincerely,
your Alice