YOUR INVITETO HOST-A-BOILER 2023!

A HOLIDAY BREAK PROGRAM
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL & LOCAL COMMUNITY
LIVING IN GREATER LAFAYETTE



What is it and what's expected?

A one-time get-together sharing a meal or activity over holiday breaks

- Preferably in a local family's home
- A local host extends invitation to student
- On any chosen date and time during an official holiday break
- Thanksgiving break: November 22 25 (Typically Thanksgiving Day)
- Winter break: December 16 Jan 8 (or any time agreed on by hosts/students)



How much time is involved?

Time involved:

- It's <u>not</u> an overnight homestay
- Typically lasts 3-4 hours
- Includes dinner and maybe indoor/outdoor activities
- Could be a small or large group setting
- May be on the holiday or a day close to it



"I'm wondering how I would fit?"

Be sure to ask your host these questions!

I'm vegetarian. Will I like the food?

How many will attend?

What if they have animals?

Can I bring a friend?



"Will I be the only guest?"

It depends on your host

- They may invite other family and friends
- You may be able to bring a friend
- Married students with children are welcome
- They may have invited other students besides you



Communication is key to success!

- Dietary needs: Let your host know your dietary needs ahead of time.
- **Date and Time**: Make sure you are clear with your host about date and time. Also let them know ahead of time if you need to be home at a certain time.
- Pick up location: Share address and pick up location.
- Preferred communication: Phone, text or email? Discuss with your host.
- Reminders: It's a good idea to check in with your host about the event a few days before the event or even the day of the event.
- Thank your host: You may want to take a small gift or treat from your country. Don't forget to send pictures and an email or thank you note.



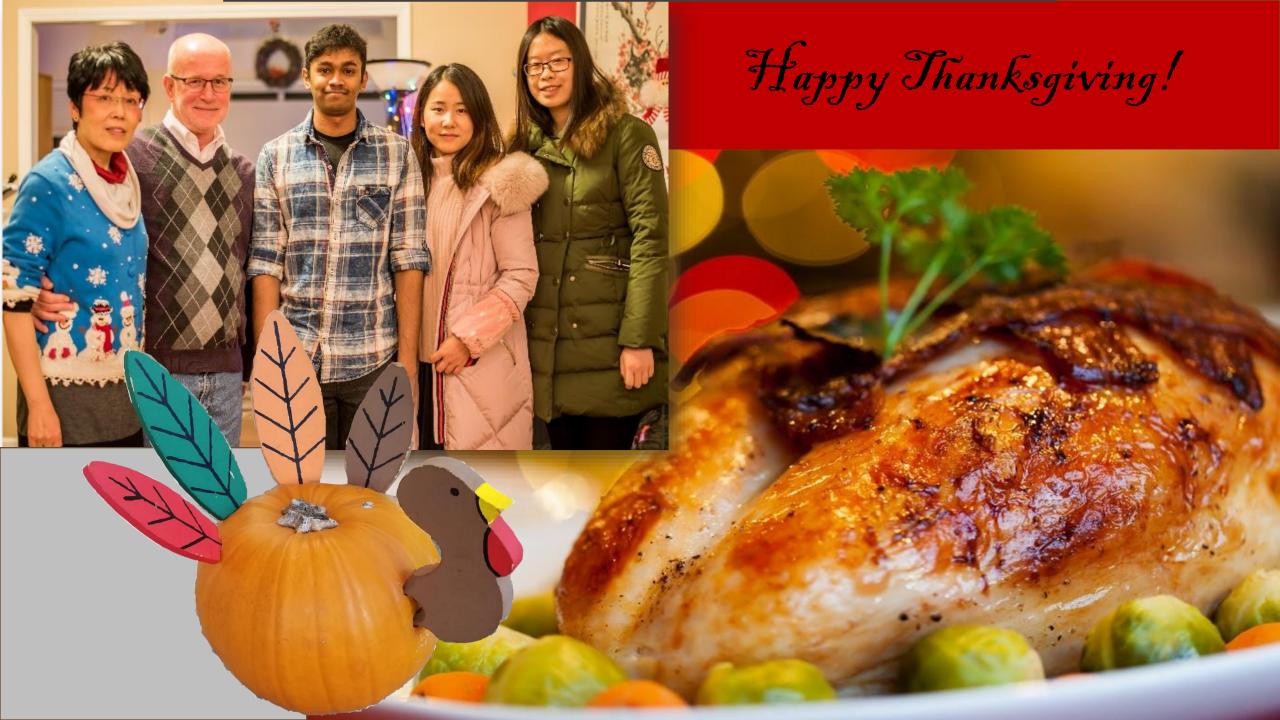


"What should we talk about?"

- Holiday customs and traditions
- Find things you share in common
- Your culture, places you have traveled, hobbies and interests
- Friends, family, special holiday traditions important to you
- What to expect during the winter season in the U.S.



10/4/2022



Comments from past students

- "I had a wonderful time with the whole family. The food was delicious and I got to learn a lot about the traditions and the culture. I also had a lot of fun playing board games."
- "My host family was kind and willing to share what they have with others. I really appreciated their generosity."
- "I had an amazing time getting to know a beautiful family in a private family gathering. It really helps to debunk stereotypes and misconceptions.
- This was the best experience to happen to me the entire semester!"





More comments from students

- "Families spend the whole day inside the house enjoying time with their family. They play games and make cookies and have a lot of fun together."
- "The experience helped me know more about the actual spirit of Christmas rather than what's in books and movies. It is similar to the festivals celebrated in my culture.
- "It was more about the love and family rather than traditions, and they were willing to share stories."







The Young Family and their students Making gingerbread houses!







Comments from past hosts

- "Even though we had just met our student, it was as if we had known each other for a long time. "June" and my daughter enjoyed decorating our Christmas tree!"
- "This was one of the best experiences in our lives, one we will never forget. To see them experience something new like Thanksgiving was truly awesome. We are so thankful we were able to be part of these special moments in their lives."
- "Thank you for this great opportunity to share our home for the holidays – eating a traditional turkey dinner, making Christmas cookies, singing karaoke, going to the park to see the Christmas lights. It was a jam packed day and a great experience for my family."



A student's son, David, makes a new friend on a host's farm!



Reminder of dates and links

Student sign up link:

- https://www.purdue.edu/IPPU/Apps/IFP/Students/StudentLogin/
- Sign up from October 16 to November 15



QUESTIONS?

Contact: IFP@Purdue.edu

