



**YOUTH AMBASSADOR
EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

APPLICATION

IMPORTANT

Complete this application using

Adobe Acrobat Reader ONLY

(Available free at: <http://get.adobe.com/reader>)

**Applications completed using other software
including Mac Preview
WILL NOT BE PROCESSED**

**Yes, it can make a difference. Are you willing to
risk having your application discarded?**

YOUTH AMBASSADOR EXCHANGE PROGRAM APPLICATION

About You	Name	Last	Bradshaw		First	Ashlyn		Middle	Sivan		Applicant name (Last, First) Bradshaw, Ashlyn	
	Preferred nickname											
	Address		4917 E. Mulberry Drive									
	City		Phoenix		State	AZ		Zip	85018			
	Your Phones		Cell	(480) 310-9045		Home			City Council Dist.	6		
	Email		ashlynbradshaw17@gmail.com				Gender		Female			
	Citizenship		USA		Age next June 1	17		Date of birth		09/17/1999		
	School		Xavier College Preparatory				Current year in school		Jr			
	List all your Facebook IDs		Ashlyn Bradshaw				List all your Instagram IDs					
	List all your Twitter IDs		@ashlynsivan						@ashlynbradshaw17			
Parent 1	Name		Mirav Bradshaw									
	Occupation		pharmaceutical sales			Home Phone						
	Cell phone		(480) 332-3151			Work Phone						
	Email		miravbradshaw@gmail.com									
Parent 2	Name											
	Occupation					Home Phone						
	Cell phone					Work Phone						
	Email											
Siblings	Names of brother(s) and/or sister(s), if any:			Age	Names of brother(s) and/or sister(s), if any:			Age				
	Ari Bradshaw			18								
1	List all school related (extracurricular) activities							Age(s)?				
	National Honor Society, National Honors Arts Society, National Honors French Society							14-17				
	Student Ambassador, video club, drama club, St. Francis tutoring, unity & diversity club, french club							14-17				
Describe the extent of your active participation (include frequency of participation, e.g., hrs/wk or/ mo.) I have been involved in the video club and drama club since my freshman year at Xavier and have worked my way up to being the Head of hair and make-up for all Xavier and Brophy theater productions. I participated in tutoring students at St. Francis school for the past two years, one afternoon per week. The largest time commitment is being a Student Ambassador for Xavier. There are mandatory school functions that I must attend throughout the year.												
2	List all community service activities							Age(s)?				
	Nicaragua mission trip with Xavier							15				
	Describe the extent of your active participation (include frequency of participation, e.g., hrs/wk or /mo.)											

3	Other activities outside of school, e.g., job / church / hobby	Ages(s)?		
	I work at Temple Solel as a Teachers Assistant	16-current		
	I work at Zoyo	16-current		
Describe the extent of your active participation (include frequency of participation, e.g., hrs/wk or /mo.) Temple Solel - Wednesday afternoons & Sunday mornings, not during the summer Zoyo - part time hours, flexible and can take time off				
4	Foreign language(s) studied <i>(No minimum requirement)</i>	Fluency	Yrs. studied	
	French	beginner	3	
5	Countries to which you have traveled or in which you have lived	Length of visit	Purpose of visit	Your age then
	Mexico (Cabo, Cancun, Puerto Penasco, Puerto Vallarta)	week/trip	vacation	various ages
	Paris, France	1 week	vacation	11
	Israel	2 weeks	vacation	11
6	Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a crime?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
	If yes, explain:			

IMPORTANT: CONSIDER YOUR ANSWERS TO THE NEXT TWO QUESTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE ANSWERING

7	If selected as a Youth Ambassador, you will not have the opportunity to select which Sister City you will be visiting. Are you prepared and willing to travel to a destination that is not one you would have selected for yourself?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8	Do you understand and acknowledge that if you are selected as a Youth Ambassador, your participation in a number of program-related activities is MANDATORY? (See the MANDATORY CALENDAR at www.phoenixsistercities.org for all dates.) The activities include the Youth Ambassador Academy training sessions held on one Sunday per month from March through May, plus ALL of the planned activities during the Phoenix hosting portion of the summer exchange program.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

QUESTIONS 9 - 14 DO NOT AFFECT ELIGIBILITY

9	How did you learn of the Phoenix Sister Cities Youth Ambassador Exchange Program?			
Through my brother, Ari, and also my grandmother, Tina Robbins.				
10	Siblings who have participated in any international exchange program, if any			
	Sibling name	Country visited	Sponsoring program	Year
	Ari Bradshaw	Czech Republic	Phoenix Sister Cities	2014
11	International exchange students your family has hosted			
	Country	Length of visit	Sponsoring program	Year
	Czech Republic	2 weeks	Phoenix Sister Cities	2014
12	Describe below any dietary restrictions or preferences you may have	Indicate whether the limitation is...		
	vegetarian	<input type="checkbox"/> Allergy/medical <input type="checkbox"/> Religious restriction <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Preference <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) _____		
13	List all allergies and medical conditions <i>(Finalists may be required to provide a physician's letter attesting to their health status.)</i>			
	None			
14	Medications you are currently taking	Frequency	Reason for taking	
	none			

ESSAY QUESTIONS 15 - 17

Answers should be not less than 100 words nor more than 300 words in length. Proofread your answers!

The Youth Ambassador Exchange Program is NOT about giving teenagers a chance to see the world. What therefore do you think is the program's true purpose?

15 I believe that the purpose of the Youth Ambassador Exchange Program is to represent the City of Phoenix both at home and abroad. I am familiar with the program because my brother, Ari Bradshaw, was a Youth Ambassador in 2014 and we were a host family to Peter, an exchange student from Prague. My grandmother, Tina Robbins, has always been active with Sister Cities and is the current Chair of the Ramat Gan committee. I have grown up going to Phoenix Sister Cities events and have always enjoyed the diversity of all of the students, learning about the countries they came from and asking them questions about what they liked most about being in Phoenix. My role as a Student Ambassador at Xavier College Preparatory is similar to that of a Sister Cities Youth Ambassador in that I was selected based on my commitment to my community and my core beliefs in honesty, friendship and leadership.

I am enthusiastic about sharing my love of Phoenix and American culture with another student, their family and friends and showing them what makes Phoenix such a great city. At the same time, I look forward to learning about a new, foreign city and immersing myself in it's culture. One of the main goals of this program is to form lasting relationships and opportunities for continued growth in business, travel and education. I am happy to say that I have stayed in contact with many of the Youth Ambassadors I met in the summer of 2014, specifically Yuval from Israel and Angel from Taiwan. I hope that I am selected to represent Phoenix in the summer of 2017 and I intend to follow my brother and grandmother's path by becoming and staying involved with this amazing program.

During the hosting portion of the program, what aspects of American culture and of your life would you focus on demonstrating to your foreign visitor? Why?

16 In hosting my foreign exchange student, I plan to focus on having a lot of fun and showing the "real" way American teenagers live. This will involve simple things such as going on drives with friends, listening to music and hopefully going to a local concert. Depending on where my foreign exchange would be coming from, I'm sure our local food, and the huge amount of restaurant choices, will be new and different to her so I plan to take her out a lot.

Some of the things I love about living in Phoenix are the Arizona sunsets and sunrises and our scenic views from Camelback Mountain. I will definitely make sure she experiences these things and understands the freedom we have in America - one that we often take for granted. I would like to show off ASU and UofA to my exchange student as college selection is a big part of being a 17 year old American teenager.

Last but not least, I will demonstrate how growing up in a family with a single mom has not slowed me down or hindered me and that in America there are endless opportunities to learn and to become successful.

Give an example of a stereotype regarding Americans you think you may encounter while abroad. How would you address it?

I think one of the biggest stereotypes I will encounter is the idea that Americans are not willing or interested in learning about other countries and cultures. This is most obvious in American travelers who don't make any effort to learn the language of the country they are visiting and then seem annoyed that others don't understand or reply to them in English. I will make every effort to study the language of my chosen country before traveling abroad and even more so while I am there.

Other things I will do to counter the "aloof" stereotype is I will show a lot of interest in learning about every aspect of my host student's way of life including her school, food choices, clothes and any family rules. I am genuinely very interested to experience living with a family in a foreign country and to learn along the way. I believe there is so much to be gained by expanding our knowledge and stepping out of our comfort zone.

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I intend to immerse myself into my host family's way of living and to respect the way they do things.

VIDEO SUBMISSION

Produce a video of yourself answering the following question:

18

You're going to be on your own in another country. Your ability to adapt will be tested. Describe in detail a situation or occurrence in your life in which you needed to adapt dramatically in order to succeed in an unfamiliar environment. How did you approach this challenge and what were the results? What did you learn about yourself in the process?

IMPORTANT: Prepare your answer in advance; don't "wing it." **The video may not exceed TWO MINUTES in length nor exceed 136 MB in size. It may be submitted in any of these formats: MOV, MP4, AVI or WMV.**

PARENT STATEMENT:

While abroad, your child will be the responsibility of their foreign counterpart's family, and may face challenges for which we will have worked to prepare him/her. Why do you think your son/daughter would handle challenges well? Are you prepared to give him/her the space to respond to challenges him/herself? (Answer limited to this space)

Ashlyn is many things but the thing that stands out the most is how responsible she is. When I travel for work, I am able to leave Ashlyn alone with the piece of mind that she will wake up on time, take care of our dog, drive herself and a friend to school, and then come home, do homework and often even go to work. She has consistently demonstrated maturity coupled with fierce organization skills and a constant upbeat, sunny disposition.

Ashlyn has faced more challenges than most adults will ever face in their lifetime and has always shown strength and perseverance. Since losing her father to a tragic suicide when she was eleven years old, she has channeled her pain into positive projects such as a recent video she starred in and co-produced with the notMykid organization. <http://news.xcp.org/2487/faith-in-action/a-student-illuminates-life/>

When she traveled to Nicaragua with Xavier, she was not allowed to have any electronics on the trip and she participated in manual labor, very basic accommodations, extreme weather and tons of dirt and bugs. None of that bothered her and to this day she claims that that trip was life changing and the best experience she has ever had.

I trust Ashlyn to make wise, well thought out decisions if confronted with challenges and know that she is more than prepared to respond appropriately in difficult situations. She is very organized and respectful and likes to play by the rules - all attributes which align perfectly with a program like the Youth Ambassador Foreign Exchange program.

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**THE SIGNATURE PAGE FOR THIS APPLICATION IS INCLUDED IN THE INSTRUCTION PACKET.
BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE PACKET.
SEE THAT PACKET FOR FURTHER SIGNATURE PAGE DIRECTIONS.**

FAMILY INFORMATION FOR HOSTING

**The information requested is required of ALL Applicant families.
Only one application per family or household is needed.**

Residents summary: List all people living in your home							
Name	Relation	Age	Sex	Occupation	Language(s)	Interests	
1	Mirav Bradshaw	mother	46	F	sales	English, Hebrew	travel, current events
	Ari Bradshaw (in college)	brother	18	M	college student	Hebrew, French	music, languages

2	Describe applicant and/or family previous involvement with Phoenix Sister Cities, if any
	Ari Bradshaw was a Sister Cities Youth Ambassador in 2014 and remained active in the City of Phoenix Prague Committee up until moving away for college. Ashlyn's grandmother, Tina Robbins, is the head of the Ramat Gan committee.

Question 3 is for statistical purposes only and does not effect eligibility.

3	Ethnic background	Religion
	caucasian	Jewish

4	Would you accept an exchange student who is a smoker?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
5	Would you accept a student of the opposite sex?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6	Would you accept more than one exchange student?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Limit is
7	Are you interested in having your application remain on file for future home hosting?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8	Number and types of pets in your home	
	one small female dog - Reece (Shih Tzu)	

NOTICE

Applicants and their families are advised that as a condition of qualification to serve as a host family, all adult residents of the host household will be required to provide necessary information for, and submit to, the running of a criminal background check on themselves. Persons aged 18 or older will be deemed adults for this purpose. Existence of a felony conviction by any adult in the household at any time in the past will be grounds for exclusion of that household to serve as a host family in the program, but will not necessarily preclude an applicant from selection as a Youth Ambassador. Results of the background checks are treated confidentially. By submitting this application and signing its signature page, you consent to this background check.

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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION (OPTIONAL)

APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIP DOES NOT EFFECT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

Early application is strongly encouraged to ensure full consideration for limited funds.
 Any scholarship awarded will be applied to reduce the costs for which the applicant is responsible.
 Scholarship applications are kept confidential. Contents will be shared only with the program staff and committee.
 Scholarship applicants will be notified of awards if and when applicant is selected for participation in the Youth Ambassador Exchange Program.
 Phoenix Sister Cities reserves the right to verify the accuracy of the information provided on all applications.
IMPORTANT: Funds are limited and no amount of scholarship is assured. Scholarship applications MUST be submitted with this program application in order to be considered.

INSTRUCTIONS

- To be considered for scholarship, you must submit a copy of your federal tax return for last year (filed this year). Do not send state returns.
- The applicant named above must be listed as a dependent on the tax return.
- Personal copies of the tax return will not be accepted. **The copy must be a transcript from IRS.**
 Transcripts are easy to obtain from IRS. They are available free of charge...
 - Online at: <http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript>
 - Or at any IRS office. Find the IRS office closest to you at: <http://apps.irs.gov/app/officeLocator/index.jsp>

Mail or hand deliver the tax transcript to: ATTN: Bethany Bennick
 Phoenix Sister Cities
 200 W Washington St, 20th Floor
 Phoenix Arizona 85003

Supporting transcripts must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on the second Friday in February.
 Requests for scholarship will not be considered if no IRS transcript is received or if the supporting transcript is received after the deadline.

Parent or Guardian	Enter the Name(s) of the Taxpayer(s) shown on the tax federal return.	
Total Income	Enter the Total Income shown on the federal tax return. If the tax return you filed was a form 1040 , enter the amount shown on line 22 . If the tax return you filed was a form 1040A , enter the amount shown on line 15 .	
Family Size	Enter the Total Number of Exemptions shown on line 6d of the federal tax return.	

CERTIFICATION

By submitting the above scholarship related information and supporting federal tax return transcript, applicant and applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) certify on penalty of perjury that the information provided is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

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