

I live:  with my parents  in a boarding school  alone (if yes, I can NOT participate in this program)  
My parents are:  married  living together (not married)  separated/divorced  widow  
I have: # \_\_\_\_\_ brothers (names and ages \_\_\_\_\_)  
# 1 sisters (names and ages VERONICA COLOMBANO, 16 YEARS OLD)

Class you are in this year:  4eme (8<sup>th</sup>)  3eme (9<sup>th</sup>)  2nde (10<sup>th</sup>)  1ere (11<sup>th</sup>)  Tle (12<sup>th</sup>)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
**10th grade**

How many years have you studied English? 10 YEARS  
Level of English:  Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

Are you learning another language:  Yes  No If yes, which one(s): SPANISH AND FRENCH

Would describe yourself as:

<input type="checkbox"/> Timid	<input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Talkative
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sociable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Artistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Energetic	<input type="checkbox"/> Quiet
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Independent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affectionate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mature
<input type="checkbox"/> Athletic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Studious	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Witty	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Check one box for the activities you enjoy, and check two boxes for your favorite activities:

<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bicycling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Movies
<input type="checkbox"/> Sailing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Camping	<input type="checkbox"/> Dance
<input type="checkbox"/> Jogging/Running	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Painting/Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shopping	<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball
<input type="checkbox"/> Golf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming
<input type="checkbox"/> Horseback Riding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photography	<input type="checkbox"/> Skateboarding/Rollerblading
<input type="checkbox"/> Soccer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Computers	<input type="checkbox"/> Boy Scout/Girl Scout
<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball	<input type="checkbox"/> Video Games	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museums	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Musical Instrument (which do you play): <u>PIANO</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beginner <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced

What is your religious affiliation, if any: CHRISTIAN CATHOLIC  
Would you accept to go to religious service with your host family?  Yes  In theory no, but I'm okay to try (it will not be mandatory but it usually is an important part of the American family life)

**OUI-CONNECT IS A NON-SMOKING/VAPING PROGRAM**

# Letter for the host family

Dear Host Family,

My name is Martina Colombano, I'm 14 years old, and I live in Novara, a city in Piedmont, Italy. 🇮🇹 In my family we are 4 people 👨‍👩‍👧‍👦: me, my sister, Veronica, and my parents. My sister is 16 years old, and we are participating in this project together. My mom's name is Rosanna, she was born in Campania, so she's from south Italy, and she is 56 years old. She works as an employee at Novara's hospital. My dad's name is Gianpaolo, he was born here in Novara, and he is 64 years old. He is now retired, but he worked and an employee at Novara's hospital too. 🏥

We live in the periphery, and we have lots of fields near our house. Our house is pretty big, so we live very comfortably. 🌻

We have dog, Axel, who is a 3 years old Labrador Retriever. 🐕 He likes to play a lot with us and he absolutely loves going on walks. He sleeps all the time, but when he's awake, he runs a lot around the house and makes us laugh a lot. Sometimes he does things he shouldn't do, so we get a bit angry 😡, but he is so cute that we can't stay mad at him for long.

As I wrote earlier, we live in Novara, a quite big city in Piedmont. It has more than 100,000 inhabitants and it has lots and lots of shops you can go to 🛍️. It has more the one squares, but the most important one is called "Broletto". It's the most important because it symbolizes the exact centre of the city. All around there are lots of streets with original buildings built by the Romans, and many shops, like Zara, H&M and Primark. In front of the centre there is a castle, called simply "Castello di Novara" 🏰. It's now a museum, but it used to be a prison 🚓👮. There is a hospital, where my mom works, and different schools 🏫.

In school I have my friends Adelia, Ginevra, Matilde, Lucia, Elena and Giulia 🐱. We don't go out a lot together, because some of them live outside Novara, so for them it's harder to get here, because of the trains and buses, and because we are very busy with our school, a Linguistic High School, but when we go out together we have a lot of fun 😂. We go in the city centre and we go inside of shops even just to look at things but then buy nothing. Sometimes we eat something after school 🍕, and when it's someone's birthday, we do little parties where we hang out, talk and open presents 🎁. In my free time I like to sleep, especially after school, watch movies or series in my room, listen to a lot of music, and read lots of books. My favorite singers and artists are Harry Styles, and all the other members of the band

One Direction, and now that Liam Payne died I'm very sad 😭, Billie Eilish, Adele, Bruno Mars, Sabrina Carpenter and many others. My favorite genre of books I would say it's romance 📖, but I really like fantasy or thriller too. I love Greek Mythology 🏛️, in fact one of my favorite books is "The Song of Achilles" from Madeline Miller. But my absolute favorite book series is Harry Potter 🪄🧙. The Harry Potter movies are my favourite too, and I have a lot of gadgets, like Funko Pops, plushies, mini figures, Sirius Black and Remus Lupin's wands 🐕🐾, my two most favorite characters in the entire series, and many other things. I'm not really into sports, but I enjoy hiking and bicycling 🚲.

I attend Year 10 in a Linguistic High School in Novara, where I study English 🇬🇧, Spanish 🇪🇸 and French 🇫🇷 together with Italian, of course, Chemistry 🧪, Latin 🏺, Maths 🧮, History 🗿 and Geography 🌍, P.E. 🏃, and Religion 📖. I don't really like school, but I love languages, and that's why I chose that school. My favourite subject is English, even though I really like Spanish and French too.

I think that after I graduate High School, I will go to University, here in Italy or in another state. My dream job is to be a flight attendant ✈️, because I love traveling and visiting other countries, so I think I will continue my languages studies in University, but I might change my mind and do something completely different, we'll see.

Now, talking about why I would love to do this project and experience. I've always wanted to come to the US, because I think it's so beautiful and seeing New York, Los Angeles and many other cities, made me love it so much that when my sister talked about this project in California, I asked my parents to make me participate in this experience too with my sister. I've never had such an experience, and I've never stayed with a host family before, but I'm very curious to know how it feels living with a family from a different country, to know their culture and style of life. I've seen many videos about exchange students that spent a year in the US and living the American life everyone wants to live. I would love to know how the schools work there, what you do in your free time and to visit cities I've only seen from a screen 🏙️.

I think and I hope that this experience leaves me a lot of good memories that I can share with my family and friends. This would be a life experience.

Thank you so much for reading my letter,  
Martina Colombano



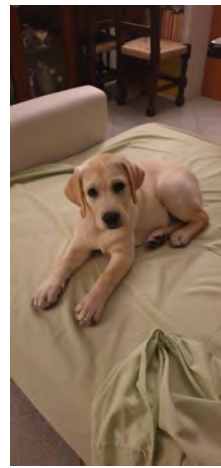
This is me at the Harry Potter Studios in London this year



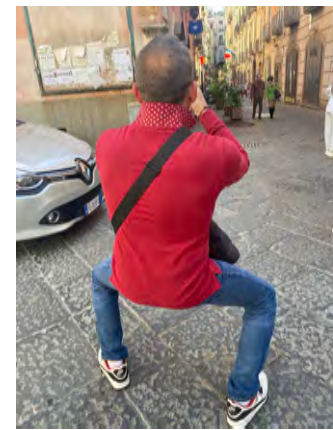
My parents and my sister in London.



This is me trying my sister's sunglasses



my dog when he was younger



my godfather taking a picture in a weird position



These are two of my friends at the party of the last day of school



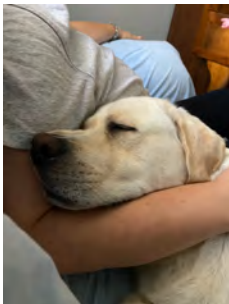
me, my sister and my godfather taking funny pictures



me, my sister and a guy in Spain that gave us cute balloons



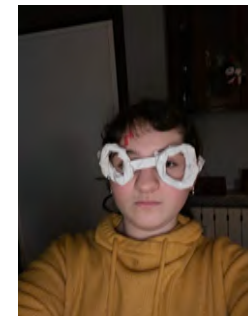
This is my mom who came with me at the Studios



my dog Axel



me and my sister near the Tower Bridge in London



me as Harry Potter



me and my sister at The "Reggia di Caserta", Caserta, Naples, Campania



me, my sister and one of our friends together with an author we met at the "Salone del Libro" in Turin



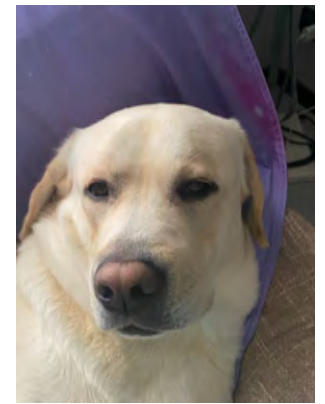
me playing with my cuteeeee dog



my parents in London



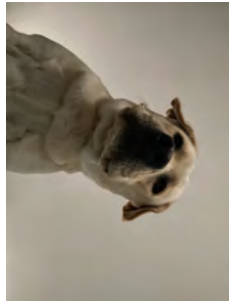
my friend Lucia



my dog again. Isn't he so cute?



me and my sister



still my dog



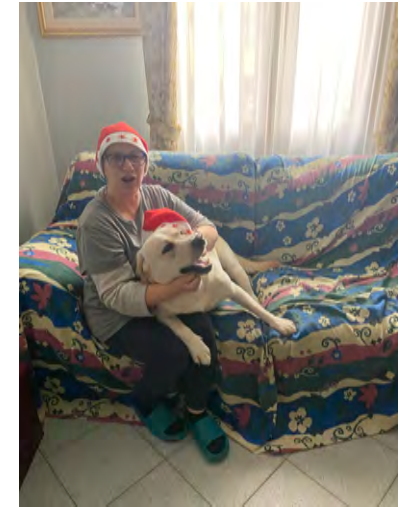
ma after buying this plushie. His name is Kabubi



me inside of a telephone box in London



My dad in his raincoat



my mother with my my dog wearing Christmas hats