



Spend a year in Grand Rapids, Michigan and attend either South Christian High School or Calvin Christian High School.



You must arrive by August 15th, and the program ends by the end of May. Ensure that you buy your plane tickets and start your visa process on time.



You can experience a year as a real American teenager. You will have the chance to grow in your faith, life, and language skills.



Applicants will be assessed based on their English language ability, social skills, Christian commitment, academic standing, and potential value to both the host school and the Gimnázium upon their return.

CANDIDACY REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Students must be from Hungary or Hungarian speaking regions around Hungary and must be professing Christians and live accordingly.
- 2) Students must be relatively proficient in the English language.
- 3) The applicant must complete at least one year of secondary school studies at the High School of the Sáropatak Reformed College.
- 4) Students must be able to secure transportation to and from America, and pay a stipend of \$800 to cover some of the costs of their studies in the USA.
- 5) Students must have parental consent.
- 6) Students must be willing to continue their studies where they left off.
- 7) Students must accept the committee's decision.
- 8) Failure to meet the deadline will result in disqualification from the application.
- 9) Applicants must write an essay, answer the application questions - include a jpeg picture of themselves -, collect references and submit them in pdf format by 25th November, 2024 to Szatmáriné Tóth-Pál Ildikó (tpildi@gmail.com)



ESSAY IS DUE 25th NOVEMBER, 2024.

WRITE AN ESSAY THAT ANSWERS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- 1) Please, give a brief autobiography. Include information about your family, education, hobbies and general interests.
- 2) Why do you want to study in a Christian school in the United States? What do you hope to learn?
- 3) Are you a Christian, and if so, what does being a Christian mean to you?
- 4) How will your host school benefit from your stay and how will both the Sárospatak School and the church in Hungary benefit upon your return?

STUDENT PROFILE IS DUE 25th November, 2024.

1) ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BRIEFLY.

2) ASK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE TO WRITE RECOMMENDATION IN ENGLISH:

- form teacher
- English teacher
- dorm teacher
- religion teacher
- pastor (if possible)

INTERVIEWS:

- 1) INTERVIEWS OF STUDENTS BY THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: **2nd DECEMBER, 2024.**
- 2) JOINT HUNGARY-US BOARD MEET STUDENTS: **9th DECEMBER, 2024.**

CHOICES MUST BE ANNOUNCED by Christmas break.

TURN YOUR SIGNED ESSAY AND STUDENT PROFILE IN PDF FORMAT to Szatmáriné Tóth-Pál Ildikó (tpildi@gmail.com) on or before the due date.

Do you have any questions? Need help? Ask Mrs. Szatmári, Radányi Gyöngyi 12.C,
Pekarik Enikő 11.E or Duranyik Eliza 12.A former scholarship students.

A SCHOLARSHIP THAT CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

I'm Gyöngyi Radányi, and I had the incredible opportunity to spend the entire 2023/2024 school year in Grand Rapids, Michigan as an exchange student. This unique experience was made possible through a scholarship program offered by our school, which



allowed students to apply for a chance to study abroad. The application process was rigorous and involved writing an essay, responding to short questions, and participating in two interviews, where I had to articulate my motivations and reasons for applying.



My adventure began on the 11th of August, when Eliza and I, both exchange students, embarked on a journey to Grand Rapids to meet our host families and some of the board members. We were fortunate to have about a week to acclimate before the start of the school year. Upon arrival, I was presented with a range of required subjects and elective classes to choose from.



Prior to my departure, I had a B2 level of English proficiency. Although it posed initial challenges, I was able to adapt quickly due to the supportive and understanding nature of the teachers. Their assistance made the language barrier seem less daunting, and soon enough, I found myself excelling in my studies.

Beyond academics, the school provided numerous extracurricular opportunities. One of my favorite traditions was attending the football games held every Friday. It became a weekly ritual for me and my



friends to cheer on our school's football team under the Friday night lights. Additionally, we gathered for





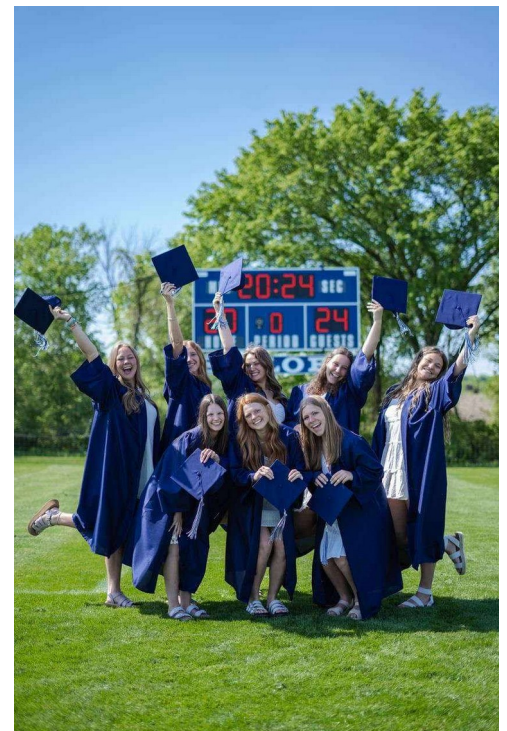
chapels every Tuesday and Thursday after lunch, where we partook in a brief 20-minute worship service. These chapels served as a source of spiritual rejuvenation during challenging times. The school also boasted a wide array of student groups and clubs, and I decided to join the

basketball and track and field teams. Engaging in these activities allowed me to push my limits.

During my cultural exchange program, I was fortunate enough to spend Thanksgiving with my kind and welcoming host family. We also embarked on an unforgettable trip to sunny Florida over the Christmas break, creating cherished memories that will last a lifetime. As the school year progressed, one of the most memorable events for me was our enchanting prom in May, where we danced the night away and celebrated our high school journey. The pinnacle of our academic year was the graduation ceremony, where we proudly walked across the stage to receive our balloons and caps, marking the official culmination of our time at South Christian High School after dedicating 10 months to our studies.

My year in the USA presented its share of challenges, but it was also a period of immense personal growth. I learned to lean on my faith and trust in God, especially during moments of adversity. Despite the distance from my family and friends, I firmly believe that I was meant to be there, and I consistently felt a sense of divine guidance, which sustained me through every obstacle.

I would highly recommend this program to everyone. It has proven to be quite challenging, but the results and benefits it offers are truly worth the effort.



Radányi Gyöngyi 12.C