



2009 CAIS 5th Grade Exchange Program

The mission of the CAIS Institute Student Exchange Program is to increase interest in the study of Chinese language and culture, improve cross-cultural understanding, enhance communication skills, and develop long-term friendships.

The exchange program with Taipei Municipal Ren-Ai Elementary School is entering its fourth year, thanks to the participation and support of students, parents, and teachers. Through the program, students from both countries have gained an understanding and appreciation of different cultures and values, and have been enriched by the experience they shared with their exchange buddies and host families. Their Chinese and English language proficiency has also improved significantly after two weeks of interacting with native speakers and being immersed in a foreign language environment.

Founded in 1959, Ren-Ai School is one of Taipei's most established public primary schools. With more than 5,000 students currently enrolled in 1st to 6th grades, the campus of Ren-Ai is located in the heart of Taipei, capital of Taiwan. Students at Ren-Ai excel academically, and also demonstrate excellence in arts, athletics, and community service. For more information about the school, please go to www.japs.tp.edu.tw.

The two-week exchange program will include the following:

- Academic Program: CAIS students will join their exchange buddies for a number of classes in language arts, social studies, science, and math, as well as attend Chinese culture classes specially designed for CAIS students.
- Buddy System: Every CAIS exchange student will be matched with a Taiwanese student based on compatibility derived from the students' family information.
- Home-Stay: CAIS exchange students will host their buddies during their trip to the US, and in return, CAIS exchange student will stay with the family of his/her buddy in Taipei.
- Culture Excursion: sightseeing in and around the city of Taipei.

Logistics Guideline

- The 2009 CAIS 5th grade exchange trip to Taipei is tentatively scheduled from March 29 through April 11. Students from Taipei Ren-Ai will visit San Francisco from January 30 to February 13.
- Total cost of the trip is \$2,250. Spaces are first come, first serve.
- The maximum number of participants is **15**, and spaces are first come, first serve.
- At least one or two CAIS chaperons will accompany students on the trip.
- CAIS students who sign up must be respectful, mature, and independent. Disruptive behaviors will not be tolerated.
- CAIS Institute reserves the right to select exchange program participants.