

Greetings,

Hello from San Jose State University! I hope you are doing well.

I am reaching out from the Study Abroad & Away office to share updates on a great virtual learning opportunity for your students - the Virtual International Partners (VIP) program. This program connects students from our partner universities with SJSU students virtually through conversations and cultural exchange. Participants are assigned partners and virtually meet over the course of a semester to have discussions on a variety of topics (ex: food, holidays, family, school, etc.) and learn about each other. At the end of the program, students will be recognized with a certificate of participation from the College of Health and Human Sciences, and will be invited to attend our virtual reception for all participating students. It is totally free, and it is not a class- it's an opportunity for students to engage in a fun cultural exchange, while improving their communication skills and expanding their global network along the way.

We have been piloting the program this fall semester and are encouraged to see how much participants have been enjoying and learning through this experience. We are starting our recruitment for the Spring 2021 semester (March-May 2021)and we would love for your students to join us!

If you know of any students who might be interested in participating, could you please share the attached flyer with them? Students can sign up by [completing the brief form linked in the flyer] (

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScMX0VHot7ZQVQrV9a6mRz1lz4IOMX5Gye84smc-2_Tof-ECg/viewform

)and we will then be following up to match them with their SJSU partner and provide more instructions. We ask that any interested participants sign up by December 11, 2020, though we will continue to accept entries from interested students who wish to be placed on a waitlist until January 24, 2021; those on the waitlist will be notified if we have additional openings closer to the program start.

Thanks so much, and please let me know if you have any questions about the program.

Best regards,
Erin Kelly-Weber

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Want to hear about upcoming events?: [Sign up here] (<https://goabroad.sjsu.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Prospects.Home>)

Check out the [Study Abroad & Away 101 video] (<http://bit.ly/SJSU-StudyAbroad101>) and search program options ([goabroad.sjsu.edu] (<http://goabroad.sjsu.edu/>)) to get started!