

The life of an exchange student from China

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KINGSTON - I am an exchange student from China. My Chinese name is Chang Wei, my English nickname is Angel. I am 16 years old and go to Kingston High School to become an exchange student for a year as a senior.

I came here on August 27th, and starts my amazing life in the pretty town, Kingston. I experienced many differences between China and America.

First of all, school life is different. In China, I go to a boarding school, so my school lasts longer than here. In China, my school starts at 8am, until 9:15pm, we have 40 minutes for each class and 10minutes for break during each class, and we don't change classroom, so different teachers come to our classroom for different classes. In China, we do morning exercise after the second period to get our body stronger just like here students stay after school for sports. I am doing swimming, debate, and track in the exchange student year for exercise. I love being in the team here. I made lots of friends here. They are really nice and patient. I have lots of habits in common with them. I also showed students in our school Chinese Kong Fu during the assembly.

Secondly, the social life. In China, most people are not religious, so I've never experienced church activities before. I went a youth group and the North Kitsap church. I get to know how people do the assembly and sing the songs for Jesus. It widened my knowledge of the religion. I also did many volunteer jobs here. I volunteer in the coffee court in the school to make coffee for people. I also sell cookies with friends during the lunch time to raise money for senior stuff. I went to be a high school volunteer for Washington State University's activity about water in the church. I went to Richard Gordon Elementary school to talk about China and made Chinese food, had an International night. I gave presentations to classes about China. I also had a Chinese New Year Party with my host family at our house, showing Chinese culture.

Thirdly, I experienced many different culture and tradition in America. My host family is super nice and we have great time together. We don't celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas in China, so the celebrations are very attractive and fresh for me. Family members get to be together to celebrate the festivals is really nice. Thanksgiving, we had lots fun by having parties and having turkey and mush potatoes. They are really yummy. Christmas, we had lots of parties go on. The one I will never forget is the Secret Santa game. I also learned to make different kinds of cookies. I also made ginger bread house, and went to the concert about Christmas in Seattle.

Generally speaking, my exchange student life is amazing and unforgettable. I enjoyed my life a lot here and I am going to share them with you guys and my family and friends in China.

