



2022 Youth Cultural Exchange Program To Costa Rica Overview



This year the youth cultural exchange program will travel to Costa Rica to participate in an exchange of culture, land knowledge, and natural resource importance and preservation. This program is grant funded by the Cherokee Preservation Foundation and is a program under the Ray Kinsland Leadership Institute at the Cherokee Boys Club.

- Applications must be received by 4:30pm September 30, 2021 – No exceptions
- Applications can be emailed, mailed, or dropped off during regular business hours to Levi West. Contact info. below. It is your responsibility to confirm receipt of your application.
- Program participants must be fully vaccinated by November 2021 against COVID-19 and other communicable illnesses and willing to get a booster shot if it becomes recommended by the CDC or local health organizations.
- Applications are open for students currently in grades 10 through 12 at Cherokee Central, Swain, Jackson, Graham, Macon or homeschooled in one of these counties.
- Passports will be required to travel and if chosen applicants must apply for their passport by the end of the first week of December 2021. A receipt of application will be required by that date. **You must pay for your own passport. (Passport applications currently have a 6 month wait time, so the sooner you apply the better.)**
- All meetings, events, activities, and fundraisers are mandatory for this program. There are at least 2 meetings a month except for December 2021 and May 2022 where there will only be one. Meetings will begin in November 2021.
- If there is an emergency and you cannot attend a meeting the staff will handle those situations on a case-by-case basis.
- The trip will be in July 2022 and most likely 11 days.
- The trip itinerary consists of some strenuous physical activities such as long hikes, ziplining, rafting, and kayaking. Please take into consideration if you are comfortable with these things when applying.
- Applicants are required to participate in an interview with the selection committee.
- There are limited slots available for this program, not everyone that applies will be selected.
- For questions or more information contact Levi West at: levi.west@cherokeeboysclub.com or 828-359-5543. Mailing P.O. Box 507 Cherokee/Physical 171 Boys Club Loop Cherokee (Behind the Cherokee Boys Club)

2022 Youth Cultural Exchange Program to Costa Rica Application

Name: _____

Address:

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

School Name and Grade:

Please list any clubs, organizations, extracurricular activities, etc. that you are currently involved in at your school or in your community:

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name(s): _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Phone number(s):

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Email(s):

Please attach a brief description of why you would like to participate in the culture exchange trip to Costa Rica. How would it benefit you? What interests you most about the opportunity? Have you flown before? Are you okay with being away from home for long periods of time? What challenges could you see yourself facing or may need help with?