

## Why you should participate

### American participants:

- To learn more about other countries and cultures
- To see America through someone else's eyes
- To make friends from other countries
- To help international students practice English and learn about American culture
- To receive credit in your Interpersonal Communication class
- To learn more about yourself

### International participants:

- To practice your English
- To learn more about American culture
- To make American friends
- To share your culture
- To receive credit in your English as a Second Language class
- To learn more about yourself



Picture of partners at the CCCC Party

## What past participants said about the CCCC Program

*"[I enjoyed] learning about what it's like for someone from a different culture to be living in BG and the U.S."*

*"I feel I've gained a friendship and a connection to part of the world I didn't know much about before."*

*"[I have learned that] people from different places have a lot in common."*

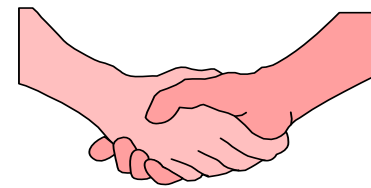
*"I like that I can help someone out, even if it is just talking to them."*

*"He's teaching me a little bit of Japanese and about the culture and I'm trying to introduce him to several 'American' things. I've taken him to dinner with my friends for Mexican food and we'll sometimes hang out and watch TV and discuss what's going on."*

*"The most important thing is we are same human beings. We grow up in different culture, but we have a lot of similarities, too. I enjoyed to talk with my partner since I can apply what I learned in the class to real communication. Also, it was really helpful to redefine myself as Japanese."*

# Cross-Cultural Conversation Connection

## CCCC



***If you are interested in applying to this program, please contact:***

**English as a Second Language -  
ESL Program Office**  
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[www.bgsu.edu/departments/esl/page24177.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/esl/page24177.html)

## Did you know...?

At BGSU there are almost 600 international students from over 70 different countries. 65-75% of them are enrolled in graduate programs. The largest groups of international students come from China, India, Canada, Russia, Kenya and Japan.

## About the CCCC Program

The Cross-Cultural Conversation Connection Program has been organized by the English as a Second Language Program Office since 1995. CCCC runs in the fall and spring semesters.

## The purpose of the CCCC Program

The purpose of the CCCC Program is to develop cultural understanding in today's global community by connecting people from different cultures through conversation.



*Picture of partners at the CCCC Party*

## How the CCCC Program works

- We match American participants with international participants for conversation.
- Participants fill in applications indicating preferences such as gender, language, age, or major.
- Participants are matched according to the preferences they indicated, if this is possible.
- We email participants their partners' information.
- Pairs meet for the first time at the CCCC Party, in the 4th week of the semester. Those who cannot come email their partner and meet individually.
- After the party, partners meet for an hour a week until the end of the semester. They decide where and when to meet as well as what to do.
- Participants can apply again in fall and spring.



*Picture of partners at the CCCC Party*

## Tips for a successful conversation connection

- Be aware of culturally sensitive issues like religion, politics or salary
- Introduce your partner to things that are typical for your culture: food, traditions, holidays

## Things to do with your partner

- Go shopping, go to a play, a concert, or watch a movie
- Go to a sports event or to the Recreation Center
- Read books, magazines or newspapers, watch TV
- Go out to eat, or cook together
- Celebrate traditional holidays, carve pumpkins, make a snow man etc.
- Go to events the World Student Association (WSA), and other student organizations organize, such as the International Fair, the International Dinner, the International Week, pizza parties, cups of culture
- Go to events organized by Global Connections or by other community organizations