

NEWS RELEASE



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ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS

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Bon Voyage to Malaysian ‘Youth Ambassadors’: U.S. Embassy Bids Farewell to 45 YES Program Students

The U.S. Embassy hosted a farewell barbeque on January 16 for 45 Malaysian high school students who will travel to the United States for six months as part of the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program.

An annual youth exchange program sponsored by the U.S. State Department and administered by Antarabudaya Malaysia (AFS), the YES program builds bridges between citizens of the United States and countries around the world, particularly those with significant Muslim populations.

Chosen for their leadership potential from various high schools across Malaysia, YES students serve as Malaysian “youth ambassadors” to the United States. They will live in small towns with host families in different states throughout the United States, including Hawaii, Indiana, Missouri, Minnesota and Alaska. For the next six months, they will attend high schools and learn about American society, while sharing the beauty of Malaysia and its culture with Americans.

The YES program officially launched in Malaysia in 2003. Since then, over 415 Malaysian students have completed the program.

Photo Caption: *45 Malaysian “youth ambassadors” with U.S. Embassy officers at the U.S. Embassy in Kuala Lumpur.*