Wildcats International Neighbors: W.I.N. 
Program Description 
International Programs Office C.B. Hedgcock 2101 
Northern Michigan University, Marquette MI 

• Important Date
  o Kick-Off Party: **September 15, Sunday from 5:30 pm until 7 pm at Whitman Hall Commons.** It is a potluck-style party, so we would appreciate if you can bring food or snacks. IPO will also provide food. This kick-off party is not mandatory, but it is best to attend it to meet your partner.

• Overall Description

The W.I.N. program is designed to be mutually beneficial for both NMU international students and local community members through learning and sharing cultures. It is also a mentor program for international students in order to make their transitions to the NMU environment smooth.

This program is for one academic year (September to April), and we ask you to commit to meet with your partners at least once in a month to do a variety of activities and/or attend events that both local community members and international students decide (*IPO will give examples of activities that you can do). Local community members and international students are connected based on their interests and hobbies, though IPO cannot guarantee to meet everyone’s interests.

At the end of each semester (November and April), IPO will contact you to ask for feedback of this program.
• **Program Goals: What IPO wants to achieve**
  
  o To provide opportunities to local community members to expand their knowledge of international affairs and cultures from around the world.
  
  o To assist international students at NMU to adjust to and learn about cultures of U.S. and Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

• **Program Objectives: How IPO achieves program goals**
  
  o Connect local community member(s) and international student(s) at NMU based on their interests and hobbies.
  
  o Support local community members and international students at NMU for developing intercultural communication skills during kick-off party and through participation of this program.
  
  o Conduct end of semester feedback to all participants for identify what is helping and what is hindering from learning other cultures and developing intercultural communication skills.

• **Participants’ Goals: What IPO wants participants to achieve**
  
  o For all participants, it is mutually learn and share cultures, and ultimately to appreciate your own culture(s).
  
  o For local community members, it is to learn about other cultures and countries from international students at NMU without leaving the U.S.
  
  o For international students at NMU, it is to explore cultures of U.S. and Upper Peninsula of Michigan and to help their transitions to new environment.

• **Participants’ Objectives: How IPO wants participants to achieve participants’ goals**
  
  o Local community members and international students meet at least once in a month throughout academic year: September to April, and engage in variety of activities of your choice.
  
  o Mutually share and learn cultures between two parties.
  
  o Practice intercultural communication skills through interacting with the others.
  
  o Fill out feedback form at the end of each semester: the end of November and April.

For more information, please contact Manato Kaisho: mkaisho@nmu.edu, or call to IPO Office at 906-227-2510.