



African Leadership Foundation



African Leadership Academy
Developing the next generation of African leaders

Interested in Supporting a Young Leader from African Leadership Academy?

Thank you for your interest in participating in African Leadership Academy's First Year Transition Program and becoming a Host for one of our young leaders! ALA seeks to transform Africa by developing and supporting future generations of African leaders. Launched in September 2008, African Leadership Academy brings together the most promising young leaders from all 54 African nations and beyond for an innovative two-year program designed to prepare each student for a lifetime of leadership on the continent. Students are selected to attend the Academy based on merit and complete a unique curriculum with a focus on leadership, entrepreneurship, and African studies. ALA graduates go on to attend the world's finest universities and will lead Africa toward a peaceful and prosperous future.

The primary goal of the First Year Transition Program is to support our graduates as they adjust to life at University. Hosts make a lasting difference in the lives of our young leaders as they navigate a new culture, far from home.

What a Host IS

- *A warm welcome:* Hosts will meet with their young leaders when they arrive, possibly picking them up from the airport or visiting them on campus and helping them settle into their dorms.
- *A home away from home:* ALA young leaders rarely go home over breaks (other than the summer break) because of the costs, so hosts might provide our young leaders with accommodation, usually for a few days on either side of the academic year or over some holidays, depending on the student's and the host's availability.
- *An introduction to another culture:* Host can often help young leaders to bridge cultures, explain norms and problem solve issues that arise. Hosts also have the opportunity to learn about their young leader's background and experiences!
- *A source of ongoing support:* Hosts check in with their young leaders frequently and connect them to resources on campus and in the community.

What a Host IS NOT

- *A financial resource:* Hosts are not required to purchase anything for their young leaders. Often a student may need bed linens or a few small school supplies, and hosts are welcome to provide their graduates with new or gently used items in these cases, but we ask hosts not to buy anything extravagant for their young leader in order to make sure all ALA young leaders have similar experiences.
- *A cell phone provider:* Choosing a cell phone plan is one of the biggest challenges for young leaders upon arrival, so we ask that you give advice to your graduate but do not purchase one for them.
- *The sole graduate priority:* We hope that all of our hosts will develop close relationships with their young leaders, but it is important for students to focus on their studies and lives at college. If you don't hear from your young leader often, it means that he or she is probably adjusting well!