



**Gralen Eidam Wilson Youth
Ambassador
Scholarship Application**

Please print clearly. *You may attach extra pages if necessary.*
Applications must be postmarked by or received electronically by :
March 1, 2026

Applicant's Name _____

The Santa Cruz-Sestri Levante exchange for the summer of 2026 is intended for up to four young adults who will be between the ages of 18-21 at the time of the exchange, and who live or attend school within the Santa Cruz city limits. (Those of slightly older age may be considered, but not younger.) Outbound dates are approximately 7/15/26 - 8/7/26, and incoming delegation dates would be approximately 8/7/26 - 8/28/26.

Age _____ **Birthdate** _____

Applicant's Address _____

Home Phone _____ **Applicant's Cell** _____

Applicant's Email _____

School _____ **Year in School** _____

How many years have you lived in Santa Cruz? _____

Does your family live locally (within 10 minutes of the city of Santa Cruz) and are they able and willing to host an incoming visitor from Sestri Levante as part of this exchange? (Inability to host does not impact eligibility for the exchange or scholarship; however, we expect applicant to find a substitute host family in the city of Santa Cruz.)

Do you speak any languages besides English at home, or have you studied any languages besides English in school? If so, please describe.

Have you ever traveled to a country outside of the United States before? If so, please describe.

Please tell us a little bit about why you would like to participate in an exchange to Sestri Levante, Italy. What do you hope to learn from your experience?

What special project or program would you like to propose that would enhance your visit and benefit both Santa Cruz and Sestri Levante? What would you need in order to accomplish this?

Please describe any special interests or skills you may have.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

Applicant understands that, if this applicant is selected as the Youth Ambassador Scholarship Recipient, s/he will be responsible for learning basic information about the history of Santa Cruz prior to the exchange so that s/he is able to be an informed ambassador, that s/he will be expected to represent the Santa Cruz Community in a positive manner abroad, and that s/he will also be responsible for making a presentation about his/her experience on the exchange at a Santa Cruz Sister Cities Committee meeting and/or event upon return. Applicants who have learned some basic conversational Italian will be given priority. Applicant his/her family understand that his/her family will be expected to host an incoming international student from Sestri Levante, or find a suitable host family (approved by the Sister Cities Committee or its designated representative or subcommittee) if Applicant's family is unable to host in their home. Applicant understands that the award will be for airfare up to an amount of \$1,000 per participant. The applicant and their family are responsible for any other costs associated with the exchange, including any passport fees and any personal expenses while in Sestri Levante and the costs associated with hosting incoming delegates (food, any planned day trips with the family, etc.). Applicant will be expected to attend planning and status meetings in anticipation of the exchange.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

RETURN TO:

Santa Cruz Sister Cities Support

Attention: Gralen Wilson Youth Ambassador Scholarship

323 Church Street

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Or submit scanned applications by email to: geidam31@aol.com

Scholarship committee, Santa Cruz Sister Cities Committee, and its related support group are not responsible for loss, delay, or other problems in delivery of applications.