

Bring the world into your  
living room...

... become  
a friendship family  
for a Colby-Sawyer College  
international student



Anurup Upadhyay, CSC '15, with his Friendship Family,  
Don & Nan Kaplan



Kay Thwe Aung, CSC '15, with her Friendship Family,  
Kelley Perron



For more information and application,  
please contact:

*CSC International Student Advisor*

Cindy Benson

[cbenson@colby-sawyer.edu](mailto:cbenson@colby-sawyer.edu)

603-526-3719

*Friendship Family Board Members:*

Marsha Johnson [marnam@tds.net](mailto:marnam@tds.net)

Nancy Allenby [njallenby@aol.com](mailto:njallenby@aol.com)

Patti Durkin [pjaptd@tds.net](mailto:pjaptd@tds.net)

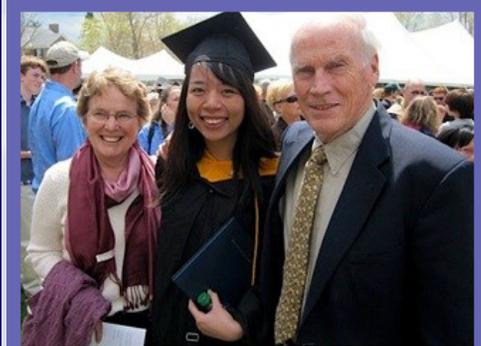
Bob & Vicki Meck [vmecki@comcast.net](mailto:vmecki@comcast.net)

Linda Miller [lmiller@tds.net](mailto:lmiller@tds.net)



## Friendship Family Program

Winner of the 2012  
CSC Town Award



Duong Nguyen, CSC '11, with her Friendship Family,  
Bruce & Marsha Johnson at Commencement 2011



Colby·Sawyer  
College

inside · outside · planetwide



*Incoming International Students Fall 2011*

## ***Away from home, but not alone...***

*“My friendship family does more than merely welcome me, but like my real family who cares about me and loves me from their hearts. I feel so lucky to have my second home away from home.”*

*(Hang Nguyen, CSC'14, Vietnam)*

*“My friendship family was there to pick me up from the bus station on a rainy day when I first arrived in New London; they were there to watch my drum performance during the International Festival last year, and I am with them during Thanksgiving every passing year. Their place is my home in America.”*

*(Pengxiang Ding, CSC'14, China)*



## ***Friendship Family Program***

The goal of the Friendship Family Program is to promote cultural exchange between students and American Friendship Families, so both parties learn and grow from the relationship. Participants are not asked to provide housing for students, only friendship and support as students adjust to a new culture so far away from home. The idea to formalize the program was suggested to the college by Marsha Johnson '59.

Colby-Sawyer College currently has more than 100 international students from 30 different countries and plans to welcome 50 more in the Fall of 2012. Each international student is matched with a Friendship Family from the area. Friendship Families offer many types of support to international students, from welcoming them into their homes and families and taking them sight-seeing, to meeting students' more practical needs such as providing occasional transportation to the bus stop or shopping center. Friendship Families are invited to attend programs on campus as well, including the International Festival, Senior Awards and Graduation. They also participate in off-campus picnics, dinners and other events throughout the year.

Today 80 families participate in the program and as a group were awarded the ***2012 CSC Town Award at Commencement*** for their contribution to the college.

***The rewards of being a friendship family range from expanding one's understanding of the world to discovering a new & valuable friend. These cross-cultural friendships can ultimately contribute to world peace & understanding.***



*Hang Nguyen, CSC '14, with her Friendship Family, Ken & Linda Miller.*

*“We and our extended family enjoy having Julia and Melinda at our Thanksgiving gatherings. Everyone in the family looks forward to learning more about our international guests and their customs. They have treated us with some of their national foods, which we all like. In all, these students enrich our lives and ask very little in return. It is our pleasure to serve as their Friendship Family.”*

*(Bill & Pam Spear, Friendship Family for Ye Zhu, CSC '12, China & Melinda Nystrand CSC '15, Sweden)*