

FEATURED

Alba sister city students to return to Medford for cultural exchange

Trips include Table Rocks, Rogue River, Rogue X, dinner with Medford City Council

Rogue Valley Times staff

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The visitors from Alba, Italy, will have multiple opportunities to sightsee and experience many of the draws of Southern Oregon, such as Crater Lake.

Photo courtesy of the Medford Alba Sister Cities Association

Seventeen high school students and two chaperones from Alba, Italy, will arrive in Medford Saturday night to continue the 63-year-old tradition of exchanging cultures as sister cities.

Organized annually by the Medford Alba Sister City Association, students from the Rogue Valley and Italy spend two weeks experiencing the features of the other's region.

The Italian visitors will have the opportunity to take part in multiple activities across Southern Oregon.

The guests from Alba are scheduled to have a welcome party 6 to 8 p.m. Sept. 3, enjoy a guided hike at the Table Rocks 9:30 a.m. Sept. 4, dine with Medford City Council 4:45 to 6:15 p.m. Sept. 5, raft on the Rogue River 10 a.m. Sept. 11, visit Wilson Elementary School and Rogue X Sept. 12, visit South Medford High School 10 a.m. Sept. 13, eat a farewell brunch 9 to 11:15 a.m. at the Medford Airport and depart from the airport 2:50 p.m. Sept. 14.



Italian exchange student Enrico Cagnisso and Medford Sister City Association President Robin Snider share intercontinental history. Both are related to the Alba and Medford mayors who established the sister-city connection in the 1960s.

James Sloan / Rogue Valley Times

Medford and Alba share a spot in history as one of the initial sister city pairings under President Dwight D. Eisenhower's 1960 "People to People" program designed to improve diplomatic relationships while forming long-lasting friendships internationally.

Former Medford Mayor John Snider and former Alba Mayor Osvaldo Cagnasso made history in 1962 after taking part in one of the first-ever satellite telephone calls.

To learn more about the Medford Alba Sister City Association, visit medfordalba.com.