

# Feedback from IPF Members ...



## 10 Year Old Boy Now Loves to Write

"Hi! I have a 10 year old boy who hates anything school related and it has been a challenge to make him read or write. I signed him up for IPF and when he got his list of penfriends he immediately went to his room and wrote letters – for over 4 hours. Now, everyday he runs to the mailbox to see if he has letters and he writes a lot more. He also scans magazines for things to clip out for his penfriends. It's kind of neat!"

**Sandra K. - USA**

## IPF has Shaped my Life

"Several years ago, I was a shy little girl in grade school and didn't feel like I fitted in when fitting in was so important. I discovered IPF through a magazine article, intrigued by the notion of having multicultural friends and finding out about the world beyond my suburban hometown.

I joined and wrote to several people my age. They came from Australia, Germany, Brazil, Malaysia and Croatia. I was never a very good student, but by becoming exposed to these different areas of the world, I began to excel in History, Geography and my writing and reading skills far surpassed my grade level. My pen pals gave me an escape from the harsh world of prejudice and ignorance in which I was raised. These girls saw me not for the colour of my skin, but for the ideas I shared.

Today I still keep in touch with many of my penfriends. I attended the wedding of my friend in Spain. I visited my friend in Brazil during my college years and my Malaysian friend came to visit me for two weeks. My experience as a pen pal has shaped my life. I recently joined the Peace Corps and while I don't know where my career goals lie right now, I do know that they will always encompass my love for different cultures, customs and people."

**Jacqueline G. - USA**

## 20 Pen Pals Worldwide

"I now have over 20 penfriends whose friendship is very special to me and we have so much fun. I thank you from the bottom of my heart, you have made my life very fulfilling by helping me make new friends."

**Donna R. - Australia**

## A Way of Making Real Friends

"I was so glad to hear that IPF is not a club only for youth but for people of all ages. Through IPF I have made real friends all over the world – they have become like members of my own family."

**Joina A. - Brazil**

## My World Became Infinitely Large

"I first discovered IPF whilst living and working in a ski resort over 2,000 metres up in the Swiss Alps. Once the last trains had made their way down the long rack-railway at night, there was little to do but admire the stunning mountains. With a resident population of approximately 40 people, I soon felt the need to reach out and share my experiences with others outside of my small community.

Through IPF, my world suddenly became infinitely large as friends appeared from almost all continents. I was no longer alone and felt very happy to know there were others out there who shared my ideas, thoughts and dreams. IPF continues to be a great support to me as I continue my travels around the world."

**Joseph T. - England**

# ... Write Around the World!