



KAKEHASHI Project (USA)

Inbound Program for University Students

Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 100 university students (including 7 chaperones) who are interested in Japanese culture visited Japan. During the 8 days program from November 24 to December 2, 2015, the participants studied the Japanese government, society, history, culture, foreign policy, and much more. The participants aim to promote Japan through mediums such as SNS.

2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

USA (100 Participants)

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo, Nagano, Ishikawa and Aichi

4. Program Schedule

November 24 (Tue) Departure from USA

November 25 (Wed) Arrival at Narita International Airport

November 26 (Thu) Orientation,

【Lecture】 “Japan’s Foreign Policy” by the North American Affairs
Bureau, MOFA

【Observation】 Akihabara (Nagano Group)

November 27 (Fri)~November 30 (Mon) Local Program

* Nagano

【School Exchange】 Sophia University (Tokyo)

【Courtesy Call】 Nagano Prefectural Government

【History and Culture】 Matsumoto Castle, Zenkoji Temple

【Environment】 Hakuba Jumping Stadium

【Local Industry】 Daio Wasabi Farm

【Homestay】 Meeting Hostfamilies, Farewell Party

【Workshop】

* Ishikawa

【School Exchange】 Kanazawa University

【Courtesy Call】 Kaga City Hall

【History and Culture】 Dyeing experience at Katayamazu Hot Spring /Haiku exchange
program with Daishoji Vocational High school students

【Local Industry】 Kutaniyaki Art Museum
 【Homestay】 Meeting Hostfamilies, Farewell Party
 【Workshop】

* Aichi

【School Exchange】 Chubu University
 【Courtesy Call】 Aichi Prefectural Government
 【History and Culture】 Nagoya Castle, Osu-kannon
 【Homestay】 Meeting Hostfamilies, Farewell Party
 【Workshop】

December 1 (Tue) Move to Tokyo

【History and Culture】 Senso-ji Temple (Ishikawa and Aichi Group)
 【Reporting Session】

December 2 (Wed)

【History and Culture】 Meiji Shrine, Harajuku
 Departure from Narita International Airport

5. Program Photos



11/26 【Lecture on Japan】 USA-Japan Relations(Tokyo)



11/27 School Exchange】 Chubu University(Aichi)



11/27 【History and Culture】 Katayamazuru Hot Spring(Ishikawa)



11/27 【History and Culture】 Dyeing experience(Ishikawa)



11/30 【School Exchange】 Kanazawa University(Ishikawa)



11/29 【History and Culture】 Matsumoto Castle(Nagano)

6. Voice from Participants

◆ U.S.A. University Student

What impressed me the most about Japan is the strong sense of community everywhere we have gone. People greet on another in such a respectful manner, the roads and environment are well-cared for there is little to no rubbish on the streets, and there is little fear of any crime like robbery here. Maybe the small size of the country forces people to use the availability of land resourcefully and to live together more communally. This same respect of sense of community was shared with me as strangers nodded and bowed to me as walked by. It's very different from how Americans interact, and made me feel very welcome in the country.

◆ U.S.A. University Student

The aspect about Japan that impressed me the most was how safe it was. I was able to walk down a street at night, and not be worried about my safety at all. It was a strange but wonderful feeling. After spending some time with native Japanese citizens and hearing lectures about Japan's history, it became clear that the lack of crime, violence, and trash seen on the street was directly linked to the core values of Japanese society. Some of these values include: respect, honor, courtesy, and diligence. I believe Japan's high sense of morality is a wonderful thing and I hope that I can bring these values back home. By gaining understanding and appreciating one another's cultures, we can strengthen the bonds and communication throughout all the world's different countries and work towards common goals.

◆ U.S.A. University Student

What I was most impressed by and what I would like to share after I get home is the traditional culture that I learned from interacting with college students and my host family. You read so much about it / see it on social media, but the firsthand experience



of how different traditions are in Japan compared to say the United States. It's not just the traditional culture either, pop culture is all around you and the fact that it's so easy to make a connection through a government program such as the Kakehashi project is absolutely amazing. It really did feel like we were building a bridge between societies.

◆ U.S.A. University Student

There is so much to talk about. The landscape, transportation, but especially the people. I can't believe how kind, understanding and intelligent they are. These people, hands down are some of the most dedicated and homely folks I've ever met. Living with a family for only two days was enough to convince me that this is the most important aspect of Japanese culture. As impressive the technology is, the culture of the family is what drew me in. The family I stayed with showed me nothing but kindness. I truly felt like I was a part of their family. I was at home with them. I'm going to return here as soon as possible, because of these things. Please stay with a Japanese family if you want to be a family.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

<p><i>INFRASTRUCTURE</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads • Yellow Guidance Lines on sidewalks for the blind • Translated signs • Convenient recycling bins • Vending machines 	<p><i>FUTURE PLANS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return to Japan • Share experience with friends and family "Facebook" • Connect with host families • Work and study abroad in Japan 
Findings in Japan	Action Plan
<p>Section 2 – Social Interactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Trust in the Community – Respect for One Another • Social Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Close-Knit Families – Polarity in Family Structures (City vs Rural) • Tolerance & Cooperation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Patience – Community/Family First Mentality  	<p>Concluding Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Leads to Friendship • Fosters a Deeper Appreciation and Compassion for Each Other • Developing Relationships    
Findings in Japan	Action Plan

 <p>NATURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Onsen ● Harmony with Nature/ Modern vs. Traditional 	<p>III. Our Action Plan (Actions to be taken) アクションプラン</p> <p>◎ Project Title プロジェクトタイトル The Japanese Conscience in America</p> <p>WHY : (Reasons to do it) 考えた理由 It will promote the Japanese culture, as well as bring the moral fiber of their people to our own country. By Facebook, Media Outlets, School Presentation</p> <p>WHEN : (When will it be done?) いつやるか As soon as possible, in early moment of everyday. (All of our actions will hold this plan if done correctly.)</p> <p>WHO : (Who will do it?) 誰がやるか All of us who were on this trip this week, and all who take up our mantle (Some of us will be leaders here.)</p> <p>WHO : (To whom?) 誰に対してやるか All people who will listen to us and be receptive to our message (we have to be vigilant here.)</p> <p>WHAT : (Details of the action) 何をやるか HOW : (How to do) どうやってやるか On the 3rd December, we will be back in America. We will reach out to local media outlets, as well as create social networking sites that engender communication and understanding among past, present and future Kakehashi participants. Also, there will be presentations at our university on our experiences that convince more people to take interest in Japan. (This plan is very subtle, but very human, and will be gradual in its effectiveness.)</p>
<p>Findings in Japan</p> <p>Homestay Experience & Family</p> <p>What We've Learned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education is serious • Time for family no matter how much work • Family assists mother with housework • Ancestral history is important, but not the most important 	<p>Action Plan</p> <p>Modern Japan</p> <p>Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing experience through social media such as Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, as well as via personal relationships • Educating others with presentations, radio shows, and videos
<p>Findings in Japan</p> <p>Study Abroad HPU</p> <p>November 29, 2015 · 🌐</p> <p>Follow the HPU group of students on their Japan Study Tour on our instagram hashtag, #HPUxJPN15 or the blog! Link here: https://t.co/aZjuvYzscy #hawaiiipacific #kakehashiproject #japan</p>  <p>Facebook</p>	<p>Action Plan</p>