



KAKEHASHI Project (USA)

Inbound Program for Young Japanese Americans

Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 83 Young Japanese Americans who are interested in Japanese culture visited Japan. During the 8 days program from December 15 to December 22, 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

U.S.A (83 Participants)

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo, Shiga, Kyoto, Fukuoka

4. Program Schedule

December 15 (Tue) Arrival at Narita International Airport

December 16 (Wed) Orientation

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

【Observation】 Japanese Overseas Migration Museum

December 17(Thu)~December 20(Sun) Local Program

* Kyoto and Shiga

【History and Culture】 Kinkaku-ji Temple, Kiyomizu-dera Temple,
Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine

【School Exchange】 The University of Shiga Prefecture

【Homestay】 Meeting Hostfamilies, Farewell Party

【Workshop】

* Fukuoka

【Courtesy Call】 Fukuoka City

【School Exchange】 Fukuoka University

【History and Culture】 The Ohori Park Noh Theater, Kushida Shrine

【Homestay】 Meeting Hostfamilies, Farewell Party

【Workshop】

December 21 (Mon) Move to Tokyo

【Reporting Session】

【Observation】 IBM Japan Ltd.

December 22 (Wed) Departure from Narita International Airport

5. USA / Young Japanese Americans Program Photos



12/16 【Observation】 Japanese Overseas Migration Museum (Tokyo)



12/2 【Observation】 IBM Japan Ltd.(Tokyo)



12/17 【History and Culture】 Kiyomizu-dera Temple (Kyoto city)



12/18 【History and Culture】 Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine (Kyoto city)



12/18 【School Exchange】 The University of Shiga Prefecture (Hikone city)



12/19 【Homestay】 (Higashi-omi city)



12/17 【History and Culture】 The Ohori Park
Noh Theater (Fukuoka City)



12/18 【Courtesy Call】
Fukuoka City (Fukuoka city)



12/18 【School Exchange】 Fukuoka
University (Fukuoka city)



12/18 【History and Culture】 Kushida Shrine
(Fukuoka city)



12/20 【Homestay】 Farewell party (Fukuoka
city)



12/20 【Workshop】 (Fukuoka city)

6. Voice from Participants

◆ U.S.A. Young Japanese Americans

What has impressed me the most, or has continued to impress me is the Japanese dedication to the spirit of “OMOTENASHI”. The hospitality of the Japanese would probably be hard to find elsewhere due to the extent that they go to. This especially applies to the homestay portion. What also impressed me or left a good impression for me was Visiting Shiga Prefectural University. Being able to meet college students similar to us in age but living in a different culture was really interesting. These are the people we could probably relate to the most so getting the chance to freely discuss was much appreciated. I would also like to share Japanese culture and language because I have a personal interest in it.


◆ U.S.A. Young Japanese Americans

During my homestay, my host mother (okasan) and father (otoosan) said, “ when we were told that we are going to host students from the united states, we believed that it was going to be a sharing of cultures and customs only between us and the students. However, after spending this time with you all, we were reminded of the traditions and culture of the past, such as those during your parents/ grandparents, customs that are characteristic of our own times.” To me, this statement summarized the experiences I have had on this trip, connecting with my heritage and appreciating just how rich Japanese culture is. Everyday, I am reminded, by the Japanese customs and way of life I have experienced, just how much focus the Japanese philosophy puts on fate and the appreciation of life.

◆ U.S.A. Young Japanese Americans

I was truly impressed with the compassion and kindness that I received from homestay family, university students, and everyone whom I met during this trip. I am incredibly fortunate to meet these wonderful people who changed my perspective in viewing the world and strengthening the cultural bridges as well as globalization with America and Japan. Despite being a homogeneous country, I was truly amazed with Japanese people making their effort in learning various languages and making friends around the world. After communicating Japanese with various people during this trip, I learned the importance and value of learning and understanding one’s language and culture. As I further enhance my language skill, I would like to be connected in both America and Japan and play an important role in strengthening health care system of both countries in the future.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoMsMWEjb2g</p>	
<p>YouTube</p>	<p>YouTube</p>
<div data-bbox="279 712 606 795"> <h3>The Kakehashi Project: Bridging Two Cultures</h3> </div> <div data-bbox="667 667 775 788" style="background-color: red; width: 50px; height: 50px; margin-left: 10px;"></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Expand outreach in university communities and other JA and API communities through presentations, social media reach, and spreading word of The Kakehashi Project and our new knowledge about Japan ■ Utilize YouTube videos, PowerPoint presentations, and student photographs to share our experience in Japan with the Kakehashi Project ■ Inspire and encourage people to learn more about Japan and experience it for themselves 	<div data-bbox="831 689 1002 734"> <h3>Action Plan</h3> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host a Report back to JAACL Chapter Become Active JAACL Members Host Info Workshops of Kakehashi Projects to API University Organizations Share Info to Campus School Newspapers Share Stories + Pictures on Social Media Art Projects
<p>Action Plan</p>	<p>Action Plan</p>