



KAKEHASHI Project Inbound Program (USA, Rising Leaders of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus) Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 25 Rising Leaders of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus visited Japan. During the 8 days program from March 23 to March 30, 2016, 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 (25 Participants)

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo and Hiroshima

4. Program Schedule

March 23 (Wed)	Arrival at Narita International Airport
March 24 (Thu)	【Orientation】 【Lecture】 “Japan’s Foreign Policy” by the North American Affairs Bureau, MOFA 【Exchange】 with Junior staff members of MOFA 【Observation】 National Diet Building
March 25 (Fri)	Move to Hiroshima 【History】 Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, Atomic Dome and Museum
March 26 (Sat)	【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Miyajima Itsukushima Shrine 【Farm stay】
March 27 (Sun)	【Farwell Party】 Move to Tokyo
March 28 (Mon)	【Historical】 Asakusa Sensoji Temple, Harajuku 【Workshop】
March 29 (Tue)	【Reporting Session】 【Exchange】 Exchange with junior congressmen
March 30 (Wed)	Departure from Narita International Airport

5. Program photos



3/24 【Lecture on US-Japan relationship】
MOFA (Tokyo)



3/24 【Observation】 National Diet Building
(Tokyo)



3/25 【History】 Hiroshima Peace Memorial
Park, Atomic Dome and Museum
(Hiroshima City)





3/26 【Observation of Historical Landmark】
Miyajima Itsukushima Shrine
(Hatsukaichi City)



3/26~27 【Farm stay】 (Akiota)



3/28 【Historical】 Asakusa Sensoji Temple
(Tokyo)

	
3/29 【Reporting Session (Tokyo)】	3/29 【Exchange】 Exchange with junior congressmen (Tokyo)

6. Voice from Participants

The young leader of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute

- ◆ I was very touched by history in Hiroshima and appreciate hearing first hand survivor experiences regarding the war and now understand how much this event has shaped Japanese society today. I want to keep learning about Japan and will keep advocating for its peace and progress.
- ◆ My homestay was amazing. Host family had an entire agenda related to local sites, religious teachings, and great dinner/breakfast. Our conversations about history, politics, baseball, and shooling will stay with me forever. It truly was an unforgettable experience.
- ◆ As we visited, I particularly enjoyed the visit to the Diet's House of Councilors. I found the experience valuable as a professor of political science. Experiencing the bullet train and learning firsthand how Japanese traveled domestically was a great experience.
- ◆ I would like to share positive aspects of Japanese society and the importance of our American government's relationship with Japan.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

<p>Short-term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentation on KAKEHASHI at CHCI offices and open up to a broader audience ○ Show & Share: Include Japanese food, language, and cultural keepsakes ○ Create presentation slides on our policy areas in comparison with Japanese counterpart ○ Share our stories as Latinos with Asian-Pacific Islander congressional fellows (APAICS) ○ Give virtual tour to our host families of our city and home ○ Incorporate our story/experience in Japan with fundraising activities 	<p>Long-term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promoting international affairs in CHCI continued education ○ Be more attuned to international customs and decorum ○ Consider ways to give back for what we've been offered through KAKEHASHI ○ Maintain connection with host families/give thanks to host families by creating a video or something ○ Continue promoting KAKEHASHI program through social media ○ Using the hash tags beyond trip dates ○ Compile saved social media content and make a story ○ Utilize commonalities for developing a project with local organizations in home states
Action Plan in a short term	Action plan in a long term