

## JENESYS2015 Inbound program Singapore, Theme: Culture (Exchange in Japanese Culture, Japanese Language Communication) Program Report

### 1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 22 vocational school and university students from Singapore who are interested in Japanese culture and Japanese language communication visited Japan. During the 8 days program from March 15 to March 22, the participants studied Japanese government, society, history, technology, culture and much more.

### 2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

Singapore: 22 participants

### 3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo and Tokushima

### 4. Program Schedule

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| March 15 (Tue) | Arrival at Narita International Airport, Program Orientation   |
| March 16 (Wed) | 【Lecture on Japanese Culture／Key Note Lecture】<br>【History/Traditional Culture】 Edo-Tokyo Museum<br>【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Senso-ji Temple                                   |
| March 17 (Thu) | Move to Tokushima<br>【Courtesy Call】 Tokushima prefecture,<br>Tokushima Prefectural Assembly<br>【Regional Industry】 Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.<br>【Cultural Experience】 Awa Dance     |
| March 18 (Fri) | 【School Exchange】 Tokushima University<br>【Cultural Experience】 Wearing Kimono experience<br>【School Exchange】 Tokushima Prefectural Joto Senior High School<br>【Meeting with Host Family】 |
| March 19 (Sat) | 【Homestay】   |
| March 20 (Sun) | 【Homestay Farewell Party】<br>【Workshop】  |
| March 21 (Mon) | 【Cultural Experience】 Indigo dyeing experience<br>Move to Tokyo<br>【Reporting Session】   |
| March 22 (Tue) | Departure from Narita International Airport  |

## 5. Program Photos



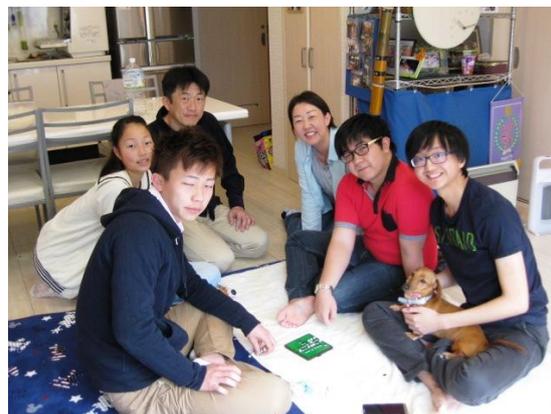
3/17 【Courtesy Call】 Tokushima Prefectural Assembly (Tokushima city)



3/17 【Cultural Experience】 Awa Dance (Tokushima city)



3/18 【School Exchange】 Tokushima University (Tokushima city)



3/19 【Homestay】 (Tokushima city)



3/20 【Homestay Farewell Party】 (Tokushimacity)



3/21 【Reporting Session】 (Tokyo)

## **6. Voice from Participants**

### **◆Singapore, University student**

I am very impress by Japanese people's hospitality. They are very friendly and warm. I thought they might be very shy but they tried their best to communicate with us and that really nice of them. I am also glad to know that they are curious about our country and have a desire to visit and know more about our country. I also found out that many of them are open-minded and easy to communicate thus allowed me to learn more about Japan. I also learnt that the best way to learn more about Japan is to interact more with Japanese people and experience it first-hand. I learn a lot more Japanese after I stayed in homestay. They taught me a lot and also willing to learn English from us. In overall, even though I did knew some of the stuffs about Japan, some of them are incorrect after I get to experience them. Many things about Japan amazed me in good way. I would love to visit here again and even live here.

### **◆Singapore, University student**

What impressed me most:

Upon arrival I was pleasantly surprised at how systematic and efficient it was! I found it really interesting how Japan has managed to advance their technologies yet still keep the raw aspects of tradition, like the Awa dance and kimonos. Japanese people embrace both modern and traditional aspects of life. I am humbled by their sense of duty and their hospitality as well.

What I would like to share:

Frankly, I'd like to share everything I've experienced here! I feel that more people should know about Japan if they're interested – it really is an amazing place. Despite the packed schedule it was one unique experience after another. I'm really glad and grateful to be on this trip, and I wish for others to travel there, too.

### **◆Singapore, University student**

The homestay experience allowed me to develop a deep understanding of the Japanese culture. Despite the short time spent with the host family, I found that there're many similarities between the citizens of Japan and Singapore. For instance, when I conversed with my host family's grandmother, we found out that we both visited sunshine coast, Australia last year. Also, both myself and her son-in-law enjoyed reading Captain Tsubasa comics in our younger days. I'm highly impressed by Japanese manners, and there is much for the rest of the world to learn from Japan. On returning home, I wish to continue to keep in contact with my host family and one day welcome them to Singapore for a visit. Also, together with my students, we will help promote Tokushima as a tourist attraction, by sharing the local interesting attractive via word of mouth and social media.

## 7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

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|--|---|
| <h3>What we learned during the trip</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Japan is known for many other attractions and culture, one of them that we experienced being Awa Odori</li> <li>• Food in Japan is very diverse, from Hamburg Steak to Japanese Curry</li> <li>• Japanese people are not really shy instead they are very friendly</li> <li>• They are also very open-minded and willing to teach about their culture and also learn about our culture</li> </ul> <p><b>NAN YANG JENESYS2015</b></p> <p>25</p> | <h3>Team Project Timeline</h3> <p><b>NAN YANG JENESYS2015</b></p> <p>36</p> |
| <h3>Findings in Japan</h3>   | <h3>Action Plan</h3>  |
| <p><a href="https://jenesys2015sg.wordpress.com/">https://jenesys2015sg.wordpress.com/</a></p>   | <h3>Our JENESYS2015 Travel Blog</h3>  |
| <h3>Blog</h3>  | <h3>Blog</h3>   |