



Japan's Friendship Ties Program (USA)
KAKEHASHI Project
Japanese American 1st Slot Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan's Friendship Ties Program”, 50 participants from U.S.A .visited Japan. During the 8 day program from September 6th to September 13th, the participants studied the Japanese government, society, history, culture, foreign policy, and much more. The participants aim to promote Japan through mediums such as social networking sites.

【Participating Countries and Number of Participants】

Japanese American (50 Participants)

【Prefectures Visited】

Tokyo, Kyoto, Nara

2. Program Schedule

September 6 th (Tue)	Arrival at Narita International Airport
September 7 th (Wed)	【Orientation】 【Lecture】 Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office 【Observation】 Japanese Overseas Migration Museum
September 8 th (Thu)	Move to Kyoto 【Cultural Experience】 Shinkyogoku, and Nishiki Market, Surigata-Yuzen dyeing experience
September 9 th (Fri)	【School Exchange】 Ritsumeikan University 【Home Stay】 Welcome session at Asuka village, Nara
September 10 th (Sat)	【Home Stay】 Activities with the Host Family
September 11 th (Sun)	【Home Stay】 Farewell session at Asuka village, Nara 【Workshop】 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Todai-ji Temple
September 12 th (Mon)	【Reporting Session】
September 13 th (Tue)	【Lecture】 IBM Japan, Ltd Departure from Narita

3. Program Photos

・ Tokyo

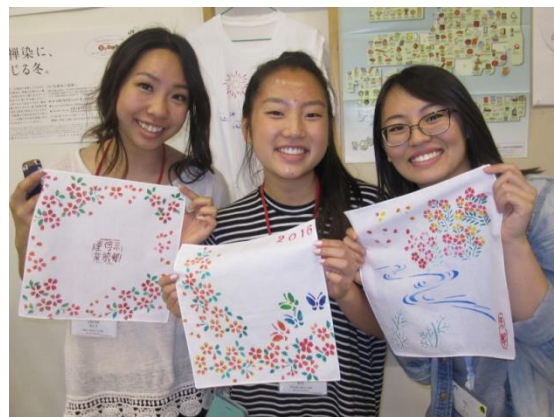
	
<p>9/7 【視察・講義】 海外移住資料館</p> <p>【Observation and Lecture】 Japanese Overseas Migration Museum</p>	<p>9/12 【報告会】</p> <p>【Reporting Session】</p>
	
<p>9/12 【講義】 日本アイ・ビー・エム株式会社</p> <p>【Lecture】 IBM Japan, Ltd</p>	

Kyoto, Nara



9/8 【文化体験】新京極・錦市場散策

【Cultural Experience】 Shinkyogoku and Nishiki Market



9/8 【文化体験】摺型友禅染体験

【Cultural Experience】 Surigata-Yuzen dyeing experience



9/9 【学校交流】立命館大学

【School Experience】 Ritsumeikan University



9/10 【ホームステイ】奈良県明日香村

【Home Stay】 Asuka village, Nara



9/11 【ワークショップ】

【Workshop】



9/11 【歴史的建造物視察】東大寺

【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Todai-ji Temple

4. Voice from Participants

◆ Japanese American Participants

I really enjoyed the lecture about emigration/Nikkei/immigration. It definitely helped me learn more about my cultural heritage as kind of a strange mix of cultures (Franco-American citizen with Japanese-Vietnamese ethnicity). I now know how self-identification is important to me and the histories of my ancestors.

The school exchange was a great way of immersing ourselves in Japanese culture with students of our age who shared many experiences. It was extremely fun.

I learnt good effort on part of Japanese Government..

Absolutely loved my homestay. I didn't know it was possible to become so attached to a family after a day. We ate delicious food and spoke about our experiences and learned about life in Japan.

◆ Japanese American Participants

The most interesting lecture I attended was about the gender equality policy in Japan. I thought this lecture was really important and relevant to society. I was glad to see Japan is taking measures to create gender equality. I thought the school exchange was very rewarding to see how Japanese student education is different from ours. I especially enjoyed interacting with the students. I thought going to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave me a glance into Japanese government and their relationships with other countries. The homestay portion of the trip was my favorite. Staying with a Japanese family was an incredible experience and I would definitely do it again. I got to experience life as a rice farmer and enjoyed my time with my host family very much.

◆ Japanese American Participants

The KAKEHASHI trip has many different effects on many different types of people. By generations, by race, by economic status, each group takes something different back over this bridge, KAKEHASHI.

My experience as a shin-Nikkei, a Japanese speaker and an English teacher, has informed my own experience here. Through the experience at the Overseas Migration Museum, I learned that there is much more work that needs to be done to bridge the American-Japanese experience. The amount of museum exhibits of Japanese-Brazilians compared to the Japanese-American ones were incomparable. How wonderful it would be if I had the chance of bridging the various Nikkei peoples around the world. I am excited to share my ideas through videos, poetry and eventually a Fulbright.

Legacy is planting seeds into a garden that you don't get to see.

I am excited to see what kind of legacy KAKEHASHI will leave for us. Thank you Japan and JACL for this experience.

5. Voice from Japanese Participants

◆ Youth Exchange Program: University Student

I really enjoyed sharing ideas with Japanese-American students since we could talk frankly each other. As I've heard most of them are Japanese-American, I expected that they had come to Japan before, and they can speak Japanese. However, it made me surprise that most of them never come to Japan, nor that they know Japan very few. I hope this cultural exchange program become a good opportunity to know more about Japan for them.

◆ Youth Exchange Program: University Student

Although I was a bit nervous since I haven't communicated with exchange students for long, I become very good friends with KAKEHASHI project participants as if we are old friends, thanks to their friendliness and cheerfulness. I am happy to be able to participate in this cultural exchange program, since this opportunity encouraged me a lot to study abroad which I have been thinking of. I am willing to be a host family and to join the guide tour around Kyoto and Nara next time.

◆ Host Family

I could introduce Japanese, particularly our local, characters, history, life style, food, etc., to them and they also taught us American daily life style. Although I only know a few English words, we could communicate beyond the words with heart and smile. I even enjoyed communicating with their broken Japanese, which gave me an impression of their humbleness and their Japanese sprits which I felt more than people in Japan today. I am hoping more and more people from foreign countries participate this KAKEHASHI project in order to disseminate wonderful parts of Japan to the world, and then this project will literally become KAKEHASHI to world peace.

◆ Host Family

It was very interesting and fruitful opportunity to have conversations with the Japanese-American people, who have the same Japanese ethnic roots as us, growing outside of Japan. It was meaningful to get know them feeling proud of being 4th generation of Nikkei and being American.


◆ Host Family

It was great that they could communicate with grandmother somehow, who doesn't speak English at all. And also, it made me happy that they said the steamed rice harvested in our field was the best rice ever. They enjoyed working in the rice field, too. *Imo-gayu* (rice congee with potato) seemed to become their favorite food.

6. Dissemination by the Participants

 <p>jendyedge Todaiji Temple... いいね！ 64件 1週間前 jendyedge Sharing treats with deer at Todaiji temple, one of the oldest wooden temples in Japan and a Unesco World Heritage Site. Fact we learned today: 300 years ago, the temple burnt down for the third time since being built and was reconstructed by child prisoners under 20 years old. #Japan #todaijitemple #todaiji #kakehashi2016 #jacekakehashi #nara #deerpark #deer コメントを追加...</p>	 <p>tatertotdot 錦市場,河原町 いいね！ 33件 1週間前 tatertotdot 錦市場の前 #京都 #日本 #錦市場 #寺 #Japan #kyoto #nishikimarket #kakehashi2016 #jice kaanash かっしー！！ コメントを追加...</p>
<p>東大寺についての発信 東大寺で鹿とおやつを分けあい中。東大寺は日本で最も古い木造寺院の一つで世界遺産に登録されています</p>	<p>錦市場についての発信 錦市場の前で！</p>
<p>Message about Todaiji temple Sharing treats with deer at Todaiji temple, one of the oldest wooden temples in Japan and a Unesco World Heritage Site.</p>	<p>Message about Nishiki market In front of Nishiki market!</p>
 <p>kurtimkurt いいね！ 28件 4日前 kurtimkurt KAKEHASHI: POEM: "How to dye a fan, surigata yuzen style" Step 1: Choose a Culturally relevant Japanese art symbol that represents your Nikkei Identity. Step 2: Choose a complicated Kanji that you can't read marking that at least linguistically you can't read, marking that at least linguistically you can claim the language. Your family's tongue speaks your Nikkei Identity. Step 3: Carefully, respectfully, representing the craft. Creatively crafting creative color schemes. Red, White, Blue, Yellow - Color me a Nikkei Identity. Step 4: Dip, Drip, Wipe, Swipe, Left, Right, Firm yet light, dyeing my Identity, affirming me, until I get me right. Step 5: Dip, Drip, Wipe, Swipe, Left, Right, Firm yet light, dyeing my Identity. コメントを追加...</p>	 <p>katietakahashi いいね！ 6件 13時間前 katietakahashi What do I miss about Japan? Food. #kakehashi2016 #JICE コメントを追加...</p>
<p>すり型友禅染体験についての発信 楽しいすり型友禅染体験中</p>	<p>日本食についての発信 日本食が恋しい！</p>
<p>Message about the Surigata-Yuzen dyeing experience How to dye a fan, Surigata yuzen style.</p>	<p>Message about Japanese food What do I miss about Japan? Food!</p>

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

	 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. International → <i>Kake-Pals</i> 2. National → <i>Kakehashi Reunion @ JACL National Convention, Washington D.C.</i> 3. Local → <i>Kakehashi Outreach Initiative</i>
<p>アクション・プランの発表 1</p> <p>日本に対する正しい知識の普及や日米の文化交流、体験の発信を目的に、3つの活動を中心に行う。① facebook や Insatgram 等の SNS を通じた発信、②大学や教会の新聞やホームページを通じての発信、③大学やコミュニティーセンターでのプレゼンテーション等人を通じた発信。</p>	<p>アクション・プランの発表 2</p> <p>プログラムを通じて得た体験や知識を3つの階層にわけ、発信・活動していく。①インターナショナル:ホストファミリーや学生などプログラムを通じて知り合った人 (Kake-Pals) との継続的な交流、②ナショナル: JACL の同窓会への参加など国内での活動、③ローカル: SNS や各大学での発信など個人単位での活動。</p>
<p>Action Plan Presentation 1</p> <p>In order to clarify misconceptions about Japan and do cultural exchange, participants will share their experience in three ways. 1) SNS activities. 2) Newspaper 3) Power point presentation at universities, community centers, cultural organizations etc.</p>	<p>Action Plan Presentation 2</p> <p>Participants will share their experience in three ways. 1) Keep in touch with people who met through the program like host families. 2) Build Kakehashi reunion and attend JACL National Convention, Washington D.C. 3) Share the experiences via SNS, blog, campus activities etc.</p>