



KAKEHASHI Project (United States of America) Inbound program for University students the 1st Slot Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 25 university students and supervisors from the U.S. visited Japan from January 15 to January 22, 2019 to participate in the program aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan with regard to Japanese politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. Through the lectures, observations and interactions with Japanese people etc., the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan and shared their individual interests and experiences on social media. Based on their findings and learning in Japan, each group of participants made a presentation in the final session and reported on the action plans to be taken after returning to the U.S.

[Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants]

United States of America: 25 participants

[Prefectures Visited]

Tokyo, Aichi

2. Program Schedule

Jan. 15 (Tue)	[Arrival]
Jan. 16 (Wed)	[Orientation] [Lecture]Ms. Andrade Hisami [Culture Experience]Edo-Tokyo Museum [Observation] Meiji Jingu Shrine, Harajuku
Jan. 17 (Thu)	Move to Aichi from Tokyo [School Exchange]Nagoya University of Foreign Studies
Jan. 18 (Fri)	[Observation] Nagoya Castle [Courtesy Call] Deputy Mayor of Nagoya city [Lecture]Aichi Prefectural Government [Meeting with Host Family]
Jan. 19 (Sat)	[Homestay]
Jan. 20 (Sun)	[Farewell Party with Host Family] [Workshop]

Jan. 21 (Mon)	Move to Tokyo from Aichi [Observation] Imperial Palace [Reporting Session]
Jan. 22 (Tue)	[Observation] Asakusa, Sensoji Temple, Nakamise [Departure]

3. Program Photos



1/16[Observation] Meiji Jingu Shrine



1/16[Culture Experience]Edo-Tokyo Museum



1/17[School Exchange]Nagoya University of Foreign Studies



1/18[Observation] Nagoya Castle



1/18[Lecture]Aichi Prefectural Government



1/20[Farewell Party with Host Family]

4. Voice from Participants (abstract)

◆U.S.A. Student

The first lecture we got when we were in Tokyo was very interesting and the lecturer was funny and kept it entertaining while still educating us.

I had a lot of fun at the school exchange and met wonderful students who were incredibly nice to us and made us feel welcomed.

Meeting the deputy mayor was an amazing experience as well. All officials were kind and we even got Nagoya merchandise.

The home stay was also amazing! The family was incredibly kind and welcoming to us. The food that grandma made was delicious and the presentation of food was very impressive. The kids were bright people to get to know and the parents and grandmother as well. I am grateful to them and glad I had the opportunity to stay in their home. I loved the Nagoya castle! It was breathtakingly beautiful and I learned a lot from the tour guide. She was delightful and very cute.

◆U.S.A. Student

The lecture was highly informative and grew my interest in Japan and their traditions. The school exchange fascinated me, for I was aware of what the lifestyle and duly endeavors were for a student at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies. I was very pleased to take part in a traditional tea ceremony held by some students from the university. The meeting with the company and government office was very helpful in aiding my understanding on how important the care of tourism is, especially in a small prefecture like Aichi which needs visitors, to sell their products and proceed to grow as an economy. The homestay was an absolutely amazing experience where I was able to expand my knowledge on the daily lifestyle of a Japanese family, including mannerisms, food, family function, and tradition. I am extremely grateful for this overall experience and to be able to eat their delicious foods, and see their beautiful and positively strong architecture.

5. Voice from Japanese Students/Schools/Host Families/Organizations

◆Person from a receiving organization

I gave a lecture to the students on the theme of industries and tourism in Aichi; they were a responsive audience, which made it a pleasant experience for me. By feeling their responses directly, I was able to find out what kinds of industries and culture in Aichi foreign students have an interest in.



◆Host family

Accepting homestay students has made us learn about and appreciate Japan from their perspective. As we have some opportunities to wear kimono for New Year's Day or the coming-of-age ceremony in January, we had them wear kimono. They liked it so much that they took pictures and walked around in kimono for nearly two hours even though it must have been uncomfortable. Both of them looked really nice and pretty in kimono.

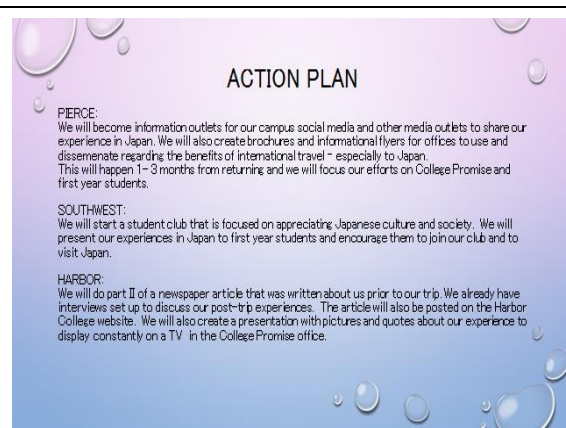
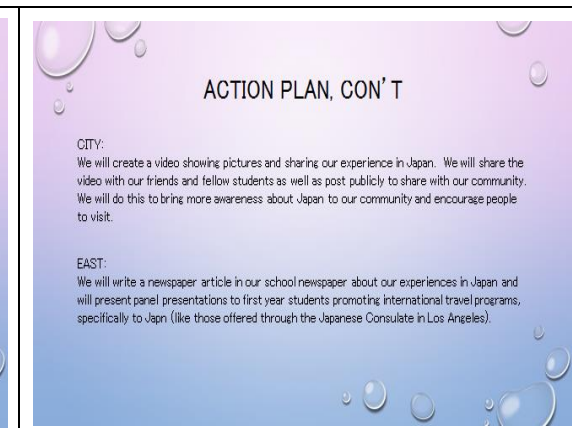
◆ Student who participated in school exchange program

When I could not immediately answer a question about Nagoya, I felt a renewed sense of the need to learn more about Japanese cities and culture. Although I was not able to give a good explanation about the tea ceremony, which I am not familiar with, I was glad to have a chance to experience one with them.

6. Dissemination by the participants

	
<p>About the program (Instagram)</p> <p>I miss these views of Tokyo. I cannot wait to come back!</p>	<p>About the program (Instagram)</p> <p>Japan is so beautiful.</p>

7. Action Plan Presented by Participants at the Reporting Session

	
<p>Action Plan</p> <p>Students from five Community Colleges in LA form a team in each college and they will share their experience with other students and citizens in the communities through making video, brochures, newspapers etc. They will also introduce Japanese culture and society to first year students to promote the participation to KAKEHASHI program.</p>	<p>HARBOR COLLEGE:</p> <p>We will do part II of a newspaper article that was written about us prior to our trip. We already have interviews set up to discuss our post-trip experience. The article will also be posted on the Harbor College website. We will also create a presentation with pictures and quotes about our experience to display constantly on a TV in the College Promise office.</p>

PIERCE COLLEGE:

We will become information outlets for our campus social media and other media outlets to share our experience in Japan. We will also create brochures and informational flyers for offices to use and disseminate regarding the benefits of international travel- especially to Japan.

This will happen 1-3 months from returning and we will focus our efforts on College Promise and first year students.

SOUTHWEST COLLEGE:

We will start a student club that is focused on appreciating Japanese culture and society. We will present our experiences in Japan to first year students and encourage them to join our club and to visit Japan.

CITY COLLEGE:

We will create a video showing pictures and sharing our experience in Japan. We will share video with our friends and fellow students as well as post publicly to share with our community. We will do this to bring more awareness about Japan to our community and encourage people to visit.

EAST COLLEGE:

We will write a newspaper article in our school newspaper about our experiences in Japan and will present panel presentations to first year student promoting International travel programs, specifically to Japan (like those offered through the Japanese Consulate in Los Angeles.)