Japan's Friendship Ties Program (USA)
KAKEHASHI Project
“Visit Study and Japan Program”

1. Program Overview
Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 5 graduated students from the US visited Japan to research their studies and to participate in the program aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan. Through their research and other experiences, the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan and shared their individual interests and experiences through social media. Based on their findings and learning in Japan, participants made a presentation in the final session and reported on the action plans to be taken after returning to their home country.

【Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants】
United States of America: 5 students

【Prefectures Visited】
Tokyo (5), Kyoto (3), Hyogo (2), Aomori (1), Iwate (1), Akita (1), Miyagi (1), Fukushima (1), Niigata (1), Fukuoka (1), Kagawa (1), Kumamoto (1), Kagoshima (1)

2. Program Schedule

A Student from University of California, SD
June 23 (Sat)   Arrival
June 25 (Mon)  【Orientation】
June 26 (Tue)-July 26 (Thu)  

【Research】Research and gather materials at Musashi University and the National Diet Library
July 17 (Tue)  【Exchange】Join AJS program “Next Generation Roundtable in Tokyo” and discuss the differences between Japan and America with Japanese and Americans
July 27 (Thu)  【Reporting Session】Report at AJS office
July 30 (Mon)  Departure

A student from Harvard University
May 21 (Mon)   Arrival
June 02 (Sat)  【Orientation】
June 04 (Mon)  Move to Miyagi
June 5 (Tue)-July 27 (Fri)

【Research】Research based in Sendai

July 27 (Fri)  Move to Tokyo

August 09 (Thu)  【Reporting Session】Report at AJS office

August 11 (Sat)  Move to Hyogo

August 13 (Mon)  【Research】Interviews

August 18 (Sat)  Departure

A student from University of Chicago

June 01 (Fri)  Arrival

June 02 (Sat)  【Orientation】

June 04 (Mon)  Move to Kyoto

June 05 (Tue)-August 08 (Wed)

【Research】Research at Kyoto University Library

August 09 (Thu)  Move to Tokyo

【Reporting Session】Report at AJS office

August 09 (Thu)-August 15 (Wed)

【Research】Research at the National Diet Library

August 16 (Thu)  Departure

A Student from University of California, SD

July 01 (Sun)  Arrival

July 05 (Thu)  【Orientation】

July 07 (Sat)  Move to Kagoshima

June 07 (Sat)-August 28 (Tue)

【Research】Research at various place in Japan

August 28 (Tue)  Move to Tokyo

August 29 (Wed)  【Reporting Session】Report at AJS office

August 31 (Fri)  Departure

A student from Harvard University

September 10 (Mon)  Arrival

【Orientation】

September 11 (Tue)  Move to Kyoto

September 12 (Wed)-September 25 (Tue)

【Research】Research in Kyoto and Awaji Island

September 26 (Wed)  Move to Tokyo

September 29 (Sat)  【Research】Lecture at Kunitachi College of Music

October 02 (Tue)  【Reporting Session】Report at AJS office

October 05 (Fri)  Departure
### 3. Program Photos

**A Student from University of California, SD**

- ![Photo](image1.png)
  - **Research** A book store that is near the university. Talked about Japanese vote with a shop staff.
  - ![Photo](image2.png)
  - **Research** Talked with one of demonstrationists

**A student from Harvard University**

- ![Photo](image3.png)
- ![Photo](image4.png)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>6/20</td>
<td>Interview a President of Equal Net</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/28</td>
<td>Visit Okawa Elementary School in Miyagi</td>
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**A student from University of Chicago**

- ![Photo](image5.png)
- ![Photo](image6.png)

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<tr>
<td>6/10</td>
<td>Cafe Francois related to research</td>
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<td>8/9</td>
<td>Reporting Session Report at AJS office</td>
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### A Student from University of California, SD

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>7/4</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Interview Mr. Takakuwa Tomoo who is the head volunteer of the Georges Oshawa Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/29</td>
<td>Reporting Session</td>
<td>Report at AJS office</td>
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### A Student from Harvard University

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<tr>
<td>9/23</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Meet Shohei Takana’s grandchild</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/29</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Lecture at Kunitachi College of Music</td>
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### 4. Voice from Participants

- I could not have carried out my research without the support of the AJS research grant. Before coming to Japan my research project was approved by three Harvard faculties and my tasks were decided well in advanced. Writing the weekly reports helped me organize my thoughts and keep on track of tasks. The funds provided by the grant allowed me to travel throughout Japan to interview subjects and stay long enough so that I could interview a significant sample size.

  The one suggestion I would make to improve the program is to give recipients a clearer description of expectations before the program begins. I had described my research plan and subjects in my application and as I was chosen as a recipient assumed everyone at AJS understood research subjects. However, when I came back to Tokyo, I realized some of AJS members were not aware of my plans and I felt like I had to justify my research project.
This summer has been extremely beneficial in allowing me access to a variety of materials related to the Kyoto School, and providing me with the time to work through them in a rigorous and sustained manner. Since I have never had the opportunity to spend extended amounts of time in Kyoto, there were a number of geographical and socio-cultural references in my research that I didn’t understand before. With this experience I feel more familiar with one of my core areas of study, and thus more confident about what I am researching. This is important because the majority of my research that I have been able to work on this summer has been applicable to the first and third chapters of my dissertation.

I was very satisfied with this program as a whole. I think that this type of fellowship—semi-short term (around two months) and flexible—is unlike almost any other fellowship available for research on Japan. It was the right amount of money and time to make my summer more productive, and to allow me to get working on my dissertation early.

I am very grateful for funding my research so generously in Japan. It is wonderful to have a reciprocal exchange in which Americans can travel to Japan for research (and discovery) and Japanese students research in the US (American Study Travel Grant program).

I also enjoyed the opportunity to report my findings at the office, since it gave me the opportunity to develop a personal relationship with members of the AJS. The flexibility of schedule and size of funding also made it quite easy for me to complete all of my research goals, meaning that this trip has been indispensable for my dissertation research.

5. Dissemination by the participants

From the TMG Observatories

Experience Japanese culture at Nezu Museum
Research trip with Kakehashi Project started. Visited Tohoku then moved to Tokyo to keep researching.

The macrobiotic restaurant in Kurume.

The macrobiotic restaurant in Morioka.

Inside of the café where Mr. Masakazu Nakai visited frequently.

Introduction of Tanaka Shohei’s enharmonium.
6. Action Plan Presented by Participants at the Reporting Session

The results and progress of this research period is scheduled to be presented at several academic conferences with credit to the AJS for assistance. These include AAS and WCAAS – studies focused on Asian Studies and international scholarship. I also hope to share my positive experiences with cultural societies based in San Diego dedicated to US-Japan relations.

- By September 18, 2018: Finish transcription and coding, complete thesis outline
- By December 1, 2018: Finish first draft of thesis and apply to PhD Programs
- February 2019: Present research findings at the Harvard East Asia Society graduate student conference
- March 2019: Submit completed thesis to Harvard
- May 2019: Submit thesis for publication in academic journals

- Continue the work with the Kyoto School that constitutes the first part of my dissertation. (The majority of my research that I have been able to work on this summer has been applicable to the first and third chapters of my dissertation.)
- Will come back to Kyoto and continue the research that I started this summer, and I hope to complete these two chapters of my dissertation within the first six months.
- Will conduct research on the second part of my dissertation, largely on the literary and art historical component.

- To present a paper in North Carolina in October based on this summer’s research. (This paper is going to compare how eating meat is absolutely forbidden for vegetarians, while macrobiotic people don’t consider any food absolutely forbidden.)
- To use some of the answers from this summer to continue with more interviews.
- To write a master’s thesis this year.

Upon my return to Japan, I will pursue the following action plan:

- Organize my photographs, notes, recordings, and transcriptions of meetings with faculty
- Summarize my findings and discuss them with my dissertation supervisor
- Put them into my dissertation (chapters 4 and 5), and complete those chapters by the end of March in time to complete my degree.

I will also determine whether I have enough material for several side projects on:

- The history of European artists in Meiji Japan
- German-Japanese musical relations in the 1930s-1945

The relationship between German-Jewish artists (Leonid Kreutzer, Bruno Taut) and their German collaborators in the 1930s, during a time of rising anti-semitism in Germany