



KAKEHASHI Project (United States of America)
Outbound Program for High School Students 2nd Slot
Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan's Friendship Ties Program, 25 Japanese high school students and their supervisor visited the United States of America from February 2 to February 9, 2019 to participate in the program aimed at promoting the understanding of Japan with regard to its politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy.

During the school exchange program, they delivered a presentation and performance to introduce the attractiveness of Japan. Through the observation of various sites, the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of the US and Japan-US relations, and shared their individual interests and experiences through social media. Based on their findings and experience in the US, each group of participants made a presentation in the final session and reported on the action plans to be implemented after returning to Japan.

【School Names and Number of Participants】

Aichi Prefectural High Schools: 25 participants

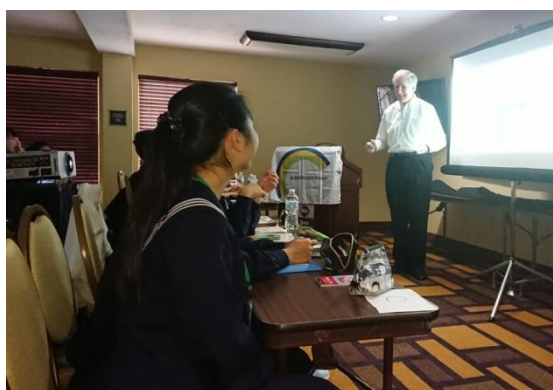
【Destination】

U.S.A. [Dallas, Texas]

2. Program Schedule

February 2 (Sat)	【Arrival】 【Orientation】
February 3 (Sun)	【Courtesy Call】 Mr. John M. Stich, Honorary Consulate-General of Japan in Dallas 【Meeting with Host Family】
February 4 (Mon)	【School Exchange 1】 Creekview High School / Newman-Smith High School 【Homestay】
February 5 (Tue)	【Company Visit】 JTEKT AUTOMOTIVE TEXAS, L.P. 【Observation】 George W.Bush Presidential Library and Museum / The Sixth Floor Museum
February 6 (Wed)	【Courtesy Call】 World Affairs Council of Dallas 【Workshop】
February 7 (Thu)	【Reporting Session】 【School Exchange 2】 University of North Texas
February 8 (Fri)	【Departure】
February 9 (Sat)	【Arrival in Japan】

3. Program Photos



2/3 【Courtesy Call】 Mr. John M. Stich,
Honorary Consul-General of Japan in
Dallas



2/4 【School Exchange】
New Man Smith High School



2/5 【Company Visit】 JTEKT AUTOMOTIVE
TEXAS, L.P.



2/6 【Courtesy Call】 World Affairs Council of
Dallas



2/7 【Reporting Session】



2/7 【School Exchange】 University of North
Texas

4. Voice from Participants (abstract)

◆ High School Student

One of the most impressive things was how friendly people in Dallas are. Home stay family members and the people in the school talked to me despite having just met, and even talked to me about their interests and future dreams, which made me so happy. I was surprised to know the close relationship between Dallas and Japanese companies from the lecture. As I am a resident of Aichi, I felt so proud to know that a famous Japanese company whose headquarters is in Aichi rolled into Dallas and contributed to the development of Dallas. When we visited a Japanese company, I was very impressed to discover that the factory adopted Japanese methods, our pride with detailed processes to eliminate waste of resources. All through the program, I could understand American culture by hands-on experiences and could discover that Japan has something attractive.

◆ High School Student

I joined a history class with my home stay student. When I entered the classroom, one student teased another student with an Asian background, saying, "You can be friends with the Japanese quickly, as you are from Asia". Then another student whispered, "America is a multi-ethnic country. We don't mind where people come from. Our country is free." I was touched so much by his words. I think that he was very proud of the free, multi-ethnic nature of America.. This is the most impressive thing about America.

I have never particularly thought that I love Japan before, but I was surprised and realized how Japan is so attractive to the American people I met at the school. Some of them said that they wanted to live in Japan; others lost their words with excitement, hearing that we came from Japan. I want to find out some more good points of my country after going back home.

5. Voices from the Students/Schools/Organizations

◆ Person from a receiving organization

The Japanese students were very outgoing and social and also loud (in a good way). Their English intonation was impressive and you could tell that they put a lot of effort into their presentation. The Japanese students kept their presentation interesting and fun by getting their audience involved via short games, doing some origami, etc. Very much like the American students, the Japanese students were very shy at first, but both sides warmed up to each other. I am impressed by them attempting to speak English to other American students.

◆ Person from a receiving organization

They have a different life style than American schools. They are more independent on doing things. I was surprised and now interested in Japan. This has changed me and I want to show people the differences between U.S. and them.

6. Dissemination by participants

