



KAKEHASHI Project (United States of America) Outbound Program for KAKEHASHI Inouye 1st Slot Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 25 Japanese university students and supervisors visited the United States of America from February 16 to February 23, 2020 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】

Kwansei Gakuin University: 23 university students and 2 supervisors

【Destination】

State of Arkansas

2. Program Schedule

2/16(Sun)	【Arrival】
2/17(Mon)	【Orientation】 【Observation】 William J. Clinton Presidential Library and Museum 【Observation】 Petit Jean, Arkansas State park 【Welcome Party】 Hendrix College
2/18(Thu)	【Courtesy Call】 Mr. Asa Hutchinson, Governor of Arkansas 【Observation】 Arkansas State Capitol 【Company Visit】 TOKUSEN U.S.A. Inc. 【School Exchange】 Hendrix College
2/19(Wed)	【School Exchange】 Lakewood Elementary School 【School Exchange】 Hendrix College
2/20(Thu)	【School Exchange】 University of Central Arkansas 【Workshop】
2/21(Fri)	【Reporting Session】 【School Exchange】 Jim Stone Elementary School 【Farewell Party】 Hendrix College

2/22(Sat)	【Departure】
2/23(Sun)	【Arrival in Japan】

3. Program Photos



2/17 【 Observation 】 Clinton Presidential Library and Museum



2/18 【Courtesy Call】 Mr. Asa Hutchinson, Governor of Arkansas



2/18 【 Observation 】 Arkansas State Capitol



2/19 【Company Visit】 TOKUSEN U.S.A. Inc.



2/19 【School Exchange】 Hendrix College



2/20 【School Exchange】 University of Central Arkansas

3. Voice from Participants (abstract)

◆ I suppose the best part of the program was the interaction session when we were paired with the Hendrix College students. At TOKUSEN USA, we learned what was important when a Japanese person works overseas. It was very meaningful to hear directly from a Japanese worker about his experience in the US. At an Elementary School visit, I found that there was a big difference between American and Japanese Elementary Schools. The students at American Elementary School were very positive. I was impressed to see every student raise his/her hand to actively participate in the class. This program was only seven days long, but, I learned a lot. The accompanying students also inspired me a lot as well.

◆ I have always been curious about the impressions American people have towards Japanese people. Although Japan and the US were enemies during WW II, we now have a close relationship in a variety of fields, not just in politics and the economy. With this opportunity to visit the US, we gained so much from our interactions with Americans from our generation, learning about their interests and sharing our thoughts. . It was a great honor to pay a courtesy call to the Governor of Arkansas, Mr. Hutchinson. I think it was a very fruitful program.

◆ I think we learned a lot through the program with a variety of experiences that we seldom have in our daily life. Especially at an Elementary School visit, I was surprised to see an educational policy which was quite different from Japanese one. Specifically, I was inspired to see directly the "Praise and growth" approach the American education system is known for. Witnessing the participations of the American university students at another visit was an opportunity to reflect on my own approach to lectures.

5. Voice from the US Students (abstract)

◆ Student who participated in the school exchange

The students' presentation and performances were very interesting and insightful. The presentations made me want to start saving money to visit Japan immediately. The students were very kind and encouraging. I am thankful that these Japanese students came to give their presentations because it gave me a deeper understanding of Japanese culture.

◆ Student who participated in the school exchange





Through all the presentations, the students spoke very clearly and made good eye contact with their audience. Everyone was very helpful with any questions we had. I got the impression that they were very shy at first. But after a little while, they opened themselves up. They helped me greatly with Japanese skills, a classroom cannot teach everything.

◆ Student who participated in the school exchange

I loved it. I thought Japan was cool, but I think it's even more amazing. I had a lot of fun doing Shodo and it was interesting, everyone was nice. Some of the Japanese culture

they were doing was cool and interesting. I'm glad that my school was lucky enough to have them come over and I'm glad I am in fifth grade so I could see what they were doing, and doing Shodo was the best part about the Japanese culture, they showed us.

6. Dissemination by the participants

 <p>♡💬🚩 📌</p> <p>👤👤 いいね! : daisuke3554、他 kwansel_ciec カケハシ・プロジェクト2日目🌈 外務省が推進する2019年度対日理解促進交流プログラム「カケハシ・プロジェクト」2日目の様子です 👉 KAKEHASHI Project Day 2</p> <p>Today, we visited William J Clinton Presidential Library. After that we hiked Petit Jean State Park with students of Hendrix College. We were able to interact and deepen our relationship. We will do our best from tomorrow!</p>	 <p>♡💬🚩 📌</p> <p>👤👤 いいね! : daisuke3554、他 kwansel_ciec カケハシ・プロジェクト3日目🌈 外務省が推進する2019年度対日理解促進交流プログラム「カケハシ・プロジェクト」3日目の様子です 👉 KAKEHASHI Project Day 3</p> <p>Today we met with Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson. We were happy to receive a kind message from him and were so honored to have such a great opportunity. In the afternoon we visited a Japanese company, TOKUSEN USA. It was the first time to visit a Japanese company in the US through</p>
<p>About KAKEHASHI Project (Instagram)</p> <p>Today, we visited William J. Clinton Presidential Library. After that we hiked Petit Jean State Park with students of Hendrix College. We were able to interact and deepen our relationship. We will do our best from tomorrow.</p>	<p>About KAKEHASHI Project (Instagram)</p> <p>Today we met with Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson. We were happy to receive a kind message from him and were so honored to have such a great opportunity. In the afternoon we visited a Japanese company, TOKUSEN USA. It was the first time to visit a Japanese company in the US through KAKEHASHI Project. We had lunch with TOKUSEN workers, both Japanese and American. It was good a chance to talk about how Japanese and Americans work together and what is important to do so well.</p>
 <p>♡💬🚩 📌</p> <p>👤👤 いいね! : daisuke3554、他 kwansel_ciec カケハシ・プロジェクト4日目🌈 外務省が推進する2019年度対日理解促進交流プログラム「カケハシ・プロジェクト」4日目の様子です 👉 KAKEHASHI Project Day 4 In the morning, we did demonstrations of Shodo and Wagashi with Matcha at Lakewood Elementary School. After the demonstrations, several students showed us around the School. They were really lovely. Special thanks to them! In the afternoon, we gave presentations at Hendrix College on Japanese architecture, Kyoto, Japanese food, and Wagashi. We hope our new friends at Hendrix College became interested in Japan!! Only two days left... we will try our best to be Kakehashi (bridge) between the USA and Japan!!</p>	 <p>♡💬🚩 📌</p> <p>👤👤 いいね! : daisuke3554、他 kwansel_ciec カケハシ・プロジェクト5日目🌈 先週に実施された、2019年度対日理解促進交流プログラム「カケハシ・プロジェクト」5日目の様子です 👉 KAKEHASHI Project Day 5</p> <p>Today we visited University of Central Arkansas (UCA) and gave presentations on Japan.</p>
<p>About the school exchange (Instagram)</p> <p>In the morning, we did demonstrations of Shodo and Wagashi at Lakewood Elementary School. After the demonstrations, several students showed</p>	<p>About the school exchange (Instagram)</p> <p>Today we visited University of Central Arkansas (UCA) and gave presentations on Japan. We are sure that we were able to tell the UCA students about the attractiveness</p>

us around the School. They were really lovely. Special thanks to them. In the afternoon, we gave presentations at Hendrix College on Japanese architecture, Kyoto, Japanese food, and Wagashi. We hope our new friends at Hendrix College became interested in Japan. Only two days left we will try our best to be Kakehashi (bridge) between the USA and Japan.	of Japan. After that we walked around the campus with the UCA students. It was really a beautiful campus. In the afternoon we had workshop at Hendrix and reflected on what we learned during this program.
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7. Action Plan Presented by Participants at the Reporting Session

 <p>Example how we post</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ restaurant's name ✓ Location ✓ Price ✓ Description about foods (both in English & Japanese) 	<p>Action Plan</p> <p>「Online discussion」</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion based on our connections • Class participation through online
<p>Action Plan Presentation (Group 1)</p> <p>To post a few times a week an article about Japanese cuisine on Instagram to let foreign people find the charm of Japanese food.</p> <p>To post articles in Japanese and in English on social media for the students of Hendrix and University of Central Arkansas to increase followers from them.</p> <p>To aim to get 20 followers per article within 2 weeks, to reach 100 followers , and ultimately 500 followers in 3 months.</p>	<p>Action Plan Presentation (Group 2)</p> <p>To get in touch with new international exchange students after April 2020 and to hold discussions with KGU students together who are interested in international exchange in order to realize the international understanding among us. To let the KGU administration faculty and staff to disseminate the event. Hold this international exchange event monthly or bimonthly.</p>
	
<p>Action Plan Presentation (Group 3)</p> <p>To go to Kyoto monthly to post an article about real Kyoto continuously on Facebook and Instagram. To design the contents to attract more attention from foreign people to increase their interest in Kyoto. Target number of followers by the end of March will be 300.</p>	<p>Action Plan Presentation (Group 4)</p> <p>Post articles on Japanese traditional sweets for everyone including students from Hendrix and University of Central Arkansas using # from March and May 2020.</p> <p>Posted articles include name of the sweets, taste, comments, explanations, name of the sweet shop and price.</p>

<p>Based upon our series of articles posted on Instagram, we provide a questionnaire to learn about foreign tourists' interests in Kyoto and post the article to satisfy their curiosity on Instagram.</p> <p>To introduce mainly the unknown parts in Kyoto.</p>	<p>Posting will be twice a week and will be linked to the stories.</p> <p>Target number of followers will be 1,000, and be referred to the accounts of the Center for International Education and Cooperation, Kwansei Gakuin University and KAKEHASHI Project.</p>
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