



KAKEHASHI Project (Canada)

Invitation Program for Japan Bowl Report

1. Program Overview

【Objectives】 This program was conducted with the main objective of having contestants from Canada who had obtained high results in the annually held Japan Bowl (a quiz competition in which students compete on their knowledge of Japanese language and culture) visit Tokyo and Ishikawa Prefecture to deepen their understanding and knowledge of Japanese culture, society and history; further deepen their familiarity with Japan; and strengthen the networks among themselves through home stays, school exchanges, observations, and exchanges with government officials and others.

【Participants】 Awarded Japan Bowl Participants – Total of 11 high school students, undergraduate students, working youth, and chaperones from Canada

【Locations】 Tokyo, Ishikawa

【Schedule】

■ Pre-exchange Program (Online Pre-study Program):

Friday, August 18 **【Pre-arrival (pre-departure) Orientation】** Program objectives and mission, itinerary outline, travel precautions, COVID-19 preventative measures, etc.

Set-period **【Task-based Learning (VOD)】** Lecture “Japan and the United Nations”,
Lecture on Japan (Choose on Web Japan)

■ Inbound Program:

Thursday, August 24 Entry from Narita International Airport
 【Orientation】

Friday, August 25 Travel from Tokyo to Ishikawa
 【School Exchange】 Ishikawa Prefectural Komatsu High School
 【Cultural Experience】 Kabuki experience
 *at Komatsu Hikiyama Exchange Center Miyossa (Komatsu City)
 【Meeting with the Host Families】

Saturday, August 26 **【Homestay】** Kaga City, Ishikawa (5 households)

Sunday, August 27 **【Farewell Party with the Host Families】**
 【Cultural Experience】 Hands-on gold leaf experience
 【Observation】 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

Monday, August 28 **【Observation】** Kenroku-en Garden, Kanazawa Castle Park

Travel from Ishikawa to Tokyo

- Tuesday, August 29 **【Observation】 【Cultural Experience】** Visit and experience of Japanese drumming Taiko (HIBIKUS) at Miyamoto Unosuke Shoten, presented by the Japan Bowl Supporters Group (JBSG)
- 【Observation】** Asakusa
- 【Courtesy Call】** Mr. YAMADA Kenji, State Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 【Observation】** Akihabara
- Wednesday, August 30 **【Courtesy Call】** Mrs. KISHIDA Yuko, First lady of the Prime minister
- 【Workshop】** Preparations for the Reporting Session (summarizing the program results, creating action plans for after returning home)
- 【Courtesy Call】** Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado
- Thursday, August 31 **【Reporting Session】**
- Departure from Narita International Airport

2. Program Photos

Inbound Program

	
August 25 【School Exchange】 Ishikawa Prefectural Komatsu High School ESS Club	August 26 【Homestay】 Kaga City, Ishikawa
	
August 27 【Farewell Party with the Host Families】	August 27 【Cultural Experience】 Hands-on gold leaf experience

	
August 28 【Observation】 Kenroku-en Garden	August 29 【 Observation and Cultural Experience】 Visit and experience of Japanese drumming Taiko (HIBIKUS) at Miyamoto Unosuke Shoten
	
August 30 【 Courtesy Call 】 Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado *This photo is for this report alone and may not be disclosed on social media.	August 31 【Reporting Session】

3. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

◆ Working Youth

The most impressive part of the program was being able to experience riding the shinkansen and staying with my host family. It was an amazing experience because I was able to learn more about Japanese culture and how fast the shinkansen was.

◆ High School Student

I was stunned by the beauty of 兼六園 (Kenroku-en Garden), despite the heat. I also fondly remember my first time entering an onsen, the 片山津温泉 (Katamayazu Onsen), in 加賀市 (Kaga City) with my host family. It was quite beautiful, and my host family (especially the children) taught me everything that needed to be known for using an onsen properly. Finally, I had a lot of fun with the 小松高校 (Komatsu High School) exchange, doing 歌舞伎 (kabuki) with the students, and chatting with them as we toured their school.

◆ High School Student

I liked the school exchange because the students were very nice and also I liked to see the differences in Japan and Canada high schools.

4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

◆ Exchange School Faculty

I won't forget the various experiences we had interacting with the participants from Canada on the theme of Kabuki, the traditional culture of Komatsu. Our students who are usually reluctant to communicate were eager to talk to the participants.

◆ Exchange School Student

I am glad that through Komatsu City's traditional kabuki and wa-odori dance, I was not only able to interact with the participants but was also able to learn much myself. I especially enjoyed proactively communicating with the participants during the school introduction.

◆ Exchange School Student

I enjoyed how you could tell the participants truly like Japan, from how well they spoke Japanese to the fact that some were wearing t-shirts with manga characters on them.

5. Disseminations by the Participants



So exciting to be able to tour around Komatsu High School guided by a group of 5 high school students in the ESS club at their school. They showed us different areas and classrooms and talked about the many clubs they have in their school and we also saw many students working on preparing for the upcoming festival. It was an honour to be able to be invited and to share our cultures with each other, noting differences and similarities between Canadian high schools and their high school. (Canadian high schools are definitely smaller) I hope to see these wonderful students again!!
#KusashProject #Kusashan2023 #KusashFoundation
8/25/23 11:00 8/25/23

August 25, 2023 (Instagram)

Post about the school exchange

So exciting to be able to tour around Komatsu High School guided by a group of 5 high school students in the ESS club at their school. They showed us different areas and classrooms and talked about the many clubs they have in their school and we also saw many students working on preparing for the upcoming festival. It was an honour to be able to be invited and to share our cultures with each other, noting differences and similarities between Canadian high schools and their high school. (Canadian high schools are definitely smaller) I hope to see these wonderful students again!!



Very honoured to experience Kabuki Make up and Kabuki Costume at the Miyosa Exchange Center. We watched a video which talked about the history of the Kabuki Culture and Festival. Learning about the different make up styles for each role was so interesting and I am grateful for the staff who taught us!
#Kusashan2023 #KusashFoundation #KusashProject
11:00 8/25/23

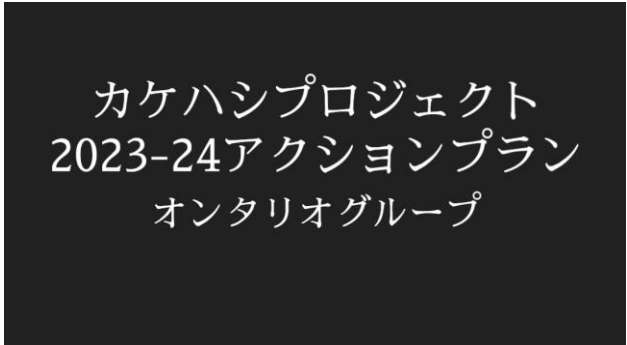
August 25, 2023 (Instagram)

Post about a traditional cultural experience

Very honoured to experience Kabuki Make up and Kabuki Costume at Komatsu Hikiyama Exchange Center Miyossa. We watched a video which talked about the history of the Kabuki Culture and Festival. Learning about the different make up styles for each role was so interesting and I am grateful for the staff who taught us!

6. Results and Action Plans Presented at the Reporting Session

*Both groups gave presentations

	
【What We Learned】 -No garbage cans anywhere -Making sure to pick up ticket when passing through shinkansen gate -Onsens are really nice -Greeting cultures in the countryside 【Action Plan】 Over the next six months, we will share videos and reels that discuss the purpose of the KAKEHASHI Project and personal experiences with students who are studying Japanese or are interested in studying abroad through YouTube and Instagram, as well as through word of mouth and discussions with classmates. *All 5 group members gave presentations 【Individual Plans】 (summary) ・ Join the Go Global program at UBC (The University of British Columbia) , join Kendo Club, and get my JLP 3 ・ I will continue to study Japanese in my free time, and take Japanese courses in college if they're available. ・ I will further enhance my skills in Japanese learning by taking university Japanese courses and travelling frequently to Japan ・ Continue my studies in Japanese	【What We Learned】 1. A lot of doors are sliding doors 2. A lot of toilets have special buttons for various functions 3. The driver sits on the right and cars drive in the left lane 4. Most people in Japan walk on the left on streets 5. Dialects: しとる(shitoru) instead of している(shiteiru) 6. Phrases: 一期一会 (Ichigoichie) which perfectly describes our encounter with our host families, etc. 【Action Plan】 Once the new school year begins, each of us will share our wonderful experiences in Japan with our friends and kouhai (juniors) in our personal Japanese classes online and through social media. 【Individual Plans】 (summary) ・ I will be majoring in East Asian Studies at university and will continue to deepen my knowledge of Japan and engage with Japan while studying international relations. Japan is rich in nature, gastronomy, architecture, and culture and is a great place to see the world from a different perspective. Once back home, for

	now I will share my experiences with my family and friends back home and encourage them to discover Japan firsthand while I improve my Japanese. ▪ I would love to participate in more international exchange program to other countries, in order to promote Canada culture while spreading my interesting experiences in this KAKEHASHI trip. ▪ I would like to return to Japan in the future and continue to deepen my understanding of Japanese culture and the language. I would like to spread the word about the KAKEHASHI Project and get others involved.
--	--

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)