

The 12th Japanese Speech Award J.S.A.



Outline

Education Guardianship Group, Specified Non-profit Organization
Japanese Speech Award Planning Committee

I. Overall Outline of Activities

1. Titles and Summaries of Activities

The 12th Japanese Speech Award

J.S.A. is an annual International Japanese Speech Contest conducted in central Tokyo by high school students from 16 countries who are currently learning Japanese.

Japanese Language Workshop

The Japanese Language Workshop is a workshop in which J.S.A. contest participants, through exchange with young people in Japan, have the opportunity increase their knowledge of the Japanese language.

Cross-Cultural Experience Program

The Cross-Cultural Experience Program is a program in which J.S.A. contest participants and young people from Japan have an opportunity to work towards understanding each other's countries and cultures and deepen their friendship through a wide variety of different activities.

※Note: Taken together the above mentioned three programs shall be hence referred to as "The Tenth Japanese Speech Award" and for short: "JSA".

2. Host Organizations

Education Guardianship Group, Specified Non-profit Organization (NPO, E.G.G.)

JSA Planning Committee

3. Term of Events (planned)

Friday, July 20th 2007 - Tuesday, July 29th 2007 (10 days)

4. Our Purpose and Aims

At a time when international co-operative relationships between countries with different histories, cultures and peoples are becoming ever more important, we believe that mutual understanding and friendship is *the* crucial basis for such relationships to develop. It is with this thought in mind that each year we have the pleasure in inviting young people from around the world who are studying Japanese to Japan to take part in our exchange program with young people in Japan. Through this program we hope to foster friendships across borders that last. Our cross-cultural experience aims to develop an understanding of an important principle that we hold dear – that of "learning from others." Through contributions from many young participants from both Japan and abroad, we aim to promote the importance of cross-cultural and international exchange. We aim to cultivate people with a global vision and an international sense of the world. Moreover, as a result of the success of the last 10 years, this program is becoming both a target and source of motivation for Japanese language learners around the world. J.S.A. creates an opportunity for young people from abroad to further their understanding of Japanese culture and language. Many of these young participants have gone on to become bridges between Japan and their respective countries.

5. The Participants

a) Participant Countries and Participants 16 Countries / 14 Participants (planned)

United States of America, Republic of Indonesia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Commonwealth of Australia, Canada, Republic of Singapore, The Republic of Korea, The People's Republic of China, Shanghai, The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, New Zealand, The Federative Republic of Brazil, The Republic of Poland, The Federation of Malaysia, The Russian Federation, Kingdom of Cambodia

b) Participation Requirements

(1) Not to be a native speaker of Japanese (2) Not to have stayed in Japan for more than 6 months (3) To be a high school student in a participating nation (4) Not to have participated in JSA previously (5) Not to have more than one Japanese parent (5) Whose parents are not first generation Japanese

c) Selection Process

Participants will be selected by winning a "Japanese Speech Contest" held in each of the participating countries from September 2006 to July 2007.

6. Support (provisional/partly support continuing from previous year)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Tokyo Private High and Junior High School Association / Foreign Embassies in Japan / Others

7. Sponsor (provisional/partly support continuing from previous year)

Jissen Joshi Gakuen / Tsuchiura Nihon University School / International Soropuchimisuto Tokyo /
Miki House Ltd. / Gakken Ltd. / Sakae Institute of Study Abroad /
Iware Ltd. / Kai Ltd. / Gakushusha Ltd / Others

8. Cooperation (provisional/partly support continuing from previous year)

United States of America : JLSF Aurora Foundation / Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles / Association of Teachers of Japanese ATJ

Republic of Indonesia : The Japan Foundation Jakarta Language Center

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland : Japan Foundation / Association of Japanese Language Teachers / Eton College / JOBA LONDON

The Commonwealth of Australia : JSA Committee, Australia

Canada : Canadian Study Tours

The Republic of Singapore : The Embassy of Japan in Singapore / Singapore-Japan Cultural Association / JOBA SINGAPORE

The Republic of Korea : Dongduk Women's University

The People's Republic of China : Japan International Cooperation Agency / JOBA BEIJING

Hong Kong : The Japan Foundation

New Zealand : Dunedin-Otaru Sister City Committee / V.I.P. International Travel

The Federative Republic of Brazil : Centro Brasileiro da Língua Japonesa

The Republic of Poland : University of Warsaw

The Federation of Malaysia : The Japan Foundation

The Russian Federation : **Посольство Японии в России** / Assotsiatsiia Prepodavatelei Iaponskovo Iazyka

Other : Showa Women's University / Atelier Yamamoto Michiyo / Noriko Takasaki / All Nippon Airways / ANA World Tours (Europe) / Others

9. Japan Speech Contest Planning Committee (est. 11th JSA)

Honorary Committee Director : Ogura Seiji (Former Member Kanagawa Prefectural Board of Education, NPO, Education Guardianship Group Chairman)

Committee Director :

Member: Kawashima Yoshio (Former Principal, Tokyo International High School) / Sakae Yoko (President, Sakae Institute of Studying Abroad) / Takamizawa Hajime (Professor, Showa Women's University) / Toyoda Kunihiro (NPO, Education Guardianship Group Chairman Iware Corporation Chairman) / Watanabe Norio (NPO, Education Guardianship Group Chairman, Kai Corporation) / Yamamoto Michiyo (Artist)

II. Outline of the 12th Japan Speech Award

1. Dates and Venue

- Opening Venue : Jissen Joshi Gakuen Junior & Senior High Schools

(1-1-11 Higashi, Shibuya Tokyo)

- Time : Sunday July 22nd 2007, 13:30-17:00 (provisional)

2. Participants

- Speakers : 16 High School Students invited from participant countries by host organizations (see above)
- Guests : 300 High School Students selected from within the Metropolitan area (free admission)

3. Contest Content and Judging

- Presentation Content : Speech in Japanese on any subject / 5 minutes
Interview with the Director of the Panel of Judges in Japanese / 3 minutes
- Judging and Prizes : The Panel of Judges will judge the above content and decide 1st and 2nd place. As well as this there will be a special prize decided by an audience vote.

4. JSA Exchange Party

A buffet and party for the contest participants and audience. There will also be time for each of the participants to give a short presentation of their country's culture.

- Time : Sunday July 22nd 2007 17:30-19:30
- Place : Jissen Joshi Gakuen Junior & Senior High Schools

5. Japan Speech Award Panel of Judges (est. 11th JSA)

Head of Panel : Takamizawa Hajime (Professor, Showa Women's University)

Judges : Ogura Seiji (Former Member Kanagawa Prefectural Board of Education) / Kawashima Yoshio (Former Principal, Tokyo International High School) / Sakae Yoko (President, Sakae Institute of Studying Abroad) / Komasa Kazuhiko (NPO, Education Guardianship Group Chairman, Yokohama city Tsutsujigaoka elementary school Principal) / Saito Takashi (Former Kawasaki city Asou the head of a ward)/Sugiyama Yoshihisa (Nihon University the College of International Relations Professor) / Nisikawa Isamu (Kawasaki city Imai Junior high school Principal) / Fujitani Katuki (Former United Kingdom of Great Britain Embassy Japanese teacher)

6. Benefits for Participants

■ Benefits for the Contest Participants

- As a result of your success at studying Japanese you will be able to express yourself and your culture in Japanese to a large number of interested people.
- You will be able to get important feedback from the audience and participants from other countries during the exchange party.

■ Benefits for Contest Viewers

- You will be able to come into contact with the thoughts and ideas of High School students from many different countries.
- A chance to forge an interest in the cultures and languages of other countries.
- Understand that to communicate with people from other countries does not always have to involve learning English.

III. Cross-Cultural Exchange Program & Japanese Language Workshop

1. Date and Place

- Opening Venue : Kanagawa Prefecture, Tokyo 茨, Ibaraki Prefecture
- Dates : Monday July 23rd 2007-Saturday July 28th 2007

2. Participants

- Speech Contest Participants : 16
- Young People From Japan : Approx 32 students selected from High Schools in the Metropolitan Area (participant fee)

3. Schedule and Program Content (provisional)

Day		Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Accommodation	
	20 th July	FRI	Arrival	Check-in	Reception	Kawasaki International Exchange Hotel
	21 st July	SAT	JSA Orientation	Japanese Training I Sightseeing Walk	Contest Practice Party Preparation	
Cross-Cultural Exchange Program	22 nd July	SUN	Contest Rehearsal	Speech Contest	JSA Exchange Party	Kawasaki House of the Young People
	23 rd July	MON	Move to Tsuchiura	Tsuchiura Exchange Program		Homestay
	24 th July	TUE	Tsuchiura Exchange Program			
	25 th July	WED	Tsuchiura Exchange Program	Move to Tokyo	Ice Break	Kawasaki House of the Young People
	26 th July	THU	Cultural Comparison Project	Sightseeing in the Tokyo	Onsen Experience	
	27 th July	FRI	Cultural Comparison Project	Sports	Campfire Firework	
	28 th July	SAT	Cultural Comparison Project Move to Facility	Program Round-up	Farewell Party	Kawasaki International Exchange Hotel
	29 th July	SUN	Check-out/Flight Home			

The Cross-Cultural Exchange Program has been put together with the aim of fostering friendships across borders and learning about the cultures of each participant. The program has been thought out so each participant can explore their different interests in Japan through project work and presentations.

4. Benefits for Participants

a) Cross-Cultural Exchange Program

■ Benefits for Participants

- You can introduce your culture to people from a different culture
- Gain a greater understanding of Japanese culture through direct contact
- Gain cross-cultural understanding despite differences in culture or language
- Make friends from many different places around the world

b) Japanese Workshop

■ Benefits for Japanese Learners (contest participants)

- Gain a greater interest in Japanese and Japanese culture
- Get hints at how to improve your Japanese in the future
- Come into contact with “living” Japanese while in Japan

■ Benefits for Other Students

- Gain a greater understanding of your own language
- Learn about how people learn Japanese

IV. JSA Past Achievements

JSA began in when 8 high school students from 5 countries were invited to participate in the first Japanese speech award in 1995. Since then, a total of 117 high school students from 17 different countries have participated in the program.

1 st JSA	1995	12 th August	Participating Countries : 5
2 nd JSA	1996	22 nd July	Participating Countries : 9
3 rd JSA	1997	22 nd July	Participating Countries : 9
4 th JSA	1998	20 th July	Participating Countries : 11
5 th JSA	1999	26 th July	Participating Countries : 11
6 th JSA	2000	25 th July	Participating Countries : 11
7 th JSA	2002	26 th July	Participating Countries : 10
8 th JSA	2003	28 th July	Participating Countries : 11
9 th JSA	2004	26 th July	Participating Countries : 13
10 th JSA	2005	23 rd July	Participating Countries:12
11 th JSA	2006	23 rd July	Participating Countries:15

V. Contact Information

Education Guardianship Group (NPO, E.G.G.)
 Japan Speech Award (JSA) Yamaguchi Masahiro, Norio Watanabe
 JOBA Guardianship Center, 3-39-9, Kamiikedai, Oota-ku, Tokyo, 145-0064
 TEL: 03-5754-2240 FAX: 03-5754-2241 E-Mail: jsainfo@iware.ne.jp