

Japan-U.S. Young Creators Exchange Group 2 Five Young Designers (Winners of Good Design Award), to head the U.S. on April 27, promoting Social Innovation

Starting from fiscal year 2014, the Japan Foundation carries out the “Japan-U.S. Young Creators Exchange” Program to cover four major areas of ‘Cool Japan’: fashion, design, anime, and art. This time, the Program will focus on an area of design and dispatch its second group to the U.S. in April 2014. The group members consist of five young designers who won the Good Design Award and have gained an international acclaim.

The participating designers aim to achieve Japan’s social innovation through a wide variety of designs, such as communication design for disaster-stricken areas and smartphone application development. For this Program, it is expected that they and their original works will promote a new model of Japanese society.

During the seven-day tour in the U.S., the world’s leading country in design, the participants will visit design-related facilities and/or institutions including Museum of Modern Art, New York (MoMA) and Google Inc. They will have exchange activities with U.S. young designers, too.

On the day of a pre-departure orientation on **Tuesday, April 15**, we will provide an occasion for press to cover the Program. If interested, please contact us as indicated below.

<Duration of Stay> Sunday, April 27 - Sunday, May 4 <Destination> New York, San Francisco

<Participants> (Upper row: Name / Lower row: Affiliation, area of specialization, etc.)



Eisuke Tachikawa
NOSIGNER

Creates a wide range of designs that seek social significance. Has won various international design awards including Design for Asia Award. Also appeared on TED.



Yuri Naruse
Naruse Inokuma Architects

Designs architectural works with the aim of community building. Her works include a number of architectural designs for shared houses including *Riku Café*, located in Rikuzentakata, Iwate.



Takako Kansai
Zaim Inc.

Developed a household account book app named *Zaim*. This very popular app, which has gained over a million users, has now been expanding its possibilities through collaborating with various companies.



Tadahiko Sakamaki
KORG INC.

Created an easy-to-use synthesizer named *KAOSSILATOR*. His innovative activities go beyond conventional frameworks.



Ayana Tsukahara
Bracket, Inc

Developed *Store.jp*, with which everyone can open an online store within two minutes in the fastest. Has launched Internet-based services.

* This program is part of the "KAKEHASHI Project -The Bridge for Tomorrow-" within the Youth Exchange Program with North America promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA).

* The Japan Foundation KAKEHASHI website: <http://www.jpff.go.jp/e/intel/youth/index.html>

* In cooperation with: Japan Institute of Design Promotion <http://www.jidp.or.jp/en/>



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