

KAKEHASHI Project: Japan-U.S. Youth Exchange Project

23 Japanese American Young Adults, Group 1 5/19 - 29,

to visit Japan and trace the history and roots of Japanese descendants

Starting from May 2014, the Japan Foundation will carry out Japanese American Young Adults Invitation Program, as 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). In three separate times, the Program will invite a total of 100 selected Japanese American university and graduate students from all over the U.S.



Participants will learn the roots of Japanese Americans and their role on Japan-U.S. relations through visiting immigration related facilities in Japan and meeting Japanese descendants who work in private companies. They will experience Japanese culture, such as *sensu* (Japanese folding fan) coloring and Japanese tea ceremony, and will also learn about Japanese cutting-edge technologies. Furthermore, they will visit local cities to deepen their understanding of Japan's strengths and attractiveness through exchange activities with local schools students and residents.

■ Japanese American Young Adults Invitation Program Group 1

Duration of Stay: Monday, May 19 – Thursday, May 29

Participants: 23 Japanese American young adults who study at universities or graduate schools in the U.S.

Destination: Tokyo, Yokohama, Kyoto

■ About Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

Headquartered in San Francisco, the JACL, the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States, has its branches all over the U.S. and plays a historically significant role for Japanese American societies in the country. The JACL monitors and responds to issues that enhance or threaten the civil and human rights of all Americans and implements strategies to effect positive social change, particularly to the Asian Pacific American community.

* The Japanese American Young Adults Invitation Program is implemented in cooperation with the JACL.

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

Please see the website above for the activities, comments on lingering episode, and participants' thoughts on the Project.

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