

KAKEHASHI Project: Japan-U.S. Youth Exchange Project to invite 78 U.S. student creators for the first time

In June 2014, the Japan Foundation, for the first time, will carry out "Student Creators Exchange (Invitation) Program" for university and graduate school students studying art or art-related subjects in the U.S. A total of 78 selected student creators, from six of the U.S. institutions, will visit Japan.

With the aim of learning the charms of Japanese culture and of incorporating these lessons into their future creation, participants, the aspiring creators, will conduct exchange activities with Japan's art school students of the same generation, and will meet Japanese young professional creators and businesspersons to experience the forefront of the creative industries. Being divided into small groups, the participants will also visit either of Kyoto, Gifu, or Ishikawa to deepen their understanding of traditional cultures in Japan's regions, such as textiles and crafts. On the last day of the Program, all of the participants will gather and discuss about Japan's 'strength' and 'value'.

In addition to the following exchange activities and visits to local cities, we will provide an orientation for all the Program participants on Wednesday, June 11. It would be appreciated if you could cover the Program and such topics as the participant's interests and expectations toward Japan, which have led their decision to join the Program. If interested, please contact us as indicated below.

U.S. Student Creators Invitation

[Duration] Monday, June 9 - Thursday, June 19

Participating U.S. universities	Japan's universities for exchange activities (Above: in Tokyo below: in local cities)	Local visit destination (Jun. 14 - 16)
Rhode Island School of Design Major: Design *One of the world's leading art universities	Musashino Art University (Jun.17 - 18) Kyoto University of Art and Design (Jun. 16)	Kyoto
LIM College Major: Fashion *A distinguished fashion institute, located in New York	Bunka Fashion Graduate University (Jun.12) Kyoto University of Art and Design (Jun. 16)	Kyoto
University of Cincinnati Major: Design *A top-ranked design school in the U.S.	Tama Art University (Jun.12) Nagoya City University (Jun. 16)	Gifu
Massachusetts College of Art and Design Major: Graphic design *The only public art university in the U.S.	Tokyo University of the Arts (Jun.12) Nagoya City University (Jun.16)	Gifu
Catawba College Major: Music *A liberal arts college in the state of North Carolina Montclair State University Major: Arts *A public university in the state of New Jersey	Tokyo University of the Arts (Jun.12) Kanazawa College of Art (Jun. 16)	Ishikawa

*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). Please see our homepage for the activities, comments on lingering episode, and participants' thoughts on the Project.

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

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