

**KAKEHASHI Project: Japan-U.S. Youth Exchange Project
232 U.S. university students, including Goodwill Ambassadors of
National Cherry Blossom Festival, to visit Japan from Jun. 24 to Jul. 3,
experiencing a student exchange and the charms of Japanese culture**

The Japan Foundation carries out "KAKEHASHI Project – The Bridge for Tomorrow" as part of the Youth Exchange Program with North America promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA). Starting from 2013, the Project has given and will give 4,600 Japanese and U.S. students and young people the opportunity to go to the United States and come to visit Japan. On June 24, a total of 232 selected U.S. students, including seven university students who serve as Goodwill Ambassadors of the National Cherry Blossom Festival, will visit Japan.



During the ten-day stay in Japan, the participants will learn about Japanese history and culture and will experience the country's cutting edge-technology through various programs, such as a lecture on Nihon Buyo and visits to several cultural institutions. Furthermore, they will visit local cities to conduct exchange activities with Japanese students of the same generation, to experience unique regional cultures, through learning about minyo (Japanese folk music) and wadaiko drums as well as kamaboko (a Japanese seafood product)-making, and to thus deepen their understanding of the charms of Japan.

For more information on the itinerary, please contact us as indicated below.

■ Overview: Short-term Invitation for University Students

Duration: Tuesday, June 24 – Thursday, July 3

of participants: 232 (university students)

Participating institutions: University of California Irvine (California), The University of Kansas (Kansas), University of Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania), Five College Consortium Group (Massachusetts), University of North Carolina at Charlotte (North Carolina), Clemson University (South Carolina), University of Hawaii at Manoa (Hawaii), University of South Florida (Florida), and others *in a random order

Destination: Yamagata, Fukushima, Tokyo, Shizuoka, Fukui, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo, Fukuoka *in a random order

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

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

Contact

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