

## Application Guidelines for the Tokyo Foundation Japanese Essay Competition 2009

2009.5.15

The Tokyo Foundation is pleased to invite undergraduate students who study Japanese language or Japanese studies at universities endowed with the Nippon Foundation Fund for Japanese Language Education (NF-JLEP) to participate in the Tokyo Foundation Japanese Essay Competition 2009.

The Tokyo Foundation administers the Nippon Foundation Fund for Japanese Language Education (NF-JLEP) program, which was established by the Nippon Foundation in eight universities in six countries to promote Japanese language education overseas.

The Japanese Essay Competition has been launched to provide undergraduate students of Japanese at NF-JLEP universities with the opportunity to upgrade their language skills and to learn more about Japan. The two top winners will be invited to Japan to experience the *real* Japan. We hope that the students will make the most of this essay competition for their study.

### 1. Topic

「日本語を学んで実現させたい夢」 “The Dream (or Dreams) you would like to realize by learning Japanese”

\*Applicants can decide upon their own title within the parameters of this topic.

### 2. Eligibility

- Undergraduate students who currently major or minor in Japanese language or Japanese studies at the following universities are eligible. (\*indicates universities endowed with NF-JLEP)
  - University of Bucharest\* (Romania)
  - Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University\* (Turkey)
  - Cairo University\* (Egypt)
  - Indonesia University of Education (UPI)\*, Manado State University, Surabaya State University (Indonesia)
  - University of Queensland\* and Griffith University (Australia)
  - Macquarie University\* (Australia)
  - Monash University\* (Australia)
  - Massey University\*, University of Auckland, Auckland University of Technology, University of Waikato, Victoria University of Wellington, International Pacific College, University of Canterbury, Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology, and University of Otago (New Zealand)
- Those students who are native speakers of Japanese or who are Japanese nationals are not eligible.

### 3. Length and Format

- The essay must be in Japanese, and must be more than 1,000 characters but no more than 2,000 characters (The title is not to be counted)
- Poetry will not be accepted.
- The applicant can submit only one essay.
- The applicant is asked to fill in the designated submission form and attach it to the essay.  
The form is downloadable at [http://www.tkfd.or.jp/admin/files/tkfd\\_essay\\_genkoyoushi.doc](http://www.tkfd.or.jp/admin/files/tkfd_essay_genkoyoushi.doc)
- The essay must be written on the paper designated, and submitted in Word or pdf format along with the printout.  
The form is downloadable at [http://www.tkfd.or.jp/admin/files/tkfd\\_essay\\_](http://www.tkfd.or.jp/admin/files/tkfd_essay_)
- The title of the essay must be written at the beginning of the essay.
- The essay must be an original work. Previously published essays will not be accepted.
- The essay must be written by the student on his/her own.
- Personal data of the applicants will be used only for the purpose of this essay competition. The names, universities, and essays of the winners, however, will be announced on the Tokyo Foundation website and other media.
- The Tokyo Foundation reserves the right to publish and/or to make available to the public all submitted essays.
- The submitted essays will not be returned to the applicants.

### 4. Criteria

The essay will be judged from content and how well the essay expresses the feelings of the author, and on the standard of Japanese language.

### 5. Selection

#### First Screening

Each NF-JLEP university will select its top five essays based on the above criteria. (Massey University, and UPI will select the top 5 essays among all applicants from universities in their respective countries.)

#### Second Screening

The Tokyo Foundation panel will select the award winning essays prizes among all the essays passing the first screening.

*The Tokyo Foundation panel will consist of outside experts including those involved in overseas Japanese language education and higher education, and writers.*

### 6. Application Deadline and Submission

·First Screening: Please refer to the list at the end of this guideline and direct inquiries to the contact person at the relevant university. The second screening is scheduled to take place in late October 2009.

## 7. Awards

**First prize:** Two winners from among all the applicants from the institutions

**Award:** An invitation to Japan (costs for economy class air tickets, visa, accommodations, meals, training, travel insurance will be covered by the foundation. Other costs such as transportation in the country of origin will be borne by the winners.) The invitation trip is scheduled for about a week in February 2010. The visiting program is scheduled to include meetings with students at Japanese universities and students who study Japanese in various countries, cultural visits within Tokyo, and visits to historical places such as Kyoto and Osaka.

**Second prize:** Three winners among all the applicants from the institutions

**Award:** An electronic dictionary

**Third prize:** Ten winners among all the participants.

**Award:** Japanese craftwork or a book (to be determined)

## 8. Selection Results

The winners of the second screening will be notified in mid November 2009.

An award ceremony will be held for the first prize winners during their visit to Japan. The winners are expected to talk about their essays in Japanese during the ceremony.

The awards and certificates will be presented to the second and third prize winners through their university.

The winning essays will be posted on the Tokyo Foundation website. We are also thinking of publishing a booklet of the winning essays.

## Contact persons

[At each NF-JLEP institution]

University of Bucharest: *to be determined*

Cairo University: *Prof. Dr. Isam Hamza, Head of Japanese Department*

Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University: *Derya Akkus*

Indonesia University of Education, Manado State University, Surabaya State University:  
*to be determined*

University of Queensland and Griffith University: *to be determined*

Macquarie University: *Tomoko Koyama, Director of the Macquarie Japanese Studies Centre.*

Monash University: *Jun Yano, Deputy Convenor of Japanese Studies Program*

Universities in New Zealand: *Naomi Collins, Coordinator, Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education*

[The Tokyo Foundation]

Japanese Essay Competition Coordinator, Scholarship Division, The Tokyo Foundation

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