2008 Nihongo Summit: Language and Peace
A Gateway for World Scholars of Japanese
Let’s Discuss “Language and Peace” Together
in Japanese in Japan
Organised by the Japan Return Programme, NPO

Following the 2007 Nihongo Summit “Language and Peace”, the Japan Return Programme (JRP), NPO is selecting panellists [Junior category (age: 15~19), Senior category (age: 20~27)] from among young foreign people throughout the world who have studied Japanese, and inviting them to Japan again next year. The panellists at the Nihongo Summit represent their countries. They have discussions with Japanese students, homestay, and experience Japanese traditional culture. Becoming a panelist i.e. a member of the JRP network will give you an opportunity to study in Japan under a scholarship programme recommended and organised by JRP. We strongly encourage you to apply for the position of panellist for the Nihongo Summit by submitting an essay. (In the last nine Nihongo Summits we have invited 130 panellists from 98 countries.)

We hope for your active participation in applying for the position of panellist for the 2008 Nihongo Summit “Language and Peace”, to carry out discussion and debate with Japanese high school/college/university students while presenting your opinion on behalf of your country.

I. Duration/Schedule
35 days from the 28th of June to the 1st of August in Nagasaki and Tokyo (planned)
Note: The final detailed itinerary will be announced in January 2008 upon determination of the panellists. The above schedule is subject to change. As the panellists are requested to participate in all programmes, please visit our website occasionally and confirm the itinerary.

II. Panellist Qualifications

The panellists shall be those who understand the objectives of the Nihongo Summit, are capable of presenting their opinions in Japanese as representatives of their countries, and meet the following qualifications.

[Junior Category]
1) Senior high school/university/college students (as of the date of arrival in Japan), or those who are enrolled at a Japanese language school equivalent to the former (which provides a dedicated instructor and can issue a certificate of enrollment).
2) Those whose ages are 15 to 19 as of 30th June 2008 (who were born between 1st July 1988 and 30th June 1993).
3) Those whose parents are not both Japanese (including one with former Japanese nationality).
4) Those who have lived in Japan for a short period of time, and who have no plan to visit Japan prior to this Summit.
5) Those who have sufficient knowledge of Japanese to write the assigned essay in kanji and kana,
and to participate in oral discussion (e.g. the third grade of the Japanese Proficiency Test or equivalent level).

6) Those who are able to participate in the entire schedule of this Programme. (No change is accepted in the arrival and departure dates specified by the Secretariat. Therefore please make sure that you have no examination dates in your country during the above schedule, and allow sufficient time before and after the schedule in anticipation of possible flight changes)

7) Those who are both mentally and physically healthy enough to participate in the full schedule in Japanese and keep a daily log.

8) Those who understand the objectives of this Programme, which are to improve their Japanese and deepen their understanding of Japan, while observing the rules of this Programme.

9) Those who are able to contribute to the creation of an overseas JRP network as an assisting member following the Programme.

[Senior Category]

1) University/college students (as of the date of arrival in Japan), or those who are enrolled at a Japanese language school equivalent to the former (which provides a dedicated instructor and can issue a certificate of enrollment).

2) Those whose ages are 20 to 27 as of 30th June 2008 (who were born on 1st July 1980 or thereafter).

3) to 9) Same as the Junior category

*Applicants for both the Junior and Senior categories should please note that the application procedure differs depending on your experience of visiting Japan. Please be sure to contact the JRP Secretariat, if you are not certain whether you meet the qualification requirements (for example, in the case that you are enrolled at a university or high school at the time of application, but will have graduated by the time you arrive in Japan).

Number of Panellists and Countries: One panellist per country for both the Junior and Senior categories, from a total of 16 to 20 countries.

Those who are interested in applying for the event should complete a survey form at the end of this description and submit it to Mr Takeda before application.

III. Expenses (for both the Junior/Senior categories)

- Expenses born by the JRP Executive Committee
  
1) Return airfare between the international airport (designated by the Secretariat) of the panellist’s country and Japan.

2) Airfare within Japan during the period of the schedule made by the Secretariat.

3) Expenses for participation in official events and for the home-stay (including breakfast and dinner)

- Expenses born by the panellist

1) Travel expenses from the panellist’s residence to the international airport (designated by the Secretariat).

2) A participation fee of ¥30,000, which will be collected by the JRP Secretariat upon the panellist’s arrival.
In addition, approx. ¥30,000 to cover various additional expenses, required by the panellist during his/her free time, as well as lunches, medical fees, international telephone calls, transportation expenses from the home-stay location to a scheduled programme venue and personal photo developing etc, and extra money for souvenir, if necessary.

3) Traveller’s insurance (for sickness and accident) shall be bought prior to departure from the panellist’s home country at their own expense. Care regarding sickness and accident should in principle be the responsibility of panellists.

4) Expenses for visa application for a visit to Japan (when required) and for transit.
- A scholarship is provided depending on the country you are from. Please consult the Secretariat if you are hesitating to apply for the program because of the cost to be borne by the applicant.

IV. Assigned Essay and Deadline

[Junior Category]

1) 1st Selection:

The application form for the 1st selection must be received by the Secretariat no later than:
31st October (Wed), 2007

Please submit;
- Assigned essay in Japanese, under the theme of “Language and Peace”, in your own handwriting in pen in less than 1,600 characters, by fax in advance if possible (or by email attachment, if fax costs are too expensive).
- Application documents specified by the JRP.
- Duplicate of a few pages of the Japanese language textbook, which you are currently using.
- Six photographs [three copies of your full-face photo (5 cm x 4 cm), one with all of your family members and two snapshots of you in your home environment e.g. with friends], to the Application Form. (Indicate on the back of each photograph the occasion and with whom it was taken.)
  * Please inform the Secretariat of your intended application before the application due date, if possible.

2) Announcement of the 1st selection results: 21st November (Wed), 2007

3) 2nd Selection:

The application form for the 2nd selection must be received by the Secretariat no later than:
12th December (Wed), 2007

Please submit a three-minute summary of your presentation of the essay, which has passed the 1st selection, with sound and images using videotape (VHS), Mini DV or CDR format.
(*See the notes below, regarding submission of the videotape.)
  In addition, you are required to enclose a question/answer sheet regarding your “Japanese language proficiency level” to be filled out by the instructor who has provided you with assistance in writing an essay in Japanese.
  * There might be a case in which an interview is conducted by telephone.

4) Final Selection by special Committee members is planned for the end of December.
5) The names of panellists will be announced in late-January 2008
[Senior Category]

1) 1st Selection:

The application form for the 1st selection must be received by the Secretariat no later than:
31st October (Wed), 2007

Please submit:
- Assigned proposal with novel and flexible ideas, in Japanese, under the theme of "Language and Peace", in a minimum of three and maximum of five A4 pages (@1,600 characters per page). It should be submitted as hard copy plus either a floppy disk or CDR.
- Your self-introduction (about 400 characters in your own handwriting)
- Application documents specified by the JRP.
- Duplicate of a few pages of the Japanese language textbook, which you are currently using.
- Six photographs [three copies of your full-face photo (5 cm x 4 cm), one with all of your family members and two snapshots of you in your home environment e.g. with friends], to the Application Form. (Indicate on the back of each photograph the occasion and with whom it was taken.)

* Please inform the Secretariat of your intended application before the application due date, if possible.

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12th December (Wed), 2007

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(*See the notes below, regarding submission of the videotape.)
In addition, you are required to enclose a question/answer sheet regarding your "Japanese language proficiency level" to be filled out by the instructor who has provided you with assistance in writing an essay in Japanese.

* There might be a case in which an interview is conducted by telephone.

4) Final Selection by special Committee members is planned at the end of December.

5) The names of panellists will be announced in late-January 2008

Notes:
- Please confirm occasionally the dates of selection.
- Application documents specified by the JRP can be downloaded from the JRP’s website.
- Videotape submission
  1. Do not read from a written manuscript as the video is meant to test the proficiency of the applicant’s spoken Japanese.
  2. Sound should be recorded simultaneously with images. (No editing or post-synchronizing with the image is allowed.)
  3. Make an oral presentation, not recitation, as naturally as possible.
4. Include a self-introduction.
5. Make sure that the image and sound qualities are good before sending.
6. Make a duplicate tape for yourself before sending.

V. Application Procedures

1) Please download from our website or request from the Secretariat; Application Form A (for those who have never visited Japan) or Form B (for those who have previously visited Japan or plan to visit before June 2008), provided for both the Junior and Senior categories.
2) Materials required for the 1st selection (Application Form, assigned essay, copies of pages from the Japanese textbook), and those required for the 2nd selection (videotape, and question/answer sheet filled out by your instructor) must be sent first by fax and then by registered mail.

VI. Notes upon Application

- Please inform the Secretariat promptly of any changes regarding your application conditions which occurred after the application, e.g. a sudden visit to Japan.
- Please be aware that those who apply for any other activities taking place in Japan during the same period as the Nihongo Summit, and/or those who plan or are under application to study in Japan immediately before the Nihongo Summit, do not qualify.
- Please do not fail to inform the Secretariat when a friend or your instructor helped you to write the essay.
- In the case that an applicant fails to abide by the rule that they must write their essay based on their own idea and handwriting, all expenses incurred in the invitations will be charged to them, and invitations to their countries will not be considered in the future.
- Panels are expected to practice proper manners and behaviour as representatives of their countries during the Programme, as many events are planned including meetings with Japanese political and business leaders, government officials and Diet members, as well as media interviews. Formal wear will be required for courtesy visits and other Japanese traditional cultural events.
- Please confirm with our website for possible changes in the schedule.
- Please be aware that the panelist will have to bear some expenses for participation.

VII. JRP Scholarship Study Programme

Duration: 1 - 4 years, beginning April 2009 to the end of March 2013 (revised every year)
Eligible subjects: Panellists of the 2008 Nihongo Summit, all former panellists and the JRP network participating members
Place of study: Colleges/universities collaborating with JRP activities (e.g. Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, tentative)
Selection: Final selection will be made by JRP during the period of the 2008 Nihongo Summit Qualifications: Those who have never visited Japan except for the JRP Nihongo Summit, have a clear idea of what they want to study in Japan, and who are able to attend regular JRP meetings (once a month, tentative)
Education fee: Totally exempted for those who meet the requirements including academic
achievements as specified by the colleges/universities collaborating with JRP activities. Living expenses: Subsidy now under consideration (the student must attend the JRP regular monthly meeting to receive payment.)

VIII. Co-Organiser
Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc.

IX. Supporters/Sponsors (tentative)

X. Special Collaboration (tentative)
All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd.

XI. Organiser/Contact
The Japan Return Programme (JRP), NPO
4F Akasaka Annex, 2-19-8, Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052 JAPAN
Tel: +81-3-3589-3587 Fax: +81-3-3589-3573
E-mail: jrp@bna.co.jp http://www.bna.co.jp/jrp/

Let’s join hands together with global friends by means of the Japanese language! We are looking forward to receiving your applications!
2008 “ことばと平和” 日本語サミット

Survey for NUS applicants

If you are interested in applying for 2008 Nihongo Summit: Language and Peace to be held from 28 June to 1 August 2008 in Nagasaki and Tokyo, Japan, please complete and send this form to Mr Takeda at clsmt@nus.edu.sg latest by **Friday, 5 October 2007** to facilitate our grasping total number of applicants from NUS.

Please note that this is **NOT** an official application form. Submission of this form does not mean you have applied for the event. To apply for the event, please complete an official application form available at the Japan Return Programme website (http://www.bna.co.jp/jrp/) and mail it with other application materials to the organiser by the application deadline.

Home Stay and Scholarship Programme Committee
Japanese Language Programme
Centre for Language Studies

1. Personal Particulars

   **Name**
   (Full name in BLOCK Letters):

   **Email**:

   **Department**:

   **Home Faculty**:

   * [ ] Graduate  
   [ ] Undergraduate  

   **Year**:

   **Nationality**:

   **Japanese language module you are reading this semester (Semester I 2007-2008)**

   * LAJ2201 Japanese 2
   [ ] LAJ2202 Japanese 3
   [ ] LAJ2203 Japanese 4
   [ ] LAJ3201 Japanese 5
   [ ] LAJ3203 Business Japanese 1

2. Questionnaire

   1) Are you applying for the programme?
   * [ ] Yes, I am for sure.
   [ ] I am still not sure.

   2) (If you tick “I am still not sure” in the previous question)
   **Why do you hesitate to apply for the programme? You can choose more than 1 reason.**
   * [ ] Because of financial concern
   [ ] Because of my competency in Japanese language
   [ ] Because I am unable to participate in the entire programme of the event.
   [ ] Because I am planning to travel to Japan immediately before the event.
   [ ] Because I will be graduating from NUS before the event.
   [ ] Other reason(s) (Please specify):

   * Please tick ✓ where applicable.

   Thank you for your cooperation.