

2013-2014 9th Japan Center Essay Competition

Sponsored by Canon U.S.A.

Organized by the Japan Center at Stony Brook University

Aim: The aim of the Japan Center Essay Competition is to promote awareness and understanding of Japan in the United States and to help young Americans broaden their international horizons.

Awards:

Best Essay Award in the High School Division:

- 1st Place: \$3,000 and a Canon camera
- 2nd Place: \$1,500 and a Canon camera
- 3rd Place: \$750 and a Canon camera

Best Essay Award in the College Division:

\$3,000 and a Canon camera

Uchida Memorial Award:

\$1,000 and a Canon camera

Merit Award:

\$200 (each) for up to five awards

Essay Topic: Contestants should discuss one or more aspects of Japan including art, culture, tradition, values, philosophy, history, society, politics, business, and technology in relation to their personal views, experiences, and/or future goals. (Contestants do not need to have any experience in visiting Japan or studying Japanese.) The previous award winning essays and judging criteria can be viewed at the Japan Center's website: www.stonybrook.edu/japancenter

Entry Qualifications: Contestants must satisfy all of the following conditions.

1. They must be 13 years old or older and enrolled in high schools or undergraduate programs in the New York Metropolitan area during the 2013-2014 school year.
2. They must be able to release the copyright of their essay to the JCSB and present their essay orally at the award ceremony if they are selected to be a recipient of an award.
3. They must be U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents of the U.S. except void in Maine and wherever prohibited by law.

Judging: Entries in the Japan Center Essay Competition will be evaluated by multiple judges on the bases of their insight, creativity, and originality of expression as well as their style, form, and organization. (See the judging criteria posted on the JCSB's website.)

Honorary Judges:

Sumio Kusaka, Ambassador and Consul General of Japan
Joe Adachi, President & CEO of Canon U.S.A., Inc.

Judges (Stony Brook University Faculty):

- Sachiko Murata (Chief Judge, Dept. of Asian and Asian American Studies)
- Mary Diaz (Dept. of Asian and Asian American Studies)
- Clifford Huffman (English Dept.)
- Eva Nagase (Dept. of Asian and Asian American Studies)
- Eriko Sato (Dept. of Asian and Asian American Studies)

Submission: Submit your essay by **January 8, 2014** through the official *Essay Submission Form*, found on the JCSB's website: www.stonybrook.edu/japancenter

Acknowledgement of receipt will be sent automatically after submission. If you do not receive it, please contact us by e-mail (japanessay@stonybrook.edu).

Rules:

- Your essay must be written in English, and typed (12 pt. font size, 1.5-line space) and saved in MS Word or RTF format (doc, docx, or rtf). The file name should take the form of:

Division_Author's Initials_Essay Title

For example:

HighSchool_JS_Cherry Blossoms and My Bird

College_EK_Spirit of Japan and My Dream

- Your file must include only the following:
 - Division (High School or College)
 - Your initials (for example, JS or EK)
 - Essay Title
 - Essay body (**Maximum 750 words**)
 - Bibliography, if any

Do NOT type your name or school name in the file. You can enter the author's information in the designated fields in the official *Essay Submission Form*.

- All use of external information must be properly attributed in the essay body and their sources must be listed in the bibliography. Plagiarism will result in disqualification.
- Do not use footnotes or endnotes.
- Do not include photos, illustrations, diagrams, or tables.

Recognition of Award Recipients: The award recipients and their essays will be posted on the JCSB website (www.stonybrook.edu/japancenter) by March 31, 2014. The award recipients in the Japan Center Essay Competition will be formally recognized at the 2014 JCSB Annual Meeting, to be held at the Charles B. Wang Center at Stony Brook University on Sunday, April 6, 2014.

Organizing Committee: Eriko Sato (Chair), Carolyn Brooks, Marlene Dubois, MaryAnn Hannon, Melissa Kavanah, Patricia Marinaccio, Joan Miyazaki, Chikako Nakamura, Mitsuko Post, Gerard Senese, and H. Mae Sprouse

JCSB Board Member in Charge: Yoko Ojima

Canon U.S.A. Representative in Charge:

Mindy Miller-Roesch

*For more information, visit www.stonybrook.edu/japancenter

