

# Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund

## Newsletter

Issue 6 November 2013

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### 1) Message from the Prince Takamado Japan Centre Director, Dr. Kaori Kabata

It is our great pleasure to issue the 6th annual newsletter for the Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund, which was established to honour the legacy of His Imperial Highness. The purpose of the fund is to strengthen the bond between Japan and Canada through encouraging student mobility and fostering new teaching, research and cultural exchange programs with relation to Japan. It is with great respect and admiration that we continue to manage and create student and teacher programming in memory of His Imperial Highness and all for which he stood.

We celebrate the 85th year of relations between Japan and Canada in 2013 on the Japan side, and in 2014 on the Canadian side. It is our honour to co-organize *Threshold*, a print exhibit at the Prince Takamado Gallery in the Embassy of Canada to Japan, running from November 7, 2013 to January 8, 2014. The exhibit features works by Walter Jule, professor emeritus of the University of Alberta, and Ryoji Ikeda, professor of Musashino University of Arts and a former visiting professor at the University of Alberta, whose long-term friendship between the two artists' serves as a mirror to the friendship between the two countries.

### 2) Report from the Fourth Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum (February 16-24, 2013)

The 4th Annual Japan-Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum was hosted by York University in Toronto, Canada. Fourteen students from eight Canadian universities and fourteen students from eleven Japanese universities attended the event. This was also the first year where Canadian "Student Leaders" – participants from past Student Forums – were invited to attend as mentors to their peers. The theme of this year's forum was "Current Economic Dynamics and Challenges between Japan and Canada and the Implications for the Youth of Today" – a topic relevant to students from both countries as they prepare for graduation and entering the workforce. Within the topic, students were asked to address three questions:



Student participants at this year's JACAC Student Forum in Toronto, Canada

1. What do the youth of today need to do in order to make themselves more competitive in this global world?
2. How can the youth of today work together to meet the economic challenges facing our world?
3. Will Japan and Canada being part of economic partnership agreements, either bilateral or multilateral, provide opportunities for the future of the youth today?

The goal of the forum was to provide students with the opportunity to interact with their peers from a different culture, in order to gain insight into their current areas of academic interest and to encourage a flow of ideas between Canada and Japan. Students who attended this year's forum participated in lectures given by academic and industry professionals, as well as worked on group projects alongside their peers both from Canada and Japan.

Both lectures and group sessions were held at York University. During the middle of the week there was a reception for the participants at the Consulate-General of Japan in Toronto. The forum was wrapped up at the Japan Foundation Toronto, where students gave their final group presentations and a closing ceremony and reception were held.

## Continued from Cover: Report from the Third Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum

The communication and partnership between students at the 2013 forum was evidence that students were truly gaining valuable insight and learning the important benefits of multiculturalism. Throughout their daily activities and projects, participants discussed issues relevant both to their studies and their life at home and were able to do so with their peers from across the globe. Cultural growth and understanding followed the students as they studied and socialized throughout organized forum events and in their casual outings.

For the fifth forum, the venue moves back to Japan and will be hosted by Meiji University, in Tokyo from February 14 to 23, 2014 (please see Section 7).

### Comments from Participants:

*I am glad I decided to apply to participate in this fourth edition of the JACAC Student Forum and consider myself lucky to have been chosen to represent Canada. I found this experience to be particularly enjoyable and unique - it is not often that students from Canada get to interact so closely with students from Japan in such a way. Simply having this opportunity is, in itself, priceless. We were also lucky to have very knowledgeable and interesting speakers who came to see us. I believe it was a good idea to pair us in groups that are comprised of both Canadian and Japanese students. Overall, I deeply enjoyed my participation in this fourth edition of the JACAC Student Forum and consider that this experience gave me a vast array of learning opportunities.*

Anne Sophie Roussel, Université Laval

*First of all, I am so grateful to have joined this forum and would like to thank all of those involved in its administration. I was quite inspired from all the lessons that provided us the opportunity to think deeply on our focal theme about the contemporary youth facing the economic challenges in both Canada and Japan. I was amazed by how great the JACAC participants were with whom I could exchange dozens of intriguing ideas, not only during presentations, but also throughout our personal time. Since this was my first time to visit Canada, everything I did was a new experience for me. Although Canadian weather is quite cold and dry and I never really got used to it, it was great to experience something so different from my past experiences. The Canadian traditional food, poutine, was so tasty that I would even want to import it to Japan. Not only these points, but the people I met in Canada were so kind and really nice to foreigners like myself. Once again, I was so happy to participate in this forum and would like to thank for all staff at York University.*

Mayato Hattori, Meiji University

The following students participated in the Third Annual JACAC Student Forum:

### Canada

So Young Chang, University of British Columbia  
 Gabriel Chen, University of British Columbia  
 Jean-Christophe Dumont, Université Laval  
 Peter Dyloco, Queen's University  
 Takayuki Fukada, University of Waterloo  
 Emily Fung, University of Alberta  
 Mario Gebrayel, Université de Montréal  
 Megan Hood, University of Prince Edward Island  
 Brett Huestis, University of Prince Edward Island  
 Christian Laubman, University of Alberta  
 Benjamin MacDonald, University of Prince Edward Island  
 Dahron Martin, York University  
 Anne Sophie Roussel, Université Laval  
 Joanna Wreakes, University of Alberta

### Japan

Tomoka Arai, Ritsumeikan University  
 Masaya Aso, Nagoya University  
 Mayato Hattori, Meiji University  
 Tomohiro Ikeda, Ritsumeikan University  
 Moemi Ishimaru, Hokkaido University  
 Kento Kosaka, Hosei University  
 Yuri Mizutani, Kyoto University of Education  
 Tsuyoshi Nakajima, Sophia University  
 Kouichi Sugimoto, Hosei University  
 Moet Takahashi, Josai International University  
 Yuto Terauchi, Kwansai Gakuin University  
 Saki Tezuka, Tsuda College  
 Su Qin Yan, J.F. Oberlin University  
 Daisuke Yanagishita, Meiji University

### 3) PTJCMF Student Mobility Program Awardees - October 2012 to September 2013

Princess Takamado English Essay Contest  
December 2012

The theme of the 2012 English Essay Contest was to discuss the role of Canada on the International Stage. The winner of this year's contest was **Yuto Hattori** from the University of Tokyo with his essay, "Expressing the value of Symbiosis: The role of Canada on the international stage". Our runner-up was second place winner **Takao Terui** from the University of Tokyo with his essay, "Keeping Canada's uniqueness". Yuto has won a \$750 travel scholarship, and both placing winners will receive one semester's tuition at the University of Alberta's English Language Program to study English in Canada. We were happy to welcome Yuto to Edmonton this summer, as he attended the August 2013 semester. Further information on the Essay Contest is available on the Memorial Fund website. You can even read the winning essays yourself! <<http://www.ptjc.ualberta.ca/PTJCMF>>.

The 24th National Japanese Speech Contest  
March 23, 2013

The 2013 Canadian National Japanese Speech Contest was co-hosted between the University of Manitoba and the Prince Takamado Japan Centre, and held in the city of Winnipeg, Manitoba. The Grand Prize award of a three thousand dollar travel award was presented to **Peter Dyloco** of Queen's University in Ottawa, Ontario for his speech "My Dream". The full list of participants as well as videos taken during cultural presentations at the event can be accessed through the National Japanese Speech Contest website, <<http://www.cajle.info/programs/speech-contest/>>.



Winners and participants of the 2013 National Japanese Speech Contest

The 4th Annual Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum  
February 16-24, 2013

Please see Section II for the list of student participants and a short report on the event. The full report is available on the website, <<http://www.jacac.com/what-we-do/annual-forum/4th-annual-forum/>>.

Summer Program Travel Awards  
May 21-June 21, 2013

The Memorial Fund supports students travelling to Japan to participate in Ritsumeikan University's Summer Program in Kyoto. Students entering this five week-long program participate in intensive Japanese language classes with a keen focus on Japanese culture, history and tradition. This year, Kyle Haasbroek, Mathew Hum, Benson Ng, Michelle Paterok, and Carmen Tetrault received awards for their exemplary effort and dedication to their studies.

JACOS/JAPEX Scholarship in Engineering  
September 2013

Since the development of the JACOS/JAPEX Scholarship was first approved at the University of Alberta in 2008, the award has grown and is now distributed annually at three Alberta institutions: the University of Alberta, Keyano College, and the University of Calgary. Students with superior academic achievement entering their second, third or fourth year of study are eligible for the award where studying Mining Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Materials Engineering, Geotechnical Engineering or Environment Engineering.

#### 4) PTJCMF Financial Report

As of March 31, 2013, the book value of the endowment was \$1,570,034.50. The amount in the spending allocation of the fund was \$80,268.12. Of this amount, \$65,000 has been budgeted for spending in 2013-14.

##### University of Alberta

- Devlin Morrison
- Nicholas Raimondo
- Shuying Yuan

##### University of Calgary

- To be announced

##### Keyano College

- Jennifer Arneson
- Travis Baxter
- Asad Hidayat

## 5) Special Events Hosted by the Prince Takamado Japan Centre

Every year the Prince Takamado Japan Centre organizes and coordinates local and national events in the areas of teaching and research of the Japanese language and culture of Japan. Working alongside our partners in academic, private and government sectors throughout Canada, our goal is to provide the best opportunities available for the interdisciplinary study and research of Japan studies across the country.



Junko Tahara and Qiu Xia He performing a duet at the Silk Road Encounter

### The Silk Road Encounter: Japanese Biwa and Chinese Pipa in Concert - November 19, 2012

Coordinated between the Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research, the China Institute and Folkwaysalive!, this musical encounter of the Biwa and Pipa transcended geographic boundaries and illustrated a shared tradition as performing artists Junko Tahara and Qiu Xia He took the stage at Muttart Hall, MacEwan University, on Monday, November 19, 2012. This concert presented a rare opportunity to experience both the popular Chinese pipa and the traditional Japanese biwa in an intimate setting. Featuring solo pieces by each artist, as well as innovative collaboration, the performance by these two master musicians inspired all in attendance.

### Immortal Beauty: Shiko Kataoka Calligraphy Exhibition - November 21, 2012 – March 2, 2013

Immortal Beauty was a collaboration between the University of Alberta Museums and the Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research in the Faculty of Arts. Curated by University of Alberta Art Collection head Jim Corrigan, Immortal Beauty celebrates the work of Master Calligrapher Shiko Kataoka, in the context of calligraphy-inspired works from the University of Alberta Art Collection. Ms. Kataoka was in attendance at the opening reception for Immortal Beauty on Wednesday, November 21, where she created two new works of art in a calligraphy demonstration with live musical accompaniment from biwa player Junko Tahara.



Master Calligrapher Shiko Kataoka during the Immortal Beauty

### An Evening in the Orient - December 6, 2012

The Prince Takamado Japan Centre was pleased to host an Evening in the Orient, a one-night event to feast both the eyes and stomach. The evening began with a private tour of the calligraphy collection and art exhibition by Master Calligrapher Shiko Kataoka, on display at the Enterprise Square Gallery, followed by a sake-tasting event where a selection of Japanese cuisine from the very traditional to the contemporary was specially paired to balance and complement the sake menu.

### Tale of Genji Calligraphy Event - January 10, 2013

Master Calligrapher Shiko Kataoka returned to the University of Alberta for a special calligraphy demonstration where audience members were given the rare opportunity to see this Master Calligrapher at work. During the demonstration, an introduction to the world famous story "The Tale of Genji" was given by Dr. Sonja Arntzen, followed by a hands-on demonstration where Ms. Kataoka wrote selected passages from the story using traditional Japanese calligraphy tools and techniques.

### International Conference on Japan Game Studies - May 24-26, 2013

The conference, held at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, was the second collaboratively organized conference focusing broadly on Japanese game culture, education and industry. It was collaboratively organized by Ritsumeikan Center for Game Studies, the Prince Takamado Japan Centre, and the Canadian Institute for Research Computing in the Arts, University of Alberta with support from the GRAND Network of Centres of Excellence. With participants coming from across North America and Japan, many of the best and most innovative in the field were in attendance, giving valuable talks amongst students and peers. Next year, the Japan Game Studies Conference will return to the University of Alberta for the third international conference to be held in Edmonton.

### Second Language Acquisition Research and Foreign Language Teaching Workshop - June 19, 2013

Dr. Yasuhiro Shirai of the University of Pittsburgh, delivered a lecture on Second Language Acquisition Research and Foreign Language Teaching. The event was open to all and was designed to teach and motivate teachers of Japanese as a Second Language. Co-organized by the PTJC and the University of Calgary, the event was held at the University of Calgary in association with the Department of German, Slavic and East Asian Languages, the Calgary Hoshuko Japanese School Association and was sponsored by the Alberta Japanese Businessmen's Association

### Cognitive and Functional Approach to the Study of Japanese as a Second Language - June 21, 2013

The Prince Takamado Japan Centre at the University of Alberta hosted a pre-conference symposium at the 12th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference (ICLC-12) entitled, Cognitive and Functional Approach to the Study of Japanese as a Second Language Symposium. The symposium was to be held in Banff, but due to unforeseen circumstances resulting from massive flooding in Southern Alberta, the venue was changed to the University of Calgary. This one-day symposium consisted of paper presentations and a keynote lecture by Dr. Yasuhiro Shirai, University of Pittsburgh as well as presentations by two invited speakers: Dr. Natsuko Tsujimura, Indiana University, and Dr. Kimi Akita, Osaka University.

### 6) Updates on the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium

Currently, there are ten Canadian and thirteen Japanese universities who are a part of JACAC. For more information about JACAC member institutions and our programming, visit <[www.jacac.com](http://www.jacac.com)>.

The current members are (as of November 1, 2013):

#### JAPAN

Meiji University  
Josai International University  
Sophia University  
J.F. Oberlin University  
Kwansei Gakuin University  
Hosei University  
Ritsumeikan University  
Hokkaido University

Kyoto University of Education  
Nagoya University  
Waseda University  
Tsuda College  
Seinan Gakuin University

#### CANADA

University of Alberta  
University of British Columbia

University of Manitoba  
York University  
Queen's University  
Université de Montréal  
Concordia University  
Université Laval  
University of Prince Edward Island  
University of Waterloo & Renison  
University College

### 7) Upcoming Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund Events

#### Princess Takamado English Essay Contest

Applications for the annual Princess Takamado English Essay Contest have just closed and judging committee members are now reviewing entries. Japanese students attending an accredited Japanese university are welcome to apply to this annual event and have the chance to win a grand prize worth three thousand dollars to attend the University of Alberta's English Language Program. This year's essay topic was to "Discuss Canada's Position on the International Stage".

#### Annual Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum, February 14-23, 2014

This coming February the Fifth Annual JACAC Student Forum will be hosted by Meiji University in Tokyo, Japan. Senior undergraduate students representing each of the twenty-two member institutions from across Canada and Japan will come together in the spirit of mutual cooperation to exchange their thoughts and ideas on the year's annual topic. This year, the forum topic is "Toward a Sustainable Economic and Social Development: Challenges in Aging Society in Canada and Japan". During this one-week event, students will aim to get a deeper understanding of the forum topic, as well as the benefits of intercultural communication and the potential of international relationships.

#### Canada National Japanese Speech Contest, March 29, 2014

Both contestants and audience eagerly await this annual event. Even now, students from across Canada are beginning to prepare their entries for one of the seven regional Japanese speech contests taking place throughout Canada in early March. First prize winners of each regional contest are eligible to attend and participate in the national finals, to be held at the Japanese Embassy in Ottawa in March, 2014. The competition is tough and because of the extremely high quality of student entries, each year the judges seem to face an even more difficult task in selecting award winners. The Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund will present the grand prize winner with a travel award in hope to give them the opportunity to explore Japan.

For information about the time and location of the regional speech contest near you, please visit <[www.cajle.info](http://www.cajle.info)>.