

# 29th Annual Japanese Language Speech Contest in Chicago [2015]

## Results

Prize	Participant's Name	School	Speech Title
<b><u>Grand Prize (1)</u></b>			
Round trip ticket donated by Japan Airlines \$200 Gift Card donated by Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal U.S.A., Inc.			
Category 4	Errol Phalo	Macalester College	母との絆 (The Bond Between Myself and my Mother)
<b><u>Special Award (1)</u></b>			
Round trip ticket to Japan donated by All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd. \$200 Gift Card donated by Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal U.S.A., Inc.			
Category 4	Hui Zhang	UW-Madison	自分の国のよさを伝えよう (Let's talk more about the good part of our country)
<b><u>Sister City Osaka Award (1)</u></b>			
Round trip ticket & 2-Week-Home-Stay donated and arranged by Chicago Sister Cities Int'l Program Osaka Committee			
Category 3	Hassan Awaishi	University of Chicago	日本との関わり (My connection to Japan)
<b><u>1st Prize (4)</u></b>			
\$100 Gift Certificate donated by Hankyu Hanshin Express USA Inc. Ball point pen donated by Mitsubishi Electronic Automation Inc.			
*Category 1	Cole Ruehle	Montessori Language Academy	ゆがんでいるから美しい (Deformation is beautiful)
Category 2	Trevor West	Elk Grove H.S.	僕を大きくしてくれた交換留学プログラム (How the Elk Grove Exchange program changed my life)
Category 3	Shihao Zhang	UW-Madison	日本語を頑張る訳 (My Starting Point)
Category 4	Anirodh Appachar	Carleton College	日本へと導いてくれるポップカルチャー (Pop Culture-A way to Japan)

Banner written and donated by Rev. Yukei Ashikaga at Buddhist Temple of Chicago

**2nd Prize (4)**

\$50 Gift Card donated by Sojitz Corporation of America

Category 1	Michael Goto	Montessori Language Academy	僕の家族と日本語 (My family and Japanese language)
Category 2	Khaalidah Giddens	Herron H.S.	どんな悩みがあっても、もう一度立ち上がろう (No matter what kind of pain you go through always stand up again)
Category 3	Felician Wang	UW-Madison	ボランティアでまなんだこと (What I learnt from volunteering)
Category 4	Grant Hussey	UW-Madison	日本語がわかるとは？ (What does it mean to understand Japanese)

**3rd Prize (4)**

\$40 Gift Card donated by Masuda, Funai, Eifert &amp; Mitchell, Ltd.

Category 1	Suraq Nuthalapaty	Thomas Dooley Elementary School	フットボールのみらいをまもるヘルメット (The helmet that protects the future of football)
Category 2	Marina Malone	Northside College Prep	こわれた彫刻 (Broken Sculpture)
Category 3	Dylon Browning	New Trier H.S.	夢は現実になった (My dream became reality)
Category 4	Praditya Hargianto	UW-Milwaukee	飛び出せ！ (Fly Away!)

**4th Prize (4)**

\$30 Gift Certificate donated by Nippon Express USA, Inc.

Category 1	Luke Henderson	Thomas Dooley Elementary School	かつことはすべてではない (Winning is not everything)
Category 2	Daniel Zheng	Indiana Academy	トヨタに「ありがとう」と言いたいです (Thank you, Toyota)

Category 3	Hilary Pham	Whitney Young Magnet H.S.	世界に通じる言語 (A Language that is universal)
Category 4	Wenyun Fang	Washington University in St. Louis	思いやりの心 (Compassion)

### **JASC Award (4)**

**Books (1st, 2nd, 3rd Category), 1-year-membership(4th Category) donated by Japan America Society of Chicago**

Category 1	Dearborn Plys	Langston Hughes Elementary School	書くこと (Writing)
Category 2	Christine Pham	Northside College Prep High School	生きること (To live)
Category 3	Siddharth Divakaruni	Whitney Young Magnet High School	音楽に囲まれて (Surrounded by music)
Category 4	Allison Cottrell	UW-Milwaukee	芸術の爆発! (The Explosion of Art!)

### **Chicago Shimpo Award (2)**

**One Year Subscription to the Chicago Shimpo Newspaper donated by Chicago Shimpo**

Category 3	Grace Bologna	Northside College Prep	私に出来ること (Things I can do)
Category 4	Yezhenzi Kuang	U of MN-Twin Cities	拒食症という暗闇 (Anorexia nervosa: the black hole)

### **Japan Airlines Award (4)**

**Urushi Lacquer Ball point pen donated by Japan Airlines**

Category 1	Jasmine Kaur	Thomas Dooley Elementary School	うつくしいえがおを作りたい (Creating beautiful smiles)
Category 2	Miya Jia	New Trier H.S.	たった一人 (Just One Person)
Category 3	Kevin Leor	UW-River Falls	私は 43 です。 (I am 43)
Category 4	Tori Matta	Kansas State University	「フシギダネ」ちゃんと私 (Bulbasaur kid and I)

### **Bonjinsha Award (8)**

**Japanese Dictionary donated by Bonjinsha**

Category 2	Alice Song	Glenbrook South H.S.	私に自信をくれた日本語 (Gaining confidence through Japanese)
Category 2	Sara Hanno	Indiana Academy	私と音楽 (Me and Music)
Category 2	Julie Phung	Northside College Prep	サラダボールと私 (Salad Bowl and I)
Category 2	Jaica Mae Samson	Glenbrook South H.S.	かんしゃの気持ちを わすれずに！ (Always be thankful!)
Category 3	Adam Adachi	Whitney Young Magnet H.S.	人生の旅行 (Life's Journey)
Category 3	Maya McCullaugh	Indiana Academy	日本語と私の将来 (My future with Japanese)
Category 3	Kara Benninger	IUPUI	注意散漫の時代 (The Age of Distraction)
Category 3	Jodie Tan	Western Illinois University	音楽を通じて、日本語を学ぶ (Learning Japanese through music)
Category 4	Jaehoon Yoo		私の結婚話 (My wedding story)
Category 4	Weiyuan Xu	Kansas State University	「ヤスオ」はネット中毒者を救えるか (Can Yasuo save net address)
Category 4	Lamont Agyekum	U of MN-Twin Cities	ポリグロットになる道 (The road to being a polyglot)

### **All Contestants (40)**

Soy sauce set donated by Kikkoman Foods, Inc., Stationery donated by NTN, Booklet donated by JX Nippon Oil & Energy USA, Inc., Small Wallet donated by Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Rice Vinegar donated by Mizkan America Holdings, Inc., Snacks donated by TH Foods, Inc.

- \*Category 1 (Elementary & Junior High School Students)
- Category 2 (High School Students with less than three years of Japanese)
- Category 3 (High School students with three or more years of Japanese *OR* College Students & Adults with less than one year of Japanese)
- Category 4 (College Students & Adults with more than one year of Japanese)