

■The 9th Hosei University Japanese Speech Contest at VNU University of Languages and International Studies in Hanoi, Vietnam (November 25, 2023)

A total of 1,600 high school and university students have participated in this contest which started in 2015 under the Top Global University Project. The contest is competitive: only those who pass the script screening stage can participate in the actual speech contest. This year, a total of 20 participants – 6 high school students and 14 university students – passed the first stage and made speeches on the theme of “The Ideal School You Create”. Vice-President Koakimoto and Professor Murata Akiko from Hosei University were on site as judges. High school student Nguyen Viet Hoang’s winning speech focused on the importance of connection between cohorts and an education that fosters self-esteem, while the winner in the university category, Ngo Vinh Ngoc, who aspires to becoming a Japanese language teacher, spoke on “a school where one can grow in way that is true to oneself”. These two top winners will be invited, together with two runners-up from the university category, to visit Japan in 2023.

The contest may be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@speechcontesthosei2451/streams>



■The 40th Japanese Speech Contest for International Students was held on Ichigaya campus on November 18, 2023.

After a break of four years, nine international students from China, Korea, Vietnam, Uzbekistan, and Italy made speeches on their what they’d like everyone to know about their hometown. The preparation for the final speeches delivered is a collaborative effort: every international student participant could draw on the support of two or three Japanese students to help them write the script and practice the speech. The judges had a hard time deciding on the winners as they were all fabulous speeches. The first, second and third place winners are as follows: Yu Wan (“Welcome to China’s Osaka!”), Zanasso Giulia (“Buon viaggio! Welcome to Italy!”) and Nguyen Minh Ngoc (“Vietnam, with its Culture and Warmth of People”).



■ Tama International Exchange Fair was held on November 22, on Tama campus

About 60 students gathered in the Egg Dome in this event organized by FiTus (Tama campus international exchange circle), together with members from the Chinese and Korean international students associations. Participants were divided randomly into group for various “competitions”, and there was also a chance to try out sweets from various countries in the world! The ties forged through this event will no doubt continue into regular university life.



■ Cross-cultural Project in Miwada Gakuen High School

Held twice a year, the event began with Miwada Gakuen high school students’ speech, which was followed by group discussion with international exchange students. The high school students were proactive in asking the international students questions in English, and international students got to learn about the differences and similarities between their home culture and Japanese culture. The event ended with the high school students’ speeches covering what they have learned in the group discussions.



■ Study Abroad Fair was held on November 7 and 8 on Ichigaya Campus

About 15 study abroad agents and related organizations set up booths to provide consultation for the 170 students or so who visited.

