

Sponsored by: Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California  
 Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (Los Angeles)  
 Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington  
 Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii

With support from:



The **Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program**, in cooperation with the Kobe YMCA Language Program (Hyogo Prefecture, Japan), is designed for participants to gain a better understanding of their cultural heritage and discover Japan in a unique and exciting way. This program will allow participants to immerse themselves in Japanese culture through Japanese language and writing classes, by attending introductory classes in traditional Japanese art forms, enjoying late afternoon and Saturday excursions exploring different parts of the Kansai region, all while having the opportunity to use and practice their Japanese language skills on a daily basis with their homestay families.

**Important Dates and Information**

1. **The 2009 Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program is an eight-week commitment (mid-June through mid-August), participating in pre-trip cultural workshops; traveling to Kobe, Japan for a four week intensive language and homestay program; and closing with a debrief within two weeks of arrival back to the United States.**
2. **The primary purpose for the Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program is to help Nikkei youth gain a better understanding of their ancestral and cultural background, however Japanese ancestry is not required.**
3. **To be eligible for the 2009 program, the applicant must be 18 years of age or older (on June 1, 2009) and have completed a minimum of one semester of college studies.**
4. **Applicants will be asked to choose one of the four Japanese Cultural Centers located in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle or Honolulu in which to be interviewed and (if selected) participate in pre-trip cultural training workshops and post-trip debriefing.**
5. **Program Cost and Details:**
  - o The Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program subsidized tuition **cost for each participant is \$2,060.00\***. \*Other costs not included are reduced rate air fare, domestic transportation and personal spending.
  - o Upon selection, a \$1,000.00 deposit will be required to hold your spot.
  - o Partial Scholarships may be available. Please check with your Cultural Center.
6. **Participants will be selected for the 2009 program based on their application, essay and interview.**
7. **The participant must commit to the following mandatory 2009 activities:**

Thursday, February 5, 2008 Week of Feb 15 (actual date/time TBD) Weekend of June 20-21 Thursday, July 2 July 5 - August 1*	Applications are due Applicant Interviews Cultural Workshop at Cultural Center Depart for Japan Kobe Language and Homestay Program
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*\* The JCCNC will make arrangements for the round trip airfare departing from SFO on July 3, 2009 (mandatory group departure). Participants may return anytime after August 1, but before August 15, 2009. If you plan to return after August 1, you will be responsible for handling your accommodations. Please note that flights returning during Obon season may incur higher airfare.*



Please refer to this page to assist you through the application process. The application is considered part of the selection criteria.

**Section I: Applicant Information**

- **Name:** Your complete legal name is required.
- **Birth Date:** Applicant's birth date must be on or before May 31, 1991.
- **Addresses:** List your current address (at school) and your parents' names and permanent residence.
- **Preferred Interview and Training Location:** Choose from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle or Honolulu.
- **Educational Background and Personal Interests:** List your educational background and personal interests.

**Section II: Applicant Questions**

- Please answer the questions in the space provided.
  - The prefecture (or -ken, -fu, -do/to) is a specific area in Japan, like a state (i.e.: Hiroshima-ken, Hokkaido).

**Section III: Essay Question**

- Please answer the essay question and if additional space is required, please attach one additional page (maximum) to your application.

**Section IV: Letter of Recommendation**

- Please attach a letter of recommendation from a non-family member (teacher, counselor, coach, etc.).

*Note: Other documents including a Commitment Agreement, a copy of the applicant's Birth Certificate and Passport and a Medical Consent and Liability Waiver Form will be required upon the selection of the applicant.*

**Section V: Japanese Cultural Center Membership**

Please let us know if you are currently a member by indicating which Japanese Cultural Center you are a member of and including your membership number. If you are not a current member and would like to receive information on your local Center, check the last box and we will send you a membership application. Once participants have been selected to the Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program, **membership is required.** (Student rate varies for each Center)

**Section VI: Japanese American Community Involvement**

Please indicate any Japanese American community organizations that you and/or your family are actively involved with, the type of involvement and the years served.

**Submitting your application**

**Your completed application packet must be received by Monday, January 5, 2009, 5:00 p.m.** at the JCCCNC office - 1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115, Attn: Nikkei Cultural Heritage Program. Faxed applications will be accepted to meet the deadline, but will not be forwarded to the Selection Committee for consideration in place of original documents. (Faxes do not photocopy well.) The JCCCNC fax number is **(415) 567-4222.**

If you have any questions regarding the Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program, please call Ali Kagawa at (415) 567-5505 x226 or e-mail: [akagawa@jcccnc.org](mailto:akagawa@jcccnc.org).

The JCCCNC, JACCC, JCCCW, JCCH and the Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program Selection Committee reserve the right to choose participants and scholarship recipients from all eligible applications received by the deadline. All decisions made will be final. Disclaimer: The policies, fees and guidelines listed in this document are subject to change at any time.

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**Section I: Applicant Information**

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last Mo / Day / Year

Address (current/school address): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex (Circle) M F

**PREFERRED INTERVIEW AND TRAINING LOCATION:**

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Francisco, CA<br>1840 Sutter Street<br>JCCNC (415.567.5505) | <input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles, CA<br>244 South San Pedro<br>JACCC (213.628.2725) | <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle, WA<br>141 S. Weller Street<br>JCCCW (206.567.7114) | <input type="checkbox"/> Honolulu, HI<br>2454 S. Beretania St.<br>JCCH (808.945.7633) |
|--|---|--|---|

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

University/Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Honors/Awards: \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL INTERESTS:**

Please list your personal interests (hobbies, cultural/social interests, etc.):

**Section II: Applicant Questions**

Please answer the following questions in the space provided:

**A)** Do you have experience using or have you ever studied the Japanese language?

If yes, please answer the following questions:

- a. Where/School:
- b. Years of study:
- c. What level would you consider yourself in the following categories: (please circle)

<b>Reading</b>	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced
<b>Writing</b>	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced
<b>Conversation</b>	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced



**Section II: Applicant Questions (continued)**

- B)** Have you ever been to Japan?
  - a. What year(s)?
  - b. What was the reason for your trip?
  
- C)** What is the prefectural origin of your family?  
(please list father's and mother's family, if known)

**Section III: Essay Question**

Please answer the following question in the space provided. You may attach one additional page to this application if needed.

- A)** Why would you like to participate in the 2009 Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program?

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**Section IV: Letter of Recommendation**

Please attach a letter of recommendation from a non-family member who should state how they are acquainted with you and any reason(s) why you would be an ideal candidate to participate in the Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program.

**Section V: JCCCNC Membership**

Please indicate which Japanese Cultural Center you or your family are current members:

- Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, Membership # \_\_\_\_\_
- Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (Los Angeles), Membership # \_\_\_\_\_
- Japanese Cultural Center of Washington, Membership # \_\_\_\_\_
- Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, Membership # \_\_\_\_\_
- Not currently a member, but would like to receive more information.

**Section VI: Japanese American Community Involvement**

Please indicate Japanese American Community Organizations that you and/or your family are actively involved with, type of involvement and years served.

ORGANIZATION	TYPE OF INVOLVEMENT	YEARS SERVED

**Your completed application packet must be received by Thursday, February 5, 2009, 5:00 p.m. at the JCCCNC office.** Submit the application along with your letter of recommendation to the JCCCNC, 1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115-3220 (Attn: Nikkei Youth Cultural Heritage Program) or fax to (415) 567-4222. Faxed applications will be accepted to meet the deadline, but the original documents will be required by February 15, 2009.