

Quotes from NYCHP 2009 Participants



"I know for many other students being able to give up a month of your summer vacation can be difficult since everyone is coming back home and you finally have a break from classes. But, having the chance to meet people from other parts of the world while traveling to live in another country is something very few will ever do in a lifetime. I had doubts about going away from home for a month but realized I still have many more months and years left to stay home. The experience was amazing I'm truly happy that I decided on going through with it. If I hadn't I wouldn't have the great memories or friendships I made."

– Kelly Galleguillos (San Jose State University)

"Bridging the gap between Japan and America is a goal that I've become passionate about over the last two years. It's vital to teach further generations about the importance of the J.A. community as well as the cultural connections and traditions that have passed from one nation to another. Having the opportunity to further these goodwill relations and hopefully educate others is something I would never pass up. I'm proud to be Japanese American and I believe everyone else should be too."

– Hillary Nakano (UC Santa Barbara)



"When I was not at the YMCA learning, I was with my host families. I was lucky enough to enjoy the hospitality from two families. Spending time with my host families, furthermore, improved my communication skills and also let me experience lifestyle of different families in Japan. I enjoyed seeing how the people in Japan differed from the people in America. Any other free time that I had, was spent hanging out with my friends. I was able to go to a matsuri, visit other historical places in Kobe, and even go to a Hanshin Tigers baseball game. Going to a Japanese baseball game was one of my most favorite times during the trip."

– Kenichi Sato (University of Washington)

