

THE 35 TH JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST FOR FOREIGNERS

1. Host

Okinawa International Exchange and Human Resources Development Foundation (OIHF)

2. Co-Hosts

Okinawa Prefectural Government
Okinawa Television Broadcasting Inc.

3. Sponsors

International Foundation of Bank of Ryukyus
Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau
Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education
Okinawa Prefectural Culture Promotion Foundation
U.S. Consulate General Naha
JICA, Okinawa International Center

4. Cooperating Organizations

Okinawa Cellular Telephone Company
Okinawa Tourist Service Inc.
ORION BREWERIES, LTD
Japan Transocean Air CO., LTD
Ryukyu Golden Kings (Okinawa Basketball Inc.)

5. Purpose of the Contest

The purpose of this contest is to help us deepen our understanding of Japanese/ Okinawan cultures, spirit of coexistence, and to provide insight for paradigm of international society, through speeches made by foreign residents living in Okinawa. This is also aimed at contributing to the mutual friendship between foreigners and the local residents of Okinawa.

6. Date and time

2:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 10, 2018 (Door open: 1:30 p.m.)

7. Venue

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (OIST) Auditorium
Address: 1919-1 Tancha Onnna-son, Okinawa 904-0495

8. Content of speech

Free topic in line with the purpose of the contest
(No commercial and religious topics allowed)

9. Requirements for participation

- (1) Foreign residents living in Okinawa whose native language is not Japanese
- (2) Fifteen years of age or older as of the day of the contest
- (3) Those who have never been awarded the top prize of this speech contest in the past
- (4) Essay should be unpublished at any contests except preliminary to select finalist of this contest.

10. Screeners

Seven individuals from administrative organizations and academic institutions concerned.

11. Evaluation criteria

Content - 50 points / Expression - 50 points

12. Time limit

Speech must be finished within 7 minutes. There will be a deduction of scores if the speech is longer than the specified time.

13. Application and deadline of manuscript

- (1) Fill out an online application form and submit the manuscript as an E-mail attachment, airmail, or hand-in by designated deadline.
- (2) The manuscript must be typed in Japanese on A4-sized paper.
- (3) The submission deadline of application form is no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 11 (Thursday) 2018.

14. Inquires

Person in charge: Takayuki Katsura and Kiho Kuda
Okinawa International Exchange and Human Resources Development Foundation
4-2-16 Isa, Ginowan City, Okinawa 901-2221
Phone: (098) 942-9215 Fax: (098) 942-9220
HP: <http://kokusai.oihf.or.jp> E-mail: kokusai@oihf.or.jp

15. Number of contestants

The number of contestants is limited to about twelve people. If the number of applicants exceeds twelve, a preliminary selection will be conducted based on the manuscripts sent to the OIHF. Contestants who are selected will be informed of the result by mail or telephone before the contest.

16. Prizes

(1) Golden Award

The Governor of Okinawa Prefecture will award certificate and prizes from supporting organizations. Also OIHF will award JCB gift card worth 20,000-yen.

(2) Silver Award

OIHF will award certificate and JCB gift card worth 15,000-yen. Also supporting organizations will award prizes.

(3) Bronze Award

Okinawa Television Broadcasting Inc. will award certificate and prizes from supporting organizations. Also OIHF will award JCB gift card worth 10,000-yen.

(4) Committee Special Award

This will be awarded if the head of screeners decides that there is a particular need for it. OIHF will award certificate and prizes from supporting organization.

(5) Incentive Award

OIHF will award certificate.

(6) Each contestant will receive a memorial gift from Okinawa Television Broadcasting Inc. and supporting organizations.

17. Notes

- (1) Each contestant will receive a Quo Gift Certificate worth one thousand yen, as substitute for compensation for travel expenses from his/her home to the contest site.
- (2) Speech manuscripts will not be returned and prize winners might be requested to submit electronic files of their presentations.
- (3) The host decides the order of speeches by drawing lots.
- (4) The copyright of the contest speeches shall be held by Okinawa International Exchange and Human Resources Development Foundation.
- (5) The personal information of all contestants will only be used for the purpose of carrying out the "Japanese Speech Contest for Foreigners. Name, nationality, and affiliation of contestants, as well as photographs and speech manuscripts, etc. will be published in the contest program, advertisements, and sponsor magazines, etc.