

2020

NATIONAL JAPAN BOWL

REPORT

災いを転じて
福と為す



Presented by:



THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY
OF WASHINGTON DC

28th National Japan Bowl Overview

On May 29, 2020, the Japan-America Society of Washington DC (JASWDC) held the 28th National Japan Bowl®. JASWDC transitioned this year's competition to an online event titled the Digital Japan Bowl due to the ongoing global pandemic. **The Digital Japan Bowl welcomed 170 students from 53 teams and 14 states and territories.** Although the underlying circumstances forced a small number of schools to drop out of this year's competition, the novel format also enabled some schools to join that would have otherwise been unable. **The online format also allowed the National Japan Bowl to reach an audience *at least twenty times larger* than usual.**

This year's participants were welcomed to the National Japan Bowl with *ganbatte* (good luck) messages from JASWDC friends such as **Ambassador Shinsuke J. Sugiyama, Ambassador John Roos, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Mark Knapper, U.S. Astronaut Daniel Tani, Peter Kelley** (National Association of Japan-America Societies), and others. The *ganbatte* messages are publicly available on JASWDC's Japan Bowl website and YouTube channel.

National Japan Bowl participants competed at three different levels in two preliminary rounds, during which students were challenged by questions covering not just the Japanese language but also a wide range of questions on Japanese history, culture, daily life, and popular culture, to name a few. The top three teams at each level advanced to the National Championship Round for a competition that was broadcast live on YouTube. The National Championship Round crowned this year's National Japan Bowl winners: **Thomas Jefferson High School, VA (Level 4), Stuyvesant High School, NY (Level 3), Townsend Harris High School, NY (Level 2).**

During breaks in the competition, the National Japan Bowl provided students a variety of cultural workshops on calligraphy, *origami*, chopstick skills, tea ceremony, *onigiri* (Japanese rice ball)-making, and conversation practice. Students also participated in Japanese pop culture quizzes, and info sessions on Japan study abroad opportunities with the JET program.

For the first time in the 28-year history of the Japan Bowl, the final rounds and award ceremony were broadcast to a public audience. **The Digital Japan Bowl YouTube livestream reached an audience of over 6,000 viewers in the United States, Japan, and elsewhere.** This public event featured not only the live National Japan Bowl championship rounds, but also messages from Princess Takamado (who serves as the Honorary Patron of the Japan Bowl), Vice President Mondale, Chargé d'affaires Joe Young, Ambassador Shinsuke J. Sugiyama, and international celebrity George Takei, who joined the Zoom meeting "in person" to congratulate the winners.

Pending safe travel conditions, JASWDC will partner with the Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs' **Kakehashi** program to bring a Japan Bowl delegation (inviting this year's champions and other top competitors from Level 4) for a week-long experience in Japan.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

参加生徒・参加校

Bellaire High School, TX

Center for Global Studies at Brien McMahon High School, CT

Cupertino High School, CA

Eastern High School, KY

Eastview High School, MN

Falls Church High School, VA

Hayfield Secondary School, VA

Kamiak High School, WA

Lake Braddock Secondary School, VA

Langley High School, VA

Liberal Arts and Science Academy High School, TX

Lynbrook High School, CA

Madison Country Day School, WI

Marysville Early College High School, OH

Montgomery Blair High School, MD

Ocean Lakes High School, VA

Paint Branch High School, MD

Shakopee High School, MN

South Lakes High School, VA

Southwest High School, MN

St. John's School, GU

Stevenson School, CA

Stuyvesant High School, NY

The Woodlands High School, TX

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, VA

Townsend Harris High School, NY

University of Illinois Laboratory High School, IL

Westview High School, OR

Woodlands College Park High School, TX



Level III Championship Round

STATES

California
Connecticut
Guam
Illinois
Kentucky
Maryland
Minnesota
New York
Ohio
Oregon
Texas
Virginia
Washington
Wisconsin

29 SCHOOLS, 53 TEAMS, 170 STUDENTS

全米ジャパン・ボウル賞校

CHAMPIONS AT THE 2020 NATIONAL JAPAN BOWL

LEVEL 2

- 1st Place: Townsend Harris High School, NY
- 2nd Place: Cupertino High School, CA
- 3rd Place: Stuyvesant High School, NY
- 4th Place: Thomas Jefferson High School, VA
- 5th Place: Lake Braddock High School, VA

LEVEL 3

- 1st Place: Stuyvesant High School, NY
- 2nd Place: Cupertino High School, CA
- 3rd Place: Thomas Jefferson High School, VA
- 4th Place: Townsend Harris High School, NY
- 5th Place: Lynbrook High School, CA

LEVEL 4

- 1st Place: Thomas Jefferson High School, VA
- 2nd Place: Cupertino High School, CA
- 3rd Place: Stuyvesant High School, NY
- 4th Place: Lynbrook High School, CA
- 5th Place: Montgomery Blair High School, MD



Ipponjime to close the 28th National Japan Bowl

先生

JASWDC honors this year's teachers for their support of the Japan Bowl and their dedication to developing the "next generation" in the US-Japan relationship.

Adam Podell, South Lakes High School

Adrian McIntosh, The Woodlands High School

Andrew Scronce, Langley High School

Chie Helinski, Stuyvesant High School

Danielle Krug, Marysville Early College High School

Elena Kamenetzky, Eastern High School

Elizabeth Hojo, The Woodlands College Park High School

Fumiko Harada, St. John's School

Hiroko Karch, Liberal Arts and Science Academy High School

Jeremy Kitchen, Lynbrook High School

Keiko Sigmund, Center for Global Studies at Brien McMahon High School

Koji Otani, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

Kyoko Vaughan, Hayfield Secondary School

Mariko S Berger, Townsend Harris High School

Mikiko Korn, Paint Branch High School

Shigemi Oikawa, Ocean Lakes High School

Shinobu Nagashima, Stevenson High School

Stefanie Fan, Cupertino High School

Yoko Zoll, Montgomery Blair High School

Yuki Melvin, Lake Braddock Secondary School

Yumi Lawless, Falls Church High School

Tsubasa Sato, Eastview High School

Yoshitaka Inoue, Kamiak High School

Patricia Breun, Madison Country Day School

Naomi Satoh, Shakopee High School

Kyoko French, Southwest High School

Brian Bangerter, Westview High School

Mari Porter, University Lab High School

Satoko Shou, Bellaire High School

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The National Japan Bowl is made possible by generous grants from the Embassy of Japan, US-Japan Foundation and the JCAW Foundation, in addition to support from the below sponsors:



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JASWDC would also like to recognize the generous and sustained support of the Japan Bowl by the Hiroko Iwami Malott Memorial Fund.

JASWDC would also like to thank all the wonderful guests at the 2020 National Japan Bowl, who came to share their knowledge of Japan with all of this year's participants.

THIS YEAR'S SPECIAL GUESTS INCLUDED:

Ms. Satomi China Calligraphy Workshop

Satomi Shoko China is the head of the Japan Calligraphy Washington DC West branch. Previously, she studied under Suichiku Emura, a designated national heritage calligraphy artist. In 1989 she received her pen name "Shoko (brilliant light)" from Harada Kanpou, the founder of Nihon Shuji. She began practicing her art in the Kanpou hall in NYC from 1996, and proposed an "opera calligraphy performance" through art therapy and music therapy. In addition to the Soho Puffin Gallery and NY Orensanz Museum, she guest appeared in numerous art shows in Japan and the US and received favourable reviews. She is currently concentrating her efforts on raising the next generation of artists and promulgating artistic cultural technique.



Table for Two Onigiri Action Workshop



Jennifer Swanson Tea Ceremony Workshop

Jennifer Swanson grew up in CA and got her BA at UC San Diego. She lived in Japan in the 90s for 6 years on the JET program and working for Japanese companies. She has been practicing Omotesenke Tea Ceremony in the DC area for about 8 years. She is now a private tutor of Japanese and English and teaches part time at Japan America Society, Arlington Community Learning and other schools.

Table for Two USA Edamame Champ Workshop and Onigiri Action Workshop

TABLE FOR TWO USA (TFT) is a 501(C)(3) organization addressing the global food imbalance through a unique meal-sharing program. TFT partners with corporations, restaurants, schools and other food establishments to serve healthy TFT- branded meals. For each one of these healthy meals served, \$0.25 is donated to provide one school meal for a child in need.

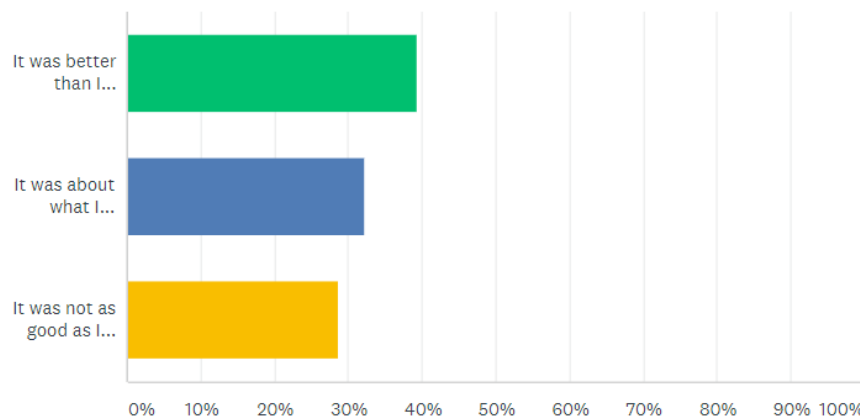
Table for Two is a regular partner of the JASWDC Cooking School.

全米ジャパン・ボウル学生調査

2020 NATIONAL JAPAN BOWL STUDENT SURVEY

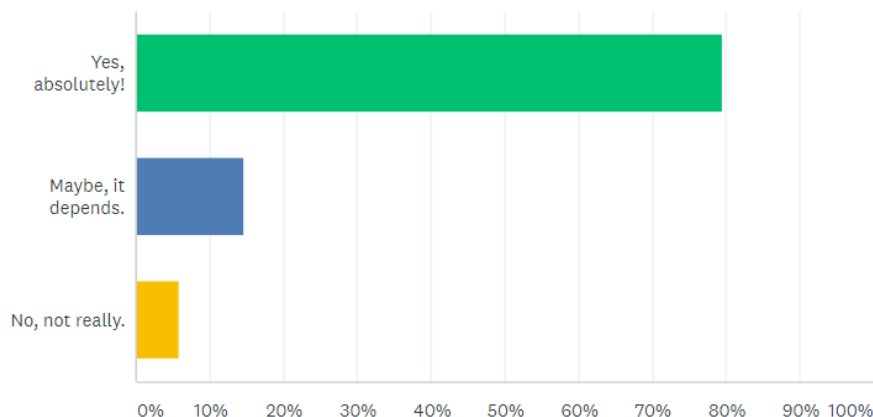
If this is the first time you participated in the NJB, how did the overall experience compare to your expectations?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 24



For everyone who competed at Level 2 or Level 3 -- Would you like to come back to the National Japan Bowl next year?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 18



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Truly we're going through a tough time, and so I'd like to say thank you for allowing us to still go through the experience of this event. Although it couldn't match the in-person Japan Bowl, I still believe my team had a fun time.
- After a year of studying, I'm glad that we were able to compete digitally. The event went smoothly and was well-organized-- I'm looking forward to competing again next year!
- After 4 years, I just want to say thank you for making my experience wonderful. In college, I will be majoring in Japanese and I plan on becoming a teacher and maybe I will come and help out at Japan Bowl in the future. 本当にありがとうございました。



THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

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Digital Japan Bowl Promotional Poster



Announcement of finalists for the Digital Japan Bowl

全米ジャパン・ボウル® 大会について

現在米国では、中高生レベルの日本語学習者が最も多く、7万人を越えるという統計が出ています（国際交流基金2016年）。

本大会は、全米各地で日本語を学んでいる高校生が、日本語能力のみならず日本の文化・習慣・歴史・地理・時事・日米関係など、幅広い分野について競い合うクイズボウル形式の全米大会です。

参加者は日本語学習年数によって3つのレベルに分かれ、3人1組で大会に臨みます。予選では50問が出題され、合計点で各レベルの上位3チームが全米優勝決定戦に進みます。予選から優勝決定戦まで、知識のみならず、応用能力、スピード、チームの団結力等が要求されます。また言語と文化を結び付け、さまざまな角度から「日本」について学習できる機会としても特徴的です。

アメリカで、日本語を外国語として学ぶ高校生を支援する教育活動の一環として毎年開催しており、日本語学習を楽しみ、日本への関心を更に高め、大学においても日本語学習を継続してもらうことが目的とされています。日米間の草の根親善促進、未来の架け橋となる人材育成につながることも期待されています。

毎年大会参加者の95%以上が、大学でも日本語や日本文化を勉強したいと答えています。また半数以上が日本の企業や機関で働きたい、80%が日本とビジネスする米国企業で働きたいと答えています。

学生にとっては、ジャパンボウルは楽しい経験だけではなく、チャレンジする機会でもあります。



THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY
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