



Japan Future Leaders School 日本の次世代リーダー養成塾

<How the school started>

Japan Future Leaders School was first started in summer 2004 in Fukuoka as a two-week summer school to raise future leaders representative of Japan in many fields. The headmaster is Mr. Sadayuki Sakakibara, chairman of Nippon Keidanren (Japan Business Federation). There was strong agreement from both the business community and local governments that education for future generations is crucial. After holding the 13th summer school in 2016, we now have 2,242 alumni.

<How we choose participants >

Every year we choose the 170 brightest and most enthusiastic high-school students from all over Japan by essay and interview. In 2016, we invited 17 students from other Asian countries to encourage mutual understanding through face to face communication among young generation.

<What we do at the school>

Students stay for two weeks in nature-surrounded dormitories at Global Arena in Munakata city, Fukuoka prefecture. Every year, about 25 lecturers come to Global Arena to share their knowledge and experience



with the students. Scholars who represent the top of such fields as international studies, Japanese history and culture, as well as business leaders, athletes and artists, are the lecturers. Each lecture consists of a 60 minutes speech and 30 minutes of Q&A. After each lecture, to deepen the thoughts on each topic, students have 90-minute discussions in groups (each group consisting of about 25 students). Facilitators of the discussion are businessmen and -women from supporting companies. For two weeks, students learn liberal arts and leadership and think about what they can do for Japan and the world.

We also have a special program for students to design "future Asia" which is called "Asia High School Summit". This program is not only to imagine the future, but actually make action plan to realize what they would like the world to be. They try to use all of their knowledge, skills and last but not least their spirit to try to understand each other. This program requires leadership, mutual respect, cooperation, discussion, planning, decision making etc. Their experience to try to think about the world as if they are the leaders of the world make them aware of a lot of challenges that they would like to solve or improve in a multicultural society.



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