第十九回日本語コンテスト

**19th ANNUAL**

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE CONTEST**

Dear Japanese Language & Culture Teachers and Colleagues:

Please mark your calendars for the ***19th Annual Japanese Language Contest scheduled*** for ***Sunday, April 23rd, 2017*** from 9:30 a.m.

The 2017 HAJAS Language Committee is happy to coordinate with the Independence Japanese Sister City Committee. This year’s venue is the Roger T. Sermon Center, 201 N Dodgion St, Independence, Mo 64050. Our contest will be held concurrently with the ***Annual Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival*** (Sakura Matsuri) which will run until 4 p.m., giving the students opportunities to experience Japanese culture outside the classroom.

Our area Japanese teachers and the HAJAS continue to work together to provide this opportunity for friendly competition and networking so that your students can showcase their Japanese knowledge and enjoy meeting other students from across the region. This year’s events include: the **Karuta** Competition for all students in their first year of study (elementary/middle school, high school, and college divisions); **Quiz Bowl** Team Competitions for high school and college age teams; **Shodo-Calligraphy**; and **Haiku**. The ***deadline for entries, including mail-in categories, is April 7, 2017***.

There are some items that we need to point out:

1. The ***Haiku*** ***and Shodo-Calligraphy Contests*** are ***mail-in*** events. The deadline for these entries is the same as the registration date: **April 7, 2017.**
2. The ***Haiku*** Poem is a 17-syllable poem with the following pattern of syllables: 5,7,5. The theme this year is **EXPERIENCES**. Poems will be accepted in either English or Japanese. Any student (elementary age – college) is welcome to participate.
3. The ***Japan Quiz Bowl*** is a team competition. All students in high school – college are encouraged to participate.
4. The ***Karuta Tournament*** is open to all students elementary – college. The instructions for the tournament are attached.
5. Special Parking will be designated the day of the event for language contest participants across the street from the Sermon Center.
6. Entry into the Cherry Blossom Festival is included with your entry fee. Non-registered supporters must pay the festival entry at registration. ($3 each)

Please review the attached documents for additional information about the events.

If you know of any other teachers or individual students who might be interested in any of the contest events, please pass this information along to them. Or, if you let us know, we will add them to our mailing/email list. For more information please contact our chairperson:

Tracie Whiting-Kipper: [2017kcjlanguagecontest@gmail.com](mailto:2017kcjlanguagecontest@gmail.com)

The 19th Annual Japanese Language Contest is co-hosted by the Heart of America Japan-America Society, the Independence Japanese Sister City Committee. Our sponsors include the Consulate General of Japan and the JET Alumni Association.

第十九回日本語コンテスト

**19th ANNUAL**

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE CONTEST**

**Sunday, April 7, 2017**

**Roger T. Sermon Center, 201 N Dodgion St, Independence, Mo 64050**

**Co-Hosted by the Heart of America Japan America Society and the Independence Japanese Sister City Committee; and sponsored by the Consulate General of Japan at Chicago and the JET Alumni Association**

Check-in/Registration: 9:30

Contest & Festival Events: 10:00 – 4:00

**(Times are guidelines. Some events will run simultaneously.**

**Contestants must be available 30 min prior to their event)**

10:00 Welcome Address in Auditorium

Greeting from HAJAS and JSCC

Introduction of Instructors, Judges and Special Guests

10:30 Karuta Competition-Preliminary Rounds

11:30 Quiz Bowl

1:00 Karuta Final round

3:30 Awards & announcement of mail-in winners in Auditorium

**Enjoy the Independence Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival throughout the day!**

**YOKI HAJAS BAZAAR JSCC BAZAAR BOOTHS BENTO LUNCHES &MORE**

**For further information, please contact:** Tracie Whiting-Kipper: [2017kcjlanguagecontest@gmail.com](mailto:2017kcjlanguagecontest@gmail.com)

**Registration deadline: April 7, 2017**

**Registration fee: $15 - (Includes Special Contest T-shirt & Festival Entry Ticket)**

第十九回日本語コンテスト

**19th ANNUAL**

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE CONTEST**

**Registration / Entry Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Please clearly write the information requested:** | |
| Name |  |
| Address |  |
| City, State, Zip |  |
| E-MAIL: ***REQUIRED!*** |  |
| Contact phone numbers |  |
| School Name where you study |  |
| Age / Year in school |  |
| Japanese 先生 (Teacher) |  |
| Circle the semester of Japanese you are currently enrolled in if applicable: | **0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8** |
| Adult T-Shirt Size | **XS S M L XL XXL** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **`** | **Select the events you are entering: $15 entry fee covers all Language Events, Festival and a FREE T-SHIRT!**  **You can enter both mail-in events & April 23rd events for only $15.** | | | | | |
| Elementary & Middle School | HE-EM  \_\_\_\_\_ Mail-In ***Haiku***  ***English\****  Attach your Haiku entry  Experiences Theme | HJ-EM  \_\_\_\_\_ ***Mail-in Haiku***  ***Japanese\****  Attach your Haiku entry  Experiences Theme | K1  \_\_\_\_\_ ***Karuta***  Elementary / Middle School participants | | Image result for cherry blossom jpg |
| HS & College | HE-HSC  \_\_\_\_\_ Mail-In ***Haiku***  ***English\****  Attach your Haiku entry  Experiences Theme | HJ-HSC  \_\_\_\_\_ ***Mail-in Haiku***  ***Japanese\****  Attach your Haiku entry  Experiences Theme | K2  \_\_\_\_\_ ***Karuta***  High School | K3  \_\_\_\_\_ ***Karuta***  College | QB  \_\_\_\_\_ ***Quiz Bowl*** |
| Open Division | C  \_\_\_\_\_ Mail-In ***Calligraphy\****  see choices  Attach your entry | ***Calligraphy choices:***  **さくら　　酉　　桜　　永久** | | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Register on-line at kcjas.org or by mail:  Attach $15 Entry Fee. Make check payable to:  HAJAS (language contest in memo)  You will receive confirmation of entry receipt by email. | Attach mail-in entries and mail to:  Heart of America Japan-America Society, P.O. Box 22487 Kansas City, MO 64113-2487  *Entry Deadline: April 7, 2017.* |

第十九回日本語コンテスト

**19th ANNUAL**

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE CONTEST**

**2017 Registration / Entry Form Checklist**

**\_\_\_\_\_** Completed Registration / Entry Form with **$15** Entry Fee

* + - **Make Checks Payable to**: **JAS or register & pay on-line at kcjas.org**
    - **For checks, please write “Japanese Language Contest” on the memo line**

\_\_\_\_\_ \*Enclose ***Calligraphy*** and/or ***Haiku***, (either Japanese or English),

Calligraphy and Haiku entries must be mailed in with the registration forms.   
April 23rd events registrations can be made by mail or on-line (kcjas.org)

Registrations must be postmarked by April 7, 2017

On-line registration will close on April 7, 2017

第十九回日本語コンテスト

**19th ANNUAL**

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE CONTEST**

**Guidelines**

**Karuta Tournament**: All elementary and middle school students regardless of language experience, and High School and College students in their first year of formal Japanese language study may enter. Contestants will test their recognition skills in Hiragana and Katakana (elementary and middle school students will have only hiragana). The tournament will be a single elimination bracket where players are randomly paired with an opponent. Each match will have a single winner who will advance to the next round until only two players remain for the title match. A detailed explanation is attached.

**Quiz Bowl:** High School and college teams comprised of 3 members each will compete by answering questions about Japan. Most questions and answers will be in English but some will require Japanese language ability. Topics include geography, history, cultural arts, pop culture and language. The 2016 Japan Bowl study guide can be found here:  
 <http://www.jaswdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/2016_National_Japan_Bowl_Study_Guide.pdf>

**Haiku Contest:** Any level of student may enter. Judging criteria for the Haiku Contest whether in Japanese or English will be: Correct format (5-7-5 Syllables). Theme: Experiences.

**Shodo/Calligraphy Contest:** Any level of student may enter. Each contestant may enter a maximum of two calligraphy samples in the contest (same or different characters). Hanshi, or Japanese calligraphy paper, must be used. (The size of the paper must be 13” x 9 1/2 “.) Contestants must use proper side of Hanshi and a calligraphy brush specifically intended for Japanese calligraphy. A small brush is to be used for the name of the calligrapher. As for ink, use Bokuju, or India ink. Calligraphy entries must be submitted by April 7, 2017. Judges will check for proper strokes and brush movement, including proper tome, harai and hane elements. Judges will also look for appropriate thickness of the strokes and overall balance of the character on the page. Character choices for 2017 are: **さくら　　酉　　桜　　永久**

第十九回日本語コンテスト

**19th ANNUAL**

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE CONTEST**

**Shodo Contest**

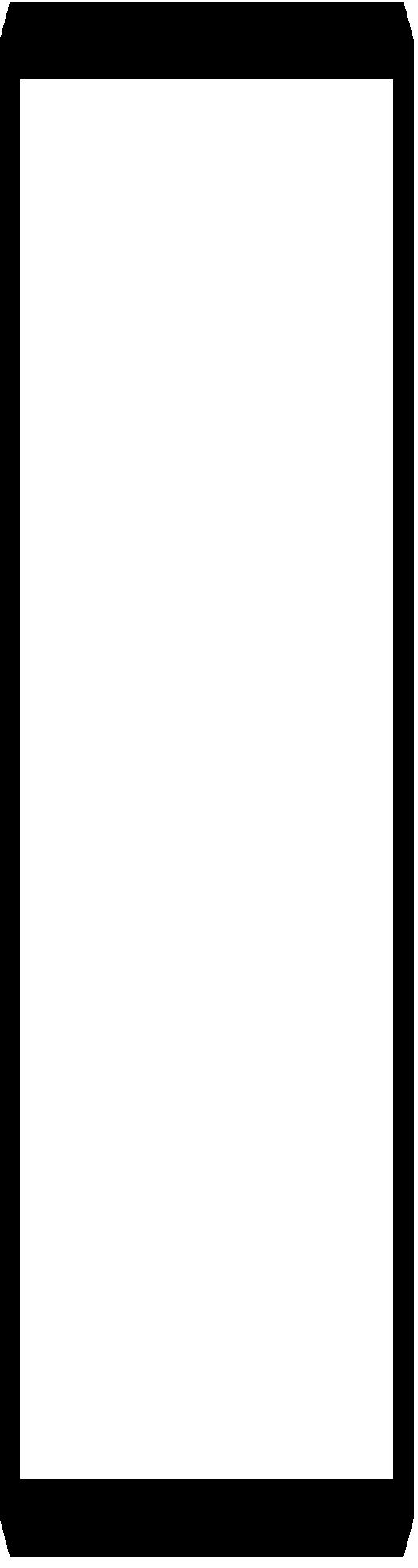
**Shodo Calligraphy Choices  
\*Please choose up to two of the following characters to submit**

|  |
| --- |
| **さくら　　 酉　　 桜　　 永久** |

Example

春

Your name here.



**Attach this to the bottom of each Shodo entry form (max. 2)**

**2017 Japanese Language Contest**

**Shodo Entry Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Your Name** |  |
| **Your School** |  |
| **Your Teacher** |  |
| **Character Chosen** |  |

**Attach this to the bottom of each Shodo entry form (max. 2)**

**2017 Japanese Language Contest**

**Shodo Entry Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Your Name** |  |
| **Your School** |  |
| **Your Teacher** |  |
| **Character Chosen** |  |

第十九回日本語コンテスト

**19th ANNUAL**

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE CONTEST**

**Haiku Contest**

**Haiku Contest Theme: Experiences**

**provide English Translation of Haiku written in Japanese**

**2017 Japanese Language Contest**

**Haiku Entry Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Your Name** |  |
| **Your School** |  |
| **Your Teacher** |  |
| **Your Haiku Title** |  |

第十九回日本語コンテスト

**19th ANNUAL**

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE CONTEST**

**Karuta Tournament Rules**

**Single elimination bracket:** The tournament will be a single elimination bracket where players are randomly paired with an opponent. Each match will have a single winner who will advance to the next round. This will continue until only two players remain for the title match

**Tournament Play Setup:**

1) The Karuta game is between two players, who sit on the floor facing each other. First they bow and say Yoroshiku onegaishimasu. The Karuta game begins with a bow, and finishes with a bow, Politeness is very important.

2) The Yomi-fuda (Reader) put all the Tori-fuda (playing cards) on floor facing down, and mix them up well. Then the Yomi-fuda will divide the cards between each player.

3) Each player will place their cards face up in front of them in no more than 3 rows.

4) After each player places the cards, the Yomi-fuda times a 2-minute period for the players to memorize the placement of their cards and their opponent cards.

5) When memorization time is over, the Yomi-fuda declares the beginning of the game. Players bow to each other saying yoroshiku onegai shimasu, and bow to the Yomi-fuda.

**Tournament Play:**

1) The rounds will alternate between hiragana and katakana character karuta. (elementary and middle school students will only have hiragana) The title match will be a combination of hiragana and katakana words. The Yomi-fuda will read the hiragana or katakana word. The players are listening for the first character read and are trying to get the correct picture card first. The Yomi-fuda will repeat the word until the card is chosen.

2) Immediately after identifying the character, the players compete to take the matching Tori-fuda as fast as they can.

3) In order to get the card one is to touch the correct card first. You may NOT swipe out an entire row as pictured. The player who takes the correct card and shows it to the Yomi-fuda first keeps it as a point. The Yomi-fuda will be the referee in awarding points.

4) In the case of a tie, players will Janken for the point (rock paper scissors)

5) The winner is the player with the most points. There will be an uneven number of cards so ties will not be possible. The winner will advance to the next round in the bracket. The title match will be played under the same rules and setup, the only difference will be the cards will be a mix of hiragana and katakana words, not just one set at a time. The title round is tentatively scheduled for 1:00 Final instructions will be sent shortly after April 7 when all registrations have been received.