



The 38th ONTARIO JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST

<http://buna.arts.yorku.ca/ojsc/>

1. Time & Venue

Saturday, February 29, 2020, 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
J.J.R. MacLeod Auditorium (MS2158), University of Toronto
1 King's College Circle, Toronto, Ontario

2. Hosted by:

The Organizing Committee for the Ontario Japanese Speech Contest
(Department of East Asian Studies, University of Toronto)

Supported by:

The Consulate General of Japan
The Japan Foundation

3. Qualifications:

All applicants must:

- 1) be 18 years of age or older.
- 2) reside in Ontario.
- 3) have been studying Japanese as a foreign language.

Notes:

- All contestants must submit their speech to the Organizing Committee by email by 9 am one day before the contest.
- All contestants must register at the reception desk by the predetermined time on the day of the contest.
- All contestants must attend the closing session.
- If any concerns arise regarding a contestant's qualifications, the judging committee's decision will be final. The Organizing Committee will consider requesting the return of awards even after the contest has concluded if a false application is discovered or his/her performance is later regarded as having been dishonest.

4. Program Affiliation:

- 1) Those who study Japanese at multiple institutions must apply from the institution to which they belonged/attended the longest.
- 2) In the event that there is a Japanese program in the applicant's present institution although the applicant is not enrolled in the program, he/she must still be screened through that institution.
- 3) Those who do not have an affiliation with any Japanese institution/program may also apply. Please note that, however, applicants with a program affiliation will be given priority if we have a greater number of applications than the limit for each category.

5. Categories:

Please see the conditions for each category below. Hours of studying Japanese also includes hours of studying at primary and secondary school. There is a limit to the maximum number of participants for each category from each institution. The limit will be decided and announced by the Organizing Committee based on the results of an institutional survey conducted each year prior to the limit being set. Please refer to the website for details on our calculation of institution size and the number of eligible students per institution.

	Beginners	Intermediate	Advanced	Open
Japanese spoken at home	None	None	None	No limit
Length of studying Japanese	less than 130 hours	less than 260 hours	No limit	No limit
Length of staying in Japan from the age of six	3 months or less	6 months or less	Less than 1 year	No limit

Notes:

- All qualifications must be met by the applicants as of February 28, 2020.
- Past winners of the Grand Prize or the First Prize should not participate in the same category in which the prize was won.
- Learners of Japanese who have experience in teaching Japanese either formally or informally must apply in the Open Category.
- Those who do not know which category they are eligible for should inquire with the Organizing Committee by email before they apply.

6. Regulations:

- 1) Contestants are free to choose the title and subject of their speech. Preferred subjects are those related to Canada and Japan.
- 2) Speeches must be written by the contestants.
- 3) Contestants are allowed to prepare and use cue cards but they may be penalized if they depend on them excessively.
- 4) Speeches must not include the name of the institution to which the contestant belongs.

7. Speech Length:

- 1) Three minutes in the Beginner category, and four minutes in all other categories.
- 2) Those who exceed the above limits will be subjected to a penalty.

8. Evaluation:

- 1) There will be a panel of five judges composed of individuals from varying fields related to Japan.
- 2) The Organizing Committee is not involved in decision making.
- 3) The assessment criteria are provided on the homepage.

9. Certificates and Prizes:

Winners in each category will be awarded prizes and certificates.

10. Participation in the National Japanese Speech Contest:

The first prize winner in each category may be invited to attend the 29th National Japanese Speech Contest, which will be held at the Japan Foundation, Toronto, on Sunday, March 29, 2020.

11. Application:

Online Forms (To be made available in January 2020 at <http://buna.yorku.ca/ojsc/>)

Application Form: Must be filled out by applicants

Reference Form: Must be filled out by the representative of the Japanese institution/program to which the applicants belong.

Deadline: **Reference Form: No later than 5:00 pm, Monday, February 3, 2020**

Application Form: No later than 5:00pm, Wednesday, February 5, 2020

Result announcement: Results will be announced by e-mail by Wednesday, February 12, 2020

Notes:

- No Reference Form will be required for those who do not have an affiliation with any Japanese institution/program. Instead, the organizing committee will conduct an interview either in person or online within a few days after the application deadline to determine the applicant's appropriate category.
- If you do not receive a confirmation email from the Organizing Committee within 48 hours after submission of your application, please contact the Committee.

12. Contact

Organizing Committee for the 38th Ontario Japanese Speech Contest

Email: ojsc.committee@gmail.com