

## 2016 Application Guide for Uchina Junior Study Program Participants

### 1. Aim of the Program

To educate the next generation that will take charge of the World Uchina Network. Through studying Okinawan history, culture, nature and more side-by-side, participants from both within the prefecture and abroad can deepen their understanding of, and bond with, their mother prefecture, Okinawa.

### 2. Program Details

(1) Program date: Sunday, July 31<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Planned arrival in Okinawa: Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Participants will homestay with relatives until July 30<sup>th</sup>.

Planned return: Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> from Naha International Airport. Participants will homestay with relatives between the end of the program (August 6) and their scheduled return date.

\*Extending length of stay in Okinawa is not permitted.

(2) Study program

#### 1. Learning about nature

Participants will learn about the importance of the plants, animals, and other natural characteristics of Okinawa while directly experiencing them.

#### 2. Learning about history

Participants will visit Okinawa's historical sites and experience the history and mystique of the former Ryukyu Kingdom.

#### 3. Learning about culture (experiencing traditional crafts/performing arts)

Participants will experience the culture of handicrafts and performing arts born from Okinawan history.

#### 4. Study of peace

Participants will think about the meaning of peace while going around past battle sites and various other places in Okinawa.

#### 5. Study of society

Participants will experience daily Okinawan life, and learn about Okinawa's present situation.

#### 6. Immigrant and Immigration Studies

Participants will reaffirm and rediscover their Okinawan identities by learning about the history of Okinawan immigrants, immigration, and the Uchinanchu Taikai.

### (3) Other

1. During the first day's orientation, participants will share stories about their families who have immigrated to different areas.
2. Participants will engage with each other via the use of social networking services
3. Participants will fill out surveys throughout the program, and submit an essay on their thoughts after completion of the program.

### 3. Participant Numbers

Participants from overseas: 20

Overseas Youth Leader: 1

Participants from Okinawa: 20

Participants from within Japan, outside Okinawa: 2

Okinawan Youth Leader: 1

Total: 44 (Planned)

### 4. Requirements for Participation

#### (1) Profile

1. Uchina descended
2. Those meeting the conditions below may NOT participate:
  - \*Participated in the Junior Study Tour from 2001 - 2011.
  - \*Participated in Uchina Junior Study in 2012 – 2015.
3. As of April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, applicant must be enrolled in middle or high school, and be from 13 to 19 years of age.

#### (2) Qualifications

1. Youths who are healthy and capable of living as part of a group.
2. Youths recommended by their Kenjinkai chairman as someone who will lead the Uchina Network in the future.
3. Youths who can enter a public bath.  
(Due to the possibility that the group may lodge in a facility with no private showers)
4. Youths who can, during the times below, homestay with relatives in Okinawa.
  - \*July 24<sup>th</sup> (upon arrival) to July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (day before program begins)
  - \*August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (program end) to the day of the participants' flight home.
  - \*Responsibility for homestay locations will be borne by each participant's kenjinkai.
5. Youths who are capable of reaching Naha Airport by airplane from their homes.  
(Okinawa Prefecture will arrange for someone to assist them at layover airports.)
6. Youths active on social networks before, during, and after the program, and who can engage actively in exchange with other participants from each country.

### (3) Language ability

So that participants can be fully engaged during their time on the program, youths with at least some Japanese ability are preferred.

### (4) Expenses borne by Okinawa Prefecture

1. Round trip, economy-class flight between the participant's closest international airport and Naha Airport.
2. Lodging, food, travel insurance, and entrance fees during the program (July 31<sup>th</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>)

### 5. Documents, etc. Necessary for Application

#### (1) Necessary documents

1. Recommendation letter (form 1)
2. Candidate's application forms (forms 2-1, 2-2)
3. Essay (form 3, about 800 characters)

Topic: Write About "My Uchinanchu Identity"

\*One essay per applicant

Other than forms 1 and 2, the indicated places must be filled in Japanese. Form 3 (essay) should have an attached version, translated into Japanese, provided by each kenjinkai.

#### (2) Submissions Deadline:

Applications must have arrived at the address below by Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Japan time. No exceptions.

#### (3) Send applications to:

Exchange Promotion Division,  
Department of Culture, Tourism and Sports  
Okinawa Prefectural Government  
1-2-2 Izumizaki, Naha, Okinawa, 900-8570  
TEL: +81-98-866-2479  
E-mail: [aa050400@pref.okinawa.lg.jp](mailto:aa050400@pref.okinawa.lg.jp)

\*Should you apply by e-mail, please send documents formatted for Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Office Excel, or in PDF form.

\*We encourage e-mail submissions.

### 6. Other Notices

(1) This application is not always a guarantee of participation.

(2) Okinawa Prefecture, upon reviewing the applications, will determine who will participate and then release the information.

- (3) Kenjinkai will take responsibility for mentoring participants from application to submission of the essay participants will write at the end of the program. Also, kenjinkai will translate and attach a Japanese version of the application essay.
  
- (4) The days presently planned for arrival, departure, and homestay, may change.
  
- (5) Any personal information gathered as part of this application will be used in selecting and contacting applicants, and providing them with information relevant to the Uchina Junior Study Program. Additionally, to ensure the smooth carrying-out of the program, this information will also be provided to the program's contractors, participants, and staff. This information will be handled appropriately and only within the scope of its intended use.