

# NIHONGO

MARYSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

MARYSVILLE, OH

SPRING 2015

**STUDENT  
AWARDS**  
#1 IN  
OHIO

**YORII  
JAPAN**  
STUDENT  
EXCHANGE  
PROGRAM

**PROGRAM  
EXPANSION**

**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**  
EXPLORATORY  
**ECHS**  
JAPANESE I & II

**FEATURED  
ARTICLES**

**DR. MICHAEL TANGEMAN**  
DENISON UNIVERSITY

**AKISA FUKUZAWA**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF JASCO

**AMANDA ROLLINS**  
JAPAN FOUNDATION





**DR. MICHAEL  
TANGEMAN**  
DENISON UNIVERSITY

On January 16, 2015, overcoming Ohio snow and his own misguided sense of direction, Dr. Michael Tangeman from Denison University visited the Japanese

classes of Iya Nemastil-sensei at Marysville High School. Michael was impressed with the Japanese realia in Iya-sensei's classroom, a learning environment that has received national recognition. The energy of the students was contagious, even if their puzzling but genuine fascination with the sound of words such as momo ('peach') left him somewhat baffled.

He spoke about his passion for teaching Japanese language and literature at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, and shared the locations and professions of some recent graduates who have studied Japanese with him: teaching English in Kyushu, Japan; working in international relations in New York City; teaching English in Korea; graduate school in Osaka, Japan; teaching English in China; law school in Boston.

He also brought in artwork created by students from one of his literature classes. A wooden book featuring original poetry and artwork burned into the 'pages,' and a print of a ghostly mother cradling her child made the rounds among the curious MHS students.

Dr. Tangeman remembers the visit fondly, in particular the exchanges he was able to have with individual students in the quieter moments after the classes.

Study Japanese! You never know where it will take you!



**ALEJANDRO  
HERNANDEZ**  
SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

When I first came to Marysville High School in my sophomore year the first thing I asked was "is there a Japanese course" and to my disappointment the school

did not teach Japanese at the time. I was not interested in learning Spanish considering it is my first language and to be honest, I didn't think French would be applicable to my life. At the end of my junior year I was very excited to hear that there was going to be a Japanese course the following school year, and I was able to meet my Japanese teacher before anyone else. A couple of students and I were asked to give our opinion of the interview for our new Japanese teacher. We all agreed that Ms. Iya looked intimidating, but we all knew we would learn a lot from her. To my astonishment, she ended up being one of the nicest people I have ever met in my life.

I am amazed at how much we have all learned in one year of the Japanese course. I am honestly jealous of all the freshmen who will get to learn Japanese for four years. Unlike most of the classes I took this year I can remember everything from the first day of Japanese class because having the right teacher is very important. Every day I looked forward to going to class because it was fun, interactive, and everyone had to participate. I did not take the class because I just needed the credits, or because I wanted an easy grade. I took it because I truly wanted to learn. I did not even need the credits. I had more credits than I needed to graduate, but the class was still fun and going to class did not feel like a chore because I knew I would learn something new that would help me better my Japanese speaking skills.

Learning Japanese was an amazing experience and worth checking out because as a result of learning another language another door for a job opportunity opens, and it also opens your mind to a different culture, different ways of thinking, and different ways of doing things. This class inspired me to learn more each and every day in hopes of creating a better future for myself. The only complaint I have about this class is that I couldn't stay longer.



## Bring the World Home this Summer!

CCI Greenheart is currently seeking volunteer host families for Japanese exchange students in  
**Columbus, Ohio**

**July 18<sup>th</sup>–August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### Your student will...

- Come with a group of 24 Japanese students
- Participate in full-day group excursions on Wednesdays and English classes on the other weekdays (9AM-2PM at Linworth Road Church; early drop-offs and late pickups up to 5:30 PM can be arranged to accommodate families' work schedules)
- Share meals, traditions, and daily conversations with you
- Arrive with his/her own medical insurance and spending money
- Continue on to be a high school student in the U.S. for the school year after this short-term

### You will...

- Provide a secure and caring home for a teenaged student (ages 15-18) from Japan (you get to choose your student); families with or without children are welcome to apply
- Learn about Japanese culture and share American culture
- Receive ongoing support from your CCI Greenheart Local Coordinator
- Make an international friend
- Participate in excursions, if you like



(2014 Japanese Short Term Group and Host Families, Columbus, OH)  
Photo Credit: Belinda Jean Photography



Photo Credit: Belinda Jean Photography



Please contact **Stacy Johns** for more information  
Email: [stacyjohns@gmail.com](mailto:stacyjohns@gmail.com) Phone: 419-304-2595



## MEGAN CHURCH

### SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Senior year is usually the year students take classes just for fun. So when I heard that Japanese was being offered, I was excited to sign up for it. I've always harbored an interest in Asian cultures and languages and knew I wanted to somehow incorporate such into my future, but wasn't sure just how. Going into Japanese, I expected it to be like the other language classes I had taken throughout high school where you learn primarily grammar in the first year along with some vocabulary words, enough to string together broken sentences. I couldn't have been more wrong. What I discovered was that the class was fast paced and Sensei hardly ever speaks English in the classroom which helps me as student enhance my understanding of the language.

In the past nine months I have learned immense amounts of not only grammar, but vocabulary as well. Enough so that last month when I had the opportunity to spend a day with two Japanese exchange students from OU I was able to hold simple conversation with them, something I'd never been able to do before. Beyond that, my Japanese class has grown to be something I love so much that I am minoring in the subject in college starting this fall and want to teach English in Japan after college. I will be forever grateful for the opportunities I have acquired through this program.



## GEMA SALGADO CRUZ

### JUNIOR HIGHLIGHT

On my first day of Japanese class, I didn't know what to expect. With so many complaints from other students taking foreign language classes, I was skeptical as to how well I would learn Japanese in a high school course. However, I am now pleased to say that signing up for Japanese is one of the best decisions I have made in the entirety of my high school career.

Prior to Japanese class, I felt intimidated by East Asian tongues. It seemed that learning languages such as Japanese would be impossible for someone accustomed to speaking English and Spanish. I was convinced that expanding my bilingualism would be limited to Romance languages. Now, with the teachings of an intelligent, encouraging teacher such as Iya Sensei, I no longer put limits on myself as to what I can learn. If anything, Japanese class has helped me in deciding what career I want to pursue in the future. In addition to that, Japanese class has become much more than school credit for me, especially now that I am able to see how much I have learned in one school year. Japanese class opened a window of opportunity for me, making me feel confident and competent in my speaking abilities. With this new confidence, I plan on continuing my Japanese studies in college in hopes of one day visiting Japan.

## JAPANESE BOOT CAMP



Do you need help with Japanese? Are you transitioning into high school? Do you need some review? Or are you just interested in some extra practice? Join us for a week of intensive Japanese camp! Practice the language through hands-on and interactive activities while further developing your Japanese skills right before the school year starts!

**WHEN:** July 27th – July 30th

**WHERE:** MHS Room C202

**TIME:** 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm, Mon - Thur

**COST:** \$25 per student

**Register at MHS Main Office by June 16!\***

\* a minimum of 10 students must be enrolled for camp to take place



# Camp OFLA 2015

The Ohio Foreign Language Association (OFLA) has been operating a non-profit, one-week sleep away foreign language camp for elementary students for the past 11 years. Japanese was offered in the first few years of the program, and is being offered again this summer.

Camp OFLA is a wonderful experience. It not only introduces younger learners to World Languages, but also provides experience for our high school student learners, who serve as camp counselors during the week.

Full and partial scholarships are available for students in need. Students should be (entering) in grades 3-8 to participate. Additional details can be found at the Camp OFLA website.

**Website:** [www.CampOFLA.org](http://www.CampOFLA.org)

**Languages:** French, German,  
**Japanese,** & Spanish

**Who:** Grades 3-8

**When:** June 14-20, 2015

**Early Bird Price:** \$475 through May 1

**Regular Price:** \$495 after May 1

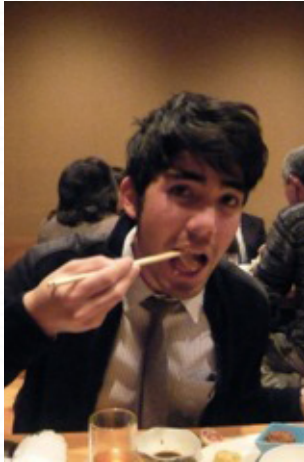
**Where:** Pilgrim Hills  
33833 Township Road 20  
Brinkhaven, OH 43006

## KAYLYNN BORROR SOPHOMORE REVIEW



Students look up to their teachers in similar ways that they look up to their peers. I mean, if you ask an adult who their favorite teacher was in school, normally they have at least one they've remembered after all these years. When you look at a language class, it can be a rather intimidating subject for some students. Iya Sensei is great with involving the entire class in what she's talking about. Sure, sometimes it can be hard to understand when you don't know exactly what's going on, but Sensei is great at trying to get the point across with physical actions and pointing at a key word or picture. It really involves you in the language. Sure, there are vocabulary words and grammar keys that can be tough to get down, but the way Iya Sensei goes through them makes them memorable. Sometimes she'll come up with a small joke off the top of her head or another student will come up with something creative, and that sticks in your head.

Another thing I love about the Japanese program at this school is Iya Sensei's work ethic. A student doesn't care if the teacher doesn't care, but Sensei cares an awful lot. I came into this class half way through the school year. Whenever that happens to a student, they have a lot of trouble catching up to the rest of the class. Iya Sensei changed that mentality, though. Even though I came half way through the year, she started me on the first unit and I did my own thing while everyone else was participating in the current unit. When I learned how to read the alphabets, sometimes Iya Sensei will call on me during classes and let me read aloud a word or two when she asks "Kore wa nan desu ka?" It's a small action, but stuff like that means the world to me. I know that Iya Sensei is stressed about her classes 24/7, but she cares. Japanese is a wonderful and exciting language, and I believe everyone should get a chance to experience something like this.



# SAKAMOTO SENSEI

**BUNSOLD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Year One** - First, I had a great time working with all my students at Bunsold this past year. I appreciate all their hard work and I wish

them all the best with Level II Japanese. I would also like to express my gratitude to all that attended or helped with the Evening of Japanese Culture event in April. Thanks to everyone involved, I think the event was as success in both raising funds for the student exchange program and bringing Japanese culture to the Marysville community.



**Student Exchange Program** - The new student exchange program with Marysville's sister city in Japan, Yorii-machi, will begin this summer. In early July, seven Marysville students will be departing on a 15-day trip that includes homestays with Japanese families, attending Japanese schools, and spending three days sightseeing in Tokyo. Marysville will send students every other summer, so if you're interested your next chance will be 2017. And just a heads up, we will be looking for Marysville families that would like to host Japanese students when they come here in August, 2016!



**7th Grade Japanese** - In addition to the Level II Japanese course, the Japanese program will also be offering a new "exploratory" class for 7th graders at Bunsold Middle School. The class will be a one-trimester unified arts elective class. It will be a fun way for 7th graders to sample studying a foreign language and a great opportunity to get a head start on Japanese for any student who plans on taking it as an 8th grader.





# Educational Tours

Watch videos, read reviews and enroll on your teacher's Tour Website

[eftours.com/](http://eftours.com/)  
**1689159MP**









This is also your tour number

## JAPAN: LAND OF THE RISING SUN

9 or 11 days | Japan

Japan has had many identities through the centuries; its story is a fascinating one. Tokyo is the modern-day center of pop culture and business, while Kyoto remains the most traditional of the big cities. The country has unsurpassed natural beauty—see it from the window of the high-speed shinkansen train and in the majestic lakes and mountains of Hakone National Park.

### EVERYTHING YOU GET:

-  **Full-time Tour Director**
-  **Sightseeing:** 2 sightseeing tours led by expert, licensed local guides (3 with extension); 1 walking tour
-  **Entrances:** Meiji Shinto Shrine; Asakusa Kannon Temple; Tokyo National Museum; Hachimangu Shrine; Lake Hakone cruise; Mount Komagatake cable car; Nijo Castle; Odawara Castle; Nijo Castle; Gold Pavilion; Kiyomizu Temple; Gion Corner performances of traditional Japanese arts; Inari Taisha Shrine; *With extension:* Istukushima Shrine; Peace Memorial Museum; Himeji Castle
-  **weShare**, our online platform that taps into each student's interests for a more engaging learning experience
-   **All of the details are covered:** Round-trip flights on major carriers; Comfortable motorcoach; Bullet train; 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (9 with extension); Breakfast and dinner daily
-  



Asakusa Kannon Temple



Shinto Shrine

All Marysville High School students welcome!  
English tours. No prior knowledge of Japanese needed.

Email Iya Sensei for more information:  
[inemasti@mevsd.us](mailto:inemasti@mevsd.us) -or- [IyaSensei@gmail.com](mailto:IyaSensei@gmail.com)



**AKISA  
FUKUZAWA**  
JASCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

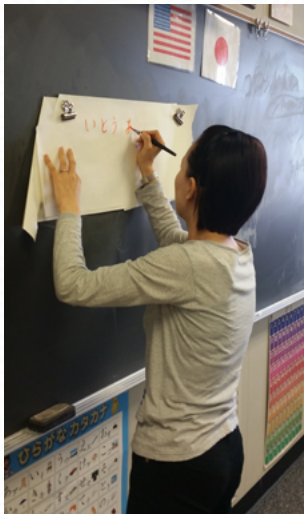
Congratulations to Marysville's inaugural Japanese cultural event and thank you very much for letting me be a part of this great event. I volunteered to demonstrate Shodo, Japanese calligraphy, at the exhibit table and had a great time with everyone! What I enjoyed the most was the energy and the interest of young people who came and tried the calligraphy. Not only the current Japanese language students of Iya-Sensei and Sakamoto-Sensei, but also the younger students and their parents who haven't begun the class yet were also curious and excited about the opportunity to learn Japanese.

My mother is a Shodo Master and I practiced calligraphy when I was in elementary and middle school. However, I haven't touched my brush for a long time

until recently. This volunteer opportunity was really helpful for me to get back in to the world of Shodo again. The smell of ink and paper brought me back to my childhood memories and helped me to get back to my roots. Also the smiles and curiosity in students' eyes gave me the enjoyment of demonstrating Shodo.



Thanks again everyone in Marysville and hope to see you again next year!



**ASUKA ITO**  
JAPANESE-SPEAKING VOLUNTEER

Asuka Ito, a friend of Waka Penney (mother of Emi Penney), has chosen to volunteer her time with us two days a week and assist students during our Japanese 1 classes in the morning. Asuka-san has been a great asset during group and partner work and has worked with students individually as well. She has shared with us her family photos and travels in Japan as well as her love for calligraphy. Our students got a little piece of Japanese culture when she showed them her *fudepen* 筆ペン collection and helped them write their names! I am looking forward to having her in our classes next year.

**AATJ NATIONAL  
JAPANESE EXAM**

In March our students had the opportunity to participate in the National Japanese Exam sponsored by American Association of Teachers of Japanese. The purpose of this exam was to compare students' Japanese language skills to that of their classmates in their program, and in Japanese programs in Ohio and the rest of the United States. This test cost \$8.00 and was a multiple-choice computerized assessment. 35 Japanese 1 students chose to take the test, which consisted of a listening section and a reading section. I am very pleased to announce that we had 2 students score in the Gold Level, and rank in the 90th or above percentile nationally. Both Angela McKenzie and Viktor Ball tied for top score in all of Ohio. We also had 7 students score in the Silver level and rank in the 80th to 89th percentile nationally. We are so proud of all of you guys!



# STUDENT AWARDS

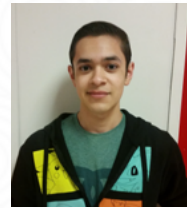
## AATJ NATIONAL JAPANESE EXAM

**金賞 Gold (above the 90th percentile):**



Viktor Ball (Tied #1 in Ohio) Angela Mckenzie (Tied #1 in Ohio)

**銀賞 Silver (80th through the 89th percentiles):**

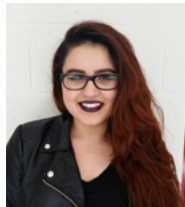


Alejandro Hernandez

Mary Olson

Meghan Bradley

Diego Covarrubias



Michael Hockman

Gema Salgado Cruz

Chase Woodruff

**銅賞 Bronze (70th through the 79th percentiles):**



Coleman Thompson

**努力賞 Honorable Mention (60th through the 69th percentiles):**



Megan Church



Maxwell Balderson

## AATJ NENGAJO CONTEST

**HONORABLE MENTIONS**



Korinne Obenour



Jessica Lewis



# IYA SENSEI

MARYSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

The school year has surely flown by. I can't believe that it's been over a year since I got the amazing news that I would get to be the Japanese teacher for MHS's brand new Japanese program. I have had an awesome time teaching my students the language and culture that I am so passionate about. They have consistently proven that no matter how high I set the bar, they not only meet, but often exceed my expectations. It's truly remarkable to have an opportunity to come into work every day and be welcomed by such excited young minds eager to learn more. I love being able to share all of my experiences as a learner of Japanese and hope that I can provide my students with the things that I wish I had when beginning my language journey. My classes are rigorous, and this language program is comparable to college-level pace, yet my high school students have achieved all of the goals that I have set out for them. This year has been an absolute blast, and I look forward to seeing everyone in Japanese 2 next year!



Over the course of the school year we have had wonderful opportunities to meet language professionals in the field. Dr. Michael Tangeman from Denison University came to speak to our classes

about continuing Japanese studies in college as well as his personal experiences living and working in Japan. Dr. Hamako Furuhata-Turner from the University of Mount Union visited us recently and talked about Mount Union's Japanese major as well as teacher licensure program. Our students seemed to really enjoy the possibility of taking Japanese after high school. My friend, Damon Robinson, from FT Precision Inc., presented to our classes on his language journey from high school Japanese all the way to working as a translator and interpreter. My students really connected with him and asked him many great questions about using Japanese



in the real world. He shared with all of us his study abroad experiences, participation in clubs and social activities while living in Japan, as well as financial aid opportunities, scholarships and various resources to enable students to go to Japan. I think it is essential

that high school students have an opportunity to meet and interact with professionals that have successfully applied their language knowledge in a career. I am very thankful for all of the visitors that have taken the time out of their schedules to come see us this year.

The goal for the students here at Marysville is to converse comfortably in Japanese without being afraid to make mistakes. I challenge them daily by conducting class in Japanese. This immersion setting provides confidence in language production.

Finally, I am very excited to announce the addition of Japanese 1 and Japanese 2 at the Early College High School next year. Offering the Japanese language in our schools is not only relevant to our community, but also strengthens our ties with local Japanese businesses.



# CULTURED CERAMICS

Private lessons are being offered this summer for Japanese style pottery & ceramics. Learn to work on a pottery wheel and create your very own masterpieces. These lessons start from the very basic (wedging, coiling, and slab work) and will help you learn some of the more difficult techniques of throwing on the wheel. For more information on class offerings, please email or call Iya Sensei.

**Iya Nemastil**

C: 614.954.2233

E: [IyaSensei@gmail.com](mailto:IyaSensei@gmail.com)

W: [CulturedCeramics.com](http://CulturedCeramics.com)



Club t-shirt design by Sadie Yost & digitized by Ryen Young

## Japanese Club 2014-2015

Room C202

All are welcome!

Club dues are \$20 a year. Those dues go towards the year's paid activities such as Christmas party, Valentine's Day chocolate making, etc. All members also get a Japanese Club T-Shirt which is designed by a student every year.

- Christmas
  - KFC/Cake in Japan
- Valentine's Day/ White Day
  - Chocolate making
- Boy's Day
- Calligraphy
- Pop Music
- Fairy Tales/Folk Tales
- Games
- Hobbies & Traditions
- Cooking
- Karaoke
- Origami
- End of year party





# AARON COOK MHS PRINCIPAL

Almost two years ago, Japanese rose from a transformational leadership team of educators, parents, and community leaders as the language we were going to be adding at Marysville High School. A year ago, myself and a team of colleagues started interviewing candidates to teach Japanese at both Marysville High School and Bunsold Middle School in Marysville. We were very fortunate to find two outstanding teachers in Iya Nemastil and Daniel Sakamoto. It has been a year of dreaming big and being creative. Bottom line, the program rose out of a collaboration of stakeholders and the collaboration continues on.

First, we received grant money from our community that allowed us to partner with another local school district, North Union, to share staffing while taking advantage of distance learning equipment. We have continued to refine this process, it's not to say there haven't been bumps along the way. However, we feel we have a very strong plan going into next school year. Next, Marysville High School organized and hosted "An Evening of Japanese Culture" to raise money for the Student Exchange Program with our sister city, Yorii-machi, Saitama, Japan. We collaborated with many central Ohio individuals, groups



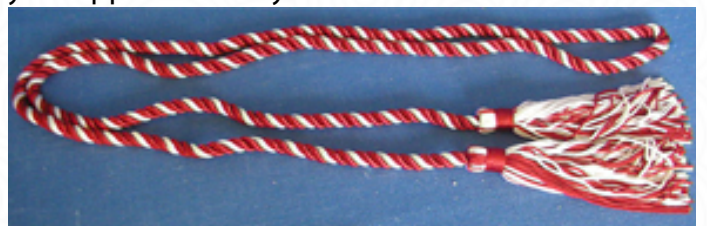
and businesses for the this event. Attendees were able to learn, watch, and sometimes participate in various culture aspects of Japan such as a Sado, Kyudo, Taiko Drums, Odori, Ikebana, Origami, Judo, and Shodo to name a few. The event was supported by Honda Marysville, the City of Marysville, and the Union County Chamber of Commerce. It brought in about 200 people and raised approximately \$3,000. Additionally, the program received a grant from Honda of America for \$20,000 to support our Student Exchange Program with our sister city. This program has highlighted the willingness of our county and city governments, as well as private industry to support and partner with us as we grow our Japanese Language program. Lastly and most importantly, it is amazing to walk into one of our Japanese classrooms and see the growth students have made and how much they communicate in the target language!

## JAPANESE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

### PRE-COLLEGE CHAPTER

Beginning next year, Marysville High School students may be eligible to join the Japanese National Honor Society. In order to qualify, students must complete the first term of his/her second-year Japanese language course. Students must also maintained a 3.5 GPA in Japanese courses and an overall 3.0 GPA. Inducted students will receive red and white cords in recognition of their achievements.

If you are interested in joining JNHS, please pick up your application in Iya Sensei's classroom.





## MIRANDA SMITH FRESHMAN INSIGHT

Japanese was the one thing I had on my mind during my first few weeks of school.

I was so worried about falling behind to the point that I wouldn't be able to get caught up on my school work. I didn't like Japanese class at first because of all of the studying I had to do in order for me not to fail the class. I really enjoy Japanese class now. It is such a calming class. It's where I can go and not be afraid to make mistakes, and where my Sensei helps us if we do. She won't judge us. It is the one class I will definitely take for the rest of my high school career and throughout college.

By the time I graduate high school I want to talk fluently in Japanese and to be able to write it without having many mistakes. Sensei does an amazing job at teaching for her first year. I was talking to my other classmates about her and we were all agreeing that she is an amazing teacher and we were glad that we had her for our Japanese teacher instead of someone that didn't really care about us achieving.

In August 2016, I will be going to Japan not because I am forced to like some parents do but because Sensei is going and because I really enjoy learning about the culture of Japan and I want to widen my understanding of Japan.

I am really happy of how much I have succeeded in Japanese class. There are definitely struggles and I go to Sensei when I am struggling with something that we learned in class that day or when I don't understand something. I really suggest taking Japanese to newcomers. It is an amazing experience!

## OHIO COLLEGES OFFERING JAPANESE

- |                                 |                      |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Antioch College                 | Yellow Springs, Ohio |
| Bowling Green State University  | Bowling Green, Ohio  |
| Case Western Reserve University | Cleveland, Ohio      |
| Cleveland State University      | Cleveland, Ohio      |
| Columbus State University       | Columbus, Ohio       |
| Cuyahoga Community College      | Cleveland, Ohio      |
| Denison University              | Granville, Ohio      |
| John Carroll University         | University Hts, Ohio |
| Kent State University           | Kent, Ohio           |
| Kenyon College                  | Gambier, Ohio        |
| Miami University                | Oxford, Ohio         |
| Oberlin College                 | Oberlin, Ohio        |
| Ohio Northern University        | Ada, Ohio            |
| Ohio University                 | Athens, Ohio         |
| Ohio Wesleyan University        | Delaware, Ohio       |
| Otterbein College               | Westerville, Ohio    |
| Sinclair Community College      | Dayton, Ohio         |
| The Ohio State University       | Columbus, Ohio       |
| The University of Akron         | Akron, Ohio          |
| The University of Cincinnati    | Cincinnati, Ohio     |
| The University of Findlay       | Findlay, Ohio        |
| The University of Mount Union   | Alliance, Ohio       |
| The University of Toledo        | Toledo, Ohio         |
| Wittenberg University           | Springfield, Ohio    |
| Wright State University         | Dayton, Ohio         |
| Xavier University               | Cincinnati, Ohio     |



## AMANDA ROLLINS JAPAN FOUNDATION

My name is Amanda Rollins, program coordinator at the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles. It has been JFLA's distinct pleasure to support the flourishing Marysville

High School Japanese program through our Teaching Materials Purchase Grant.

I had the opportunity to observe Iya-sensei's classes in April, and was happy to see that our grant was being well utilized. Posters cover every inch of wall space, every surface has trinkets and toys, and even the window sill is overloaded with Japanese juice cans and snack boxes. Particularly eye-catching is a large, genuine map of the urban transit system which I know are posted at train stations. Students who study in this room are surrounded by everyday objects found all over Japan, so even if their eyes stray during the lesson, they'll find themselves reading common Japanese labels or studying cute Japanese designs.

But I don't expect their eyes to stray. Iya-sensei spends 90% of the class speaking Japanese, a highly ambitious teaching philosophy that requires sustained concentration from both the teacher and students, and which is clearly effective. While I was observing the class, I participated in partner work on two occasions and was pleasantly surprised by the students' level of Japanese after less than a year of lessons.

I look forward to seeing this exciting program grow.



## DID YOU KNOW?!

- Japanese direct investment in Ohio includes 423 Ohio-based facilities that employ 65,690
- Japan remains Ohio's top foreign investor
- Japanese investment shows up in 61 of Ohio's 88 counties and is particularly concentrated in central Ohio, or the Columbus area; southwest Ohio, the Cincinnati-Dayton area; and northeast Ohio, or Cleveland-Akron area
- Well-known Japanese car companies have more than a third of America's automobile market share.
- Japan is the world's 3rd largest economy
- Over 750,000 employees work for Japan-affiliated companies in the US
- Over 450,000 people speak Japanese at home in America
- Japanese is the 4th most used language on the Internet
- Japan is America's 4th largest trading partner: Two-way trade of goods and services exceeded \$280 billion last year
- Japan has invested over \$340 billion in the US through affiliated companies
- Ten Japanese scientists have won Nobel prizes in the sciences in just the past few years



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にほんご  
nihongo - Japanese

ばんごはん  
bangohan - dinner

しゅくだい  
shukudai - homework

もも  
momo - peach

かきます  
kakimasu - to write

くるま  
kuruma - car

いも  
imo - potato

げつようび  
getsuyoubi - Monday

しんかんせん  
shinkansen - bullet train

たべます  
tabemasu - to eat

きんようび  
kinyoubi - Friday

おおさか  
oosaka - Osaka

かんじ  
kanji (Chinese characters)

べんきょうします  
benkyoushimasu - to study

とうきょう  
tokyou - Tokyo

ひらがな  
hiragana (Japanese alphabet)

うんてんします  
untenshimasu - to drive

ぴかちゅう  
pikachuu - Pikachu