

# NIHONGO



MARYSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

MARYSVILLE, OH

SPRING 2016

**BEST<sup>IN</sup> OHIO?**  
**MORE LIKE**  
**#1 IN THE**  
**NATION!**

**WHAT'S NEW?**  
**WHAT'S NEXT!**

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**  
**JAPANESE CULTURE EVENT**  
**JASCO SPEECH CONTEST**

**STUDENTS**  
FROM **YORII**  
**JAPAN**  
**ARRIVING**  
THIS **AUGUST**

**FEATURED**  
**ARTICLES**

**JEN READ**  
HIGH SCHOOL PARENT  
**NAOHIRO KOSAKA**  
MHS EXCHANGE STUDENT  
**ASUKA ITO**  
TEACHING VOLUNTEER







## JEN READ PARENT

If you have a student considering adding foreign language to their schedules, I encourage you all to consider the Japanese program. We are so fortunate in our options here in Marysville, Ohio.

The school district is able to offer our children more than the core education. Our children have the opportunity to express themselves through many varied extra-curricular activities. For my family it was all about finding a passion. As my children have grown my focus for them was to find their passion. For my eldest it is music, for my youngest it's track and field, but for my middle child, he found his passion in the Japanese language program.

I believe my child chose Japanese as an option because he is a fan of video games and some of the games he enjoys are produced originally in Japan. I thought, why not? A foreign language might help him open his thought processes to another path—maybe help think outside the box. He might even learn something about the Japanese culture, this would be a plus for our family as my husband works at a local Japanese company. These were all thoughts I had in passing as he informed us of his choice of Japanese as an elective.

Boy, did I underestimate the effect the Japanese program would have on our lives! Japanese quickly became his favorite subject. At first I thought it was because he found it easy to learn, but that wasn't the reason. The Japanese language is a challenge, he has to learn a new language, new grammar rules, a whole new alphabet and different writing systems, but it is a beautiful language worth the effort. Plus, he has found the subject that interests him beyond the classroom, he found his passion.

Japanese has stimulated conversation in our home. We started a 'Japanese word of the day' game, where he tries to teach me a new word from the Japanese language each night. We are still working on nouns (table, chair, mother, aunt, etc...) and I will never know all he knows but each night is a challenge for me. I have found an added bonus—a

subject at the dinner table that doesn't involve the television. Each word stimulates a conversation among us; conversations can be rare in our busy world. But that isn't the only conversation I attribute to the Japanese program. I believe in learning to communicate in another language my son has become more communicative in general. He shares more with me and the family about his interests and daily activities than he ever has.

The Japanese club on Tuesday afternoons has brought even more to his life and ours. The meetings talk about customs and culture of the Japanese people. The kids (and their families, if they wish) have met and eaten at a local Japanese market and had the opportunity to dine at a Japanese restaurant. He has eaten dishes I never would have attempted to make, I didn't even know these dishes existed. He has participated, with excitement, in a Japanese culture event held at the high school and he has made friends through this program that he wouldn't have had the opportunity to meet during the school day.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't mention Iya Sensei, or as I call her Ms. Nemastil. I have to place credit where it is earned. Ms. Nemastil has shown her own passion for the Japanese language program, all it can encompass and she shares her passion willingly. Her love of the culture, the language, and the country is evident every time I see her. She truly cares about the students in the program and every opportunity is given for success. Iya Sensei has also been working to give students the opportunity to travel to Japan in the Fall of 2016, offering them the experiences in person. I'm excited to hear how the trip goes!

I can't express enough the positive effects this program has had on our lives. I've run into parents in the Bunsold Middle School office when the subject of a foreign language elective have come up, I am compelled to share how this program has touched us. Studying a foreign language can enhance more in a student's life beyond expanding their language skills. Consider the possibilities of a curriculum touching all parts of a student's life as they make their elective choices.



## **ANGELA MCKENZIE** **SENIOR, MHS**

When I found out that I would have the opportunity to learn Japanese beginning in my junior year, I immediately knew that I wanted to. I am now over halfway through my second year of Japanese and I definitely

made the right decision. I have learned so much in this relatively short time that I'm sometimes surprised by how much I know. This is, of course, thanks to Iya Sensei. In Japanese class, we learn real-life language skills by using authentic sources, focusing on communication, and practicing daily. We don't drill grammar over and over again to the point where it all becomes meaningless. I think that makes all the difference. I was definitely intimidated by the language at first. Having to learn three alphabets seemed very daunting but once we dove into it, it wasn't too bad.

Japanese class has opened up many opportunities to me including taking the National Japanese Exam, joining the National Japanese Honor Society, and participating in the JASCO Speech Contest. I am positive that Japanese will be an asset to me in my future and I definitely intend to continue my studies in college. I think knowing Japanese sets you apart and I would suggest it to anyone wishing to learn another language.

## **MICHEAL HOCKMAN** **JUNIOR, MHS**

As a freshman and sophomore, I remember thinking about how far off college was, and how I had all the time in the world to decide what I'd want for my future. Now, after being bombarded by colleges and companies giving me different offers, I realize that my future has already started. Japanese has helped me find my own passions and find a direction for myself.



After taking two years of Japanese, and soon to be taking a third, it became clear that I have a knack for it. From the first day of Japanese 1, I've always been interested and active in the Japanese classroom. Iya Sensei teaches in a way that sticks, combining auditory, visual, and physical movement to create a learning experience unlike any of my other classes. This is quite different from what I expected going into Japanese 1. I thought it would be intensive and grueling. I mean, to learn a language that uses 3 different writing systems and regularly uses over 2,000 unique symbols, what else could I expect? My expectations were shattered within a few days. A few months passed, and we could already read and write both alphabets, and use many fundamental kanji. We were comprehensively learning a language and having a lot of fun at the same time. Even though there are certainly challenges, (which are present with any language), it has helped me grow personally and academically.

Nearing the end of Japanese 2, and being one year closer to adulthood, I'm starting to see my true passions. I've been inspired by seeing several guest speakers like Forrest Neuswanger, who lived in Japan for 20 years! Being able to ask questions and hear their experiences has given me an insightful look at careers using the Japanese language. I would definitely love to continue to pursue this exciting language, and I'm eager to see where I'll be in 10 years.

## **JAPANESE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY** **PRE-COLLEGE CHAPTER**

In order to qualify, students must complete the first term of their second-year Japanese language course. Students must also maintain 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.





**NAOHIRO KOSAKA**  
**EXCHANGE STUDENT**

## 平たい顔族

アメリカに来て日本を外から見るという機会を与えられ、思ったことが多々ありますが、僕はここで「個人の尊重」に関して注目して書きたいと思います。

というのも日本はよく「英語ができない」や「恥ずかしがり屋である」、「新しいものをもらさない国」、「意見のない国」という評価を受けます。そしてこれらすべてのありがたくない評価のもとを辿れば、それらがすべて行き着くのは日本における「個人の尊重」の欠落だと思うからです。

僕はある期間を除き、今までの人生のほとんどを日本で過ごしてきました。そして転勤族であるためそれなりに日本各地の方々と会う機会もいただきました。その中でまだ何もわかっていない青二才のガキながらに抱いたある感想は「日本人って突き詰めればみんな似ているな」というものです。生まれ、義務教育を経て、高校ではいい大学に入るために必死で勉強し、大学ではいい仕事に就けるように必死で勉強し、仕事ではその後の人生が良くなるように必死で仕事する…。そしていつの間にかもう人生の最後が目の前にまで迫っている。

みんなやってる仕事は違うだろ？家族だって、住む場所だって、何かも違うことだらけだろ。馬鹿にするな。こんな声が聞こえてきそうですが、少なくとも僕にはそこに多くの共通点(類似点)があるように見えるのです。そしてそれは正直、魅力的なものではありません。なぜこんなにも似ているのか。元をたどれば初期段階での教育からそのロボット製作の過程は始まっているように思います。テストや授業ではマルかバツの二通りの返事しか返ってこず、中学で服装が他と違えば同じにするように言われる。学芸会では先生に台本を渡され、どのように動けばいいのかわえさせられる。英語のテストでは全く同じ意味のことを言っているのに教科書で学んだ表現しか正解とされず、結果皆同じ答えにたどり着く。ある時、あれは恐らく中学生の時でしたが教師が私たちになぜ制服を着るのかを説明していたのを覚えています。「生徒を平等に見て、平等に評価するため」だと。その時に頭の中に「？」があったのをハッキリ

と覚えています。しかしその疑問をその教師に質問しなかったのも覚えています。理由は主に二つだったでしょう。一つは「教師が言うことは正しいのだからそこに疑問の余地がある理由がそもそもない」という学校の「教師には口出しするなルール」。もう一つは僕が個人的に「そのような考えを持っている人間が俺の質問に答えられるわけがない」と考えたから、です。

この問題に関して例を挙げろと言われれば限りない数ありますが、まあ話がずれるのでこれくらいにしておきます。

さて、ではなぜこれが問題と成り得るのか？皆が同じということはつまりそれ以上の進化はそこに見込めないということです。個人が尊重されないということは意見の交流などの低下に繋がり、結果としていいものが生まれるはずの場所で陳腐なものが生まれるという結果に至らしめます(悪い時には何も生まれません)。そして社会全体を大きな一つのまとまりとして見たときに、そこに「奇妙な」一貫性があるということです。

間違いは許されない。日本人が定義する「頭のいいやつら」が敷いたレールの上で死ぬまで走らされる。すなわち利用され続ける。脱線したものは無理やりレールの上に押し戻されるか廃棄所へとこっそり捨てられる。

日本は元来素晴らしい文化の元に独自の信念とそれを持つ独特な人種が住む国です。それらをまさになかったかのようにしてしまったのがこの「個人への尊重のなさ」です。

アメリカでは常に個人が意見を持っており、それを表に出すことが良しとされています。結果的にそれは物事を多角度から見て、ある個人が他の個人とは他角度からそれを作り上げることに繋がります。だからアメリカはすごいんですよ。だってそれが当たり前なんですから。

アメリカに日本が習うべきところはものすごい数あります。これもその一つです。日本は本当の意味での表現の自由を皆が手に入れるべきだと僕は思います。



# **HOST FAMILIES WANTED!**

**WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR HOST FAMILIES TO HOST OUR  
JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS IN AUGUST 2016!**

**STUDENTS WILL BE HERE AUG. 19-27, 2016**

**INTERESTED??  
CONTACT**

**TANYA SCHUBERT [TJSCHUBE@MEVSD.US](mailto:TJSCHUBE@MEVSD.US)  
IYA NEMASTIL [INEMASTI@MEVSD.US](mailto:INEMASTI@MEVSD.US)**





## **MADISON BUSHONG JUNIOR, MHS**

At first I was skeptical about taking Japanese. I wasn't interested in Spanish, but Japanese seemed much more difficult. I decided to take a risk and scheduled for Japanese One. Going into class the first

day, I kept reminding myself I was doing this for the credit and better job opportunities. As class time went on however, I found myself looking forward to and enjoying the class. About halfway through the year, taking Japanese became more than a credit and an opening for a job. I became more interested in the culture and daily life.

Part of my shift in interest about Japanese life was the actions of Iya Sensei. She is very active in class and always keeps us on our toes. When class



## **KAYLYNN BORRER JUNIOR, MHS**

Well, here we are again. I wrote in last spring's newsletter, and I can certainly say a lot has changed since then! Back when I first wrote, I had only been studying Japanese for maybe two months at most, probably

less. I didn't join the Japanese 1 class in time, so I started an independent study in early-mid January. Over the summer, Iya Sensei and I would meet up at Starbucks to check my progress and determine where to go from there. If you were around for last spring's newsletter, you would have seen an advertisement for Japanese Boot Camp as well. I joined to get some of my first 'in-class experience' and was surprised to see I wasn't floundering too much. That fact gave me confidence to at least try the Japanese 2 class this year. Though my vocabulary and Kanji knowledge was limited compared to my classmates, I managed the first few days rather well. Since that time, my vocabulary has expanded significantly. Unlike most of my classmates, however, I now love Kanji and learn new characters whenever I can. Whenever there's

is in session, we are playing games, acting out scenarios from action cards, reading short stories, or practicing kanji on whiteboards. Iya Sensei does a very good job on keeping us involved and active in our studies; you couldn't find a better language teacher if you tried. Major amounts of work have been put in by Sensei to grow and expand the Japanese program at MHS, including but not limited to, an exchange program last summer to Marysville's sister city, Yorii, and another trip back to Japan this summer.

If you had told me two years ago that I would be studying Japanese and travelling to Japan during my summer break, I would have never believed you, yet here I am, ending my second year in my Japanese studies, waiting for my third to begin, and preparing for a trip to Japan over the summer. All in all, if you are on the fence about signing up for Japanese, don't think too hard about it. Go for it. It's worth it.

Kanji, it makes it easier to read with so many words that sound the same but mean completely different things.

Learning another language opens up another world. What knowledge I have of American Sign Language has allowed me to talk to people who I otherwise may have not known existed. The same is true for Japanese. It's uplifting when I can go to a restaurant, overhear a few people talking in Japanese, and understand pieces of their conversation. Though I haven't had much real-world use of the language, what Iya Sensei teaches us prepares us for it. If someone came up to me randomly and asked me a question in Japanese, I can say with most certainty that I would be able to answer coherently.

## **THE CULTURE BOX EXCHANGE**





## ASUKA ITO VOLUNTEER

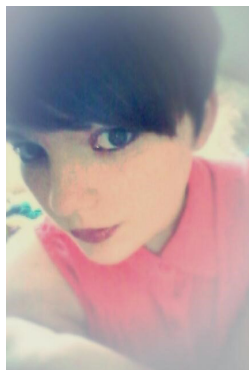
みなさん、こんにちは。私は伊藤 明香(いとう あすか)といいます。月に1~2回、メアリズビル高校の日本語クラスでボランティアをしています。

私は今までにボランティアをしたことがありませんでした。しかし、アメリカに来てすぐのときに、和香さん(エミーさんのお母さん)に、メアリズビル高校の日本語クラスでボランティアをしてみませんか?と言われました。最初はびっくりしてダメだと言おうとしました。なぜなら私はとてもシャイだからです。そして、もし言葉が分からなかったら、とてもこわいと思ったからです。でも、はじめて日本語クラスに行ったときにそれは間違いだと感じました。生徒のみなさんはとても勉強が好きで、私に日本語で話しかけてくれました。生徒のみなさんの日本語

は本当に上手です。私はとても感動しました。そしてとても嬉しかったです。

私は、自分の高校生のときを思い出してみると、あまり勉強が好きではありませんでした。でも、英語の勉強はとても好きでした。なぜなら、外国人と会話ができるというのは、とてもすばらしいと思ったからです。でも、日本にいたときは英語を話すことはありませんでした。そして、勉強した英語もわすれてしまいました。大人になって、アメリカの高校で日本語のボランティアをして高校生といっしょに日本語の勉強をしているということは、なんだかとても不思議なことだと思います。(高校生のときの自分が知ったら、きっとびっくりすることでしょう!)そして、今はボランティアでみなさんに会うのがとても楽しみです。

最後に。みなさん、日本人を見かけたら日本語で話しかけてみてください。日本人はとてもびっくりすると思います。みなさんの日本語はとても上手だと思いますので、自信を持ってください!!



## LILLY CAUDILL SOPHOMORE, MHS

It was the middle of 8th grade and everyone was talking about what classes they were going to take freshman year. All of my friends were going to take Spanish, but I didn't want to be just like everyone else and take

two years of Spanish just because it would look good on my transcript. I wanted to do something different, so I signed up for Japanese! I was so excited all summer long, I couldn't wait for the first day back to school! It was freshman day, and my first period was Japanese!

I was so nervous as I took a seat. Sensei was so great though, you could tell she really wanted you to be there and that made it so much easier. We were all asked to tell of any Japanese we already knew. I was so intimidated not knowing a single thing while other kids kept shouting out answers. After that first day I was sure I had gotten in way over my head. There was no way I could learn Japanese. But I wanted to learn it so badly, so I stuck with it. It was not easy at first, we had nightly homework of practicing hiragana and katakana, and daily mini

quiz over it. Before I knew it I could write out two Japanese alphabets and introduce myself to a total stranger. Japanese became the most gratifying part of my life by the second quarter. My first speaking exam was so nerve racking, I wasn't sure how I compared to my classmates, I was certain I would fail. A few days later I got into my bin and saw the rubric, I GOT A B! I was so proud of myself. I continued to improve on my speaking. For most of the year I was crying over being half a point away from 100% Finally, the last exam of the year I reached my goal of 100%.

There was no doubt I was taking Japanese 2, my passion has grown even more this year, so much that I plan on taking it when I go to college, and having a career where I can use it everyday. Japanese class is so amazing, I never imagined I could go from saying "Hello" to "Hello, my name is Lilly, I can speak Japanese, I think it is really fun, I love it. I want to become a translator." in less than two years! Taking Japanese was a great decision for me. The way Sensei teaches it makes it so much easier in the long run. She doesn't teach in English, which can seem very intimidating, but it really does help with your skills in the long run. I would advise anyone with the slightest interest to take Japanese. Don't shy away from the awesomeness.



# Inaugural Induction

of the

## Japanese National Honor Society

### Pre-College Chapter

#### Marysville High School

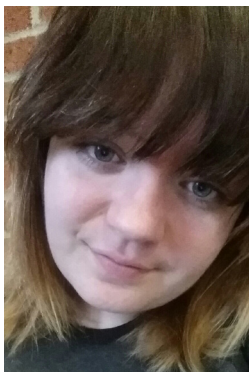
April 30th, 2016

This year we were also able to start our very first chapter of the Japanese National Honor Society. Eligible students had to be in their second year of Japanese with a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a 3.5 in Japanese classes. Schubert Sensei and I had the distinct pleasure of inducting 22 students on April 30, 2016 and we couldn't be more proud! The event included guest speeches by JR Rausch of Marysville, Eric Phillips of Union County Chamber of Commerce, Damon Robinson of FT Precision Inc., Isao Shoji of Japan America Society of Central Ohio, and Jun Kawabe of Ohio Wesleyan University. Our students got to hear firsthand the wide range of benefits and experiences that studying Japanese can bring, as well as say a few words on their own about their experience studying Japanese at Marysville. The ceremony included reading of the oath in both Japanese & English, as well as a candle lighting, and a delicious reception of Japanese finger-food afterwards. It was great to get a chance to mingle with parents as well as see how Japanese has impacted students personally. The mission of the Japanese Honor Society is to serve as a bridge of international understanding between the US

and Japan as well as an ambassador to promote friendship between the two countries. JNHS members will teach Japanese to elementary school students for a period of 5-8 weeks as well as serve as tutors to the lower levels of Japanese at both ECHS and MHS. Next school year we will fundraise by selling t-shirts with the amazing Marysville characters on them: Monarch the lion, Archie the tortoise, and of course Corn-chan.

#### 2016 INDUCTEES

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Anna Blumberg     | Michael Hockman   |
| Kaylynn Borrer    | James Lambert     |
| Meghan Bradley    | Shelbie Lyle      |
| Garrett Brown     | Angela McKenzie   |
| Simon Buchheit    | Emi Penney        |
| Madison Bushong   | Alex Oliverio     |
| Maggie Chalmers   | Jacob Ranker      |
| Diego Covarrubias | Jacob Read        |
| Carrie DeHoff     | Gema Salgado Cruz |
| Zack Dumbauld     | Zach Shafer       |
| Lindsay Euans     | Sadie Yost        |



## ALEXIS DOUGLAS SOPHOMORE, MHS

My name is Alexis Douglas, I am currently in my second year of Japanese, and I couldn't be happier. Ever since I can remember, I have been fascinated with Japan and it's culture. Before Japanese

was offered as a language option, I wasn't exactly thrilled with the idea of being stuck with taking Spanish. For me, it was boring, especially since I had no interest. So, you can only imagine my excitement when I found out Japanese was an option for my Freshman year.

Since I've started taking Japanese, the question I seem to be asked the most is "Isn't Japanese hard?" I'm here to tell you that yes, yes it is.



## HY NGUYEN SOPHOMORE, ECHS

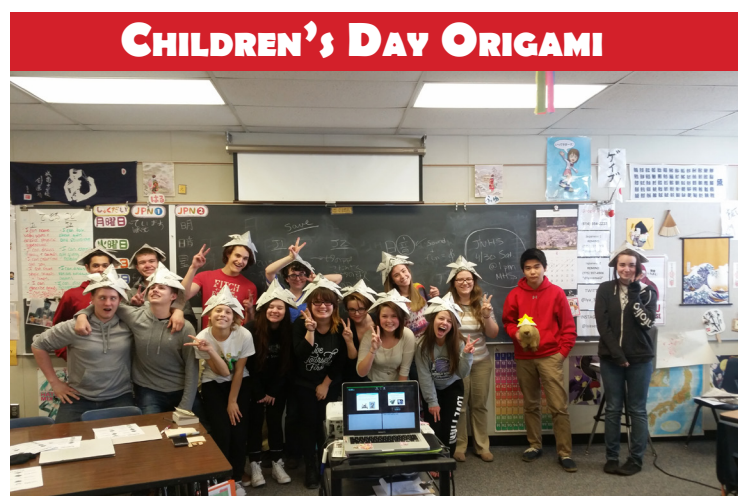
Hello! My name is ヒー, or Hy. Despite its spelling, my name is pronounced He. I'm a sophomore at MECHS, and also part of Japanese 1. Honestly, my interest in the Japanese culture and language was one

of my biggest factor in my choice to take Japanese. I always had fondness for their culture, so I instantly took the course when I heard it was open. And the course didn't disappoint at all. Iya-sens is one of my favorite teachers I ever had, and the class she runs never bores me. In my opinion, every new lesson is interesting. There are a lot unique things that Iya-sens does to make our class great as well as enjoyable. (We also make a lot of memes). Katakana is one of the best things we learned, and it is fun trying to make out words with katakana (アナザーワン, or Another one, is the best phrase I have katanized). Everything you learn is a part shown in every part of real life in Japan, which makes me feel excited to know that. Even though my Japanese is probably never going to be the best, I'm going to take as much Japanese courses as I can because of my sole interest in it and the

Japanese, along with other languages, has its difficulties. However, I can say with confidence that I in no way regret my decision. Honestly, in the end it depends on the student. It seems that interest is an important factor, which helps within any classroom. Interest is something that can take any one person a long way. For me, since I have always been interested in Japanese, the class is fun and engaging. However, I still have difficulties when it comes to some aspects. Sensei for me, is what fills in the blanks. Sensei is constantly engaging with students, and personally, she has helped me through my difficulties in many ways. It's always nice knowing that I have a teacher that will support and help me with my classwork and work towards improving my knowledge. Honestly, I wouldn't stop taking Japanese even if someone were to offer me everything I ever wanted, because that's the thing, learning Japanese is something that I've always wanted.

enjoyment I get from doing it. I really wish I could go to the Japan trip one day as well. Hopefully I could take it whenever I can. Their country just looks beautiful and their culture is amazing. A bonus on learning to use Japanese is the amazing chances you get just by learning it. You can't interact with the Japanese culture personally if you don't understand their language. I really like how even though you don't really need to major it, you will be more highly considered just knowing Japanese. So if you're looking for a truly unique language, I'd 100% recommend Japanese.

さようなら!





# 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL EVENING OF JAPANESE CULTURE







## ELIJAH MEJIA \$OPHOMORE, ECH\$

はじめまして!私のなまえは  
イライジャ・メヒア。Hello! My  
name is Elijah Mejia! I am a  
sophomore at the Marysville  
Early College High School. This  
year, the school year 2015-  
2016, I took Japanese 1. When

I began to look about scheduling the school year, I saw Japanese was an option and that really peaked my interest. I don't exactly know why, probably because up until then it has just been Spanish that was the only language that was offered, and now I have almost three years of it under my belt, so I decided this would be a good chance to pick up on another language. To me, it feels like the more languages I know the better. It's not even for a specific career or the likes of which, it's more of a basic fact. This world requires communication between countries. Not every country uses the same language. Being able to communicate with multiple countries/investors seems like a skill any business would be lucky to have. Going into this class, it felt a bit weird. I had a personal bias because I've already taken two years of a foreign language, Spanish, when I stepped through those doors. Spanish was in my heritage, so that came quickly to me and had some words that looked like what they meant in English. Japanese was not the same right off the bat. Three new alphabets? For one language? Outlandish I thought that was! Until I actually sat down and learned it all. Now, each character feels very interesting to write down, because it looks nothing like what I have seen before. This alphabet was only the opener to what would be a very fun and interesting language to learn.

Having already taken a first year of a foreign language before, I knew what to expect. Or so I thought. The first year of Spanish for me was nothing compared to the first year of Japanese for me. The content has relatively been the same. But, in Japanese, I haven't just been learning words and have been expected to know them, I've used them, formed sentences, etc. Japanese has been taught differently from Spanish, and in a way that keeps

learning new languages interesting and diverse. Iya Sensei has taught us Japanese IN Japanese and has us produce in Japanese as well (writing, speaking, etc.). It has definitely been a great year in Japanese class, and that's just talking about the language.

The language isn't the only thing that we learn about. We learn about the culture as well. This makes the language far more interesting for me to learn. It reminds me that not every country works the same way. Some words are used more fluently in Japan than they would be here. Some things just make more sense over there than here. It has been really interesting to learn about the culture, and the language on top. I have always enjoyed learning about other cultures, not necessarily the languages corresponding to them, but the cultures. Learning the language is just icing on the cake. I don't feel worried about my grades. I also don't feel like I'm learning much, when I actually have learned a lot. It has just been taught so well that the stuff I do know just comes habitually, and naturally.

In summary, Japanese has been one of the most interesting classes I have taken this year, and any year. I plan to take Japanese II and Japanese III in Junior and Senior year respectively. This course and this language has been so interesting to learn and I really hope that whatever future endeavors I go on, I will be able to use this language, as I should. ありがとうございます!

## GOING BEYOND THE LANGUAGE







## **ANNA BLUMBERG** **FRESHMAN, MHS**

After two years of Japanese class, I have come to realize how underestimated it is as a language. Not to say Japanese is an easy language, I'm saying it is underestimated for how great it is. I remember wanting a challenge, and a challenge I have surely gotten from this class. I must say if you want a challenging class, choose Japanese. Japanese not only is a challenge, but it is very respectful and widely used in a technology and business setting worldwide. I have so much praise for this unique and refreshing language.

One of my favorite parts of Japanese class is the 3 point projects. I love how every week we get to experience another little piece of the Japanese culture. We get to watch videos in Japanese, or write a story in Japanese, or go to a Japanese store and write about it. I love how we get to apply our knowledge to these projects by analyzing kanji, a writing system, or by finding words we know in Japanese on social media. I also like our speaking tests (I know that sounds crazy). We get to actually apply everything we've learned in the class, and have conversations with our peers while applying our knowledge.

Despite what most may believe, Japanese can be applied all over the place. I know people who have had conversations fully in Japanese with native speakers at local shops and restaurants. Or you may see products that have descriptions in Japanese that you can pick apart to find meaning in.

## **JAPANESE CLUB 2016-2017**

**Room 202**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Club dues are \$25 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 designed every year.

## **JAPANESE CLUB** **2015-2016**

Japanese club has also had an eventful year. We were invited to visit THK Manufacturing, a Japanese company in Hebron, Ohio in October. We all took a bus ride to their facility and were able to meet the company executives, as well as spend some one-on-one time talking with their translators and interpreters. We got a factory tour and even got treated to dinner! What a great opportunity it was for our students to see Japanese being put to use right here in Ohio. This past spring Chie Schuller along with Tess Weinberg visited us at MHS and ECHS and were able to spend the day with us talking to each class about where Japanese can take you as well as working at THK as a translator and interpreter. As a club we also got to learn how to make onigiri, or rice balls and created our own chocolate masterpieces for Valentine's Day. We finished off the year by going out to dinner with friends and parents at Akai Hana restaurant in Columbus, Ohio. Next year we plan on fundraising by selling t-shirts for students studying Japanese with awesome designs. Stay tuned for this!



### **CULTURE**

Pop Music  
Folk Tales  
Games  
Hobbies & Traditions  
Karaoke

### **HOLIDAYS**

Christmas KFC  
Valentine's Day  
White Day  
Chocolate making  
Boy's Day & Girl's Day

### **ART**

Calligraphy  
Origami

### **COOKING**

Onigiri/Sushi

### **TRIPS**

Japanese Restaurant  
Company Tours

### **SPECIAL GUESTS**

### **END OF YEAR PARTY**





## ALEX OLIVERIO FRESHMAN, ECHS

Hello my name is Alexandra Oliverio and I am in Japanese 2 at the Marysville Early College High School also known as the STEM school. I was one of the students who went to Marysville's sister city in Japan,

Yorii-machi, over the past summer and one of the students in Sakamoto's 8th period class who used the distance learning with North Union. It's very interesting being here and not in the normal class at the high school. The true difference of the schools is the class size. There are only 7 students in our class, compared to the normal 30 or so at the high school. It can benefit us slightly, we can more easily focus on what we're learning without many interruptions and we have come to be all friends. Just like the normal high school Japanese we have choice homework. I actually don't mind doing the choice homework. It's cool to me because the choices show us their articles and popular websites

## STUDYING KANJI



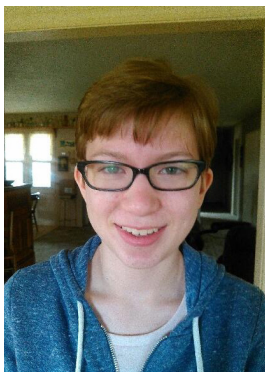
and games. You basically get a taste of their culture especially if you go to one of the Japanese restaurants or Tensuke Market.

Overall Iya Sensei is a great teacher. Whenever I describe Iya Sensei I always say she is bubbly because it's true. She says she's mean, and scary and that she doesn't have a heart (in Japanese), but she is actually very nice. As well as a great teacher.

# JAPANESE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY







## **CARRIE DeHOFF** **FRESHMAN, ECHS**

Hi, my name is Carrie DeHoff and I am a freshman student at The STEM Early College High School. I am in Japanese 2. Japanese 2 is taught by Iya Sensei. We often play games in class. There is one game I

like in particular, where Sensei writes Kanji on the board and we play versus an opponent. We use fly swatters as Sensei calls out the name of the Kanji, and the first person to slap that Kanji wins.

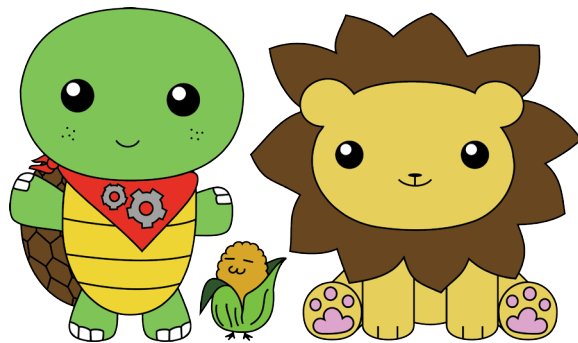
We only have 7 people in my class, which is very nice at times because Sensei has extra time to watch all of us and help us individually. We also get through assignments and papers are faster than larger classes, leaving more time for review and one-on-one attention. Iya Sensei makes it fun and easy for us to learn Japanese with games, visuals, and her awesome presentations. But she is also a little strict, but that is good, because no one slacks off or goes off-task. And sometimes we have our off-task moments, when someone messes up a word, or a picture that Sensei puts up on a slide is hilarious, or when I scream "YUKI!" while we are taking a test or working in partners. Yuki means snow in Japanese, and it is by far my favorite word to say and write in Japanese. I don't know why, but it is.

Also, In Japanese 2 we rarely have homework, besides the Choice Homework that is due almost every week. But don't worry, Choice Homework doesn't really seem like homework at all. What you have to do is pick from a list of 1 point, 2 point or 3 point activities, and Sensei is adding new things to it all the time, and the Choice Homework has to add up to 3 points total. I really like to do my Choice Homework because some of the choices are exciting and you are free to choose from a list. That's right, you choose what you want to do for your homework from a list that is growing almost every month. There are things on there like games and maps, coloring pages, and kid sites, newsletters and pages you can browse for a certain amount of time like Starbucks and Sweets Paradise. It's really

interesting to find what you know and you find out that you can recognize a lot. Sometimes in class we do Webquests, where we get a question guide and follow it while analyzing a real Japanese website. When we do activities and practice Japanese, most of the time we can work in partners. Sometimes there are contests, and whoever wins gets to choose things from Iya Sensei's prize box. I have gotten a thing or two from it myself. She also brings in these gingerbread-rice cookies that are to die for. We make presentations from time to time, but they are fun to make. For practice, we sometimes have to make up stories then act them out. We have tests here and there, and when you learn new Kanji there are little quizzes here and there, to make sure you are doing your Kanji Notebook or practicing your Kanji. And believe me you want to practice Kanji. And practice the vocab you learn too. Practice, Practice, Practice, is very good for tests and quizzes. Iya Sensei works hard to make class fun and easier, but if you slack off or don't do your work, you will pay the price. ;)

## **JAPANESE PROGRAM MASCOTS** **DESIGNED BY OUR STUDENTS**

When Ayane Hida from The University of Findlay visited our classes in January, she taught us about the importance of characters in Japanese culture. Many prefectures in Japan are known for their characters and these are used to increase tourism, sales, and create a sense of pride and unity within the community. All of our students drew up their own character ideas for Marysville and MHS/ECHS. There was a common theme of lions, turtles, and of course, corn. We narrowed it down to three designs. This was the digitalized result:

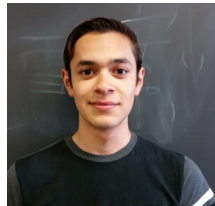


Archie the Tortoise by Aaron Schoby  
Monarch the Lion by Rachel Clarridge  
Corn-chan by Eve Hawley

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## AATJ NATIONAL JAPANESE EXAM

Top Score in the Nation!!



Diego Covarrubias

金賞 Gold (above the 90th percentile)



Angela McKenzie



Sydney Shapiro

銀賞 Silver (80th - 89th percentiles)



Garrett Hosterman

銅賞 Bronze (70th - 79th percentiles):



Abby Buchholz



Garrett Brown



Max Peters



Sarah Tappendorf

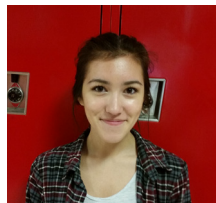


Zach Shafer

努力賞 Honorable Mention (60th - 69th percentiles):



Alex Oliverio



Emi Penney



Eve Hawley



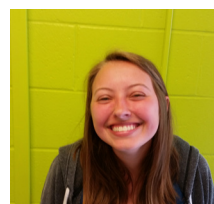
Hunter Nguyen



Justin Wright



Lilly Caudill



Maggie Chalmers





## IYA SENSEI MHS

おつかれさまでした！

What an amazing year it has been teaching Japanese 1 and 2 at MHS and ECHS! As relatively new program only in our second year, we've been able to accomplish so many incredible things that make us proud. Working with the students at Marysville has been truly rewarding, and I am thankful everyday for the things we learn from each other. As the year winds down, it is always fascinating to see how far our students have come in their interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills. They have not only become more proficient in their communication, but have also grown into more culturally competent citizens. We've been able to participate in some incredible projects as a class such as partnering up with Ochi Junior High School in Shimane Prefecture, Japan and exchanging pen pal letters. Our students had the opportunity to learn about school life in Japan as well as see some of the similarities and differences between teenagers in both countries. We wrote to each other in both English and Japanese, so we could compare the two countries' language skills as well. Our students also enjoyed a presentation by Kendall Brown, a friend and former classmate of Tanya Schubert, who taught us about what it is like to teach English in Japan, and what the schools looked like and how they functioned. It was so cool to see the uniforms, lunches, as well as schedules and responsibilities of the Japanese students.

We also had a chance to participate in a project through The Ohio State University's Institute for Japanese Studies in which we exchanged culture boxes with Japan. We received a "Japan Box" from an elementary school in Saitama prefecture, and we sent our own "Ohio Box" to them in exchange. We had a fun time decorating our box as well as collecting Marysville, Columbus, and Ohio goods that would represent our culture. The Japan box we received was filled with cultural explanations, introductions from students, and many traditional Japanese items such as toys, games, children's

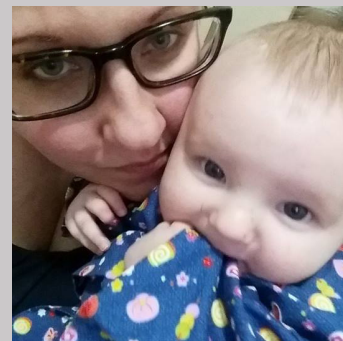
books, calendars, etc. We also got to see photos of the Japanese elementary school students opening our "Ohio Box" and their reactions were priceless.

On April 5, 2016 we successfully put on our second Annual Evening of Japanese Culture, in order to advocate for our language program, showcase Japanese culture, and raise money towards the Japan trip 16 MHS students are taking on June 14. Not only were we able to raise over \$5,000 to help our students, but we also had a huge turnout, great sponsors, and amazing community and business support! We could not have done this without all of your help! You can be on the lookout for next year's culture event on Saturday April 8, 2017. Mark your calendars!

## SUMMER JOBS

### SCHUBERT SENSEI

Tanya Schubert Sensei will be working for Concordia Language Village's Japanese immersion camp "Mori no Ike" as the Credit Curriculum Facilitator in Minnesota from June 12 to July 17.



<http://www.concordialanguagevillages.org/blog/mori-no-ike-dent>

### IYA SENSEI

Iya Nemastil Sensei will be working for Virginia Governor's Japanese Academy summer immersion camp as a Japanese Instructor at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA from June 25 to July 17.



<http://www.vajapaneseacademy.com/>



## SCHUBERT SENSEI BMS

I have had an amazing year teaching Japanese at Bunsold Middle School. It is hard to believe that our school year is already almost done. It is bittersweet for me as I say goodbye to my Japanese 1

students, but it is also exciting for me to see what students will be taking Japanese 1 next year. The goal of our program here at Marysville is for students to converse comfortably in Japanese. Iya Sensei and I challenge them daily by conducting class in Japanese. When my Japanese 1 students entered my classroom in August I remember that I explained to them our goals for the year, and everything we were going to accomplish together. I know that they met me with some apprehension and skepticism. However, as we went through the year I saw my students gain more and more confidence in their abilities. Students became less afraid to make mistakes, and began to take more chances with the language. Students would come in and tell me that they were teaching Japanese to



## KATIE KRUEGER 7TH GRADE

Japanese is such an incredible language. It can be so fascinating to see the cultural differences in any language, especially Japanese! When I first walked into Schubert Sensei's classroom, I was so excited to

begin learning a new language. She immediately welcomed us in and made us comfortable in a language that we were not used to. It was so interesting to come into a classroom focused on learning a language, as that was something I had never done before. In that classroom, we could engage, connect, respect, communicate, and have so much fun!

This year, taking Japanese has been awesome. It has been so fantastic to see progress in something you began with not knowing anything about. If you are on the fence about Japanese, I'd say go for

their friends and family. I even had students who went on vacation to Disney World who sought out Japanese native speakers at Epcot so that they could speak with them. My students worked hard, and it seemed no matter how high I set the bar that they strived to not only meet, but exceed my expectations. I will miss my Japanese 1 students, but I know they will love Japanese 2 at MHS or STEM. This year was the first year at Bunsold that we offered Exploratory Japanese. My 7th graders really made my mornings enjoyable for me, they always kept me on my toes. They showed no fear and would jump into whatever I threw at them. I felt so lucky to be able to walk into school and start my day with students who were so eager to learn the language and culture. I look forward to seeing my 7th graders in Japanese 1. Finally, Iya Sensei and I are currently planning for our sister city Yorii Machi's exchange students who will be coming in August. We are looking forward to welcoming them to Marysville and having our students interact with them. Offering Japanese in our schools is not only relevant to our local community, but is opening the doors for our students elsewhere in the world and helping them to become global citizens.

it! Having the knowledge of a language and the experience of learning one will follow you for the rest of your life. Dewa Mata!

*To a class of the day filled with hellos and goodbyes,*

*Introductions, colors, numbers and a place to socialize.*

*In a language that is foreign, but is so much fun to learn,*

*And to grow and improve, many then to return.*

*Next year again, to a place now well known,*

*To enter a world none of us called our own,*

*And learn more new things, language taught us again,*

*Reach to the max, for learning never ends.*



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## JASCO SPEECH CONTEST

Every year the Japan America Society of Central Ohio, or JASCO holds the Annual Japanese Speech Contest for high school and university students studying Japanese. In the high school category students submit a written essay and a recording of themselves reading it, after which it is judged by a group of native speakers and the best ten essays are narrowed down. This year we are proud to say that 4 of the top 10 essays were written by MHS Japanese 2 students, and they had the opportunity to perform these from memory as well as endure a question-answer session from a panel of judges on March 19 in Dublin, Ohio.

This was a great way to showcase our new program and represent Marysville as well as get a chance to show off our Japanese skills! We couldn't be more proud of Garrett Brown, Emi Penney, Angela McKenzie, and Sydney Shapiro for representing us on contest day. All four of them performed their speeches so well and it was hard to believe they've only been studying Japanese for less than two years. Emi Penney took home the Pronunciation and Intonation Award. Way to go! Can't wait to see what next year brings!

### 17TH ANNUAL JASCO JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST FINALISTS



Sydney Shapiro



Angela McKenzie



Emi Penney



Garrett Brown



**EMI PENNEY**

**PRONUNCIATION  
AWARD**





# GUEST SPEAKERS



**DREW COOK**  
BIOOHIO

**CHIE SCHULLER**  
THK MANUFACTURING OF AMERICA, INC.

**AYANE HIDA**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY

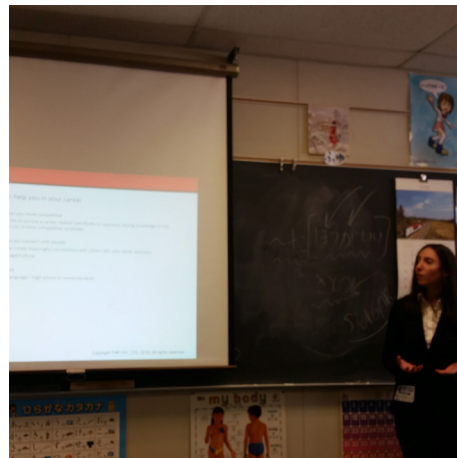
**KAREN PIERCE**  
NERIUM INTERNATIONAL



**ABIGAIL SHELTON**  
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



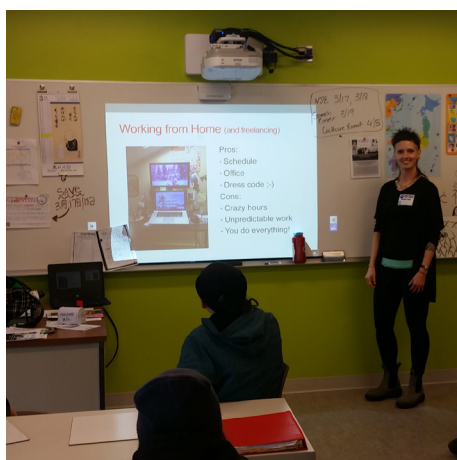
**MICHAEL TANGEMAN**  
DENISON UNIVERSITY



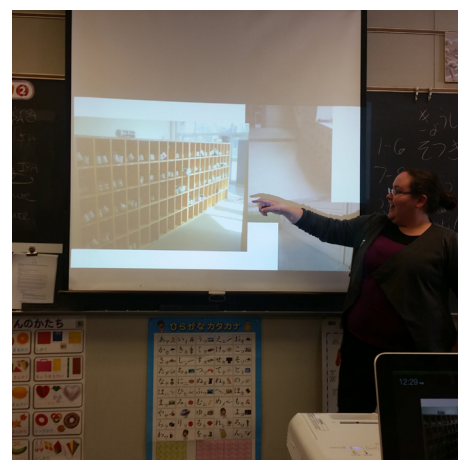
**TESS WEINBERG**  
THK MANUFACTURING OF AMERICA, INC.



**FORREST NEUSWANGER**  
COLDWELL BANKER KING THOMPSON

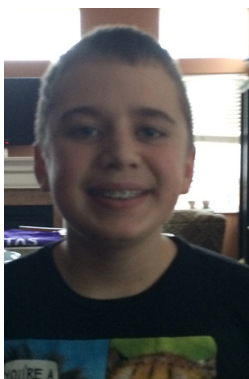


**ELIZABETH BENDER**  
TEMPLEFIELD TRANSLATIONS INC.



**KENDALL BROWN**  
SUNNYSIDE INTERNATIONAL YASHIO  
KINDERGARTEN





## **AIDAN JOHANTGES** **7TH GRADE**

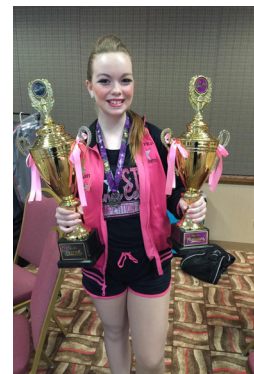
I have always liked the Japanese culture, and I have always thought the language sounded cool. The truth was, I didn't really know anything about it. So a couple of years later in 7th grade, I saw you could take exploratory Japanese. At that time I didn't really think much of it, but when I joined I was glad I did. We did much more than learning the language, we

played games and sung songs, while also learning at the same time. We learned how to say many important and everyday phrases such as how are you, and what is the weather today. It also has a great teacher. Schubert Sensei is really fun, likes to play games and has only threatened to throw about 3 markers this year which is really great. I will definitely be taking Japanese 1 next year and even in High School if I can.

## **EDEN MUROWSKY** **8TH GRADE**

When I really first considered taking Japanese was when I got a letter at the end of last school year telling me what high school courses I qualified for to take my 8th grade year.

I looked at the paper and it had said that I could take Spanish 1 or Japanese 1. Almost immediately my mind went to a million different places. I was thinking, "What one should I take?" or, "What if I completely flunk a high school class before I even get into high school?". I was completely flabbergasted by the amount of people taking Spanish 1. Every one of my friends were taking that class, and I almost did. I am a person to always to challenge myself in classes, so I decided to take Japanese for a high school credit.



Why I decided to take Japanese 1 was because I was (and still am) very fascinated with their culture. I had seen many videos and read books on Japan and Japanese lifestyle. Sometimes I would stay up until 3 AM Googling different brands that have come out of Japan, including Nintendo and Sony. I thought that Japanese writing would be really cool to learn. I knew that they had a lot of Kanji, so was up to the challenge to learn the alphabets.

Class with Schubert Sensei is great! She challenges me and always helps me when I'm confused or needing help with something. I really like Japanese and I'm pretty sure it's the best class I've ever taken. I'm really excited for class and learning a bunch of new stuff. I really hope that I can travel to Japan in the future and learn more about Japan and their culture. Hopefully that 7th graders can take my advice and take this class next year!



## **GRACE MCKILLEN** **8TH GRADE**

First going to Bunsold Middle School, I remember wanting to select a language class. As an incoming seventh grader the only language option available was Spanish, and Japanese was only open to the new eighth graders. During the time I took Spanish I decided that it wasn't down my field of interest and I knew for sure that the next year I wanted to study Japanese.

The first day I met Sensei I was so interested in everything in her room and right from the start I wanted to learn more. The first day of class Sensei gave us the rundown on what we were going to be learning in the class. At first I was a little skeptical but each day I was engaged more and more and just eager to learn. Before I started the class I had already known a small portion of the culture from my dad who travels there often. Recently with the help of my dad and one of his friends from Japan I have been able to start penpalling with a sweet girl a few years younger than me. It has been an incredibly amazing experience communicating with her and learning more about the culture.

For anyone reading this and are thinking about taking the class I highly recommend it! Schubert Sensei is one of the best teachers ever, and you truly learn so many unique things each day about the culture and country itself.



【スタバ新作】世界中  
で日本だけ! 「さくらブ  
ロッサム&ストロベリ  
ー」は和菓子っぽい上  
品な味 / フラペチーノ  
は桜餅! ラテは苺ミル  
ク大福風味

本日2016年2月15日は、スタ  
バファン待望の新商品の発  
売日だ! そう。ついに……  
ついに! スタバのさくらシ  
ーズンがやってきたのだ!  
桜をイメージしたドリンク「さ  
くら ブロッサム&ストロベリ  
ー」のフラペチーノとラテが  
登場したのである。

あああ、もうそんな季節かあ!  
今年の「スタバ×さくら」はど  
んな味なのだろう? 早速、  
発売日に飲んでみた!!

さくら! 苺! さくら!!  
この度発売される「さくら ブ  
ロッサム&ストロベリ」。フ  
ラペチーノもラテも、パステ  
ルピンク×白のキュートなビ  
ジュアル。そして、上にまぶさ  
れたチョコレートがまるでさ  
くらの花びらみたい!

見た目は一発で“さくらだ!”  
とわかる。そして、ほんのり甘  
酸っぱい香り。苺だ。

**Strawberry Delight**

果実感あふれる  
贅沢なフラペチーノ®

Strawberry Delight Frappuccino®  
Blended Cream

ストロベリーソースをたっぷり使用し、さらに果実とクリームが  
混ぜ合わさったフルーティな味わいのフラペチーノ®。  
夏のひとときにとりたつた、ストロベリーづくしのフラペチーノ®を  
こころゆくまでお楽しみください。

**Truivy**

**Rich**

**Creamy**

**CHOCOLATE BROWNIE matcha**

Chocolate Brownie Matcha  
Frappuccino® Blended Cream

チョコレートブラウニー  
抹茶 クリームフラペチーノ®

サクサクとした風味豊かなブラウニーと、  
抹茶と相性の良いチョコレートチップの  
粒々とした食感が楽しめるフラペチーノ®。

お気に入りの一杯をさがそう  
DISCOVER YOUR  
FAVORITES