

October 10, 2017
AEON 1% Club Foundation

140 High School Students from Japan and China Reunite in China
Hosting the “Japan-China Teenage Ambassadors Program”

**Authorized by Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an “Event to Commemorate the
45th Anniversary of the Normalization of Japan-China Diplomatic Relations”**

The AEON 1% Club Foundation will host the “Japan-China Teenage Ambassadors (High School Student Exchange) Program” in the People’s Republic of China (hereinafter, China), during which high school students from Japan and China will deepen their friendship through eight days of exchange activities, starting from October 16 (Monday).

The Foundation has established one of our three main projects* as Promotion of Friendship with Foreign Countries, and as such, we have been holding the Teenage Ambassadors Program, in which high school students from Japan and various nations, particularly in Asia, visit each other’s countries and conduct interpersonal exchange, since 1990. Among these programs, the Japan-China high school student exchange held in Beijing in 2009 received high acclaim from both the Chinese Government and participants from both nations, and as a result has since been held every year, with a cumulative total of 1,190 participants including the current exchange.

This circle of friendship transcending national boundaries is growing wider every year, and with the inclusion of activities in ASEAN nations, students from 18 countries have so far participated in the program, with a cumulative total of 2,428 participants.

In this exchange, a total of 140 students – 70 students from Tokyo, Oita Prefecture, and Hokkaido, and 70 students from Beijing, Wuhan and Qingdao in China - who participated in the “Japan-China Teenage Ambassadors Program” that was held in Japan in July this year, will be reunited in China. As Teenage Ambassadors, participants will conduct activities such as a courtesy visit to the Government of Beijing Municipality. Furthermore, the students of both countries will be separated into three groups, visiting Beijing, Wuhan and Qingdao, where they will deepen their mutual understanding through historical and cultural experiences in each region, followed by a homestay in the same student pairs as the July program. In addition, the visiting Japanese students are scheduled to observe a bicycle-sharing service, as well as other activities that will enable them to experience the “China of Today”.

Moreover, this year’s “Japan-China Teenage Ambassadors Program”, which falls on the 45th year since the normalization of diplomatic relations between Japan and China, has been officially authorized by the

Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an “Event to Commemorate the 45th Anniversary of the Normalization of Japan-China Diplomatic Relations”, as a program that promotes cultural exchange between young people.

The Foundation will continue to foster activities that will contribute to the promotion of friendships between Japan and China by providing opportunities for deepening mutual understanding between young generations who will lead the future of both nations.

Scenes from the “Japan-China Teenage Ambassadors Program” held in Japan in July



Courtesy visit to the Prime Minister’s official residence



Chinese high school students experience a mathematics class

*The three projects: Sound Development of the Next Generation, Promotion of Friendship with Foreign Countries, and Sustainable Development of Regional Communities

Program Outline

1. Period: October 16 (Mon.) - 23 (Mon.)
2. Participants: 70 high school students from Japan (Tokyo, Oita Prefecture, Hokkaido)
70 high school students from China (Beijing, Wuhan, Qingdao)
3. Activity Areas: Beijing, Wuhan, Qingdao
4. Exchange Partners:
 - 1) Tokyo: Senior High School at Otsuka, University of Tsukuba (20 students)
Tokyo: Tokyo Gakugei University Senior High School (15 students) ⇔ Beijing (35 students)
 - 2) Oita Prefecture: Iwata Senior High School (15 students) ⇔ Wuhan (15 students)
 - 3) Hokkaido: Sapporo Nihon University Senior High School (20 students) ⇔ Qingdao (20 students)
5. Main Activity Schedule:

October 16 (Mon.) JETRO Lecture, Orientation

October 17 (Tue.) Courtesy visit to Government of Beijing Municipality, Courtesy visit to The Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Observation of Bicycle-sharing Service, Welcome Party & Q&A Session at Embassy of Japan in China

October 18 (Wed.) Great Wall visit, *Tai chi* experience

October 19 (Thu.)* Students are separated into regional groups to conduct exchange

 - 1) (Tokyo Group) Visit Peking University, Paper-cutting art & mask-making experience, Tea ceremony experience
 - 2) (Oita Group) Courtesy visit to Government of Wuhan Municipality, Visit Wuhan University
 - 3) (Hokkaido Group) Courtesy visit to Government of Qingdao Municipality, Visit Qingdao University

October 20 (Fri.)

 - 1) (Tokyo Group) Classroom visit, Homestay
 - 2) (Oita Group) Classroom visit, Homestay
 - 3) (Hokkaido Group) Classroom visit, Homestay

October 21 (Sat.)

 - 1) (Tokyo Group) Homestay
 - 2) (Oita Group) Homestay
 - 3) (Hokkaido Group) Homestay

October 22 (Sun.) Homestay, Farewell Party

October 23 (Mon.) Japanese students return home