



REPORT

11TH "JAPANESE CULTURE PRESENTATION CONTEST" (FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, IN ENGLISH)

**Organized by the University of Kochi, Department of Cultural Studies
'Culture Day' (November 3, 2024), 13:00~16:30
University of Kochi, Eikokuji campus (room A210)**

The 11th Japan Studies Presentation Contest for High School Students was the second one we were able to hold after the end of Covid-19-related restrictions. It also was the first post-pandemic contest that involved a competition between multiple teams from inside and outside of Kochi prefecture. As the organizing institution we were very happy to notice how high school students from the Rikkyō Niiza high school and the Kōbe Seijō high school had come all the way from Saitama and Hyōgo, respectively, to participate. They, and teams from nearby Marunouchi and Kokusai high schools, took up the challenge of speaking for ten minutes about a topic that is culturally or socially relevant to Japan in English. Much in the tradition of previous contests held here, the jury had a hard time deciding on the winning presentations. After due consideration, the team of from Marunouchi high school took first prize for the clarity of its message, its flow and pronunciation, and above all the passion of its delivery. In terms of topic, the jury members lauded the Kōbe Seijō high school team for its interesting take on how SNS can negatively impact our minds, and fast fashion can harm our environment. To all teams: congratulations! We all enjoyed this edition and are looking forward to seeing teams from the same (and many other) schools next year!



