Happy New Year!

This year is the Year of the Dog!

According to this year’s astrology, 2018 offers great opportunities to be sociable, as dogs are very energetic and friendly. Therefore, we’ll take this occasion to start something new in order to socialize with and reach our students beyond our classes. We are issuing a monthly newsletter! Each month, we’ll share event information, Japan fun facts, authentic short readings in Japanese, students’ activities and opinions and more!! You are more than welcome to contribute to future issues by submitting your own article in English and/or Japanese!! (See the last page for instructions).
Japan-Related Student Activities at CWRU

Kendo Club
Kendo is Japanese for "Way of the Sword." It is the traditional Japanese art of sword-fighting. Kendo, like any other martial art, stresses personal, mental, and physical growth equally, and one may only get out of kendo what one puts into it. Membership in the Kendo club costs $20 per semester.

Website: https://sites.google.com/a/case.edu/case-kendo-club/

Case Origami Circle
The Case Origami Circle meets once a week to fold origami. Whether you're working on your own model or you want to teach/be taught something, everyone is welcome. No prior experience necessary.

E-mail (President): jdk150@case.edu
Website: https://orgsync.com/158734/chapter

Japan CASE
Japan CASE is a student run, non-profit club at Case Western Reserve University. Its purpose is to promote interest in the language and culture of Japan through social, cultural, and educational activities. All events are free unless otherwise specified. Japan CASE events are open to anyone, regardless of academic affiliation.

Website: https://orgsync.com/90355/chapter
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/69099142322/
日本語で読む！日本のニュース

『日本のお正月には〇〇がありません！』

日本のお正月に何がありませんか？それは、「花火」です。アメリカでは、ニューイヤーズ・イブ（大晦日）は、カウントダウンと「花火」ですね。0 時に、たくさんの花火が上がってきて、そしてパーティーです。でも、日本ではありません。

でも、最近は花火をするところがあります。遊園地やスキー場です。関東地方では、神奈川県の「横浜・八景島シーアラジナス」や千葉県の「東京ディズニーランド」と「東京ディズニーシー」がとても有名です。ちょっとめずらしいのは、神奈川県の「箱根神社」での花火です。とてもきれいですよ。

お正月に〇〇してはいけません！

日本では 1 月 1 日から 3 日を「三が日」と言います。
この日はお正月のお休みです。

1. 掃除してはいけません。お正月には神様が、幸福をもってやってきます。だから、掃除をすると、福の神様をお追い出してしまうことになるんです。
2. 刃物を使ってはいけません。「縁を切る」の意味になってしまうので、縁起が悪いんです。
3. 火を使ってはいけません。火の神様の「荒神」を休ませてあげるためです。
4. 四つ足の動物を食べてはいけません。おせち料理にも入れませんよ。
5. ケンカをしてはいけません。ケンカや怒りは悪い運気を呼ぶと言われています。
6. お金を使ってはいけません。神様にあげる「お賽銭」は大切ですが、「年の初めにお金を使いすぎると、その年はお金が貯まらない」のだそうです。


Study Abroad Opportunities

南山大学 Nanzan University
http://www.nanzan-u.ac.jp/English/cjs/summer.html

6-8 week program offering from pre-intermediate to pre-advanced level courses. Also offers a course in Japanese studies introducing various aspects of Japanese society and culture & a course in Japanese Arts. There are also field trips in the program providing students with an opportunity to visit famous cultural spots around Nagoya.
Application Period: February 1 – February 28

早稲田大学 Waseda University
https://www.waseda.jp/top/en

Many CWRU students have done this program in the past. It's not a competitive program, but be sure to get the application submitted in time. The summer program is from mid June to the end of July. In principle, the students study in 10 lectures/week. A skill-based (speaking) class is also offered for an additional fee, which is strongly recommended by the CWRU students who have done the Waseda program in the past.
Pre-Registration period for the summer program is from late January to early February. Be aware of the deadlines on the CWRU and Waseda websites (they might list different dates).

Hokkaido International Foundation
http://www.hif.or.jp/en/summer/

This eight-week summer intensive program consists of three major components - “Homestay”, “Japanese Language Class” and “Independent Study”, which are closely related to one another in order to promote students’ learning. The program is from early June to early August. Application Period: Mid November - Early February

There are many other study abroad programs in Japan and the U.S. where you can study Japanese language and culture. Please consult with your instructors or contact the director of the Japanese Studies Program (Dr. Hagiwara: takao.hagiwara@case.edu) for more information. Also, contact the Office of Education Abroad (https://case.edu/international/office-of-education-abroad/)
2018 年おすすめアニメ

Recommended Anime in 2018

by Yuki Togawa Gergotz

からかい上手の高木さん

Karakai Jozu no Takagi-san / Skilled Teaser

Takagi-san

Looking for a good laugh? Here is one for you! "If you blush, you lose." Living by this principle, the middle school boy Nishikata gets constantly teased by his classmate Takagi-san. Will Nishikata get revenge on Takagi-san one day and make her blush from embarrassment? Season 1 available on Crunchroll and Funimation in January 2018.

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ピアノの森

Piano no Mori / The Perfect World of Kai

Piano no Mori ("Forest of the Piano") is a story about Kai Ichinose, a boy who loves playing a broken piano in the forest just outside of the red light district where he lives with his mother. Watch how he teaches himself music and start pursuing a career as a professional pianist. Highly recommended for those who liked watching “Your Lie in April” (2014). Will be broadcasted in April 2018.

デビルズライン

Devil’s Line

Here is another series to look forward to in Spring 2018. In a world where vampires, known as “Devils,” blend in among the human population, college girl Tsukasa meets Anzai, a half-devil, half-human who works in a secret police organization dealing with these “Devils.” As they start to form a bond, can Anzai resist the devil inside to love Tsukasa as a human? With great plots, action, mixed with romance, this anime is highly recommended for those who like “Tokyo Ghoul” (2014) and other dark fantasy anime series. Speaking of which, the third season, titled “Tokyo Ghoul: re” will also be aired in April 2018.
Send us an article!

Would you like to write your own article to share your love of Japan, its culture and society? Do you want to share your favorite anime, manga, novels, etc., or share student activities, events and other interesting information? Please do!!

You may write an article either in English or Japanese, or both, if you would like.

Extra Credit

If you are currently taking a course in the Japanese Studies Program, you may earn extra credit for the course(s) you are in! Contact your instructor about more information.

How to submit your articles?

Please submit articles following these guidelines:

1. Submit an article as a Microsoft Word document (or Google Docs)
2. Pictures for your article should be e-mailed and not inserted into the article
3. Include a heading and subheading (if applicable)
4. Include your name and the course in which you are currently enrolled (if applicable)
5. Send your article to yuki.togawa.gergotz@case.edu

Submit by the end of each month to be featured for the following month!

Articles can also be held for use in future issues. If an article requires excessive editing, you will be asked to rework your article and it could be reserved for a future issue.

Deadline for February issue: January 31, 2018