

# Santa Fe JIN Newsletter

## Thank-You Letter from JIN Scholarship Recipient

Dear Santa Fe JIN,

Thank you, Santa Fe JIN, for the generous donation of 1,000 dollars that went towards my travel to Japan with the Monte del Sol Charter School. The Monte del Sol Japan trip was such an amazing experience I wish I could revisit. The group of 20 teenagers traveled all over the main island of Japan. We went to Kyoto, Nara, Tsuyama, and Tokyo. The trip began with great excitement.

As we saw many temples in Kyoto, we got a taste of old Japan. Kiyomizu, Kinkakuji, and Ryoanji temples were just a few temples we saw. We also saw the Arashiyama, Storm Mountain, Monkey Park where over 170 monkeys seek sanctuary and Heian Shrine. After an eventful first few days in Kyoto, we took a bus to Nara and saw Todaiji temple along with the famous “bowing deer”. Afterwards, we drove to Tsuyama to meet our host families. I was so excited and anxious to meet them. My host family has two children, a nine-year-old boy and a thirteen-year-old girl. They were very sweet and considerate. I was their first home stay child. On the last day in Tsuyama my host family took me to the rice paddies outside of town. The view was amazing, especially because of the bright sunshine that thankfully chose to shine that day. That night we took an overnight bus to Tokyo and saw Mount Fuji! In Tokyo, we went to the Tokyo Tower, the Tsukiji fish market, Harajuku Street, Kiddy Land, and the Pokémon store. On the last day, we had a free day that I spent with my third cousin and his children. It was very fun.

By the end of this trip I saw the old, conservative Japan, and the new, ultra-modern Japan. That was a very interesting thing to see. None of it would be possible without the help of Santa Fe JIN. The money that you gave to me made this trip very special to me. *Domo arigatou gozaimashita, Nihon imashita!*

—Lia Fukuda

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## General Meeting August 10 2013

There will be a JIN general meeting on Saturday, August 10, 2013 from 3 to 4 PM at the Santa Fe Budokan. We will be working on planning this year's Bon Odori celebration, which will be held on Saturday, October 5, as well as practicing dances for this event. We will also be announcing the date of the 2014 Matsuri.

*Directions to Santa Fe Budokan: Traveling northeast along Cerillos Road coming from Rodeo Road, turn left on Vegas Verdes. The Budokan will be on your left, number 1360. If you reach Vegas Verdes Loop, you have gone too far.*

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## Request for Articles

If there is an article you would like to see included in next month's newsletter, please send it to Matthew Schauer at [matthew.schauer.x@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.schauer.x@gmail.com). News need not be directly related to Santa Fe JIN.