

International Education Center



Principles

IEC aims to

1. promote international and intercultural exchange
2. promote mutual understanding among peoples of the world
3. contribute to world peace
4. promote international education and cultural exchange projects to achieve these aims

History

IEC was established in 1947 as the parent organization of Nichibeï Kaiwa Gakuin, and was authorized as a non-profit organization for public service by the then Ministry of Education in 1948. IEC has steadily expanded its activities to include a variety of educational and cultural activities in addition to its main language education programs.



- Mar 2008 IEC's new building completed.
- Apr 2004 Takashi Oi, President of IEC-Nichibeï Kaiwa Gakuin becomes Chair of IEC's Board of Trustees.
- Jul 1995 The University of Chicago begins offering its Master of Arts Program in the Humanities at IEC (until Dec 2003).
- Sep 1967 Japanese Language Institute founded.
- Aug 1962 IEC Forum begins.
- Jun 1960 IEC holds the 1st International Speech Contest in Japanese (later becomes Japanese Speech Contest for Foreigners).
- Jul 1954 IEC starts the present series of the Japan-America Student Conference (first begun in 1934; suspended during wartime).
- Jun 1953 International Education and Culture Association changes name to International Education Center.
- Aug 1948 International Education and Culture Association authorized by the then Ministry of Education.
- Nov 1945 Nichibeï Kaiwa Gakuin founded.

International Education

Nichibeï Kaiwa Gakuin since 1945

Founded in 1945, Nichibeï Kaiwa Gakuin has been providing English communication skills training for those in both the public and private sectors in Japan. Another goal was to develop their potential as internationally-oriented democratically-spirited citizens of the world.

Nichibeï administers a combined daytime, afternoon, evening and weekend enrollment of some 1200+ students supported by over 100 full-time and part-time faculty.

English Language Education Programs

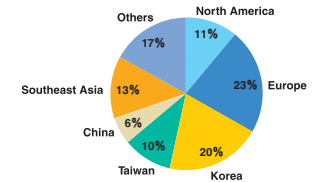
- ▶ **3-Month Corporate and Government Program** : 3-month intensive training for government bureaucrats and businesspeople.
- ▶ **School of Intercultural Communication** : 5 days a week ESL night program.
- ▶ **3-Month Intensive Daytime Program** : intensive training for those who want to strengthen their language skills before studying abroad or re-entering the workforce.
- ▶ **Business English Program** : semi-intensive evening program for business professionals.
- ▶ **Continuing Education Program** : integrated multi-level program with over 100 classes at various times for working and non-working adults.
- ▶ **Conference Interpreting School** : conference interpreting and translation program.
- ▶ **School of International Studies** : graduate-level interdisciplinary program.
- ▶ **Graduate School Preparation Program** : pre-departure training and special classes to prepare for graduate school education abroad.
- ▶ **Special Programs** : standardized test preparation courses for TOEIC, TOEFL and STEP (an English rating test in Japan); elementary through senior high school English courses, and others.
- ▶ **On-Site Training** : general academic and business training provided to universities and businesses at their location.



Japanese Language Institute since 1967

More than 7,000 non-Japanese students including diplomats, business people, researchers, teachers and other residents from over 90 countries have studied in JLI programs to develop their proficiency in the Japanese language since it was founded in 1967. Daytime and evening courses from beginning to advanced levels are offered every quarter. The faculty consists of qualified and experienced professionals in teaching Japanese as a second language. The student affairs staff is well-trained in assisting students from abroad with becoming accustomed to life in Japan. Applicants must be college students or graduates. Enrollment is nearly 100 students every quarter.

Student Country of Origin (2010)



Cultural Exchange

Japan-America Student Conference (JASC)

JASC was initiated in Japan in 1934 by students to promote mutual relations and understanding between the two countries. Conferences are held alternately in Japan and the US annually with nearly 50 students from both countries tackling problems between the two countries in a global context in seminars and cultural activities for four weeks in the summer at several locations in the host country.



International Speech Contest in Japanese

Begun in 1960, this annual event provides contestants from all parts of the country with an opportunity to express themselves in Japanese before an audience. The contest is broadcast nationwide by NHK TV network. The contest has been supported by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; the US Embassy; and other organizations.



IEC Forum

The IEC Forum on International Affairs is intended to present topics of current interest for the benefit of the general public. The lectures are presented in English by guest speakers from Japan or other countries, usually scholars, diplomats, businesspersons or people who are experts on the Forum topic.



English Teaching Methods Seminar

The seminar for English teachers in Japan started in 2000. Teachers from all over the country come to participate in seminar and lecture sessions to explore ways in which they can help their students aim to learn intellectual and practical English.

Japan Studies Program

Every summer students from U.S. colleges and universities come to Japan to participate in a 4-6 week program intended to increase their awareness and understanding of Japanese culture and society. This program first started with Elmira College in 1972.

All Japan Teachers' English Speech Contest

The contest aims to enhance English education at Japanese junior and senior high schools by providing opportunities for teachers to express their opinions in English. The contest was resumed in 2010 in collaboration with STEP and supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Technology; the US Embassy; and other organizations.

Collaboration Activities

IEC and Nichibeikaiwa Gakuin have been collaborating with The University of Tokyo, Obirin University, and other educational institutions and non-profits organizations both in their educational and culture projects.

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H.I.H. Princess Hisako Takamado

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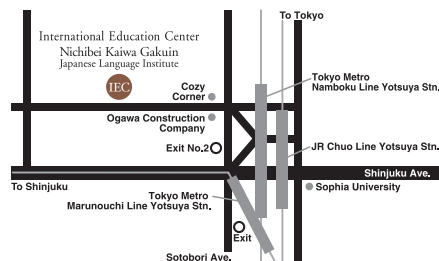
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