

2012 KICA Essay Contest: Finalists are Shortlisted !

We are pleased to announce the three finalists of each of Japanese and English essays who were shortlisted by the Selection Panel held on October 14. These three finalists will contest the best essayist in each of Japanese and English categories in the forthcoming open forum of Oral Presentation cum Final Competition to be held at Kyoto International Community House on November 18, 2012.

English essays

Tekhla Boven	Belgium	"Neither West nor East, but Somewhere in-between"
Maarten Gerkes	Netherland	"To what extent is Japan now a normal state in terms of its foreign policy?"
Michael R Smith	USA	"A Tohoku Journal"

Japanese essays

クレア・サマーズ	UK	「私の目から見る日本と外国」
Andassova Maral	Kazakhstan	「私の原点—『古事記』という日本」
任 穎	China	「花一輪 — 和の姿」

A word to those who missed the chance of being the finalists: We received 52 English essays (and 27 Japanese essays) from all over Japan this year. You therefore faced a highly competitive environment and KICA jury members faced a real challenge in selecting the only three finalists out of a number of highly competent participants, and they often had to make very difficult decisions.

We hope, though, that you nevertheless found writing your essay a rewarding experience. Thank you very much for your interest and participation in our 2012 KICA Essay Contest.

The selection panel is constituted by the following members:

English essays

Kaida, Y.,	Professor Emeritus of Kyoto University, Asian Area Studies
Craig Smith,	Professor of Kyoto University of Foreign Studies, Intercultural Communication
Kodama, S	Former President of Doshisha Women's University, American Literature
Shibata, S	Representative Director of Kyoto International Community House
Janet Sono	Former Professor of Doshisha Women's University, English Literature
Todd Thorpe	Professor of Kinki University, Intercultural Communication

Japanese essays

Kato, H	Vice-President of Nara University of Education, Japanese Studies
Saiki, N	Director of Kyoto Office, Japan Foundation
Takagi, M	Secretary-General of Kyoto International Cultural Association
Hattori, T	Vice-President & Editor-in-Chief, Tankosha, Ltd.
Hirose, K	Member of Board of Kyoto International Cultural Association
Hosokawa, T	Ikenobo Headquarters Kyoto, Central Research Institute