



第 10 回高校生国際交流写真フェスティバル

The 10th International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange (HIGASHIKAWA Youth Fest.)

【Organizer】 International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange Executive Committee

<Affiliated Groups>

Higashikawa Town / Higashikawa Tourism Association / Higashikawa Chamber of Commerce and Industry / Higashikawa Board of Education / Higashikawa Training College of International Culture and Welfare / Higashikawa Development Corporation Inc. / Kitanomegumi Inc. / Toko Hire Co., Ltd

【Official Support】 Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan / Council of Local Authorities for International Relations / Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Sapporo / Royal Thai Embassy in Japan / Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Japan / Embassy of Canada in Japan / Embassy of Latvia in Japan / U.S. Consulate General Sapporo / Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Tokyo / Embassy of the Republic of Colombia in Japan / Embassy of Ireland, Japan / Sapporo Branch, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan / Hokkaido Government / All Japan Senior High School Cultural Federation / Hokkaido Senior High School Cultural Federation / Canon Marketing Japan Inc. / Western Digital Corporation / EIZO Corporation

【Sponsorship】 Kinki Nippon Tourist Co., Ltd. Asahikawa Office

【Technical Support】 HJK Inc.

東川オフィシャルパートナー
Partnership



【International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange Executive Committee】

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Official Website: <https://higashikawa-youth-fest.jp>

About Higashikawa, “The Town of Photography” in Hokkaido

Located almost directly in the center of Hokkaido in Japan, this unique town declared itself as the Town of Photography in June, 1985 with the aim of creating a pleasant town full of vitality which is open to the world, where nature and culture can exist in harmony through both international exchange and photography.



What is the International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange?

Since 2015, we have held this festival to connect people across the world through encouraging new conversations between students, expanding their friendships, and aiming for a world of everlasting peace.

We accept applications for works (a series of photos) based on the designated theme from the countries and regions listed below. Qualifiers are held in each region, and then the selected schools will be invited to Higashikawa to participate in the festival.

International Teams (Cities, districts and towns are designated by the organizer.)

★ 2025 Invitees

⊙ Countries Participating Every Year

Area	Country / Region	City / District / Town	2025 Invitees
Asia (12)	★⊙China	Beijing, Xiamen	★10 Invitees
	★Korea	Yeongwol Country	
	★⊙Taiwan	all across Taiwan	
	★⊙Thailand		
	★⊙Vietnam		
	★⊙Uzbekistan	Tashkent	
	★⊙Indonesia		
	★Myanmar	Twantay	
	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	
	★⊙Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar	
	★⊙Laos	Vientiane	
	Singapore		
Europe (6)	★Latvia	Valmiera	★3 Invitees
	Finland	Kangasala	
	Russia	Aniva	
	★France		
	★Luxembourg		
	Ireland		
North/South America (4)	★⊙Australia	Canberra	★2 Invitees
	★Canada	Canmore	
	USA	New York	
	Colombia	Boyacá	

*The organizer accepts entries only from the cities, districts, and town listed above.

*The qualifier process varies by country. Please contact the local coordinator.

*Any listed country may participate regardless of invitation status, if they are willing to cover their own travel expenses up to Asahikawa Airport in Japan. In which case, Higashikawa will cover transportation/lodging expenses from that point.

How to Enter the 10th International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange

A Eligibility:

- Teams consisting of three students who are enrolled in a high school or equivalent educational institution
 - A teacher in the school must be their advisor and accompany the team during the festival.
 - Only one team per school can apply.
- High school students who are interested in international cultural exchange through photography

B Theme of Works for Qualifier: The Charm of Your Region

C Submission Rules:

- ① Only digital data is acceptable.
- ② The submitted works must not have been previously shown publicly or published and may not have placed in any previous competitions. (If the organizer finds that the submitted works do not meet these requirements, the invitation to the festival may be withdrawn.)
- ③ Only one team per school may apply.
- ④ The submitted works must be a series of six photos.
- ⑤ The photos should be taken in RGB mode, the file format should be JPEG, the size should be at least 1024 pixels on the long side, and the resolution should be 72ppi or higher.
- ⑥ Submission must be by email. If the size of the photos is too large, send them through reliable file hosting services.
- ⑦ The name of the work files must be numbered in accordance with the order: for example, #1, #2.
- ⑧ The entrants must fill out the application form and send it in PDF format by email along with the submitted works. The signature of the principal is essential.
- ⑨ Please note that any submitted works may be exhibited in exhibitions held by the organizer, used for printings and publications, and uploaded on the website without any charge.

D Application Deadline:

5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 30, 2025 (Japan Standard Time)

E Email Addresses for Submitting the Works

Coordinator: culture.embjapan@lx.mofa.go.jp (Embassy of Japan in Luxembourg)

*When submitting your works, please send them to the coordinator by email with the subject "Submission of the works for International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange."

*Please make sure that you can receive emails from the address above. We may occasionally contact you.

F Qualifier Method:

Submitted works will be assessed by a panel of about three judges for each country/region to determine the qualifying schools to participate in the festival.

*In some countries/regions, the participating school may be selected by the coordinator.

G Qualifier Result Announcement

- ① The qualifiers will be held in late June.
- ② The organizer will announce the results in early July on the website, and also contact all entrants by email.
- ③ A plaque and certificates will be presented to the selected schools.
- ④ The submitted works will be exhibited at the main venue during the festival.

Summary of the 10th International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange

A Summary

Selected schools from each country and region including from Japan will be invited to Higashikawa, the Town of Photography, to take part in photo sessions in the picturesque places around the town, using a digital camera.

Based on the designated themes, photo sessions will be held at a designated location and time. After that, the participants will select and prepare their works for exhibition, and submit a series of six photos and one single photo with the title of the work.

*Please note that the content of the festival is subject to change without prior notice.

B Duration of the Invitation:

From Monday, August 18, 2025 to Sunday, August 24, 2025

<Duration of the Festival: from Tuesday, August 19, 2025 to Saturday, August 23, 2025>

C Main Venues:

- I. Higashikawa Cultural Exchange Center CentPure I
- II. Various viewpoints in Higashikawa

D Schedule (tentative):

Mon, August 18	■ Arrival in Higashikawa	
Tue, August 19	■ Take team photos	■ Opening Ceremony ■ Japanese language lesson
	■ Lend out filming equipment to those who need to borrow	
	■ Orientation	■ Welcome dinner party
Wed, August 20	■ Photo Session #1, 2, 3	■ Japanese culture experience
Thu, August 21	■ Photo Selection #1	■ Photo Session #4 ■ Judges' Review
	■ Judges' & Coordinators' Review	
Fri, August 22	■ Photo Session #5	■ Photo Selection #2 & Photo exhibition
	■ Online voting	■ Screen a film produced by Higashikawa
	■ Return the borrowed filming equipment	■ Voting ■ Sightseeing Tour
Sat, August 23	■ Awards Ceremony & Closing Ceremony	■ Cross-cultural exchange party
Sun, August 24	■ Saying good-bye	

E Judges:

The panel of judges will consist of 5 people: 2 from overseas and 3 from Japan.

F Festival Awards:

Festival Awards	Given to:	What's awarded:
Higashikawa "Town of Photography" Award (Gold Award)	1 school / 1 individual	Award certificate and extra prize
Higashikawa Tourism Association Award (Silver Award)	1 school / 1 individual	Award certificate and extra prize
Higashikawa Training College of International Culture and Welfare Award (Bronze Award)	1 school / 1 individual	Award certificate and extra prize
Sponsor's Choice Award of Excellence	1 school	Prize
Students and Teachers' Choice Award	1 schools / 1 individuals	Prize
Online Special Choice Award (Online voting)	1 schools / 1 individuals	Prize

G Online Voting

The Online Special Choice Award will be determined by online voting, which is open to everyone in the world. Voting will open from 5 p.m., on Friday, August 22 to 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 23, 2025.

H Expenses for Participation (Invitees)

The organizer is responsible for transportation costs from the airport nearest to the school to Higashikawa as well as accommodations for the participants, three students and one teacher per team. Meals during the festival are also provided.

*Transportation between home and the nearest airport is the responsibility of the participants.

*The organizer only provides accommodation for the minimum nights necessary.

I Precautions Regarding the Works

The usage of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) for taking photos is prohibited. There are no requirements for the settings for your camera. You may arrange your photos on your display as you please, but note that they will be in a fixed position for the online voting.

J Others

- ① Each facility is equipped with Wi-Fi access, but if you wish to use your smartphone or other devices outdoors, please prepare a SIM card or a pocket Wi-Fi as needed.
- ② During your stay in Higashikawa, interpreters will accompany each team. We will try to arrange an interpreter who speaks your mother tongue, but please note that we cannot guarantee that.

