

Let's Talk About the World: in Kagoshima!

The 31st Annual Japanese Speech Contest

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

*Open to all foreign nationals living in Kagoshima Prefecture.
Come and express yourself in Japanese!*

- **PURPOSE** To provide an opportunity for foreign nationals living in Kagoshima to express their opinions in Japanese and to improve their Japanese language ability. This will help to create a more culturally diverse and cosmopolitan Kagoshima through exploring differences in culture and national identity.
- **DATES** **Preliminary Round:** 10th January 2026 (Sat) 10:00-onwards
Contest: 7th February 2026 (Sat) 13:30-onwards
- **LOCATION** **Prefectural Citizens' Hall,**
1st Floor, Kakuix Exchange Center
- **REQUIREMENTS** You must be a foreign national residing in Kagoshima Prefecture and not have previously received the Grand Prize in this contest.
- **MAX APPLICANTS** 40 people (only individual applications are accepted).
- **THEME** Any topic **EXCLUDING** religion and politics.
- **TIME LENGTH** 4-6 minutes (at least 1,100 Japanese characters or greater)
- **RESTRICTION** The use of props or sound effects is not permitted.
- **EVALUATION** KIA pre-screening, the Preliminary Round and the Contest will be adjudicated by the judges.

Pre-screening: In principle, up to 40 participants will be selected based on the speech manuscript.

Preliminary Round: 10 participants will be selected to move forward to the contest.

Contest: Prizes will be awarded to selected participants.

- **AWARDS**
 - Grand Prize (¥50,000 and an additional prize),
 - Excellence Award (¥20,000),
 - Honourable Mention Award (¥10,000),
 - Judges' Special Award

- APPLICATION Apply on the KIA website (<https://www.kiaweb.or.jp/>) or by scanning the QR code on the flyer and complete the application on the Google Form.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 28th November 2025 (Fri)

- MEDIA DISCLOSURE
 - Participants' information such as names, nationalities etc. may be disclosed to the media by the organisers.
 - In addition, participants may be directly interviewed by the media.
- RECORDING GUIDELINES
 - The speech contest is recorded and filmed by the organiser, and the content may be edited and/or used on platforms such as YouTube and KIA homepages
 - We ask guests to refrain from the use of photography and audio recording during the speech contest.
 - Furthermore, any unauthorised uploading of materials (including KIA-produced materials, presentation materials, recordings or otherwise) to be used on external sites is strictly prohibited.

ENQUIRIES

Kagoshima International Association (KIA) (Coordinator: Lim)
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