

NSW and NT Japanese Language Speech Contests

The winners from New South Wales and the Northern Territory were decided in August and September. First place winners from state and territory level contests have been invited to participate in the national final on 10 October at the Japan Foundation in Sydney.

The Northern Territory Final was held on Thursday 20 August. For the very first time, the NT finals were conducted in Alice Springs, hosted by St Philip's College. Japanese language is very popular in the Alice thanks to the efforts of some very dedicated teachers.

The New South Wales Final was held on Saturday 5 September. The contest was again kindly hosted by Japanese studies at Macquarie University.

To reach the Australian final, the contestants must demonstrate excellence in both language and delivery. The level was considered to be very high by the judges in both the NSW and NT contests, and Ms Tomoko Hashizume, vice-



Prize winners and judges of the 2015 Northern Territory Japanese Language Speech Contest at St Philip's College

Prize winners and judges of the 2015 New South Wales Japanese Language Speech Contest at Macquarie University



consul for information and culture, who attended both contests as a judge, was particularly impressed by how well the Northern Territory students memorised and delivered their speeches.

To regional students in NSW and the NT, don't let distance put you off taking part! Where there's a will, there's generally a way, thanks to technology today. If you'd like to take part, contact your Japanese language teacher and the organisers.

For the final national results, visit the Japanese Language Speech Contest homepage:

speechcontest.jpj-sydney.net



2016-2017

The Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program will mark its thirtieth anniversary with the 2016-2017 program. The Consulates-General and Embassy of Japan in Australia are currently recruiting for the 2016-2017 program.

The JET Desk at the Consulate-General of Japan in Sydney is visiting universities in NSW and holding several information sessions at the consulate office in October and early November to promote the program.

New NSW JETs in 2015-2016

NSW participants on the 2015-2016 program joined fellow Australian JETs and left Sydney to take up their positions in Japan on 25 July. There were 27 Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs) and 2 Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs). The NSW participants are part of a group of 346 Australians participating on the JET program. Currently there are more than 4,700 JETs from some 40 different countries.



An Assistant Language Teacher at work with junior high school students

Learn more about the positions and the program at:

www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp/english/education.htm

Applications are now open.

Deadline: 20 November 2015