



College Women's Association of Japan

The 2020 CWAJ Scholars

presented by the CWAJ Scholarship Committee

Arts
Community
Friendship
Education

CWAJ Cultural Exchange Graduate Scholarship for Japanese Women to Study Abroad (SA)

One scholarship of 3.0 million yen (Supported by the Japan Foundation)

KAWABATA, Sayoko

BA Psychology, Doshisha University; MS Health Care Science, Bunkyo Gakuin University;
OTR, Occupational Therapy Department, Showa University College of Medical Sciences
Study program: PhD Occupational Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (USA)

Ms. Kawabata is an occupational therapist, a health profession promoting health and well being, through the use of occupation, everyday activities like self-care, leisure, and work. Her major interest is in the play of children with special needs, which is a powerful tool enhancing their development. Occupational science, the study of human occupations, is the basic science behind occupational therapy. She aspires to help disseminate occupational science and occupational therapy to other Asian countries.



CWAJ Graduate Scholarship for Japanese Women to Study Abroad (SA)

One scholarship of 3.0 million yen

USHIO, Sayo

BA International Relations, University of Tokyo
Study program: MA International Child Studies, Faculty of Social Science and Public Policy, King's College London (UK)

Ms. Ushio has been working to support refugee children in Uganda and Bangladesh, especially in the field of child protection. She is committed to protect children from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence through a community-based child protection system that ensures participation of children and their caregivers. She aims to build her understanding of theories and research methods, based on her field experiences, to ensure that interventions for supporting children are evidence-based.



CWAJ Scholarship for the Visually Impaired to Study in Japan (SVI-SJ)

Two scholarships of 1.5 million yen each

FUJIMOTO, Masahiro

Study program: 4th year, English and American Literature (Linguistics), Department of Letters, College of Arts, Rikkyo University

Mr. Fujimoto is examining the possibilities and problems of English education in Japan by studying the features of current English grammar. Because he has been blind from birth, language is an important source of information for him, and especially, the experience of learning English from childhood makes his world bigger. He thinks language is a "property" that human beings can keep and increase from the cradle to the grave. Therefore, he wants to play a role in keeping this property for all people by making situations enjoyable and allowing equal access for all.

SUGIURA, Yuki

Study Program: 4th year, Contemporary Childhood Studies (English pedagogy), Department of Human Sciences, Kinjo Gakuin University

Ms. Sugiura is studying English pedagogy at Kinjo Gakuin University. Until now, she has been in a regular class, and struggled to relate to her friends as a person with disabilities. There were non-Japanese students who also had difficulty in making friends. She wants to be a teacher who can develop classes by making the most of her disabilities to tell the students that everyone is different and everyone is good. Through activities that make the most of the characteristics of each one, she would like to educate children to learn to respect and recognize each other.



CWAJ Graduate Scholarship for Non-Japanese Women to Study in Japan (NJG)

Two scholarships of 2.0 million yen each

ABUSHAMMALAH, Noor J. E. (State of Palestine)

BA Political Science & Government, International Islamic University Malaysia (Malaysia); MA International Cooperation, Security, and Safety, Kyushu University (Japan)

Study program: PhD International Cooperation, Security and Safety, Graduate School of Integrated Sciences for Global Society, Kyushu University

Ms. Abushammalah has been blessed with a supportive family that encourages her to aspire and achieve. Throughout her journey, she could not turn a blind eye towards the less fortunate women in the Middle East who lack basic rights. Her PhD research is focusing on Arab women between reform and repression and their role in the ongoing geo-strategic rivalries in the region. She aims to analyze the relationship between gender and its entanglements with various dynamics in the region without overlooking the diversity and complexity of Arab women's culture, lifestyles and surroundings.



ARABADZHIEVA, Polina Dimitrova (Republic of Bulgaria)

BA Trade management for Asia, Rotterdam Business School (The Netherlands)

Study program: MA International Business and Development Studies, Graduate Program of Global Studies, Sophia University

Ms. Arabadzhieva specializes in sustainable supply chain of fresh produce and a circular economy. Her focus is on finding the best practices to ensure food security in developing countries through sustainable production of fruits and vegetables, and to enhance distribution of health-enriching food in developed countries such as Japan. Polina believes that future diets will be largely plant based, so food has to support livelihoods of people all around the world, and at the same time, help our environment thrive.



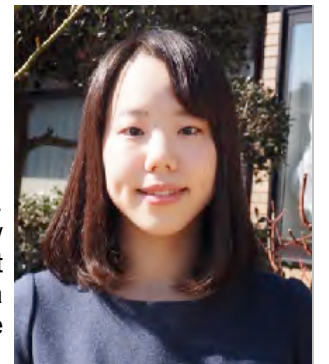
CWAJ Fukushima Relief Scholarship (FRS)

One scholarship of 0.5 million yen

YAMAGUCHI, Ayumi

4th year student, Fukushima Medical University School of Nursing

Ms. Yamaguchi is thinking about family nursing in emergency care and intensive care. Currently, as a student, she works part-time at an emergency medical center. When she saw a family waiting with anxiety and impatience due to a sudden event, it made her think about what she could do for such families. After gaining experience, she also dreams of becoming a flight nurse who connects life at the forefront of emergency care. She would like to thank the patients she has met during her training, who have given her a clear goal.



CWAJ 70th Anniversary Graduate Scholarship for Japanese Women to Study Abroad (SA)

2020 is second year of two scholarships of 5.0 million yen each (total for two academic years)

SAKON, Shio

BA, College of Liberal Arts, International Christian University (Japan)

Study program: PhD, Department of Physics, Pennsylvania State University (USA)

I was disappointed when the classes in the latter half of the term had to be online as I was very much looking forward to attending them. But I am very grateful that I am given the opportunity to continue my studies even under the difficult Covid-19 situation. We try to keep in touch and meet once in a while, respecting social distancing rule. Though we use a video system to continue classes or work, it is mentally challenging not to be physically together with my classmates, but it made me realize how valuable in-person interaction is and what a strong impact it has. This experience will certainly be an asset for my studies in the future.



SHIIMA, Yuko

MD (Medicine), Fukui University Medical School (Japan); MS Clinical Epidemiology, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine (USA)

Study Program: MRes Medical Research, Brighton and Sussex Medical School (UK)

Due to Covid-19, campus was closed, all classes changed to online, and about 60% of foreign students left for their home countries. Fortunately, all my classes were already over and I only have to submit the assignment. My mentor supports me by frequent communication, and there is no problem regarding the preparation for my dissertation. When I hear what a tough and critical time my colleagues in Japan are facing, I feel disappointed and ashamed that I cannot help. But I am convinced that pursuing my studies is the most important thing now, and I am determined to do what I can and not be depressed by the situation.

