2018 OVERVIEW

- The 26th National Japan Bowl was held on April 12 and 13 at the 4-H National Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland.
- 30 schools, 67 teams, and 206 students from all over the continental United States, Guam, and Mexico participated in this year’s competition.
- Across the preliminary and championship rounds, students answered approximately 113 questions. They also participated in the conversation round.
- Special guests Tamagawa University Taiko & Dance Group, the Washington Toho Koto Society, and Tsugaru Shamisen player Keisho Ohno performed at the opening and closing ceremonies of the Japan Bowl.
- Wagashi chef Yoshitaka Nishino of Matsukawaya, traditional artist Kihachiro Nishiura, and Japan-related organizations introduced the students to many aspects of Japanese culture through workshops and demonstrations.
- Thanks to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the top Level IV winners of the National Japan Bowl will once again travel to Japan with the Kakehashi Project.

2018 WINNERS

**Level II**
1st Place: Cupertino High School (CA)
2nd Place: Stuyvesant High School (NY)
3rd Place: Townsend Harris High School (NY)
4th Place: Lynbrook High School (CA)
5th Place: Thomas Jefferson High School (VA)

**Level III**
1st Place: Langley High School (VA)
2nd Place: Stuyvesant High School (NY)
3rd Place: Cupertino High School (CA)
4th Place: Thomas Jefferson High School (VA)
5th Place: Lynbrook High School (CA)

**Level IV**
1st Place: Cupertino High School (CA)
2nd Place: Lynbrook High School (CA)
3rd Place: Stuyvesant High School (NY)
4th Place: Thomas Jefferson High School (VA)
5th Place: Townsend Harris High School (NY)
Many universities from Japan and the surrounding area - including Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Temple University Japan Campus, Hokkaido University, Georgetown University, and George Washington University - also attended the National Japan Bowl to show students what opportunities they have in pursuing their love for Japanese culture when they go to college.

The Japan Bowl is primarily promoted among the Japanese teaching community in the United States and around the world. Between March 1 - April 14, 2018, the National Japan Bowl had an average daily organic reach of 60.

Of the responses collected for the 26th National Japan Bowl survey, 34% of students said that their overall 2-day experience was "outstanding," while 47% said that it was "great." 23% and 58% of teachers said the same, respectively. 87% of students said that they would "absolutely" come back to Japan Bowl.

The National Japan Bowl is the premiere competition for high school learners of Japanese. Held every spring right before the Sakura Matsuri - Japanese Street Festival, the competition tests students not only on their knowledge of the Japanese language, but also their knowledge of its culture and history. The Japan Bowl has regional competitions throughout the United States and its territories, as well as in several countries throughout the world.

To learn more about the National Japan Bowl, please visit http://www.japanbowl.org, or e-mail info@jaswdc.org.