

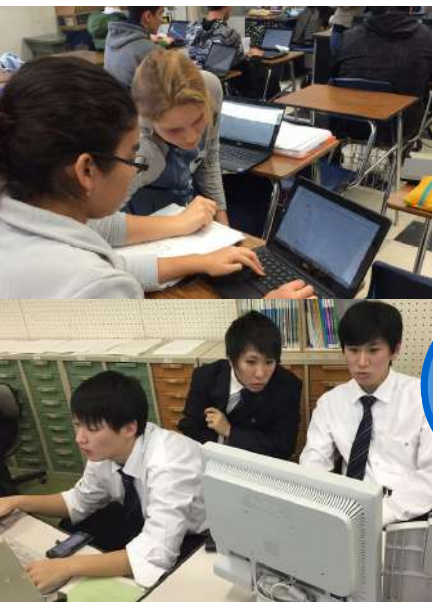


GLOBAL CLASSMATES

BY KIZUNA ACROSS CULTURES (KAC)

Building Global Friendship and Understanding through Connected Classrooms

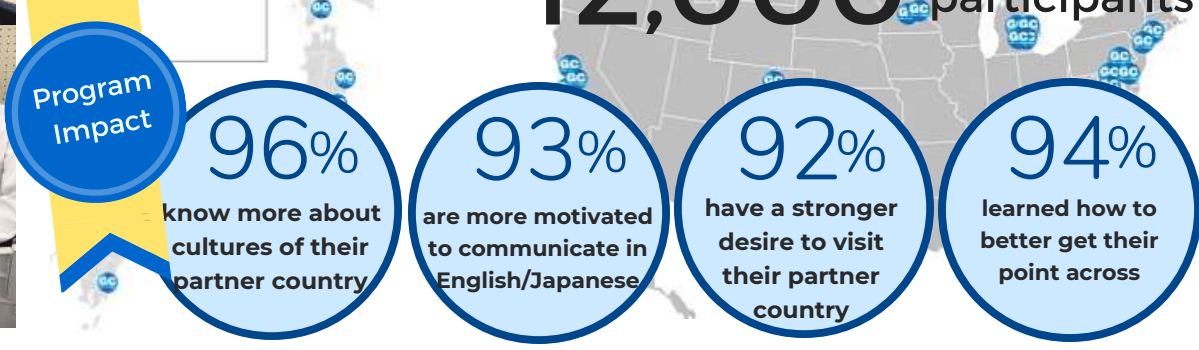
About Global Classmates



A digital Cultural & Language Exchange for students learning Japanese in the United States and students learning English in Japan.

Through students' interactions on an educational exchange website, the program promotes 1) international friendship, 2) cultural exchange and 3) collaborative foreign language learning.

Since its launch in 2012: **12,000** participants



Program Activities



Online Interactions



Gift Exchange



Video Competition

Teacher & Student Testimonials



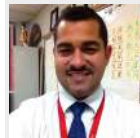
I could interact with people my age online and it was so much fun learning the cultural differences. I wasn't very interested in English class before, but now I look forward to it. (Student, Japan)



Their feelings of fear and nervousness towards international exchange and using English have disappeared and they started to have strong desires to express themselves in English. (Teacher, Japan)



This program has been one of the best things for me in my learning Japanese. Practicing Japanese outside of my class is tough, but the program allowed me to practice my Japanese and see how people actually speak. (Student, United States)



The program appeals to students' genuine curiosity and their interactions online with partner school students even builds a sense of community. Students are becoming truly international through the Global Classmates program. (Teacher, United States)

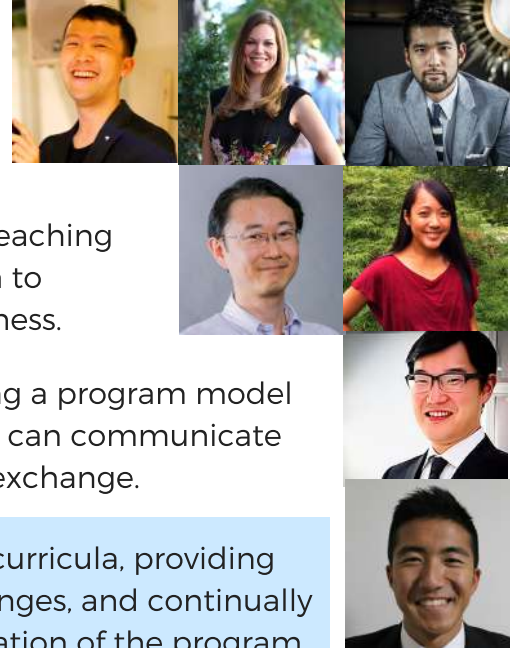
About Kizuna Across Cultures (KAC)



Inspired by the Great East Japan Earthquake, KAC was established in Washington, DC in 2011 by a few Japanese individuals and former Japan Exchange Teaching (JET) program participants. We aim to inspire youth to broaden their views and deepen their global awareness.

KAC is drawing attention as a pioneer in developing a program model for foreign language classrooms in which students can communicate with native speakers in a real-life way via a digital exchange.

KAC supports teachers by proposing customized curricula, providing know-how on effective facilitation of digital exchanges, and continually working closely with teachers throughout the duration of the program.



Program Flow and Brief Timeline



- Pre-screening and pair matching of participating schools are handled by KAC.
- We ask participating schools to provide students with internet connected devices and secure at least 1 hour every week in a classroom to engage in online interactions.

Supporters of Global Classmates



Recognized as a leading practitioner by the Virtual Exchange Coalition



Video Message for Program Participants from former U.S. Ambassador, Caroline Kennedy



With former NY Mayor Bloomberg at Global Digital Education Symposium



With former Minister of Education Shimomura at an Education Forum

You can find more about our program at:



<http://KACultures.org>



[kizuna.across.cultures](https://www.facebook.com/kizuna.across.cultures)



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