



JETAA OTTAWA OCTOBER 2007 NEWSLETTER

<http://ottawa.jetaa.ca>

EDITOR'S FOREWORD

by Yuko Mitrovic

Trick or treat! It's that time of the year again: TP and candy time! Well maybe not TP... Amidst all the costuming and sugaring, though, let's not forget the beautiful sights and smells of this most lovely of seasons in Ottawa. Come join us in one of our last outdoor events of the year, and don't pass up the opportunities to welcome new alumni, recruit potential participants, eat good food (it is, after all, *shokuyoku no aki*), and hear some inspiring stories!

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

See the events section for more information

September: Returning JET Welcome Back pub night

When: Friday September 21, after 7:00 p.m.

Where: The Black Rose, 67 Clarence St.

Notes: Come one, come all!

Third Annual Natsu-matsuri, Take 2

When: Sunday September 23, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Where: Britannia Park, 2805 Carling Ave. Look for the JETAA banner!

Notes: Come one, come all! Bring a dish to share.

Creation of a short animation: Lecture by Koji Yamamura

When: Saturday September 22, 2:00 p.m.

Where: Embassy of Japan, Auditorium

Notes: Limited seating—call the Embassy at 613-241-8541 to reserve.

October: Second Speaker Series dinner at Totoya

Guest Speaker: Martin Thornell

When: Friday October 19, 7:00 p.m.

Where: Totoya, 297 Dalhousie St. (at Clarence), 613-241-2224

What: Set menu, \$30 per person (including tax and tip, excluding drinks)

Notes: Please RSVP to jetaaottawa_events@yahoo.ca by October 12 to ensure drink seating.

November: Networking Wine and Cheese

When: Friday November 16

Where: Les Suites Hotel, 130 Besserer St., Byward Suite

Notes: Please RSVP to jetaaottawa_events@yahoo.ca by November 14.

Want to mentor or know a mentor? E-mail us at jetaaottawa_events@yahoo.ca.

Call to all mentors: Please RSVP by November 1

For more Japan-related events including concerts, film festivals and ikebana exhibitions in the Ottawa region, see the Japanese Embassy's Web site at www.ca.emb-japan.go.jp.

EVENTS

SEPTEMBER EVENT: WELCOME BACK PUB NIGHT

by Jessica Sellars

It's time again to welcome back the newly returning JET participants, and what better than a pub night! Come greet the returnees and help them ease back into life in Canada. Don't forget your smiles and your open ears!

Event Details

Date: Friday September 21

Time: Anytime after 7:00 p.m.

Location: The Black Rose, 67 Clarence St., around back from the Heart and Crown

Other: E-mail jetaaottawa_events@yahoo.ca or call 613-277-6835

THE THIRD ANNUAL NATSU-MATSURI IS (finally) HERE!

by Emma Bedlington and Maeva Vidal

We were foiled by the elements once, but they were in the end unable to stop us with their evil rainy plans: yes, ladies and gentlemen of JETAA Ottawa, it's time again for the ever-popular Annual Natsu-Matsuri (Summer Festival), now on **Sunday, September 23!** The new date has been set for our super-popular event, where you can look forward to children's games, *bon-odori*, free yummy food, sushi-making, music and loads more! This event is open to the public and we encourage everyone—friends, family and especially the most recent returnees—to attend. We hope to see many of you there. You know it's going to be unforgettable! (Please check out the attached pdf file for details.)

Event Details

Date: Sunday September 23

Time: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Britannia Park, near the small gazebo. Look for the JETAA banner!
2805 Carling Avenue

Bring: Please bring a small dish to share, potluck style. Hot dogs, burgers and drinks will be provided free of charge (there will be a collection in support of the Earthquake Research Institute in Kobe).

Other: E-mail jetaaottawa_events@yahoo.ca to volunteer.

See you there!

RECRUITING NEW JETS TO THE FOLD—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

by Maeva Vidal

The JET Desk at the Embassy of Japan is currently recruiting for the JET Programme, and has asked JETAA Ottawa for help in the process. Always ready to lend a hand, we have agreed to provide volunteers for some of their recruiting events - and that's where we need YOU!

The JET desk needs alumni for the following events:

a) Tuesday, September 25

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (1 volunteer)
Carleton University - Work & Study Abroad Fair

b) Tuesday, October 2

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (2 volunteers)
Carleton University - Fall Career Fair

Recruiting is always a worthwhile activity: entertaining for you because you get to talk about Japan, JET and your experience to enthusiastic proto-JETs (plus it looks great on your résumé), enlightening to prospective newbies because they get to hear how fabulous JET and Japan are, and extremely helpful to the JET Desk whose goal is to get as many Canadian JET applications as possible. You only need to bring your enthusiasm, your smiles and your dedication (oh and a lunch—recruiting is a famishing business!). Thank you in advance for your help!

If you would like to volunteer, please contact the JET Desk (Hiromi Iwamoto) at jet.a@embjapan.ca as soon as possible—the spots will fill up fast! *Doumo arigatou minna!*

OCTOBER EVENT: SPEAKER SERIES DINNER AT TOTOYA

by Jessica Sellars

Following the great success of the first dinner in our speaker series, we have invited Martin Thornell, JET Programme advocate and Interviewer, to speak at our second Speaker Series night. Martin worked at the Embassy of Japan as a political researcher for five years, and with the Canada-Japan Trade Council. He is currently working on trade policy in the Bilateral Market Access Division at International Trade. Martin has been doing JET interviews for about 18 years—last autumn he was honoured with an invitation to Tokyo for the celebrations marking the Programme's 20th anniversary.

Come and hear his fascinating story!

Event Details

Date: Friday October 19

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Totoya, 297 Dalhousie St. (at Clarence), 613-241-2224

Other: Set menu \$30 per person (including tax and tip, excluding drinks)

Please **RSVP** to jetaaottawa_events@yahoo.ca by October 12 to ensure drink seating

CREATION OF A SHORT ANIMATION: LECTURE BY KOJI YAMAMURA

from the Embassy of Japan Web site

Koji Yamamura is an Academy Award nominated film-maker who has received world-wide recognition and praise for his creativity and detailed drawing ability. His latest film, "Franz Kafka's Country Doctor (Franz Kafka's Inaka Isha)," is featured in the Ottawa International Animation Festival (<http://ottawa.awn.com/>).

This event has limited seating open to the public. Those who wish to participate must register with the Embassy of Japan by calling the Embassy at 613-241-8541.

Event Details

Date: Saturday September 22

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Embassy of Japan Auditorium

Other: Limited seating! Contact the Embassy at 613-241-8541 to register.

NOVEMBER EVENT: NETWORKING WINE AND CHEESE by Yuko Mitrovic

The annual Networking Wine and Cheese is back! And with it come opportunities to be a mentor and talk about your field of interest, or to be a participant and hear about others' work and possible job opportunities. Whether you want to be a mentor, volunteer or just come out to reconnect, don't miss this chance to mix and mingle over a nice glass of wine!

Event Details

Date: Friday, November 16

Time: To be determined

Location: Les Suites Hotel, 130 Besserer St., Byward Suite

Other: Please RSVP to jetaaottawa_events@yahoo.ca by Nov. 14

Call to all mentors: Please RSVP by Nov. 1

Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

JET DESK: OTTAWA JETS DEPART FOR JAPAN by Chris Browne

July 28, 2007

Spotting departing JETs is not difficult. They will be the people frantically repacking their suitcases at the check-in counter, attempting to comply with airline baggage strictures while leaving behind... nothing! On the morning of July 28, 37 departing JETs and their families congregated at the Air Canada counter of the Ottawa airport to enact this yearly departure ritual.

In fact there was a minimum of fuss and confusion as our JETs checked in for the first leg of their trans-pacific journey, the short hop from Ottawa to Pearson International Airport. There they joined the participants from Montreal and Toronto on AC 1, the flight to Tokyo. This year 280 new JETs are supplementing the Canadian renewers pushing Canada into second place by number of participants, behind the US but ahead of the UK, which traditionally holds that spot.

The previous afternoon a Farewell reception, hosted by the Japanese Ambassador to Canada, Mr. Tsuneo Nishida, was held at the Embassy of Japan in honour of the departing JET participants. Members of the local media, government officials and embassy staff joined Ambassador Nishida in wishing the departing JETs a safe journey and a fruitful stay in Japan.

The Embassy of Japan would like to thank all the JETAA members who willingly gave their assistance in preparing the new candidates for their new roles. We look forward to working with you again next year.

IMAGES OF JET

by Chris Browne

Calling all camera owners!

We are in the process of revamping the JET Canada website and are looking for images of Japan and the JET Programme in action. We would like to create a database of these images for use both on the website and in other formats related to the JET Programme in Canada. We are looking for the following kinds of pictures:

- you being an ALT or CIR
- you or your friends involved in cultural activities
- Japanese daily life or scenery

If you are interested in contributing to this project, please forward pictures to the JET Desk at the Embassy of Japan. You may submit digital photos by e-mail. Hard copy prints must be posted to the Embassy and have your name and return address printed on the back (a piece of paper with this information taped to the photo is fine). Most subject matter is acceptable but the Embassy reserves the right to reject any images deemed inappropriate.

Please e-mail digital images to: jet.b@embjapan.ca

Please post hard copies to: The JET Desk
Embassy of Japan
255 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, ON
K1N 9E6

(remember your
return address)

ABOUT JETAA OTTAWA

The Ottawa Chapter of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme Alumni Association, or JETAA Ottawa for short, is a small group of enthusiastic JET Alumni keen to share their Japanese experience with each other and the community at large. JETAA Ottawa is part of a dynamic, international alumni organization.

Your 2007 JETAA Ottawa executive:

<u>President</u> Emma Bedlington (Ehime 2002-2005) jetaaottawa_president@yahoo.ca	<u>Treasurer</u> Thomas Kruidenier (Osaka 2004-2006) jetaaottawa_treasurer@yahoo.ca
<u>Co-VP</u> Maeva Vidal (Hyogo 2001-2004) jetaaottawa_vp@yahoo.ca	<u>Co-VP</u> Jeff Phillips (Gunma 2005-2006) jetaaottawa_vp@yahoo.ca
<u>Events Coordinator</u> Jessica Sellars (Kumamoto 2000-2002)	<u>Membership Co-ordinator</u> Susan Goard (Ehime 1998-2000)

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