

University of Colorado
Center for Asian Studies
Program for Teaching East Asia

COLORADO CONSORTIUM FOR
TEACHING EAST ASIA
2008 Study Tour to Japan for Elementary Educators

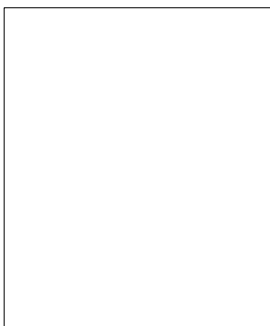
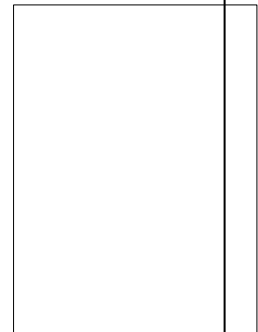
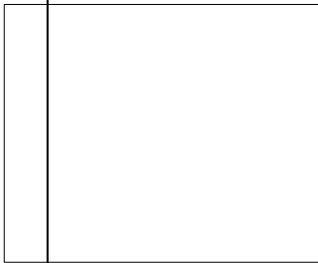
TEXTS AND CONTEXTS:
Japan through Children's Literature
June 12-July 10, 2008*

PROGRAM INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PACKET

*Departure and return dates may vary by a few days
depending on available flight schedules and fares.

Application Deadline: February 4, 2008

Made possible by generous grants from the Freeman Foundation
and the United States Department of Education's Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad.



Program for Teaching East Asia
University of Colorado
UCB 595
Boulder, CO 80309-0595
303-735-5115



2008 SUMMER STUDY TOUR IN JAPAN

The Program for Teaching East Asia (TEA) at the University of Colorado announces its Colorado Consortium for Teaching East Asia (CCTEA) summer 2008 program: a 28-day study tour in Japan for elementary educators. Expected date of departure from the United States is June 12th; anticipated return, July 10th. The study tour, along with a two-part spring 2008 weekend orientation and a 2008-2009 school-year follow-up program, is part of an ongoing effort to enhance and expand teaching about East Asia as part of K-12 education. Up to 14 elementary educators will be selected to participate in the 2008 study tour. Participating teachers will be accompanied by Teaching East Asia staff members and consultants.

The following sections describe the study tour program, eligibility requirements, application process, special travel and study considerations, follow-up requirements, and other information for submitting an application to this program. For additional information or to discuss the program or application procedure, please contact Catherine Ishida, Japan Project Coordinator, 303-735-5115, email Catherine.Ishida@colorado.edu; or Jessica Rodd, Japan Project Assistant, 303-735-5120, email jessica.rodd@colorado.edu.

Study Tour Goals

The goal of CCTEA programs is to enhance and expand teaching about East Asia in elementary and secondary schools in Colorado through a statewide network of schools, institutions, and individuals. The project is part of the Program for Teaching East Asia, associated with the Center for Asian Studies at the University of Colorado. TEA offers a variety of professional development opportunities and resources for educators in Colorado and nationwide. The CCTEA 2008 Japan study tour is designed to provide Colorado elementary teachers who have demonstrated a commitment to teaching about Japan through literature with an opportunity to engage in more in-depth and experiential study of that country and culture. Through the study tour and the school-year follow-through program, participating educators will be prepared and supported to strengthen Japan and Asian studies content in appropriate school curricula, with a particular focus on literacy.

Eligibility

TEA invites applications from Colorado elementary educators who meet *all* the following prerequisites:

- The applicant can demonstrate a commitment to teaching about East Asia. This includes participation in workshops, seminars, inservices, or cultural events on East Asia offered by universities or other organizations.
- Applicant is currently a full-time employed educator and expects to have a contract for full-time employment in a Colorado elementary classroom or supervisory position for the 2008-2009 school year. (Proof of such employment is required prior to departure for Japan.)
- Applicant is committed to literature-based teaching about Japan as a part of his or her curriculum or supervises teachers who use this method.
- Applicant is at least three years from retirement in June 2008.
- Applicant is a citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States. (Proof of status is required on acceptance to the program.)
- Applicant has not participated in a Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad or Seminar Abroad in the last three years or two such programs in the last ten years.

Program Components

Educators applying for the CCTEA 2008 Japan Study Tour should be prepared to participate in a full year of program activities, beginning in April 2008 and running through the 2008-2009 school year. Participants should also be prepared to undertake advance readings in preparation for the study tour. Educators who cannot commit to all program components will not be accepted for the study tour. Specific program components include:

- A two-part weekend pre-departure orientation program, to be conducted in Boulder, Colorado, April 25-26 and May 16-17, 2008. Meals and materials for the orientation program will be covered by the project; participants or their schools are responsible for travel, lodging, and substitute fees for the days necessary to attend these workshops.
- A 28-day study tour in Japan, approximate dates June 12-July 10, 2008.
- A two-part weekend follow-up workshop, September 12-13, and October 11, 2008. Meals and materials will be provided by the project. Participants or their schools are responsible for travel, lodging, and substitute fees for the days necessary to attend these workshops.
- 2008-2009 academic year follow-through, including revision of curriculum developed on the study tour, implementation of new Japan content and resources in participating teachers' classrooms, dissemination workshop for other educators, and ongoing correspondence/reporting with program staff.
- Participation in the program's mid-year (December 2008) and final (May 2009) evaluations and an online evaluation by the United States Department of Education.

The Orientation Program. Participants will take part in two weekend orientation workshops in Boulder, Colorado, April 25-26 and May 16-17, 2008. Meals and materials will be provided by TEA. The orientation program will focus on preparing participants for travel and study in Japan and will include sessions on survival Japanese, Japanese history and geography, contemporary issues, cross-cultural communication, study tour itinerary, team building, and norm setting, as well as other practical information for trip preparation. All participants will receive a notebook of background readings on Japan, to be read prior to departure. An email listserv will connect participants and project staff during the several weeks between orientation and departure.

Onsite in Japan. The study tour will focus on integrating historical, cultural, and everyday Japanese places and spaces into elementary curriculum, especially through children's literature. The study tour will include visits to Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Okayama, Yamagata, and Yokohama. In each location, the program will include (1) briefings by project staff and meetings with local resource people; (2) excursions to historical and cultural landmarks, schools, and organizations offering insight into Japanese society; (3) group discussion and curriculum development sessions; and (4) limited free time for personal or small group exploration. The Japan study tour will be led by a three-person team from the Program for Teaching East Asia. Costs of the study tour are underwritten by the project, with a participant contribution required (see **Program Expenses** for details).

Applicants who have participated in study tours to other countries should bear in mind that study programs in Japan tend to be more structured than those in some other countries. The majority of activities will be full-group activities, without the option of small group or individual diversions from the scheduled program. Study-tour applicants should be prepared for and accepting of a structured, pre-arranged group program. The study tour will not be able to address special individual interests that cannot be explored during small periods of free time in each city. Most meals are group meals.

The demands of individual dietary restrictions are participants' personal responsibility. Study tour accommodations will be varied, ranging from homestays and traditional Japanese inns to business hotels. Lodging will be based on double occupancy.

Note: The Program for Teaching East Asia cannot accommodate participants' spouses, family members, or friends on the study tour.

The Follow-up Program. The study tour group will meet for a follow-up workshop in Boulder the weekend of September 12-13, 2008, and again on Saturday, October 11, 2008. The project will provide meals and materials. During the follow-up program, study tour participants will have the opportunity to reflect upon and continue processing the Japan study experience, analyze information and understandings gained through the study tour, consider generalizations and stereotyping, focus on the question "what is teachable?" from the study tour experience, and collaboratively revise curricula developed during the study tour.

2008-2009 School Year Follow-through. Study tour participants are expected to participate in a year of follow-through. This includes revision and implementation of new Japan curriculum into the classroom as well as documentation and reporting on implementation activities and lessons. Participants are also expected to conduct a two-hour dissemination workshop for other teachers in their school district or at a professional conference. TEA will support this dissemination activity by providing materials for distribution at each workshop.

The Evaluation. The Program for Teaching East Asia will evaluate the impact of the Japan study tour and school-year follow-through activities through several mechanisms. Participants will evaluate each of the above program components following their completion by paper and/or electronic methods. In addition, teachers will participate in a mid-year and final evaluation, both conducted by TEA's program evaluator. Participants will be asked to complete an open-ended survey to reflect on what they have learned and how they have used the experience of the study tour to change their own teaching and influence school or district curriculum. A random sample of participants will also be interviewed on their experience with the study tour program.

Program Expenses

The CCTEA 2008 Summer Study Tour in Japan is generously funded through grants from the Freeman Foundation and the United States Department of Education's Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad. Participants will also contribute to the total cost of their participation. The following expenses are covered by the project for each participant:

- Meals for the orientation and follow-up weekend programs.
- Orientation and other curricular and background materials for the study of Japan.
- Roundtrip airfare to Japan from Denver.
- Lodging, most meals, entrance fees, domestic travel in Japan, minus participant contribution (see below).

Each participant will contribute \$1000 to the cost of his/her participation in the Japan Study Tour. A non-refundable deposit of \$500 will be due March 14, 2008. The remaining \$500 will be due by April 25, 2008. Participant contributions will defray the cost of overseas travel, as well as hospitality and gratuities intrinsic to group travel in Japan. In addition, each participant is responsible for any individual costs of participation, which are anticipated to include the following:

- Travel and lodging, if necessary, to attend the orientation and follow-up workshops in Boulder, CO, in spring and fall 2008.
- Teacher release days as necessary to attend the orientation and follow-up workshops in spring and fall 2008.
- Passport fees and any other travel-related documents.
- Overseas medical coverage if necessary (most policies include overseas coverage. Participants will be asked to provide proof of medical insurance or purchase a travel policy; emergency medical evacuation insurance is recommended for Japan).
- Necessary immunizations.
- Travel Evacuation Insurance (required).
- Any costs incurred by variation from the group airfare package, such as emergency return to the United States.
- Gifts for speakers, schools, host family members, and other Japanese volunteers.
- Daily sundries such as bottled water, medicine, snacks, etc.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by TEA staff and a consultant panel. Preference will be given to educators who have not traveled in Japan. In the case of a team, each teacher should apply individually, including the personal statements. The following criteria will guide selection:

- Demonstrated commitment to enhancing the curriculum about Japan through classroom use of literature.
- Evidence of commitment to the goals of the study tour and follow-up activities.
- Strength of follow-up plan.
- Potential for classroom use and dissemination of study tour experience and materials in years following the study tour.
- Commitment to the parameters of a group study experience.
- Professional experience.
- Personal qualities and interpersonal skills.

CCTEA 2008 Japan Study Tour Timeline

February 4	Application deadline
February 11	Notification of interview
February 18-22	Interviews
March 1	Acceptance letters mailed
March 14	Deadline for candidates' intent to participate, receipt of \$500 deposit, and proof of passport valid through February 2009 or proof that passport application or renewal is in process *
April 25-26	Orientation I weekend in Boulder Remaining participant financial contribution due to TEA All forms due to TEA: physician's verification of fitness for travel in Japan, proof of overseas health coverage, all required travel documents including passport, proof of required immunizations
May 16-17	Orientation II workshop in Boulder
June 12	Expected date of departure to Japan
July 10	Expected return date to Colorado
September 12-13	Follow-up Workshop I in Boulder
October 11	Follow-up Workshop II in Boulder

* If you do not have a passport or do not have a passport valid through February 2009, please begin applying for or renewing your passport **immediately**. Forms are available at your post office.

Complete application packets are due by close of business on **February 4, 2008**.

Send **one original set and two collated, stapled copies** of the entire application packet (application form, personal statements, terms of agreement page, and recommendations). Single copies of the application package submitted via fax will not be accepted.

For submission **via US mail**, send to:

Program for Teaching East Asia
CCTEA 2008 Japan Study Tour
University of Colorado
595 UCB
Boulder, CO 80309-0595

For submission **via FedEx, UPS, or other courier service**, send to:

Program for Teaching East Asia
CCTEA 2008 Japan Study Tour
3400 Marine Street, Rm. 155
Boulder, CO 80303

**University of Colorado
Program for Teaching East Asia
Colorado Consortium for Teaching East Asia 2008 Japan Study Tour Application**

Please Type or Word Process All Responses

Full Name (as appears on passport) _____

Home Address _____
Street City State Zip

Home Phone (____) _____ E-mail Address _____

School Name _____ School District _____

School Address _____
Street City State Zip

School Phone (____) _____ School Fax (____) _____

Please identify any TEA program(s) in which you have participated: _____

Please identify any U.S. Department of Education and Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad programs in which you have participated and the dates of participation: _____

Please identify how you heard about this study tour opportunity: _____

I. Teaching Assignment: Check A or B as appropriate and complete that subsection.

___ A. Elementary teacher. Grade level _____

Describe course assignment (s). Indicate any anticipated changes in assignment for next year. Indicate other responsibilities.

How many days do you currently devote to teaching: About Japan? _____
About other areas of Asia? _____

___ B. Administrator. Please indicate title and briefly describe responsibilities.

II. Academic Degree(s)

Degree

Year

Major

College/University

III. Other than TEA-related programs, please list any formal coursework or professional development workshops, institutes, etc. on Asia that you have completed. Indicate title, location, and dates.

IV. Describe any travel and/or living experiences in Asia.

V. Personal Statements

- A. Study tours require that participants balance their individual interests with the goals and itinerary set by a funded program. In a typed or word-processed *essay* of approximately 300 words, please create a case for your contributions as a member of an educational delegation by discussing the specific background, skills, and qualities you can contribute to benefit the group.
- B. Our experience tells us that study programs in Japan are physically and culturally demanding and that individuals who have prepared themselves for these challenges will have a better travel/education experience. Present a case that you have considered ways to deal with the following challenges that come with group travel. Please address all the challenges below and be as detailed and specific as possible. Your response should take the form of a reflective essay, not short answer.
- Respecting cultural norms of the host country.
 - Eating local foods.
 - Walking extensively.
 - Living closely with 16 other people for three weeks.
 - Adhering to a schedule that demands punctuality and group cooperation.
 - Fulfilling a professional role as an ambassador rather than a tourist or shopper.
 - Adhering to norms set by the group and by the program.
- C. In a typed essay of 200-300 words, please provide a concrete plan for applying this study tour experience and using literature to enhance teaching about Japan (1) in your own classroom and (2) in your school district.

VII. Recommendations

Please submit two recommendations with **original signatures**, one from a current supervisor and one from a colleague, using the attached forms.

IX. Participant's Terms of Agreement

I have carefully read the description of the Colorado Consortium for Teaching East Asia 2008 Study Tour to Japan. If selected to participate, I agree to:

- Participate in two pre-departure orientation weekends, April 25-26 and May 16-17, 2008, and complete assigned readings for the orientation and study tour.
- Assume responsibility and cost for obtaining all immunizations, passport, visas, and other required travel documents and submit by March 14, 2008, or no later than April 25, 2008.
- Provide a physician's verification of fitness for travel and proof of health insurance by April 25, 2008.
- Provide a non-refundable \$500 deposit by March 14, 2008, and the remaining \$500 toward the total participant contribution of \$1000 by April 25, 2008.
- Provide proof of relevant full-time employment for 2008-2009.
- Participate in all scheduled activities in Japan and remain in Japan until completion of the study tour, except in case of emergency.
- Attend the summer study tour unaccompanied by family or friends.
- Obey the laws of the United States and the host country and refrain from engaging in any unauthorized activities, which in the consideration of the group leader are inconsistent with the purpose and best interests of the Program for Teaching East Asia.
- Upon return, enhance the study of Japan in the classroom and school district.
- Attend the follow-up workshops, scheduled for September 12-13 and October 11, 2008, and participate in lesson revision activities.
- Participate in the program evaluations conducted by TEA and the U.S. Department of Education.

Applicant's signature _____ Date _____

Return *one original set and two collated copies* of the entire application package (application form, personal statements, terms of agreement page, and recommendations) *via US Mail* to: Program for Teaching East Asia
CCTEA 2008 Japan Study Tour
University of Colorado
595 UCB
Boulder, CO 80309-0595

For submission *via FedEx, UPS, or other courier service*, send to: Program for Teaching East Asia
CCTEA 2008 Japan Study Tour
3400 Marine Street, Rm. 155
Boulder, CO 80303

Complete paper format application must be received by TEA *no later than close of business on February 4, 2008*. Single copies of the application package submitted via fax will not be accepted.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
Program for Teaching East Asia
Colorado Consortium for Teaching East Asia 2008 Japan Study Tour

Letter of Recommendation from Current Supervisor

Applicant's Name _____

The above-named person is applying to participate in the Colorado Consortium for Teaching East Asia 2008 Japan Study Tour. As follow-through for the study tour, participants will be expected to revise and enhance their own course instruction relative to Japan and to act as a resource on Japan within their schools and districts during the 2008-2009 school year.

Please address the applicant's abilities to succeed in a group study tour abroad and to fulfill these follow-through obligations. Specifically, please comment on the applicant's initiative, self-discipline, interpersonal skills, teaching abilities, professional leadership, and any other qualities you believe relevant to a review of this person's candidacy for this program. In addition, please verify that the applicant is currently employed full-time at your school and/or in your district.

Please limit your recommendation to one (1) typed page on letterhead. Thank you for your assistance in evaluating this applicant.

Name _____

Position _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

Length of time you have known the applicant _____

Signature _____ Date _____

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
Program for Teaching East Asia
Colorado Consortium for Teaching East Asia 2008 Japan Study Tour

Letter of Recommendation from Colleague

Applicant's Name _____

The above-named person is applying to participate in the Colorado Consortium for Teaching East Asia 2008 Japan Study Tour. As follow-through for the study tour, participants will be expected to revise and enhance their own course instruction relative to Japan and to act as a resource on Japan within their schools and districts during the 2008-2009 school year.

Please address the applicant's abilities to succeed in a group study tour abroad and to fulfill these follow-through obligations. Specifically, please comment on the applicant's initiative, self-discipline, interpersonal skills, teaching abilities, professional leadership, and any other qualities you believe relevant to a review of this person's candidacy for this program.

Please limit your recommendation to one (1) typed page on letterhead. Thank you for your assistance in evaluating this applicant.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____

Length of time you have known the applicant _____

In what capacity have you worked with the applicant?

Signature _____ Date _____