



Utah Association of Teachers of Japanese (UATJ) October Newsletter

ユタ日本語教師会

11月部ニュースレター

Announcements from American Association of Teachers of Japanese

AATJ Annual Conference/ACTFL Annual Convention in San Diego; both will take place on Saturday, November 21. If you are attending the conference, please note these events. The first is a "Visit Japan" breakfast seminar sponsored by the Japan National Tourist Organization (JNTO) and the second is a textbook workshop sponsored by Cheng & Tsui Publishers, the sponsor of our professional development grants for teachers.

Announcements from Utah Foreign Language Association (UFLA)

Our next Annual Conference will be at Utah Valley University on Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016.

Call for proposals for UFLA Convention at UVU **Proposal Submission Deadline: November 15, 2015**

<http://organizations.weber.edu/ufla/2016/2016Registration.pdf>

Poster Contest

Each year the UFLA will sponsor the poster contest open to K-12 students of foreign languages in Utah Schools. There will be three judging categories: • K-6 • 7-9 • 10-12

Awards: • K-6. Winner will be awarded \$50 • 7-9. Winner will be awarded \$100 • 10-12. Winner will be awarded \$150 • The teachers responsible of all winning posters will receive **\$150** for their foreign language programs.

Contact us

If you are not a member of UATJ, please contact us. The annual fee is \$15.

Find us on Facebook and like our page. We post useful information about Japan and Japanese education.

<https://www.facebook.com/utahassociationj>

Utah Japan Bowl 2016

*The Utah Japan Bowl® is a high school language and culture competition, affiliated with the national Japan Bowl® in Washington, DC. Students from all over Utah come together to share their love of Japan, demonstrate their growing knowledge and skills, and enjoy a uniquely Japanese cultural experience.

This competition consists of Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. High Schools may enter any number of three-student teams in each of these three levels. Success at the Utah Japan Bowl strongly demonstrates a student's possible readiness to compete at the national level. The best team from Levels 2 and 3 will get to compete in the Nationals in Washington DC on the third week of April of 2016

Last year, 7 high schools participated in this event and American Fork High School took 4th place in the Nationals. They were able to go to Japan over the summer for free for a week. It is a great opportunity for your students to learn more about Japan and to interact with other students.

The registration is due January 31. The fee is \$15 per student that includes the entry fees, lunch and T-shirt.

Every year, the students submit the design for the shirts. If your student's shirt is chosen by UATJ, your student will get a free shirt.

Program of the month

Utah State University

Total number of Japanese students : 100 students plus

Courses offered

JAPN 1010, 1020, 2010, 2020, 3010, 3020 (all language courses)

JAPN 3050 (Japanese Calligraphy-courses listed with Art 3050)

JAPN 3090 (Introduction to Japanese Literature)

JAPN 3100 (Contemporary Japanese Culture and Society)

JAPN 3510 (Japanese in Business Environment)

JAPN 3560 (Studies in Japanese Film)

JAPN 4020 : Japanese Tutoring (practicum)

Languages offered besides Japanese:

Spanish, German, French, Portuguese, Chinese and Korean

Clubs: The USU Japan Club (officers meet weekly)

Events

- There is one Hands-on Cooking session for all enrolled students in all levels of Japanese program
- The USU Japan Club organizes various events such as movie nights, 運動会, お祭り, field trips (last year we participated in the Day of the Remembrance in Topaz)



Teacher of the Month

Atsuko Ohno Neely

Neely sensei was born in Chiba, Japan and has been in America since 1980, but she and her husband have gone back to Japan to live total of three years during that period.

She has been teaching Japanese at USU since 1991. She has also taught in Tokyo, Ohio and Kyoto previously. She has always been interested in learning about people in the world even as a little girl. She thought that sharing Japanese language and culture would be an excellent way to discover the world. She started to study about teaching Japanese as a foreign language back in the 70's.

Hobbies : cooking of all kinds (not just Japanese) classical and jazz music, traveling, bargain shopping and knitting.

Contact information atsuko.neely@usu.edu

Student of the month

Kristen Voie

She has taken all the lower division courses and also 3010, 3020, 3050 and 3090.

Even as an aerospace engineering major student where major requirement is quite rigorous and demanding, Kristen has always been quite a determined and self-motivated student. She has the courage to disregard her well-meaning adviser's suggestion to abandon her goal to fulfill Japanese Minor requirement. In addition, since last year, Kristen has been serving the USU Japan Club as the secretary and enthusiastically involved in the events. This semester she is also assisting the lower division student as a tutor on weekly basis. She is a very conscientious and promising student overall.

