

City of St. George – St. George Marathon

Japan and Me

Essay Information and Instructions 2009

We want to get to know you as well as possible and believe that your thoughtful, well-constructed essay is an important step in this process. Your essay should be of sufficient length (generally 1 ½ to 2 pages) to explore the following three points:

1. How an educational and cultural exchange experience with a Japanese host family and similar age students in Ibigawa, Japan might affect your life.
2. The possibility of sharing your own culture and way of life with others.
3. The opportunity to appreciate a different society, customs and traditions.

A completed, original “2009 Japan and Me Essay” cover form and student information must accompany your essay. A blank cover form can be found at www.stgeorgemarathon.com. You may submit your essay through the mail or it can be hand delivered to the address below.

After receipt and review of all essays, we will notify you of your status. If you have any questions, you may contact our office at (435) 627-4501.

Student exchange information and tentative itinerary:

- The St. George Marathon covers 1/2 of the airfare cost for each student. Estimated 2009 airfare cost for each student is \$500.00
- Ground transportation in Japan is provided.
- Housing and meals are provided in Japan by a host family or by the City of Ibigawa.
- Students need to obtain a valid passport and provide their own spending and incidental monies.
- Parents or legal guardians are required to complete a permission slip for selected student delegates and provide evidence of medical insurance for the student.
- Students will be accompanied by an adult chaperone during the trip.

Tentative Itinerary:

- Nov. 4—Leave for Ibigawa, Japan
- Nov. 5—Arrive Ibigawa, Japan
- Nov. 6 & 7—Visits to Ibigawa middle schools & free time with host family
- Nov. 8—Ibigawa Marathon and host family
- Nov. 9—Organized tour, free time with host family and Farewell Dinner
- Nov. 10—Leave for United States
- Nov. 10—Arrive St. George, Utah

St. George Marathon
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