

Entrance Requirements

Some of our students have Japanese family members. Others have lived in Japan and want to continue learning Japanese. We do our best to welcome everyone. Students should be motivated to come to Keisho Center and learn, have some Japanese language ability, be able to follow basic age-appropriate instructions in Japanese, and have a home environment that supports their Japanese language studies.

Entrance Procedure

1. Write to info@keisho.org to schedule a tour.
2. Observe a regular class.
3. Attend an in-class trial lesson.
4. Schedule an interview.
5. Depending on current enrollment and interview results, the family will be notified if the student may enroll.

Schedule

Classes meet 32 sessions per year, September-June on Saturday mornings, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

1st Semester: September - January

2nd Semester: February - June
(32 class days per year)

Tuition and Fees

- **\$685 per semester**
One-time, full-year payment: \$1,270
(after \$100 discount)
- **Siblings: \$635 per semester**
One-time, full-year payment: \$1,170
(after \$100 discount)
- **One-time enrollment fee:**
\$40 per student

*Fees and schedule are subject to change.
Small book fee TBD for advanced classes.*

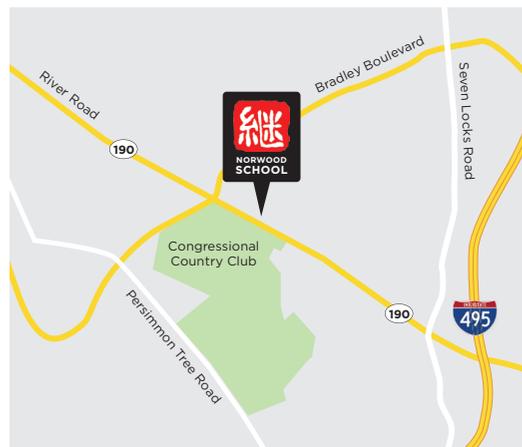


Location

Norwood School

8821 River Road,
Bethesda, MD 20817

(across from Congressional Country Club)



Email: info@keisho.org

Tel: 703-868-3241 (Saturdays only)

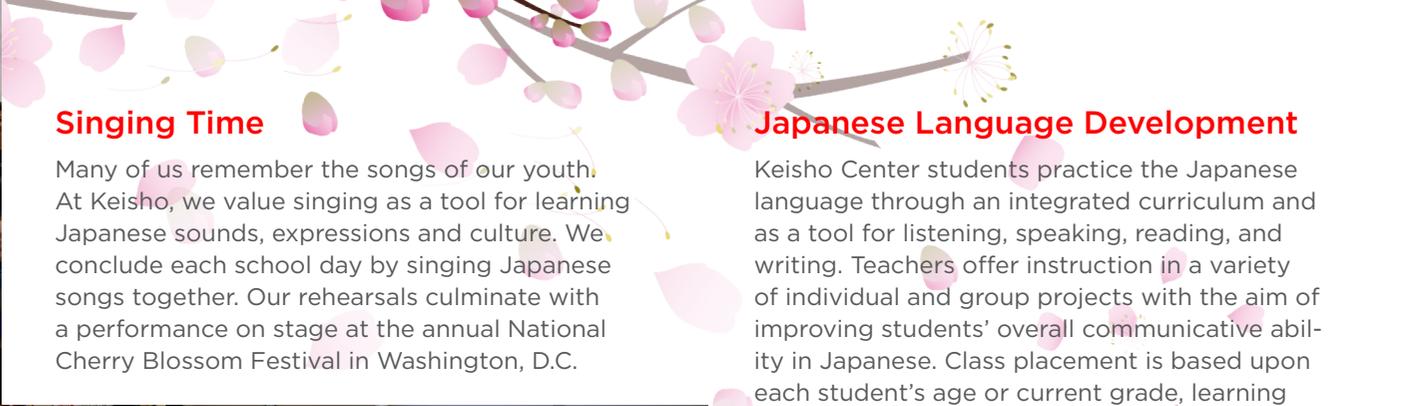
For additional information, please visit our website at www.keisho.org



Washington Japanese Heritage Center

NIHONGO KEISHO CENTER

A place for students to learn and explore Japanese language and culture



Singing Time

Many of us remember the songs of our youth. At Keisho, we value singing as a tool for learning Japanese sounds, expressions and culture. We conclude each school day by singing Japanese songs together. Our rehearsals culminate with a performance on stage at the annual National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C.

Japanese Language Development

Keisho Center students practice the Japanese language through an integrated curriculum and as a tool for listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Teachers offer instruction in a variety of individual and group projects with the aim of improving students' overall communicative ability in Japanese. Class placement is based upon each student's age or current grade, learning style, and their Japanese language ability.

Overview

At Keisho Center, we help students build upon their Japanese language ability through an innovative combination of academic study and cultural activities.

- We provide a learning environment that helps our students remain motivated to attend by tailoring instruction to their individual needs, abilities and learning styles.
- We create student-centered classrooms by providing our students opportunity to express their interests and shape their in-class experiences so they feel a sense of ownership in their learning.
- We respect each student as an individual and value their connection to Japan. With an inclusive and individualized approach, we strive to foster in students a joy of learning the Japanese language through celebrating Japan's culture and traditions.

Keisho's School Day

Students are engaged in a variety of Japanese language and cultural learning opportunities throughout the school day, including:

1. Verbal Communication: conversation with teachers and peers using Japanese
2. Formal Japanese Study: reading and writing in a variety of subjects
3. Activities: experience Japanese culture through crafts and projects

Breaks are taken for snacks, library, and outdoor recess and the final 15 minutes are spent singing Japanese songs together.



Mentorship

Students learn from each other as well as from teachers and adults. At Keisho Center, we regularly have shared class activities to encourage this type of learning which cannot be provided by textbooks or regular classes alone. Students in our upper classes guide students in the lower classes using Japanese, giving younger students the chance to rub elbows with their "sempai" or elder students.

Activities and Events

Our students are provided with rich opportunities to experience Japanese music, theater, and art and participate in traditional events such as Undoukai (Field Day) and Mochitsuki (rice-pounding). Students showcase their talents in calligraphy, haiku, and Nengajo (New Year's card) as well as perform at the annual Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom Festival).

Support

To maximize the effectiveness of Keisho Center, the participation of parents and their support and understanding of their children and Keisho staff is essential. It is important for all of those involved at Keisho Center (students, teachers, parents and staff) to work together so that effective learning may take place. Also, we believe support at home is extremely effective in strengthening a Japanese language environment and developing respect and a true appreciation for Japan's customs and traditions.

Adult Program

Keisho has a very successful Adult Program for family members of current students and alumni. The classes are a great way to brush up on your Japanese, get to know other Keisho parents, and connect with your children. Classes are offered during Keisho hours and serve beginner and intermediate Japanese learners. Come join us to learn Japanese with your kids!

