

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 and learn, have some Japanese-language ability, be able to understand and follow basic age-appropriate instructions in Japanese, and have a home environment that supports their Japanese language studies.

Entrance Procedure



1. Observe a regular class (please schedule an appointment for your visit).
2. Attend an in-class trial lesson (please schedule an appointment).
3. Schedule an interview.
4. Depending on current enrollment, student will either be directly enrolled or placed on a waitlist.

Schedule*



1st Semester: September - January

2nd Semester: February - June

32 class-days per year

2015-16 Tuition and Fees*



- \$685 per semester (full-year payment \$1270)
- Siblings: \$635 (full-year \$1170)
- One-time enrollment fee: \$40 per student

*Fees and schedule are subject to change.

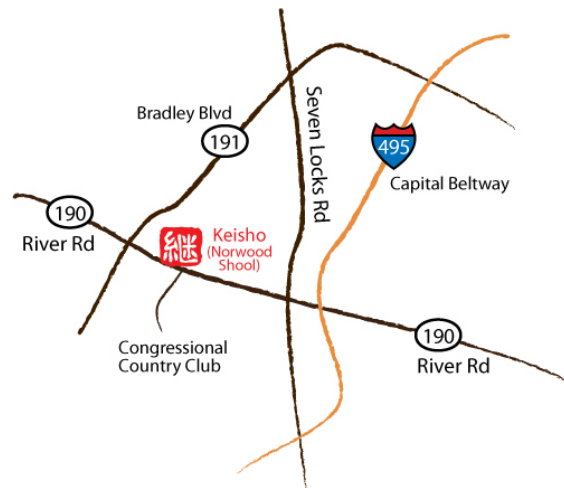
*Small book fee TBD for advanced classes.

Location



Norwood School
8821 River Road,
Bethesda, MD 20817

*Across from
Congressional
Country Club



Information



Email: info@keisho.org

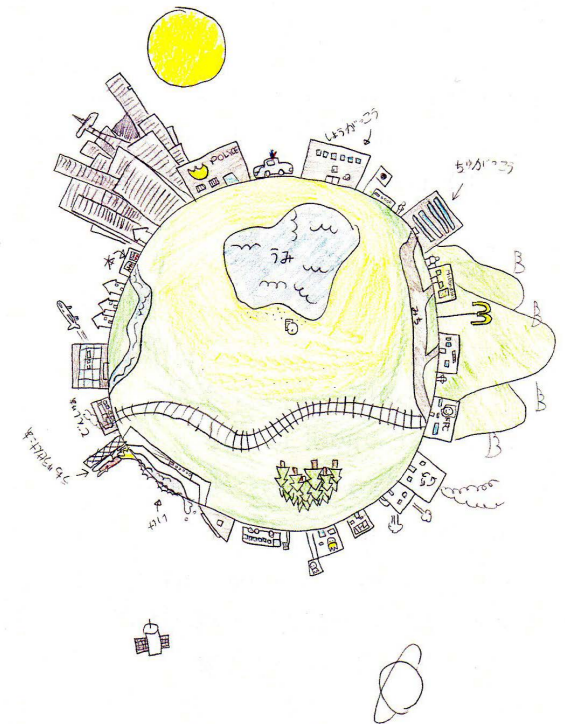
Tel: 703-868-3241
(Saturdays only)

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



August, 2015

Overview



At the Washington Japanese Heritage (Keisho) Center we help students build upon their Japanese language ability through an innovative combination of academic study and cultural activities.



- We provide the learning environment where we help each student maintain their motivation by understanding individual differences of ability, needs, and learning styles.
- We create student-centered classrooms with Progressive Education approach by giving our students opportunities to express their interests so they can feel an ownership in learning.
- We respect each student as an individual and value their root connected to Japan.

With a positive and individualized approach, we discover the pleasure of developing Japanese, while celebrating Japan's culture and traditions.

Keisho's School Day



Classes run from 9:00 to 12:30, with breaks for snacks, library, and outdoor recess time. In the final 15 minutes, we sing Japanese songs together. Each day at Keisho is divided into the following three areas.

1. Verbal Communication: conversation and interaction with teacher's 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

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 DC.

Activities Across Classes



Students learn from each other as well as from teachers and adults. At Keisho, we regularly have shared class activities to encourage this type of learning. Students in our upper classes guide students in the lower classes using Japanese, giving students in the lower classes the chance to rub elbows with their "sempai" or elder students. These classroom exchanges provide a type of learning that doesn't come from textbooks or regular classes alone.

Activities and Events



We offer opportunities for our students to experience Japanese music and art, and to hear from visiting speakers. We regularly include activities such as theater, potluck parties and calligraphy lessons and contests. We also have annual traditional events such as "Undo Kai" or Field Day, our New Year's mochi-pounding party, and our performance at the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington DC.

Student Council



Keisho's democratically elected Student Council works with teachers and other adults to help develop programs and activities for the entire school. The opportunity to run for a position on the Student Council is offered at the beginning of each year, and the president, vice president, secretary and class representatives are chosen through a vote of all students.



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.



Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival